

Crawford 2109

THE  
**POSTAGE STAMP**

EDITED BY

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&c., &c.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### Fugitive Inks and Fades.



ARE fugitive inks an unmixed blessing from the point of view of protection from the wiles of the forger and the cleaner? I doubt if they are, for the other day when the conversation turned on fades from exposure in the shop windows, one of Mr. Peckitt's staff took a card of stamps out of their window for examination, and we found a lilac stamp that had completely succumbed to

the sun, not the slightest trace of the original stamp being left. It was practically a piece of absolutely clean white paper, watermarked Crown C.A. single, and gummed on one side. A forger can just as easily fade off any other stamp, and use the watermarked paper for forgery purposes.

I present these facts for consideration to the authorities at Somerset House.

### Dressing Shop Windows.

Talking about stamp shop windows, have my friends noticed the quiet competition that is going on between the rivals in the Strand—Gibbons and Peckitt?

Drapers pride themselves on the dressing of their windows, and employ special assistants for the work. Our big stamp shops are now following suit in making their windows attractive. And if you want to see what can be done, have a look at Gibbons' window this week. It is a thing of beauty. And all done by the assistants in the front shop. The amount of money sunk in window displays in the shape of fades from exposure in these two windows must be considerable.

### The Repaired Stamps Nightmare.

The recent bankruptcy of a rev. gentleman has been attributed to speculation in stamps, or amateur stamp dealing as it is called, and, incidentally, he is said to have suffered severely from the innocent purchase of rare stamps which had been repaired but had not been marked "repaired," and this is the trouble that is likely to arise from the business of the too clever repairing of damaged stamps.

Since Singer has had so much to say in praise of his success in this direction, there has been much tremulous examination of rare stamps that may have come from questionable quarters.

### Severe Attack of North Borneo.

A contemporary is suffering from a very severe attack of North Borneo. One contributor doles out over six columns thereon, and another follows up with a similar number of columns on the same subject. Between them they ought to be able to flog this dead philatelic horse into life. Can they do it?

### Early Borneos Once Popular.

Any way there can be no doubt about the philatelic interest that used to centre round the early issues of Borneo. Minute defects made them platable, and yielded not a few interesting minor varieties. I remember the time when the handy little sheets of the first issues were much sought after. North Borneo and Labuan surcharges used to sell well at the first stamp auctions. And, of course, they may come up again, now that "postmarking to order" has ceased.

### Can Popularity be Restored?

It is an open question whether popularity can be restored to a country which has been robbed of its good philatelic name and fame. I cannot recall a case in point, and am very doubtful on the matter.

The experiment is just now being tried in several directions. Even Nicaragua and Salvador are being boomed in the hope of rehabilitating them in the eyes of collectors.

**Shades of the New South Wales 6d.**

My friends should keep a look out for shades of the current 6d. of New South Wales. Two have already been noted as orange and orange-yellow, and I have just been shown a darker orange. They are all watermarked Crown A. The perfs. I have not yet had an opportunity of gauging, but I think they differ, and are not, as chronicled, all perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Philatelic Debates.**

I note that some of the Societies are going in more for philatelic debates during the coming season. The North London is to have a debate on the "Merits of Catalogues," and the Brighton Juniors on the question "Is a Classified Catalogue desirable?"

There is nothing like a good debate for thrashing out suggestions and theories of all sorts, and as there are many burning questions in philatelic matters, debates should be more in evidence than they are at our meetings.

**American Philatelic Association Year Book.**

The American Philatelic Association promises a Year Book which should be well worth getting. It is to include a paper by my old friend, Mr. J. N. Luff, on the Stamps of Egypt, and another on the stamps of Hawaii by Mr. H. B. Phillips, besides many other contributions by other well known writers. But I understand that the book will only be sent to members of the A.P.A. If that is so, we shall have to enrol ourselves right away. The "dues," as our friends phrase it, are \$1, for share of stock, and \$1 10 for annual subscription, and the book, they say, is going to be worth the sub. The Secretary is Mr. H. S. Adair, Box 691, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A.

**The Minor Variety Question.**

Major Evans, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, has been weighing the pros and cons of the Minor Variety Question. He writes:—"The vexed question of the minor variety and what shall we do with it, is always with us, and probably always will be. It is even a disputed point, in some cases, what is a minor variety and what is a major. Incidentally, I may remark that I have never yet met with any one who collects majors, there seems to be no demand for them, but perhaps this is irrelevant. The question at the present day is not as to the existence of minor varieties, of that there is no possible doubt, neither is it altogether a question of collectability. Anything that exists is collectable, and besides collectors are free, if they only knew it, to collect what they please, regardless of catalogues. The real question is, are all these minor varieties to be catalogued, or not, and if not all, which are to be admitted and which excluded? There are advocates on both sides and there are good arguments for both sides. Some people say that a catalogue should be as comprehensive as possible, should include everything, and collectors should be left to choose for themselves what they will take and what they will leave; others maintain that a catalogue should give some guidance to collectors and enable them to discriminate between the important varieties and those of less importance, leaving the latter to the specialist, who requires no catalogue, or can make one for himself.

**Collecting Majors.**

By way of digression, I must remark that I disagree in toto with Major Evans' opinion that no one seems to collect majors. We all know that Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. have been specialising in that direction for many years, and we should on *The Postage Stamp* only be too pleased to collect majors on the Evans type.

**Much to be said on both sides.**

Major Evans, being of a peace loving disposition, takes up the position that he could be happy with either were 'tother dear charmer away. He says:—"I confess that I see excellent reasons for agreeing with both, and for

disagreeing with both. A catalogue, a dealer's catalogue (no others are talked of nowadays), is in the first place a list of what the publisher has or may have for sale, and as a matter of business it is to his interest to make it as comprehensive as possible, seeing that so many collectors collect by the catalogue, and accept what is in it and reject what is not. Such a catalogue should, of course, be consistent in its comprehensiveness, which as a rule is not the case. On the other hand, there is a great deal to be said in favour of making the dealer's catalogue a guide to the general collector, and leaving the specialist to the stock books, where he may sometimes pick up bargains! But will the majority of collectors be pleased with this? I very much doubt it. The inclusion of minor varieties is not by any means solely due to the greed of the dealer, who wants to sell as many stamps as possible. There are collectors who are anxious to see in the catalogue every minor variety that they possess, especially if they happen to have a duplicate or two of it—curious, but perhaps not entirely unnatural, for it is wonderful what a difference inclusion in a catalogue makes in the market value of a minor variety."

**A Far Seeing Policy Best.**

Despite all that can be said in favour of the inclusion of minor varieties, I cannot help thinking that dealer-publishers of catalogues are sadly overdoing it, that, in fact, they would strengthen their business hold on stamp collectors if they ignored a very large proportion of minor varieties.

Many minor varieties, that are well known, are left to the stock books as it is, for the specialist. The number should be greatly increased, or stamp collecting will, sooner or later, be most depressingly overloaded with perplexing, annoying, and very trumpery varieties.

**Printers' Waste Varieties.**

It is no secret that a very large proportion of so-called minor varieties are nothing more or less than printers' waste, waste that would, in the ordinary way, be relegated to the waste heap and burned, but for the fact that a ready market has been found for the rubbish amongst lovers of the minor variety. New Zealand mixed perfs., to wit, are nothing more than printers' waste.

**Our Self Interest as a Body.**

Our self interest as a body of collectors is closely bound up with the future of this question. No one can shut his eyes to the fact that, at the present rate of progress, it threatens to become a bugbear of alarming dimensions.

Westoby, one of the most cultured and respected of our writers in the past, denounced minute divergencies from the normal type, such as broken letters, &c., as "cripples," and ridiculed the idea of their being worth the serious attention of sensible collectors.

**Collector Partisans of Minor Varieties.**

Major Evans points out a weak spot in our counsels when he alludes to the fact that there are collectors who are anxious to see their pet minor varieties included in the catalogue. The specialist, in this matter, is admittedly human and a bit selfish, but there is no reason why he should be allowed to jeopardise stamp collecting by his selfish eccentricities.

**A Better Tone Prevailing.**

However, there is no doubt a more hopeful tone prevailing in the philatelic outlook. The outcry against the piling up of childish varieties, and the reaction in favour of the simpler form of more general collecting, are making themselves felt with no uncertain voice.

If there were any reason, or excusable plan, in this building up of varieties, it would not be so objectionable, but what becomes a rare variety in one country is of no account whatever in another.

# British Honduras

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## History of the Colony.

**B**RITISH Honduras is a Crown Colony, and one of which we probably hear less than any other colony of the Empire. It consists of a slice of territory on the Atlantic coast of Central America, bounded on the north by Yucatan, the southernmost state of Mexico, on the west and south by the Republic of Guatemala, and on the east by the Caribbean sea.

It was a disputed possession between the Spanish and the English up to 1798. In that year, Mr. Lucas tells us, "the Spaniards had determined, once more for all, to drive the persistent band of (British) settlers out of territory which they deemed their own; and in September of that year a fleet from Campeché, with a force of some 2,000 men on board, commanded by O'Neill, the Governor of Yucatan, bore down on the colony. A year before, the Baymen (as the English buccaneer settlers were called), in a General Assembly, had by a small majority only rejected a proposal to evacuate their settlements for ever; and now they prepared to meet the invader in boats and schooners, burning their houses on St. George's Bay lest they should be a foothold for the enemy. Backed by one British ship and a handful of British troops, helped by the shoals, and with their slaves fighting by their sides, they conquered in a miniature Salamis; and in beating off their assailants, they once for all established their colony by right of conquest, not by indulgence of any foreign power. Henceforward British Honduras had a right to its name; and from this date it was a British possession, not a Spanish district where British subjects had certain treaty rights."

Then followed experiments in self government, till in 1862 the "settlement" of British Honduras was declared to be a colony, the Governor of which was to be the Governor of Jamaica, locally represented by a Lieut. Governor. In 1870 the principle of popular representation was abandoned, and British Honduras became a Crown Colony.

In 1884 the connection with Jamaica was severed, and a Governor was appointed under the control of the Colonial Office.

"From an historical point of view," says Lucas. "British Honduras is a very interesting instance of the evolution of a colony. It began with private adventurers, who held their own in spite of a strong foreign power and whose success practically obliged their own government to afford them some measure of recognition and protection. It originated with trade, trade begat settlement, and settlement brought about in fulness of time a colony. The trade and the settlement were at first more or less contraband, then actual facts produced trading rights by treaty, and trading rights developed by force of circumstances into ownership of the soil. All through the history the men and their actions forced the hands of the governments concerned, and it may almost be said that the colonisation of British Honduras took place in spite of the State. The woodcutters and settlers in early times were closely connected with the buccaneers, and here as elsewhere these unlicensed freetraders largely helped on the building up of the British Empire in the West Indies. But both buccaneers and the woodcutters of Central America were constantly coming from and going to Jamaica, and so the history of British Honduras has always, until a few years ago, been bound up with that of Jam-

ica. Indeed the story of the Baymen and their doings is perhaps most interesting as illustrating the commanding position which Jamaica has ever held in West Indian history. Beyond all other of these colonies, it was not merely a single settlement, however strong or populous, but it was a centre of British influence in these seas, a colony with outlying dependencies, the point from which Great Britain made her power felt and extended her commerce along the coasts of Spanish America."

The northern half of the colony is described as a dead flat traversed by sluggish streams, and the south consists of plateaux and hill ranges rising to 3700 feet. The seaboard for miles inland is low and swampy, and a line of coral extends the whole length of the coast about ten miles out forming a natural breakwater. Extensive forests abound with fine trees of mahogany, cedar and pine.

The area is 7,562 square miles, and the population is 40,372. The chief towns are Belize, population 6,972, Carosal, 1,514, and Orange Walk, 1,967.

## Its Philatelic History.

The first issue of British Honduras consisted of three values, 1d., 6d. and 1s., and bore the portrait of Queen Victoria, with profile to left, and wearing the heavy Coronation Crown. This first issue was put into circulation in January, 1866. It was printed by De La Rue & Co. on unwatermarked paper, perf. 14. In 1872-9 the same design was printed on Crown CC paper, perf. 12½, and included the additional value of 3d. Then followed a series perf. 14 with a 1d. value added. In 1882-7 four values, 1d., 4d., 6d. and 1s., were printed on Crown CA paper. In 1888 a change of currency from pence to cents led to the issue of a large crop of provisionals, until, in 1891, a long series of Queen's heads made its appearance, ranging from 1c. to \$5. The 5c., 10c. and 25c. of this issue and the provisional 50c. of 1888, were overprinted "Revenue" to make them available for fiscal or postal purposes. A new series with the same small Queen's head as the 1891 set, but enclosed in a curved octagonal frame, instead of a circle, and inscribed "Potage" on one side and "& Revenue" on the other, was commenced in 1900, but only two values were issued when the portrait of Queen Victoria was superseded by that of King Edward VII. in the same framework design. The 1c., 2c., 5c. and 20c. only were printed on single CA paper, after which the full series came out on multiple CA paper.

**1866.** Three values. Design: Head of Queen Victoria in profile to left wearing her Coronation Crown, enclosed in an oval garter inscribed with the name of the Colony on top and the value below. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them on unwatermarked paper, perforated 14.



No wmk. Perf. 14.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. blue	-	6	0	6	0
6d. rose	-	25	0	30	0
1s. green	-	40	0	15	0

**1872-9.** Four values. Design: as in the preceding issue, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.C.

Wmk. Crown C.C.

Perf. 12½.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. blue	-	5	0	5	0
3d. brown	-	15	0	15	0
6d. rose	-	35	0	15	0
1s. green	-	50	0	15	0

Perf. 14.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. blue	-	5	0	5	0
3d. brown	-	20	0	15	0
4d. mauve	-	25	0	3	6
6d. rose	-	60	0	60	0
1s. green	-	30	0	10	0

**1882-7.** Four values. Design: as before, but printed on paper with the watermark changed from Crown C.C. to Crown C.A. Perf. 14. The 1d. value underwent a change of colour from blue to carmine.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. blue	-	5	0	5	0
1d. carmine	-	1	0	1	0
4d. mauve	-	7	6	1	6
6d. yellow	-	80	0	80	0
1s. grey	-	80	0	50	0

**Note.**

*For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

## The Sectional Imperial Album

BY THE EDITOR

**W**E have just received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd a specimen of their well known Imperial Album in a new dress. Instead of being issued in two bulky volumes, it is now being published in Sections.

The Imperial Album is a very old favourite. Who has not collected at some time or other of his philatelic life in an Imperial? It was first planned out by Mr. Stanley Gibbons himself in the earliest days of stamp collecting, and for many years it shared the popular favour with Oppen's and Lallier's. Oppen's and Lallier's have long since disappeared from the market, but the Imperial survives.

With a sturdy conservatism the Imperial has been published in edition after edition in the old volume form, despite the strong tendency to the universal adoption of movable leaf albums. It has represented the long drawn out existence of the general collector whose philatelic outlook included the world's issues. And even in its up-to-date form of publication it nurses a suspicion that there may yet be some who will not bow the knee to the prevailing fashion of selection and exclusion. You may, if you belong to the old school, still have your Imperial Album complete including the world's issues by taking all the sections, for the world's issues will be provided for as before, but divided up into sections in order that you may select groups or single countries at your pleasure.

Each country constitutes a section, and collectors can thus decide what countries they will take up, and buy those sections only. When they want to add fresh countries to their collections they can do so at a very low cost.

The leaves of the Album are loose, and special cheap binders are supplied to hold them. These binders will each hold any number of leaves from twenty up to nearly two hundred.

On the left-hand page there is a full description of all stamps, with illustrations of all types and watermarks. Each stamp is numbered, and on the right-hand page there is a corresponding number under a square or rectangle of the correct size of the stamp; so the beginner will have no difficulty in placing the stamps in the correct spaces.

The numbers to the stamps and squares correspond in all cases to those given in the 1908 edition of our catalogues; so collectors who want to fill up certain spaces can turn to the catalogue to see the price, and if they decide to buy, can send us a want list consisting only of the name of the country and the number of the square. All stamps given in our 1908 catalogues will have spaces provided for them in the Sectional Imperial Album.

Some collectors may not want to collect such things as Postal Fiscals, Official, or Unpaid Stamps, etc., etc. Therefore this new Album has been so arranged that the pages for these are quite separate from those of the ordinary Postage Stamps, and can be removed without interfering with the rest of the section.

The publishers are to be congratulated upon their enterprise in the production of this sumptuous up-to-date edition of the Imperial. It is what has long been wanted, and it is a boon to a very large following of philatelists. It cannot fail to materially help in still further popularising the hobby of stamp collecting, for it guides the collector along the lines of least resistance, planning out for him in a clear and simple manner the varieties that make up a country's issues, and an effective arrangement of those issues as they are obtained.

I am not surprised to hear that this new Imperial has caught on and is already an assured and great success. It almost tempts an independent specialist to go in for general collecting as an additional amusement, and it is not at all unlikely that it will do much to strengthen the reaction in favour of more general collecting.

# Hints for Beginners

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## How to make a Start.

**T**O begin with, the best plan for the young collector is to buy the best album and the largest packet of stamps that he can afford. Albums range from a few pence up to pounds. Some firms offer a neat album, and a packet of 100 stamps for 2s. 6d. Packets range also from pence to pounds in all sorts of varieties. Here are a few quotations from a catalogue that lies before me.

100 varieties, used and unused, 6d.
250 varieties, used and unused, 3s.
500 varieties, used and unused, 6s.
1,000 varieties, used and unused, 20s.
1,500 varieties, used and unused, 50s
2,000 varieties, used and unused, 90s.
3,000 varieties, used and unused, £11 10s.
4,000 varieties, used and unused, £18.

Another style of packets are those that are grouped into continents, thus:—

500 European, all different, 7s. 6d.
125 Asiatic, all different, 7s. 6d.
125 African, all different, 7s. 6d.
105 Australian, all different, 7s. 6d.
125 West Indian, all different, 7s. 6d.
125 South American, all different, 7s. d.
100 North American, all different, 7s. 6d.
100 Central American, all different, 7s. 6d.

## Packets of Stamps.

These packets are made up by most of the leading dealers from stamps bought in the wholesale market, and, therefore, represent the best possible value for the prices quoted, for the very good reason that the supply is abundant, is always renewable, and is subject to the keenest trade competition. Many of these packets represent little, if any, profit to the dealer, and are advertised, as the saying goes, as sprats to catch a mackerel. Not a few of the best customers many a dealer has had have begun by buying a cheap packet. A young collector who is well served at the start with a good packet rarely forgets the dealer from whom he purchased it when he develops into a full-blown and important collector, and his loyalty does him honour. Reliable dealers are fully alive to this tendency on the part of the stamp collector, and from start to finish rarely give a good cash customer cause to go elsewhere for his stamps. Hence the packet is regarded as a bait for new customers, and consequently represents the very cheapest possible method of buying stamps.

## Sets of Stamps.

Then come sets of stamps. Large supplies of more or less common stamps are purchased wholesale and sorted up into sets of different values of the different countries. Good firms pay special attention to the weeding out of poor copies. A good plan is to get a trial set or two from various dealers, and subject them to careful comparison, and to select your dealer accordingly. You may depend upon it that if a packet is made up of clean, lightly cancelled copies, it comes from a scrupulous dealer who will serve you well. The man who is particular in little things of the common order may be trusted to give satisfaction also in larger transactions. If a packet is made up of dirty, badly cancelled stamps, you will act wisely in avoiding further dealings with that firm. Good value

packets and sets of clean, lightly cancelled, well-centred stamps are the best of all indications which way the wind blows for you in the direction of buying stamps cheaply and judiciously.

Sets of stamps, like packets, range from all values, from pence to pounds. Even in the matter of pence a great deal may be done. For example let us turn to our catalogue, and note what we can get by way of start in sets at, say, 6d. each and under.

		s.	d.
Austria, 1890-6, 12 stamps	.	0	4
" 1900 10	"	0	4
Bosnia, 1906 5	"	0	3
Brazil, various, 10	"	0	8
Bulgaria, 1883-7, 6	"	0	6
" 1889 5	"	0	5
China, 1898-1905, 8	"	0	8
Cuba, 1894, 6	"	0	4

## The Boy Collector.

But enough, I trust, has been said to convince the boy who has only a few pence to spare for stamps, that patience and the study of advertisements and catalogues will enable him to build up, even out of his few spare pence, a little collection that may be a source of very great pleasure in its quiet, unostentatious growth, and possibly form later on in life, if he is wise enough to stick to it, the basis of a fine and valuable collection. The common stamps to which he will necessarily be restricted may take many years to appreciate in value, but every year supplies its own evidence of the fact that the common stamps of one period become, not infrequently, the rare stamps of a later day.

## Obsolete Stamps.

But it is in the buying of obsolete stamps that care and experience are necessary to guard against wasteful or injudicious purchases. In chatting over this matter with my friends, the readers of *The Postage Stamp*, I will presume that I may confine my remarks to what applies to the general collector. The wealthy specialist can take care of himself. It is the average general collector who mostly needs a few hints.

## The General Collector.

To begin with, it will be well for the general collector whose attention will perforce be confined to the medium class of stamps, to remember how he will fare if he is compelled to sell his collection. In the stamp auctions common stamps fetch not more than a quarter of the catalogue value, medium stamps from a quarter to a half of catalogue value, medium rarities half catalogue or a little over, and first-class rarities from half to full catalogue, sometimes over catalogue value. The general collector thus finds himself faced with the warning that if he has to sell his stamps he must not expect to get more than a quarter of catalogue value for the general run of modern stamps in his collection, and from a quarter to a half of catalogue for his best stamps. Not a lively outlook, some collectors will say. No, it is not—for the collector who changes rapidly from one hobby to another. The rolling stone, we are told gathers very little moss. So it is with the stamp collector. He who buys one year and sells out the next is very much more likely to lose than to gain. But the collector who sticks to his stamps, if he collects wisely, may be laying up for himself in after years an important and valuable asset. In the mean-

time he enjoys to the full the pleasure of an abiding devotion to a charming hobby, and as the years go by and age begins to tell its tale of scarcity in one issue after another, he is able to congratulate himself upon the fact that, to the pleasure of collecting, there is being added the gratification of wise investment. A common stamp, here and there, is quietly promoted into the class of scarce stamps, and thence, as the supply gets more and more exhausted, into the rank of medium rarities, and so the old collection advances in value from decade to decade.

#### Study Catalogue Values.

How then is the general collector to buy obsolete issues wisely? That is the real point that is wrapped up in the question, "How to Buy Stamps." In the first place, the collector must study catalogue values, and he must avail himself of every opportunity of buying good copies as much under catalogue as possible. Now and again some dealer who has bought a large lot of some particular country, advertises selections considerably under catalogue. Watch the advertisements for such offers, but be careful how you buy from firms whose names are not familiar to you. There are some stamps, and by no means high priced, that are scarce. You rarely hear of a nice copy. Such stamps are always worth searching for and worth buying when you can get good copies. Good copies of scarce stamps are worth double the price of indifferent specimens.

#### Associate with Fellow-Collectors.

Associate with fellow-collectors, and never lose an opportunity of "talking" stamps with more experienced collectors. Go over your collections together and exchange experiences as to where you have got your best stamps and the prices you have had to pay. If there is no Stamp Society in your neighbourhood, go to work and form one. Even if its total membership does not reach beyond half-a-dozen you will learn much as to "How to Buy Stamps" when you meet and compare notes.

#### Approval or Stock Books.

The great dealers arrange a liberal choice of good specimens of most countries in the chronological order of issue in special books for selection. Scarce stamps may always

be selected with advantage from these books. If you are passing through the Straud, drop in at one of the great dealers and ask to see their stock-book of any country you want. Perchance the counter assistant will ask you what particular stamp you require, that he may obligingly get it for you. Courteously prefer to see the book, as you may want several stamps, and you will, moreover, then be able to make your own selection of an exceptionally fine copy from possibly a dozen or more.

#### Buying at Auctions.

Then there are the auctions. If you are resident in London and can find time to attend them you can buy to advantage if you are careful. But you must have called at the auctioneer's and previously inspected the stamps you wish to buy. Never go to an auction and buy any lot which you then see for the first time as it is being passed round. If you fancy a lot on inspection, reckon up its catalogue value, and base your limit on what I have told you about the range of prices at auctions, and stick to your limit. If you are resident in the country, you will have to rely upon correspondence. In that case, beware how you send money in advance to strangers. Far better confine yourself to the leading firms, and to exchange clubs. The good exchange club is an excellent medium for the country collector. Most dealers will send good selections to any responsible collector, but they soon tire of sending selections if the purchases are not fairly liberal, and naturally so.

#### To Sum up.

To sum up, the reply to the question "How to Buy Stamps" may be left thus:—

1. Buy only good copies.
2. Buy as much under catalogue price as you can.
3. Watch advertisements for offers of specially cheap lots.
4. Look up good copies of scarce stamps that are obviously ripening into rarity.
5. Associate with other collectors, and learn all you can about values and prices, and where to buy.
6. Join a good exchange club.
7. And stick to your stamps

*To be continued.*

## Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 6.—Alexandria, U.S.A., 1846, 5c.

**M**ANY of the stamps issued by the Postmasters of various towns in the United States, prior to the introduction of the regular postage stamps in August, 1847, are of the highest degree of rarity.

One of the most valuable of these, the subject of our present sketch, was issued by the Postmaster of Alexandria, Virginia, in 1846 for facilitating the prepayment of postal charges in his district. That the stamp is rare may be judged from the fact that only five copies are known, four of these being printed on buff-coloured paper and one, only recently discovered, being on paper of a bluish-grey tinge.

The design is crude in the extreme, and consists merely of a circle of small ornaments in which "ALEXANDRIA" is curved at the top, and "POST OFFICE" at the base, while in the centre is "PAID — 5," in two lines. The figure "5" of course stands for 5c.—the face value of the stamp. It was at first thought that the stamps were

produced from a roughly engraved wood block, but modern authorities are practically agreed that it was produced from ordinary printer's type.

The stamp was unknown to collectors until 1873, when the late Mr. J. K. Tiffany found a specimen among his family correspondence. The stamp was not stuck on the envelope in the ordinary way but was attached by means of a wafer. The letter bore three postmarks: (1) an ordinary date mark inscribed "ALEXANDRIA, D.C.," with the date "July 11th," (2) the word "PAID," and (3) a large figure "5" enclosed in a rectangle. The letter inside was dated "1847." The letters "D.C." after the name of the town stood for District of Columbia, to which Alexandria then belonged. These marks practically gave the same information as that conveyed by the stamp itself, and it is therefore not surprising that the leading philatelists of 1873 were very dubious as to the status of this label.





In 1879 another specimen was discovered which resembled Mr. Tiffany's in every respect. It was on the original envelope and this bore similar postmarks, though the date was quite illegible. The letter inside the envelope was dated "Sept. 9th, 1846," thus proving the stamp was issued some time earlier than had been supposed from Mr. Tiffany's copy. This stamp is now the property of a well-known collector in Philadelphia.

A third copy, not on the cover, turned up in the nineties and was acquired by Mr. T. J. Shylock, though the price paid was not, I believe, made public.

A fourth specimen, also on buff paper, is reputed to exist in a well-known European collection.

It is difficult to do more than estimate the "market value" of this rarity owing to the fact that it is not a stamp that ever comes on the market. In *The Stamp Collector* Messrs. Hardy & Bacon appraise it at £600, and this, I think, is a reasonable estimate of its worth at the present time.

Not so very long ago a fifth specimen, on bluish-grey paper, was unearthed, and the discovery made a great

sensation in philatelic circles. Our American confrères were, naturally, highly excited, and the discovery formed the chief topic of interest in the United States philatelic journals. The stamp was used to frank a letter dated "Nov. 24th, 1847," and, according to *Redfield's Stamp Weekly*, it owes its preservation to the merest chance. It appears that this precious letter contained a proposal of marriage from a young man in Alexandria to a young lady in Richmond and so the missive was tenderly preserved by the romantic young lady. This letter was carefully preserved as a family heirloom, though without the slightest idea of its having any interest or value, apart from that of its sentimental association, until, in the course of time, it became the property of a Mrs. H. G. Fawcett, of Alexandria. How this lady imagined her possession might possibly have some philatelic value is not clear, but the fact remains that she one day wrote to a Boston dealer, a native of Alexandria, minutely describing the stamp and relating its history. This dealer was not slow to realise that a rarity of the first importance had been unearthed, and he at once offered £600 for the specimen.

In the meantime, Mrs. Fawcett had been advised not to be too precipitate in disposing of her rarity, and she placed it in the hands of a relation in Philadelphia. This gentleman, though not a philatelist, had some knowledge of stamp matters, and was also personally acquainted with another stamp dealer, who undertook to sell the stamp for him to the best possible advantage. A sale was effected in a few days, the stamp passing into the collection of a well-known Ohio philatelist in exchange for the nice little sum of £800. This is said to be the highest price ever paid for a single stamp in the land of the "almighty dollar."

## Dictionary of Philatelic Terms

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from Vol. II. page 308).

**Goldbeater's Skin.**—In 1866, two stamps used for the prepayment of postage on heavy packages were issued in Prussia, and these were printed on a tough transparent paper, very similar to goldbeater's skin. Goldbeater's skin—at one time a universal remedy for cuts—is a tough substance prepared from the outer coating of the "cæcum" or blind-gut of cattle, and it derives its name from the fact that it is extensively used in the process of hammering gold to the required thinness of the "gold-leaf" of commerce.

**Gold Coast.**—A British Colony on the west coast of Africa, stretching about 350 miles along the coast of the Gulf of Guinea. On one side it is bounded by the French Colony of the Ivory Coast, and on the other by German Togoland. Its area is about 40,000 square miles, exclusive of Ashanti and the Northern Territories, which add another 80,000 square miles to the Colony. The total population of the whole Colony is about 1½ millions, of whom only about 1,000 are Europeans. The natives are nearly all pagans, though the number of Christians and Mohammedans is steadily increasing. The Castle and settlement of Elmina was founded by the Portuguese and taken from them by the Dutch. In 1618 some English merchants built a fort at Kormantyne, and subsequently many forts and factories were established, not only by the English, but also by the Dutch, Germans, French, and Danes, for the purpose of supplying slaves to their West Indian and American possessions. The first English Company to trade with the Gold Coast was

chartered in 1662. This was succeeded by the Royal African Company in 1672, and in 1750 this in turn gave way to the African Company of Merchants. In 1821 the settlements were transferred to the Crown and placed under the Government of Sierra Leone, from which they were finally separated in 1874, under the title of Gold Coast Colony. The Dutch and British forts were intermingled until 1867, when it was arranged that Holland should have all those on the west of Sweet River, and Great Britain all those on the east. In 1872 the Dutch transferred all their forts to Great Britain, which had previously, in 1850, bought the Danish forts. The King of Ashanti objected to this re-arrangement, and in 1874 a military expedition reduced him to subjection for a time. Trouble again arose in 1895, and this time Kumasi was taken, King Prempeh captured and deported, and the whole of Ashanti was annexed, and now forms part of the Gold Coast Colony. Postage stamps were first issued in July, 1875.

**Golfe de Benin.**—The inscription shown upon the 1893 stamps of this French Colony. (See "BENIN.")

**Gollad.**—A village in Texas, U.S.A., having a population of about 2,000, at which 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861, prior to the introduction of the general set for the whole of the Confederate States.

To be continued.

## New Issues & Discoveries

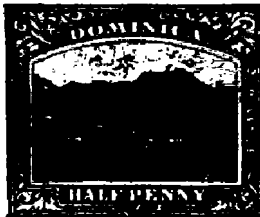
The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**British South Africa.**—(Vol. II. p. 114).—According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* a block of four of the current 1d. stamp has been found quite imperforate. Is it possible these are from the partly perforated sheets mentioned on page 21 of our last volume?

**Canada.**—(Vol. II. p. 272).—A Canadian correspondent informs us that all the ½c. stamps of the Quebec Tercentenary series have been sold, and that this value is now unobtainable at any of the post offices in the Dominion. Our correspondent further states that a postal official occupying an important position in the service avers that the 5c. and 7c. values would soon be exhausted, and that under no circumstances would any of these Commemorative stamps be reprinted.

**Cochin.**—(Vol. II. p. 225).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the Postmaster of this state avers that the new 1 anna stamp with portrait of the Rajah is not a postage stamp, but is meant for revenue purposes only.

**Dominica.**—(Vol. II. p. 188).—Mr. T. Palmer, of London, informs us that he has received the 1d. and 2½d. values in the Postal Union colours of carmine and blue respectively. They were placed on sale on September 1st. The complete list of values on the paper with multiple watermark is as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. green ... ..	0	1
1d. carmine and grey ... ..	0	2
1d. carmine ... ..	0	2
2d. brown and green ... ..	0	3
2½d. ultramarine and grey ... ..	0	4
2½d. ultramarine ... ..	0	4
3d. grey black and mauve ... ..	0	5
6d. chestnut and black ... ..	0	8
1/- grey green and magenta ... ..	1	3
2/- purple and black ... ..	2	6
2/6 maize and grey green ... ..	3	3

King's Head Design.

5/- brown and black ... ..	6	3
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**France.**—(Vol. II. p. 188).—It is rumoured that the "Sower" type, as shown upon the current 5c. to 85c. stamps, will shortly be adopted for the higher values

**Java.**—(Vol. II. p. 309).—According to some of our contemporaries the Dutch Indies stamps surcharged "JAVA" and "BUITEN-BEZIT" are an experimental issue to be on sale for three months only. Their object is to enable the authorities to find out the relative totals used

in the various islands comprised in the Dutch Indies, with a view to the creation of a lower postal rate for some of them. The *Monthly Circular* reports the existence of inverted surcharges on the ½c., 5c., 10c. and 25c. stamps in addition to the 12½c. chronicled on page 272 of our last volume.



Numeral type. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

Errors:—Surchage Inverted.

½c. lilac.

5c. rose.



Portrait type. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

Errors:—Surchage Inverted.

10c. dull blue.

12½c. deep blue.

25c. mauve.

**Levant (German).**—(Vol. II. p. 309).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* states that the German stamps surcharged with values in French currency, which we chronicled on page 309 of our last volume, are intended for use in the offices maintained in the Eastern Levant. Our contemporary further states:—"The stamps will not be sold over the counter in the usual way but will only be obtainable on special requisition to the Postmaster. They are mainly intended for printed matter, samples and business papers, but can be used for letters also. In this case, however, a letter of 20 grammes would cost 25 centimes, which is equal to nearly 2½d., whereas if the ordinary stamps are used the cost is only 1 piastre or 2d. The postcards, however, permit a slight saving, 10 penny cards costing 1 franc (9½d.), instead of 5 piastres (10d.)."

**Lourenzo Marques.**—The current 5 reis is reported in a distinct shade of orange-yellow, instead of orange-red, by *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

**Luxemburg.**—(Vol. I. p. 277).—Mr. A. E. Amos sends us the current 5c stamp of the Arms type overprinted "LUXEMBURG—08" in two lines. As the stamp was removed from a wrapper we think there is little doubt that it is a "pre-cancelled" specimen of the type so popular with our American cousins.

**Newfoundland.**—(Vol. II. p. 310).—We are now able to illustrate the new 2c. stamp, and it will be noted that the chief part of the design consists of a map of the island on which the lines of the railway are depicted. The stamp was engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co. of New York, whose imprint is shown at the base of the design. It is printed in the Postal Union colour of carmine, is on unwatermarked paper, and is perf. 12.



Map design. No wmk. Perf. 12.  
2c. carmine ... 0 2

**New Hebrides.**—Several of our Continental contemporaries state that the current 5c., 10c., 25c., 50c. and 1fr. stamps of New Caledonia have been surcharged "NOUVELLES-HEBRIDES" for use here. The surcharge is said to be in red, except in the case of the 10c., on which the overprint is in blue. These particulars have apparently been gleaned from "specimen" copies and we defer our formal chronicle until the actual issue of the stamps.

**New South Wales.**—(Vol. II. p. 297).—Mr. E. Heginbottom kindly points out that our list of New South Wales stamps on page 297 is not quite correct. To start with, the gauge of the comb-machine No. 2, by which most of these stamps are perforated, is 12 x 11½ and not 12½ x 11½. Again, the 10d. does not exist with this compound perf at present, but is only known perf. 11. The revised list of these stamps on the Victoria paper is thus as follows:—

Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."			s.	d.
½d. blue green,	perf. 12 x 11½	...	0	1
1d. carmine,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	2
2d. ultramarine,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	3
2½d. deep blue,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	4
4d. brown,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	6
6d. orange,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	8
6d. orange yellow,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	8
8d. magenta,	" 12 x 11½	...	0	11
9d. brown and blue	" 12½	...	1	0
9d. " "	" 11	...		
9d. " "	" 12½ x 11	...		
10d. violet,	" 11	...	1	1
1s. purple,	" 12 x 11½	...	1	3
1s. " "	" 11	...		
2s. 6d. emerald green	" 12 x 11½	...	3	3

**Papua.**—(Vol. II. p. 287).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2½d. of the permanent type, perf. 11, and on Crown A paper as before. Our Ipswich friends inform us that amongst their consignment was one sheet in a very pale blue, quite distinct from the others. The complete list of varieties of the permanent type is now as follows:—

Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."			Perf. 11.		s.	d.
½d. green	and black	...	...	0	1	
1d. carmine	"	...	...	0	2	
2½d. blue	"	...	...	0	4	
2½d. pale blue	"	...	...	—	—	
4d. brown	"	...	...	—	—	
6d. myrtle green	"	...	...	0	8	
			Perf. 12½.			
4d. brown	and black	...	...	0	6	
6d. myrtle green	"	...	...	—	—	

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. II. p. 284).—The 2 pesos is reported in a new colour—red and black instead of blue and black. It is dated "1904" as before and makes the list of peso values of the current type as follows:—

No wmk. Perf. 11½, 12.		s.	d.
1p. carmine	and black	...	1 0
1p. orange	"	...	1 0
1p. olive	"	...	1 0
2p. blue	"	...	2 0
2p. red	"	...	2 0
5p. red	"	...	4 6
10p. orange brown	"	...	9 0
10p. chocolate	"	...	9 0
20p. olive green	"	...	17 6

**St. Pierre and Miquelon.**—A French contemporary says the 5c. has been issued in the new colour—yellow green. The complete list of colour changes and new values since 1900 is thus as follows:—

Type of 1892. No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13½.		s.	d.
5c. yellow green	...	...	0 1
10c. rose red	...	...	0 2
15c. grey	...	...	0 3
25c. blue	...	...	0 4
35c. black on yellow	...	...	0 6
50c. brown on azure	...	...	0 8

**South Australia.**—(Vol. II. p. 297).—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has been shown a block of four of the current 6d. stamps, the top pair of which is perf. 11½ x 12½ and the bottom pair 11½ x 12½ and 11½. This means that two machines were employed to perforate the one side of the same stamp and we are told that there is "a distinct break in the perforation where the second machine has got to work." Another curiosity is mentioned by the same journal—the current 1/- stamp, perf. 11½ top and bottom, 12½ a third of the way down the sides and 11½ for the rest. This must really be the limit.

**Transvaal.**—(Vol. II. p. 176).—We learn from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* of a remarkable discovery—no less than the current 1d. King's head stamp on paper watermarked with a cabled anchor (the paper used for the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope) instead of the normal multiple Cr. and CA. It is only possible to account for this by supposing that one or more sheets of the anchor watermarked paper got mixed with the multiple Cr. CA paper at Messrs. De La Rue & Co's printing works. As the greatest care is usually taken and each sheet of watermarked paper has to be strictly accounted for, it is possible that some of the CA paper got mixed with the Cape Colony paper to make the number of sheets tally as they should. In that event we may possibly hear of Cape stamps with multiple Cr. CA watermark one of these days.

Error of Watermark:—Anchor. Perf. 14.  
1d. red.

**Uruguay.**—(Vol. II. p. 285).—One of our German confrères asserts that the 20c. of the type of 1890 has been re-issued in blue green.

Type of 1890. No wmk. Perf. 12½ to 15  
20c. blue green.

**NOTE.**

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

## From Other Magazines

### Great Britain, 1870, ½d.

This value was introduced in connection with the reduced rate of postage on Inland newspapers, printed matter, and patterns or samples, which was to take effect as from the 1st October, 1870. The design, which was oblong in shape, and measured only 18mm. by 14mm., consisted of a diminutive diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, in a plain oval within a rectangular frame, of which the ground was mechanically engraved in a lattice-work pattern.

At each corner was a square block to contain the small sans-serif check letters, which ran from "A-A, A-A" to "X-T, T-X," there being four hundred and eighty stamps on the sheet, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twenty-four each; and at each side of the frame, on a ground of solid colour, was "½d." in white—this was the only inscription.

The plate number, in small Arabic figures, will be found on the lattice-work at the sides of the oval medalion.

The inscriptions in the margins were similar to those of the previous values, the prices being "½d. per label, 1/- per row of 24, £1 per sheet"; and the plate number was engraved at the four corners of, and the current number above and below, the pane of stamps.

For this value a special paper was manufactured, with the watermark of *half penny* in script, extending over the space of three stamps, and the words *Postage Stamps*, also in script, appeared in the end margins of the sheet.

The plates ran from 1 to 20, but it was found necessary to reject some, viz.:—plate 2, after being half finished, was found to be imperfect; plate 7, or rather its roller, was defective, and could not be used; plate 16 could not be finished, as the roller broke; and the rollers of plates 17 and 18 cracked after a very few impressions had been taken.

Plate 1 was put to press on the 20th June, 1870, and plate 20 on the 27th June, 1879. Two more plates, Nos. 21 and 22 were made, but were never put to press.

The colour of the impression was lake-red, similar to that of the One Penny, and, like it, varied in tone and in depth of shade.

With a few exceptions, all the sheets were perforated before being issued, the gauge being the usual one of 14 to the two centimetres. There was one noticeable difference between this and the other values; the perforation, instead of being applied in horizontal rows was begun at the side, with the result that the sheets were perforated in vertical rows, and that one of the two outside rows was left imperforate on either the left or right. Copies with the right side imperforate, are lettered "X-A, A-X," to "X-T, T-X," and those with the left side imperforate, "A-A, A-A" to "A-T, T-A."

There was a large demand for stamps of this value, and during the ten years they were in use no less than 1,897,200,000 were printed.

Plate 9 was at one time supposed not to have been put to press; it was, however, brought into use towards the end of 1871, but copies from it are comparatively scarce.—*The British Philatelist*, July-Aug., 1908.

### Sarawak 2c. variety.

Two correspondents have asked for particulars as to the position on the sheet of the variety of the 2c. lilac on lilac, Sarawak stamp of 1875, with stop between the words of value. Although this variety is not catalogued it is just as interesting as the similar error listed in con-

nection with the 3c. of 1871, and is, also, very much rarer. It occurs only on the sheets of the second printing of the 2c., and will be found on the 5th stamp in the second row from the top.—*West End Philatelist*, Sept., 1908.

### Cayman Islands Stamps.

Alas for the hopes of dealers ordering ½d. stamps! No one got any. The postmistress evolved the following notice:—

No. 27.

George Town Post Office,  
Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

NOTICE is hereby given that farthing stamps and farthing postcards, being provided solely for internal postage in the Cayman Islands Dependency, will only be sold across the counter at a Post Office in the Cayman Islands.

By Order,

G. A. Parsons,

July 10, 1908.

Postmistress.

Having thus authorised herself to sell the ½d. stamps only across the post-office counter, Miss Gwendolyn Parsons proceeded on the one hand to refuse every application from stamp dealers and on the other to supply all her friends ad lib., for on 24.8.08 (only 45 days after the issue of the above notice) she reports that "we have only ½d., 1d., 5s. and 10s. stamps at present in stock." Residents in the Cayman Islands are now busy inviting offers from dealers for the ½d. stamps!

Beyond printing the 1s. and 10s. stamps on multiple paper, we shall be very much surprised if the Cayman Islanders are allowed to have any more new issues just yet.

The ½d. stamp should be immediately reprinted to an extent of at least 300,000, as besides the Colonial Stamp Market's order for 72,000, we understand that another dealer ordered 36,000.

A dealer received a few days ago a letter stating that only ½d., 1d. and 10s. stamps were still obtainable; if this is correct the 5s. stamps must have run out shortly after the postmistress wrote us on 24.8.08.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News*, 26.9.08.

### Papuan Stamps.

The Territory of Papua is evidently postally in as flourishing a condition as the Cayman Islands, as the Acting Chief Postmaster writes us:—"Owing to the much higher demand for the surcharged stamps than was anticipated, the stock with the exception of the 2s. 6d. is almost completely exhausted, both at Port Moresby and the other Post Offices."

A rough calculation shows that the total sale of British New Guinea (unsurcharged) postage stamps for all purposes, from 1901 to 1907, was about £4,000. Of this, probably about £1,000 represented the first purchases by dealers in 1901-02, leaving an average of £600 per annum for the remaining years.

The surcharged stamps came into use about January, 1907, and represented the following amounts:—

Face value, ½d. to 1s. stamps ...	£2211	17	6
" 2s. 6d. stamps ...	1676	5	0

£3888 2 6

Of these the Postmaster says practically all the ½d. to 1s. have been sold, and probably £800 worth at least of the 2s. 6d., in addition to very large quantities of the new issue.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News*, 26.9.08.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Canadian Tercentenary Sales.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* has sent a letter dated 29.08 from a Toronto collector saying;—"The issue of these [the Quebec] stamps is entirely exhausted, and the Post Office is now selling the ordinary stamps again."

## No more to be Printed.

Mr. Willard O. Wylie informs Mr. Ewen that press despatches emphatically state that no further printings of the Tercentenary set can be expected. Thus far about \$600,000 has been realised, a big demand for the stamps having been noted, collectors and dealers vying with the general public in giving circulation to this handsome issue. No less a paper than the *Montreal Star* publishes Ottawa correspondence to the effect that the supply is running low and "no more will be printed."

## Turkish Reminders.

It is reported that the Turkish Reminders of postage stamps, cards and envelopes, amounting to about eighteen millions, after being hawked about at various Turkish Embassies and offered to stamp dealers at £8,000, have at last been sold to some Constantinople merchants at something under £5,000.

These Constantinople merchants, in their turn, think they can screw good profits out of stamp dealers, but I fancy they will find they are counting their chickens before they are hatched.

## What might happen.

If these reminders were sold to dealers at a very low price and were allowed to come on the philatelic market for correspondingly low prices, they might do much to awaken an interest in Turkish stamps, but if they pass through many hands before they reach the collector so many will nibble at profits that they will not be saleable in sets at really tempting prices.

## Selling Repaired Stamps.

It is surprising to find a respectable New York dealer of the standing and experience of Mr. J. W. Scott saying that "the idea of printing 'repaired' on the back of all stamps so treated is nonsense." Presumably he acts up to his opinions, and if so, collectors will be tempted to shake their heads over his methods. I wonder what would be the fate of any dealer in this country who was known to have rare stamps so cleverly repaired that the repairs could not be easily recognised, and who deliberately sold such stamps without marking them repaired. Despite Mr. Singer, I doubt very much if there is a single English dealer with any reputation to lose, who would risk his business connection by selling repaired stamps without marking them "repaired."

## The Cayman Swindle.

The Cayman swindle still flourishes. Mr. Ewen says that although no dealers are supplied with the new farthing stamps, Miss Gwendolyn Parsons, the Postmistress, supplies all her friends *ad lib*!

How long, I wonder, will this Jamaica-Cayman swindle be allowed to go on unchecked. The Postmaster-General of Jamaica must be held responsible for this disgraceful business, for without his consent it could not go on for

another day, and if he is ignorant of what is going on he must be a most peculiar public servant.

We have heard nothing further of the distinct charge made against the Jamaica post office by Mr. Ewen of tampering with his letters in transit.

Really it is high time that the Colonial Office instituted a searching inquiry into the management of the Jamaica post office.

## Unchronicled Varieties at Auction.

Puttick and Simpson's first auction included two unchronicled varieties, one of which to say the least wants many tons of faith. I refer to lot 153, "India: 1898  $\frac{1}{2}$  on 1s. blue green surcharged on the *double printed* variety." The possibility of this variety being genuine is more than a poser, and wants a deal of clear explanation as to how it could have come about. The other unchronicled variety is the China Expeditionary Force, 1900, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. sepia.

## Our Advertisers' Offers.

Mr. Peckitt offers a few choice British Honduras from his fine stock of this country.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. give full particulars of the popular new edition of the Imperial Album now renamed the "Sectional Imperial Album," because it is now published in Sections. Their advertisement includes a full list of the Sections ready up to date, with prices.

Mr. Rhodes has his usual list of fine used copies at bargain prices.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper advertise Mr. Wetherell's fine collection, which they are selling on October 22nd and 23rd and mention a few of the many gems it contains.

Mr. D. Field's Special Bargain this week is three provisionals of Seychelles which are getting scarce, and are certainly cheap at his offer of about half catalogue.

Messrs. Bright & Son have a fine list of tempting bargains of good stamps, some of which they offer as low as a third of catalogue.

Mr. B. Gordon Jones, formerly a well-known dealer of Calcutta, collaborator with Sir David Masson in the work on Afghanistan, has now commenced business as a dealer in London. His list in this number includes some fine Indians.

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

## The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

## Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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### "The Postage Stamp," Vol. III.

The third volume of *The Postage Stamp* commences with this number.

Some day we hope to be classed among the "Classic Old Issues." As it is, we are rapidly getting out of the New Issue stage. Our friends, we trust, will increase as we grow older. Anyway, we shall leave nothing undone that we can do to win a record circulation. If all our friends will help us by circulating our little Handbills broadcast amongst their philatelic cronies, and putting in a good word for *The Postage Stamp*, we shall soon reach the ten thousand milestone. We have been there, but we want our sales to average that number, all the year round.

Our Handbills are very light, printed on thin paper, and include full particulars of contents, subscription rates, publishers' address, order form and specimen page, and may be had by the score, or hundred, post free, by sending a postcard to Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Grosvenor Works, Tunbridge Wells, saying how many you can distribute.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from

the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

### Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Binding Covers.

Our navy blue covers for binding the half-yearly volumes of *The Postage Stamp* are much appreciated, and Baldwin's binding of the vols. sent them is declared to be A1 by our enthusiastic friends. We find by far the greater number bind in all the advt. pages, a wise decision, for some of the most interesting matter is to be found in the current prices quoted in the advts.

### Our Bound Volumes.

In consequence of the discounts which we have to allow in publishing we find it necessary to charge 6s. for our bound vols. At the same time we may point out that it will be cheaper to send the numbers to Baldwin's to bind, or to get the Nos.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of 1d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwin's, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

### Answers to Correspondents.

K. S. L. (London, W.) Sheets of any of the 1d. red English stamps can be re-constructed by the letters in the lower angles. These are AA to AL in the top row, BA to BL in the next, and so on to TA to TL in the lowest row. Where there are letters in all four corners those in the upper angles are the same as those at the base but in reverse order. The plate number is always the same on each of the 240 stamps that compose a sheet.

The triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope of 1855-58, printed by Perkins Bacon & Co., can be readily distinguished from those produced by De La Rue & Co. in 1863-64 by the colours, with the exception of the 4d. value. In the case of the 4d. the Perkins Bacon prints are sharper and clearer than the De La Rue impressions which have a somewhat "woolly" appearance.

G. F. B. (Folkestone). Your Italian "Estero" with figures omitted from the corners is the ordinary variety (S.G. No. 870). The corners of all the stamps surcharged for use in the Levant were modified in this manner so that they could be more readily distinguished from the regular stamps for Italy.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

WANTED. Unused Stamps of all countries, mint condition; will send equal value Canadian new issues. Always reply by return post. James Ross, Box 65, Hensall, Ontario.

WANTED for cash. Triangular Capes, good copies only. A. Robinson, 11, Chapel Street, Didbury, Manchester.

WANTED. Current issues of British Colonials in exchange for current issues of Cape Colony, Transvaal, Orange River Colony, Natal and Rhodesian. Conrad F. Jacobs, African Banking Corporation, Ltd., Box 46, Capetown.

SEYCHELLES Stamps wanted. Singles, Pairs, blocks, used and unused. Hugh Harrop, Wesley Street, Hadfield, nr. Manchester.

WANTED. British New Guinea 2/6. Philatelist, Hatton House, Tennyson Avenue, King's Lynn.

CAPE TRIANGULAR, quantity. 141 Second Manor Park.

WANTED. N. Z. Pictorials, in mint blocks, and specimens of slot machine stamps. A. H. Stamford, Bingley.

J. GOMEZ DE MORAES, Rua dos Albigebes 22, Bahia (Brazil), wishes exchange from any country on the basis of Gibbons' and Galvez' catalogues.

NEW ZEALAND PICTORIALS. All descriptions wanted in blocks of four unused, especially London prints for shading and rarer varieties. E. W. Mann, Aldersyde, Reigate.

GREAT BRITAIN, used, wanted; especially 1d., plate 275; 2/- blue; 6d. plates 9, 11; 4d. plate 12. J. H. Tits, 20, Montrell Road, Brixton.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 2. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 34)

10 OCTOBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### A Philatelic Club for London.



I AM delighted to hear that at last a systematic effort is to be made to establish a Philatelic Club for London. Representatives of the various Philatelic Societies have been invited to an informal meeting to discuss the advisability and practicability of establishing a Philatelic Club in the Metropolis.

I hope the meeting will see its way to some definite step towards the long desired central rendezvous.

We have all built philatelic castles in the air for realisation in London some day. We have hoped to have a suite of rooms, some would even hope for a whole building, devoted to philatelic requirements, where all the London Societies might hold their meetings, and the auctioneers might ply their hammers, and a gay and festive throng of collectors might meet and chop and change and buy from each other to their heart's content, from day to day and year to year.

### A Philatelic Rendezvous.

Such a building would be a rendezvous for philatelists from the provinces as well as from London, and also for philatelic friends from the colonies and abroad. It would be a central bureau for dealers visiting London to meet other dealers and collectors.

And why should it not be realized? All we want are a few business-like and go-ahead leaders in the world of stamps. Men like Mr. Hayman, Mr. Reichenheim, Mr. C. J. Phillips, and a few more, would soon make the club hum as the centre of healthy philatelic activity and good will.

### The Club Subscription.

The subscriptions will have to be graduated, so as to get in the largest possible body of collectors and dealers. For the Londoner who can use the club daily one subscription, for the provincial dealer and collector a much smaller subscription, as in the case of the Royal Philatelic Society, and all other Societies and Clubs admitting country members.

There should be a general Reading Room where all the philatelic papers of the day should be available, and a Smoking Room for the general business of exchange and sale.

But I hope the promoters will not attempt to compete with the many excellent feeding establishments in the Strand. If they do the Club will be sacrificed to a few stomachs. It is for philatelic purposes that a philatelic club is wanted.

### Situation of the Club.

Of course there is only one possible situation, and that is the Strand, or one of the streets leading off the Strand. Anywhere else would probably be a hopeless failure. The Strand is the recognised centre of philatelic activity, the leading London dealers are congregated there, and it is, moreover, the most convenient of railway and tube centres. It might, perhaps, find suitable quarters in one of the many excellent side street hotels.

### Uniformity of Perforation.

The *Australian Philatelist* suggests that something should be done to secure uniformity of perforation in Australian stamps, and points out that the perforation of the stamps of Great Britain, France, and the United States rarely varies.

It is a simple question of efficient work and efficient management. If you have an incompetent manager of the Perforation department he is sure to make his mark in the muddling direction by trying all sorts of different gauges, but when such a department is efficiently managed and staffed you get perforations of a settled gauge like De La Rue's and the American Bank Note Co. that does not vary from generation to generation.

It is really surprising that with such examples to work by as the De La Rue perf. 14, and the American Bank Note Co. perf. 12, such muddling should continue.

#### A Fiji Islands Handbook.

Mr. C. J. Phillips (Stanley Gibbons) promises us a Handbook on the stamps of Fiji sometime this month. He says it is now being printed, that it will be the same size as the others of the series of *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbooks*, made up of fourteen chapters and numerous illustrations. The price cannot yet be stated, but we are warned that it will be expensive, owing to costly plates.

#### Great Britains: Books of Stamps.

In the new series of 2s. books of stamps, now on sale, the following notice appears on one of the interleaves:—

##### NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

The Postmaster-General is prepared to consider offers for the insertion of trade advertisements in these books.

Communications on the subject should be addressed to The Secretary G.P.O., London.

The innovation is said to be the beginning of a new and remunerative branch of business for the Post Office. Advertisements relating to the Post Office have appeared in these books before, but not trade advertisements.

#### £100,000 for the Postmaster-General.

The *Daily Mail*, 30.9.08, says: "The late Mrs. Emily Mary Buxton, of Cobham, Surrey, the mother of Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., the Postmaster-General, left property worth £118,502. She bequeathed £12,000 on trust for her daughter, Miss Richenda Buxton (now the Hon. Mrs. Reginald Talbot), two portraits of herself and her husband to her son, Mr. Bertram Buxton, and the rest of her estate to Mr. Sydney Buxton.

"Mrs. Buxton, who died on June 19th, at the age of eighty-four, was a daughter of the late Sir Henry Holland, physician in ordinary to the late Queen Victoria, and sister of Viscount Knutsford. She married the late Mr. Charles Buxton, for many years M.P. for East Surrey."

#### Mr. M. P. Castle Studying Trinidades.

Mr. Castle announces in the *London Philatelist* that he is engaged upon some researches in connection with the lithographed stamps of Trinidad, i.e., the issues of 1852 to 1860, and he will be glad of the loan of any dated specimens. His address is Mr. M. P. Castle, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

#### Original Printing Plates of Antigua and Dominica.

The *London Philatelist* announces that our energetic friend, Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt, has secured for the Leinster Collection of Postage Stamps in the Science and Art Museum, Dublin, the original steel plate from which the early issues of the 6d. stamps of Antigua, and the copper plate from which the first issues (all values) of the stamps of Dominica were printed.

These plates came into the possession of Mr. William Thompson, of Bishop Auckland, when he bought the Government remainders many years ago, and they have now been generously presented by him to the Dublin collection.

#### Philatelic Societies' Publications.

Major Evans, in connection with the splendid work in Afghanistan, recently published by the Philatelic Society of India, says:—

"It is to this financially unremunerative work that one would gladly see the energies and surplus funds of societies devoted; the ordinary philatelic publisher, who is almost invariably a stamp dealer, cannot be expected to expend money upon publications that can be profitable neither directly nor indirectly, and thus issues which have once become unpopular sink deeper and deeper in philatelic

opinion, partly because there is no demand for them and consequently only a limited supply in the markets, and partly because little is known about them and nothing is published."

#### Why Not Regular Yearly Volumes?

Following up this idea, may I suggest that it would be an excellent plan if each of our leading societies would endeavour to mark each year of its existence by some definite work of this sort. There are plenty of countries to choose from, so that there is no need for any clashing.

Some societies are fortunate in having members who are specialising in some particular country, let them take up their work and help them to crystallise their studies in a published work.

Thus it might be known that in 1908-9 the Royal will do Oceania, Manchester will prepare a work on Greece, Herts on France, The City of London on Chili, and so on. Only the strong societies could be expected to tackle difficult countries, but each society might undertake at least one country, even Cayman Island would be better than none.

And then the story of our philatelic societies would be one of something attempted, something done.

#### The Acme Stamp Album.

A movable Stamp Album for five shillings! Such is the announcement that Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us, with a sample of the Album in question.

The Acme Stamp Album is practically a cheapened form of the now well known Paragon Albums of the same firm.

The Paragon form of binder, with steel clasp, was first adopted to stamp albums by Messrs. Whitfield King, & Co. Since then it has been taken up by other firms in various forms, but the pioneer firm is determined to keep their adaptation at the top, and this Acme Album may be regarded as a trumpeting challenge to all competitors. It certainly is a positive marvel of cheapness. It is only rendered possible by the fact that Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are their own publishers, and that in regard to this particular album, they do not intend to sell any copies through agents, but all direct.

The Acme Album measures 11½ by 10 inches, and consists of 80 movable quadrille leaves of excellent quality, enclosed in a cloth bound binder, with steel spring back. The price is 5s., post free 5s. 6d.

Further particulars will be found in an inset circular circulated with this number of *The Postage Stamp*. Should any of our readers not receive this inset they can obtain it from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. direct.

#### Forthcoming New Congo Stamps.

The Congo having now been definitely made a Colony of Belgium, it is announced that the Belgian Government has ordered the current series of the stamps of the "Independent Congo State" to be surcharged with the words "Colonie du Congo."

Another report says that a regular series will be provided later by using the current designs and substituting the title "Colonie du Congo" for that of "Independent Congo State."

#### Abyssinia.

Some time ago it was announced that Abyssinia would before long join the Postal Union.

This it has now done, and it only remains to fix the date when the Postal Union tariff shall come into operation.

Then we may expect, I presume, either fresh provisionals or a new series.

Abyssinia, as the Ethiopia of the Bible, is historically a most interesting country, and philatelically it is also full of interest.



# British Honduras

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 4)

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

The marked feature in a comparison of catalogue prices over a series of years in the case of these first issues of British Honduras is the average maintenance of prices despite the fact that the stamps of the Colony were engulfed in the slump which overtook West Indians after the boom of 1897-9. It will be noted that most of these grand old stamps are still at their best. The 6d. perf. 14 of 1872-9 was bounced up to 85s. in 1899, from that it forthwith toppled to 60s., which price it has maintained. Perhaps the most satisfactory stamps of the lot are the 6d. and 1s. of 1882-7, which have maintained even their highest boom prices up to the present.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1866.						
1d.	8 0	8 0	9 6	5 0	6 0	6 0
6d.	20 0	25 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
1s.	25 0	45 0	30 0	70 0	40 0	40 0

**1872-9.**

*Perf. 12½.*

1d.	2 6	3 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0
3d.	5 0	6 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
6d.	30 0	35 0	30 0	35 0	35 0	35 0
1s.	15 0	35 0	45 0	50 0	50 0	50 0

*Perf. 14.*

1d.	2 3	2 6	3 0	4 0	5 0	5 0
3d.	15 0	25 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
4d.	10 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
6d.	35 0	35 0	60 0	60 0	60 0	60 0
1s.	17 6	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0

**1882-7.**

1d. blue	7 6	8 0	7 6	5 0	5 0	5 0
1d. rose	0 6	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0
4d.	3 6	4 0	4 6	6 0	7 6	7 6
6d.	40 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1s.	40 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0

**1888.** (January). *Provisionals.* Five values. Design: various values of the preceding issues surcharged with a new value in "cents," to conform to a change in currency which was made in the Colony on the 1st January, 1888, from pence to cents. These stamps were surcharged locally, the surcharge consisting of a numeral of value and the word "cents" in Roman capitals below.



*Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2c. on 6d. rose	50 0	45 0
3c. ,, 3d. brown	—	£15

*Perf. 14.*

2c. on 1d. rose (C.A.)	-	1 6	—
2c. ,, 6d. rose (C.C.)	-	15 0	17 6
3c. ,, 3d. brown (C.C.)	-	17 6	17 6
10c. ,, 4d. mauve (C.A.)	-	3 6	3 6
20c. ,, 6d. yellow (C.A.)	-	3 0	3 6
50c. ,, 1s. grey (C.A.)	-	60 0	—

*Surcharge Inverted.*

2c. on 1d. rose	-	—	£10
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*Surcharge Double.*

2c. on 1d. rose	-	—	—
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*Error of Surcharge.*

5c. on 1s. grey	-	—	—
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**1888** (May). *Provisional.* One value. Design: the 50c. on 1s. grey of the last series further surcharged with a new value "Two," in black or red over the numerals "50."



*Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*

Unused. Used.  
s. d. s. d.

"Two" in black on 50c.	-	—	—
"Two" in red on 50c.	-	7 6	7 6

**1888** (May). *Provisionals.* Seven values. Design: stamps of the pence issue surcharged by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., London, with numeral of value and the word "cents" below. This series is distinguished from the first provisionals by the larger numerals and the shorter length of the word cents, in the first provisionals measuring 14½mm and in this series only 12½mm in length. These provisionals are all watermarked Crown C.A.



*Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*

Unused. Used.  
s. d. s. d.

1c. on 1d. dull green	-	0 2	0 4
2c. on 1d. carmine	-	0 4	0 6
3c. on 3d. brown	-	0 6	0 6
6c. on 3d. ultramarine	-	1 0	1 0
10c. on 4d. mauve	-	1 0	1 0
20c. on 6d. yellow	-	5 0	5 0
50c. on 1s. grey	-	6 0	8 6

**1891. Provisional.** One value. Design: The 10c. of the last series with the figures "10" barred out and a figure "6" printed above, in black and in red.



*Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6 in red on 10c.	-	0 8	1	0
6 in black on 10c.	-	0 8	1	0

*Surcharge Inverted.*

6 in red on 10c.	-	—	£10
6 in black on 10c.	-	—	£12

**1891. Provisionals.** Two values. Design: The 3c. of the all Crown O.A. series surcharged with the word "Five" and the numeral "3" barred out, in black; and the 6c. blue of the same series, surcharged "15" and the numeral "6" barred out, in red. These surcharges were done in London by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Of the 5c. 67,440 were printed, and of the 15c. 44,640. The majority were said at the time to have been bought up by stamp collectors.



*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused		Used	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
"Five" in black on 3c.	-	0 6	1	0
"15" in red on 6c.	-	1 9	2	6

**1891-9.** Thirteen values. Design, a small diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left. The low values, 1c. to 6c. are of the same type with head enclosed in a circle with a large plain tablet of value below; the 10c. to 25c. were of the same design but with the tablet of value shaded, in the 50c. the head is enclosed in a curved octagonal frame with shaded tablet of value and the dollar values are of the same design, but with unshaded tablets of value. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CA. and perforated 14.



*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused		Used	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1c. dull green	-	0 2	0	2
2c. carmine rose	-	0 3	0	2
3c. brown	-	1 0	0	6
5c. ultramarine	-	1 6	1	6
6c. "	-	0 5	0	6
10c. mauve and green	-	1 6	1	6
12c. pale mauve	-	1 0	1	6
12c. violet and green	-	1 0	1	6
24c. yellow and blue	-	3 6	—	—
25c. brown and green	-	10 0	—	—
50c. green and red	-	3 6	—	—
\$1 " "	-	7 6	—	—
\$2 " ultramarine	-	15 0	—	—
\$5 " black	-	35 0	—	—

**1895.** Four values. Design: the 5c., 10c. and 25c. of the last issue, and the 50c. on 1s. grey of the all O.A. series, overprinted with the word "Revenue," in small Roman capitals, in black, to make the stamps available for both postal and fiscal purposes.



*Overprinted "REVENUE."  
Overprint 12mm long.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c. ultramarine	-	0 6	2	0
10c. mauve and green	-	1 0	—	—
25c. brown and green	-	2 0	—	—
50c. on 1s. grey	-	17 6	—	—

*Errors: "BEVENUE" for "REVENUE."*

5c. ultramarine	-	15 0	—
10c. mauve and green	-	120 0	—
25c. brown and green	-	30 0	—
50c. on 1s. grey	-	£25	—

*Overprint 11 mm long.*

5c. ultramarine	-	0 9	1	6
10c. mauve and green	-	1 9	—	—
25c. brown and green	-	3 0	4	0
50c. on 1s. grey	-	55 0	—	—

**1900-1.** Two values. Design: the 5c. and 10c. changed from head in circle to head in curved octagonal frame. The explanation of the appearance of these two stamps seems to be due to an intention on the part of De La Rue & Co. to use the curved frame design throughout for all values, for this was subsequently done in the King's head issue which in the following year superseded the Queen's heads.

*Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*

	s. d.		s. d.	
5c. grey black and ultramarine	-	0 6	—	—
10c. lilac and green	-	1 0	—	—

**1902-4.** Four values. Design: as in the preceding issue, but with the head of King Edward VII. in profile to left in place of that of the late Queen Victoria, with Crown suspended in framework over the head. The stamps were designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and were printed by them on paper water-marked with what we now term "single C.A." to distinguish it from the same watermark slightly reduced and repeated on each stamp. Perf. 14.



*Wmk. Crown C.A. Single. Perf. 14.*

	s.	d.	s.	d.
1c. bluish green	-	-	1	3
2c. purple and black on red paper	0	4	0	4
5c. grey black and blue on blue paper	-	-	0	8
20c. violet and purple	-	-	1	3

**1905.** Nine values. Design, as in last series, but printed on multiple Crown CA. paper, perf 14. In this list I have adopted the excellent plan introduced by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. for distinguishing ordinary "O" and "C" chalky surface papers for those who note this minor difference.

*Wmk. Crown CA. Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
1c. bluish green, OC.	-	0 1
2c. purple & black on red paper, OC	0 2	0 2
5c. grey black & blue on blue paper, C	0 4	0 4
10c. purple & green, C	-	0 7
25c. " orange, C	-	1 4
50c. grey green & carmine, U	-	2 8
\$1. " " " C	-	5 3
\$2. " " blue, C	-	10 6
\$5. " " black, C.	-	25 0

**General Remarks.**

The Colony is somewhat handicapped with its large crop of Provisionals necessitated by the change of currency in 1888, but with a few exceptions they are low priced and plentiful, but should be bought only from the most reliable firm for there are troublesome forgeries of some of the rarer varieties.

Otherwise the Colony is philatelically very attractive and manageable.

**Bibliography.**

Of works or articles on the Stamps of British Honduras there are practically none of any importance outside the Royal Society's monograph on the Stamps of the West Indies.

**Note.**

*For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

# Penny Postage with U.S.A.

**The Official Notice.**

THE following is the text of the official notice announcing the introduction, on Oct. 1st, 1906, of the Penny Postage between Great Britain and the United States.

"The Postmaster-General desires to draw attention to the fact that on and after to day, Oct. 1st, the postage payable on letters posted in the United Kingdom for the United States of America will be 1d. for each ounce. This uniform rate of 1d. an ounce will supersede the present rates of 2½d. for the first ounce, and 1½d for each additional ounce.

"A like reduction will be made on the same date in the postage on letters from the United States of America to this country, which will be 2c. for each ounce, instead of the present rates of 5c for the first ounce and 3c. for each additional ounce.

"There will be no alteration in the rates of postage on post-cards, printed and commercial papers, and sample packets passing between the two countries."

**The First Hours of Penny Postage.**

According to the *The Times*, "The first few hours of penny postage to the United States have seen an increase in the volume of correspondence, and inquiries at the General Post Office, yesterday, showed that the work was much heavier than on an ordinary Thursday, and it steadily increased during the day. At the same time the amount of work which had to be done perhaps hardly equalled the expectations of the officials, but it must be

borne in mind that the general public hardly realises yet that the lower rates have come into operation

"It is anticipated that the increase in the correspondence with the United States will be of steady growth, and that there will not be a very large addition to the mails owing to the letter-writing of the poorer classes, at any rate immediately. Doubtless, as the reduction of the postal rate becomes more widely known among them, the working classes will avail themselves of it on a larger scale, especially as Christmas approaches

**Penny Postage to Canada.**

"It is nearly ten years since penny postage to Canada became an accomplished fact, and the volume of correspondence in that period has increased more than four-fold. There is, of course, no means of ascertaining how much of that increase is attributable to the reduction of the postal rates, but that reduction has undoubtedly been the means of augmenting correspondence: The statistics of foreign and colonial mails from all parts, irrespective of the rates of postage, show year by year, a steady growth. Comparing 1907 with the previous year, the foreign and colonial mails (letters, &c.) despatched weighed 30,863,000 lb., against 28,490,000 lb., an increase of 8.33 per cent.; and those received weighed, in 1906, 12,477,000 lb., compared with 12,777,000 lb in 1907, an increase of 2.40 per cent.

**American Comment.**

The New York correspondent of *The Times*, telegraphing on October 1, 1906, says, "The newspapers report an avalanche of letters by the new penny postage rate which

came into operation at midnight, the mail matter being mainly composed of batches numbering thousands of letters each from large business firms. They show great interest in recording the innovation. The *New York Times*, especially, hails Mr. Henniker Heaton as already ranking next after Rowland Hill as a postal reformer, and now "it will be hard to find a second to him in the wider field he has made his own." The journal also gives credit for the reform inaugurated to-day to President Roosevelt and Postmaster-General Meyer,

'without whose support,' it says, 'Mr. Heaton would have found his assault upon the British Post Office administrators hopeless.' It adds that there could hardly be a subject of more general interest than the great postal change wrought between the two countries. 'The King's subjects,' it remarks, 'who come to the United States, leave their closest relatives at home. Sixty of the 80 millions of Americans had British blood in their veins at the last census.'

## Post Office Report, 1907

ABRIDGED FROM "THE TIMES."

**T**HE net contribution of the posts and telegraphs in relief of taxation, which has risen steadily since the introduction of the penny post, shows some signs of a tendency to fall off. A quarter of a century ago the Post Office gave the Chancellor of the Exchequer about two millions. Ten years since the figures had increased to over three millions and a half. After some fluctuations in the neighbourhood of that sum, the net revenue in the year 1905-6 almost touched four millions and a half, the exact figures being £4,474,192. Last year there was a slight falling off, and this year the surplus is only £4,135,633. The original work of the Post Office, the conveyance of letters, is the main source of profit. It is satisfactory therefore, to find that the number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom is still increasing, and though the increase last year is somewhat smaller than the average increase during the last ten years, this is explained partly by the larger number on which the percentage has to be taken, and partly by the special impetus given to correspondence by the reforms introduced at the time of the late Queen's second Jubilee, an impetus now exhausted. It is remarkable, that the number of letters sent per head of the population has grown by more than one-fifth in the last decade and now stands at the high figure of 65. No other country in the world conducts, we believe, so large a correspondence in proportion to its population.

### Reductions of Foreign Postal Rates.

But it is in the treatment of international postal rates that Mr. Buxton has pre-eminently established his position as a postal reformer. On October 1st, 1907, the rate for letters to foreign countries in the Postal Union was reduced from 2½d. for half an ounce to 2½ for one ounce, and for every successive ounce after the first the charge was reduced from 5d. to 1½d. Thus the postage on a letter of two ounces to France or Germany has during the last year been 4d. instead of 10d. Similarly the postage to British Colonies was reduced from 1d. for each half-ounce to 1d. for each ounce, and a letter of two ounces has passed for 2d. instead of 4d. as before. Those who have had to correspond with some member of the family resident abroad will realize what increased freedom in correspondence is thus made possible; in business communications the saving must be appreciable.

### Penny Postage to the United States.

And now, following closely on this reform, comes the extension of penny postage to the United States. From October 1st next the rate for letters will be reduced from 2½d. the first ounce and 1½d. each succeeding ounce to 1d. per ounce throughout. Thus a letter to New York or San Francisco of one ounce which before October 1st last cost 5d. will from October 1st next cost 1d.; and a letter of two ounces, which a year ago cost 10d., will go

for 2d. The great reduction effected is perhaps best realized from a comparison in tabular form of the rates to the United States on September 30th, 1907, and those on October 1st, 1908, thus:—

Weight of Letter.	Rate on Sept. 30th, 1907.	Rate on Oct. 1st, 1908.
½oz. ...	2½d. ...	1d. ...
1oz. ...	5d. ...	1d. ...
1½oz. ...	7½d. ...	1½d. ...
2oz. ...	10d. ...	2d. ...
2½oz. ...	12½d. ...	2d. ...
3oz. ...	15d. ...	3d. ...

and so on. Up to 1897 a penny franked no more than an ounce in a letter sent from one part of London to another. From October 1st it will carry a letter of an ounce (and it is to be remembered that the proportion of letters exceeding an ounce is very small) not only to remote parts of the British Empire, but throughout the length and breadth of the continent of North America. It speaks well for the principles on which the Post Office is conducted that such liberal concessions can be made without appreciable danger to the profits of the business.

### Estimated Weight of Letters.

Mr. Buxton adds to his report a table of the estimated weight of letters and post cards exchanged between the United Kingdom and other countries. From this it appears that our correspondence with the United States outweighs that with any other State or Colony, amounting to nearly a million pounds of letters and post cards, as against 806,000 exchanged with Germany, and 775,000 exchanged with France. The Colony which comes highest in the table is Canada (with Newfoundland); here Imperial penny postage has brought the weight of letters exchanged to 691,000 pounds. It is obvious, then, that in reducing the postage to the great Transatlantic Republic Mr. Buxton has conferred upon the corresponding public the greatest boon in his power. It is to be hoped that the way has been paved for a corresponding reduction at no distant date in the case of our French and German neighbours. Facility of correspondence quickens business and fosters social intimacy, and international business and international intimacy are the most effectual guarantees of the peace of the world.

### The Work of the Post Office.

There is a mine of interesting information, in addition to what is given and commented on in the foregoing article, in the 54th report of the Postmaster-General issued yesterday [Cd. 4240]. It is estimated that the number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during the past financial year was 4,972,070,000, an average number of 112.5 for each person. Of the total number of postal packets, 2,863,900,000 were letters,

858,800,000 post cards, 940,600,000 halfpenny packets, 199,800,000 newspapers, and 109,470,000 parcels. The letters showed an increase of 2.1 per cent. only, as against 3.6 per cent. in the previous year. The average was 64.8 for each person. The post cards showed an increase of 3.2 per cent., as compared with 3.9 per cent., which confirmed the suggestion made in the previous report by Mr. Sydney Buxton that the exceptional growth due to the popularity of picture post cards had reached its climax, and that the annual increase had returned to the normal. In halfpenny packets the rate of increase showed a decided drop from 4.7 per cent to 0.8 per cent., while in the case of newspapers the increase was 5.7 per cent., against 2 per cent. only in 1906-7. The rate of increase in parcels had risen from 3.1 per cent. to 4.4 per cent. The number of letters registered during the year was 19,123,050, showing an increase of 3.4 per cent. on the figures of 1906-7. The number of parcels registered was 1,034,262, an increase of 2.4 per cent. The total number of express services performed was 1,808,888, as compared with 1,673,258 in the previous year—an increase of 8.1 per cent.

#### Undelivered Letters,

The number of undelivered packets, including packets entirely unaddressed and articles found loose, dealt with during the year ended March 31st, 1908, is estimated to have reached a total of 31,278,000, an increase of about 1,512,000, or 5.08 per cent., on the total for the preceding year. All classes of correspondence seemed to have contributed to the increase, though only to a slight extent in the case of parcels. The undeliverable registered letters and letters containing articles of value numbered 393,298, or 11.13 per cent. more than in 1906-7. These letters contained £19,378 16s. 6d. in

cash and bank notes, and £336,680 17s. in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders, and postage stamps. These figures do not include the value of remittances enclosed in packets returned unopened to the senders, nor the value of miscellaneous property dealt with as undeliverable. They include a large number of "Limerick" letters, or letters containing "last lines," with postal orders enclosed, which had been refused because the competitors had omitted to prepay the postage. The total number of packets posted without any address and of articles found loose in the post during the year was 442,957, an increase of 4.69 per cent. on the number for the preceding year. Included among these were bank notes and cash to the value of £1,456 12s. 9d., and cheques and other forms of remittance to the value of £27,016 18s. 11d.

#### Accelerated Deliveries.

The arrangements for affording increased frequency of delivery in remote parts of the United Kingdom, as promised in the Budget speech of 1906, have now been nearly completed. During the year under review, Mr. Sydney Buxton has been able to make provision for accelerating considerably over two million letters per annum, in addition to one million provided for up to the end of 1906-7. Motor vans are now employed, under contract, on about fifty mail services in various parts of the country. The working of the vans shows continued improvement, and their use has resulted in an acceleration of service, besides in some cases effecting economy. Other services are under consideration and will, it is hoped, be established during the current year. The proportion of parcels wholly road borne has steadily grown since 1901-2, and the increase for 1907-8 has been the largest for several years.

## Dictionary of Philatelic Terms

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 7).

**Gonzales.**—A city in the State of Texas, U.S.A., having a population of about 4,000, at which special stamps were issued by Messrs. Colman & Law—a local firm of booksellers and druggists—in 1861, prior to the introduction of the general set for use in the whole of the Confederate States.

**Gourde.**—The unit of value in Hayti until about 1904. It was divided into 100 centimes, had a nominal value of 4s., and was actually never worth more than about 2s. Only one stamp, the 1g. of 1898, was issued of this value.

**Gouweloos, Messrs.**—A firm of stationers in Brussels who perforated most of the postage stamps for the Belgian Government from 1862 until January, 1867, when perforating machines were installed in the Government Printing Office.

**Government City Despatch.**—The inscription shown upon the special 1c. stamps issued in Baltimore, U.S.A., about 1851. These stamps were intended to defray the cost of delivery of letters to persons residing in the district served by the Baltimore Post Office, the ordinary postal charges only carrying the letters from the town of posting to the above-named post office.

**Govt. Parcels.**—An overprint found upon certain English stamps supplied to various Government offices for use on their parcels. These official stamps were withdrawn from use in 1904.

**Government Imitations.**—These are often politely termed "reprints," though it would be more truthful to describe them as Government forgeries. They are imitations of genuine stamps, made officially, for some reason or other, some years after the original plates have been destroyed or lost. The first issue of the United States furnishes an example, the two values being imitated by the Government in 1875—twenty-eight years after the issue of the stamps.

**G.P.—I.**—An overprint found upon certain stamps of South Australia used upon the correspondence from the offices of the Government Printer prior to 1874.

**II.**—The initials of G. Portielje.—a Dutch painter who designed the 5c. Brussels Exhibition stamp.—which are shown in microscopic letters at the base of the design.

**G.P.E.**—These letters are a contraction for Guadeloupe, a French Colony in the West Indies, and are found overprinted upon some of the early stamps issued in this Colony.

**G.P.O.**—A well-known abbreviation of "General Post Office."

**Grosion.**—The value in which several of the stamps of Crete issued in 1899 in the Russian Sphere of Administration were expressed. The grosion was composed of 4 metallik, and had a value of about 9d. in English money.

To be continued.

## New Issues & Discoveries

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Barbados.**—(Vol. II. p. 248).—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* current supplies of the 1d. stamp are printed in a brighter shade of rose than formerly.

**British Guiana.**—(Vol. II. p. 92).—From the same source we learn that the current 4c. stamp has the value printed in a paler shade of violet than before.

**Cyprus.**—(Vol. I. p. 228).—The 5 paras stamps is chronicled by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* in quite a new shade—dull bistre instead of ochre. Our contemporary avers that this value is issued in sheets of 60 and 120, but does not state whether the former has four plate numbers in the margin as is usual with the De La Rue stamps produced in such small sheets by the surface-printed process. If there are only two plate numbers they are probably only half-sheets, divided for the convenience of the local post offices. The list of stamps on the paper with multiple watermark is now as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple Cr. C.A. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
5 par. ochre and black...	0	1
5 „ dull bistre and black ...	0	1
10 „ orange yellow and green ...	0	1
½ pias. green and carmine ...	0	1
30 par. purple and green ...	0	2
30 „ mauve „ „ ...	0	2
1 pias. carmine and ultramarine ...	0	2
2 „ blue and marone ...	0	4
4 „ olive green and mauve ...	0	8
6 „ sepia and green ...	1	0
9 „ brown and carmine ...	1	4
12 „ chestnut and black ...	2	0
18 „ black and brown ...	2	6
45 „ brown-purple and ultramarine ...	6	3

**Iceland.**—(Vol. II. p. 89).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a new value, 15 aur, printed in two colours, in the same design as the stamps already current. The complete set showing the portraits of the late King Christian IX., and the present King Frederick VIII., is now as follows:—



Wmk. Crown. Perf. 12½ 13.

	s.	d.
1 ayr. yellow green and red ...	0	1
3 aur. yellow brown ...	0	1
4 „ grey and scarlet ...	0	1
5 „ green ...	0	2
6 „ grey and sepia ...	0	2
10 „ carmine ...	0	2
15 „ red and yellow green ...	0	3
16 „ brown ...	0	3
20 „ blue ...	0	4
25 „ bistre and yellow green ...	0	5
40 „ lilac ...	0	8
50 „ grey and lilac ...	0	9
1 krona blue and brown ...	1	6
2 „ olive brown and green ...	3	0
5 „ brown and slate blue ...	7	0

**Leeward Islands.**—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* informs us that the 6d. and 1s. values have now been issued on the paper with multiple watermark. The complete list of stamps on this paper now stands as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr. C.A. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. purple and green ...	0	1
½d. green ...	—	—
1d. purple and carmine ...	—	—
1d. carmine ...	—	—
2d. purple and ochre ...	—	—
2½d. purple and ultramarine ...	—	—
2½d. ultramarine ...	—	—
3d. purple and black ...	—	—
6d. purple and brown ...	—	—
1s. green and carmine ...	—	—

**Nyasaland Protectorate.**—(Vol. II. p. 272).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. state that they are officially informed that immediately after the issue of the new Nyasaland Protectorate stamps the entire stock on hand



of the old British Central Africa stamps was destroyed. The 6d. value with multiple watermark is, therefore, likely to be a scarce stamp as it had only a very brief life.

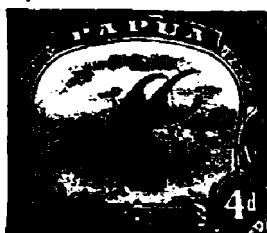
**New Zealand.**—(Vol. II. p. 287).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 6d. stamp in the "reduced" design has been issued with a perforation gauging 14 × 15—quite a new combination.

Wmk. single-lined "N Z" and Star.  
Perf. 14 × 15.

	s.	d.
6d. rose ...	0	8

**Papua.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—A correspondent has shown us the new 2½d. stamp of the permanent design, perf. 12½. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles two interesting errors i.e., the 2s. 6d. with small type of surcharge with "Papua" reading vertically downwards instead of being in the normal position, and the same value with small surcharge with "Papua" reading vertically downwards at each side of the stamp. Of the latter we are told that probably only five copies are known. Ideally, at this rate a complete collection of the stamps of this territory will be quite an expensive undertaking.

The complete list of the values of the permanent type is now as follows:—



Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."  
Perf. 11.

	s.	d.
1d. green and black	...	0 1
1d. carmine "	...	0 2
2½d. blue "	...	0 4
2½d. pale blue "	...	1 0
4d. brown "	...	—
6d. myrtle green "	...	0 8
Perf. 12½.		
2½d. blue and black	...	—
4d. brown "	...	0 6
6d. myrtle green "	...	—

St. Vincent.—(Vol. II. p. 128).—A correspondent informs *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that he has the 5s. stamp of the King's head type on paper watermarked

multiple Cr. and C.A. The list of stamps of the King's head design on this paper is thus as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr. C.A. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1d. purple and green	...	0 1
1d. " carmine	...	0 2
2½d. " blue	...	0 4
6d. " brown	...	0 8
1s. green and carmine	...	1 3
5s. " " blue	...	6 3

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

Provisional Issues.

The whole case of course turns upon the question of unavoidable necessity. The belief of most people who know anything about the matter is that real necessity very seldom arises, and that with reasonable care it would never arise at all—well, hardly ever! If it were once fully understood by all concerned, from Commissioners to Postmasters and Postmistresses, that running out of stamps was a thing that must not occur, and that provisional stamps were not to be issued under any circumstances whatever, all this nonsense would be put a stop to at once. Of course opportunities have been afforded by the action of higher authorities in allowing little places like the Cayman Islands to have separate stamps of their own; in a climate like that of the West Indies it is impossible to keep on hand stocks of stamps sufficient for several years' consumption, consequently the stock of a low value is always at the mercy of a speculator. But a Postmaster can protect his stock if he finds it running low by refusing to sell large quantities at a time to any one person—as is often done in the case of these previous provisionals—and, in one of these insignificant little places, if there were no stamps at all on hand for a week or two, very little inconvenience would be caused, and if it were understood that, if the stamps ran out, postage was to be received in cash and the letters marked "paid," stamps would never run out. The remedy for the Cayman Islands disease is to withdraw altogether the privilege of having special stamps, which has been so disgracefully abused, and which need never have been granted, and let the inhabitants revert to the use of the stamps of Jamaica, which I suppose they used down to 1900, if indeed they required stamps at all.—*Major Evans in Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 26.9.08.

Uniformity of Perforation.

The journal I have quoted makes one excellent recommendation. It points out that in certain countries, such as Great Britain, France, and the United States, the gauge of the perforation has not varied for years, and suggests that Australia would do well to strive after similar uniformity; and indeed it would be an excellent thing, but apparently too good to be hoped for; uniformity in any point seem to be the last thing that the postal authorities of Australia seek for. *Major Evans in Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 26.9.08.

Belgium: Sunday Labels.

Every collector is familiar with the so called "Sunday labels" attached to the base of all Belgian stamps issued since 1893. The label is inscribed in both French and Flemish—"NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE" and "NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG" respectively, i.e., "Not to be delivered on Sunday"—and any letters posted on Saturday afternoon franked with stamps from which this label has not been removed are not delivered on Sundays. When the first stamps with these labels were issued, the idea was not to continue their use indefinitely, but to try and ascertain the wishes of the general public on the subject of the Sunday delivery of letters. Apparently, it has been found that opinions on this point are about equally divided, so the labels have been continued. Thus, those who have conscientious scruples against the delivery of letters on the Sabbath, frank their letters with stamps having the labels attached, while those hardened sinners who prefer letters to be delivered as quickly and as often as possible, simply tear of the labels before using the stamps.—*West End Philatelist*, Sept., 1908

**A Postmaster's Satire.**

An amusing story comes from one of the outlying country towns of New Zealand, where the postmaster exercised his ingenuity by posting up a new set of rules in his office. They were:—

As all postmasters are expert linguists, the addresses may be written in Chinese or Hebrew. Persons are not compelled to lick their own postage stamps and envelopes; the postmaster will do this for them. Persons are earnestly requested not to send post cards with money orders attached, as large sums are lost in that way. It is particularly requested that lovers writing to each other will please confine their gushing rhapsodies to the inside of the envelope.

When watches are sent through the post the sender should put a notice on the outside; the postmaster would then wind them up and keep them in going order.

—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 3.10.08.

**Zanzibar's Sultan a Philatelist.**

The young Sultan of Zanzibar, who has recently visited this country, is reputed to have still a collection. An old Harrovian says he was a keen collector when at that famous school. One doubts this—at least if he has anything to do with the numerous stamps of his East African home—but if this year's issue is to last for some years, we will forgive him. He came over to England in 1902 for the King's coronation, in which year he succeeded his father and also married his eleven-year old cousin—himself being only sixteen years of age.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 3.10.08.

**Fine Copies of Old Stamps.**

Fine copies of the older stamps are getting rarer every year; we no longer live in the days

When stamps are immaculate, fine and mint,  
With original gum galore,

And brilliant colour and shade and tint

In beautiful blocks of four.

—*Philatelic Adviser*, 25.9.08.

# Philatelic Societies

**Philatelic Society Notes.**

**A**S we cannot spare the space for full reports of all the ever increasing number of Philatelic Societies that are in active life throughout the country, we must content ourselves with weekly notes on matters of interest in their work. These notes will probably be more acceptable to the bulk of our readers than long reports, consisting largely of matter of interest only to the individual members of each Society.

**The Royal Society Programme for 1908-9.**

The Programme for the new season on the Royal opens with a meeting at the town residence of the Vice-President, the Earl of Crawford, when members will once more revel in the Earl's philatelic treasures.

The Earl will give a special display of South Australia and the Departmentals.

A novelty in the Programme is down for 21.08, "Display by Members: Twelve Interesting Stamps." At the Royal this should be a special evening.

The old brigade read papers as before. There is not much fresh blood. There is a certain nervousness on the part of too many members in coming forward, despite the use of the most persuasive powers of Mr. Hausberg and Mr. Oldfield.

**The City of London.**

The City of London Philatelic Society has increased its membership from 60 to 81, and it can boast of an average attendance of 22 members.

The new Programme is a varied and excellent one, full of competitive displays, and excellent subjects for papers, among which members will have an eye-opener in Egyptians from Mr. Leon, who has devoted special attention to the issue of 1872-5. Mr. Burton, specially arrayed in his most modest philatelic garb, will on the 10.8.09 deliver a philatelic sermon on "The Simple Life in Stamps." Hardened sinners of the bloating specialist type are specially invited to be present.

**The North London.**

The North London is very fond of philatelic debates, and has arranged for one or two in its new programme, one on the merits of Catalogues, another on the status of an unused Postage Due Stamp, for 7.1.09, and another on Limited Specialism, for 3.12.08.

There is an abundance of competitive displays and papers. We note that Mr. A. B. Creeke, junr., will read a paper on 18.2.09.

**The Manchester Society.**

This strong Society leads off with a paper on the Type Set Provisionals of British Guiana, by Mr. Beekton, and then it is going to have a specially arranged course of lessons in Stamp Production, concerning paper, water-marks, perforation, gumming and printing from practical points of view.

**The Leeds Society.**

The Programme of the Leeds Society includes some promising items. On 1.12.08 they will have the opportunity of inspecting one of the finest specialised collections of the New Zealand Waterlow Series. On 16.3.09 they will see Mr. W. M. Gray's fine collection of Great Britain shown before the Royal Society last Season.

This Society was founded in May, 1890, and is the oldest in the provinces.

The average attendance last season was 17.

**A Display of Chili.**

Mr. J. R. Burton gave a display of Chili, in which he specialises, at the North London Society Meeting, 17.9.08.

Among the many good things contained in Mr. Burton's collection, mention must be made of a fine copy, in mint condition, of the 5c. of the first issue, being the only copy known in that state. Another stamp is a very clear copy of the 5c. 1865 issue, printed on both sides, of which only three specimens are known—a pair in Mr. Hall's collection, and the one shown.

Mr. Burton gave some very interesting and instructive notes, and also related some amusing incidents of the war with Peru.

At the conclusion of his paper he shewed what a desirable country Chili was to specialise, as every issue had been a necessity, and the large number of surcharges were only caused, according to his theory, through the contracts with the printers being for ten years, after which all stamps were used up, by surcharging, before new contracts were made, this being proved by the fact that surcharged stamps were issued in 1891 and 1901, an interval of ten years.



# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## The Trend of Business.

Messrs. Bright & Son in reviewing the trend of stamp business during the past twelve months, say: "Two matters stand out most prominently, (1) the continued and increasing demand for stamps of foreign countries, especially European, and such others as have not alienated collectors by issuing hosts of commemorative issues, to be used for short periods, large remainders of which are afterwards flung into an already surfeited market; (2) the enormous demand for the cheaper class of stamps in packets, sets, or on approval sheets, which has been greater than at any previous time in our recollection."

## South and Central Americans.

Mr. C. J. Phillips tells us that "there is a wonderful demand in America for stamps that have been much neglected in this country," meaning South and Central Americans.

He thinks that "one of the chief reasons for this demand is owing to the steps that have been taken by various collectors and dealers to clear the reprints out of such countries as Salvador, Nicaragua, Ecuador, &c."

He adds, "another reason why many people in America take up the study of the stamps of such countries is that there is still much to learn about the earlier issues, and the different settings of the provisionals, &c., and also almost all the stamps are cheap, and a fine collection can be formed without much outlay or capital."

## The Ploughed Philatelic Field.

"In British Colonials—outside the Australian group—," says Mr. Phillips, in a ruminating mood, "I really do not see many countries about which there is much to be learnt, but in very many European and foreign countries no really exhaustive study has taken place, and it is to such countries the real student of philately naturally turns his attention."

## Countries to have their Day.

Amongst the countries we expect to come to the front in this anticipated reaction, believers in the reaction point to the Argentine Republic, Peru, Mexico, and Uruguay.

And it is well known that we have in this country huge collections of these countries; some in the hands of collectors, and some held by well known dealers.

## Uruguay: Grand Early Issues.

Our advertisers, Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co., 170, Strand, W.C., notably hold superb collections of Uruguay, and the fact that they advertise their willingness to continue buying all the issues from 1856 to 1872 used or unused, in single stamps, pairs, blocks, strips, or sheets, evidences their faith in this particular country.

And after all it would be difficult to find stamps more full of philatelic interest than the first issues, more particularly those of 1856, 1857, 1859, and 1860.

Unfortunately, all but the 1860 issue are expensive, but they are full of interesting varieties, and grand ranges of shades.

## Stamp Business Booming.

The Revenue of the country may go down by millions, and the general trade may languish alarmingly, but the stamp trade rises superior to all these disturbing signs.

Mr. Ewen reports profits sufficient to pay a dividend of 30 per cent., Messrs. Bright & Son announce an increased turnover of about 50 per cent. over last year's sales, and another leading dealer is chortling over increased sales.

Truly, we are marching through these times of depressed trade with all our flags flying.

## Notable Stamps at Auction.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale on 24.9.08 included a few interesting stamps, of which I note the following:—

	£	s.	d.
Maldive Islands, set of 6, mint ...	1	17	0
Southern Nigeria, King, multiple, £1, mint ...	1	3	0
Caymans, Provisionals, ¼d. on 5s. and 1d. on 5s., mint ...	1	2	0
Tobago, 1896, 1s. orange brown error of colour, block of six, mint...	0	12	0

## British East African Provisionals.

Certain 1895 provisionals of British East Africa continue to be a feature of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sales. Their first sale of this season contained several pairs of the 1895 M.S. surcharge ¼s. on 3s. black on dull red, which fetched 7s a pair as against a catalogue price of 35s. for a single copy. The 2s. vermilion of the hand-stamped series on Company's Stamps which at one time was reputed to be the rarest of the set fetched only 15s. a pair unused. And these dropping prices will continue until there is some sign of the special supply giving out. Meanwhile the specialist will do well to avail himself of this opportunity of low prices for rare stamps.

## Foreign versus British Colonials.

I am curious to hear from a few of my dealer friends what the effect is likely to be of the little crusade that is being organised in certain quarters to boom foreign stamps at the expense of British Colonials.

I have no doubts about the success of any scheme for dethroning British Colonials. They are far too firmly established as the popular favourites of the hour, in my humble opinion, to be affected by any manipulated breeze in another direction.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. offer some fine old Virgin Islands at bargain prices. There are signs that West Indians are once more coming to the front, and Virgin Islands are amongst the most interesting of the group.

Mr. F. R. Ginn has a formidable list of offers, mostly of good old Ceylons, never out of fashion, also Northern Nigerias, single C.A.

Mr. James Rhodes has a tempting list of fine used copies of desirable stamps, including Gambias, Morocco Agencies, Seychelles, &c.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay offer special bargains in Egypt, Papua, Transvaal, Bolivars and British Somaliland.

Mr. Appleton has a list of Caymans including most of the rarities. He also offers some fine specialised collections of Sudan, Caymans, &c.

Messrs. Lewis May & Co., an enterprising young firm, has a column of offers of exceptional interest, including British Bechuanaland, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sudan, Tobago, Transvaals and B.S.A.'s

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for 'Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 23 varieties; F. M. States, 11 varieties, mint condition; in exchange for Sets other British Colonials. References given and required. Williams, 32, Nottingham Place, London.

WANTED. Cut square Envelopes, and Wrappers, from 4d. to 3d. each. Rev. Kelly, Ashendon, Bury Street, Lower Edmonton.

WANTED for cash. Triangular Capes, good copies only. A. Robinson, 11, Chapel Street, Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED. N. Z. Pictorials, in mint blocks, and specimens of slot machine stamps. A. H. Stamford, Bingley.

GREAT BRITAIN, used, wanted; especially 1d., plate 225; 2/- blue; 6d. plates 9, 11; 4d. plate 12. J. H. Tite, 20, Montreuil Road, Brixton.

### PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE. Established 1893. Best Club for Europeans and General Collectors. Fees moderate. Splendid sales.—Secretary, "Lynton," Lonsdale Road, Barnes.

STAMP COLLECTING for pleasure and profit. Handbook of seven chapters free. Fourpence.—Berkshire, 10, Clevedon Terrace, Cotham, Bristol.

REGIE'S CO.'S Approval Selections carry special reductions to P.S. Readers. 31, Foulsham Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

"THE AUSTRALASIAN STAMP EXCHANGE." Sheets made up of Australasian Stamps only. References required. Secretary, 118, Elizabeth Street, Blackpool.

1.00 MOUNTS free to Approval applicants.—Druitt, 47, Ordell Road, Bow, London.

BARGAINS! Try my Approval Sheets.—Jackman, 15, Gayville Road, New Wandsworth, London, S.W.

STAMP Hinges. 5,000 sd., assorted sizes 7d. 50 different United States 10d. Postage extra.—Lewthwaite, Stationer, Egremont, Cumberland.

APPROVAL Sheets. Stamps from 1d. each. K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL and King's Head Stamp Exchanges (combined). Few vacancies for enthusiasts. There is good business doing.—Secretary, "Lynton," Lonsdale Road, Barnes.

**DON'T MISS THIS!** Approval Selections Give away Prices. £1 job mixture Colonials, 2/9. Cheapest Wholesale, Retail Lists Free.—"Stamps," 28, Lansdowne, Hackney.

POST OFFICE MAURITIUS, 1d. and 2d. including 10 other values all marked Fac-simile, Gratis to all Customers purchasing to value of 5/- upwards.

## Astounding Value

### ALL IN MINT CONDITION.

	Price
Gt. Britain I.R., 4d vermilion (S.G. 1/6)	4d
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" " 2 1/2 purple on blue (S.G. 10/-)	2/6
" " 1d red (King) (S.G. 3/-)	9d
" " Admiralty Off. 2 1/2d, type II.	2/6
Cape, 1d on 2d bistre (S.G. 4d)	1 1/2d
British Bech., 2d green and red	2 1/2d
" " 4d brown and green	4 1/2d
" " 6d red	6 1/2d
" " 1/- green	1/1
Bech. Prot., 1d lilac	1 1/2d
" " 3d yellow	3 1/2d
Costa Rica, 1892, set of 10, 1c to 10 pesos (S.G. 10/8)	2/0
Gambia, 2/- Kings, single	5/0
Gold Coast, 1884-9, 3d yellow (S.G. 1/-)	4d
" " 6d orange (S.G. 3/-)	1/0
Haiti (Palms) 3, 5, 7 & 20c set	6d
Lagos, 2 1/2d Kings, single	4d
Patiala Service, King, 1/2, 1, 2 & 4s.	8d
Prussian Official, set of 8 (S.G. 1/-)	2d
St. Helena, 1884-94, 2 1/2d blue	3d
" " 1/- green, CC.	10d
Servia, 1d (S.G. 2/-)	2d
Sudan Army Service, 1, 2, 3, 5m., 1, 2, 5 and 10p. Ewen's Price, £7 8s	£4
Tobago, 1885, 1d carmine	1 1/2d
" " 4d grey	5d
" " 6d brown	8d
" " 1/- olive	1/3
" " 4d on 4d grey (S.G. 10/-)	4/0
Transvaal Coin, 1d red (S.G. 6d.)	1 1/2d
Venezuela (Maps) 50c & 1b (S.G. 7d)	1 1/2d
Victoria, 3d grey green (S.G. 6/-)	1/0

### THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL USED.

	Price
B.S.A., 1896, 2/-	1/6
Egypt, O.H.H.S., 1, 2, 3, 5m. & 1p. set	1d
France, 1902, 1, 2 & 5f.	6d
Gt. Britain, 1d lilac, 14 & 16 dots (2)	1d
North Borneo, \$25	2/6
Russia, 1, 3 1/2 & 7 roubles (S.G. 5/2)	1/6
Salvador, 1903, 1, 2 & 5c	1d
Spain, 1900, 2c to 1p, set of 10	3d
Sudan, 4m. brown and blue	2d
" " 1, 2, 3, 5m. and 1p.	6d
Thessaly, set of 4	4d

## Special Packet of 250 Different British Colonials

The best Value ever offered. Price 6/6. With this Packet we give 2 Unused Stamps catalogued by Gibbons at 30/-

The King William Pocket Duplicate Book, 6 leaves, 24 slits, Price 6d.

List of Wants receive special attention at very low rates.

Collections Purchased for Cash. Price List post free.

## LEWIS MAY & Co.,

15, King William Street, Charing Cross, London, W.C.

## SUPERB "POSTALLY USED" COPIES.

	Each
French P.O. Alexandria, 1902, 5c.	1d.
Canada, 1908, Quebec, 1c. or 2c.	1d.
" " 5c. or 10c.	2d.
Fernando Poo, 1903, 25 centimos	3d.
" " 50	6d.
" " 1907, 5c. or 25c.	2d.
German Morocco, 1905, with or without wmk., 50c.	3d.
" " Lozenge wmk., 3, 5, 10 or 25c.	1d.
Great Britain, 1883/4, 2 1/2d. (dozen sd.)	1d.
Gambia, 1887/9, 2 1/2d. blue	8d.
" " 4d. dark brown	10d.
" " 1/- deep violet	2/0
Hong Kong, King, Multiple, 6 or 20c.	1d.
Levant, Queen, 80 paras.	2d.
Leeward Islands, Queen, 4d., 1d. or 2 1/2d.	1d.
Morocco on Gibr., Queen, 5 or 10c.	1d.
" " 20 or 25c.	2d.
" " 40 or 50c.	6d.
" " 1 peseta	9d.
Morocco on G.B., 5c. or 10c.	1d.
" " 15, 20 or 25c.	1 1/2d.
" " 40 or 50c.	5d.
" " 1 peseta	9d.
" " 1 shilling	1/0
Seychelles, 1893, 3/4c (block of four 10d.)	2 1/2d.
" " King, Multiple C.A., 2, 3 or 6c.	1d.
Transvaal, King, Mult., 6d. (pairs 3d. each)	1 1/2d.
Trinidad, Single C.A. on blue paper, 2 1/2d.	2d.
" " 2d., Landing of Columbus	2d.

### UNUSED (full gum, never mounted).

Br. Somaliland on India, King, 1/2 or 1s.	1d.
Cayman Islands, 4d., speculative price, nobody seems to have these in stock	6d.
Seychelles, Queen, 1890, 13 cents	5d.

If you are hunting for Bargains, please write for my new Price List, sent post free.

WANT LISTS RECEIVE BEST ATTENTION.

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100 VARIETIES, Foreign and Colonial, 3d. Approval Sheets. Rare Bargains from 4d. each. Scarce Stamps a speciality. State your requirements.—Arnold, Albany Road, Chadwell Heath.

CANADA, 1901, 1c. to 20c., King, 5 used for 6d. CEYLON, 1903, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15 & 30c., 6 used for 9d.; 1903, 30c. violet & green, each 4d. LABUAN, 1892, Queen's Head, engraved 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16 & 40c., used, 7 for 6/- NYASSA, 1901, 2 1/2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 & 50 reis, used, 7 for 11d. TRANSVAAL, 1902-3, King's Head, 4d. to 1s., 10 for 10d.; 1s. olive gr., each 1/8; 1s. blk. & red br., each 5d.; 2s. blk. & yel. each 1/8; 2/6 blk. & pink. each 2/2. GREAT BRITAIN, 1d. red Queen's Head (1841-1879), well mixed for plate numbers, 1/6 per 1,000. 1,000 assorted stamps of all the world, 9d. 50 British Colonials, 9d. 1,000 stamp mounts, 4d. All the above post free. H. HARRISON, 82 Grosvenor Street, Bond Street, London, W.

NEW ISSUES, wholesale and retail; see Ewen's Weekly Stamp News. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P.32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

500 ALL DIFFERENT, 70c. post free. Bargain List of rare British Colonials free.—Eclipse Stamp Co., 326, West 17th Street, New York City, U.S.A.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

An Amusing Crank.



THAT amusing crank, the Anti-Surchargite, bred in the United State, is in evidence again.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist*, of New York, as organ blower to the fraternity, says, in its issue of 26.9.08. :—

“In No. 16 of this year’s paper we made a few remarks on the collecting of surcharged stamps and since that issue, have been in receipt of a very large

number of letters requesting us to eliminate all this class of stamps from our album and catalogue. We shall undoubtedly do so at some future period but the time is scarcely ripe yet. If collectors desire to hasten the time they must cease to purchase surcharges.”

A Previous Outbreak.

There was an outbreak of the Anti-Surchargite in the States some years ago. The devotees of the cult then asserted right and left that surcharged stamps were rubbish, that they were not worth serious collectors’ attention, that, in fact, they were waste paper, and poor stuff at that.

So thinking I had got a soft thing on, I published an offer in the *American Journal of Philately*, New York, to purchase any surcharged stamps these dear souls were tired of, at their waste paper price, for cash on the nail.

But the wicked editor of that journal, no other than my dear old friend and best of philatelists, Mr. J. N. Luff, put in an editorial note that he was also a purchaser of the rubbish on the same terms, and would take care of anything that came along.

How many sacks full Luff got I never heard, but not a single one came my way.

Bulgarian Independence.

Bulgaria declared its independence on 5.10.08, and we may duly expect a series of postage stamps to com-

memorate the event as soon as they can be got ready, unless the Bulgarians are kept busy in other directions.

For the time, the little principality seems to have rather upset the digestion of some of the diplomatists, and the outcome may not be pleasant, but whatever it is we are evidently in for some interesting changes from a stamp collector’s point of view.

Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Austria has also given indications that it intends to take over, lock, stock and barrel, the two Turkish provinces committed to its temporary charge under the Berlin Treaty. The idea seems to be to incorporate the provinces in the Austrian Empire, in which case the separate issue for Bosnia, might or might not be done away with.

Any way we philatelists are deeply interested in the shuffling of the cards, and shall watch events very closely.

Cayman Islands Pirates.

The following extremely interesting paragraph appears in the *Colonial Office Journal* :—

“The Cayman Islands are, we are afraid, little known except to the stamp collector, but small as they are they are remarkable among the West Indian Islands in having a population the majority of which is white or partly white. This is to some extent due to the circumstance that the first patrons of the group were pirates. The tortuous passages of such archipelagos were, as every schoolboy knows, eminently favourable to that form of enterprise, and even quite recently buried spoils of Spanish coins have been unearthed. It is almost to be regretted that the advance of civilisation leaves no room for the spirit of adventure even in so suitable a place. An interesting handbook on the islands has been written by the Commissiouer, Mr. G. S. S. Hirst, and published at Kingston.”

The *Colonial Office Journal* is not a good apologist.

Other times, other methods.

A wicked reader of *The Postage Stamp* suggests that the old spirit of adventure is by no means dead, that it is only a question of other times, other methods. In the old days referred to, ships were run down and their cargoes collared, now it is stamp collectors who are run down and plundered.

**New Colour Dictionary.**

My old friend, Mr. B. W. Warhurst, tells me that he has prepared a new and more elaborate edition of the Colour Dictionary which Gibbons will publish shortly. It will be very welcome, for it is much needed. I believe the new work is to be ready in a few weeks.

**Cost of the Bulgarian Declaration.**

According to the *Daily Mail* the cost of the Declaration of Independence will probably run up to a bill for some eight millions sterling for Bulgaria to pay, half of this representing payment for the section of the Oriental Railway seized, and the other half the capitalisation of the East Roumelian tribute to Turkey.

I wonder how much stamp collectors will be asked to contribute to this sum.

**Annexation of Crete.**

Greece, taking advantage of the present opportunity for a little grabbing and has annexed Crete. After her most ludicrous thrashing by the Turks, it is very certain that if there was the slightest chance of the Turks going for them again they would be far too frightened to talk of annexation.

However, it is done now, and presumably it will be accepted and allowed, and then will come the question of the stamps.

Stamp collectors need not calculate on their abandonment. They are a source of revenue not likely to be given up by the manipulating Greek.

**The Most Popular Stamp.**

Mr. M. P. Castle, in the *London Philatelist*, has a strong and good word to say for the popularity of the triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps. Says he:—

"From the first day when the Cape triangular stamps appeared they have served as an inducement to collect stamps, and if I were asked to name the most popular stamp in the world—from the most youthful collector upwards—I should name the fourpenny blue triangular Cape. This stamp, which has always been common, has been sold in stamp circles by scores of thousands this last half century, and, despite this, to-day sells better and at higher prices than ever. I think, therefore, we may look upon it as the best recruiting sergeant that has ever been enrolled for the noble army of stamp collectors."

**A Question of Rarity.**

Mr. Castle also opens up a curious question of rarity. In stamp rarity is, as I have often pointed out, not a simple question of numbers printed, and Mr. Castle emphasises this fact in the figures he gives of the printings of the 1853 issue of Cape triangulars. Of the 1d. there were printed 1,970,000, and of the 4d. there were only 440,000, and, therefore, the 1d. should be at least four times as common as the 4d., but Mr. Castle says this is not so, his explanation being that probably many more of the 4d. than of the 1d. came to this country in the franking of letters.

The catalogue prices the 1d. at 12s., and the 4d. at 5s.

**An Interesting Uruguay Sheet of 1857, 240c.**

Mr. C. J. Phillips describes in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 10.10.08., an interesting sheet of the second issue of Uruguay. He says;—

"A friend has been good enough to send me a photograph of a full sheet of the Uruguay 1857, 240c. vermilion (Gibbons' Nos. 15-17). The sheet is made up of 197 stamps and seven blank spaces, arranged in seventeen rows of twelve stamps each. The blank spaces occur as follows:—

4th row.	Nos. 5 and 11.
9th "	" 5 " 11.
14th "	" 5 " 11.
17th "	No. 11.

The stamps are in bad alignment on the sheet, both horizontally and vertically; in some cases they nearly touch, but in most cases they are a considerable distance apart.

Blocks of these stamps exist in various collections showing one of these blank spaces, and I have often heard it stated that the "error 180c., red," was removed from such a space; but I believe that this is not correct, and that the sheets were purposely made with these blank spaces so as to work out in a round sum of Uruguay money.

The error 180c., red, is exceedingly rare, but it must not be confounded with a colour trial of 180c. in red which exists on thin, soft paper. I have seen only one genuine error—it is a poor specimen, and is used; it is on the proper paper and is of a dull vermilion colour."

**Marquis of Ripon and Provisionals.**

The Marquis of Ripon, who has just retired from the Cabinet, will be remembered by stamp collectors as the Colonial Secretary who many years ago gave the Straits Settlements a rap over the knuckles concerning their continual issues of provisionals, and pointed out to them that ordinary foresight would render such issues unnecessary.

It is a pity his mantle has not fallen on the present Colonial Secretary, for then there would be an end to the Cayman Islands scandal.

**A Potato Stamp.**

The 8d. brown and black pictorial stamp of St. Helena, issued in 1903, is said to be known as the "potato stamp," the explanation being that in 1902 the tariff for 1 kilo sample packets from St. Helena to the Cape was fixed at 8d., and in 1903 an 8d. stamp was issued accordingly. As the chief export of the island was now potatoes, this stamp became known as the "potato stamp."

**France: Sower Design for High Values.**

I am glad to hear that the pretty Sower design of the current French stamps is to be carried right through the high values. When complete in this type I venture to say that the French set will make one of the most effective pages in our albums, for not only is the design an effective one but the colours are all strikingly attractive and pronounced.

**A Collector of Damaged Stamps.**

In these days, when we who are fastidious as to our specimens, are dubbed "condition cranks," it is refreshing to learn that some one has the courage to advertise his wants of damaged stamps. Mr. Ewen has a client who is "collecting economically, rare stamps damaged, fiscally used, or 'specimen,' if cheap." "Any old rags or bones!"

**Those Farthing Caymans.**

By the latest edict those precious farthing Caymans are to be permitted to be used to make up foreign postage. Was there ever such bunkum and postal jobbery before in any respectable British colony, and yet I hear that the officials are busy with their whitewash pail. But before they are through I fancy we will give them the full benefit of continued publicity.

Of course the excuse will be the perplexing demand from the wicked stamp dealer.

**The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.**

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Stamps of Bulgaria

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

ON the 5th October, 1908, Bulgaria declared its independence, and became the Kingdom of Bulgaria, and Prince Ferdinand became King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, but it is said that he will assume the title of Tsar.

Bulgaria is the buffer state of the Balkans, between Russia and Turkey. It has had a long and chequered history. There were three Bulgarian kingdoms successively in the Middle Ages, and about the tenth century, and again in the thirteenth century, the kingdom had a wide extent. It was overthrown by the Turks about the end of the fourteenth century. It was constituted a principality by the Treaty of San Stefano and the Congress of Berlin in 1878, and Prince Alexander of Battenberg was installed in 1879. A war with Servia in 1885 ended in favour of Bulgaria. Prince Alexander was kidnapped and compelled by the hostility of Russia to resign in 1886, and Prince Ferdinand of Coburg was elected in his stead in 1887.

The area of Bulgaria is 24,699 square miles, or, with Roumelia, now incorporated in the principality, 38,560 square miles. The total population was, in 1900, 3,733,189. The old capital was Tirnova, but Sofia is now the seat of government. It commands the railway from Vienna to Constantinople, and has a population of 67,920. Varna, a fortified seaport on the Black Sea, which was the starting point of the expedition to the Crimea, has a population of nearly 80,000.

## Its Philatelic History.

Philatelically, Bulgaria is an interesting country. Its issues throughout are cheap, they are many, and they are fairly well sprinkled with varieties that will appeal to the moderate specialist in search of a country that will not entail much outlay of money, the only high-priced stamp being the 5st. of 1882, in rose and pale rose, an error of colour.

Its first stamps were issued in 1879, the year following the creation of the principality under the Treaty of Berlin, after the Russo-Turkish war. Those first stamps were manufactured in St. Petersburg, hence their family likeness to the Russian stamps in their small size, rich colouring, paper, and perforation.

In 1881 the currency was changed from centimes and francs to stotinki, and some changes of colour were also made, then in the following year there were further changes of colours. In 1884 there was an issue of four provisionals. A new series, of Parisian manufacture, made its appearance in 1889. The Bulgarian lion was retained as the feature of the design, but as compared with the Russian-made stamps they are of poor design and poorer still in colouring. In 1896 Bulgaria commenced its issue of Commemoratives, for which it has since shown such a strong predilection. This first Commemorative was to celebrate the baptism of Prince Boris; the next in 1891, the 25th anniversary of the War of Independence; and in 1902, the Battle of the Shipka Pass, and in 1907 the anniversary of Prince Ferdinand's accession to the throne.

The current series, with a fine portrait of Prince Ferdinand, was issued in 1902, and will no doubt be superseded with all possible haste by another Commemorative series to mark the recent Declaration of Independence.

**1879.** Five values. Design: a crowned lion rampant, in an upright oval. According to Westoby, these stamps were printed in St. Petersburg, and in printing, paper, and rich colouring, they have much in common with the Russian stamps of the same period. The inscriptions are in Slavonic characters in the Bulgarian language. In the upper part of the oval band the words are "Bulgarian Post," and in the lower the value in centimes or francs. The stamps are printed in two colours. The paper is watermarked with wavy lines. The value in centimes have a numeral in each corner, but in the franc value the numeral discs are filled in with an ornament. Perf.  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ .



Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ .

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5c. black and orange	-	1 9	1 3	
10c. .. green	-	6 0	6 0	
25c. .. purple	-	2 6	2 6	
50c. .. blue	-	4 0	4 0	
1fr. .. rose-red	-	4 6	2 0	

## Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The prices of all values have fluctuated considerably except the 10c. which was jumped up from 1s. 6d. in 1896 to 5s. in 1897 and 6s. in 1899, which last price it has since maintained. All values now stand at their best, except the 25c., which was 6d. better in 1904.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
5c.	- 0 8	1 0	1 0	0 8	1 3	1 9
10c.	- 1 6	6 0	—	6 0	6 0	6 0
25c.	- 1 3	1 9	2 6	3 0	2 6	2 6
50c.	- 2 0	3 6	4 0	3 0	3 6	4 0
1fr.	- 2 6	3 6	4 0	2 6	4 6	4 6

**1881.** Six values. Design as before, but with the inscription of value in the lower part of the oval band altered from centimes to "stotinki." Watermark as before, and perf. The 25 st. is the rarity of the series.

Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ .

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 st., dull carmine and grey	0	4	0	6
5 st., black and yellow	-	0 8	0	6
10 st., .. green	-	5 0	1	6
15 st., dull carmine and green	4	0	1	0
25 st., black and purple	-	10 0	4	0
30 st., blue and brown	-	4 0	0	9

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

The catalogue prices of this second series have been much steadier than those of the first set, in fact, all show a continuous improvement with slight set backs only in the case of the 10 st., which was evidently much overpriced at 7s. 6d. in 1902, and the 25 st., which was raised to 12s. in 1904, but dropped to 10s. in 1906.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
3 st. -	0 2	0 3	0 4	0 3	0 4	0 4
5 st. -	0 3	0 5	0 6	0 5	0 6	0 8
10 st. -	2 0	2 6	7 6	4 0	5 0	5 0
15 st. -	0 9	1 6	3 0	4 0	4 0	4 0
25 st. -	2 0	5 0	—	12 0	10 0	10 0
30 st. -	1 6	3 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0

**1882.** Seven values. Design as before, but the colours altered, modified, and toned down considerably from the rich bicolours of the previous issue. This series includes the one rarity of the county, *i.e.*, the 5 st. printed in rose and pale rose, the colours of the 10 st. This error, Westoby tells us, arose from one of the electrotypes of the 5 st. being accidentally inserted at St. Petersburg into the forme of 100 electrotypes of the 10 st. in place of one of the electros of the latter value. He says the error was discovered in Bulgaria, but not before one at least had been postally used.

*Wmk wavy lines. Perf. 14½ by 15.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 st., orange and yellow	- 0 2	0 2
5 st., green and pale green	- 0 3	0 1
10 st., red and pale red	- 0 6	0 1
15 st., purple and pale purple	- 0 8	0 1.
25 st., blue and pale blue	- 0 8	0 1
30 st., purple and green	- 1 6	0 2
50 st., blue and rose	- 2 0	0 4
<i>Error of colour.</i>		
5 st., rose and pale rose	- £14	£12

**1884-5. Provisionals.** Owing presumably to a temporary shortage of 3 st., 5 st., 15 st., and 50 st., supplies of those values were provided by surcharging other values of previous issues. Some of the surcharging was done in black ink, and some in red. The black surcharges are very scarce. The 3 st. and 5 st. surcharges are in shaded numerals of similar type.

The 3 st. and 5 st. are of the small shaded numeral type, and the 15 st. and 50 st. of the tall figure type.

**Black surcharge.**

	Unused.	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
3 on 10 st.	- 12 6	7 6
5 on 30 st.	-	-
50 on 1 fr.	- 7 6	8 6

**Red surcharge.**

5 on 30 st.	- 5 0	4 6
15 on 25 st.	- 4 0	3 0

*To be continued.*

**Note.**

*For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

## Latest News from Uruguay

**Proposed New Series.**

**S**INCE writing you last we have had the 1c., 10c., and 20c. of 1900-1 reissued for sale to the public. There is much speculation as to when the new series will appear, but I do not think an order has been placed yet. The authorities are probably undecided whether to send to England or the States, and, of course, as we are thousands of miles away, all this sort of thing takes time. Meanwhile, there is really no reason why we should not continue with the 1900 issue for some time yet.

**Philatelic Society for Montevideo.**

Some letters have appeared recently in the local papers, advocating the establishment of a Philatelic Society in Montevideo, and the project has created a certain amount of enthusiasm amongst the local philatelists. A few years ago there was a society here, but through lack of support it came to an untimely end. The number of collectors is legion, and a few have very fine collections, so now it is proposed to start with eighty members, each paying an entrance fee of one dollar and a monthly subscription of 30 cents., ladies as well as gentlemen being eligible for membership. Later on, if the Society proves

a success, the promoters wish to start a Philatelic Journal. We have only one stamp paper in this Republic, and that is the *Uruguay Postal*, published at the town of Salto, many miles away from here.

**Stolen Stamps.**

A few years ago a treasurer of the Post Office helped himself to stamps to the value of \$47,152, and vanished to Buenos Aires, where he manages to raise funds by selling a few of the stamps at a time. I see by the papers that the Director-General has been authorized by the Executive to write off the above-mentioned sum. The authorities are now very strict in postal matters, and, as delinquents are liable to heavy penalties, there is little likelihood of such a thing occurring again.

**1906-7. 2 c. red?**

I see there is a curious error in your current Catalogue. You quote a 2 c. red of the 1906-7 issue, type 90, under number 291; but no such stamp exists, nor can I discover that there was any intention to issue this value, especially in view of the forgeries of the 5 c. values.—*A. H. Davis in Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 8.10.08.*

# The Bulgarian Tsar

BY THE EDITOR



**B**ULGARIA declared its independence on the 5th October, 1908, and its ruler, Prince Ferdinand, is credited with the intention of assuming the title of Tsar, which is said to have been first adopted by the Bulgarian ruler, Simeon at the end of the ninth century, he having obtained the grant of the title from Rome. But the information adds "The Bulgarian equivalent for 'King' is 'Kral.' It is understood, however, that in foreign languages the Bulgarian sovereign will be designated by the same title as those of Servia and Roumania."

Prince, Tsar, or King, Ferdinand is a man of note from the philatelic, as well as from the political point of

view, for his portrait appears on the current series of Bulgarian postage stamps, and his recent *coup-d'état* will probably result in changes of further philatelic interest.

Prince Ferdinand was born at Vienna in 1861. He is the youngest son of Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg and Princess Clementine of Bourbon-Orleans, a daughter of Louis Philippe. In 1893 he married Marie Louise, eldest daughter of Duke Robert of Parma. By her he has four children, the eldest Prince Boris, the heir apparent, was born in January, 1894. After the death of his first wife he married last year Princess Eleanor of Reuss, a daughter of Prince Henry IV. of Reuss-Kösbütz, whose family is one of the oldest of European Royal Houses.

Prince Ferdinand was elected by unanimous vote twenty-one years ago, but his Sovereignty was not formally recognised by the Porte and the Great Powers until March, 1896.

The dramatic declaration of independence by Bulgaria has made Prince Ferdinand a much-talked-of man. The crisis in Turkey gave Bulgaria, in the view of Bulgarian politicians, an exceptional opportunity. Bulgaria has grown in importance of recent years, and she has a due sense of that importance. In 1878, by the Treaty of Berlin, Bulgaria was made an independent State, but tributary to the Sultan. In 1885, Eastern Roumelia, or Bulgaria south of the Balkans, was, after revolution, added to the Principality, and Bulgaria, through one mouthpiece and another, has lately been talking of absolute independence. She found the Young Turks with their hands full, and, having been accepted at The Hague Congress as a European Power, Bulgaria took affront at the fact that her Agent in Turkey was not asked to the Foreign Minister's dinner at Constantinople.

Then a strike on the railway which runs through Bulgaria conjured up the possibility of a railway strike engineered from Constantinople in war time, and Bulgaria seized the line. She meant to treat, she declared, with the company for its control, but the Powers signatory to the Treaty recommended her to treat with the Power which gave the concession.

## Recent Dutch Indies Stamps

**I**t appears that the recent issues of overprinted stamps are for the purpose of ascertaining the volume of correspondence in the islands of Java and Madura, with a view of reducing the postal rates, and that such overprints are merely to act as control marks on inland letters.

The "Java" overprint is for stamps sold in the two islands, whilst the *BUITEN BEZIT* overprint, which is short for *BUITEN BEZITTINGEN*, literally "external possessions," is for stamps sold at all other Dutch East Indian possessions.

These overprinted stamps are to be in use for three consecutive months, and the postal employees have strict injunctions to carefully count all letters franked with the "Java" stamps. It is recognized that letters will doubtless be posted in Java franked by stamps without overprint or even with the "Buiten Bezit" overprint but such will be an insignificant proportion.

Here are the quantities said to be overprinted for Java

and Madura :—

½ c.	4,780,000.	15 c.	306,000.
1 c.	3,600,000.	20 c.	225,000.
2 c.	1,200,000.	25 c.	375,000.
2½ c.	1,900,000.	30 c.	273,000.
3 c.	300,000.	50 c.	294,000.
5 c.	1,020,000.	1 g.	126,000.
10 c.	3,900,000.	2½ g.	24,000.
12½ c.	390,000.		

The figures for the "other possessions" are not reported; they are probably smaller, but the above are enough to go on with.

Nineteen million stamps! A rather tall order, but the authorities are equal to the occasion. This supply is far in excess of anticipated postal requirements, but it is foreseen that collectors and dealers will be anxious to secure supplies, and the excess is for them. Not only that, but a special sole agent has been appointed to attend to their orders.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* 10.10.08.

# Fiji Islands Stamps

*A Review, by the Editor*

*Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbooks—The Postage Stamps, &c., of the Fiji Islands, by Charles J. Phillips, with illustrations of the stamps described and also fifteen sheets of photogravure illustrations. London. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, London, W.C. 1908. In paper covers 21s.*

**M**R. PHILLIPS tells us in his introduction to this excellent work of his on the Postage Stamps of the Fiji Islands that he happened upon this neglected country as the result of "looking round for a new subject of study for spare moments," and in the pursuit of this chosen study he has "bought the three best specialised collections of Fiji in this country," and so got together a fine collection second to none. Truly, the path of the specialist writer is made easy indeed when he can add to his own collection the specialist gatherings of others in this wholesale fashion. The result is that we get a charming guide to the postal issues of an interesting though neglected country. And it is none the less charming because there is a quite candid mixture of the dealer-specialist-collector author. Every now and again we have digressions, opinions and comments on matters of market values, scarcity, &c., all of which are entirely foreign to preconceived ideas of a serious, scientific, philatelic monograph. And yet how natural and entertaining they are.

## The Fiji "Times" Express Service.

Of all the crudest of crude first issues those of Fiji are unique. "The Proprietors of this journal," so runs the announcement in an issue dated September 24th, 1870, "are about establishing a complete postal system throughout the 'Fiji Group,' combined with an insular parcels delivery company. No pains will be spared to render the undertaking a benefit and convenience to every resident in these islands. To ensure the speedy delivery of all letters and parcels, a boat will always be in readiness to board incoming vessels on anchoring in Levuka, and take mails on board any boat, however small, proceeding to the Fijis or any part of the Colonies. Our agents in London, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, New Zealand and San Francisco will execute any commission however small. We are about erecting a temporary post office, and intend as far as possible to conduct the mode of delivery and transmission of letters on a plan similar to that adopted by Government post offices; vouchers will be sent by each mail, and letters may be registered if desired. . . . We shall commence operation on November 1st, 1870, and advise settlers who wish their letters to be forwarded by the Express, to have their letters directed *c/o Fiji Times' Express*, and by leaving their address at our office, they will ensure the prompt delivery of all their letters and parcels."

In the number for October 29th, 1870, in a leading article in the same paper appeared an announcement from which we make the following extract:—

"In the absence of any civilised Government with postal arrangements of its own, the public mails have hitherto been addressed to the British Consul, who is supposed to act as Postmaster-General in the district. While a few months ago this arrangement was not objected to by the public generally or by the Consul himself, the increase of population has made the distribution and despatching of mails a heavy work, which can be no longer done without remuneration. The public are willing to

pay provided the work is properly done and the payment given be not a consular tax on a post-paid letter, but remuneration for services rendered. Solicited on every side, we have agreed to open an Express in connection with the *Fiji Times* and will give to the public all the advantages of a well regulated Government Post Office. We have issued stamps, by supplying themselves with which, the settlers can forward their letters throughout the group."

Following up this announcement the proprietors of the *Fiji Times* endeavoured to get their postal arrangements recognised and accepted by the Melbourne authorities, but the reply whilst declining to make up mails for a private firm offered "to put under one cover all letters to your address and to your care," the packet to be addressed as usual to the Consul.

## The "Fiji Times" Express Stamps.

Mr. Phillips tells us that the *Fiji Times* Express stamps were printed at and issued from the office of the *Fiji Times*, in Levuka, Ovalu, Fiji. "They were all printed from type and printers' 'rules,' and were first set up with four values in the sheet, which consisted of twenty-four stamps arranged in four horizontal rows of six stamps each."

The first row consisted of stamps of 6d.

" second	"	"	1s.
" third	"	"	1d.
" fourth	"	"	3d.

A demand for a 9d. stamp was met by lifting the figures "3" from stamps 22, 23 and 24 of the plate and substituting figures "9."

## Were these Stamps local?

After discussing the varieties of paper used and fixing the date of issue as 1st November, 1870, Mr. Phillips turns to the question of the postal status of the stamps, and from the evidence which he has collated he arrives at the conclusion that when first issued the stamps paid full postage only to any of the two hundred islands of the Fiji group, but that sometime later on the proprietors secured their recognition by several of the Australian colonies.

## The Fiji Government Issue.

A Postal Act of the Government of King Cakoban passed 2nd December, 1871, authorised the issue of postage stamps and Messrs. E. Greville & Co., printers' brokers in Sydney, were asked to prepare plates and supply stamps to the value of 1d., 3d. and 6d., and the work was entrusted to the Government Printer and Inspector of Stamps, Mr. Thomas Richards. Mr. A. L. Jackson, a wood engraver and electrotyper, designed, engraved on wood, and made the electrotypes from which the stamps were printed and the stamps were printed in sheets of fifty.

These stamps are known as the C.R. stamps, the initials C.R. (Cakoban Rex) surmounted by a crown forming the central design.

Mr. Phillips notes that used specimens of this issue are decidedly rare, the 3d. and 6d. values especially. He tells us that the issue was in use for forty-one days only. The "estimated" numbers printed were, 1d., 25,000; 3d., 25,000; 6d., 25,000.

## Mr. Phillips' Discovery.

Passing over many pages of most interesting notes on intervening provisionals, etc., we come to Mr. Phillips'



remarkable discovery concerning the substitution of the "V.R." monogram for the "C.R." which we quote from his own words:—

"Some four years ago, when I was studying this issue, I noticed traces of a white circle round the 'V' of the monogram, and I had enlarged photographs made of the centres of each stamp and companion ones of the original issue of 1871. The original dies were made of a very hard wood, similar to our boxwood, perhaps this was the Australian iron-wood. A hole was drilled in the die and a plain piece of wood inserted, which was engraved by hand with the letter 'V' and the lines in the background were made to join as well as possible with those on the original die. In the 1d. the circle formed by the junction of the plug with the old die is very visible; it runs under the left base of the crown and cuts off the extreme end of the 'R,' and then is continued through the inner circle, which shows a break under the point of the 'V.' The extreme left curve of the 'R' had to be re-engraved on the plug and is thicker than the original die. In the 3d. the junction of the plug is not so distinct as in the case of the 1d.; but I draw attention to the end of the tail of the 'R' which has been entirely removed, and not re-engraved on the new plug, probably as it would have come exactly on the junction of the plug with the old die. In the 6d. the circle of the new plug is very distinct. The 1871 stamps had an inner hexagonal design, consisting of a thick and thin line inside the circle. In removing the 'C' portions of these lines were cut away, and the engraver omitted to re-engrave them upon his new plug. The tail of the 'R' is also cut short."

Until this discovery of the use of plugs by Mr. Phillips it was naturally concluded that the stamps had been re-engraved throughout when the monogram "V.R." was substituted for the original "C.R."

#### Remainders.

Concerning Fiji remainders Mr. Phillips says:—

"About 1906, after the introduction of the King's head stamps, the remainder of the old issues on hand was sold, obliterated in full sheets, but the obliteration used

was different from that actually used to postmark stamps.

The postmark in actual use for the past twenty-five years has been of one form. This has date in centre, town above, and the word 'Fiji' below, all in a circle. For the remainder stamps the word 'Fiji' has been removed, and two curved lines with dots between inserted in its place.

In the remainders the authorities seem to have allowed different dates to have been inserted; the most common are '15 Dec., '00' and '21 Jun., '02'."

#### Postmarking to Order.

We heartily endorse Mr. Phillips' comment on this "postmarking to order." He says:—

"This postmarking to order and selling in bulk at a nominal price is a bad feature that was formerly confined to half civilized countries, such as Honduras, Salvador, Borneo and Labuan, and I much regret to see the practice adopted by Colonies such as Fiji Islands and St. Helena."

"Half civilized" as applied to the London North Borneo Company postmarking to order is distinctly original and good.

#### The Work as a Whole.

Space forbids our making further extracts from Mr. Phillips' *magnum opus*, on the production of which we cordially congratulate him. Some time ago he described himself as a journalist, and he has, by this work on Fiji, now made for himself no mean reputation as a philatelic author.

The work has an abundance of helpful illustrations in the text, and a splendid series of fifteen full page photographic illustrations, not the least interesting of which is the sheet that furnishes evidence in proof of the correctness of his "plug" theory in the engraved "V.R." series.

Where possible in every case the numbers printed are given, and the whole work is based on official documents and correspondence, the gathering of which must represent a very generous expenditure of time and trouble.

# The Australian P.M.G.

## An Appreciation

WE stamp collectors who take more than a passing interest in the postal issues of the Australian Continent are accustomed to regard the hand to mouth arrangements that have been the rule for so many years as being due to a great lack of administrative ability.

But it seems that the Commonwealth is now to be congratulated on having a Postmaster-General with a mind, and his name is Samuel Mauger.

"The state of the Post Office, as far as administration was concerned, was deplorable," says the *Daily Chronicle*. "Mr. Mauger's predecessors in office had been afraid to tackle the problem, but he at once set to work to put things straight. In order to do this, however, he found that at least three-quarters of a million would be required to put in anything like a decent equipment.

#### A Fight With a Lottery.

"Some of his colleagues, however, strenuously opposed granting the necessary money for the suggested improvement, and in consequence the recent crisis arose. Other interests also entered the field. In the early days of

Federation the Post Office refused to deliver letters to the huge lottery of Tattersall's in Hobart. Letters were, however, sent by express companies without let or hindrance. Previous Postmaster-Generals had been deputationised to further check that institution, but without avail.

"Instead, however, of waiting for the public to ask him to take vigorous measures, Mr. Mauger began at once to do so. He absolutely forbade letters to be delivered to Tattersall's. Not only that, but when certain carrying firms tried to evade the law by shipping parcels of tickets, he quarantined their places, and some of the biggest carrying firms in Melbourne were chagrined by finding their places quarantined with the Government's stamp over the door and a policeman on the watch outside.

#### Threatening the Banks.

"Then they tried to circumvent him by forwarding parcels through the banks, and it was announced on Tattersall's tickets that money could be sent on draft through one of them. Mr. Mauger warned them, to their

intense amusement. He warned them a second time. They want to see him then, and they said, 'Of course, Mr. Mauger, we quite understand that you consider it your duty to make a public protest in this way, but of course you would never stop the correspondence of one of the associated banks.' 'Make no mistake about it,' he said. 'If by Monday next there is not in my hands a guarantee from you that you will forward no moneys to Tattersall's, none of your correspondence will be delivered after that date.'

#### Stopping the Quacks.

"He also determined in every way possible to stop questionable medical specialists of the lowest type using the Post Office for their circulars and correspondence

In one case Post Office detectives succeeded in obtaining evidence of the malpractices of a certain firm, and Mr. Mauger absolutely prohibited the Post Office from delivering letters to or accepting letters from them. Immense pressure was brought to bear on him in order to have the prohibition taken off, but Mr. Mauger was absolutely firm, despite rows in the Cabinet and much personal abuse. The result of all this is that, although his opponents succeeded in getting a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into Post Office affairs, Mr. Mauger, instead of having to resign, as they had hoped, finds himself the most popular man in the Cabinet to-day, with the exception, of course, of that stalwart friend and generous enemy the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth."

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 19).

**Graham, A.B.**—A lithographer of Washington, U.S.A., who prepared the stones and printed the stamps of the 1899 issue for Corea.

**Grana.**—The plural of "grano" as shown upon many of the stamps of Naples.

**Granada Confederation.**—(See "NEW GRANADA.")

**Grand Comoro.**—(See "COMORO ISLANDS.")

**Grande Comore.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps of the French Colony of the Comoro Islands or Grand Comoro.

**Grand Duché de Luxembourg.**—The inscription shown upon many of the stamps of Luxembourg issued since 1891.

**Granite Paper.**—This is a fairly thin, wove paper, containing a number of minute threads of silk of various colours, that give it a curiously mottled appearance. Many of the stamps of Austria and Switzerland are printed on this paper.

**Grano.**—The value in which some of the stamps of Naples were expressed. A grano is the hundredth part of a ducat and is, roughly, equal to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in English money.

**Grasset, M.**—A French artist who designed the stamps of the 1904-6 issue of Indo-China.

**Great Britain.**—The name invariably used in speaking of the stamps of our own country, though this represents "another injustice" to Ireland, for "British Isles" is the correct designation. Rightfully, the name "Great Britain" should be applied only to the largest island of the group, which was originally so-called to distinguish it from Brittany in France. It is hardly necessary to give any historic or geographical details, for these should be familiar to all our readers. It may rightfully be considered the "home of the postage stamp," for the first adhesive stamps for the prepayment of postal charges were issued here on May 6th, 1840.

**Greece.**—A kingdom of Europe occupying the southern extremity of the Balkan Peninsula, and including the Ionian Islands on the west coast, and those of the Ægean Archipelago on the east, as far as Scyros, Amorgos, and

Anaphi. It has a total area of 24,399 square miles and a population of about 2½ millions. It has a long and interesting history, regarding which we have not space to give even the briefest synopsis. It must suffice to say that the Greeks were a highly civilised people some thousands of years ago, and that their art and literature occupy the highest place in the world's civilising influences. It was the home of the fine arts, and the ancient sculptures of Greece stand unrivalled. In literature, epic and lyric poetry was highly developed, and it is the peculiar glory of the genius of Greece to have invented the drama. Postage stamps were first used in 1861.

**Greenville.**—A small town in Alabama, U.S.A., having a population of just over 3,000, at which special 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861, prior to the appearance of the general set for use in the whole of the Confederate States.

**Greenwood.**—A small town in Virginia, U.S.A., at which the Postmaster issued a special 10c. stamp in 1861. This was in use for only a short time before it was suppressed in favour of the general set for the Confederate States.

**Grenada.**—A small island in the West Indies—the southernmost of the Caribbees—belonging to Great Britain. It is situated about 96 miles north of Trinidad, and about 100 miles south-west of the Barbados. It is about 18 miles long and 7 miles broad, and has a population of over 65,000. The country is mountainous and picturesque, and on one of the ridges, at an altitude of about 1,800 feet, is a lake, the Grand Etang, which is one of the "show" places of the neighbourhood. The island was discovered by Columbus in 1498, and was named Conception by him. It was originally colonised by the French, was taken by the British in 1762, recaptured by the French in 1779, and finally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Versailles (1763). The capital, St. George, stands on a fine harbour on the south-west, and is an Imperial coaling station. Postage stamps were first issued in 1861.

**Greenville.**—One of the five towns in the negro Republic of Liberia which has since 1893 had its name inscribed on all the registration stamps used on local letters.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tanbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* announces the issue of the current ½p. red surcharged "1 piastre" in black, but no particulars are vouchsafed as to the type of the overprint.

**British Honduras.**—(Vol. II. p. 188).—The *Colonial Office Journal* reports that a supply of 2c and 5c. stamps in the Postal Union colours of red and blue respectively, have been ordered for this Colony.

**Brunei.**—(Vol. II. p. 212). Supplies of the 2c., 4c., and 8c. stamps in new colours have been dispatched to Brunei, according to the *Colonial Office Journal*.

**Cayman Islands.**—(Vol. II. p. 225).—According to the *Colonial Office Journal*, a supply of 6d. stamps in the new "Postage and Revenue" type has been dispatched to this Colony. From the same source we learn that, through lack of ½d. stamps, the new ½d. labels, which were intended for internal use in Grand Cayman only, were allowed to be used for foreign postage.

**Congo.**—We learn from several of our contemporaries that the fact that this country has been annexed to Belgium will be signalled on the postage stamps by an alteration in the name. This will be the French equivalent for some such inscription as "Colony of the Congo," instead of "Independent State of the Congo" as at present.

**Federated Malay States.**—(Vol. II. p. 188).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports the current 1c. on multiple paper in a new shade - dark green instead of pale green.

**Fiji.**—(Vol. II. p. 188).—This Colony has agreed to adopt the new colour scheme, according to the *Colonial Office Journal*, so that there will probably be changes here before long.

**Holland.**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new value, 1½ cents, in the same type as the ½c. to 2½c. now current. We understand that this stamp is intended for use on letters to be delivered in the same town in which they are posted. As the face value of the stamp is only a trifle over a farthing, our Dutch neighbours certainly enjoy cheap postage so far as local letters are concerned. The list of stamps of the numeral type is now as follows:—



Numeral design. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

			s.	d.
½c. lilac	...	...	0	0½
1c. rose red	...	...	0	1
1½c. blue	...	...	0	1
2c. brown	...	...	0	1
2½c. green	...	...	0	1

**Mauritius.**—(Vol. II. p. 79).—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that an entirely new issue of stamps has been arranged for this Colony. The design of the 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., and 15c. stamps will be a corrected representation of the Arms of Mauritius, while the 5c., 12c., 25c., 50c., 1r., 2r., 50c., and 5r. stamps will show the King's portrait. The colours will be in accordance with the new scheme, and, we are told, a supply of 2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., and 15c. stamps will be forwarded to the Colony towards the end of the year.

**Natal.**—(Vol. II. p. 189).—The *Colonial Office Journal* reports that new 2s., 5s., and £1 postage stamps have been sent out to Natal. We presume these are the new stamps referred to three months ago as being for postal use only.

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 20).—We find the 1s. in the reduced size, with compound perf. gauging 14 × 15, has not yet been formally chronicled in our "New Issue" columns, though Cornelius Wrinkle mentioned the variety some weeks ago, together with the 6d. which we described as a novelty on page 20. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports the ½d. with the same perforation.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us two blocks of four of the 6d. perf. 14 × 15 in one of which the perforations are quite clean cut while in the other they are so rough as to give rise to the impression that they are pin-perforated.

The values now with compound perf. are:—

Wmk. single-lined "N.Z." and Star.

Perf. 14 × 15.

			s.	d.
½d. green	...	...	...	—
6d. rose	...	...	0	8
1s. red	...	...	1	3

**Northern Nigeria.**—(Vol. I. p. 40).—The *Colonial Office Journal* tells us that the ½d. and 1d. values in Postal Union colours will appear before long.

**Orange River Colony.**—(Vol. I. p. 240).—A supply of 1s. stamps on paper with the multiple Crown CA watermark has been dispatched to this Colony according to the *Colonial Office Journal*.

**Russia.** (Vol. II. p. 68).—A correspondent has shown the *Philatelic Adviser* a copy of the current 7 kop., blue, with the background omitted. The 2 kop. in a similar state has been catalogued for some time.

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III. p. 21).—The *Philatelic Adviser* "understands that a 6d. value has been issued in the latest type," and gives the colour of this as orange. We doubt it. A 2d. orange in the "Peace and Justice" type was issued in May and duly chronicled on page 128 of our last volume, and we expect this is the variety to which our contemporary refers. The *Colonial Office Journal* states that 6d. and 1s. stamps in the "Peace and Justice" type will be issued here. The colour of the 6d. will be purple, while the 1s. will be printed in black on green paper. It is intended to continue the use of the King's head design for the 2s. and 5s. values, but as these will also conform with the new colour scheme, future

supplies will be in purple and blue on blue paper for the 2s., and in green and red on yellow paper for the 5s.

**Siam.**—(Vol. II. 273).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us a handsome stamp of the first issue of this country, of the face value of 1 fuang or 8 atts. A supply of this value was despatched to Bangkok with the other values by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., in 1883, but, for some reason, this particular value was never issued. Its existence remained quite unknown until recently, when a few specimens were discovered by a Siamese gentlemen. The stamp is beautifully engraved, as may be seen from the accompanying illustration. In colour it is similar to the 1 pynung of the same set, only deeper in shade and the perforation gauges 15. Mr.



Poole informs us that, curiously enough, the proof of this stamp in black is the only Siamese proof that can be considered at all common.

**Sierra Leone.**—(Vol. II. p. 189).—New 6d., 1s., 2s., and 5s. stamps have been despatched to this Colony, according to the *Colonial Office Journal*. We are not told if these are in new colours conforming to the new scheme or not.

**South Australia.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5d. on Crown A paper, perf. 12 x 11½. The values now known on Commonwealth paper with this perforation are as follows:—

			s. d.
½d. green	...	...	0 1
1d. rosine	...	...	0 2
2d. violet	...	...	0 3
5d. brown purple	...	...	0 7

**Straits Settlements.**—(Vol. II. p. 310).—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that this Colony will adopt the new colour scheme for all its stamps with the exception of the 3c. value, so there will be several changes here in the near future. We are also told that new plates are being prepared for the \$25 and \$100 stamps. These will be of large size, and the portrait of the King in the centre will be printed from the general plate employed in the production of the new high value stamps of the Nyasaland Protectorate. The colours of these two stamps have not yet been decided upon.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. II. p. 310).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 50c. in the new type has made its appearance. The list of values issued to date is thus as follows:—



*New design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½.*

		s. d.
30c. red brown and pale green	...	0 5
40c. purple and yellow	...	0 6
50c. green and pale green	...	0 8

**Trinidad.**—(Vol. II. p. 115).—New 4d., 6d., and 1s. stamps, in colours agreeing with the new official scheme, will be issued here, according to the *Colonial Office Journal*.

**Tunis.** According to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, four provisionals have just been issued here, these being formed by surcharging the new values in numerals only on some of the stamps of the 1888-1902 issues. Our contemporary describes the surcharges as being in "carmin ou bleu," but does not tell us which of the stamps are overprinted in carmine and which in blue. The values and colours are stated to be as follows:—

*No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13½.*

		s. d.
"10" on 15c. grey	...	0 2
"35" " 1fr. olive green on toned...	...	0 6
"40" " 2fr. violet	...	0 8
"75" " 5fr. lilac on lilac	...	1 3

**Uruguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—Some "very fine and large" posters have just been issued here to celebrate a "double event"—the 83rd anniversary of the Declaration of Uruguayan Independence, and the opening of the Municipal Electric Light Works in Monte Video, 1908. The latter is said to have cost a million dollars, and the authorities are apparently anxious to save the ratepayers any expense—hence stamp collectors are expected to pay the piper by eagerly buying this wall-paper. These stamps were only on sale for three days—August 24th, 25th, and 26th—so, no doubt, local speculators were busy, but as 300,000 of each were printed, there should be more than enough to go round. The stamps were printed in Buenos Ayres, and the centre-piece is a seascape, in which the Uruguayan Navy, consisting of two gunboats, is displayed to an admiring world. But what particular connection there is between these gunboats, an 83rd birthday, and an electric light works we have not yet been able to elucidate.

*Commemorative Issue.*

<i>No wmk. Rouletted 13.</i>	
1c. carmine and black.	
2c. green	"
5c. orange	"

#### NOTE.

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

#### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Glendining's Sales.

I have just received an early copy of Glendining's sale for November 17 and 18, and I note that there are specially fine lots of India and the Native States, the Straits and the Native States of the Malay Peninsula, Griqualauds, winding up with an exceptional list of early Hawaiians, of which there are about 30 lots in all, including Interlands. Caymans are represented by a copy of the 1d. on 4d. and the 2½d. on 4d., both unused.

## Nyasalands.

I do not hear of many stocks of Nyasalands in the market yet. The Postmaster of that region has not the reputation of being very obliging to dealers; in fact, I understand that dealers have to rely on purchasing agents for supplies.

## Colour Changes.

The proposed colour changes which are now being generally adopted will retire a great many more stamps than most collectors probably reckon on, and if they are wise they will see to it that their blanks are filled up at present prices rather than wait till they have to pay for obsolete stamps.

## Unchronicled Indian Varieties.

Following up my note on p. 11 on unchronicled varieties at Puttick & Simpson's first auction this season, Mr. B. Gordon Jones writes to me as follows:—

"Regarding your mention of the unchronicled Indian varieties recently sold by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson (in your issue of 3rd inst.).

"The 1½a. sepia C.E.F. was never issued. When these stamps were first printed, a sheet of each value of stamps then current in India were surcharged and submitted to the Director-General of the Post Office in India. This 1½a. value was not needed, so it was never printed. The trial sheet was filed in the Director-General's office, and the few copies known 'leaked out' from there. It therefore cannot be called an 'unchronicled variety,' as it is merely from a printer's proof sheet. The price realised is extraordinary, as in India copies can be obtained for a few shillings. I believe the 2½ on 4s. 6p. green is also known similarly overprinted, and is of the same nature as the 1a. 6p. stamp.

"On the '½' on ½a. green, with double impression, I cannot express any opinion. It was apparently genuine. This surcharge has, however, been superbly forged, *inverted*, on both the Queen and King stamps, and might also have been correctly applied to a doubly printed stamp from a waste sheet. On the other hand, De la Rue might have issued this double-printed sheet through carelessness, and it may have received the '½' surcharge genuinely.

## The General Collector.

Some folks are wondering what the ultimate effect will be of the splitting up of the Gibbons Imperial Album into Sections.

The Imperial has been regarded as a compelling force in General Collecting, and now it has been made into a Specialist's album.

Many think unfashionable countries will now have scarcely a friend left, and that their sales, formerly few enough, will now drop to zero.

## Notable Stamps at Auction.

Glendining's Sale of 6 and 7 10.08 included the following:—

	£	s.	d.
Naples, 1860, ½ T. Arms, unused ... ..	5	17	6
" " " used ... ..	5	15	0
Hong Kong, 1863-71, 96c., yellow brown ...	10	10	0
Gold Coast, 1891-4, £1, green and red ...	7	0	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d. ... ..	3	5	0
U.S.A., Premier gravures, 1c. deep green, unused	21	10	0
" " " 3c. claret, unused ...	3	10	0
" " " 10c. deep green, unused	3	10	0
" " " 12c. black, unused ...	42	0	0
" " " 24c. violet, unused ...	8	0	0
" " " 90c. orange red, unused	19	0	0

## Sale of Mr. Wetherell's Collection.

Readers will do well to remember the sale of Mr. Wetherell's fine collection of British Colonials by Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at the Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London, on the 22nd and 23rd of this month.

There are grand lots in Mauritius, Cape triangulars, Ceylon, India, New South Wales, and South Australia.

## Cape Triangulars.

Cape triangulars ought to have a boom as the result of the strong way in which Mr. Castle backs his favourites in the *London Philatelist* of September. These grand old stamps have never been out of fashion, and probably never will be. They are the Consols of philately. No dealer has ever yet been overstocked with them, not even the original Gibbons, who bought them by the sack from home-coming sailors.

## Opening Prices of the Season.

The opening prices of the season may be said to be easy as yet, but no doubt as the season advances prices will stiffen. There are not wanting signs in other directions that things are waking up a bit in the stamp market.

Mr. Wetherell's collection will be a severe test of prices.

## Our Advertiser's Offers this week.

Mr. Peckitt offers a full range of Bulgarians. The political developments in Eastern Europe will be certain to cause a run on these stamps, and as the early issues are low in price it will be well to secure them while they are to be had cheaply.

Mr. Field offers a topical bargain in the much abused, but ever in demand, Caymans. He offers the 1s. black on green paper, single C.A., at a bargain price.

Mr. Rhodes has a nice list of mint Colonials, including Lagos, Cyprus, Malta, Northern Nigeria, &c.

Mr. B. Gordon Jones offers some real bargains in Indian Native States. It will be remembered that he collaborated with Mr. Stewart Wilson, Postmaster-General of India, in the Indian Society's Handbook on these stamps.

Mr. T. C. Appleton has a splendid list of mint sets of British Colonials and special offers of Sudan in strips and sheets. Sudans, first issue, should be secured while they are to be had at bargain prices.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells. Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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## Index to Vol. II.

The Index to Vol. II., just completed, will be included in the next number of *The Postage Stamp*.

## Bound Copies of Vol. II.

Bound copies of Vol. II. will be ready in a couple of weeks, and will be 6s. each. When copies of Vol. II. bound are ready the price of Vol. I. will be raised to 10s. 6d. Meanwhile, those who want Vol. I. had better secure it before we raise the price.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE

STAMP. Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

## Our Binding Covers.

Our navy blue covers for binding the half-yearly volumes of *The Postage Stamp* are much appreciated, and Baldwins' binding of the vols. sent them is declared to be A1 by our enthusiastic friends. We find by far the greater number bind in all the advt. pages, a wise decision, for some of the most interesting matter is to be found in the current prices quoted in the advts.

## Our Bound Volumes.

In consequence of the discounts which we have to allow in publishing we find it necessary to charge 6s. for our bound vols. At the same time we may point out that it will be cheaper to send the numbers to Baldwins to bind, or to get the Nos.

## Answers to Correspondents.

T. H. (Nottingham). Many thanks for your congratulations and suggestions. You point out some printers' slips in the first number of the new vol., and you remind me that although printers' errors may add to the value of a stamp they do not add to the value of a periodical. That is so. But if you had the correction of the proofs you would have altered "platable" on page one, second col. (which is quite correct, as it refers to the making up of plates), to "palatable," which would have been ———.

F. C. G. (Kew). The Index to Vol. II. will be published with the next issue of *The Postage Stamp*. We will take up the countries you suggest later on, but Great Britain has been thoroughly done elsewhere quite lately.

L. D. W. (Southampton). Our new title design anticipates your difficulty, does it not? I had thought of a stamp, and some day we may adopt it.

C. L. H. L. (Blackheath). I have not heard of any watermarked sheets of the first issue of China. My collection includes eight sheets, and they are all unwatermarked. I have seen no imperforate pairs of the first issue. Thanks for your list of dated copies, and offer of exchange. When time allows I shall be glad to avail myself of your offer. I have the 5 cand. dated 1878.

W. B. E. (Blackheath). Will write you soon; meanwhile, keep me posted on N.Z.'s

G. C. (Watford). I have not heard of any stamp issued to commemorate the opening of the Delagoa Railway.

H. C. W. (Teddington). Philbrick and Westoby's History of the Stamps of Great Britain has no value beyond its published price as it is, I believe, still on sale by the successors to the business of Sampson, Low & Co.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

EGYPT. Wanted blocks and complete sheets, also early issues, superb condition only, and proofs. Sanderson, Kensington Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED. Large or small collections. Underwood, 70, Drury Road, Harrow.

WANTED. Unused British Colonial Stamps all countries, mixed values; exchange equal value English. Robert Goulding, Winsover Road, Spalding.

## BARGAINS BY POST.

# Straits Settlements

Nice Used Copies of Scarce Stamps.

	s.	d.
1868, CC, 2c, cat 9d	...	0 4
" 4c, cat 2s	...	1 0
" 6c, cat 2s	...	1 0
" 12c, cat 1s	...	0 6
1883, CA, 2c brown, cat 1s 6d	...	0 9
" 4c rose, cat 3s	...	1 6
1879, 10c on 6c lilac, cat 2s	...	1 0

## J. H. SIMMONS,

2, Rokeby Road, Brockley, London.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 4. Vol. 3.  
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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Eastern European Affairs.



IT seems that the Declaration of Independence by Bulgaria and the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria are likely to be treated as accomplished facts by the other European Powers, the only question for a Conference being what compensation shall be offered to Turkey.

This being so, it remains to be seen whether Bulgaria will be able to refrain from commemorating the event, postally, before the Conference.

Italian Levant.

The locally overprinted stamps, concerning which there was considerable suspicion, are now placed beyond doubt by the following letter, which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have just received in answer to a query of theirs addressed to the Minister of Posts at Rome as to the character of those stamps:—

"In reply to your letter of August 15th, I beg to inform you that the overprinting of stamps carried out in Constantinople during the first days of the opening of the Italian Post Office was due to the needs of the service at the moment, and will not recur as the 'Officina delle Carte Valori' at Turin has now provided for all needs.

"The above overprinting must be regarded as in order."

Congo Free State.

A report having got about that the stamps of the Congo Free State were to be surcharged "Colony of the Congo," Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. wrote for further information, and received the following reply from the Treasurer General of the Congo Free State:—

"In compliance with your request, I have the honour to inform you that no decision has been arrived at on the subject of stamps of the Congo Free State, and that I

cannot foretell the date when an eventual modification will be effected in the stamps at present in use."

In the natural course of events I do not see how any immediate change can be expected, and it is very likely that the announcement which has been made that the current stamps are to be surcharged was father to the thought of some impatient philatelist.

The transfer of the reins of government from the Free State to the Colonial Department of Belgium will take some time before even the preliminaries can be completed.

In the end I should not be at all surprised if an economical Colonial Office used up any remaining stock by overprinting it with the change of name from Independent State to Colony."

Foreign Posts in China.

It is said that China wishes to get rid of the Foreign Posts at her Treaty Ports. That is but natural, but European powers are scarcely likely to yield until there is more promise of security than there is now.

This agitation against Foreign Posts is probably part of a general scheme for the development of the postal service in China, which was hinted at when Sir Robert Hart left.

We are promised a new series of stamps, and we may evidently be prepared for far reaching postal changes in China.

Amongst other things I quite expect the Chinese will once more attempt the manufacture of their own stamps. If they do the stamps will probably be of considerably more interest to the philatelist than the current Waterlow printings.

A French journal says a central post office is to be installed at Peking, in the ministerial quarters, and the telegraph and postal services are to be combined. Later on, we are told, a special school for postal officials, as well as a printing office for stamps, is to be established.

The Stamps of China.

Meanwhile, it may be pointed out that the stamps of China offer a fine field for the specialist. The first issue is full of interesting problems, and the later issues are abundant in legitimate varieties, there are no humbugs, and all the issues from first to last are extremely cheap. It is, in fact, a splendid cheap country for specialising with a rich promise for the future.

**New Solomon Islands.**

According to the latest news the new stamps for the British Solomon Islands Protectorate is practically a reduction of the first design to the size of an ordinary De la Rue Colonial, but oblong in shape, and as it is stated that the new stamps are printed on Crown CA paper it may be taken for granted that they are engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co.

**Southern Nigeria.**

The one question about Southern Nigeria is when will the remainders of Lagos come to an end, or will they last for ever and ever.

As a slight and comforting reminder that they are coming to an end in some values, I hear of the 10s on multiple CA paper.

As a collector who thinks much of the great future before Southern Nigeria as a colony, and, therefore, postally, I shall be glad when it gets into regular going order with its own pretty stamps. This 10s. value I believe completes the list of values on multiple paper, all of which are said to have been issued, but only some of which are in use.

Why the £1 violet O.C. should be catalogued by Gibbons at 60s. I cannot understand. In the supplement to the catalogue Gibbons lists as 30s. a £1 pale violet. These pale shades of such colours as purples and violets are a bit thick. A few hours' of exposure to the sun will produce the pale shade, and any pale shade may have been so produced. As a matter of fact pale shades of any aniline colour are very questionable at best.

**Abyssinian Stamps.**

What are the Abyssinians up to in their last surcharge? I hear that their latest surcharge is "1 piastre."

It is to be hoped that when the country enters the Postal Union it will have a definite series and stick to it, and it will not be subject to Parisian manipulation, of which there has been a great deal too much in previous issues.

**Collecting Abyssinians.**

Abyssinians are cheap and quaint, and may some day be much sought after. They are full enough of surcharges to give an Anti-Surchargite a terrifying nightmare, but there is much to be said in their defence.

It is one of the most neglected of all countries from the philatelic point of view, and, therefore, one for the collector in search of an unexplored philatelic region.

I should say that there is scarcely a country to be found in which so much remains to be catalogued in the way of interesting varieties at present noted only by a few venturesome specialists.

**New Zealand Perfs.**

We are getting into deep water in relation to the perforations of the current New Zealand stamps. In fact we hardly know where we are.

First we dropped from 11 down to 14, then to 14 x 13½, and now we are having a turn at 14½ x 15. And as if this were not enough, *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a 14 x 15, which, however, I fondly hope is a slip for 14½ x 15. Gibbons think the 14 x 13½, which has had a short life, should be good.

**Perplexing Perfs.**

To the ordinary collector these changes are a bit perplexing, and if it were not for the comforting assurance that the specialist will, in the sweet by and bye, make all things plain, he might lose heart and think things were getting beyond his depth in the matter of perforations.

There is also the further consolation that some of these perfs. will be good.

**Perforation in Steel Plate Printing.**

After all it is probably all a question of continued experiment. The clean and satisfactory perforation of

paper that has been damped for steel plate printing has always been a bother, even to such a firm as Waterlows. The American Bank Note Company and the American Bureau of Engraving and Printing get over the difficulty by using a large perforation—perf. 12—which cuts a large clean hole, but does not in the eyes of the English Stamp Engravers look satisfactorily neat, hence their preference for 14 to 15.

**The New Colonial Colour Scheme.**

The Colonial Office Journal gives the full list of and official descriptions of the colours allotted to the different values under the new colour scheme to which the Colonies are adopting one after another. Here is the list:—

Value.	Duty or Border.	Head.	Colour of
Under 1d.	Black	Black	White
1d.	Brown	Brown	"
1d.	Green	Green	"
1d.	Red	Red	"
1½d.	Orange	Orange	"
2d.	Grey	Grey	"
2½d.	Blue	Blue	"
3d.	Purple	Purple	Yellow
4d.	Red	Black	"
5d.	Sage green	Purple	White
6d.	Purple	"	"
7½d.	Yellow	"	"
8d.	Black	"	"
10d.	Red	"	"
1s.	Black	Black	Green
1s. 6d.	Blue	Green	White
2s.	"	Purple	Blue
2s. 6d.	Red	Black	"
3s.	Violet	Green	White
4s.	Red	Black	"
5s.	"	Green	Yellow
8s.	Emerald grn.	Purple	White
10s.	Red	Green	Green
£1	Black	Purple	Red
£5	Yellow	Green	White
£10	Blue	Purple	"
£25	Red	Green	"

This List should be kept for reference.

**Modifications of the Colour Scheme.**

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform me that they wrote to the Editor of the *Colonial Office Journal* regarding the colours of the 4s. stamps, as tabulated in the "official colour scheme," owing to the fact that in the case of the 4s. value of this Colony they appeared to be reversed. In the reply received from Mr. W. H. Mercer, the Editor of the above mentioned journal, it is stated that "the list of colours of the new colour scheme was correctly given in the *Colonial Office Journal* as far as stamps printed from the old Universal Keyplate were concerned. The writer of the article omitted however to mention that, in the case of the 8d., 10d., 1s. 6d., 4s. and 8s. values, stamps printed from the new Universal Keyplate (as those of the Nyasaland Protectorate) would show the colours of the duty and head reversed. In the case of stamps which bear designs other than the King's head even where the same colours are used for the same or equivalent values it will not necessarily follow that the constant portion of the design will be in the colour given for the King's head."

**A Stamp Collecting Mouse.**

The following paragraph is going the rounds of the newspaper press:—

Mr. Stephen Knight, of Lindfield, had often missed postage stamps from a drawer. On making a search he found nearly 100 penny and halfpenny stamps in a mouse's nest, with other stamps torn to pieces.



# Stamps of Bulgaria

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 28)

**1885.** Two new values. Design as before, but printed in one colour only, on white paper. The 1 st. had the inscription of value as "edine stotinki," and the 2 st. as "dwa stotinki."



*Wmk. wavy lines. Perf. 14½ x 15.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., purple	- 0 6	0 6
2 st., slate-green	- 0 2	0 2

**1886.** Two values. Design as before, but with modifications in the inscription of values. The inscriptions of the 1 st. as "edine stotinke," and of the 2 st. as "dwa stotinki" were corrected to "edna stotinka" and "dve stotinki." Our illustrations will enable the collector to separate the two sets of these values. Fortunately the errors had a good run before they were corrected, and are consequently almost as common as the corrected issue.



*Wmk. wavy lines. Perf. 14½ x 15.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., purple	- 0 1	0 1
2 st., slate-green	- 0 2	0 2

**1887.** One value. Design as before, 1 leva taking the place of the 1fr. of 1879. Watermark and perf. as before.

*Wmk. wavy lines. Perf. 14½ x 15.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 leva, black and rose-red	- 17 6	2 6

**1889-90.** Ten values. New design, engraved and printed in Paris, on unwatermarked paper. The Bulgarian lion, crowned, rampant, still figures in an oval with a curved tablet over bearing the inscription "Bulgarian Post" Under the oval is a square tablet with numerals of value, and in a straight label at the base of the stamp is the denomination in stotinki. We illustrate the type of the stotinki values and the leva.



*No wmk. Perf. 13 13½.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., lilac	- 0 1	0 1
2 st., grey	- 0 1	0 1
3 st., brown	- 0 1	0 1
5 st., green	- 0 2	0 1
10 st., rose-red	- 0 2	0 1
15 st., yellow	- 0 6	0 1
25 st., blue	- 0 9	0 2
30 st., brown	- 0 5-	0 1
50 st., green	- 0 9	0 2
1 leva, brick-red	- 1 6	0 5

**1892-5.** *Provisionals.* The 30 st. of the previous issue surcharged in small, thick numerals, and the 2 st., slate-green, of 1886, with corrected spelling, surcharged "01."



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 on 30 st., brown	- 0 4	0 2
01 on 2 st., slate-green	- 0 1	0 1

**1896.** Two new high values. Design as in previous issue.

*No wmk Perf. 13.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 leva, rose and pale rose	- 4 6	4 6
3 ,, black and drab	- 5 0	6 0

**1896.** Four values, Design: the Arms of Bulgaria. A series to commemorate the rebaptizing of the infant Prince Boris. The sheet was watermarked with the Bulgarian Arms, some stamps showing only a portion.



**Wmk. Bulgarian Arms. Perf. 13.**

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., green	0 2	0 1
5 st., blue	0 3	0 2
15 st., violet	0 5	0 1
25 st., red	0 6	0 3

**1901. Provisionals.** Two values in small numerals with a bar under obliterating the original value.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 on 3st., brown	0 2	—
10 on 50 st., green	0 3	—

**1901.** Two values. Design: a gun on carriage, to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the War of Independence.



	No wmk Perf. 13.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 st., carmine	0 3	0 3
10 st., green	0 6	0 6

**1902.** Twelve values. Design: portrait of Prince Ferdinand. A very fine series of uniform design, and well printed in effective colours. We illustrate the stotinki and leva values, which vary only in the line of value in the lower part of the stamp. The portrait and figures in the upper corners are printed in one colour, and the rest of the design in another colour



No wmk. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., greenish black and purple	0 1	0 1
2 st., blue and slate-green	0 1	0 1
3 st., black and orange	0 1	0 1
5 st., brown and emerald	0 1	0 1
10 st., sepia and rose	0 2	0 1
15 st., greenish black and lake	0 3	0 1
25 st., black and blue	0 4	0 1
30 st., black and bistre-brown	0 5	0 2
50 st., brown and deep blue	0 9	0 4
1 l., deep green and pale red	2 0	1 0
2 l., black and red	7 6	—
2 l., black and carmine	2 6	—
3 l., brown-lake and grey	4 0	—

**1902.** Three values. Design: a fantastic scene in the Shipka Pass, to commemorate the defence of the Shipka Pass.



No wmk. Perf. 11½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 st., carmine	0 3	—
10 st., green	0 4	—
15 st., blue	0 6	—

**1903.** Provisional Another provisional 10 st. of similar type to the 10 st. provisional of 1901, but without the obliterating bar.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 st. on 15 st., greenish black and lake	0 3	0 1

**1907.** Three values. Design: two portraits of Prince Ferdinand. Another commemorative series, this time to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Prince Ferdinand's accession to the throne.



No wmk. Perf. 11½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 st., deep green	—	—
10 st., pinkish brown	—	—
25 st., blue	—	—

**General Remarks.**

The early stamps of Bulgaria are most interesting, but the country is sadly handicapped by rubbishy commemoratives, all of which may be ignored with advantage in a serious collection.

**Bibliography.**

The only matter of real interest worth referring to is Mr Westoby's chapter on the country in his work on the "Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe," published by L. Upcott Gill, London.

**Note.**

For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number of "The Postage Stamp."

# Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 7.—Bermuda, Postmaster's Stamp of 1848.



FROM many points of view the stamp which forms the subject of my present sketch is particularly curious and interesting—it is a rarity of the first water; it is a more than usually crude label even in comparison with other roughly produced early issues such as the circular British Guianas or the Alexandria stamp described on page 6 of the present volume; and, lastly, its existence was unknown to philatelists until nearly half-a-century after its issue!

The stamp in question was prepared and issued by Mr. W. B. Perot, who was Postmaster of Hamilton, Bermuda, from 1818 until 1862. It consists of "HAMILTON" and "BERMUDA" arranged in the form of a circle with the date (the year only) across the centre. Above the date the value "one penny" is written with pen and ink and below the date is the Postmaster's signature. The only two known specimens are struck in black and red respectively, the date of the former being "1848" and of the latter "1854." From the information available it is apparent that Mr. Perot made this stamp by striking a number of impressions from the old postmark die (with the plugs showing name and day of month removed), and then filling in the value and his signature with ordinary pen and ink.

The first note I can find relating to the discovery of this stamp appeared in Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular* for July, 1897, in the form of the following paragraph:—"A correspondent has sent us a letter written from Hamilton, in April, 1855, addressed to a gentleman at St. George, and on the sheet is pasted a stamp, in *carmine*, with 'HAMILTON, BERMUDA,' in a circle, with '1854,' in the centre. Above this date is written 'one penny,' and below is a signature, 'W. B. Perot.' We believe that there is no doubt that Mr. Perot was Postmaster at Hamilton in 1854, and his signature can be identified by many. The stamp is cut into a sort of rough octagonal shape, and seems attached to the sheet by gum; but it appears to us to be very doubtful if it was originally on the identical letter, on which there is no postmark, and the stamp is half hidden under the closing fold at the back. Perhaps some of our readers who have more knowledge of Bermuda than we have may have met with the stamp, which, at first sight, appears to have been a device on the part of the Postmaster at Hamilton to introduce stamps of one penny for inter-insular postage."

Exactly twelve months later Major E. B. Evans referred to this paragraph in the *Monthly Journal* and at the same time stated that he had been shown a copy of a similar stamp, but printed in black and dated 1848, by Mr. Warhurst. This copy had recently come from Ber-

muda, where it was found among some old papers in a drawer by a person who knew nothing about stamps. The finder had been offered a small sum for it but thought it might be worth more, and ultimately it was acquired by Mr. Warhurst. This gentleman wrote to Mr. Allan F. Smith, the then Colonial Postmaster at Bermuda, and in reply received a letter in which the following passage occurred:—"I have been unable to obtain any information from official sources respecting the stamp in question, but from a reliable private source I learn that it was the practice of the Postmaster at that time to issue stamps such as you describe to persons who desired to post local notes—that is, for places within the Colony. The impression of the stamp, and the signature, etc., were made on a sheet of paper and cut off as required by the purchaser, and affixed to the note to be posted. These were not invariably used for postage, I am told, but only in cases where it was convenient to the sender. When a note was sent to the Post Office with a penny to pay the postage the note was simply stamped with the date stamp. However this may be, it appears to be clear that the stamps in question were used (sometimes at all events), as postage stamps are now used, for prepaying postage within the Colony."

In commenting on this letter Major Evans stated that "if the information is correct we have here one of the very rarest stamps in existence," but the gallant Major was somewhat sceptical, as was, of course, only natural considering that, as the stamps were stated to have been manufactured in sheets, only two copies were known, both unobliterated, and both undiscovered until nearly fifty years after the use of the earliest dated specimen.

Thus the matter stood until, a few months later, Mr. E. D. Bacon, who is unrivalled where matters of philatelic research are concerned, published the result of his very extensive researches in the *Monthly Journal*.

After much patient hunting Mr. Bacon unearthed a copy of the Act under which the postal service of the Islands of Bermuda was administered from 1846 to the end of 1855. This was a somewhat lengthy Act of no less than 32 sections and it became law on July 16th, 1846 and was to remain in force until July 31st, 1849. In the year 1848, however, a further Act was passed extending the provisions of the former Act until the end of 1855.

Section XX. of this Act provided "that all inland postage shall be prepaid at the time of posting any letter . . . at the rate of one penny of lawful money of these islands for each and every letter not exceeding one ounce in weight;" section XXIV. fixed the salary of the Postmaster of Hamilton at £70 per annum; and section XXV. enacted that "the said postmasters and assistant postmasters be entitled to retain and appropriate to their own use and benefit respectively all inland postage receivable by them respectively by virtue of this Act, as a further remuneration for the performance of the duties by this Act enjoined; and the persons who shall keep the said receiving houses shall retain to their own use respectively all inland postage on letters there deposited, and which shall be prepaid on posting such letters; and it shall be the duty of each of the postmasters acting or to be appointed under this Act to keep an account of all moneys which he shall receive for postage."

This latter is a very unusual clause and, as the postmasters benefitted personally by all the postal fees it was

naturally to their advantage to do everything possible to promote the efficiency of the service to increase the number of letters and incidentally, their own emoluments. Thus, as Mr. Bacon points out, there was no reason why Mr. Perot should not have issued the labels as adhesive stamps for the convenience of those of his customers who cared to purchase them but, on the contrary, there is every reason why he should have done so. He was probably well acquainted with adhesive stamps and, as Mr. Bacon suggests, the position of Bermuda and the United States was such as to make it not unreasonable to suppose that he may have seen one or more of the Postmasters' stamps of the latter country and so formed the idea of issuing labels of his own.

The evidence produced by Mr. Bacon was so strong that further doubts as to the authenticity and status of these stamps were impossible.

Apparently the stamps were not produced in sheets of any particular size but were manufactured by Mr Perot as often and in such quantities as were required. A correspondent, who was conversant with the working of the Post Office in Bermuda at the time the labels were in use, wrote to the *Monthly Journal* as follows:—"I have a perfect recollection of the stamps in question; Mr Perot used to prepare sheets of them, sign and gum them on the back, and they were sold singly or in dozens, just as stamps are sold now, and were used for sending letters

from one part of the island to another, to denote postage had been paid, and accounted for in P.O. returns. People who lived at a distance from the office usually bought them, as there were very few branch offices in those days."

The reason why the specimen dated 1848 is struck in black and that of 1854 in carmine is doubtless due to different coloured inks being used in the office at different periods for postmarking purposes. Mr. Bacon found corroboration of this after examining a number of postmarks dated 1849 to 1851. All those dated prior to June 5th, 1849, were struck in black and all after that date in red, so that it is probable a change in the colour of the postmarking ink was made some time in June, 1849.

It is, of course, impossible to do more than conjecture as to the value of this rarity. It is not a stamp that ever comes on the market and it thus has no "market price."

I have been unable to trace any information regarding the specimen in red either as regards its owner or the price paid for it.

The stamp in black was in Mr. Warhurst's collection for many years but I believe that gentleman disposed of it some time ago. Rumour has it that it changed hands at £150 and this sum has been given as an estimate of its value. It certainly does not err on the side of generosity considering that there are only two known specimens of the rarity and that both of these are radically different.

## Victoria. Emblems Issue

By M. P. Castle, F.P., in the "London Philatelist"

THE series of stamps issued for Victoria between the years 1857-68, and generally designated as the "Emblems" issues, from the fact that each angle of the design is occupied with the representation of an implement typical of the colony, is one of great interest and variety. The appearance of these stamps with a portrait of Queen Victoria (of high artistic merit), with a rich background and with inscriptions duly subordinated, presents a well balanced and effective design that, when printed in bright colours, contrasts favourably with a large majority of our colonial issues. The credit of this design is due to Messrs. Calvert Brothers, of Melbourne, who were the engravers of the stamp, which was subsequently printed from electrotypes taken from the engraving. The first printings were made on the Perkins Bacon paper with the Large Star watermark, followed by others on paper without watermark, with laid lines, and with words or numerals of value. Many of the three values—1d., 2d. and 4d.—were used to a very large extent, and even now—half a century after their issue—may fortunately be said to be quite common stamps. There are, however, some varieties that are of considerable rarity, and one or two of extreme scarcity. The greatest drawback to these stamps is the redundancy of the postmark, generally consisting of heavy bars surrounding a large numeral, which frequently disfigures the design almost beyond recognition. The patient collector can, however, ultimately secure sets that are not spoilt by the obliterations, and will find in this issue a wealth of varieties of all kinds that render it one of the most interesting of the Australian stamps. In unused condition, especially of the twentieth-century standard, the "Emblems" will be found a very difficult quest. Many of the varieties are of extreme rarity, and in some cases are practically unknown, the only variety that is at

all common being the first-issued one penny with the Star watermark, of which in bygone days a considerable number in pale green were to the fore

Our attention has been drawn to the stamps by some notes hereon in Stanley Gibbons' weekly journal of 5th September, written by Mr. C. J. Phillips. The energetic head of that firm is not only a keen man of business, but is fortunately an able Philatelist whose scientific labours on difficult philatelic problems are widely recognized; hence any article emanating from his pen is likely to be widely read and adopted in other journals. As we do not think he is quite correct in all his deductions, we venture to submit our own experience on the stamps of this issue, in the hope that between us we may evolve the true state of affairs. Mr. Phillips writes as follows:—

"I have recently purchased an old and extensive correspondence, consisting of many thousand letters addressed to this country and mostly franked with stamps of Victoria and New South Wales, the dates being from 1852 to 1863 inclusive.

"I will note first the Victoria 'Emblems' issue of which there were a good many hundreds in the correspondence.

"Roughly speaking, the following is about the percentage of these stamps:—

Cat. No.	1d. green.	Cat. Price
48	Wmk. Star, imperf	- 35 p.c 7 6
54	No wmk. "	- 6 " 6 0
57	" rouletted	- 6 " 25 0
61 2	" perf. 12	- 47 " 8 0
70	Laid " "	- 2 " 22 6
72	Wmk. value "	- 4 " 5 0

"From these figures it looks as if Nos. 48 and 61 are priced too high and Nos. 54 and 72 too low, but, as I stated before, a local correspondence (say from Melbourne) might give quite a different percentage.

Cat. No.	2d lilac.		Cat. Price.
55	No wmk., imperf. -	54 p.c.	4 0
68	Laid hor., roul. -	32 ..	3 6
69	„ „ -	14 ..	4 0
			100

"The Catalogue prices are not far out; perhaps Nos. 68 and 69 should be priced a little higher.

Cat. No.	4d. rose.		Cat. Price.
49	Wmk. Star., imperf., verml. 15½ p.c.		3 6
50	„ „ „ rose 23 ..		1 6
52	„ „ „ roul. - 4 ..		40 0
60	No wmk. „ - 8 ..		5 0
64	„ „ „ perf. 12 - 13 ..		1 6
65	Laid vert., imperf. - 2 ..		20 0
67	„ „ „ roul. - 28 ..		1 6
71	Laid hor., perf. 12 - 15 ..		1 9
			100

\* This is presumably laid vertically.—Ed.

"The catalogue prices seem to very well represent the relative rarity. Nos. 50, 64, and 71 might be quoted a little higher. I note that in many hundreds there was not a single copy of No. 56, the 4d. no wmk., imperf., which is catalogued at 40s., and must be well worth that price."

The experience gained by an examination, as stated by Mr. Phillips, of some hundreds of specimens should be corroborated before being accepted as conclusive, and we have therefore referred to some notes on these stamps that we made some five years ago. At that period we were enabled to examine and select from a very large accumulation of these stamps. They constituted the results of a systematic search for several years throughout the colonies of Victoria and New South Wales in both private and official circles, and the total number of specimens of this Emblem issue thus secured must have exceeded 7,000. It is possible that they might have been picked over, as they were held by a well-informed dealer, but almost every variety of this issue was represented in about the anticipated proportion, and the bulk may be fairly held to represent an average representation of the several varieties as gathered from a lengthened correspondence.

Taken generally, it was found that the fourpenny was

immeasurably commoner than the two other values. The rose shades, watermark Star, and the deep rose, perforated, on unwatermarked and horizontally laid paper, were found in such profusion as to indicate that they are undoubtedly sufficiently highly priced in modern catalogues. The one penny varieties, taken as a whole, were fewer than the twopenny, and are certainly as a whole better worth their quoted prices. The twopenny on wove paper, imperforate, and on horizontally laid paper were both largely represented, but the watermarked varieties, notably those with the single-lined figures, were very much scarcer than is indicated by modern quotations.

Turning now to Mr Phillips' figures, as to which he has divided 100 per cent by the relative proportions of each of the varieties found by him. The percentage quoted by him as to the penny is absolutely misleading, and we should place the several varieties in the following order of rarity:—

1. No watermark, rouletted.
2. Laid, perforated.
3. Wove, perforated.
4. Watermark numeral of value.
5. Watermark of value in words.
6. Watermark Star.
7. No watermark, imperforate.

In the twopennies Mr. Phillips found only three varieties, two of which we have referred to as being common, the third, on vertically laid paper, being about three times as scarce as that on horizontally laid. The watermarked varieties, as we have before stated, are far rarer than those quoted, notably with the thin figure "2"; and the variety with no watermark, rouletted, was only found in about half a dozen copies in all the thousands examined by us. As to the fourpenny value, we have already referred to the three commonest varieties. Of the remaining ones quoted by Mr. Phillips, that on wove paper, rouletted, was found by us to be scarcer than imagined, and the same stamp unperforated was only found in two or three examples. The vertically laid paper, imperforate, is fairly scarce, but at least four times as common as the last-named. In a word, the lowest-quoted fourpennies in the catalogue are commoner than their price indicates, and the highest-priced ones are worth more.

Among the rarer varieties of the "Emblems," the 1d, watermark Star, perf. 12, stands easily first, followed by the same stamp rouletted and—a long way after—by the fourpenny, likewise rouletted. The twopenny no watermark has recently been found *per se* in an unused block apparently emanating from an official source; but time is required to substantiate its philatelic importance. We gladly join issue with Mr. Phillips in calling attention to a fine old issue of stamps which will well merit the attention of collectors.

## The New Maldives

THE Maldivian Government has received permission to issue a set of postage stamps to be specially struck for the use of residents of the islands. Correspondence on the subject has been passing between the Government officials of the Maldives and the Ceylon Government for nearly a year, but now almost all the details have been settled, and the Maldivian representative, Abdul Hamid Didi, who is at present in Colombo, is in direct communication with the stamp-makers in England. The indent for the stamps will be sent to Europe in the course of a few weeks. The stamps will be in value 2 cents, 3 cents, 5 cents and 10 cents. The stamps will be printed in different colours. In the centre is a representation of the minaret standing

opposite the Mahomedan mosque at Male, the capital of the Maldives. The original is 50 feet in height and is said to be 800 years old. It is a squat-looking non-ornamental sort of thing, but is a Maldivian "landmark." The letterpress on the stamps will be Arabic and English. At the top of the stamp appears the words, in Arabic, "Maldivian Postage," and at the foot the price of the stamp. On the right side the value of the stamp appears in English, and on the left English word "Maldives." At present on the designs the value is printed in Arabic numerals at the four corners of the stamp, but for these numerals in the stamps proper English numerals will be substituted.—*Advocate of India.*

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 82).

**Grille.**—A pattern of small square embossed dots, usually arranged in the shape of a square or rectangle, and occasionally covering the whole of the stamp. It is found upon some of the stamps of the United States and Peru. The postal authorities had this grille (or "grid" as it is sometimes called) applied to make it an impossibility to clean used stamps. The embossing or grille had the effect of weakening the substance of the paper and making it highly absorbent. Thus, when the stamps were obliterated, a fair amount of the postmarking ink was absorbed, making it an impossibility for the cancellation to be cleaned off. Later on, indelible ink for cancelling purposes was invented, and the grille thus became unnecessary.

**Griqualand West.**—A district of Cape Colony, formerly belonging to the Griquas, and famed for its diamond mines. It was annexed by the British in 1871, and in March, 1877, postage stamps were issued, these being the then current issue of Cape Colony surcharged "G.W." or "G." In October, 1880, the district became a province of Cape Colony, and its special stamps were suppressed. It has a total area of 15,200 square miles and a population of over 88,000.

**Groschen.**—A coin in general use in Brunswick, Hanover, Oldenburg, the North German Confederation and the German Empire, until 1874. A groschen was the thirtieth part of a thaler, and was equal to about 1½d. in British currency.

**Grosse, F.**—An engraver, of Melbourne, who engraved the dies for the 3d., 4d., and 6d. stamps used in the colony of Victoria from January, 1860, until 1862.

**Grote.**—The value in which some of the stamps of the old German State of Bremen were expressed. A grote was equal to about ¼d. in English money.

**Grouchy, De, and Leigh.**—A Melbourne firm of engravers, who engraved the die for the 1d. stamp of Victoria issued in September, 1861.

**Grove Mill.**—A small village in the state of Alabama, U.S.A., having a population of about 300, at which a special 5c. stamp was issued by the postmaster in 1861. It was suppressed immediately the general set for the Confederate States appeared.

**G. S.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps, issued before 1874, that were used on the correspondence of the Government Storekeeper. In 1874 they were superseded by the general issue for all departments overprinted "O. S."

**G. T.**—Another South Australian overprint found on stamps issued prior to 1874. It signifies "Goolwa Tramway."

**Gt. Pro.**—A surcharge applied to all the then current stamps of Hayti in 1902 when a "provisional government" came into power. It is an abbreviation of the words "Gouvernement Provisoire."

**Guadalajara.**—The capital of the state of Jalisco, Mexico, having a population of about 102,000. It is known to philatelic fame owing to the numerous prov-

isional stamps issued by the local authorities during the revolutionary period of 1867-68.

**Guadeloupe.**—An island in the West Indies, forming one of the Lesser Antilles, belonging to France. It is composed of a plain called the Grande-Terre, united by a narrow isthmus to the Basse-Terre, and surmounted by four cloud-capped mountains. With five small adjoining islands it has an area of 688 square miles and a population of about 183,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1884.

**Guadeloupe et dependances.**—The inscription shown upon the 1892-1901 stamps of Guadeloupe. The "dependances" are five small islands known respectively as Marie Galante, Les Saintes, Désirade, St. Barthélemy and St. Martin.

**Guadl.**—(or, Guadix).—A city in the province of Granada, Spain, on the northern slopes of the Sierra Nevada, having a population of about 13,000. A special overprint of the "Habilitado por la Nacion" type was applied to all the 10mils. and 50mils. stamps used here in 1868 after the revolution in Madrid.

**Guam.**—The most southerly and largest island of the Marianne or Ladrone archipelago. For many years it was a Spanish colony, but was ceded to the United States by Spain in 1898. It has an area of 225 square miles, and a population of about 9,000, and now forms an important United States naval station. Postage stamps were first issued in 1899.

**Guanacaste.**—A province of Costa Rica situated in the north-west and including the Nicoya Peninsula. It has an area of 4,000 square miles, and a population of over 18,000. From 1885 until 1890 all the stamps used in this province were surcharged with the name "GUANACASTE."

**Guaranda.**—A town in Ecuador at which a number of 5c provisionals were issued in July and August, 1895. Their status is considered doubtful by the best authorities.

**Guatemala.**—The most northerly of the Republican states of Central America, having an area of 46,774 square miles, and a population of over 1,800,000. Two-thirds of the inhabitants are of pure Indian race, being descendants of the Maya and kindred tribes. The republic is divided into 22 departments and is traversed from west to east by an elevated mountain chain containing several volcanic summits. It is subject to frequent earthquakes. The country was conquered by the Spaniards between 1522 and 1524 and was a Spanish province until 1821. In 1825 a federal constitution was adopted. The decisive defeat of Honduras, Salvador, and Nicaragua by Guatemala at La Arada in 1851 prevented the formation of a new confederation, and from that time until 1865 Carrera was virtually dictator of Guatemala. During that period he successfully waged war against Salvador. In 1871 a more liberal regime was started, the Jesuits being banished and the power of the clericals crippled. Further efforts for Central American confederation led to an unsuccessful war with Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Salvador in 1865. Postage stamps were first issued in 1871.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a used copy of a new provisional as illustrated below. The surcharge "1—PIASTRE" is in pale blue on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  guerche and occupies two lines. This is apparently the variety referred to on page 33, though our Gallic contemporary gave the colour of the surcharge as black.



Provisional. No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13.  
1 pia. on  $\frac{1}{2}$ g. red.

**Owallor.**—(Vol. II. 21).—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News points out that there are two types of the surcharge on the King's head stamps differing in the distance between the English and Hindi inscriptions. In one this space measures  $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and in the other it is  $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. The variation is small but, our contemporary observes, "the difference in appearance is greater than the  $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. would lead one to suppose." For the benefit of specialists we may add that the variety with smaller space is the "old original," while so far only the  $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 1a. have been found with the wider setting.

**Levant (Italian).**—(Vol. II. p. 297).—Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. have shown us a specimen of the "90 PARA" on 15c. stamp mentioned on page 297 of our last volume, and, apparently, though it was overprinted in Constantinople, it was issued in the usual way.

Our Ipswich friends also send us two high values—4 piastres and 20 piastres—surcharged upon the current 1 and 5 lire stamps of Italy respectively. It will be noted from our illustration that the surcharge occupies two lines, and consists of the word "PIASTRE" in sans-serif capitals with the numerals twice, above. The complete list of bona-fide varieties appears to be as follows:



Surcharged in Turin. In Black.

" 10 Para 10" on 5c. green	...	...	s. d.
" 20 Para 20" on 10c. rose	...	...	0 1
" 40 Para 40" on 25c. blue	...	...	0 2
" 80 Para 80" on 50c. mauve	...	...	0 4
			0 8

Surcharged in Constantinople.  
Sans-serifs. Capital sin Red.

" 30 PARA " on 15c. slate	...	...	0 3
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Surcharged in Turin. In Black.

4 pia. on 1 l. brown and green	...	...	1 0
20 " " 5 l. rose and blue	...	...	5 0

**Nyasaland Protectorate.** (Vol. III. p. 20).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that they wrote to the Editor of the Colonial Office Journal regarding the colours of the 4s. stamps, as tabulated in the "official colour scheme," owing to the fact that in the case of the 4s value of this Colony they appeared to be reversed. In the reply received from Mr. W. H. Mercer, the Editor of the above-mentioned journal, it is stated that "the list of colours of the new colour scheme was correctly given in the Colonial Office Journal as far as stamps printed from the old Universal Keyplate were concerned. The writer of the article omitted however to mention that, in the case of the 8d., 10d., 1s. 6d., 4s. and 8s. values, stamps printed from the new Universal Keyplate (as those of the Nyasaland Protectorate) would show the colours of the duty and head reversed. In the case of stamps which bear designs other than the King's head even where the same colours are used for the same or equivalent values it will not necessarily follow that the constant portion of the design will be in the colour given for the King's head."

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 34).—A correspondent, writing to Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, draws attention to the fact that there is a slight difference in the designs of the new 30c. and 40c. stamps. In the latter the name of the engraver, shown in the lower left-hand corner is spelt in full—"C. L'Epplattenuier"—while in the 30c. only the initials "C.L." are shown.

From the same source we learn that the 2c. to 15c. values will probably be re-engraved and the colours of the 2c., 8c., and 12c., are to be changed. We trust the present ugly design will be vastly improved.

**Tunis.**—(Vol. III. p. 34).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us specimens of the four provisionals recorded on page 34. The numerals are somewhat ornate as shown in the accompanying illustration, and we find the surcharge is in red on the 15c. and 1fr., and in blue on the 2fr. and 5fr.



" 10" on 15c. grey	...	...	...	s. d.
" 35" on 1fr. olive green on toned	...	...	...	0 2
" 40" on 2fr. violet	...	...	...	0 7
" 75" on 5fr. lilac on lilac	...	...	...	0 8
				1 3

## NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## A Canadian North West Post Office.

During the summer of 1903 I spent some weeks with my brother and his family on their ranche in the north west of Canada, 300 miles beyond Winnipeg. We were forty-five miles from the railway, and although the letters, for a great part of the district, were fetched from the station every morning by the man who drove "the stage," and took travellers and parcels to the trains, the letters were only taken for twenty miles of the way to the nearest town, Fort Qu'Appelle, and left at the post office there. Hence, if any of us chanced to go to "the Fort" during the week, we called and asked the postmaster if he would kindly give them to us, otherwise we had to wait until Friday evening for them. Our letters for post had to be written and taken to our own post office, five miles away, on Wednesdays, as our own postmaster always drove off early on Thursday morning with the mails to Fort Qu'Appelle, which was thirty miles from his house, returning on Friday afternoons with the incoming mails.

Describing a visit to the post office, the writer continues:—As the farmer, our postmaster, was out, my brother said to the wife, "We have come for our letters, Mrs. Mac; and please we will take all you have for Mrs. B—, and also for the H—'s" (some of our neighbours living about three miles further away than we did). The good woman then disappeared, returning in a minute or two with several letters in her hand, which she gave to my brother. My sister then said, "And have you any newspapers or parcels for us?" At this Mrs. Mac again left the kitchen, and presently returned with a large basket (such as laundresses use to send home the washing in), and placing it upon the table, said, "Here they are; you can pick them out for yourselves!" and this we did. I then said, "As I am Mr. Jobson's sister and have come from England, I want to see all I can. Please will you show me where you keep your letters?" "Oh, yes!" said Mrs. Mac, in a very pleased voice, and then she took me into her larder. It was funny to think of letters and parcels being kept in a larder!—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 3.10.08.

## Presents for the Prince.

The two sets of the special Tercentenary stamps for the Prince of Wales are contained in handsome caskets. One set is placed in small gold boxes, enclosed in a large box of morocco leather. The second set is in a large gold box. On the cover of the large box is the Prince's crest and a gold plate inscribed as follows:—"Set of Canadian postage stamps issued upon the occasion of the Quebec Tercentenary, 1908. Presented to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Postmaster-General of Canada."—*Western Daily Press*.

## Malay States Stamps.

A correspondent in the Malay States writes us under date of 26.8.08:—"Referring to your latest announcement *re* 3c. rose and 8c. ultramarine, these stamps have arrived in Kuala Lumpur, but the 3c. will not be issued till next year and possibly not till still later as I hear there are over 1,000,000 stamps of the 3c. brown on hand and these will be issued first. The stock of the 8c. blue and black is not likely to be exhausted for another 18 months."

The delay in carrying into effect the reform requiring ½d., 1d. and 2½d. stamps to be in Postal Union colour is

probably a direct outcome of the outcry against surcharged stamps some years ago. Smaller stocks were then kept in hand, and were liable to run out if any exceptional demand arose; hence necessitating provisionals. To pacify collectors large stocks are now kept, and in a country too where the gum very rapidly deteriorates (every one of the millions of stamps in the Post Office has to be interleaved with a sort of blotting paper). The result is inconvenience to the Post Office and to the local public who often find the gum on the stamps a doubtful quantity and delay in bringing the Malay States into line with the stamps of other Postal Union countries; let us hope the Anti-Surcharger is happy!—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 3.10.08.

## Major Evans on Minor Varieties.

*The Australian Philatelist* for June contains some remarks, with which I fully agree, upon the subject of overloading the catalogues with varieties of shades which are most difficult to describe and to identify, and which are usually quite unintentional; and also upon the question of inverted and sideways watermarks, and chalky paper. The chalky surface is, of course, a variation in the paper which is intentional and of some little importance, but it certainly seems unadvisable to catalogue separately the varieties thus produced in the current and recent stamps of Great Britain and divers British colonies. The surface seems to be less perceptible and permanent than in the case of some of the stamps of New South Wales, and of Portugal and colonies, it seems to disappear altogether with a little usage and washing. —

*Gibbon's Stamp Weekly*, 26.9.08.

## New Congo Stamps.

Philatelists have been awaiting with some eagerness the issue of the new Congo stamp which will indicate the annexation of the Colony to Belgium. The stamp will be on sale shortly, and it is already known that the changes involved will be very slight. They are in fact limited to the substitution of the "Colony of the Congo" for the older inscription "Congo Independent State." The Belgium Government has thought it best to preserve the old symbolical features of the elephant, the palm tree and profile of black natives, and practically the new stamp will be the same as its predecessor. As, nevertheless, every little detail, no matter how trifling, is important in the eyes of postage stamp collectors, the new issue will no doubt find plenty of purchasers.—

*Newcastle Chronicle*, 18.9.08.

## Portuguese "Zambezia" to be "Quelimane."

*L'Annonce Timbrologique* learns that "when the contemplated issue of new Portuguese Colonial stamps, bearing the portrait of King Manuel, takes place, the name of 'Zambezia' will be changed to 'Quelimane.'"

Portuguese East Africa comprises territories directly administered by the State, and others under the administration of the Mozambique and Nyassa Companies, both of which have sovereign rights. The State territories are Lourenço Marques, Inhambane, Mozambique, Quelimane, and Tete.

The first three are each provided with a special set of stamps, but at present stamps inscribed "Zambezia" are in use in the two latter districts. These territories, until taken over by the state, were formally managed by the Zambesia Company, but without sovereign rights. Possibly "Tete" may also be favoured with its own stamps.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 17.10.08.



# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## For Specialists of Luxemburgs.

Mr. W. T. Wilson, Birmingham, tells me that he is breaking up a superb specialised collection of Luxemburg. It is very strong in choice picked shades, pairs, strips, blocks, and out-of-the-way varieties of all issues.

It also includes a brilliant and unique lot of proofs, essays and some of the original coloured drawings for the designs of these stamps.

## Stanley Gibbons' Recent Purchases.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. announce that they have purchased special collections of Chili and Uruguay, formed in South America; also collections of Ceylon, Japan, and Canada.

The Ceylon and Japan have been amalgamated with new stock books just arranged; Japan is finished, Ceylon will be ready next week; and Canada will shortly be remade and the new collection included. The Canada were a fine lot, and included 6d. purple on laid, three of the 6d. on thin wove, and a 6d. dull purple on the thick paper, all unused, and many other fine things.

## A Fine Collection for Auction.

Messrs. Glendining & Co., Ltd., of 7, Argyll Street, Regent Street, London, W., inform us that a fine collection of British Colonial stamps has been placed in their hands for auction (entirely without reserve), and will be sold by them in December and January next. The stamps are all in superb condition, and the collection is contained in nearly twenty volumes.

The same firm have also just had placed in their hands for sale a nice collection of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, formed by a member of the Royal Philatelic Society.

## Auction Prices and Dealers' Prices.

On this question the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, of New York, has the following amusing note:—"Auction prices are undoubtedly less than those asked by dealers. There is a reason for this. When buying of a merchant you and your friends suit your own convenience as to time of purchase and amount spent, and to enable you to do this a shop with full force of clerks is kept open three hundred days in the year, and a stock valued at say one hundred thousand dollars is kept on hand for you to select from. At an auction sale the situation is reversed. You or your friends must attend at a given date and purchase every lot offered to the amount of about two thousand dollars in the course of an evening. No dead stock here, no rent to pay except for the limited time occupied by the sale. If prices were not so much below catalogue, every dealer would at once shut up shop and have all his goods sold at auction."

## Necessity for High Values.

The *Berliner B. Z.* gives a good instance of the occasional necessity for high-value stamps, which is sometimes called in question. That, though perhaps not in daily demand, they have practical use is shown by the dispatch of a packet from the Philippines to America weighing 104lb., which was franked with stamps to the value of "144 mark 44 pf.," or £7 4s. 4d. This packet contained bullion, the safe delivery of which was insured merely by means of the ordinary registration fee of "20 pfg."

## Sale of German Colonials.

The sale of German Colonial stamps, which, says *Der Philatelist*, is conducted in Germany solely at the Post Office in Berlin, has been so great since the end of 1900, when this office was opened, that in this time stamps to the value of 1,002,764 34 mark have been disposed of. Since such stamps sold in Germany have been but little used for postage or remittance purposes, but rather for collections, the clear profit to the State through philatelists reaches an important figure.

## Whitfield King's Novelty List.

Messrs. Whitfield King's Novelty List for October comprises the usual features, including offers of Abyssinia and other stamps on original covers, unsorted stamps by weight, &c.

## Mr. Rhodes' Bargain List.

Mr. Rhodes sends a little booklet of "Special Bargains." It comprises a list of seven pages and includes unused and used stamps of most countries.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Mr. W. T. Wilson seizes the excitement in Eastern Europe to offer stamps of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also offers a grand collection of Luxemburg.

Mr. F. R. Ginn has a long list of Single CA's of Northern and Southern Nigeria, Lagos, British Central Africa, etc.

Mr. T. C. Appleton's list includes Solomon Islands, Straits Single CA, Sudans in strips, etc.

Mr. James Rhodes has a good list of selections of unused and used.

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. repeat their offers of Virgin Islands, and their offers to buy collections.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson announce their dates for coming sales.

Messrs. Glendining & Co. invite offers of collections for auction.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay offer some high value collections, some running up to 12,500 different stamps.

## Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

## The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

## Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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### Bound Copies of Vol. II.

Bound copies of Vol. II, will be ready in a couple of weeks, and will be 6s. each. When copies of Vol. II, bound are ready the price of Vol. I, will be raised to 10s. 6d. Meanwhile, those who want Vol. I, had better secure it before we raise the price.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester,

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Binding Covers.

Our navy blue covers for binding the half-yearly volumes of *The Postage Stamp* are much appreciated, and Baldwins' binding of the vols. sent them is declared to be A1 by our enthusiastic friends. We find by far the greater number bind in all the advt. pages, a wise decision, for some of the most interesting matter is to be found in the current prices quoted in the advts.

### Our Bound Volumes.

In consequence of the discounts which we have to allow in publishing we find it necessary to charge 6s. for our bound vols. At the same time we may point out that it will be cheaper to send the numbers to Baldwins to bind, or to get the Nos.

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In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges

At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

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Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Caymans still hold the field.



I AM bound to confess that I have never known such an insignificant little stamp-issuing country so monopolise the attention, the abuse, and the powers of philatelic recrimination, that the issues of the Cayman Islands have done during the last twelve months.

You can scarcely express an opinion on its issues without being regarded as an interested party. Either it is a case

of sour grapes, or you are a fortunate holder of the much coveted provisionals. You cannot even sit on the fence to view the fray without risking any shreds of philatelic reputation you may have.

In a contemporary a collector ventures to defend the issues, thereupon, he is at once violently attacked and abused, as if he were a philatelic highwayman.

In yet another journal a correspondent gratuitously assumes that all the criticism that has been measured out to the Cayman Provisionals may be written down as "Dealer inspired" paragraphs dictated by "disappointed greed."

All this must be the most amusing to the ordinary reader. As one of the somewhat outspoken critics of what has been going on I suppose I ought to plead guilty to "disappointed greed," but I can hardly do that, for my new issue albums include all the varieties, for none of which have I paid exorbitant prices.

### The Awful Dealer.

The stamp dealer we all know to be an awful sinner. But I had no idea that he was quite so bad as he is stated to be in a stamp trade journal. I read in its excellent pages, from the pen of a correspondent, the following terrible indictment:—"If a dealer can secure at face an ample supply of a provisional issue, there is in his attempt to make a corner, no limit to the desirability of his wares. On the other hand, if he is disappointed and sees the

profit going into the pocket of the collector he howls, or attempts to howl, down the issue and depreciate the market in the hope of buying in cheaply when the timid holders are frightened into selling. Along with the feeling of disappointed greed there is an element of resentment at post office officials who refuse to sell to dealers in bulk and this element adds to the virulence of the attack on the unfortunate infant provisional."

We have all heard of the "Terrible Turk," but according to all accounts he is a mild sort of animal compared to the "Terrible Stamp Dealer."

### After the Uproar is over.

After the uproar is all over, what does it all amount to? It is a case of keen competition, and we collectors are not quite so blind as not to be able to read between the lines when we hear shouts that "Codlin's the friend, not Short."

In the stress of keen competition for supplies of provisionals wanted by most of his customers, a dealer who "gets left" may be forgiven a few swear words.

Nevertheless, I doubt whether there is any business in which the dealers, as a whole, are better friends, than in stamps.

### South American Postal Robberies.

A correspondent in *The Times* tells of the persistent robbery of letters in Argentine and Uruguay post offices, the inference being that the officials plunder from the letters passing through their hands any available remittances.

Inquiries at St. Martin's le Grand are said to have elicited the reply that they have not had any complaints that would lead them to believe that the postal service in those countries is so bad as represented.

If the robberies were so frequent as they are said to be we should surely have heard more about it long before this.

### Indian Names: Spelling and Pronunciation.

I quote the following interesting note from the *Philatelic Journal of India* on the spelling and pronunciation of Indian names:—"It is now a good many years since some clever person altered the method of spelling Indian names, the net results of their efforts being that the ordinary Anglo-Saxon is almost compelled to pronounce everything spelled in the corrected way wrongly. The

new spellings are illustrated in the stamps of Dalia and Patiala, and these two places are rather good examples of the superiority in pronounceableness of the older system. Other stamp-issuing States that have adopted the new spelling to the confusion of the western mind are Chamba, which should be pronounced Cuumba; Faridkot, which should be Furreed-Coat; Alwar, which should be Ulwar; Bundi, pronounced Boondi; Cochin, pronounced Co-chin, with the accent on the second syllable; Jhalawar also with the accent on the second syllable; and Las Bela, pronounced Luss-bay-la."

#### How Stamp Books are made up.

The *Colonial Office Journal* gives an interesting explanation of the making up of books of postage stamps:—"For this purpose we will suppose that each book is to contain eighteen 1d. and twelve ½d. stamps, and that the stamps are printed by the surface process. Three sheets of the 1d. stamps and two of the ½d. stamps interleaved with waxed paper, are laid one on the top of the other, and at the top and bottom a sheet of stiff paper covers. A machine like a sewing machine "runs" the edges vertically once and the central gutter between the panes twice with the wire. Then the whole is cut vertically between the two central sewings and horizontally below every second stamp. Each page thus contains six stamps, but, of course half the books open with the hinge to the right of the opener instead of to the left."

#### Foreign Post Offices in Turkey.

Amongst the points which are to be put forward for consideration by the proposed Conference for the Revision of the Treaty of Berlin, is said to be a proposal to abolish Foreign Post Offices in Turkey.

Surely this is a bit premature. The "Terrible Turk" may be on the high road to civilisation, but his reform can scarcely yet be so complete as to warrant such sudden and wholesale trust.

I very much doubt the probability of our seeing the discontinuance of stamps overprinted for use in Turkey for some years to come, though most of us would probably welcome their withdrawal.

#### Contraction of Stamp Issues.

The tendency may be said to be in the direction of a contraction of issues, except in those countries which make a business of sponging on stamp collectors.

We have had the federation of the many German States into the German Empire, the union of the many little Duchies and States in the Kingdom of Italy, the federation of the British North American Colonies into the Dominion of Canada, and we have in sight one series for the Commonwealth of Australia, and the federation of the South African Colonies into one Administration.

#### The other side of the A/c.

On the other side of the account we have the Solomon Islands, the Maldives, the Caymans and a few other more or less ludicrous additions to the list of stamp issuing countries. And these little revenue seeking fry will probably always be on the increase, and as they create, now and again, quite a little excitement of their own, we must not complain. They cater for the needs of a certain class of stamp collectors who would scarcely remain in the ranks if they were not regaled periodically with some strong philatelic alcohol.

#### Abyssinian "Piastre" Provisionals.

*Apropos* of the "1 piastre" surcharge chronicled last week in *The Postage Stamp* new issue page Mr Whitfield King writes to me as follows:—"It appears that the "piastre" is the same as a "guerche," and that the overprint was necessary because the 1 guerche stamps were entirely exhausted, and there were not sufficient of

the ½ guerche stamps to use in place of them. This is the only value of the surcharged issue. The number overprinted was 7,000, which were distributed amongst all the post offices in Abyssinia. Our correspondent's letter is dated September 17th, in which he states that the few stamps of 1 piastre sent us were all that were left, and that there were remaining in stock no stamps of ½, ¼, 1 or 2 guerches of any issue surcharged or unsurcharged, and in consequence of this shortage the Postage Due stamps overprinted 'Taxe à Percevoir' were being used as ordinary postage stamps. Our consignment was franked with some of these stamps. There will be a complete new issue on November 1st, at which date Abyssinia enters the Postal Union, and we understand that the values of the new stamps will be expressed in 'piastres.' On the same date all the stock in hand of the old stamps will be burnt."

#### The Abyssinian "Piastre."

Turning over an old volume of the *Philatelic Record*, dated 1896 (Vol. 18 p. 331), I came across the following information bearing on this matter of the "piastre" and "guerche":—

"The *Courier des Timbres Poste* gives some curious information regarding Abyssinia, which is stated to have been received from a friend who had just returned from that country. The monetary unit is the *thaler* of Maria Theresa, which is worth about 4s. divided into 100 piastres of silver alloy, the piastre being rather smaller than a half franc piece. He had never heard of 'guerche' as a coin; and according to him, the values of the stamps were ½ piastre, ¼ piastre, 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16 piastres. The thaler and piastre were the only moneys in metal that were in use in Abyssinia.

"The truth would seem to lie in this, that the values are in 'piastre,' the Amharic of which is 'guerche'"

#### Austrian and German Levant.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write me as follows:—"A correspondent in Smyrna informs us in answer to our inquiry that the two sets of Austrian and German Levant stamps with values in paras and piastres and in francs and centimes respectively are used concurrently, those in Turkish currency are used for letters and parcels, whilst the centime stamps are only for printed matter and samples. The object of having the two sets is that it was found there was a loss in the exchange when using the para values for printed matter and samples. It is for a precisely similar reason that there are two sets of stamps in use at the British Post Offices in Morocco, one with values in Spanish currency and the others in sterling.

#### Proposed Newcastle Exhibition.

The North of England Philatelic Society, an energetic Society which meets at Newcastle-on-Tyne, is contemplating the holding of a Stamp Exhibition at Newcastle next year. A paragraph in its Annual Report makes the following announcement:—"If sufficient funds are guaranteed, we purpose holding an Exhibition in Newcastle early next year, all entries to be confined to members, with the exception of a suggested class for schoolboys and girls under sixteen years of age, and the Committee ask for the support of all the members in this undertaking, as it will entail a lot of extra work. Messrs. Wilkinson & Bagnall have kindly offered their hearty assistance in the enterprise."

#### Jamu and Cashmere.

At the North London Philatelic Society, 1.10.06, Mr. A. J. Sefi read a paper and showed his collection of the stamps of Jamu and Cashmere, contained in four volumes, which included a set of prints from the destroyed plates of the first issue, of which only four copies of each value

was made, after which the plates were sealed up in a glass case in the museum in India, since when they have never been taken out. There were also a large number of stamps on original envelopes, all of which were arranged in order of date, which Mr. Sefi had ascertained by translating the addresses on them, as the date of posting was always included in the address.

#### Display of Bulgarian Stamps.

At the first meeting of the North of England Philatelic Society, Mr. R. W. Wilkinson shewed his Bulgarians, a fine collection of over 400 stamps, mounted on cards fully annotated on the left side with dates of issue, &c. The country was practically complete (except the very great rarity the 5 stot. rose), contains many fine copies both used and unused of the early issues and provisionals with pairs and blocks. There was a complete lot of the unpaids including the 1901 provisionals surcharged T.

#### Fiji Islands Handbook.

Mr. C. J. Phillips states that only 400 copies have been printed of his recently published Handbook to the Stamps of the Fiji Islands, and that owing to the cost and slow production of the plates the book will not be reprinted.

#### No Commemoratives yet.

No commemoratives to celebrate the various phases of the crisis in Eastern Europe have yet been announced, but I shall be agreeably disappointed if we do not have at least three series, viz. :-

1. By Austria, to celebrate her bad faith in the matter of the Treaty of Berlin.
2. By Bulgaria, do. do.
3. By Young Turkey to celebrate their emancipation from the rule of Abdul the Damned.

Counani: R. I. P.

The exposure by *The Postage Stamp* of the last little attempt to foist a series of stamps on gullible young stamp collectors for the mythical Republic of Counani seems to have effectually stopped the little game. I have heard nothing of the enterprise since. If collectors would only stick together, and act together, they could do much to paralyse all attempts to burden the stamp market with rubbish.

#### Manchester Exhibition Congress.

It is announced that a Philatelic Congress will be a feature of the Exhibition to be held in Manchester on the 18th, 19th and 20th February, 1909. Three subjects are listed for discussion :-

1. Formation of a National Philatelic Society or Federation.
2. Holding of an Annual Congress.
3. Suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues.

A subscription list has been started and already totals up to £35, but as admission is to be free subscriptions will have to be generous and numerous to ensure the promoters from loss.

## Postal Robberies

THE following letter appeared in *The Times* 20.10.08. :  
 Sir,—I think the time has come for an organized protest on the part of British subjects residing in South America on the scandalous manner in which the various post offices are conducted.

At first sight it may seem somewhat of an impertinence for a stranger in a strange land to protest against the institutions of the people among whom he is domiciled, and certainly the theft of letters entrusted to the post offices of most of these countries appears to be an institution of long standing, and one meeting with the approval of the native population.

But it must be remembered that whether a State is within the pale of the Postal Union or not, the fact of the purchase of a stamp is surely both an ethical and a legal reason for the safe transit of the letter bearing it on the part of the Government selling the stamp.

I may say at once, that these remarks are prompted by several years' experience of postal methods both in the Argentine and Uruguay, the latter country being possibly the worse offender; and that my observations on the subject have resulted in the following conclusions being arrived at :-

1. That a letter written on a single sheet of foreign note and containing no enclosures will usually arrive safely.
2. That a letter containing several sheets of paper, a cheque, another letter, a sample of cloth, or anything tending to increase the thickness of such a letter is stolen.
3. That more robberies of letters posted in these countries take place than of letters posted in England for transmission to these countries.

4. That letters addressed to European addresses are more frequently stolen than those addressed to other parts of these republics.

5. That the general post offices are as great offenders as the country offices; this particularly applies to the Montevideo office.

6. That no notice is taken of substantiated complaints.

7. That if a letter in opened by the authorities to ascertain whether or not it contains anything prohibited from being sent by post, and, when opened, is found to contain merely private correspondence, it is not sealed and forwarded to its destination, but is destroyed by the post office *employés* or authorities.

8. That an organized protest on the part of British interests against these abuses would be effectual if it could obtain the sympathy of the British authorities.

I will conclude by giving two typical instances.

(a) In a large suburb of Buenos Ayres the residents almost invariably take their letters with them to the General Post Office, as letters of any value posted in their local post office never reach their destination.

(b) During the past year more than ten of the writer's letters, many containing cheques, sent in a locked bag to the General Post Office in Montevideo, by hand, have failed to arrive in England, and that all these missing letters contained enclosures sufficient to give the envelope a bulky appearance.

Now, Sir, I contend that this matter is one of the greatest importance to residents in South America, and I appeal to those controlling the great British interests here to make a move in the right direction.

Yours truly, POLDHU.

# Stamps of the Sudan

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## History of the Protectorate.

**S**UDAN, or Sudan as it is on the postage stamps, meaning the "Land of the Blacks," is a comprehensive term for a wide belt of territory that stretches right across Africa, south of the Sahara, to the western borders of Abyssinia.

But Egyptian Sudan, with which we are philatelically concerned, is that portion which lies between Egypt and British East Africa. Over this territory England and Egypt exercise a joint protectorate.

So far back as 1819, the Egyptians established themselves at Khartoum, and during the fifty years that followed gradually extended their power over the provinces lying west and south of that city.

In 1882 the Mahdi, preaching a religious crusade, swept the country clear of the Egyptian garrisons, defeated and destroyed the Egyptian forces under the command of Hicks Pasha, and shut up General Gordon in Khartoum. With the fall of Khartoum the Sudan provinces were lost to Egypt, and no attempt to re-conquer the territory was made till 1896, when the English, having re-organised Egypt, with an Anglo-Egyptian army under Kitchener, defeated the Khalifa's army at Omdurman, occupied Khartoum and established a joint protectorate over what is now known as Egyptian Sudan.

## Their Philatelic History.

In 1897 the then current stamps of Egypt were overprinted in native characters, and in English with the word "Soudan," for use in the reconquered territory. This followed in the next year stamps of special design with a camel and its rider, and inscribed "Sudan Postage," perf. 14, watermarked with a cross. The "cross" of the watermark was said to be objectionable to the Mahometan population, and it is being changed to a multiple crescent and star. And there is just one provisional, a 5m. on 5 pias, issued in 1903. Very little attention has yet been paid to the stamps of the Sudan, for they are regarded as being too recent, too few, and too lacking in varieties to attract the specialist. It will, therefore, be news to many that the stamps of the first issue are, like many other first issues, full of interesting minor varieties that have passed unnoticed and uncatalogued.

**1897.** The first postage stamps issued for use in the Sudan were the current stamps of Egypt overprinted in black with the word "Soudan," and over it the equivalent in Arabic characters. These stamps were designed for use in the post offices between Wadi-Halfa and the Egyptian frontier, under the management of the British authorities. The following was the official notice announcing the issue:—"Post Office Notice.—From the 1st inst. correspondence posted at the Camp Post Office, Wadi-Halfa, and at places south of Halfa will be prepaid by postage stamps of the present issue bearing the surcharge 'Soudan.'—General Post Office, Alexandria, 1st March, 1897." The chroniclers at the time rather hastily announced that the overprint differed in type on every stamp in the sheet. On every row of the sheet would have been nearer the mark. There are six well-defined types of the Arabic overprint. What I shall term the normal setting has the comma-like characters in the centre and (counting from left to right) the last characters level. The types are as follows:—

1. Normal, i.e., commas and last character level.

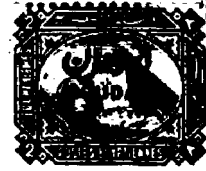
2. Commas level, but last character dropped.
3. Second comma and last character, both dropped.
4. Second comma tailless.
5. Last character wider spaced.
6. Central dot omitted from first character.

The accompanying photographic reproduction of a vertical row illustrates each variety.



TYPE I.

Normal, i.e., commas and last character level.



TYPE III.

Second comma and last character, both dropped.



TYPE II.

Commas level, but last character dropped.



TYPE V.

Last character wider spaced.



TYPE II.

Same as third row.



TYPE IV.

Second comma tailless.

The stamps of Egypt which were overprinted were in sheets of 120, in two panes of sixty, one above the other, each pane consisting of six rows of ten stamps. I have had the opportunity of examining complete panes of each value. Each row in each pane is made up throughout of one of the varieties in the above list, as follows:—

- 1st row, all type I. Normal.
- 2nd row, all type 3. Second comma and last character, both dropped.
- 3rd row, all type 2. Commas level but last character dropped.
- 4th row, all type 5. Last character wider spaced.

5th row, all type 2. Same as 3rd row.

6th row, all type 4. Second comma tailless.

Type 6. Central dot omitted from the first character. This omitted dot variety is the first stamp in the fifth row of the bottom pane. It is not to be found in any of the top panes that I have examined.

*Wmk. Crescent and Star. Perf. 14. Type 1. Normal.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 mil. brown	0	3	0	3
2 mils. green	0	3	—	—
3 mils. orange	0	4	—	—
5 mils. carmine	0	9	—	—
1 pias. ultramarine	0	9	0	9
2 pias. orange-brown	3	0	3	0
5 pias. slate	5	0	4	0
10 pias. violet	7	6	7	6

*Type 2. Commas level, but last character dropped.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 2 mils. green.
- 3 mils. orange.
- 5 mils. carmine.
- 1 pias. ultramarine.
- 2 pias. orange-brown.
- 5 pias. slate.
- 10 pias. violet.

*Type 3. Second comma and last character, both dropped.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 2 mils. green.
- 3 mils. orange.
- 5 mils. carmine.
- 1 pias. ultramarine.
- 2 pias. orange-brown.
- 5 pias. slate.
- 10 pias. violet.

*Type 4. Second comma tailless.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 2 mils. green.
- 3 mils. orange.
- 5 mils. carmine.
- 1 pias. ultramarine.
- 2 pias. orange-brown.
- 5 pias. slate.
- 10 pias. violet.

*Type 5. Last character wider spaced.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 2 mils. green.
- 3 mils. orange.
- 5 mils. carmine.
- 1 pias. ultramarine.
- 2 pias. orange-brown.
- 5 pias. slate.
- 10 pias. violet.

*Type 6. Central dot omitted from first character.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 2 mils. green.
- 3 mils. orange.
- 5 mils. carmine.
- 1 pias. ultramarine.
- 2 pias. orange-brown.
- 5 pias. slate.
- 10 pias. violet.

*Overprint Inverted.*

It is stated that only one pane of sixty stamps of the 1 millieme value was issued with the overprint inverted. The 5 mil. has also been found similarly inverted. It is of course to be found with all the varieties noted above.

*In all six varieties of the overprint.*

- 1 mil. brown.
- 5 mil. carmine.

1898. The *Journal Official* published at Cairo on the 28th February, 1898, contained the following announcement:—

“New postage stamps of 1, 2, 3, and 5 mill, 1, 2, 5, and 10 piastres, will be issued on the 1st March, 1898, for the prepayment of postage of letters, &c., originating in the Sudan. A stock of these stamps will also be kept at the Financial Secretary's office, War Office, Cairo, where they may be purchased.”

In accordance with this notice, new stamps of the size and design illustrated were put into circulation.

They were printed by Messrs De la Rue, watermarked with what has been variously termed a Maltese cross, a quatrefoil, and a flower, and perf. 14.

They were printed in two colours, the centre in one colour and the frame in another, and were arranged in two panes, one above the other, each pane consisting of sixty stamps in five horizontal rows of twelve.

Each pane was surrounded on the three outer sides by two lines of colour, the inner line of the colour of the centre, and the outer line of the colour of the frame of the stamp. Across the centre of the sheet between the two panes there is a single line to each pane, formed of the two colours, in alternate slips the width of a stamp; and in the space between the panes are two narrow labels, extending across the sheet, composed of vertical lines in a frame, all in the colour of the centre of the stamp.



*Wmk. Quatrefoil. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 mil. frame carmine; centre brown	0	1	0	1
2 mil. frame deep brown; centre green	0	2	—	—
3 mil. frame green; centre mauve	0	2	0	2
5 mil. frame black; centre carmine	0	4	—	—
1 pias. frame brown; centre blue	0	6	0	6
2 pias. frame blue; centre black	0	10	0	6
5 pias. frame green; centre brown	2	0	1	0
10 pias. frame mauve; centre black	2	9	1	6

1903. Having run short of the 5 millieme value 50,000 of the 5 piastres value were surcharged “5 millieme,” in black across the centre of each stamp.

One sheet of 120 was found with the surcharge inverted.

The overprinting was done in Khartoum.

This provisional was probably caused by the change of watermark, a new supply with the crescent and star watermark being ordered but not received; the hiatus

was made good by using up a number of the 5 piastres.

*Wmk. Quatrefoil. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
"5 millimes," on 5 piastres, green & brown	0 9	—

*Surcharge Inverted.*

"5 millimes," on 5 piastres, green & brown	25 0	—
--	------	---

1902-4. It is stated that the Soudanese sheikhs objected to the watermark cross on the stamps, and brought the matter to the notice of the Sirdar. Lord Kitchener thereupon is said to have given immediate orders that the star and crescent watermark was to figure on the next issue.

Whether this story be true or not the Maltese cross watermark has been changed for a multiple crescent and star watermark. The change was effected as the supplies of the objectionable watermark were exhausted. The colours remain unchanged.

*Wmk. Multiple Crescent and Star. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 mil. frame carmine; centre brown	0 1	—
2 mil. frame deep brown; centre green	0 1	—
3 mil. frame green; centre mauve	0 2	—
5 mil. frame black; centre carmine	0 2	—
1 piast. frame brown; centre blue	0 4	—
2 piast. frame blue; centre black	0 8	—
5 piast. frame green; centre brown	0 4	—
10 piast. frame mauve; centre black	0 8	—

1906-7. One value. Design: Camel type as before, but a new value of 4 millimes. This new value was issued first in 1906 with centre in blue and the frame in brown, then in 1907 the colours were changed to centre carmine and the frame brown.

*Wmk. Multiple Crescent and Star. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4 m. brown, centre blue (1906)	0 3	—
4 m. brown, centre carmine (1907)	0 2	—

*For special offers of the Stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

## King's Head Single CA's.

Mr. Wm. McMillan in a paper on "Catalogue Values of King's Heads" read before the Liverpool Philatelic Society, and printed in full in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 17.10.08, gives an interesting table of Comparison of Catalogue prices for obsolete King's Heads single CA. issues of British Colonials. In addition to our English catalogues he quotes Scott's as representing American prices and Dietrich for German prices. Here is his list, which it will be seen is based on 100 as representing the face value, so that when under a catalogue we find 1,800 that means 18 times 100 = face. Unused.

	Country.	Set.	Face Value.	S.G.	W.K.	Ewen.	Field.	Scott.	Dietrich.
1	Bahamas	8	0/7½	242	215	188	200	200	193
2	Brit Honduras	3	0/4	682	227	454	450	542	590
3	Cayman Islands	5	1/10	873	768	712	950	900	1123
4	Ceylon	12	7/0	1200	709	794	874	935	754
5	Cyprus	10	10/11	957	740	785	778	840	799
6	E. A. and Uganda	9	2/2	1300	931	938	961	1090	1004
7	Fiji	2	0/1½	555	416	416	400	450	416
8	Gambia	9	4/7	484	309		360	438	390
9	Gibraltar	7	4/0	379			283	357	311
10	Gold Coast	6	1/8	413			280	290	294
11	Grenada	10	19/3	290	365	228	250	323	243
12	Hong Kong	14	50/6	194	178	164	150	222	179
13	Lagos	10	19/9				1880	1597	1496
13a	"	9	9/9	1800			1149	1600	1236
14	Leeward Islands	4	0/7	388	215	208	257	280	267
15	Malta	6	1/10	305	816		241	323	248
16	Morocco Agencies	7	3/2	1681	1208	1973	1976	1588	1000
17	Natal	6	5/11½	404	407	285	330	400	290
18	Northern Nigeria	8	4/11	487	360	295	350	511	286
19	O. R. Colony	2	0/1½	277	208	200	266	300	200
20	St. Lucia	5	1/7	547	279	331	379	577	370
21	St. Vincent	5	1/10	751	437		591	293	545
22	Seychelles	11	7/9	270	213		191	284	229
23	Sierra Leone	13	30/1½	313	272	211	281	343	262
24	Somaliland	9	3/3	351	200		254	338	235
25	Southern Nigeria	10	29/10		533	398	554	731	438
25a	"	9	9/10		400	424	480	568	415
25b	"	8	4/10	632	480	443	562	742	432
26	S. Settlements	11	20/9	359	226	234	243	342	194
27	Transvaal	10	14/7	198	200	166	184	312	210



# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 44).

**Guatemala C.A.**—The inscription shown upon the 1886-94 stamps of Guatemala, the two letters standing for "Central America."

**Guayana.** A state in the Republic of Venezuela, bordering on the west of British Guiana, in which a number of provisional stamps were issued in 1903.

**Guayas.**—A province in the republic of Ecuador having an area of 111,504 square miles and a population of about 99,000. All the stamps issued here in 1902 were overprinted with a control mark consisting of the letters "C. Ben B." before being sold to the public. The object of this was to prevent the use of a large quantity of postage stamps which it was thought might have been stolen during a disastrous fire at Guayaquil in which the postal stores were destroyed.

**Guerche.**—The value in which all the stamps of Abyssinia are expressed. Sixteen guerche are equal to one falari, and a guerche is roughly equivalent to 1½d. in English money.

**Guiana, British.**—(See BRITISH GUIANA.)

**Guiana, French.**—(See "FRENCH GUIANA.")

**Guillotine Perforation.**—This is perforation produced by a "Guillotine" or "single-line" machine. Only a single row of holes at a time is made by this class of machine, and sheets of stamps have to be passed under the perforating needles twice—first horizontally and then vertically, or vice-versa—before they are completely perforated.

**Guinea Contal. Espanola.**—The inscription shown upon all the stamps of Spanish Guinea issued since 1903. The second word is a contraction for "continental."

**Guinea Espanola.**—The inscription shown upon the 1902 stamps of Spanish Guinea.

**Guinea, French.**—(See FRENCH GUINEA.)

**Guinea, Portuguese.**—(See "PORTUGUESE GUINEA.")

**Guinea, Spanish.**—(See "SPANISH GUINEA.")

**Guine.**—The Portuguese form of Guinea as shown upon all the stamps of Portuguese Guinea.

**Guinee.**—The French Equivalent for Guinea as shown upon the current stamps of French Guinea.

**Guinee Francaise.**—The inscription shown upon all the stamps of French Guinea issued prior to 1906.

**Guipuzcoa.**—One of the Basque provinces in northern Spain, having a population of nearly 200,000 and an area of 728 square miles. During the Carlist insurrection of 1873-75 special stamps bearing the portrait of Don Carlos were used in this province.

**Quiria.**—A seaport town in the province of Bermudez, Venezuela, at which a special overprint was applied to the provisional stamps used there in 1903.

**Gulden.**—The unit of value in Holland and her colonies, in Austria until the change of currency in 1899, and in the German Empire until the currency was changed in 1874. The Dutch gulden is composed of 100 cents, and is equal to about 1/8 in English money, the Austrian gulden was divided into 100 kreutzer and was also equal to 1/8, while the German gulden consisted of 60 kreutzer and was likewise worth about 1/8 in British money. No German stamps of the value of a gulden were ever issued.

**Gum.**—The adhesive matter applied to the back of most postage stamps, for the convenience of the public in affixing the labels to postal packets, etc. Various sorts of adhesive matter have been used at different times varying from the thick evil-tasting mucilage found on the early stamps of our own country to the tasteless substance used on most modern stamps. The gum on the old British stamps was made from dextrine, or potato starch, and had to be applied to the sheets after the stamps were printed. That most generally used now-a-days is Senegal, Syriac, or Arabic mixed with a little glycerine. It is thinly and evenly laid on by machinery before the stamps are printed. The importance of gum is obvious when we consider that no unused stamp is considered mint unless it has all the gum with which it was originally issued. A study of gum is necessary in identifying the printings of certain stamps, as the "whitish," "yellow streaky," and "smooth" of the Transvaal, and is often of importance in distinguishing reprints from originals. (See also "DEXTRINE")

**Gumpaps.**—A coined word much in vogue at one time as a contemptuous cognomen for "speculative" issues.

**Gutegr.**—A contraction for "gutegroschen" as shown upon the ½ggr. stamp of Brunswick.

**Gutengr.**—An abbreviation of the word "gutengroschen" as shown upon the 1ggr. stamp of Hanover.

**Gutengroschen.**—(or, Gutegroschen).—The value in which some of the stamps of Hanover and Brunswick are expressed. A guteugroschen is equal to about 1½d. in English money.

**Guyane.**—The French form of Guiana as shown upon the stamps of French Guiana.

**Guyane Francaise.**—The inscription shown upon the current stamps of French Guiana.

**Guy. Franc.**—An abbreviation of "Guyane Francaise" as surcharged upon the early stamps of French Guiana.

**G.W.**—A surcharge found upon the 1d. and 4d. stamps of Cape Colony in 1877 for use in Griqualand West.

**Gwallor.**—A State in central India between the United Provinces and the Central Provinces, having an area of over 29,000 square miles and a population of well over two millions. Postage stamps were first issued in 1885.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 45). According to *Champion's Bulletin* the provisional 1 piastre stamp recorded on page 45, exists with the surcharge double, inverted, and with the numeral of value omitted. So far no official information is available as to the necessity or use of this stamp but, doubtless, a reason will be given before long.



**Bermuda.**—(Vol. II. p. 127).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a new ½d. stamp in the now familiar "Dock" type. It is printed in two colours and is on multiple watermarked paper. The complete list of stamps with this watermark is now as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. violet and brown ...	0	1
½d. green and black ...	0	1
½d. green ...	0	1
1d. carmine and black ...	0	2
1d. carmine... ..	0	2
2d. orange and greenish grey ...	0	3
2½d. ultramarine and black ...	0	4

**British Solomon Islands.**—(Vol. II. p. 284).—Several of our Continental contemporaries list the new stamps for this Protectorate from "specimen" copies. We gather that the design is very similar to that of the lithographed set now in use only the stamps are of ordinary size, similar to the cent values of the Federated Malay States. We have no doubt the stamps will be issued before long and we shall then list and illustrate them in our formal chronicle.

**Bulgaria.**—The *West End Philatelist* announces the discovery of a used copy of the current 15 stot. stamp, with the portrait of "Czar" Ferdinand printed in brown instead of greenish black. We are told that "this stamp was found among a number of common ones about two years ago." From the same source we learn that the 10 stot. Commemorative stamp of 1907 may be found in horizontal pairs imperf. between.

**Ecuador.**—(Vol. II. p. 236).—We learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that all the values of the current set have been seen overprinted "Consejo Escolar—provincia de Pichiucha—Quito." No particulars are given as to

the style or colour of the surcharge and we await further information before including these stamps in our formal chronicle.

**Great Britain.**—Several correspondents have shown us the current ½d. and 1d. stamps with the control letters "H8." The complete list of "controls" on the King's head stamps is now as follows:—

½d. dark green A., B., C., C4, D4.  
½d. yellow green D4., D5., E5., E6., F6., F7., G7., G8., H8.  
1d. scarlet A., B., C., C4, D4, D5., E5., E6., F6., F7., G7., G8., H8.

**Grenada.**—(Vol. II. p. 115).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us five more values in the "Ship" type—6d., 1s., 2s., 5s. and 10s.—all in colours conforming to the Crown Agents new scheme. The 1s. and 10s. values are on single "C.A." paper, and the others have multiple watermark but, owing to the fact that the paper is chalk-surfaced in each case, the watermarks are extremely difficult to see. The complete list of values of this type is now as follows:—

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1/- black on green ...	1	4
10/- red and green on green ...	12	6

Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. green ...	0	1
1d. carmine... ..	0	2
2d. orange ...	0	3
2½d. blue ...	0	4
3d. purple on yellow ...	0	5
6d. purple ...	0	8
2/- purple and blue on blue ...	2	6
5/- red and green on yellow ...	6	3

**Hyderabad.**—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, quoting from a foreign contemporary, says that the ½s. and ¼s. values of the "POSTAGE" type have been issued in new colours, and that 1s. and 2s. stamps of the same type have been added to the current set. The complete list of these stamps is thus as follows:—

Inscribed "POSTAGE."

Wmk. of Arabic characters. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
½s. blue ...	0	1
½s. pale grey ...	0	1
½s. orange ...	0	1
½s. vermilion ...	0	1
1s. carmine ...	—	—
2s. lilac ...	—	—

**New Caledonia.**—(Vol. II. p. 237).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* records the 45c. red brown on rose, as a novelty, but we find this was included in our chronicle on August 15th—more than two months ago.

**New Hebrides.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the five stamps of New Caledonia surcharged "NOUVELLES HEBRIDES" to which we referred on page 9. The surcharge is in red on the 25c. and 1fr. and in black on the other values. The overprint occupies two lines on the centime stamps and only one in the case of the 1 franc as shown in the accompanying illustrations.



Stamps of New Caledonia  
surcharged "NOUVELLES HEBRIDES."  
No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	s.	d.
5c. green	...	0 1
10c. rose red	...	0 2
25c. blue on green	...	0 4
50c. carmine on orange	...	0 8
1fr. blue on green	...	1 2

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III p. 9).—We learn from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that the 5c. on 30c. blue of the recent provisionals with overprint in four lines, is known with the surcharge inverted, and the 5c. on 10c. reddish purple, surcharged in three lines, has been found with a double impression of the overprint.

**Queensland.**—(Vol. II, p. 297).—A somewhat belated "novelty" is the 2s. of this colony on "Crown A." paper which we find listed in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. We chronicled this stamp in our issue for July 18th, on the authority of a statement from the Postmaster-General of Queensland that "all denominations of the current set from ¼d. to £1, with the exception of the 2¼d., 5d. and 1s. values, have been issued on 'Crown A.' paper."

**Roumania.**—(Vol. II, p. 310).—Two high values—1 and 2 lei—in the new type, are reported to have been issued according to *Even's Weekly Stamp News*. The complete list is now as follows:—



New types. No wmk.

	perforations	s.	d.
5 bani green,	perf. 11½ x 13½	...	0 1
5 "	" 11½	...	—
10 " carmine,	" 11½	...	0 2
15 " violet	" 11½	...	0 3
25 " blue	" 13½	...	0 4
25 " "	" 11½ x 13½	...	0 4
40 " green	" 11½ x 13½	...	0 7
50 " orange	" 11½	...	0 8
1 lei. brown and black, perf. ?		...	—
2 lei. green	" "	...	—

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III, p. 33).—The *West End Philatelist* mentions the discovery of an error of colour. This is the 6d of 1890-92 printed in carmine lake—the colour of the stamp hitherto only known surcharged "FIVEPENCE"

**Southern Nigeria.**—(Vol. I, p. 280).—A correspondent informs *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that he has the 10s. on multiple watermarked paper, thus completing the set in this condition. The full list of values is as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
¼d. green and black	...	0 2
¼d. green	...	0 1
1d. carmine and black	...	0 2
1d. carmine	...	0 2
2d. orange brown and black	...	0 3
2½d. ultramarine	...	0 4
3d. lilac and orange brown	...	0 5
4d. olive green and black	...	0 6
6d. mauve	...	0 8
1s. black and green	...	1 3
2s. 6d. brown and black	...	3 3
5s. yellow	...	6 3
10s. purple on yellow	...	12 6
£1 violet and green	...	24 0

**Zambezia.**—It is rumoured that the name of this Portuguese Colony will be changed to "Quilimane" in the near future.

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# From other Magazines

## New Swiss Stamps: Variety.

We are shown by Mr. F. Reinhard a notice in *Der Bund* of Berne, stating that new stamps of 35c. will be issued on 1.11.08, at the same time as those of 70c. previously announced.

Our correspondent also draws our attention to the fact that there is a slight difference between the new 30c. and 40c. Whilst the latter has the name of the engraver in the lower left-hand corner spelt in full "C. L'Épplattener" the latter has only the initials "CL." It is said the 40c. may be altered to agree with the 30c., and in any case its colour is likely to be modified, the present shade being too sensible to the light—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 10.10.08.

## Odd or Even Colour Values.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (30.9.08) points out a curious fact with regard to the colours of the names of colonies inserted in the labels of the "tablet" type of French Colonials issued in 1892. It will be remembered that originally the set consisted of thirteen values, and of these the name is in blue on the "even" values (2c., 4c., 10c., etc.) and in red on the "odd" (1c., 5c., 15c., etc., and 1fr.). It is certainly a useful aid to memory, but can scarcely have been intentional, though it is strange blue was not adopted for the 25c. and 75c. values. This colour would have shown better on the coloured paper employed for these stamps than the red actually used. The values that were subsequently issued do not entirely follow the rule for the 2fr., 5fr. and 50c. brown on azure, are exceptions. The 50c., however, changed back again later, for all printings subsequent to 1904 have had the name in blue.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* 17.10.08.

## In Defence of Caymans.

Personally I am inclined to the belief that the Cayman provisionals were quite *bona-fide* and necessary. In February last I had official information that the supply of 2½d. had run out, and that to supply the requirements of the mail, two sheets of 2½d. on 4d. were for sale at the Georgetown office. Again on 19th May I was informed that the supply of ½d. and 1d. stamps had run out, and that letters were being stamped "paid" in the corner of the envelope and dispatched stampless. That does not point to a mania for provisionals, does it?

It may interest your readers to know that the ½d. issue has already given birth to a variety! The third stamp on the bottom row of the pane is the happy mother, and the variety is a dot close to the letter "N" in the word "Islands." It may also be noted that some of the stamps in the pane show the letters "M" and "A" in Cayman joined (in the manner of Queensland), while the others show a distinct space between. These are, no doubt, minor varieties, but they are as well-born as many that find their way to that Valhalla of Varieties, familiarly termed, "S.G."—*K. Mann in the Journal of Great Britain*, Oct., 1908.

## Collecting Stamps on Entires.

The collecting of old stamps on the covers or envelopes which they franked is a very neglected branch of our hobby; so much so, that I have ventured to jot down a few notes, the perusal of which may I hope induce some collectors to realize that original covers are of great interest. The only objections that collectors can raise against them is that they take up too much room in a collection, are really in many instances hard to find, and

when found are more expensive than the same stamps would cost off the envelope. I admit that there is reason in all of these arguments, but, nevertheless, I think that they can be easily overcome.

To begin with, dealers have, for many years, not been in favour of stocking old stamps on covers, for the simple reason that they are too bulky to put into their ordinary stock books and too large and heavy to mount in their approval books, which are sent through the post. This being the case, they have, many of them, made it a practice to have all stamps soaked off, with the result that when the mere collector asks to see "entires" he is met with a rebuke. This practice of soaking old stamps from their envelopes is not, fortunately, followed on the Continent, with the result that Paris and many other centres are still happy hunting grounds, where the enthusiastic collector can sometimes pick up a nice "bunch" of old covers.

That the dealer finds old covers too bulky is no reason why collectors should be warned off; the average collector would only take one of each variety, which could be mounted after each issue of that date in any blank album. Personally, for some of the countries I collect I have blank exercise books, 6d. size, in which I mount entires only, while with those countries where I am not strong in entires they are mounted after each issue—*F. Lamb in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Oct., 1908.

## Mauritius: 1859, 9d., magenta.

Many of our readers are probably unaware of the fact that the Mauritius stamp of the Britannia type, printed in magenta, was originally issued in 1859 as a 9d. stamp. No value was indicated on the stamp itself, so that, when a 9d. stamp of the Queen's head type was issued in the following year, the remaining stock was withdrawn from sale, and in November, 1862, they were reissued for use as 1d. stamps. Thus the postal value of this stamp was at one time 9d., and at a later period 1d., though it is impossible to assign either value to it specifically in unused state. Used specimens may be identified in the majority of cases. Any cancelled with the "B 53" postmark were undoubtedly used as 1d. stamps, and those with a similar obliteration of bars, but with the centre blank, were as certainly used as 9d. stamps. It is, however, impossible to say with certainty which value those cancelled with circular marks represent, for these obliterations were in use for a number of years, covering both periods of issue of this magenta stamp.—*West End Philatelist*, Oct., 1908.

## American and Mexican Dollars.

The value of the dollar in British currency is often the subject of misconception among philatelists owing to the fact that there are two dollars, both of which are divided into 100 cents. One of these, usually known as the "American" dollar, is the unit of value in the United States and its possessions, British North America, British Guiana, British Honduras, and Liberia, and has a fixed value, being equal to 4s. 2d. in English money. The other, known as the "Mexican" dollar, is based on a silver currency, and, though it has a nominal value of 2s. 1d., it is subject to fluctuations according to the market price of silver. This dollar is the unit of value in China, Hong Kong, Sarawak, British North Borneo, Brunei, the Federated Malay States, and the Straits Settlements.—*West End Philatelist*, Oct., 1908.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## King's Heads, Single CA.

Mr. W. McMillan, in a paper read before the Liverpool Philatelic Society, has been discussing the rise in value which has taken place in King's heads single CA stamps. He gives the following list of relative increases:—

Moderate increases of 2 to 3 times face are shown by

Hong Kong,	Malta,
Bahamas,	Straits Settlements,
Transvaals,	Leeward Islands,
Seychelles,	Somaliland, and
Orange River Colony.	Sierra Leone,

of 3 to 4 times face by

Gold Coast,	Northern Nigeria,
Gibraltar,	Grenada, and
Natal,	Gambia,

of 4 to 5 times face by

St. Lucia,	and British Honduras,
Fiji,	

5 to 5½ times by

St. Vincent,	and Southern Nigeria,
--------------	-----------------------

whilst Cyprus,
 and Cayman Islands || Ceylon, |  |

show an appreciation of from 8 to 9 times face value, East Africa and Uganda over 10 times, Lagos about 15 times, and Morocco Agencies over 15 times.

## A Lost Opportunity.

"In January, 1904," says Mr. McMillan, "before any alteration in paper took place, an almost complete collection of Colonial issues could have been obtained including values up to 1/- of a face value of £10 for £10 17s 6d.; whilst a collection of values up to 10/- face value £50, could have been purchased for £54 10s.; and values up to £1 face value £70, could have been bought for £76 10s."

"For less than 10% above face value therefore a collection of the single CA. King's Head issues could have been obtained whilst these stamps were current."

## Puzzling Increases.

Mr. McMillan is puzzled to know "why Cyprus, for instance, should show an appreciation of over eight times face value, whilst Sierra Leone shows an appreciation of three times face only. When we bear in mind the fact that the single CA. issues of both countries came out in 1903 and both made the change to multiple in 1904, so that they each had a similarly short life; but I understand that the reason is because only small quantities were printed of the values which bring up the average in the case of Cyprus viz., 9pi., 18pi. and 45pi., 2,400 of the 9pi., 3,600 of the 18pi. and 2,400 of the 45pi., and in the case of Sierra Leone the £ stamp has been dribbling out and can still be bought for 25/-, whilst all the others show considerable advances"

The small numbers which were printed of the 9p., 18p. and 45p., added to the fact that those numbers were well advertised, no doubt sent up the prices of those values and others of the same series in sympathy.

## Comparative Catalogue Values.

Comparing the various catalogue prices for obsolete single CA.'s Mr. McMillan finds that the Scott Stamp Co.'s appreciation is higher in most values than the other dealers named, Stanley Gibbons coming next, followed

by Field, Dietrich, and Ewen, in the order named, whilst Whitfield King & Co.'s quotations average the lowest.

## Notable Stamps at Auction.

		£	s.	d.	
Great Britain.	1830. 1d. black, unused, horizontal strip of 3	...	2	2	0
British South Africa.	1891-4. 8d. unused sheet of 60	...	1	12	0
Southern Nigeria.	King. 2½d. unused block of 9	...	0	11	0
Cayman Islands.	1908. 1d. on 5s. pair	...	1	3	0
"	" 1d. on 4d. (fiscal)	...	3	5	0
"	" 2½d. on 4d.	...	3	5	0
"	Collection of 61 stamps	...	4	7	6
Tobago.	1896. 1s. brown, error of colour, block of 4, unused	0	8	0	

## Glasgow Stamp Dealers.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, in his Topical Notes in his *Stamp Weekly* has the following tit-bit about Glasgow Stamp Dealers:—

English Collector (in Glesga'): "I suppose the shipping houses here don't get many decent stamps on their correspondence?"

Scotch Collector: "I haae kenneed some, an' I haae kenneed none."

E.C.: "But two of your Glasgow dealers told me that none of any value were to be got here, and that they had to import all their stock."

S.C.: "Ay, but the dealers are awful loears i' these pairts."

## Stamps that may be scarce.

Some of the stamps that are now being displaced stand a chance of running scarce.

The Grenada King's heads that are being superseded by the ship design, the Bermudas that are being displaced by the dook design, the St. Vincents that are giving place to the arms type, and the many stamps that are having their colours and papers altered in consequence of the gradual adoption of the new colour scheme, must, sooner or later, yield a few scarce stamps.

The difficulty is to forecast which are to be the fortunate ones, and for this reason the steady collector who collects straightforwardly regardless of speculation more often secures a better average of plums than the plunging speculator.

As a case in point the straightforward collector did well in King's head single CA., whilst the speculator never got a chance with some of the best.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this week.

Mr. Peckitt offers a fine lot of Sudans, including the very rare inverted varieties of 1m. and 5m. of the first issue.

Mr. Field has some bargains in scarce Caymans used.

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. offer rare Essays and Proofs, entire original sheets and Re-constructed Plates, particulars of which they will send in a leaflet entitled "Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers."

Mr. Appleton has a long list including Special Bargains in Papuan varieties, Cayman Provisionals, and Transvaals V.R.I.'s.

Mr. James Rhodes has his now popular list of good things in used and unused.

# Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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Bound copies of Vol. II, now ready, 6s. each; Vol. I., 10s. 6d. From Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street,

Manchester.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Answers to Correspondents.

C. M. J. (Hampstead). The watermark "O" instead of "C" on your Transvaal must be a margin letter of "Postage," for there is no such watermark as "OA." Unfortunately there are numbers of forgeries about of the first issue of the Sudan. You will note an article on Sudans in this number of *The Postage Stamp*. Your best

# BARGAINS BY POST.

Nice Used Copies of Scarce Stamps.

		s.	d.
Bulgaria.	1881, 5st ... ..	0	3
"	" 30st ... ..	0	5
"	1882, 5, 10, 15st, set ...	0	2
Barbados.	1892/9, 2d ... ..	0	4
"	" 5d ... ..	0	5
"	" 6d ... ..	0	6
"	" 10d... ..	0	6
"	1897, 2d... ..	0	3
"	" 5d ... ..	3	0
"	" 8d ... ..	2	6
"	" 2s. 6d. ... ..	7	6
St. Vincent.	1890/1, 2½d on 1d blue	0	4
Natal.	1874/8, 4d, perf. 12d, rare	7	6
New South Wales.	1881/4, "O.S." ...		
"	11×12, 1d, 2d ... ..	0	5
Victoria.	1857, emblems, 4d., imperf.	1	0
"	1897, 1d brown on rose ...	0	2
Chili.	1853, 5c blued, rare ...	7	6
Straits Settlements.			
"	1868, CC, 2c, cat. 9d ... ..	0	4
"	" 4c, cat. 2s ... ..	1	0
"	" 6c, cat. 2s ... ..	1	0
"	" 12c, cat. 1s ... ..	0	6
"	1883, CA, 2c brown, cat. 1s 6d	0	9
"	" 4c. rose, cat. 3s ... ..	1	6
"	1879, 10c on 6c lilac, cat. 2s	1	0

# J. H. SIMMONS,

2, Rokeby Road, Brockley, London.

## Collectors' Wants

## and Exchanges

At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

WANTED. Canal Zone, Gibbons' 714, mint, pairs, blocks. Rev. Monckton, Up-Holland, Wigan.

WANTED. Unused British Colonial Stamps mixed values; exchange equal value English. Horace Lewin, 70, Lewisham High Road, London, S.E.

HYSLOP, Clavering, Essex, wishes exchange stamps.

WANTED. Large or small collections. Underwood, 70, Drury Road, Harrow.

plan for protecting yourself from forgeries is to get a strip of the types from Gibbons, Peckitt, or Appleton, of the low value which will not cost you much, and then compare any others you get by your genuine strip. You will have to be very careful as forgeries are very plentiful.

J. P. N. (Gosport). Yes I have seen bisected Honduras, but they are of no consequence except on the envelope, and they are never catalogued. The 10c. must be due to bad printing.

J. M. (Hull). You may wisely omit the Pietersburg from Transvaals. They are rubbish. Although a specialist in Transvaals I do not include them.

R. C. J. (Preston). Criticisms are always welcome as well as congratulations, indeed they are frequently more valuable. So drive ahead.

# SPECIAL BARGAINS.

## PAPUA.

		s.	d.		s.	d.
6d, 1st Type, mint ...	2	0	block	8	0	
6d " used ...	3	0	"	12	0	
1/- " mint ...	2	0	"	8	0	
2½d, 2nd Type, wmk., wide, mint ...	1	0	"	4	0	
½d, 2nd Type, mint ...	0	4	"	1	3	
1d " " ...	0	3	"	1	0	
2d " " ...	0	6	"	2	0	
1/- " " ...	2	0	"	8	0	
2/6 " " ...	4	0	"	16	0	

Errors—Inverted "d"

1d in pairs, with normal ...	1	0
2d " " ...	2	6
4d " " ...	15	0
1/- " " ...	5	0
2/6 " " ...	12	0

Entire Sheets with all errors, ½d at 15/- 1d at 10/-, 2d at 15/-, 2½d wide at ...

We also offer one set of sheets containing 6d & 1/- 1st Type, and ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 1/-, 2/6 2nd Type, also 2½d wide rosettes, 9 ent. sheets, bargain

Tasmania, S.G. No. 7, unused pairs, cat. £30... £10

Queensland, 1d & 1/-, perf. 9½ × 12, S.G. 143 & 145, unused... £5

" 1/-, S.G. No. 10, cat. £10, mint... £4

Nepaul, *tte béche*, 1, 2, 4a, imperf... 30 0

" perforated ... 40 0

Chili, pos. due, S.G. 202 to 210, set, mint ... 25 0

" S.G. 217, 218, 219, 220 ... 16 0

" S.G. 221, 222, used, fine... 7 6

Penrhyn, 1d, no stop, S.G. 10, in block ... 5 0

S. Australia, £1, thin postage, mint ... 60 0

Mauritius, 6c on 18c, inverted, used, fine ... 60 0

Caymans, 5/-, mult., ord., mint ... 20 0

" id on 5/-, mint, 15/-, block... 60 0

" 2½d on 4d, mint ... £5

" 2½d on 4d, double surcharge, in pairs with normal, mint ... £15

B. Guiana, 60c, Single CA, mint ... 15 0

Brunei on Labuan, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 50c & \$1, mint... 20 0

Jhind, King, 3s, double surch., mint ... 20 0

Seychelles, 30 on 75c & 45 on 1r, mint, 1/6, block ... 6 0

Uruguay, set of 75 different only ... 20 0

## SCARCE TRANSVAAL.

5/- V.R.1., mint, cat. 30/- ... 12 6

2½d no stop after V, mint ... 15 0

4d " " ... 25 0

6d " " ... 20 0

1/- " " ... 21 0

2/6 " " rare ... 37 6

4d no stop after "I" ... 4 0

1d " " ... 2 6

3d " " ... 15 0

6d no stop after R ... 21 0

G. Britain Compound Envelopes, set of 17 different, Queen's, unused, bargain ... £2

## HONG KONG.

1879, 5c on 18c, S.G. 252, cat. 7/6, a really scarce stamp, mint ... 3 9

Pahang, 4c on 5c, S.G. 27, cat. £1, mint ... 5 0

" 2c on half of 3c, S.G. 16, cat. £6, mint ... 50 0

" 3c ditto, S.G. 17, cat. £6, mint ... 50 0

" cat. 30/-, used ... 15 0

" pair 2c & 3c, cat. £5, used ... 30 0

Perak, \$25, unused, fine ... 65 0

Selangor, \$25, mint ... 65 0

Fed. Malay States on N. Sembilan, 1c, mint, 2d, 3c at 3d, block 1/-, 5c, mint, 10/-, 10c at 1/2, 50c, mint ... 8 0

Approval Books or Sheets of any class of stamps sent on receipt of references.

Ask for specimen of "Appleton's Weekly."

T. C. Appleton, Ben Rhydding.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

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*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Abyssinia.



AS the postal issues of Abyssinia are likely to attract considerable attention during the next few months consequent on the projected new issue and the entry of the country into the Postal Union, I make no excuse for quoting the following interesting note from the *Exchange and Mart*, 28 10.08:—"The series with the head of the Emperor Menelik II.

and the lion have been issued plain and with various overprints for some fourteen years, and it appears to be doubtful if they were used for any postal purpose for some time after their appearance. Large quantities post-marked in sheets were from time to time placed on the market. These had probably never been further afield than Paris, where they were printed. Genuinely used copies are scarce, and probably always will be, as the Abyssinian posts were exceedingly limited. A scandal was caused some years ago by large quantities being either stolen from the printers in Paris or printed by unauthorised persons, and they were sold both here and abroad at very low rates much under face value."

**Date of First Used Copies.**

The first issue of Abyssinia was made in 1894, and it would be interesting to have some record of the earliest genuinely used stamps from specimens preserved on the envelopes.

Although I have for years made a practice of securing Abyssinian Stamps on their envelopes, I regret to say that none of mine go back further than 1896.

**Stamps on Envelopes.**

And here I may emphasise the great importance of preserving stamps on envelopes in all cases, as this of Abyssinia, in which they provide desirable evidence of use at an early date, or of use in the case of the questioned issue of any stamp.

**Penny Postage Development.**

Reuter's announce that the United States Postmaster-General has cabled to Sir Joseph Ward, the Premier and Postmaster-General of New Zealand, that the United States intends to reciprocate the establishment of penny postage from New Zealand to the United States, and will introduce the penny rate on letters from the United States to New Zealand.

**The New Colour Scheme.**

My friends will do well to study the particulars of the new colour scheme which in future is to regulate the printing of the De La Rue British Colonial supplies of postage stamps.

I gave the details of this scheme last week and my collecting friends should cut it out and keep it for reference.

Our New Issue pages chronicle from time to time the adoption of the scheme, but the wise will see to it that they have all the stamps of their favourite countries that will be effected by the proposed changes.

Do not wait to see it announced that your country has adopted the scheme, for you may take it for granted that all the De La Rue printed Colonials will, sooner or later, all fall into line over this business, and if you are dilatory you may find that some now common stamp has been changed and left the dealers without stock.

**How Stocks are Manipulated.**

It is by no means an unusual thing for a common stamp to become obsolete and scarce in the selfsame week.

Some change throws it out of issue. The pending change has perhaps been overlooked, then there is an overhauling of stocks, followed by inquiries. Any suspicion of scarcity results in shrewd dealers buying up all to be had. The denuded market is then at the mercy of the holders, prices are put up accordingly, and collectors find themselves compelled to pay double or treble the old price for what was a very common stamp.

**Blocks of Four.**

In some cases blocks of four, so much the fashion of the day, have been practically unobtainable within a few days of some stamps becoming obsolete.

In fact there are numbers of the very common stamps of which it is most difficult to get blocks of four.

### Crete Stamps overprinted "Greece."

All the stamps of Crete were on 18.10.08 overprinted with the word "Greece" in Greek. Such is the surprising news which I have just had from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. These overprinted stamps they tell me are to remain in use until the fate of Crete is finally decided. Evidently the Greeks take it for granted that the decision must be in favour of their annexation, for I am further informed that the whole business is so far out and dried that Greek stamps are to supersede these overprints as soon as annexation is accepted by the powers.

### Clipperton Island.

Stamp collectors will remember that some years ago there was an attempt to foist on the market a bogus issue of stamps for Clipperton Island. Exposure fortunately followed too closely on the heels of the proposed enterprise.

In this connection the latest news concerning the island which was to have been exploited, come from *The Times'* Paris correspondent, 21.10.08. He writes:—"Clipperton Island, which lies in the Pacific Ocean some distance off the coast of Guatemala, and which since its discovery in 1845 by a French naval officer, has been shown, at all events on French maps, as belonging to France, has recently been occupied by Mexicans who seem to have been attracted thither by the presence of a deposit of phosphates. This exploit is attracting a certain amount of attention in the French Press under the heading "Theft of an Island." It appears that France has for some years past shown little interest in the island, but that now a French Company has undertaken to work the phosphates and has appealed to the Government to assert French rights. It is stated that Mexico has made no reply to the formal claims put forward by this country and that there is at present an idea of submitting the affair for arbitration to the King of Italy."

### Stamp Designing.

Italy seems inclined to persevere in her attempts to produce some novelties in stamp designs of a more ambitious character than the ordinary run of postal labels.

The series projected for Italy had to be modified on the score of expense.

Now a pictorial series of ten stamps is in course of preparation for the Italian colony of Eritrea. The designs are said to have been done from photographs and include a view of the Governor's Palace, camel and palm trees, warrior with shield, etc.

### The Philatelic Club.

I have received a communication concerning the proceedings at the meeting called to consider the question of the formation of a philatelic club, but, strange to say, it is marked "not for publication." I am, therefore, debarred from saying much about the matter.

Why a report of the proceedings should be marked "not for publication," when everything is to be gained by public ventilation of the question, the lord only knows.

But I may venture one remark as to site. A philatelic club may just as well be located in the moon as anywhere out of the Strand. In or near the Strand, in the neighbourhood of the great dealers it stands the best chance of attracting a following. Away from the Strand, it will simply be a counter attraction, and I will back the dealers and their stock books.

Stamp collectors foregather daily in great numbers in the Strand and during their rounds would probably be glad of an adjoining club, and the dealers would find it convenient to drop in, but a bus or cab ride to some other part would be fatal—in my opinion.

An expensive club in the West End, after West End style will be a gorgeous failure.

A modest, reasonable subscription club, might be made a success, and might grow into an international rendezvous in time.

But it all depends on the site and the subscription.

### Welti's New Swiss Stamp.

Mr. T. W. Bates very kindly sends me the following extract from *Feuille d'avis de Vevey*, of 26.10.08:—"At last the artist Welti has finished his corrections. The Post Office is now in possession of his final design. It is expected that the new plates, obtained, as in the case of the new stamp of 40c. by photographic process, will be finished at the end of the month, and that next month the printing of the new stamps of 2c. 3c. and 5c. can be begun. They will be put into circulation as soon as the present stock is exhausted, probably at the beginning of next year.

"Welti's retouchings are rather important, and his stamp has taken a much better appearance. The little Tell has hardly been changed, but he is at any rate what the artist wanted, and not as altered by a Berlin engraver. He stands out with great clearness on a ground of uniform colour, similar to the new French stamps. The little Tell stands on a kind of pedestal.

"The value is shown once only, by an artistic figure, which stands out in white on the left side of the stamp."

### New United States Issue.

The American newspapers publish an official announcement of a new issue of postage stamps for the United States.

This is a philatelic bombshell of the first order, for not a word has apparently been allowed to leak out that a new issue was even in contemplation.

Further, this new issue is to break away from all precedent in the matter of designs. Hitherto the stamps of the United States have been celebrated for their splendid portraits of the Presidents, but this new issue is, with the exception of one portrait of Benjamin Franklin, to have only a portrait of Washington.

What is the mystery and meaning of this new issue? It will surely raise a considerable dust in the great Republic. I fancy the Postmaster-General will have a bad time of it for a while.

### Query: For Collectors.

One American newspaper is unkind enough to suggest that the issue is made for collectors, and seeing that the Colombian issue was deliberately made for collectors, one cannot say that the government of the great Republic is above such tricks.

### A Possible Explanation.

Personally, I believe the explanation will eventually be found in some cheeseparing policy of reducing the cost of production. The printing from steel plates is most expensive, and I shall not be at all surprised to learn that the Bureau of Printing and Engraving has recommended this new issue to reduce the cost.

### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use, they can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.



# Thurn and Taxis

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## History of the Monopoly.

THE postal issues of the various States of Germany are rich in historical interest, for they mark the growth of the German Empire. First come the stamps of Thurn and Taxis, a princely house which at one time held a monopoly of the whole postal service of Germany; then there were the stamps of the North German Confederation, which in turn were superseded by the stamps of the German Empire. Besides these there are the stamps of the separate States in the days of their independence.

Probably the most puzzling of the German stamps to the novice are those of Thurn and Taxis. The boy who looks in his gazetteer or encyclopædia for the State or Kingdom of Thurn and Taxis will look in vain, for there is no such state in existence, nor has there ever been such a country. And I do not know where, outside of our philatelic publications, a solution of the puzzle can be found. I, therefore, make no excuse for extracting the following interesting account of the Thurn and Taxis postal monopoly from the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of 1863.

"Thurn and Taxis was formerly an independent house in Germany, originally from Milanese territory. The oldest authentic ancestor of the family is considered to be Martino della Torre, Lord of Valsassina, who accompanied the Emperor Conrad I. in his crusade, and died a prisoner of the Saracens in 1147. Since 1259, eight della Torres were, one after the other, lords of Milan, until Guido the rich perished in a feud with the Visconti family. Martino della Torre was one of the popular leaders, and appointed *anziano* or elder of the people of Milan. Such was his power that he sequestered the property of the see, and forbade the archbishop elect to appear at Milan; for which he was excommunicated by the Pope. His successors continued to enjoy the popular favour for some time, until one of them was suspected of aspiring to sovereign power, and Ottoni Visconti, the Archbishop seized the opportunity for striking a decisive blow. A combat ensued in which the Torriani were defeated, and Visconti entered Milan a perpetual lord. So much for Thurn or Torre. One of the sons of Guido the Rich, Lamoral I., settled in the Territory of Bergamo, and took from the mountain Tasso (one of his possessions there) the name del Tasso, and afterwards de Tassis. His great grandson inherited the possessions of his predecessors, united their titles, and was known as Roger I., of Thurn and Taxis. This personage was knighted by the Emperor Frederick III., in 1450, and founded the fame of his house by the establishment of a post in Tyrol. The Emperor Leopold I. granted to Count Engen Franz von Thurn und Taxis the dignity of Prince of the Empire. The grandson of the latter obtained the office of Imperial-General Hereditary Post Master, held in fee from the Empire. As restitution for the loss of the post in the Austrian Netherlands and on the left bank of the Rhine, the Thurn and Taxis family received, in 1803, other lordships. In 1819 it received from Prussia three domains in the province of Posen, which, with the family possessions in Wurtemberg, Bavaria, Bohemia, &c., comprised more than thirty-four and a half square miles, with about one hundred thousand inhabitants, and a revenue of eight hundred thousand florins.

"The first trace of a German post is in the latter half of the fifteenth century, when Roger I., Count of Thurn and Taxis established a Tyrol post. At the request of Maximilian I. in 1516, Roger's son formed a post from Brussels to Vienna. In 1522, on account of the war with the Turks, an imperial post was established from Nuremberg to Vienna, which ceased on the return of peace. On this, Charles V ordered Leouhard, Count of Thurn and Taxis, to establish a permanent post, which went from the Netherlands through Treves, Spire, &c. to Wurtemberg, Augsburg, and Tyrol, to Italy. In 1548 he created the Count Oberpostmeister of the German Empire. About the end of the sixteenth century the Thurn and Taxis post, shaken by disturbances in the Netherlands and oppressed by debt, fell into disuse, but rose again under the favour of Emperor Rudolph II. But the Palatinate, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Brandenburg, Mecklenberg, and other States of the Empire, formerly included under Thurn and Taxis, had in the meantime established posts in their own states, and refused to recognise the validity of the office. Upon this, Lamoral, Count of Thurn and Taxis, was raised to the rank of Baron of the Empire, and received the imperial post in fee for himself and male heirs, which was subsequently extended to his female descendants. Various states have at times shaken off or purchased the monopoly; thus Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, Hanover, Saxony, Baden, Oldenburg, Luxemburg, etc., have now their own postal arrangements. But the Thurn and Taxis family still possesses as a fief of the empire, the posts in Nassau, Saxe Weimar, Schwarzburg, Rudolstadt, etc. In the free cities of Hamburg, Lubeck and Bremen, they possess some of the posts; but the general direction of the Thurn and Taxis office has had its seat, since 1811, at Frankfort-on-the-Main, where the Thurn and Taxis posts are exclusively used."

A few years ago the Thurn and Taxis family sold its postal rights to the State for a sum of one million sterling, retaining the right for individual members of the house. But it recently interpreted its retained rights so liberally as to forward by mail, free of charge, such little items as waggon-loads of free-stone to Munich to build a house. This was a bit too much for the authorities of the State, and eventually resulted in the Government depriving the Thurn and Taxis family of the last shred of its ancient privileges.

## Its Philatelic History.

The Thurn and Taxis family in its working of the monopoly of the posts comes into philatelic notice in January, 1852, when its monopoly extended only to certain States in Northern and Southern Germany. Two sets of stamps were rendered necessary as the currency in Northern Germany was in silbergroschen and in Southern Germany in florins and kreuzers. The Thurn and Taxis postal service was managed from a central office in Frankfurt, and lasted until July 1, 1867, when its postal monopoly was ceded to Prussia, in return for a money payment of £450,000. Mr. Westoby tells us that the whole of the stock of the Thurn and Taxis stamps remaining unsold was subsequently sold, hence the reason why the later issues of each district can be had for a few pence.

Northern District.

**1852-8.** Six values. Design: large figures of value within a square frame, printed in black on coloured paper, and issued imperforated.

Unused copies of this issue are amongst the rarities of Germany, but, fortunately for the general collector, used copies are still to be had for a few pence each, but even so nice copies are not very common.



*Imperforate.*

	s. d.	Unused.	s. d.	Used.
½ sgr. black on red brown paper	25 0		1 6	
½ sgr. black on flesh paper	5 0		5 0	
½ sgr. black on green paper	80 0		0 6	
1 sgr. black on blue paper	175 0		1 6	
2 sgr. black on rose paper	140 0		0 8	
3 sgr. black on yellow paper	90 0		0 6	

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

It will be noted that in common with most stamps those of Thurn and Taxis participated in the inflated prices of 1897-9. The advance was well maintained until 1902, after which there was a considerable drop in some of the values, due to the then prevailing commercial depression in Germany, but in 1906 prices recovered and in some cases were doubled. As Europeans are now in the ascendant on the Continent, prices are not likely to decrease.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½ sgr.	12 6	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
¼ sgr.	8 6	5 0	4 6	4 6	5 0	5 0
½ sgr.	15 0	—	80 0	60 0	80 0	80 0
1 sgr.	50 0	100 0	100 0	60 0	175 0	175 0
2 sgr.	50 0	70 0	70 0	70 0	140 0	140 0
3 sgr.	25 0	50 0	60 0	40 0	90 0	90 0

**1859-60.** Five Values. Design, the same as for the preceding issue but with a separate design added for two high values. The use of coloured papers was abandoned and the different values were distinguished by different coloured inks on white paper. As before these stamps were issued imperforated.

*Imperforate.*

	Unused	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
½ sgr. pale red	6 0	1 0
½ sgr. blue green	35 0	1 6
1 sgr. pale blue	40 0	0 8
2 sgr. rose	6 0	2 6
3 sgr. brown red	15 0	0 10



5 sgr. mauve	-	-	-	0 3 8 0
10 sgr. orange	-	-	-	0 4 25 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

In this issue the jump in prices came after 1899. The ½ and 1 sgr. have been the sporting items in the list, the ½ sgr. in particular having fluctuated considerably.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½ sgr.	2 6	5 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	6 0
¼ sgr.	7 6	15 0	20 0	20 0	35 0	35 0
1 sgr.	6 0	20 0	40 0	35 0	50 0	40 0
2 sgr.	3 6	5 6	6 0	6 0	6 0	6 0
3 sgr.	4 6	12 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
5 sgr.	0 6	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
10 sgr.	0 9	0 9	0 6	0 6	0 4	0 4

**1862-4.** Six values. Design: as in the first type, but with the colours changed to secure more uniformity with the colours of the stamps used in the various States composing the German-Austrian Postal Union. The stamps of this series were first issued imperforated, then they were rouletted, i.e., a fine line by a printed dotted rule, made of brass was used, which produced on the stamps what, for want of a better description, is technically termed by stamp catalogues "rouletting in coloured lines." The cut, or rouletting, was made along the dotted or coloured line by raising the dotted rule slightly above the level of the stamp blocks, so that this dotted line when printed was more deeply impressed into the paper.

*Imperforate.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ sgr. black	1 0	1 6
½ sgr. yellow green	1 3	4 0
½ sgr. orange	7 6	0 6
1 sgr. pale rose	10 0	0 6
2 sgr. blue	2 0	2 0
3 sgr. bistre	0 9	1 0

*Rouletted.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ sgr. black	0 2	8 0
½ sgr. green	0 4	4 0
½ sgr. orange	1 0	1 6
1 sgr. rose	0 2	0 8
2 sgr. blue	0 1	2 0
3 sgr. bistre	0 4	0 9

Southern District.

**1852-8.** Four values. Design: a large central numeral of value on an engine-turned ground (the pattern of which was varied in each value), within a circular band. In each corner the numeral of value was repeated. The stamps were printed in black on coloured paper by C. Nauman, at Frankfurt, and were issued imperforated. As in the case of the first issue of the Northern District, unused copies are very great rarities, but used copies are even cheaper than those of the northern set. They are, indeed, a very encouraging illustration of the fact that many of the finest old issues may still be had for a few pence. The values were expressed in kreuzers.



*Imperforate.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr. black on pale green	7 6	0 4
3 kr. black on blue	160 0	0 3
6 kr. black on rose	150 0	0 4
9 kr. yellow	80 0	0 4

**Range of Catalogue Prices : Unused.**

The feature of the following comparative table of catalogue prices will be seen to be the notable increase in price which took place in 1906, the prices of 1904 being about doubled. The contributing cause was the depletion of the London stocks by Continental buyers.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr.	5 0	6 6	6 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
3 kr.	40 0	60 0	60 0	50 0	120 0	160 0
6 kr.	17 6	50 0	60 0	60 0	100 0	150 0
9 kr.	16 0	45 0	50 0	40 0	80 0	80 0

**1859.** Six Values. Design as in the last issue, but a new design for two new high values, and printed in colour on white paper, instead of in black on coloured paper. Imperforate.

*Imperforate.*

	Unused	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr. blue green	6 0	0 2
3 kr. pale blue	75 0	0 4
6 kr. rose	75 0	3 0
9 kr. yellow	80 0	2 0



15 kr. mauve	0 3	2 6
50 kr. orange	0 4	12 6

**Range of Catalogue Values : Unused.**

All the values of this series show a steady rise with scarcely a set back, the rise in the case of the 6kr. from 10s. in 1896 to 75s. in 1906 is remarkable.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr.	1 0	7 6	6 6	6 6	6 0	6 0
3 kr.	25 0	50 0	50 0	60 0	75 0	75 0
6 kr.	10 0	30 0	40 0	40 0	75 0	75 0
9 kr.	40 0	70 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
15 kr.	0 4	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
30 kr.	0 6	0 6	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4

**1862.** Four values. Design: as in the last issue, but the colours changed to conform to the colour scheme of the other States in German-Austrian Postal Union. Three values, 3 kr., 6 kr. and 9 kr., were first issued imperforated, but all, including the 1 kr., were subsequently issued rouletted in coloured lines as explained in the corresponding issue of the Northern District.

*Imperforate.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 kr. pale rose	6 0	0 2
6 kr. blue	0 9	0 5
9 kr. bistre	1 0	0 3

*Rouletted.*

1 kr. pale green	0 1	0 6
3 kr. rose	0 1	0 9
6 kr. blue	0 2	2 0
9 kr. bistre	0 4	2 0

**General Remarks.**

A note in Gibbons Catalogue says, "separate issues ceased on the 1st July, 1867, when the above postal monopoly was ceded to Prussia. At that time Prussia had only an issue in Silber Groschen; the 1867 issue of Prussia was, therefore, created for use in the South District, formerly served by the Thurn and Taxis administration."

**Bibliography.**

Very little seems to have been written about the stamps of Thurn and Taxis in our English stamp journals, but see

The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Vol. 13, pages 130 and 150.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, Vol 1 and Vol 8, p. 14, dealt with forgeries of the stamps, but for an excellent history of the issues see

The *Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe* by W. A. S. Westoby, published by L. Upcott Gill, London.

**Examination of Stamps.**

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells."

**Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."**

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

**The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.**

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Our Philatelic Societies

BY A PRESIDENT

The Royal Philatelic Society



SIR D. COOPER, BART., K.C.M.G.,  
The First President of the Philatelic Society.

IN November, 1906, the Philatelic Society of London received an official intimation that his Majesty, King Edward VII., had signified his pleasure that the Society should in future be styled "The Royal Philatelic Society, London."

This well-deserved honour crowned a consistent life of thirty-seven years, and emphasises the fact that this premier association of stamp collectors can boast of a practically unbroken series of meetings since its foundation in 1869.

It began in a very simple and unpretentious way with a meeting, on Saturday, April 10th, 1869, of a few of the well-known philatelists of that day, at 93, Great Russell Street, London. Sir Daniel Cooper occupied the chair, and the Philatelic Society, London, was duly started with the following set of rules as a pronouncement of its objects and an expression of its hopes:—

(1) That the Society shall be called "The Philatelic Society, London."

(2) That the objects of the Society be to collect all possible information respecting stamps; the prevention of forgeries; the facilitating and spreading of Philately; and the facilitating the acquisition and exchange of stamps among members.

(3) That all amateurs be eligible for election as members of the Society.

(4) The mode of election is to be as follows: candidates for admission to be proposed in writing by a member, and elected by ballot by majority of votes.

(5) The annual subscription to be 6s. to be paid in

advance on being admitted a member of the Society, and annually on December 1st.

(5) The business of the Society to be conducted by a Committee composed of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and five other members. Three members to constitute a quorum.

(7) The election of the Committee of Direction to take place by ballot at the annual meeting of the Society, to be held on the first Saturday in May.

(8) A monthly meeting to be held at 3 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month, at such place in London as the Committee may appoint.

(9) The Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Society.

(10) The funds of the Society to be in the hands of the Treasurer, who is to present the balance sheet of the Society to the Committee in time that it may be audited and laid before the Society at the annual general meeting in the month of May.

Sir Daniel Cooper was appointed first President. Of the officers elected at that first meeting in 1869, the President died at the age of 81 in 1902, and Dr. C. W. Viner at the age of 94 in 1906, a collector to the last. Judge F. A. Philbrick is still in harness as a County Court Judge.

For many years the Society was confined to a small coterie meeting at each other's houses, or chambers, till in 1866 a room was engaged in the Salisbury Hotel, Salisbury Square, E.C. In 1892 a more pretentious move was made to a fine suite of rooms in Effingham House, Arundel Street, W.C., in the hope that the members would make the new home a sort of Club rendezvous. As the idea did not seem to command itself to the members, the expensive rooms were given up and the present room in Southampton Row was engaged for the fortnightly meetings only, and there the Society continues its work. From 1869 the Society has held a practically unbroken series of meetings through each winter.

It has had a distinguished roll of Presidents: Sir Daniel Cooper filled the chair from 1869 to 1878, Judge Philbrick from 1878 to 1890, the Duke of Edinburgh from 1890 to 1892, the Earl of Kingston from 1892 to 1896, while his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the present acting President, was elected in 1896. Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P., who left his great collection to the nation, to be housed at the British Museum, filled the post of Vice-President from 1881 till his death in 1891. More than any other member of the Society he raised the standard of its work, and personally directed it along lines of more thorough scientific and historical research. For ten years he was the life and soul of the Society, and when he died, in the heyday of his manhood, some of the members feared, in their despondency, that the Society would come to an end; but it struggled on.

In the hush of our grief we overlooked the old fact that individuals come and go, whilst the causes which they espouse, or bring into being, live on.

And so it has been with Tapling. He has crossed the bar, but his influence is ever with us. His work and his memory stand for the high watermark of all that is best in the pursuit to which we were bound by one common tie.

*To be continued.*

# United States: New Issue

The following announcement of a new issue is made by the *New York Herald* (12M.10.08):—

## NEW STAMP ISSUE.

Design Suggested by Postmaster-General Meyer is Completed and is Considered Artistic.

"Twos" will be Out First.

They bear the Head of Washington and, like other denominations, show little lettering.

Washington, D.C., Sunday.—The Bureau of Engraving and Printing has completed designs suggested by Postmaster-General Meyer for a new issue of United States postage stamps. The new stamps will be of the following denominations:—One cent., two cent., three cent., four cent., five cent., six cent., eight cent., ten cent., fifteen cent., fifty cent., and one dollar. The two dollar and five dollar denominations now in use will not be reprinted. It will be some weeks before all the denominations will be put on the market. However, the two cent. stamp will be the first distributed and it is expected that shipments to postmasters will commence some time in November.

The new issue has been designed with the object of obtaining the greatest simplicity commensurate with artistic results. The profile has been taken in each instance instead of a full view, giving a bas-relief effect. All the stamps are of a similar design, containing a head in an ellipse, the only decoration being laurel leaves on either side of the ellipse. The lettering is in straight lines, at the top being "United States Postage," and at

the bottom the words "Two Cents." The one cent. stamp bears the head of Franklin, while all the others will be that of Washington, taken from busts by Houdou.

Thus one of the most notable differences in the new issue will be the minimum of lettering. The colours are the reds and blues of the early stamps.

Director Ralph, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, regards the new stamps as the most artistic ever issued by the government.

The *Providence Journal* (13T.10.08) comments thusly  
ANOTHER ISSUE OF STAMPS.

Why there should be a new issue of United States stamps the Post Office Department does not inform the public in the dispatch from Washington which announces that another series is to be put into circulation next month. It seems as if the old series were good enough, but the new stamps, we are told, are to unite simplicity and artistic effect. There are to be profile views of the dignitaries selected for immortalization, and these are to be shown in laurel-bordered ellipses. Franklin's face is to adorn the one cent. issue and all the others are to bear that of Washington. Just why the rest of the philatelic galaxy of great and glorious Americans are to be abandoned is an interesting question. If it is desired to increase the fame of the Father of his Country to this extent, why is the one exception made in favour of Benjamin Franklin? And whence comes the pressure for new stamps anyway? Is this latest issue a bold bid for the stamp collectors' vote?

—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 55).

**H.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used upon the correspondence of the Hospital authorities. They were suppressed in 1874 in favour of the general official stamps surcharged "O.S."

**H.A.**—An overprint found upon certain stamps of South Australia used prior to 1874 upon the official correspondence of the House of Assembly. They were superseded in 1874 by the general "O.S." issues.

**Habilitado.**—A Spanish word meaning "authorised" or "qualified." It may frequently be met with surcharged upon the stamps of Spanish-speaking countries to denote obsolete stamps that have again been brought into use, or a change in the value or use of certain stamps.

**Habilitado por la Junta Revolucionaria.**—An overprint found upon two Spanish stamps used in Llanes in Asturias after the revolution in Madrid in September, 1868. It means "Authorised by the Revolutionary Assembly."

**Habilitado por la Nacion.**—An overprint found in many forms upon various stamps of Spain and her col-

onies after the Madrid revolution of 1868. It means "Authorised by the Nation," the overprints being applied by the order of the Provisional Revolutionary Assembly.

**Hair Lines.**—A term employed to describe certain varieties of British stamps. These are small white lines drawn across the exterior angles of the 4d., 6d. and 9d. stamps of the 1862 issue and they were introduced into the design to distinguish the impressions from certain plates of those stamps. They really, therefore, take the place of plate numbers.

The term is also used to describe fine coloured lines sometimes found upon stamps. These lines are due to some accidental cause such as a hair adhering to the plate or getting in the ink during the process of printing, or, as in the case of the early line-engraved stamps of our own country, to the fact that the "guide-lines" had not been erased before the impressions from the die were applied to the plate.

**Haiti.**—The local rendering of Hayti as shown upon the postage stamps of that country.

**Ham, Thos.**—The engraver of the first 1d., 2d. and 3d. stamps for the Colony of Victoria.

**Hamburg.**—The most important seaport on the continent of Europe, and the second largest city of the German Empire. It has a population of about three-quarters of a million. The city seems to have been originally founded early in the 9th century and was for a time subject to frequent burnings and pillagings from Northmen, Danes and Slavs. Towards the end of the 12th century it began to be frequented as a trade centre, and in the middle of the following century it was united with Lubeck and Bremen in the formation of the Hanseatic League. Another impulse was imparted to its commercial importance in 1619 when the Bank of Hamburg was founded, and about this time numerous English merchant adventurers and Jews expelled from Spain and Portugal settled in the town. In 1806 Hamburg was occupied by the French and during 1813-14 was very harshly treated by the French General, Davout. It is also the capital of the independent state of Hamburg, which has an area of 160 square miles and a population of about 770,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1859 and they were suppressed on January 1st, 1868, when Hamburg joined the North German Confederation.

**Hamilton Bank Note Co.**—A New York firm of engravers and printers who have produced many of the stamps for several South and Central American Republics. All the stamps of Salvador from 1890 to 1898 produced under the "Seebeck" contract were manufactured by this firm.

**Handstamped.**—A philatelic expression to distinguish surcharges applied by means of a hand stamp, as opposed to those printed from type in a printing press. All the "native" surcharges on the stamps of Hong Kong serve as examples of hand stamped overprints. These were all struck by hand one at a time—a method that is not only tedious but also somewhat productive of errors.

**Hannover.**—The Teutonic rendering of "Hanover" as shown upon all the stamps of that German State.

**Hanover.**—One of the 13 provinces forming the Kingdom of Prussia. It stretches from Holland eastwards to the Elbe and from the North Sea to Hesse Nassau on the south, its total area being 14,865 square miles, while its population numbers over 2½ millions. Between 1714 and 1837 the Electors of Hanover sat on the English throne, but on the death of King William IV. the Salic law prevented the crown passing to Queen Victoria and the Hanoverian succession passed to Ernest, Duke of Cumberland. In 1851 he was succeeded by his son who took the title of George V. In 1866 George V. waged war with Prussia and was defeated and driven from his throne, and from that date Hanover has been a Prussian province. Postage stamps were first issued in 1850 and the separate stamps were superseded by those of Prussia on the annexation of Hanover to that Kingdom in 1866.

**Harper.**—One of the thirteen ports in the "enlightened" negro republic of Liberia at which foreigners are allowed to trade. It is also one of the five towns which has its own special registration stamps, for its name is engraved on all the 10c. labels used in payment of the registration fee.

**Harris, R.**—A printer of Launceston, Tasmania, who perforated some of the stamps in the period 1864-69. These may be distinguished from the stamps perforated by Messrs. J. Walsh & Sons at the same time by the gauge which is 12½, 13, instead of 10 or 11½ to 12.

*To be continued.*

### Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

## Correspondence

U.S.A. Navy: Error, 2c. green, faked perforations.

*To the Editor, The Postage Stamp*

We wish to call your attention, and that of the philatelic public, to the fact that fraudulently perforated copies of the United States 2c. green Navy error are on the market, and have recently been advertised and offered at prices ridiculously low, compared with the value of the genuine. It appears that some of the well-known imperforate greens have been perforated and sold as the genuine regular error. These imperforates have sold in recent years, as "space-fillers" for the perforated stamp, at around \$10 each, which appears to be about their actual market value.

Noticing, recently, that fine copies of the perforated Navy error were being offered at \$32.50 each, which we ourselves would be glad to pay for a fine specimen, and knowing that the really fine copies (as well as practically all the others) of our original lot had long since been absorbed into collections, and believing the same to be true of the lot afterward discovered by Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs in Washington, and knowing, also, that the lot of imperforates existed, we began investigation of the matter.

As a result, the vendor who advertised these stamps has admitted to us that his copies were perforated by a

well-known stamp repairer, located in New York since his return here from Paris.

When taxed with the matter, the party who offered these stamps gave us the excuse that he understood that most of those on the market had been produced by perforating imperforates, and to us his contention seemed to be that, as long as others were making "easy" money in this way, he did not see why he should not get his share of the plunder. It is to this intimation, that other dealers also have been quietly selling these fakes, that we wish to draw additional attention.

We are acquainted with the characteristics of the imperforates, are able to pronounce upon them, and shall be glad to examine and give our opinion, free of charge, upon any 2c. green Navy errors purchased by collectors within the past few years, which are sent us for examination. We request that all stamps sent us for examination be marked on the back by the owner for identification, in order that there may be no question as to our returning the same stamps.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.,

F. PUTNEY, JR., Mgr.

18, East 23rd Street, New York.

October 9, 1908.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 56).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that there are two types of the recently issued 1 piastre provisional. One has the surcharge in a pale faded blue with the letters rather blurred, and in the other the impression is clearer and the ink employed in bright ultramarine. Our correspondents inform us that "piastre" is practically the same as "guerche," and that the surcharge was necessary owing to the fact that the entire supply of 1 guerche stamps was exhausted, and there were not sufficient of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  guerche stamps to use in their place. This is the only provisional and the 7,000 overprinted were distributed amongst all the Post Offices in Abyssinia. Messrs. King & Co further state "Our correspondents' letter is dated September 17th, and he states that the few stamps of the 1 piastre sent us were all that were left, and that there were remaining in stock no stamps of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1 or 2 guerches of any issue, surcharged or unsurcharged. In consequence of this shortage the Postage Due stamps overprinted 'TAKE A PERCEVOIR' were allowed to be used as ordinary postage stamps, and our consignment was franked with some of these stamps."

Our Ipswich friends tell us that Abyssinia enters the Postal Union on November 1st, and on that date there will be a complete new issue, all the stamps of which will have the values engraved in piastres. On the same date all the stock in hand of the obsolete stamps will be burnt.



Provisional. No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13.  
Surcharged in (a) pale blue; (b) bright ultramarine.

	s.	d.
1 pia. on lg. red (a) ...	2	0
1 pia. on lg. .. (b) ...	2	0

**Argentine Republic.**—(Vol. II. p. 284).—According to the *Monthly Circular* the postal authorities themselves admit that the new stamps with portrait of San Martin are deplorably ugly, but they represent the best work the Mint is capable of. The series was introduced from motives of economy for they cost only 23 centavos per 1,000 as against 60c. per 1,000 for their predecessors.

**Austria.**—(Vol. I. p. 181).—To the perforation enthusiast the 1890-1 issues of this country should be a never-failing source of satisfaction for discoveries of new varieties are always probable. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records no less than four new varieties with compound perforations, viz.: 1kr. slate, 20kr. olive, 1g. lilac, with perf. compound of 10, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 11, 12, and the 3kr. green with perf. compound of 11, 12 and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 13.

**Colombia.**—We learn from several sources that new  $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 2c. and 5c. stamps have been issued here. They are very similar in design to the 1904 set, but are a little larger and instead of the imprint "LIT. J. N. ARANGO—MEDELLIN, COL." at the foot the words "LIT. NACIONAL"

are shown. This is the imprint of the Litografía Nacional, Bogota—the Government Printing Works. They may be found perf. 10 and 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ , singly and compound. Other values will be issued as soon as existing stocks are used up.

No wmk. Perf. 10 or 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  on compound.

4c. orange.
2c. rose.
5c. blue.

**Crete.**—(Vol. II. p. 151).—As was only to be expected recent events in the Near East are not to be allowed to pass without leaving their mark on philately. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that on the 18th October all the Crotan stamps in stock were surcharged *Ellas* (Greece) in Greek capitals, in black, the overprint being so adjusted as to cover the word "KPHTH" (Crete) on the stamps. We are told that these surcharged stamps are to remain in use until the union of Crete with Greece is finally accomplished, when they will be withdrawn and ordinary Greek stamps will be used in the island. We hope to be able to illustrate the surcharge in our next number.

**Danish West Indies.**—(Vol. II. p. 273).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that two more values—40 and 50 bit.—have been issued in the new design. The list of values issued to date is thus as follows:—



Wmk. Crown. Perf. 13.

	s.	d.
5 bit. green	0	1
10 ,, carmine	0	2
20 ,, green and blue	0	4
25 ,, blue	0	5
40 ,, vermilion and grey	0	7
50 ,, yellow	0	9

**Ecuador.**—(Vol. II. p. 286).—The *Monthly Circular* gives some interesting details regarding the gentleman depicted on the triangular stamps issued on June 25th to commemorate the opening of the Quito Railway. Alfaro, shown on the 5c., is the ruling President under whom the railway works have been successfully concluded; Agelardo Mongayo, on the 10c., is the Minister of Public Works; Archer Harman, on the 20c., is the contractor of the railway; and James Sivewright, on the 50c., is the capitalist partner of the concessionary undertaking.

**New Caledonia.**—(Vol. II p. 237) *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* announces the discovery of a specimen of the 10c., black on lilac, of the Jubilee issue with two impressions of the surcharge, one in black and the other in gold! Next, please!

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has been shown the 2s. value with mixed perfs., so that the complete list of stamps of the current set known in this condition is as follows:—

*Wmk. N.Z. and Star. Mixed perms. (11 & 14).*

- 1d. green.
- 1d. carmine
- 4d. brown and blue.
- 2s. green.
- 5s. vermilion.

**Orange River Colony.** (Vol. III. p. 33).—Mr. Oswald Marsh has shown us a new variety of the 1d. V.R.I. stamp of the first printing with level stops. This has the first stop close to the front of the "R" instead of directly after the "V," as usual, and the stop after the "R" is small and raised. This is evidently a correction of the omitted "I" variety, the printer, in inserting the "I," evidently wrongly spacing the other portion of the overprint.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 57).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co send us yet another provisional, the ordinary 90c. violet being reduced in value to 20c. with the same type of surcharge as shown in the annexed illustration. The following extract from our correspondent's letter is interesting:—"Our agent in Paraguay informs us that the provisionals now appearing were ordered and made by the Government before the Revolution, and that the party now in authority is not responsible for same. He also says that the Post Office will now only sell stamps of 20c. each or less in small quantities and for bona-fide postal purposes, and he does not think the new Government will allow any more surcharges to be made when those already on hand are disposed of."



*Ordinary Stamps of 1904.*

*Overprinted "Habilitado en—5 (or 20)—CENTAVOS" in three lines.*

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue green	...	0 3
20c. on 30c. violet	...	0 3

**Persia.**—(Vol. II. p. 115).—A used copy of the "6 chahis" on 10 ch. pale brown, of 1904, with distinct double surcharge has been discovered according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. How do these things happen?

**Salvador.**—(Vol. II. p. 128).—On page 128 of our last volume we mentioned a number of "errors" of the current set with the shield surcharge doubly impressed, etc., and *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* now tells us of a few more, viz., 5c. and 10c. with double surcharge, and 6c. and 13c. with double surcharge, one of which is inverted. We are also told that the 1c. exists without surcharge, so our list of these is now as follows:—

*View of Palace. Variety: Shield omitted.*

- 1c. green and black
- 2c. rose red "
- 5c. indigo "
- 10c. mauve "
- 12c. violet "
- 13c. sepia "

From the same source we cull a note of warning regarding stamps bearing Ex-President Escalon's portrait surcharged "Estampillas no validas," which are listed

in some catalogues. The so-called "surcharge" means "stamps not valid," and was applied to the stamps during their journey through the post to show that they were not available for postal purposes, and that the postage should be collected on delivery.

**South Australia.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—According to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* the current 4d. stamp is now printed in a distinct shade of orange yellow instead of orange red as formerly.

**Tunis.**—(Vol. III. p. 45).—One of our French contemporaries gives the following as the official numbers of the recent surcharges.

		s.	d.
"10" on 15c. grey	1,009,950	...	0 2
"35" " 1fr. olive green on toned	61,200	...	0 7
"40" " 2fr. violet	51,200	...	0 8
"75" " 5fr. lilac on lilac	44,850	...	1 3

**Turkey.**—(Vol. II. p. 310).—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* reports the discovery of three values of the 1884-86 issue with compound perforations of the two gauges 11½ and 13½, viz.:—

*1884-86. No. wmk. Perf. 11½ and 13½ compound.*

- 20 par. carmine
- 1 pias. blue
- 2 .. yellow

**United States.** (Vol. II. p. 157).—The Postal Department of the United States treated our American friends to a surprise the other day by announcing that an entirely new set of stamps will be issued early in November. We understand from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* that the present portrait gallery is to be done away with and that all the new stamps, with the exception of the 1c., will bear the portrait of Washington, while on the 1c. Franklin will be accorded the place of honour. The new set will comprise 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 15c., 50c., and \$1 stamps, the reduced rates of postage rendering stamps of a higher value than \$1 unnecessary.

#### NOTE.

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

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*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

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# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Sale of Mr. Wetherell's Collection.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell's collection was sold by Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper on the 22nd and 23rd October, 1908. The total amount realised was £1,400.

The plums of the collection sold as follows:—Ceylon, 4d., rose imperforate, £8 8s.; India, 1st issue, 1s. blue, an unused sheet, £17 17s.; India, 1st issue, 1s. red, an unused sheet, £25 10s.; India, 1st issue, 1s. red, with serrated perforation, £5 5s.; Faridkot, 6s., bistre, error "E" of "Service" omitted, mint, £9 10s.; Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 4d., pale blue, a pair, £9 5s.; Mauritius, post paid, 1d., vermilion, torn at top, £5 5s.; Mauritius, post paid, 2d., blue, £5; Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue on entire, £12; Canada, 1858, 6d., purple-brown, unused, £8 10s.; New Brunswick, 1st issue, 1s., violet, £8 5s.; Newfoundland, 1s., scarlet vermilion, cut close, £5; Turks Islands, 1873, 1s., lilac, £6 15s.; New South Wales laureated issue, 8d., orange, no leaves variety, £5 5s.; and South Australia, watermark Crown and S.A., 10d., yellow, £25.

## Major Evans on Rarities.

It is not often that Major Evans indulges in sordid reflections, therefore when he does he is all the more interesting.

In *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 31.10.08, writing on the price of rarities he says:—"The rarities, great and small, have as a rule gone up greatly in price, not, of course, because they have become any rarer, but because the supply has always been very limited, and collectors give very much larger prices for stamps than they used to do. This rule is not without exceptions; the most striking instance that occurs to me is the "medio peso" of Peru, 1858, one of the earliest of an extremely interesting series of stamps. Thirty years ago or a little less the normal yellow stamp used to be priced at £5 or more, and the error in rose-red was quoted at from £20 to £25. Have these really become much commoner since, or is the fact that their prices have fallen some fifty per cent. due solely to the fact that Peru and some other South American republics have unduly tried the patience of collectors? In any case their fate seems to furnish some sort of warning to investors.

## Old Issues versus New.

On the burning question of old issues versus new as an investment the Major writes:—"If old issues are not invariably gilt-edged investments, what are we to say about new ones? The only argument in their favour seems to be that if one buys new issues at ten per cent. over face value, one cannot lose much, and there will be certain cases in which a considerable appreciation of value will take place. This is true enough, and I believe that the collector was never more favourably placed for making a collection of current stamps, at a comparatively small expense. But collecting and speculating are two very different things. The sales of New Issues have attained enormous dimensions in the last few years, and it is fair to assume that the stocks have not all been absorbed by collectors. There is, it is true, a prevailing fancy (which may be lasting or may not) for pairs and blocks, and even for entire panes and sheets, all of which things have their interest, and will do no harm, so long as their owners are content to keep them; but there is, I believe, also a

fancy for stowing away little lots of stamps which their owners have no intention of keeping, and this is a more dangerous propensity. If this kind of investment prevails to any considerable extent, it is evident that what I have said about the impossibility of common stamps becoming rare must apply more fully to the stocks that have been thus "laid down"; the immediate wants of collectors have been amply accommodated, and future wants are more than fully provided for."

## Pleasure and Profit in Collecting.

And as to the pleasure and profit to be got out of stamp collecting, Major Evans says:—"I have always believed, and I still believe, that the judicious collector, whether he devotes his attention to old issues or new, will find his collection a source not only of certain pleasure, but also of probable profit. I feel inclined to add that if he is judicious he will not speculate, but he may even be able to do that with success. The inexperienced amateur who speculates in stamps will find it as unprofitable as speculating on the Stock Exchange, or as speculating in any other commodity which he knows equally little about. The bargain hunter picks up bargains (sometimes) if he sticks to his own speciality; we all of us know what very poor bargains we are apt to get when we stray beyond our own limited range."

## Bridger & Kay's Price List.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay send me a neat "Price List of British and Colonial Postage Stamps," which includes a fine range of Sets and Packets. It is very neatly got up, comprises some 64 pages, and is full of interesting prices, e.g., Sudan, first issue, 10 piastres, unused, at 4s. 6d., should be snapped up by the earliest post. The catalogue price is 7s. 6d., but a mint copy is well worth considerably more than catalogue.

## Griebert's Philatelic Notes.

I have just received "Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers." It is a most interesting list. The matter is printed in three corresponding columns, in English, German, and French, and the offers include rarities such as a pair of the Reunion of 1852, at £100, early Argentines, Dominican Republic 1865, Madrid 1863, &c.

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*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

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## Collectors' Wants & Exchanges.

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## PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s.; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

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5 rupees, used	10 0	4 3
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Ditto, block	3 0	1 0
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2½ & 5d, blocks, mint	12 0	4 9
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Ditto, 1/-, Mult., ord., rare, mint	3 0
Ditto, 1d, chalky, ob., rare, block	0 6
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Ditto, £2, ditto, rare	60 0

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T. C. Appleton, Ben Rhydding.

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Grt. Britain, block of 4, plate 133

Illustrated Price List full of bargains post free.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 7. Vol. 3.  
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Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Bargains we have missed.



Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., has had so many unexpected and unsuspected bargains in his time that he can well afford to let us laugh at some of his precious few mistakes.

**A British Guiana Rarity.**

Here is the story of a British Guiana rarity which he most unwittingly sold in delicious ignorance, of its real value. He says, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 7.11.08— "The other day, in picking over a big collection, I bought a specially fine copy of a circular British Guiana of 1850. I passed this on to a client as a fine shade at, I think, a price of £35. Next day he brought it in to me and asked me to look at it again. I did so, and found it to be a very rare type, a variety well known, and which I had looked for years and never found; and alas! at last, when I had bought one, I had passed it on at the normal price. I asked my friend if he would take £50 profit, but it was no go; he thought the variety was worth £200, and from its rarity I dare say it is."

**An Austrian Rarity.**

And here is another story that he tells of an Austrian rarity: "Another case occurs to me that happened last year. In the Mann Collection of Austrian stamps I priced a certain variety at £20, and it was purchased by a well-known Parisian collector. Some months later I learnt how exceedingly rare this variety was, and I asked my client if he cared to let me have it back at £100—five

times what it cost!—but he would not part; he had collected and specialized in Austrian stamps for over thirty years and had never before met with that particular variety, and having obtained it, he meant to stick to it."

**One of my Bargains.**

He invites readers of *G. S. W.* to let him have a few experiences of theirs. Well, as I am a regular reader I will respond and tell a story for the benefit of the readers of *The Postage Stamp*, which he can lift for his readers if he likes.

One evening we were having a pleasant stamp chat in his corner after the staff had cleared out, and C. J. P. placed a well filled stock book before me. It had just been made up by a well known specialist, but, as I was somewhat of an authority on the country, he asked me to go through it for him to see that it was all right, very generously telling me that I should have the pick of anything I liked first. I did not expect to find any great bargains after such a specialist as my friend who had made up the book. But I soon came upon a magnificent copy of a howling rare variety, priced as the normal stamp at 50s. Ye Gibbons' price for it would have been at least £30. "Well," said he, "got anything?" "Just this," said I, pointing out the variety. "Oh, Ah," said he, "humph, we don't take much account of that, you know." And then we looked at each other, and had a good laugh, "Well, what do you reckon it to be worth?" said he. "Only one copy ever came into auction, and that was not a good copy, but it fetched £16."

He has not knowingly sold any more copies of that rarity at 50s. since then.

It is delicious to hear C. J. P. telling us how he unwittingly sold rarities as common stamps, but don't you imagine for a moment that is a very common habit of his, or that the balance is not on the right side, after all deductions have been made.

**Universal Penny Postage.**

At a dinner given by the Atlantic Union in London, 4/11/08, to meet the United States Ambassador and the Postmaster-General, in celebration of the establishment of Penny Postage between the United Kingdom and the United States, Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., Postmaster-General, said that during the three years that he had been at the Post Office he had been strongly in favour of Penny Postage with America. And he added, they

hoped that the example set would be followed by other nations, and that we should extend the system to the friendly country of France and other nations on the continent

Evidently Universal Penny Postage is coming.

#### Philatelic Badges.

Monsieur Alfred Montader, editor of *Le Postillon*, has been eruptive on the Philatelic Badge question. I quote what he says from a translation in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* :—

"*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* reverts with great pertinacity to the old theme of a philatelic badge. This idea saw the light in England, but all the pros and cons having been discussed, at length it was abandoned. Our contemporary has resuscitated it. Well, the Frenchman seems to have a perfect mania for decking himself with all sorts of badges. Why, I know people who would never dream of making an ascent of a hill 1800 feet high, without carrying the badge of Alpine Club; others seem to think it necessary to wear the Touring Club badge each time they bestraddle their bicycles. Are we to see some of the collectors we know carrying some trinket or other (probably in execrable taste) to draw public attention upon themselves? and are there to be different designs for different kinds of collectors? One of the obvious disadvantages is that they will be the continual prey of low-class stamp dealers, fakers, and general vendors of rubbish. Very probably the kind friends and relations of the unhappy victim will in their leisure indulge in such mockery that he will soon get absolutely sick of his badge, and perhaps of his collection too!"

Evidently M. Montader is measuring other people by a standard of his own when he assumes that any badge they may adopt will be in execrable taste, and be intended to draw public attention to themselves. The assumption that the wearing of such a badge, as may some day be adopted, will make the wearer the prey of low-class dealers, &c., is amusingly ludicrous—to an Englishman.

The reference to the Touring Club badge is unfortunate for the argument, for no badge has been more useful to the wearers.

#### Uses of a Philatelic Badge.

I am a strong believer in the uses of a little philatelic badge, something quite unobtrusive, something that would attract no attention but that of a discriminating fellow collector.

But that badge has yet to be designed and thought out. The smaller it is the better, so long as it is distinctive.

#### New Philatelic Journals.

New philatelic journals seem to be coming in shoals. The Juniors have sent out one, and now we hear of a second from a member of that body, then we are to have another from the north, and there is before me a sprightly little brochure issued by Mr. Chas. S. Quinton, of South-sea, called *The Stamp Dealer*

This latter journal suggests the establishment of even yet another journal, to wit, a *Philatelic Jester*. Strange to say two well-known collectors got afflicted with desires in this direction a few months ago, and seriously discussed titles, one being *The Trumpet Blower*. Then one of the pair had a terrible nightmare of libels galore, and forthwith dropped the matter, and he has ever since been suffering from libel ague, so serious indeed that he fears he will have to call in Dr. Oldfield.

#### Anonymous Philatelic Journalism.

Mr. C. J. Phillips has been expressing his journalistic opinions upon anonymous and pseudonymous journalism.

Says he, "In the case of anonymous articles I think that they are usually looked upon as being the work of

the editorial staff." Ain't it sweet of him to say that, now.

But as a journalist of more than thirty years' experience on the London daily press, and many years in the editorial chair, I have found that pseudonyms are generally adopted by outside writers for many reasons. Most of our greatest writers have regularly written under other names, but I have never known a staff writer to use a pseudonym in writing for his own newspaper.

What is done in philatelic papers may be another matter.

Says Mr. Phillips, "I know of more than one paper in which a prolific writer uses at least six different pseudonyms!" but he is sure "such articles do not carry as much weight as if the writer signed his own well known patronymic to each." What a nincompoop that prolific one must be not to sign his own more valuable name!

But six different pseudonyms! Great Scott! he must be a host in himself, in fact, something far superior to a perpetual laying Buff Orpington.

Personally, I prefer my own name to any pseudonym, it is so expressive.

#### Honour amongst ———!

There is one thing I would like to say in regard to a tendency amongst certain philatelic writers, and that is that they seem to have no compunction in respecting any writer's use of a pseudonym. If they can penetrate the disguise they proceed with a haste characteristic of snobbishness to expose the real name. Surely a writer who chooses to write under a *nom de plume*, in common decency is entitled to the shelter of that *nom de plume*, unless it is clear that it is adopted for unworthy motives. The sneak is objectionable in every walk of life. His contemptible shadow never seems to grow less.

#### The Anti-Surchargites' Catalogue.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., of New York, write as follows concerning an extract I made from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* of that city (page 25) :—

"We notice in your issue of October 17th, comment on a paragraph appearing in a trade paper published by another concern here, which intimates that surcharges are to be eliminated from the catalogue.

"As we are the publishers of the only American catalogue, and as we find that collectors do not fully understand that Mr. Scott of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* has no connection whatever with the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., it will oblige us if you will state emphatically in your journal that we have *no intention whatever* of eliminating surcharges from the Scott Standard Catalogue."

#### Portuguese Colonialists.

An officer on board one of H.M.S. ships, cruising in African waters, very kindly writes to me as follows :—

"As this ship is visiting some of the ports of South Africa, I thought I might be able to get some information of interest to the readers of *The Postage Stamp*. So far I have only visited the Post Office at St. Vincent (Cape Verde Isles), and I found there that most of the 1902 provisionals were in issue concurrently with the 1903 regular stamps (colours changed). The authorities at the Post Office could give me no information as to how long this sort of thing was going on, and as Port Praia, in St. Jago Island, is the capital, they probably did not know themselves. I presume it will go on as long as a sale can be got for the rubbish.

"The stamps on sale were as follows (Gibbons' 1908 numbers). Cape Verde stamps in issue September 18th, 1908, at St. Vincent (Mindello) Post Office :—

"1898. Regular issue, 88, 89, 90, 91, 96, 98, 100, 101.

" 1902. Provisionals. 109, 110, 111, 118, 114, 116, 118, 119, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 128, 130, 133.  
 " 1903. Changed Colours. 134, 135, 138, 139, 140, 141.  
 " 1905. 142.  
 " Also the 1904 Postage due set, all values, 5r. to 500r.  
 " They assured me that the 65, 75, 80, 150 and 300r. of the regular issue were not used now."

I need scarcely say, on behalf of the readers of *The Postage Stamp*, that we are much indebted to our friend for his most interesting news, and shall be glad of similar budgets from him from any other ports at which he touches.

#### Concurrently Used Rubbish.

I cannot help thinking that concurrently used rubbish, such as our friend has noted, must sooner or later, have a detrimental effect on collecting.

I am aware that a feeling prevails that we should not be too prone to condemn, but collectors are not such absolute fools as some dealers think they are. Even the youngest and most inexperienced arrive, in due time, at an age when their eyes are opened, and then they resent having been loaded up with worthless rubbish.

For the permanent good of the hobby, and in the best interest of dealer and collector alike, I am certain that it would pay all concerned to rigidly boycott concurrently used rubbish.

The most shameless swindlers are our own Leeward Islands.

#### The Rarest Bulgarian.

The article on Bulgarians in *The Postage Stamp*, pages 27 and 39, seems to have brought other claimants into notice for the honour of being the rarest Bulgarian stamp.

Mr. Nankivell gave the place of honour to the 5 st. rose and pale rose, an error of colour.

Mr. C. J. Phillips gives place to an unchronicled variety, the 1879 issue, 5 st. black and orange, with the *background inverted*, and also names the 1884 provisional "5" in black on 30 st.

But Mr. Field has another claimant. This is a used copy of the 15 st. of 1902 but *with the centre in brown* instead of greenish black as in the normal variety. This

stamp was found among a number of common ones about two years ago, and so it is unique, for no other copy of the error is known. His price for this rarity is £20.

#### Gold Currency in Slam.

A Reuter's telegram dated Bangkok, November 8th, states that a law will be passed in a few days introducing a gold currency in the form of a ten-tical gold piece, and also a decimal subsidiary coinage.

This change will, of course, be reflected in the postage stamps in due time.

#### Fighting in the Sudan.

The Sudan does not yet seem to be free from the necessity of military rule, for a force has recently had an engagement with the tribes in the Jebel Fassu district, who, according to Reuter, have for some years shown a hostile attitude by refusing to pay tribute or obey the orders of the Government.

#### A St. Vincent Discovery.

Mr. Field announces a discovery of a variety in St. Vincents. He says in the *West End Philatelist*:—"Some little time ago, however, I found an error of great importance, viz. the 6d. of 1890-92 in carmine lake—the colour of the stamp only known surcharged 'FIVEPENCE.' This is apparently an error of S.G. No. 61, with the surcharge omitted."

#### Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

#### The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

## Death of Mr. J. W. Paul

It is with the most sincere regret that I have to report the death of Mr. J. W. Paul, one of the oldest collectors, and probably the second largest, in America.

At the end of September Mr. Paul, who had been in bad health for over a year, went to Hot Springs, Va., and a few days later, when in the dining-room at the Homestead Hotel, was stricken with apoplexy and died three hours later.

For more than twenty years Mr. Paul had been an enthusiastic stamp collector, and for over fifteen years I had known him personally and had had many important deals with him, and I am indebted to his kind introduction for some of the most valued clients I have in the United States.

Mr. Paul collected stamps of all the world, and most countries were pretty well specialized; for instance, he had completed his plates of Sydneys, 1d. and 4d. Tasmania, most of the Mauritius, Nevis, etc., etc. In rarities he was practically complete in all the standard things, with the exception, I think, of the 1d. and 2d. Mauritius "Post Office" and the 2c. rose, British Guiana. Some fifteen years ago he secured most of the gems from the large general collection of Mr. C. Howard Colket, of Philadelphia; from this source he obtained the set of four Hawaii Missionary stamps for less than £200 the set, and

many of his rarities were bought at similarly low prices.

I had the pleasure of spending several very enjoyable evenings with Mr. Paul in Philadelphia in 1895 and 1900, and a more charming and lovable man I never met.

Some ten or twelve years ago Mr. Paul informed me that he had left his collection of stamps to the Drexel Institute of Philadelphia, and now the United States will possess for ever a really fine collection of the world's postage stamps from 1840 to 1900.

In United States Mr. Paul's collection was almost complete, and in the Confederate States war issues he possessed a superb lot, most of them coming from famous old collections.

Mr. Paul was brother-in-law to Mr. William Waldorf Astor, who married his sister.

Born fifty-eight years ago, Mr. Paul was a member of one of Philadelphia's most prominent families. He was a son-in-law of the late Anthony J. Drexel. Besides being interested in various banking enterprises, he was deeply interested in many Philadelphia organizations and societies. He was president of the Drexel Institute and of the Horticultural Society of Philadelphia. He was a member of Drexel & Co., of Philadelphia, of J. P. Morgan and Co., of New York, and of Morgan, Harjes & Co., of Paris.—C. J. P. in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 7.11.08

# Cape of Good Hope

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## History of the Colony.

**W**E stamp collectors are very conservative and very independent in the matter of names. In our encyclopædias and gazetteers, in official documents, and in every day conversation, what we philatelists call the "Cape of Good Hope" is now known as "Cape Colony"; but so long as the stamps which we collect are inscribed with the old name of the "Cape of Good Hope," so long shall we ignore the modern term of "Cape Colony." Why the stamps should still be inscribed "Cape of Good Hope," the Lord only knows. It is like the preservation of an old legend to continue the inscription. The promontory which bears the name runs into the sea for some thirty miles to the south and south-east, with an average breadth of five to eight miles; but the Colony served by the stamps stretches away over the great mountains and tablelands into Bechuanaland. This Cape of Good Hope was discovered by the Portuguese navigator Bartholomew Diaz, and he called it the Cape of Storms, because of the manner in which his ships were buffeted about in its region; but his king, recognizing it as an important post on the road to the long-sought-for Indies, is said to have rechristened it "Cape de Bona Speranza," i.e., Cape of Good Hope. Another writer gives another explanation of the naming. He says:—

This head is called the Cape de Bona Speranza, that is, head of Good Hope, for that all the ships that sail to India or from India to Portugal do fear the passing of this Cape, thinking if they have passed it to have passed all danger. All voyagers, ancient and modern, agree as to the stormy character of the seas around the great headland, but, despite the seas, Drake regarded the Cape "as the most stately thing, and the fairest cape we saw in the whole circumference of the earth."

And so the postal authorities of Cape Colony cling to the old name as the designation of the colony on their postal issues, and we stamp collectors, following in their wake, know nothing of any such territory as Cape Colony in our philatelic geography.

Cape Colony, or, as we term it, the Cape of Good Hope, is geographically and philatelically bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean; on the north by the Orange River and the Bechuanaland Protectorate; on the east by the Orange River Colony, Basutoland, and Natal; and on the south by the Indian Ocean. It has an area of 276,995 square miles, and a total population of 2,409,804. The capital of the colony is Cape Town, with a population of 87,483. Other chief towns are: Port Elizabeth, population 23,266; Grahamstown, 10,498; and Kimberley, 28,718.

For some centuries after Bartholomew Diaz discovered it, the Cape was little more than a convenient place of call, or half-way house to the East. In 1652 the Dutch East India Company under charter from Holland took possession of Table Bay and established themselves at the foot of Table Mountain in order to provide for their ships voyaging to and from the East. In the eighteenth century an European war led to the seizure of the Cape by the English, but it was handed back to Holland in 1801 at the Peace of Amiens. For four years longer the Cape remained a Dutch possession, then war again broke out in Europe and a British expedition once more captured

the station, and at the conclusion of the war, by a convention, Cape Colony was recognized as a British possession in 1814.

After many Kaffir wars and other tribulations, Cape Colony was granted a Responsible Government in 1872. Since then its boundaries have been extended to include Pondo Land (in March, 1894) and the Crown Colony of Bechuanaland (in 1895).

## Its Philatelic History.

The philatelic history of the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope for many begins and ends with the grand old triangular stamps of the early issues. Subsequent issues are, at best, inferior relatives, poor relations. Despite the millions that were issued, an unused copy with full gum, and bright and clean, of any one of the values, is hard to get to-day.

Fortunately for the young collector, used copies of several of these grand old stamps may still be had for a few shillings; unused copies are gone beyond the reach of all but the wealthy.

These triangular stamps were first issued on 1st September, 1853, and they were heralded by the following

## PROCLAMATION.

*By His Excellency Lieut.-General the Hon'ble Sir George Cathcart, Knight Commander of the Military Order of the Bath, etc., etc.*

Whereas by the 8th Section of Ordinance No. 1, 1846, entitled "Ordinance for the Regulation of the Post Office and Postage," it is enacted that it should be lawful for the Governor of the Colony to provide *Stamps*, to be affixed to letters, and to announce by Proclamation by whom, and at what places such stamps should be issued to the public, and from and after what date such stamps should be receivable, in lieu of postage, at the several Post Offices within this Colony,—now therefore, I do hereby PROCLAIM, DECLARE, AND MAKE KNOWN the several matters following, that is to say,—

1st, That certain stamps of the value of 4d. each, and certain other stamps of the value of 1d. each, have been provided by Government for the use and convenience of the Public.

2ndly, That upon and from the 1st of September next, all persons desirous of purchasing any of the said stamps will be able to obtain the same from the Postmaster-General in Cape Town, and from the several Postmasters throughout the Colony.

3rdly, That upon and from the said 1st of September, every letter, not exceeding half an ounce, which shall have affixed thereto one such stamp of the value of 4d., and if exceeding half an ounce, then so many such stamps as shall together amount to the postage which would by the said ordinance require to be prepaid in money, in case no stamps were used, shall (provided none of the stamps so affixed shall have been used before) pass by the post free of postage.

4thly, That upon and from the said 1st of September, newspapers, having affixed thereto, or to the cover thereof, a stamp of 1d. for each newspaper, will (provided none of the stamps so affixed shall have been used before) pass by the post free of postage.

• 5thly, That persons licensed in any part of the Colony to keep retail shops, and who shall purchase for sale in such shops any of the stamps aforesaid, will be allowed a reduction or discount of 2½ per cent. upon all purchases to the amount of £1 sterling, or upwards.

(Signed) G. CATHCART, Governor.  
(Countersigned) R. SOUTHEY,  
*Acting Secretary to Government.*

The first issue of triangulars consisted of two values only, 1d. for the postage of newspapers and 4d. for half-ounce letters within the colony.

Then in 1858 a sixpenny stamp was provided for the half-ounce letter rate to Great Britain and one shilling value to prepay the higher rate to foreign countries.

All four values were of the self-same triangular design excepting the difference of value.

The engraving was the work of Mr. W. Humphreys, an artist employed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., to whom was entrusted the printing of the stamps. In 1862 the plates were handed over to Messrs. De La Rue & Co., who printed the 1862-3 series.

In 1861, owing to a temporary shortage of 1d. and 4d. stamps in the colony, local printers were employed to provide a supply, and they did so by producing the best imitation they could of the original stamps. These local reproductions, known as woodblocks, are among the rarities of the colony.

In 1864 the new printers, Messrs. De La Rue & Co., designed, engraved, and printed the rectangular series with an emblematic female figure of Hope seated upon an anchor.

This design remained in use till the issue of the King's Head series in 1902.

Various provisionals were issued from time to time and a trial made in the ½d., 1d., and 3d. values of a new design known as the standing figure of Hope, also a pictorial 1d. stamp with a view of Table Bay.

There have also been changes of watermark. The triangulars were watermarked with a plain double-lined anchor. The first rectangulars, figure of Hope seated holding a grape vine, were watermarked Crown CC. In 1882 this was changed to Crown CA, and in 1884 to a cabled anchor, which is still the watermark of the Cape stamps.

**1853.** Two values. Design: Emblematic female figure of Hope seated on an anchor and enclosed in a triangular frame; engraved in *taille douce* by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked with a plain double lined anchor, in sheets of 240 stamps in fifteen horizontal rows of sixteen stamps, arranged in eight squares. The gum was yellowish in colour, but the paper, originally white wove, was blued by the chemical action of the inks used in the printing, resembling in this matter the first penny red English stamps printed by the same firm about the same time. This blueing of the paper marks the stamps of this first issue so distinctly as to render their separation from subsequent printings an easy matter to even an ordinary collector. The stamps were issued imperforate.



*Blued Paper.*

*Wmk. Double-lined Anchor. Imperf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. brick red	- -	12 0
4d. blue	- -	5 0

**1855-8.** Four values. Design: as before. Printed by the engravers, Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. on white wove paper, varying in thickness. The sheets were made up in the same manner and of the same number of stamps as the preceding issue, with the same watermark and were issued imperforate.

The Royal Society's work on Africa calls attention to the fact that all four stamps are found rouletted, and some of the values *perce en arc*, &c. These varieties it is added, are almost certainly unofficial, and collectors are warned that, as they have been extensively imitated, great caution is required in accepting any such specimens as having been perforated at the time the stamps were in use.

*White paper.*

*Wmk. double lined Anchor. Imperf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. brick red	- - 40 0	7 6
1d. rose red	- - 20 0	7 6
4d. blue	- - 25 0	2 6
4d. pale blue	- - 25 0	4 0
6d. lilac	- - 75 0	12 6
6d. slate lilac	- - 100 0	25 0
1s. yellow green	- - 200 0	15 0
1s. deep green	- - 100 0	20 0

**1861.** Two values. Design: A locally reproduced imitation of the previous issue, popularly known as "woodblocks." The issue of these provisionals is thus explained and described by Mr. E. D. Bacon in the London Philatelic Society's work on Africa, Part I.:

Early in the year 1861, the stock of one penny and fourpenny stamps became exhausted, and recourse was had to colonial printers for a supply pending the receipt of a fresh consignment from England. The idea of surcharging the sixpence and one shilling values does not appear to have suggested itself to the then postal authorities, or if it did, was not approved of, though in later years, when fourpenny, one penny, and other stamps were required, we find this course adopted.

No notice appeared in the *Gazette* of this provisional issue, and I am indebted to the courtesy of the late Postmaster-General of the colony, Mr. G. W. Aitchison, and his successor, Mr. S. R. French, for the following particulars, which they have kindly sent me in reply to questions I addressed to them. They inform me that the stamps were printed by Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co., of 49 and 50, St. George's Street, Cape Town, the one penny on 10th April, 1861, and the fourpence on 12th April of the same year. The original dies for the stamps were engraved on steel, from which sixty-four impressions were afterwards taken of each value by what is known as the stereotype process. These impressions were cemented on to a wooden block to form the printing plate, hence the designation "woodblocks" that has been applied to these two stamps. The sixty-four impressions of both values were each arranged in four horizontal rows of sixteen stamps to the row, forming eight squares, and in cementing the impressions on to the wooden blocks one of the fourpennies was by mistake placed among the one pennies, and, vice versa, thus accounting for the well-

known errors of these stamps. The number of the one penny stamps printed was 24,660, while there were 12,480 of the fourpence, and both values were issued as soon as they were obtained from the printers.

The number of errors, of course, entirely depends upon whether the mistakes on the plates were noticed and corrected previous to the completion of the printings. Supposing they had been, I cannot but think that the errors would at once have been cut out of the sheets and destroyed. According to the number of stamps printed, there were at the most but 201 of the one penny error, and 386 of the fourpence error, so the only surprise is that these stamps are not even rarer than they are.

Only one printing of these provisional stamps was required, as on referring to the appendix it will be noticed that Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. forwarded further large supplies of one penny and four penny stamps to the colony on 1st and 29th April, and again on 8th May, 1861. The provisional stamps could not, therefore, have been wanted beyond a few weeks, but no doubt the stock printed off of both values was used up by the Post Office.

Such is the history of these classical rarities. The stamps themselves may be easily recognised by their rough appearance. They were unwatermarked and imperforate.



	No wmk.	Imperf,	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1d., red	-	-	—	110 0
4d., blue	-	-	—	60 0

1863-4. Four values. Design: as before, but printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co on white wove paper watermarked with the same double-lined anchor as the previous issues. These printings are distinguishable from the previous issue by their brighter colours. The Perkins Bacon & Co. printings are dull in colour, and the De La Rue bright. The stamps were issued imperforate. The 1d. is noted in the Royal Society's work as known water-marked Crown CC sideways, but it is added that "no used specimen has ever been found, although the variety has long been searched for, both in the colony and also amongst dealers' stocks in different parts of the world."

White paper.

Wmk. double lined Anchor. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. carmine red	25 0	17 6
1d. red brown	30 0	12 0
4d. deep blue	25 0	5 0
4d. pale blue	35 0	5 0
4d. slate blue	40 0	7 6
6d. bright mauve	40 0	25 0
1s. emerald green	100 0	30 0
1s. pale emerald green	120 0	—

Wmk. Crown CC. Imperf.

1d. carmine red	—	—
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To be continued.

#### Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."

## Papua: Plate Varieties

From Ewen's Weekly Stamp News

B. writes:—"With reference to your article in E.W.S.N. of the 17th October last, noting two shading errors on Nos. 20 and 27 of each sheet of the 2½d. B.N. Guinea unsurcharged, I would like to say that similar errors occur on other values both of the unsurcharged and surcharged. It cannot, therefore, be argued that such varieties have arisen owing to worn plates. In my own case the errors do not occur on the same sheet, so that perhaps a partial rectification may have taken place at a later printing. No such flaws occur in any of my sheets above the 2½d. value. The list, previously mentioned, I give hereunder.

B.N.G., unsurcharged, No. 20 on sheet, 2d.  
Papua, Type I., ditto. ½d. and 2d.  
Papua, Type II., ditto, ½d.

As I have a 2d. stamp used of the Type I. variety this should prove to be scarce.

Perhaps some of your readers would say whether any of the shading errors occur on the higher values."

We have examined the Colonial Stamp Market's stock and find that all their sheets of 2d. small "Papua" surcharge show the same two varieties of leaves unshaded

and in the same positions (Nos. 20 and 27) though perhaps not quite so pronounced as in the 2½d.

We have also made the extraordinary discovery that even the minutest defects on the 2½d. plate find their counterpart in that of the 2d. Take for instance the band to left of the leaves in the lower right-hand corner. This is shaded with 29 vertical lines, of which the last four touch the outline of one of the leaves. Note the following stamps:—

No 20 on sheet. There are 7 clear lines (starting from the left), the 8th line is very short, the 9th only slightly short, 10th and 11th very faint, 12th, 13th clear and 14th partly clear, 15th very faint, 16th quite clear, 17th and 18th very faint, 19th to 22nd clear, 23rd broken in middle, 24th to 29th clear. (In the 2d. sheet the 29th line is indistinguishable, but this is merely due to over-inking).

No. 25 on sheet. The 18th, 23rd and 25th lines are defective at top and the 21st at foot.

No. 27 on sheet. The first line is broken at top.

It is out of the question for these defects to be due to wear of the plates, because the two plates could not possibly be expected to develop precisely the same set o



defects; there is not one discrepancy. It was equally impossible to print 2½d. stamps from the 2d. plate and vice-versa. Whence then do the two plates derive their extraordinary similarity? The ½d. plate is also in some degree similar but it is No. 28 instead of 27 which shows the white leaves in the lower left-hand corner and the lines of shading are faint rather than altogether absent.

With regard to the plates for printing the central design, of which we believe there were two, we should not be surprised to learn that they could be distinguished. We have examined half sheets of the unsurcharged ½d. to 1/- British New Guinea, probably an early printing, and find that No. 20 on the sheet of each value has a white space at the top of the shading of the sky. The white blotch usually falls under the letters "SH N" of "British New."

We have this variety on a sheet of 1/- with large surcharge but of four sheets of 1/- with small surcharge only two have it, whilst the other two have a somewhat similar variety on No. 25.

There is another remarkable variety in the plates of the central design. On some sheets the white clouds are plain white on every stamp of the sheet; on others a

magnifying glass shows them to be faintly shaded with horizontal lines. The absence of the shading may be due to wear or may indicate another plate.

We are afraid we must leave all these matters in a very indefinite state; perhaps some of our readers who are specializing British New Guinea and Papua may be disposed to investigate further and give us the result of their research.

Besides the above there are of course varieties due merely to over-inking such as the 1/- of which we have sheets showing clear impressions at the top and very black ones, with stormy sky, in the lower row.

In the case of the permanent issue inscribed "Papua" there are also many interesting varieties. No. 20 on the sheet is again of special interest, as the central plate has a black dot in the N.E. corner, usually falling just under P of "Postage." It appears to occur on all values except the ½d. The ½d., by the way, is the value with slightly different design, the name "Papua" being in larger lettering. The clouds in all values of the permanent issue show no trace of shading.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 68).

**Harrow perforation.**—This is perforation produced by what is known as a "harrow" machine—a machine which perforates the whole of the pane or sheet of stamps at once. Its appearance, except in the case of an entire sheet or pane, is exactly the same as the perforations made by a "comb" machine.

**Hawaii.**—The inscription shown upon most of the stamps of the Hawaiian Islands.

**Hawaiian Islands.**—A group of islands in the North Pacific Ocean having a total area of 6,450 square miles. The islands are of volcanic origin and all are mountainous. They were formerly known as the Sandwich Islands. The population is estimated at about 150,000 of whom only 30,000 are native Hawaiians. The other inhabitants consist chiefly of Japanese and Chinese. The Hawaiians are a handsome people of happy disposition akin to the Maoris of New Zealand ethnologically. They are unfortunately slowly but gradually diminishing, leprosy being the chief disease. The islands were discovered in 1549 and in the 19th century were recognised as an independent kingdom. In 1893 the reigning Queen was deposed and in 1894 a republic was formed. In 1898 the islands were annexed by the United States and on June 14th, 1900, they were constituted the territory of Hawaii. Postage stamps were first issued in 1851 and the three stamps comprised in this issue are among the "Great Rarities" of philately.

**Hayti.**—A republic occupying the western third of the island of Santo Domingo, or Hispaniola. It has an area of 10,204 square miles and a population of about 1,400,000, most of whom are of African descent. In the early part of the 17th century English and French buccaneers took possession of this part of the island, and the French established a colony in 1640. Napoleon's attempt in 1802 to re-enslave the blacks, who had been freed in 1794, resulted in a series of massacres ending in the erection of a negro republic in 1804. Its commercial prosperity has been almost annihilated by repeated revolutions and general

misgovernment. Indeed, as one writer remarked recently, revolutions are "practically the only healthy industry on the island." The natives speak a debased French and, while Roman Catholicism is the official religion, Vaudoux or snake worship, with its villainous attendant rites, has still a firm hold on the greater part of the people. The character of the niggers of Hayti is well summarised by a recent writer as "a mockery of civilisation where African savagery and fetishism are veneered over by a little French polish and plenty of gold lace." Postage stamps were first issued in 1861.

**Head-plate.**—Stamps printed in two colours require two plates. The plate which provides that part of the design denoting the value of the stamp is called the "duty-plate," while the one from which the remainder of the design is printed is usually known as the "head-plate."

**Heath, Frederick.**—The gentleman who engraved the original die from which all the plates employed in the production of the 1d and 2d. stamps of Great Britain, during the period 1840-1855, were made.

**Helena.**—A small town in the state of Texas, U.S.A., at which special 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861, prior to the appearance of the issue for general use in the Confederate States.

**Heligoland.**—A small island of the North Sea, 28 miles north-west of the mouth of the Elbe. In ancient times it was a religious centre of the Frisian race; hence its name, which means "holy island." For 83 years it was in the possession of Great Britain but in 1890 it was ceded to Germany. It has an area of 190 acres and a population of about 2,500, and since 1890 it has been strongly fortified. Postage stamps were issued in 1867 and continued in use until the island was ceded to Germany. At the present time it is joined with Schleswig-Holstein as a province of Prussia.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that on June 1st last all the French post offices in Abyssinia were suppressed.

**Brazil.**—(Vol. II. p. 309).—A correspondent has shown *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* a copy of the 200 reis, blue, of 1900-4, Die C, perforated exactly 12½. Up to the present this perforation has not been known in connection with the re-engraved stamps. There is, of course, no reason why they should not all exist with this perforation.

**Hungary.**—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the design of the Crown watermark, appearing in the current stamps, has been altered. Most of the lines in the re-drawn watermark are straight instead of curved, and the small cross at the top leans to the left instead of to the right as before. We understand that so far only the 5 filler value has appeared on the new paper, but the others will be issued directly current stocks are exhausted.

New wmk. Perf.  
5f. green.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 70).—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* records the 60c official stamp dated 1904, printed in pink and surcharged "Habilitado en—5—CENTAVOS" as shown in the accompanying illustration. The complete list of these 5c. provisionals, with overprint in three lines, is now as follows:—



Official Stamps of 1904 Issue.  
Overprinted "Habilitado en—5—CENTAVOS."  
in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 10c. green	—	—
5c. on 10c. purple	0	3
5c. on 20c. ochre	—	—
5c. on 20c. pink	—	—
5c. on 30c. grey blue	0	3
5c. on 30c. yellow	0	3
5c. on 60c. yellow brown	0	3
5c. on 60c. blue	—	—
5c. on 60c. Prussian blue	—	—
5c. on 60c. pink	—	—

From the same source we learn that the 60c. of the ordinary set, but still dated "1904," has been issued in two new colours—orange brown and pink. This value, therefore, now exists in the following varieties:—



Dated "1904." No wmk. Perf. 11½, 12.

	s.	d.
60c. chocolate	0	7
60c. orange brown	—	—
60c. pink	—	—

**Persia.**—(Vol. III. p. 70).—The 12 chahis of the type-set stamps of 1902, with "arms" overprint in rose, has been found with a distinct double impression on the stamp according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. From the same journal we gather that the 5 ch. of this set has been found with the "arms" overprinted in purple, and an interesting variety of the 5 kr. blue, of 1879-80, is mentioned, with the design printed wrong way up. Regarding this our contemporary says:—"Apparently the sheet of paper is printed in two operations; first with a ground colour of blue, a white space of just the right size and shape being left to receive the black medallion, and at the same time as the blue ground is printed, a blue network is impressed in such a position that the black lion and figure of value fall upon it. In the variety we have before us the second printing was evidently done with the prepared sheet inverted, as the medallion does not correspond to the space left for its reception in the centre of the blue network."

**Peru.**—(Vol. II. p. 297).—The highest value—the 2 soles of the pictorial set commenced in 1907 has only just been issued and, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, its colour is dark blue and not violet and green as stated in *Gibbons' catalogue*. The central portion of the stamp shows a monument erected to the memory of Columbus. The complete list of values is as follows:—

1907-8 Pictorial Stamps. No wmk. Perf. 12.

	s.	d.
1c. green and black	0	1
2c. vermilion and violet	0	1
4c. olive green	0	2
5c. blue and black	0	3
10c. brown and black	0	5
20c. green	0	9
50c. black	1	9
1sol. violet and green	3	0
2sols. dark blue	—	—

**Queensland.**—(Vol. III. p. 57).—In an interesting article in the *Philatelic Record* dealing with the lithographed 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. and 20s. of 1881, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg proves that these were not all produced from transfers of strips of five, as stated in the

catalogue. The 2s. and 20s. stamps were arranged in strips of five types, but the 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. values were produced from transfers of ten arranged in two rows of five each. There are thus ten types of each of these values, and Mr. Hausburg explains how they may be identified.

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—It is rumoured that new 7 and 10 kopeck stamps will be issued early next year, and that immediately they appear those now in use will be demonitised.

**St. Kitts-Nevis.**—(Vol. II. p. 189).—The ½d. printed entirely in green, referred to on page 189 of our last volume, has only just been issued. The list of varieties on the paper with multiple watermark is now as follows:—

*Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.*

	s.	d.
½d. green and lilac ... ..	0	4
½d. green ... ..	0	1
1d. carmine and black... ..	0	4
1d. carmine ... ..	0	2
2d. brown and lilac ... ..	0	3
2½d. ultramarine and black ... ..	0	9
2½d. ultramarine ... ..	0	4
3d. orange and green ... ..	0	5
6d. violet and black ... ..	0	8

**Siam.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new provisional—the 5 atts. carmine and rose, of the current type being reduced in value to 4 atts. by means of a surcharge. It will be remembered that owing to an increase in value of the tical, 5s. stamps were replaced by 4s. in the same colours some months ago (4 atts more nearly representing the 1d. letter rate than 5 atts.), and, apparently, the old stock is being used up in this manner. The surcharges on Siam's many provisional stamps have been growing "small by degrees

and beautifully less," as the poet has it, of late years, but the present one is an example of brevity reduced to a fine art. It consists of a small figure "4" applied over the "5" in the lower right hand corner and the Siamese character for four printed over the native hieroglyphic for five in the lower left corner. Our Ipswich correspondents state that other surcharges were made at the same time, so that probably all the unwanted values—such as the 12s. and 24s.—will be used up in this manner.

*Provisional. Surcharged on 1906 issue.*

	s.	d.
"4" on 5s. carmine and rose ... ..	0	3

**Uruguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—We gather from divers of our contemporaries that several values have been reprinted in the designs of 1895 but in new colours, viz:—

*Designs of 1895. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 15.*

- 7c. chestnut
- 10c. blue green
- 20c. blue and black
- 50c. olive .. "
- 2p. sepia .. "
- 3p. pale blue and black

**NOTE.**

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

# From other Magazines

## German Post Offices Abroad.

The countries in which German offices have been established are China, Morocco, and Turkey, and it may be remarked that as a rule these offices are the most up-to-date and business-like of all "foreign post offices." Unlike many of the offices of other Powers, which are the outcome of casual diplomatic postal services or the survival of branch post offices run on commission lines and are generally in out-of-the-way spots, the German offices have all been equipped and maintained under the direct control of the home authorities. The buildings are handsome, usually the property of the Government, are in a prominent position, with a staff well paid and efficient. Doubtless many are run at a loss, but the impression created on the native mind must certainly be advantageous to the development of German trade.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 24.10.08.

## Austria.

Several values of the Austrian Jubilee issue show errors. On some stamps of the 25 heller value the inscription "FRANCISCUS" reads "PRANCISCUS"; the 73rd and 93rd stamps on the sheets of the 35 heller value read "ERANCISCUS." The 1 heller stamp appears now printed on pure white instead of on yellowish paper. Austria intends to follow the lead of other countries and to issue small books of stamps. Each booklet will contain eighteen stamps of 5 heller in three sheets, and six stamps of 10 heller in one sheet. The price will be 1

kroner 52 heller, the 2 heller being for the cover, on which is to be printed the Austrian Eagle.

—*The Philatelic Record.*

## Death of Mr. Rudolph Kraseman.

We learn with sincere regret of the death—at the sadly early age of thirty-three—of Mr. Rudolph Kraseman, whose name appears as joint author with Mr. H. Djurling of the German edition of *The Postage Stamps of Sweden*, which is elsewhere referred to Mr. Kraseman's connection with Philately was of relatively recent date, but he had shown great ability alike in his philatelic articles and in his work as Librarian to the Swedish Philatelic Society. His many friends in Swedish stamp circles must deeply feel his loss, while all Philatelists will be grieved at the untimely cutting-off of such a promising career.—*The London Philatelist*, Oct., 1908.

## First Issue of the Dominican Republic.

We are informed that a firm in San Domingo has obtained possession of one of the original clichés used for printing the 1 real of the 1865 (first issue). It is also reported that attempts are being made to take impressions from it on green paper somewhat similar to that used for the original stamp (valued at about £10). We would warn our readers to be on their guard should one of these stamps be offered cheap, as the paper is not so easy to distinguish unless one happens to be well acquainted with the real thing.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 7.11.08.

St. Vincent: 1866 1s., Perf. "B."

Mr. A. H. Stamford kindly sends us the following interesting note hereon:—

"I have pleasure in informing you of a discovery recently made which is a fitting supplement to that of Mr. Yardley referred to in the Society's minutes of the 18th April last in regard to the unused block of four of the 1s. St. Vincent of 1866, perforated 11 to 12½ on all sides, and to Mr. Bacou's comments thereon in *The London Philatelist*, Vol. XVI., p. 116. Hitherto this stamp, I believe, had never been known in used condition, until a short time since, when, on going through my used colonial collection which I had discarded for a while and put aside some five or six years ago, I found an undoubtedly genuinely used copy of this stamp. I had evidently noted the variety in my collection previously, for I found a pencil note beside the stamp as follows: "11-12½ all round: unchronicled," but it was the article on the New Variety of Barbados in *The London Philatelist*, Vol. XVII., p. 149, and the note in Gibbons' current Catalogue that this 1s. St. Vincent had not been found used, which first reminded me, I believe, of the existence of the stamp in the used condition in my own collection. I had the stamp expertized by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and enclose you herewith the Committee's certificate."—*London Philatelist*, Oct., 1908.

#### Paper for U.S. Stamps.

Once a month and sometimes oftener, a requisition is received for one million sheets of paper. The sheets are eighteen and one-half by twenty and three-quarter inches and of the best quality of paper turned out of the mill. It is made of spruce and soda pulp. Each sheet is water-marked with the letters U. S. P. S. running lengthwise. The dandy-roll used to make these letters is the property of the U. S. government and must be given up at the expiration of the contract. This roll of brass wire is ninety inches long. The marks are made by the heavy raised letters of metal, placed at equal intervals on the surface. The paper is made in rolls weighing two hundred pounds, and the width of seventy-four inches is divided four times into sheets as specified above. The next step is to mark the sheets so that the workmen in Washington will have no trouble in keeping them right side up, i.e., with all the letters upright and running in vertical lines from top to bottom. For this part of the work the sheets are very carefully piled with the edges exactly together, and just as they are to be handled in Washington. Then comes the sorting process, for none but perfect sheets are accepted by Uncle Sam. This work is done by girls who handle each sheet separately, holding it up and looking through it toward the light, so that thin places and defects are quickly discernible. The rejected sheets are thrown upon the floor, and one person is kept busy raking them together and gathering them up to be returned to the pulp room to be reground. From start to finish the work requires the greatest care and precision for there must not be a single defect in a single sheet sent to Washington, where the stamping, and gumming and perforating are done.—*Meeke's Weekly Stamp News*.

#### Collecting Central American's.

Many of my philatelic friends have often, good humouredly, laughed at me for taking these countries, but it appears to me that to get a good collection of the later issues of this country, postally used on originals, is as good philately as the collecting of many of the later Colonials. They are undoubtedly difficult to obtain in this condition, and no one, I think, disputes the interest of the early issues. I have rather a weakness for complete sheets, but consider they should only be shown when necessary, and not collected simply with the idea

of accumulating.—*Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Oct., 08.

#### How to Study Stamps.

Mr. Wetherell in the *Philatelic Adviser* thus describes his method of studying the stamps of Cuba:—

In the first place, having proved certain points by a few thousand specimens, and having selected a few specimens to illustrate the points discovered, the residue (which had been used to substantiate the conclusions arrived at) is now liberated to be used for other purposes, and from these the flaws may be classified.

1. Make six separate heaps
  - a. for those with a nick in top frame,
  - b. " " " right " "
  - c. " " " bottom " "
  - d. " " " left " "
  - e. " " with nicks in more than one frame,
  - f. " " without any nicks.

Say that there are 150 specimens in heap c.

2. Re-sort this heap and make subordinate piles for those with the cut in various positions (under different letters of the lower label) and it will then be found that there are a dozen or so varieties, and that of some there are ten or a dozen copies—these are the well-marked constant flaws; if with a dozen in some heaps and only one in others, is is very probable that the flaw is accidental—or if found on a late print only, then it may be one of those formed during the cleaning process. Fairly late printings show so many flaws, that practically there are no stamps whose position on a sheet cannot be ascertained, i.e., the stamp is entirely plateable.

As, however, there are 200 stamps in each sheet, and there are at least three (and probably several more) settings, the labour of plating is very great.

—*The Philatelic Adviser*.

#### German Stamps for Offices in Turkey.

The first overprinted set of stamps was not issued till 25th January, 1884. From 1870 till this date the stamps of the mother country (the issues of the North German Confederation of 1869, and of the German Empire from 1872 to 1890) were used in Constantinople without any distinguishing mark. In time it was discovered that a large number of these stamps were not bought for postal purposes, but were used for making remittances to Germany, the difference of exchange enabling the remitters to buy the stamps under face value, whilst at the same time this mode of remittance avoided the fee for money orders. To counteract this the stamps supplied to the office were overprinted with the approximate value in Turkish currency. This had the double effect of stopping the practice referred to above, and for some time of attracting additional local custom. The latter, as mentioned in the article on "French Levant," was by reason of the fact that these overprinted German stamps were sold at the facial Turkish currency without regard to fluctuation of exchange, whilst the uncharged stamps of the French offices were sold at the full equivalent of exchange. In August, 1885, the French stamps were similarly overprinted, and the German advantage was nullified.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 24.10.08.

#### Sarawak.

Two correspondents have asked for particulars as to the position on the sheet of the variety of the 2c., lilac on lilac, Sarawak stamp of 1875, with stop between the words of value. Although this variety is not catalogued it is just as interesting as the similar error listed in connection with the 3c. of 1871, and is also very much rarer. It only occurs on the sheets of the second printing of the 2c., and will be found on the 5th stamp in the second row from the top.—*West End Philatelist*.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Ceylon: Imperforate Octagonals.

The *Indian Journal of Philately*, contrasting the prices realised for the imperforate octagonals of Ceylon ten years ago with the prices of to-day, says:—"Round about ten years ago the eight pence fetched £31. £24, £23 10s. twice, £22, £20, £19 twice, £16 10s., £15 10s., £14 15s., £14, £11 10s., £11, and £9 10s. This year it has fetched £12, £10, £8, £5 10s., £5 5s., £4 10s., £4 4s., and £2 15s. The used four pence of the same issue ran the eight pence very close in 1897 in the number of its appearances, but nowadays it is not seen so frequently. It used to fetch £20 5s., £16 10s., £15 15s., £15 10s., £15 5s., £14, £13 7s., £12 12s., £12 10s., £12, £11, and £10 10s. This year it has fetched £9 10s., £9 5s., and £5 12s. 6d., and the price now is about two-thirds of its former one. The used two shillings has fallen from £14 10s., £10, £7 10s., £7, £6 5s., and £5 7s. 6d., to £6, £5 10s. twice, and £4 10s. The nine pence in similar condition fetched £4 in 1897, and £3, £2 12 6d., and £2 10s. twice in 1908; and the one shilling and nine pence used and imperforate shows a decline from £5 12s. 6d. and £3 10s., to £2 17s. 6d., £2 4s., and £2, but a fine pair has brought £10 this year."

## Mr. Castle's Explanation.

Commenting on this gloomy list of prices, Mr. Castle offers the following explanation:—"There is no doubt that the estimation of this issue was unduly (with other stamps) forced up some years ago and then declined until about three years ago, since when it has steadily increased again. But the highest and the lowest of any of the fore-named quotations afford no safe guide. Ten years ago the quality of the stamps offered at auction was incomparably superior to that of the present day. Some really fine old collections were broken up, and the record prices in all the foregoing cases were for specimens of such brilliancy that it is safe to say if they changed hands to-day their value would be fully maintained. On the other hand some of the lowest quotations recorded by our contemporary obviously represent 'the lame, the halt, and the blind.' Copies of this imperforate octagonal series that are truly fine are exceedingly difficult nowadays to find in this country—if not in India—and we are convinced that such would readily change hands at practically the valuation recorded ten years since. We except only those two or three immaculate specimens that attained the highest prices (as quoted), which refer to copies—to-day as then—earmarked for their beauty."

## Catalogue Prices. Imperforate Octagonal Ceylons, used.

These references of the *Indian Journal* are to auction prices, but let us see how the same stamps have fared in Gibbons' catalogue. Here are the prices commencing with 1899, i.e., for a similar period:—

	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1908
4d.	£20	£18	£18	£16	£14	£14	£16	£16
8d.	£20	£18	£18	£10	£15	£15	£15	£15
9d.	85.0	85.0	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5
1s. 9d.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	£6	£6	£6	£6
2s.	130.0	130.0	£8	£8	£8	£8	£8	£8

Here it will be seen that the 4d. and 8d. have steadily dropped from the prices of 1899, the 8d. recovering slightly in 1906, and that the 9d., 1s. 9d. and 2s. are all a little

better than in 1899. It will be noted that the total catalogue value of these five octagonals in 1899 was £55 15s. 0d., and that it now stands at £50, e.g., a purchaser who bought these classic old issues in 1899 would find his investment value reduced by £5, plus compound interest for ten years.

## The Question of Condition.

There is no doubt that the one great disturbing element in any comparison of the prices of to-day with those of five, ten, or fifteen years ago, is the one question of condition. Another considerable factor in prices is the increasing scarcity of fine copies of grand old issues.

## Fine Copies Reserved.

So scarce, indeed, are fine copies of some old stamps that it is now growing to be the practice for dealers to reserve them for their best special customers. Average copies are passed through the stock books as before, but those who are willing to pay special prices for fine copies, rare blocks, etc., are shown the reserves, and select and pay accordingly. And there is no question that it is better in the end to pay a long price for a good copy that everybody wants, than a low price for a poor copy that goes begging for a purchaser.

## Times have changed.

I remember some fifteen years ago being very much amused at the practice of a well-known dealer who adhered to a very old practice of making up a page of each variety, and marking on the top of each page "all at 21s." etc., regardless of the fact that some copies were minus a corner, or torn across, or otherwise badly damaged. "It don't matter," he would say, "first come, first served; if you pick out all the good copies, others who come after you will have to be satisfied with what is left."

## Old Issues: Limit.

But there is another side to the question of the market range of prices of old issues.

The contrast made by the *Indian Journal of Philately* may possibly, in some measure, be due to another influence.

Some old issues have run up to such a high price that they can find purchasers only in a limited wealthy grade of collectors. And it is unquestionably a fact that the higher the price the fewer the buyers, consequently there must be a lessening of demand. If this lessening of demand is balanced by a lessening of the supply, obviously the price will not be affected.

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We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwin, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Sudan Complete Sheets.

Mr. T. C. Appleton writes to me, 30.10.08, as follows:—"I have read with interest your article on Sudan in this week's *Postage Stamp*, so I trust you will excuse me writing you with regard to same.

In the 1897 issue you state that the stamps of Egypt which were overprinted were in sheets of 120, two panes of 60. Is not this wrong? I have always understood that the stamps were in sheets of 240, four panes of 60, and that the sheets were cut up into panes of 60 before being surcharged. Collectors would infer from your article that it was possible to obtain a sheet of 120, i.e. two panes together, which, I think, is not so. With regard to the type central dot omitted you state that it is the 1st stamp in the 5th row of the lower pane, but it is not always so, in fact it is only in about one sheet out of 50 sheets that you find this variety, whereas your article reads as if it were always so.

I have also been informed that this dot being omitted makes the Arabic read AL instead of AIV.

I had through my hands last year an interesting sheet of the 5pi. which showed 5 stamps in the 5th row with no dot.

With regard to varieties I do not know if you are aware that the 2m. green exists with the English at the top of the stamp and the Arabic at the foot, also surcharged with the English at top only."

## Bulgarian Rarities.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, commenting on the article on Bulgarian stamps which appeared in *The Postage Stamp*, 24.10.08, says that, in addition to the 5 stotinki, rose, error in the colour of the 10st., Bulgaria possesses two other rarities infinitely more rare than the one I mentioned. "The first of these," says he, "is one that recently passed through our hands, although not yet in our catalogue, but it is in the new Köhl. I refer to the 1879 issue, 5c. black and orange, with the background inverted. On the correct stamps a white space is left vacant in which the lion is printed in at the second printing. In at least one sheet the paper was turned round, and the lion does not fit in correctly, and the space left for his head appears behind the hind claws. This error ranks with the first rarities of Europe. I think that only three copies have, at present, been found.

Another great rarity in Bulgaria is the 1884 provisional '5' in black on 30st. There are many forgeries of this rare stamp, but I

doubt if more than six or seven genuine specimens of this stamp are known."

## Answers to Correspondents.

W. F. (London). Thanks for yours of the 5th and previous letter. American Commemoration Card was a private advertisement by the Junior Philatelic Society. Yes, the last column in the colour scheme reprinted from the *Colonial Office Journal* in *The Postage Stamp*, page 38, should have been headed "Colour of Paper." Thank you for calling attention to it.

E. A. (London). I hope to find room shortly for a list of Tasmanians up-to-date as suggested by you. You will find an excellent list from Mr. Heginbottom in a recent number of *The Postage Stamp*.

# Collectors' Wants and Exchanges



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

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5m carmine	4 0

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 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Indian Postal Service.



THE annual report of the Post Office of India for the year ended March 31 last, shows that the expansion of postal business regularly exhibited in previous reports was well maintained and that a good effect was produced by the reduction of inland rates for letters and parcels effected on October 1 of last year, as well as by the raising of the unit of weight for foreign letters from half-

an-ounce to an ounce, in accordance with the decision of the Postal Congress of 1906. The total number of articles handled exceeded 826½ millions, a rise of 47 millions in the year. Nearly half of this increase was in letters, while postcards accounted for over 17 millions, and newspapers for more than four millions. Accompanying the reduction of parcel rates, the business in this branch rose by 1½ per cent. The total number of parcels was just under three per head of the population, but it was nearly 50 per head of the literate population. A large proportion of parcels is carried under the value payable system, and the total amount declared for recovery was no less than five millions sterling, of which amount no less than 1½ million sterling went to Calcutta tradesmen. Letters and postcards from this country rose from 8,637,000 to 8,910,000, while those sent here from India increased from 7,450,000 to 7,881,000.

New Zealand Varieties.

New Zealand specialists find their hands pretty full in keeping pace with the varieties that are cropping up from month to month. What with new perfs. and new plates, the list is mounting up at a considerable rate. And yet there is the consolation that the varieties are genuine results of developments of stamp production about which there is no suspicion of the made-for-collectors class of article.

The Latest N. Z. News.

Mr. W. B. Edwards sends me the latest news. He writes, "A new plate of the ½d. was made some time ago, when the perf was still 14. This plate has the dot between the stamps, and, of course, continues with the new perfs. 14 by 13½ and 14 by 15. The colour is apple green, and is the stamp listed by Gibbons as yellow green under Cowan, wmk single lined N. Z. perf. 14. Its proper place is just before No. 303. The usefulness of the dot is apparent, and, moreover the plate shows none of the signs of wear revealed by the ½d. stamps current just previously. We have thus three varieties of the ½d. with dot, i.e., all three perfs., and the 14 should be good."

N. Z.'s Ignored by our Dealers.

These varieties that are being turned out by New Zealand are practically being ignored by our English dealers. I do not know one who thinks it worth his while to keep in touch with New Zealand current issues. You would be much more likely to come across a "Post Office" Mauritius in the Strand than a set of New Zealand of the Waterlow designs, up to date.

And yet there are other countries that are stocked in much greater variety. Why? Simply because the N.Z.'s are a bit troublesome to understand.

Bosnian rubbish, with all sorts of swindling perfs., could, and can still be had in profusion, because they were made for sale to collectors and were obtainable by the sack. But very few New Zealand varieties of perf. are to be had for love or money.

Meanwhile the Specialist scores.

Meanwhile the New Zealand specialist scores, and seems likely to score heavily. He gets his stamps direct from dealers and friends in the colony as they are issued. And there is every prospect that the common stamps of to-day will be the unobtainables of to-morrow.

This state of affairs has come home to a shrewd little band of prominent specialists, and they do not mind the little extra trouble, for they know that they are working in a nice little mine of their own. They can afford to laugh up their sleeves at the scoffing at N.Z.'s. and some even hope the scoffers will keep it up till the harvest is gathered.

**Rarities galore.**

In the sweet by-and-bye there will be rarities galore, and when they are duly and properly catalogued then the Great Moguls will swoop down on them, and five pound notes will be plentiful.

I have seen a few of the great collections that are being built up and I anticipate that there will be a lively rush some of these odd days.

**Explanation of Varieties.**

The explanation of the outcrop of varieties is due, as I have more than once pointed out, to the difficulties that the printers of New Zealand are endeavouring to overcome in printing from steel plates. They took on a job that our best London printers, with all their appliances, and the most skilled workmen, find hard enough, and the results have been just what has been expected in experienced circles.

**Wait for the Commonwealth Experiment.**

It is said that the Commonwealth authorities are bent on having the best of designs on the best of steel plates, and that they also will do their own printing.

When they do we shall have another crop of continuous varieties *a la* New Zealand. And then we shall see what the sceptics have to say about varieties that could be avoided.

**The Proposed Stamp Club.**

There is very little talk about the proposed Stamp Club, which is a discouraging sign, for there must be a lot of talk before work in the matter of the establishment of a club, and if there is not sufficient interest in the scheme to set people's tongues wagging the chances of success will be small indeed. I have recently met several prominent collectors and dealers but the subject never came up. That is bad.

**Proposed Hobby Club.**

Meanwhile, the *Daily Mail* makes an important announcement which may have a considerable influence on the stamp club scheme. Here is the *Daily Mail* announcement:—

"Viscount Molesworth and the Hon. George Scott have hit upon a novel idea for a club.

"Assisted by an influential committee, they are negotiating for splendidly equipped premises in the West End of London as a home for the new 'Hobby Club.'

"Men will be admitted as members; women as associates. All must have hobbies, and so far as the club is concerned they must be amateurs. The club will cater for hobbies in:

Science	Metal Work
Travel	Photography
Art	Gardening
Sport	Book Collecting
Curio Collecting	China
Psychical Research	Objets d'Art
Carving	

and the recreations generally of busy men and women of position.

"Nothing will be too important or too insignificant, too heavy or too light for study, interest, and debate; from old pewter to modern silver, from picture postcards to the oldest masterpieces, from the modern piano to the ancient harp, from stamps to astronomy, from earthenware to rarest china, from humble daisies to the choicest exotic, from artificial séances to genuine psychical research.

"An extensive library will be formed on all subjects. Intellectual salons will be held, at which men or women of similar tastes may confer and aid each other. Experts

will be engaged to lecture and give advice. There will be a department where members and associates may sell, buy, or exchange their objets d'art.

"Already many well-known men and women with hobbies have given their patronage to the club, and Mr. Stuart Nuthall, at the temporary offices, 36, Wilton Place, will supply full particulars to those interested in it."

It is passing strange that there is no mention of Stamp Collecting in this list, seeing that stamp collectors probably outnumber any class in the whole lot in devotees, influence and wealth.

This scheme promises much greater success than our stamp club idea, but it is to be confined to amateurs, whereas our stamp club would have depended largely upon the support of our dealer friends.

**Death of Sir William Avery.**

The recent death of Sir William Avery removes a great and wealthy collector from our ranks, but the loss is tempered by the fact that for some years Sir William has been dropping out of stamp collecting, indeed he had practically ceased to collect, and some portions of his great collection have been silently passed through Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Auction Rooms.

At one time he was a liberal purchaser of stamps, his expenditure with one leading firm is said to have exceeded £4,000 a year.

**Resignation of Mr. Biggs.**

Fellows and Members of the Royal Philatelic Society will all hear with infinite regret that Mr. Biggs, the genial Treasurer of the Society, who has held office for the past twenty years, has been compelled to resign on the score of ill health. He has been one of the most regular workers in Committee and other work, and yet one of the most retiring. If there was any work to do C. Neville Biggs was always ready to shoulder his share, but he was never "on exhibition."

**Cayman Iniquities.**

Will the sum total of Cayman iniquities ever be complete? The latest addition to the long list is from the pen of Mr. Ward, who tells us that when the Queen's heads Caymans first came out packets of them unused were mailed from Georgetown with a 3d. Jamaica stamp to defray the postage.

But, all the same, Caymans still are as popular as ever. They follow the run of some books, the more they are abused the better they sell.

**The New United States Issue.**

The sudden and startling announcement of a new issue for the United States continues to puzzle our friends across the water. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* thinks there must be some mistake in the statement that all denominations, except the 1c., are to have a portrait of Washington, and that the colours given must also be wrong, as some do not conform to the Postal Union scheme.

**The Manchester Juniors.**

The Manchester Juniors have cut adrift from the London Junior Philatelic Society and formally resolved at a meeting held on the 22.10.08 to paddle their own canoe. But they have re-elected the old officers, i.e. they have only torn down the London flag and run up the rebel ensign.

They are a vigorous lot, and have a big thing on in the Exhibition they are arranging with so much energy, and we all wish them a thumping success. They have an excellent President in Mr. Bernstein.



# Cape of Good Hope

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 78)

**Numbers Printed.**

The record of the numbers printed of the grand old triangulars demonstrates the fact that popular stamps creep into rarity despite printings running into millions.

<i>1853.</i>		
1d. red	-	1,970,000
4d. blue	-	440,000
<i>1855-8.</i>		
1d. red	-	3,880,000
4d. blue	-	6,470,000
6d. lilac	-	920,000
1s. green	-	380,160
<i>1863-4.</i>		
1d. red	-	1,228,040
4d. blue	-	1,268,840
6d. mauve	-	95,550
1s. emerald green	-	87,920

**Range of Catalogue Prices.**

In the matter of the range of prices, catalogue quotations and fluctuations are very largely dominated by the question of condition in the case of triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps, indeed so much is the case that catalogue prices may be regarded as approximate rather than definite prices at which satisfactory copies can be had. However, I append the table of fluctuations for what it may be worth, merely remarking that in all probability the best copies to be had in 1899 at the then catalogue quotations would be sought for in vain at the prices of to-day.

*Unused.*

	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
<i>1853.</i>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d.	50 0	70 0	—	60 0	—
4d.	50 0	60 0	—	—	—

<i>1855-8.</i>	1d.	7 6	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 0
	4d.	5 0	10 0	17 6	25 0	25 0
	6d.	25 0	30 0	35 0	60 0	75 0
	1s.	60 0	70 0	70 0	100 0	100 0

<i>1861.</i>	1d.	£25	—	—	—
	4d.	£25	—	—	—

<i>1863-4.</i>	1d.	10 0	17 6	17 6	30 0	25 0
	4d.	12 6	25 0	25 0	30 0	25 0
	6d.	20 0	35 0	35 0	40 0	40 0
	1s.	95 0	—	80 0	100 0	100 0

*Used.*

	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
<i>1853.</i>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d.	4 0	6 0	7 6	10 0	12 0
4d.	2 6	4 0	4 0	4 6	5 0

<i>1855-8.</i>	1d.	3 6	4 6	4 6	7 6	7 6
	4d.	1 6	2 0	1 9	2 6	2 6
	6d.	6 0	7 6	10 0	12 6	12 6
	1s.	16 6	17 6	15 0	15 0	15 0

**1861.**

1d.	-	100 0	95 0	100 0	110 0	110 0
4d.	-	40 0	50 0	50 0	60 0	60 0

**1863-4.**

1d.	-	7 6	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0
4d.	-	7 6	5 0	4 6	4 6	5 0
6d.	-	10 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
1s.	-	25 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	30 0

**1864-77.** Five values. Design: Female figure of Hope seated on an anchor. In 1864 the fine old triangulars were replaced by an ordinary size rectangular stamp designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. The design was a female figure emblematic of Hope, seated upon an anchor, holding, according to the description in the London Philatelic Society's monograph on Africa, in her right hand a grape-vine branch, and her left hand resting on a ram, "two attributes of the colony." A peculiar effect of a diagonal division of the design is produced by the shading of the background. The design is enclosed in a thin outer line of colour. This enclosing outer line plays a prominent part in the variations of this design in the successive series from 1864 to the issue of the King's Heads.

In this first issue of the rectangular series there were the same four values as in the triangulars, but the stamps were all printed on paper watermarked Crown CC., and were perforated.

All the values are very scarce unused, and nice mint well-centred copies are highly prized by collectors who specialize in the stamps of this philatelically favourite colony. Even nice used copies are not so plentiful as the prices would seem to indicate. The stamps were arranged so closely together on the sheet that unless the perforating was done with the greatest accuracy it was impossible to avoid cutting into the design. Hence the notable scarcity of well-centred copies.



*With Outer Line.  
Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf.*

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1d. red	-	7 6	2 6
4d. blue	-	17 6	6 6
6d. mauve	-	10 0	0 8
1s. green	-	20 0	3 0

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

The stamps of this series of C.C. Capes with outer line are all on the up grade. Fine mint copies, well centred, with full gum, are scarce, and if they were not so overshadowed as they are by the infinitely more popular

triangulars they would probably be very much higher priced than they are. In comparison with the triangulars they are poverty-stricken in style and design, and have nothing to recommend them but their scarcity. It will be noted that all values have considerably improved on even the prices of 1899, known as the year of inflation.

	1896	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d.	- 8 0	4 0	6 0	7 6	7 6	7 6
4d.	- 5 0	10 0	12 6	17 6	17 6	17 6
6d.	- 2 6	2 6	4 6	8 6	8 6	10 0
1s.	- 6 0	10 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0

**1868.** One value. Provisional. To make up for a shortage of fourpenny stamps a provisional was made by surcharging the sixpence of the last issue with the words "Four Pence" in one line on the upper part of the stamp, and two thick bars of colour, cancelled the old value. The surcharging was done in red.



Provisional.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
"Four Pence" on 6d. mauve	- 30 0	5 0

**1871-7.** Four values, two of which, ½d. and 5s., were new values. Design, as in previous issue, but with the thin outer line removed. Watermarked Crown CC as before, and perforated. The 5s. of this no outer line Crown CC issue is a rather difficult stamp to get unused. The ½d. value of this series, issued in 1876, is a bit of a philatelic mystery, for there was no halfpenny rate of postage in the colony until 1st July, 1882, and I have never come across any explanation of the reasons for this early issue of a ½d. value.

*No Outer Lines.*

Wmk. Crown CC.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. black	-	-	2 0	2 0	
1d. red	-	-	2 6	0 2	
4d. blue	-	-	15 0	0 2	
5s. orange-yellow	-	-	60 0	8 6	

**1874-80.** Provisionals. In these years there was quite a batch of provisionals. The postal authorities at the Cape evidently underestimated their requirements in the matter of postage stamps, and as a natural consequence were apparently continually running short of some value, mostly of the one penny.

First came the 6d. of 1864-7, surcharged ONE PENNY in red Roman capital letters, and printed on the upper part of the stamp with a thick bar cancelling the original value. This provisional is very scarce, used as well as unused. The surcharging was very carelessly done by a local printer. Sometimes the ONE PENNY falls on the lower part of the stamp and the cancelling bar on the name of the colony.

Then a supply of the 1s. of the same 1864-7 series was similarly surcharged in black.

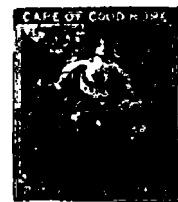


To provide a new value, 3d., a number of the 4d. of 1871-4, without outer line, was surcharged THREE PENCE in small capitals, in red, across the upper part of the stamp, with a thick bar obliterating the original value. This stamp is fairly common used, but specialists find a couple of very curious errors in the surcharge which are much sought after, and which my young friends should make a note of, as they may come across one or other in an odd lot at any time. In one the word THREE is printed THE.EE. and there is a full stop between the first and second E's. In the other the word PENCE has a B instead



of an E at the end and is printed THREE PENC.B. These errors are catalogued at 60s. each, and are not frequently met with even at that price.

Another 3d. provisional was provided by the printers of the stamps, Messrs. De La Rue & Co., who, presumably to send out a supply to meet the needs of the colony while they were preparing a die for the new value, printed the 4d. of 1871-7 type without outer line in lilac-rose, and then surcharged it with the word THREEPENCE in tall thin capitals. In this provisional there was no cancelling bar. The word THREEPENCE was simply printed at the bottom of the stamp over the original value.



Provisionals.

Wmk. Crown CC.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. in red on 6d. violet	-	60 0	25 0		
1d. in black on 1s. green	-	7 6	7 6		
3d. in red on 4d. blue	-	10 0	2 0		
3d. in black on 4d. lilac-rose	-	7 6	1 3		

*Surcharge—Double.*

3d. in red on 4d. blue	-	-	-
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*Errors.*

THE.EE PENCE on 4d.  
THREE PENC.B ou 4d.

To be continued.

# Indian States: Queen's Heads

By B. Gordon Jones in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly

**T**HERE are marked variations in the shades of some of the Queen's Head stamps overprinted for use in the Indian Convention States. In the Indian Society's handbook on these issues a few shades are mentioned which do not exist, and there are one or two omissions of shades which do exist. The pricing of several of these in the catalogues is guess-work, and the "valuations" are often absurd. The figures in Gibbons' Catalogue are the most reliable, but the rarer shades are more often than not "out of stock." The minor catalogues merely echo Gibbons (errors and omissions included), but with prices put down all round, and with "stocks," which are a negligible quantity, behind these valuations.

The following notes are an attempt to draw attention to the rarity of many of these shades. By the location of various errors known only to exist in certain printings, and by other extraneous evidence, it has been possible to more or less correctly determine the exact shades in some values used in most printings. The figures may not be absolutely accurate, but they may be reasonably accepted as correct. The undernoted list comprises all the values of the Queen's Head stamps which were at one time or another surcharged for the different States, and their main shades:—

- 3 pies, carmine.
- " grey.
- ½ anna, deep green.
- " pea-green.
- 9 pies, carmine and aniline rose.
- 1 anna, purple-brown and aniline plum.
- " carmine (slight shades).
- 1 anna 6 pies, sepia, light and deep.
- 2 as., blue and ultramarine.
- " violet (slight shades).
- 2 as. 6 pies, green.
- " blue.
- 3 as., orange and brown-orange.
- 4 as., olive-green and slate-green.
- 6 as., olive-bistre and brown-bistre.
- 8 as., dull mauve and aniline mauve.
- 12 as., purple on red.
- 1 rupee, slate, light and deep.
- " green and carmine.
- 2, 3, and 5 rupees, bicoloured.

The stamps in the above list marked\* show very small variations in shade; all the others show marked differences, and the main colours may be thus divided into shades:—

## ½ anna, deep green.

The earlier shades are yellowish green, green and deep green, 1884-95, the older sheets being with brownish gum. The later shades are light green and bluish green, used from 1895 onward.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the ½ anna cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

## ½ anna, pea-green.

The pale pea-green shade was in use till the early part of 1902; the deep pea-green shade succeeded it.

## 9 pies, carmine.

Earlier shade, deep carmine (brownish gum); later shade, aniline rose.

## 1 anna, purple-brown.

Deep purple-brown and pale purple-brown (the earlier printings being with brownish gum), 1884-95

(This value is known in *pale brown* with some of these surcharges, but it is impossible with any certainty to assign them to any particular printing; apparently this shade was used towards the end of the purple-brown period, and before the aniline shades were introduced.)

## 1 anna, aniline plum.

These aniline shades are in pale and in deep plum; the colour in the deeper shades quite permeates the paper; in use about 1895-1900.

## 2 annas, blue and ultramarine.

The earlier printings of these shades have brownish gum. First shades, blue, pale blue, and dull blue, 1885-95; later shades, pale and deep ultramarine, 1895-1900.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 2 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

## 3 annas, orange and brown-orange.

The first shades of this stamp were in deep orange, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum. About the middle of 1889 a pale yellow-orange shade was in use for a few months, but this was again superseded by the older orange colour for a time. The brownish-orange to deep brown-orange shades came into use after 1890.

## 4 annas, olive green and slate green.

The earlier shades of this stamp were in a rich, deep olive-green, changing later to pale olive-green, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum, 1885-95. The slate-green shades, pale and deep, were in use about 1895-1902.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 4 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

## 6 annas, olive bistre and brown-bistre.

The correct order of the use of these shades is difficult to determine. Apparently the olive shades (pale and bright) were in use up to about 1890, being succeeded by the brown shades (dull and bright); but this order was at times not adhered to, both shades being known in the same printing (proving that called-in mixed stocks were being supplied to the printing office). This 6 annas stamp was in use in British India from 1876 to long after 1900, the brown shades being in use up to about 1880, these being succeeded by the olive shades till about 1890, the browns being then again reverted to after that period.

## 8 annas, dull mauve and aniline mauve.

The early shades, dull mauve and pale bright mauve, were in use up to about the end of 1893, the earlier sheets having brownish gum. The aniline colours, mauve and magenta, from 1894 onwards.

## 1 rupee, green and carmine.

The later printings are in aniline colours, and are known in some of these issues, but it is impossible to determine totals.

From the above details it will be seen that the totals cannot be ascertained in some of these stamps, i.e. ½ anna, deep green; 2 annas, blue; and 4 annas, olive and slate-green. In the other values totals have been more or less definitely obtained, and these are mentioned in detail in the following table (the figures in brackets after the colours refer to the numbers of the various printings, which are mentioned in the Indian Society's handbook):—

**CHAMBA.****Ordinary.**

½ anna, pale pea-green (9) ... ..	12,240
"   deep pea-green (10) ... ..	48,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4)	31,799
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7) ... ..	7,440
3 as., orange (2, 3) ... ..	4,346
"   brown-orange (4, 5, 7, 8, 10) ... ..	8,879
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4) ... ..	2,685
"   brown-bistre (5, 7, 8, 9, 10) ... ..	7,894
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4) ... ..	4,181
"   aniline mauve (5, 7, 8, 10) ... ..	4,620

**Service.**

½ anna, pale pea-green (9) ... ..	9,840
"   deep pea-green (10) ... ..	19,440
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4) ... ..	51,899
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7, 8) ... ..	48,480
8 as., orange (3) ... ..	1,566
"   brown-orange (4, 7) ... ..	3,919
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4) ... ..	2,955
"   brown-bistre (7) ... ..	1,440
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4) ... ..	3,702
"   aniline mauve (5, 7, 10) ... ..	7,920

**FARIDKOT****Ordinary.**

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8) ... ..	67,700
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade).

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 11, 12, 18) ... ..	35,520
8 as., orange (1, 2, 3) ... ..	6,800
"   brown-orange (7, 8, 10, 18) ... ..	56,880
6 as., olive-bistre (1, 3) ... ..	64,600
"   brown-bistre (2, 3, 7, 10) ... ..	6,180

(The *olive* shade of this stamp was apparently used for the July, 1886, printing (600), and the *brown* shade for the printings of February, 1887 (500), February, 1889 (1920), and August, 1893 (600). The large number overprinted in February, 1894 (64,000), however, consisted of the *olive* shade. The November, 1895, printing (2,160), was again in the *brown* shade).

8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7) ... ..	3,060
"   aniline mauve (8, 10) ... ..	49,200

**Service.**

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8) ... ..	66,140
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade).

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 12, 13) ... ..	22,080
8 as., orange (1, 2, 3) ... ..	3,440
"   brown-orange (11, 12) ... ..	5,280
6 as., olive-bistre (1) ... ..	600
"   brown-bistre (2, 3) ... ..	1,780
8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7) ... ..	2,840
"   aniline mauve (8, 10) ... ..	48,000

**GWALIOR.**

(The 1 anna, 6 as., and 8 as. values of the first issue exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

**Ordinary (Short Black Hindi)**

9 pies, deep carmine (13) ... ..	1,200
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13) ... ..	102,000
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9) ... ..	10,850
"   pale yellow-orange (8) ... ..	500
"   brown-orange (11) ... ..	4,150
6 as., olive-bistre (3) ... ..	1,500
"   brown-bistre (3) ... ..	1,500

(The 6 as. value of this printing, September, 1885, is known in both shades, so it is assumed that the total overprinted roughly consisted of about half of each. The *olive* shade is, however, the rarer.)

8 as., dull mauve (3) ... ..	2,750
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**Ordinary (Long black Hindi)**

½ anna, pale pea-green (35) ... ..	192,240
"   deep pea-green (37) ... ..	48,240
9 pies, deep carmine (13) ... ..	500
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 18) ... ..	117,660
1 anna, aniline plum (24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31) ... ..	240,480
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9) ... ..	4,750
"   pale yellow-orange (8) ... ..	220
"   brown-orange (11, 14, 17, 18, 26, 27, 28, 31, 35, 37) ... ..	158,570
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 15) ... ..	8,920
"   bistre-brown (3, 26) ... ..	6,180
8 as., dull mauve (3, 16) ... ..	25,090
"   aniline mauve (26) ... ..	6,000

**Service**

½ anna, pale pea-green (35) ... ..	576,240
"   deep pea-green (37) ... ..	624,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (19, 20) ... ..	144,000
(This stamp is also known in <i>pale brown</i> ; it is fairly common used).	
1 anna, aniline plum (22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 33) ... ..	960,960
8 as., dull mauve (19) ... ..	6,000
"   aniline mauve (23, 25) ... ..	12,480

**JHIND.**

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first issue, and with the "Jeend" overprints, exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades).

**Ordinary (Straight black surcharge).**

½ anna, pale pea-green (15) ... ..	6,240
"   deep pea-green (16) ... ..	5,040
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 6) ... ..	48,240

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade).

1 anna, aniline plum (12) ... ..	5,040
3 as., brown-orange (6, 8, 9, 11, 15) ... ..	15,620
(This stamp does not exist in the true <i>orange</i> shade).	
6 as., olive-bistre (6) ... ..	2,100
"   brown-bistre (9, 11) ... ..	7,040

(The Indian Society's handbook states that 1920 6 as. stamps were overprinted in May, 1903. This is a mistake; the 1920 stamps surcharged were the 8 as., aniline mauve).

8 as., dull mauve (3, 6) ... ..	5,860
"   aniline mauve (11, 12, 17) ... ..	4,320

**Service (Straight black surcharge).**

½ anna, pale pea-green (15) ... ..	30,240
1 anna, deep purple-brown (3) total unknown	
"   aniline plum (14) ... ..	24,240
8 as., dull mauve (7) ... ..	4,100
"   aniline mauve (11) ... ..	4,800

**NABHA.**

The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first issue exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades).

**Ordinary**

9 pies, deep carmine (11) ... ..	1,460
"   aniline rose (12) ... ..	12,000
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 13) ... ..	167,500
1 anna aniline plum (14) ... ..	24,000
3 as., pale yellow-orange (5) ... ..	1,567
"   orange (6) ... ..	2,183
"   brown-orange (10, 12) ... ..	14,400

6 as., olive-bistre (5) ... ..	1,088
„ brown-bistre (7, 12) ... ..	17,920
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 6, 7, 12) ... ..	15,770
3 as., pale yellow-orange (5) ... ..	1,567
„ brown-orange (7) ... ..	1,920
6 as., olive-bistre (5) ... ..	1,033
„ brown-bistre (7) ... ..	1,920
8 as., dull mauve (5, 12) ... ..	10,900

**Service**

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (2, 10, 13) ... ..	64,500
1 anna, aniline plum (14, 17, 18) ... ..	72,480

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

**PUTTIALLA.**

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first and second issues exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

**Ordinary ("Patiala").**

½ anna, pale pea-green (23) ... ..	120,240
9 pies, carmine (10) ... ..	24,000
„ aniline rose (10), number included above.	

(This stamp in the *aniline* shade is rare. Apparently one or more sheets were included in the tenth printing.)

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (9, 12) 120,960  
(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade).

1 anna, aniline plum (18, 20) ... .. 96,480

3 as., brown-orange (10) ... .. 24,000

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade).

6 as., olive-bistre (20), number included below.

„ brown-bistre (10, 20) ... .. 40,320

(This stamp in the *olive* shade is of great rarity. Apparently one or more sheets were included in the twentieth printing).

8 as., aniline mauve (16, 20) ... .. 24,480

**Service ("Patiala").**

1 anna, aniline plum (22) ... .. 240,240

3 as., brown-orange (10) ... .. 24,000

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade).

6 as., brown-bistre (10) ... .. 82,000

8 as., dull mauve (10) ... .. 24,000

„ aniline mauve (18, 20, 25) ... .. 24,480

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 79).

**Heller.**—The value in which many of the current stamps of Austria, Bosnia, Montenegro and German East Africa are expressed. In the case of the European countries the heller is the hundredth part of a krone and is equal to about  $\frac{1}{100}$ th of a penny in English money. In German East Africa 100 heller equal a rupee, which has a nominal value of 2/1, and a heller is thus worth about  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in our currency.

**Helvetia.**—The name by which the Federal Republic of Switzerland is denoted upon most of its postage stamps.

**Hen.**—These letters, in microscopic characters, appear at the foot of the Belgium stamps of 1891-93 on the left hand side. They are an abbreviation of the name of M. Hendrickx, who designed the framework.

**Hendrickx, M. H.**—A Belgian artist who designed the 1869-70 stamps for Belgium and also the framework for the issue of 1891-3.

**Heraldic Emblems.**—(See "FOUR FLOWERS WMK.")

**Herzegovina.**—One of the provinces of the Ottoman Empire which, in conjunction with Bosnia, has been administered by Austria since 1878, and which has recently been annexed by the latter country. It is a mountainous region with an area of 3,520 square miles and a population of about 225,000. It has no stamps of its own, but since April, 1879 stamps common to both Bosnia and Herzegovina have been in use.

**Herzegowina.**—The native form of Herzegovina as shown upon the current stamps of Bosnia-Herzegowina.

**Herzogth.**—This word, followed by "Schleswig" or "Holstein," appears on most of the stamps of these two German Duchies. It is an abbreviation of "Herzogthum," which means "Duchy."

**Herzogthum Holstein.**—The inscription shown upon the  $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling stamp of Holstein. It means "Duchy of Holstein."

**H. H.**—The initials of M. H. Hendrickx, a Belgian engraver, which are shown in tiny letters at the foot of the design of the Belgian stamps of 1869-70.

**H. H. Nawab Shah Jahan Begam.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps of the Indian Native State of Bhopal. They are the names and titles of the ruler of the State. The word "shah" is replaced by "sultan" on the present stamps.

**H. I. Postage.**—An inscription shown upon some of the stamps of Hawaii, the first two letters standing, of course, for "Hawaiian Islands."

**H. I. & U. S. Postage.**—This inscription is shown upon the rarer of the two types of the 13c. "missionary" stamps of Hawaii. The letters are an abbreviation for "Hawaiian Islands and United States."

**Hill, Sir Rowland.**—The originator of penny postage. He was born at Kidderminster in 1879. He invented the rotary press for printing newspapers and, as the government declined to permit the attachment of a machine to affix the revenue stamp, he propounded the theory of penny postage and invented the adhesive stamp. In 1839 he was attached to the Treasury—after very considerable opposition—for the purpose of putting his theories into practice and in the following year his great scheme of penny postage was inaugurated. He died at Hampstead in 1879 and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

**Hindi inscription.**—The inscription in native characters surcharged upon various Indian stamps for use in the Native State of Gwalior.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. now send us specimens of the Cretan stamps surcharged "ΕΛΛΑΣ" referred to on page 69, and we find the surcharge does not, as a rule, appear over the word "ΚΡΗΤΗ" (Crete). It was at first thought that only the values of the 1905 set had been surcharged, but Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have elicited from official sources that the list of stamps which have received the overprint is as follows:—

1. All the values of the 1905 set except the 10 lepta.
2. The 10 lepta of the 1900 set.
3. The 2 drachmai of the 1900 set.
4. A new 10 lepta stamp.

All except No. 4 were issued on October 19th, and the 10 lepta of the 1900 type was entirely sold out by October 28th, and was replaced by the new stamp of this value. The latter shows the Hermès de Praxitelès as the central design, and, as will be noted from our illustration, it is a very handsome stamp. Apparently it has never been on sale in an unsurcharged condition. The official list makes no mention of the 25 lepta of 1907, which is the only stamp of this value included in our correspondents' consignment. It is therefore, quite possible that the 25 lepta of 1900 does not exist with the surcharge. We note in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 1 lepta of 1900 is reported with the overprint, but this value is not mentioned in the official list, nor were any received by Messrs. King & Co. It will, therefore, be best, for the present, to list only those values we have actually seen. The surcharge is in small block type, as shown in the accompanying illustrations. Apparently the stamps were surcharged in whole sheets at a time, and there seem to be no varieties of importance in the overprint. We have examined a sheet of the 2 lepta and can only find two very minor varieties i.e., No. 88 has the whole of the top of the first "A" cut away, and No. 64 has a small portion of the top of the same character omitted. The following is a list of the values we have seen:—



## Various Stamps overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

	s.	d.
2l. violet, 1905 issue (Diana) ... ..	0	1
5l. green, " " (Britomartia) ... ..	0	1
10l. scarlet, 1900 issue (Prince George) ...	—	—
10l. red, new issue (Hermès de Praxitelès) ...	0	2
20l. blue green, 1905 issue (Jupiter) ... ..	0	3
25l. blue and black, 1907 issue (A. T. A. Zaimis)	0	4
50l. brown, 1905 issue (Ariadne) ... ..	0	8
1dr. carmine and sepia, 1905 issue (Europa and Jupiter) ... ..	1	3
3dr. orange and black, 1905 issue (Minoan Ruins)	3	6
5dr. olive green and black, 1905 issue (View of Mount Ida) ... ..	5	9

**German East Africa.**—(Vol. I. p. 107) —We learn from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that the 8r. value has been issued on the new watermarked paper. The complete list of watermarked stamps is thus as follows:—

## Wmk. Lozenges. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
2½h. brown ... ..	0	1
4h. green ... ..	0	1
7½h. carmine ... ..	0	2
15h. ultramarine ... ..	0	4
45h. violet and black ... ..	1	0
60h. carmine and black on rose ... ..	1	3
3r. blue black and red ... ..	5	0

**Levant (Italian).**—(Vol. III. p. 45).—It appears that, after all, there are a few of the locally produced surcharges that we shall have to recognise for, according to some of our Continental confreres, they were undoubtedly on sale to the public and used for postal purposes. We therefore revise our list of these stamps as follows:—



## Surcharged in Turin as illustrated above.

	s.	d.
10 par on 5c. green ... ..	0	1
20 " " 10c. rose ... ..	0	2
40 " " 25c. blue ... ..	0	4
80 " " 50c. mauve ... ..	0	8
4 piast. on 1l. brown and green ... ..	1	0
20 " " 5l. rose and blue ... ..	5	0

## Surcharged in Constantinople.

" 30 PARA " on 15c. slate ... ..	0	3
" 1 PIASTRE " on 1l. brown and green ... ..	2	0
" 2 PIASTRE " on 50c. mauve ... ..	—	—
" 4 PIASTRE " on 1l. brown and green ... ..	—	—
" 20 PIASTRE " on 5l. rose and blue ... ..	—	—

**Nicaragua.**—(Vol. II. p. 284).—Another provisional is recorded by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*—the 6c. of 1906, surcharged "Vale 35 cts." vertically upwards in red.

1906. *American Print. No wmk. Perf. 12.*  
35 cts. on 6c. slate.

**Norway.**—(Vol. II p. 57).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a 15 öre stamp in the same type as the other öre values now current. It takes the place of the 15ö. provisional issued last April, and is the second stamp of this type issued during the reign of King Haakon VII.

*Wmk. Post horn. Perf. 14½ × 13½.*

	s.	d.
15 öre brown ... ..	0	3
30 .. slate grey ... ..	0	6

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 81).—With reference to our paragraph on page 33, regarding the 2 kop. and 7 kop. of the current issue with background omitted, Mr. E. Stanjer tells us that he has the 3 kop. in similar condition. Our correspondent informs us that he received the stamp on a letter several months ago.

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III. p. 57).—There now seems some doubt as to whether the 5s. with multiple Cr. C.A. watermark, which we recorded on page 21 on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, has really been issued or not. Our contemporary made enquiries in the Colony, and the Colonial Postmaster stated in reply that "there is no chalk surface multiple watermark 5s. stamp available at present."

**Slam.**—(Vol. III. p. 81).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us an entire sheet of the 4a. on 5a. pro-

visional chronicled on page 81, and we can find no minor varieties of any sort.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 45).—Three more values in the new design—20c., 35c. and 70c.—have been issued according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. The complete list of values issued to date is as follows:—



*New design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½.*

	s.	d.
20c. vermilion and pale yellow ... ..	0	3
30c. red brown and pale green ... ..	0	5
35c. emerald and pale yellow ... ..	0	6
40c. purple and yellow ... ..	0	6
50c. green and pale green ... ..	0	7
70c. purple brown and yellow ... ..	0	10

#### NOTE.

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

## Death of Sir William Avery

It is with the most sincere regret that I have to record the somewhat sudden death of one of my oldest stamp friends, Sir W. B. Avery, which took place in Portland Place, London, W., on 28th October last.

For nearly a year Sir William had been suffering from heart and kidney troubles, and only up to the Sunday before his death was supposed to be improving, but complications set in and he passed away in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

Sir W. B. Avery was chairman and chief proprietor of the well-known Birmingham firm of W. & T. Avery, the great makers of scales and weighing machines; this firm was established nearly 150 years ago. He retired from active management of the business some fifteen years ago, and then purchased Oakley Court, near Windsor, which he enlarged and greatly beautified. No doubt many of my readers will have enjoyed his hospitality on various occasions when he threw open his beautiful home to brother philatelists.

Sir William Avery did not care to be entirely disassociated with business, and on settling near London he became a director of the United Rhodesian Goldfields, Ltd., and of A. Darracq & Co., the well-known motor-car manufacturers, being himself an ardent motorist. He was also a life governor of the University of Birmingham. He received his baronetcy in 1905.

His first wife was a daughter of Mr. Francis Bell, of London, and by her he leaves a son, now in his eighteenth year, who succeeds to the title. He married secondly a daughter of the late M. Pierre Crets, of Paris,

My first acquaintance with Sir William as a stamp collector arose in a peculiar manner. About the year

1884 I was secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, which then met at the rooms of my father, in Colmore Row. At one of our meetings Mr. James Bottley, our chairman, produced one of the old penny embossed envelopes with an inscription around it lettered, "W. & T. Avery." I was requested to write to the firm and ask for a few of these envelopes for the members of the B. P. Society. Mr Avery (as he was then) replied and asked me to call upon him, and on my doing so he showed me a fine general collection, and expressed surprise that there were any other collectors in Birmingham.

He joined our Society and became one of my best clients. About 1886 he was so much occupied in business that he placed his collection in my hands for sale on commission, and I sold the greater part of it. Some two years later he had more time at his disposal, and he restarted his collection on much bolder lines, and purchased some very large blocks of stamps. Amongst others he bought the celebrated "Bullock" Collection of Australians, which I sold him about 1891-2. He also purchased a general collection formed by Mr. W. W. Blest, and a very large portion of a West Indian collection, which I had formed between 1893 and 1897.

The last ten years he added but little to his collection, but on the contrary sold out a somewhat large lot of his gems privately, and later on a further lot by auction.

The bulk of this great collection has never been properly arranged, and last time I was at Oakley Court Sir William showed me scores of books with various countries partly arranged, and a great mass of loose stamps.—C. J. Phillips, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 14.11.08.

# From other Magazines

## New Caledonia: Official Speculations.

The supply of 5c. and 15c. stamps having given out, the Governor requested the Director of Posts to send him a list of the stamps which remained in the reserve stock and were in little demand, in order to take some sheets of them for surcharging purposes. The Director sent to the Post Office printer one sheet of 2c. brown on straw, one sheet of 30c., and one sheet of 40c. (1893 type), each containing 150 stamps. The printer had two surcharges applied to the sheet of 2c. stamps namely 75 of 5c. on 2c. and 75 of 15c. on 2c. and then sent this sheet to the Governor, who, on the pretext that two surcharges on the same value were unsuitable, kept half the sheet for himself while the Director took the other half. The consequence is that these precious surcharges are only to be found in the hands of a few privileged persons and their friends.—*Monthly Circular*.

## Danish West Indies: Plate Nos.

The Colonial Stamp Market has shown us entire sheets of the four new stamps and we note that each sheet has a number roughly scratched in Roman figures on the left margin. The numbers are as follows and being printed in the colour of the head are presumably the numbers of the Head-plates.

5 bit	No. V.
10 "	No. II.
20 "	No. II.
25 "	No. II. (figures separated).

The sheets each contain 100 stamps in 10 rows of 10 and the numbers are on the margin opposite the 51st stamp (No. 1 in 6th row).—

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 14.11.08.

## The late Mr. J. G. Hendy.

Mr. Hendy's name will be well known to many of my readers as that of the author of *The History of the Early Postmarks of the British Isles, from their introduction down to 1840*. This interesting work was published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill in 1905, and had a rather large sale.

Mr. John George Hendy was born in Co. Kildare, Ireland, on 24th June, 1857. About the age of eighteen he entered the postal service, and for a long time travelled as a sorter on the T.P.O. of the mail trains, and was in the great accident to the Scotch express.

Mr. Hendy eventually joined the staff at the G.P.O., London, and was for many years in the Secretary's Department.

Some years ago he was appointed Curator of the Record Room, General Post Office, and he there organized a very perfect system of indexing the papers and records, and incidentally arranged and classified a fine series of British stamps, essays, trials, etc., which are now well arranged in a series of cases in the Record Room of the new building facing the main entrance to St. Martin's-le-Grand.

During the last few years Mr. Hendy prepared the manuscript of a second book on British postmarks, which will be of much more interest to stamp collectors than the first book, as this posthumous work is upon the postmarks from 1840 to those of the present day.

We have acquired the publication rights, and hope to issue this work in a cheap form early in 1909.

Mr. Hendy had for some years been engaged upon another work dealing with the history of the Post Office in Canada. The MS. of this work has been acquired by

the Canadian postal authorities, and I trust they may publish it in due course.

Early this year Mr. Hendy developed cancer in the throat, and an operation had to take place from which he never rallied, and he passed away in April last in the fifty-first year of his life.—*C. J. P. in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 14.11.08.

## Swiss: use of 35c. and 70.

Mr. E. Meyer informs us that the new values 35 and 70 centimes are issued mainly for the following purpose. The lower value prepaies the postal charges on parcels weighing between 500 and 2,500 grammes and with a cash on delivery payment of less than 10 francs, whilst the other prepaies parcels of between 5 and 10 kilos. In Switzerland as in England, the postage stamps franking a parcel are attached to it and not to a form retained by the Post Office as in some countries.—

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 14.11.08.

## Newfoundland—Seal Designs.

The American Bank Note Company have produced many strange things in the execution of their postal commissions. The 2 cents and 5 cents of Newfoundland, 1866 (perforated), 1876 (rouletted), and the 5 cents of 1868 show the codfish and seal as they have never yet been known to zoologists. The seal (5 c.) is seen—perhaps "sunning" itself on an ice-floe—with *clawed fore-paws*, whilst the former (2 c., Codfish) is shown with a *single paddle*, or rudder tail.

When these stamps were redrawn by the British-American Bank Note Company (of Montreal) these amusing errors were remedied. The codfish was given its "double-paddled" tail and the seal a fin respectively, as ordained by Mother Nature.—*W. Ward in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 14.11.08.

## The Hawaiian Flag.

I dare venture that none of my readers, not even the keenest, have ever, in their collection of the Sandwich Islands, noticed a British Union Jack (ensign) on the 25 cents, blue, 1894-9 issue of these islands (*Gibbons' No. 113*).

The flag—for after all there is only one "Jack"—is used as a "finish" to President Dole's portrait, together with an ornamental anchor. The Sandwich Islands discovered by Captain Cook, were annexed by the United States Government in 1898—as most of us know. The stamp in question was printed by the American Bank Note Company (of New York), and why the "Jack" should have such an honour I cannot explain. It also appears, but minutely, on the Officials of Hawaii.

[The flag was really intended by the artist, Mr. E. W. Holdsworth, to represent the Hawaiian flag, which was somewhat similar to the English, the stripes being of a different width. In the engraving this point was not well brought out, and the likeness to the British flag was a matter of comment in Hawaii at the time of issue—*Ed. G. S. W.*]—*W. Ward, in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.

## Death of Mr. Rudolf Kraseman.

The death is regretfully recorded of Mr. Rudolf Kraseman at the early age of thirty-three. Mr. Kraseman had very quickly built up a great reputation as a philatelist among his fellow collectors in Sweden. He was joint author with Mr. Hilmer Djurling of the Swedish Society's great work, "The Postage Stamps of Sweden." *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 14.11.08.



# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Dutch Indies: Buiten Bezit.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says "there seems some likelihood of the 2½ gulden Buiten Bezit proving a very rare stamp. Although the Colonial Stamp Market cabled a large order immediately the issue was reported it only received one sheet of 50 of it. At the time we were in doubt whether the small quantity was due to a mistake on the part of our agents but we have now received their explanation to the effect 'that this was all they could obtain,' although they got full quantities of all the others. The Colonial Stamp Market has sold all it had, except one crease 1 copy, at 8d. over face value!

"In addition to the 10, 12½ and 25c. already reported with the inverted "Java" surcharge, the *Monthly Circular* reports the ¼c. and 5c."

Of the "Java" overprint of the 2½c. there were 1,900,000. The numbers overprinted "Buiten Bezit" are known to be smaller, but if they even approach a relative proportion there ought to be enough to go round without much trouble.

## Re-issue of French Zanzibar.

"From information contained in *Le Postillon*," (says *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*) "it would appear that the French Government are really making some sort of an attempt to suppress speculation in the stamps of the French Colonies. Not only are the recent issues of Indo-China to be put on sale again, but the same thing is to happen to the 1904 issue of Zanzibar, Nos. z65 to z74 in my publishers' Catalogue. Our contemporary rightly states that the French Agency in Zanzibar is closed, and so the stamps cannot be sold on the spot; nevertheless they will be sold at face value to all comers in Paris by the Colonial authorities."

## French Colonials.

The effect of this re-issue will scarcely fail to further undermine confidence in French Colonials which were beginning to look up a bit.

But our Gibbons has a word of encouragement on the matter. Says he:—"It must not be imagined that all French Colonial stamps are speculative, and that the prices of all will go down. This is very far from the truth. Take these French offices in Zanzibar as an example: the first portion of them, Nos. z1 to z52, is beyond reproach. All these stamps are worth quite what they are catalogued, and in some cases rather more. Whatever happens they can never be re-issued."

## Canada: Quebec Commemoratives.

I quote the following from the daily press:—"The stamps are stored in the vaults of the American Bank Note Company, and are bought and drawn upon as required. From the morning of the day they were first put on sale there have been upwards of 5000 separate sets disposed of to collectors and those anxious to obtain a souvenir of the great event. In the selling of single stamps, the ¼c. and 15c. were the most popular varieties purchased, but this was due, it was explained, to the fact that there are no stamps of these denominations in the ordinary issue. The 2c. and 1c. varieties have, of course, been largely used, but still the demand has not been nearly so great as was at first expected. The 1c. prints were bought wholesale, many purchasing entire sheets of one hundred for preservation. Besides letters from all over the Dominion from collectors requesting

that sets be forwarded to them, the postmaster of Ottawa office had numerous communications from philatelists abroad, who, though only asking for a complete set, enclosed sums which would have supplied them with half a dozen. Remittances of 10s. from the Old Country were frequent. As soon as the cost of the set and postage was deducted the balance was returned to the senders. Over 29,000,000 stamps were sold, the proceeds amounting to some £147,250."

I wonder if all this is quite correct.

## Trinidad Lithograph Stamps Wanted.

Mr. M. P. CASTLE is engaged upon some researches in connection with the lithographed stamps of Trinidad—issues of 1852 to 1866—and is desirous of seeing dated copies of these stamps in any colour. He would be much indebted to any reader of this journal either for the loan of such or for a list thereof quoting the exact colour of the stamp, the state of wear of the die, and the name of posting town and full date. Any information, which will be gratefully acknowledged, should be sent to Mr. Castle, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

## Purchase of Early Mauritius

Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. announce the purchase of an important collection of early Mauritius stamps which is exceptionally strong in locally printed issues, including a copy of the 2d. dark blue "Post Office" on part of the original letter. In the "Post Paid" stamps there are several of the earliest of the early pennies, both on yellowish and on blue papers.

## South Australian Variety.

A short time ago Mr. Field obtained a curious South Australian stamp, which he thinks must be unique. It is the 6d. deep blue of 1876-77, perf 10 × 12½ (S.G. No. 157). but the stamp is clearly doubly printed, and there is an extra line of perforation about 1 mm. from the right-hand side. This latter gauges 10 the same as the perforation at the top and bottom of the specimen! Mr. Field's price for this rarity is £5.

## Our Advertisers' Offer this week.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay offer special bargains in British East Africa, 1890-1, the whole set up to 1 rupee, mint, for 2s. 9d. and a scarce Seychelles provisional.

Mr. Oswald Marsh announces that he has just purchased a fine original lot of entire covers of the stamps of Great Britain used in the Colonies.

Messrs. Bright & Sons advertisement will be a genuine puzzle for our readers, for they offer 30 different unused stamps of a face value of £3 8s. 0d. for one shilling.

Mr. Gordon Jones is making a speciality of offers of Afghanistan stamps, concerning which he is a recognised authority.

Mr. F. R. Ginn's list includes special offers of Canadian, St. Vincent, Niger Coast, and British Central Africa.

Mr. Rhodes offers a long list of cheap stamps.

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

## Answers to Correspondents.

O. G. (Birmingham). The broken character which contains the dot is well known, but no particular value is at present attached to it. When Sudans have risen to greater importance all such minor varieties will no

doubt be accorded a special value as there are only a few on each sheet. My correspondent asks why the 1895 provisional Bulgarian was surcharged "01," and what its value was. The surcharge converts the 2st. into a 1st. The numeral "0" was prefixed to the numeral "1" presumably to give clearness to the real figure and to prevent fraud.

W. B. E. (Blackheath). Many thanks for further letter. Will write shortly. Congratulations to Mr. Leon on his discovery of the dot on the New Zealand 4d. So far as I know he is the first to call attention to it. Although I have long had blocks showing it clearly it entirely escaped my attention.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

WANTED. Large or small collections. Underwood, 70, Drury Road, Harrow.

## BARGAINS in MAURITIUS

	s.	d.
1895-99, 18c green and ultramarine	0	7
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1899, 6c in red on 18c	0	1 1/2
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1900, 4c on 16c chestnut	0	8
" 15c green and orange	0	7
1902, 12c on 18c green and ultramarine	0	4

## Uganda on British East Africa.

1a and 2 1/2a, pair (cat. 1/6) ... 0 9

All above are mint.

Natal, 5/- rose, Queen, postally used 3 0  
Or. River Colony, V.R.L., 1/- " 0 7  
" " 5/- " 2 3

## Special Offer of Northern Nigeria.

Single CA, 1/4 to 1/- (cat. 9/11), superb used set of 7 ... 4 2

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40 KING'S, COLONIALS, 7d. Album to Purchasers.—Harvey, 74, Aldworth Road, Stratford, London.

## SUPERB "POSTALLY USED" COPIES.

Antigua, Arms, bi-col, 2 1/2d or 3d	each	4d.
Canal Zone, 1904/5, 8c/50c, (3 types) each	6d.	
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" 1906, 1, 2, 5 or 10c	1 1/2d.	
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" 50c	5d.	
Hongkong, Queen, 1 dollar black	10d.	
" King, Single CA, 5, 12 or 30c	2d.	
Holland, 1899, 1 gulden, (dozen 6d.)	1 1/2d.	
Italian PO, Eritrea, 5c or 10c	1 1/2d.	
" 25c or 50c	3d.	
" 15c on 20c	2d.	
" Levant, 1908, 5, 10 or 40 para	2d.	
" Bengasi, 1 piastra	2d.	
Italy, 1901, 40, 45, 50 or 1 Lira	1 1/2d.	
" ditto, dozen	3d.	
Montserrat, single or mult (bi-col) 2 1/2d.	4d.	
Mexico, 1899, 50 centavos	2d.	
" 1 peso	5d.	
" 5 pesos	2/6	
New S. Wales, wmk Crown A, 1/-	1 1/2d.	
New Zealand, 1907, 1d official	1 1/2d.	
Panama, 1906, 2c on 50c	1d.	
St. Vincent, Queen, 1/- green, pen-ed.	1d.	
" King, 1/- pen-cancelled	1d.	
United States, 1851, 3c imperf	1 1/2d.	
" Columbus, 1893, 3, 4, 8 or 10c	1d.	
Bargains in UNUSED (Mint Condition.)		
Argentina, 1899, 4c or 6c (blocks same rate)	1d.	
Cyprus, King, single CA, 1 pi (block of 4, 5/-)	1 1/2d.	
Costa Rica, official, 1901, 1, 2 or 5c	1 1/2d.	
" 10c	2d.	
" 50c	8d.	
Grenada, King, Single, 6d (block of 4 with control)	3/6	
Liberia, 1880, 12c yellow	6d.	
" 24c carmine	10d.	

## JAMES RHODES 62, MARKET ST., MANCHESTER

## PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s.; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be inserted up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for reception in the following week's issue.

NEW ISSUES, wholesale and retail; see *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P.32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

UNUSED SEYCHELLES to applicants for approvals.—Wright & Co., 9, Market Street, Southport.

FOREIGN & Colonial, 66 to 80% under Catalogue, Mulreadies, Approval—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

APPROVAL Sheets, Stamps from 1d. each. K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

GREAT BRITAIN, 4 1/2d. Queen, mint, and 50 different good stamps 6d. Applicants for selections receive obsolete, mint, Transvaal pictorial gratis.—P. Knight, Pool, Leeds.

PAPUAN unused free to approval applicants sending postage.—Druitt, 47, Ordell Road, Bow, London.

NIGERIA, K., 2/6. CA, price 6/- unused.—Claud Joy, 79, Gayville Road, Wandsworth Common, London.

APPROVAL SHEETS. Good Specimens, cheap.—Young & Johnston, 396, Beverley Road, Hull.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 9. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 61)

28 NOVEMBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Coming of the Catalogues.



**M**ESSRS. Whitfield King & Co. are the first in the field with their announcement of a new Catalogue for 1909. There is a decided advantage in being the first out with a new catalogue for the new year, for, in addition to bringing the most recent issues up to date, and revising prices, there is a further advantage of being the only and indispensable up-to-date catalogue of

the moment, and until a competitor appears. The new edition will be ready in a few days.

Re-arrangement of Headings.

I am not surprised to learn that the new catalogue will re-arrange some of the headings. British Central Africa and British New Guinea will be placed under their new official names of Nyasaland Protectorate and Papua. British South Africa will be listed under Rhodesia, as the name by which the territories of the British South Africa Co. are generally known, and the native Malay States are to be grouped under the comprehensive name of Malaya.

Personally, I am in favour of greater simplicity in headings. I would have every country and state under its issue name, and any change should also follow the same alphabetical arrangement; then there would be no confusion whatever.

British South Africa v. Rhodesia.

In this change there will be much difference of opinion. So long as the title "British South Africa" continues as the name on the stamps themselves it seems to me right to retain it as the recognised philatelic name.

Some years since there was much talk about altering the name on the stamps to Rhodesia, but it has not yet been done. Should the name be required for the coming Federation of the South African Colonies, then we shall have to add the word Company to the B.S.A. philatelic title.

Revision of Colour Names.

Mr King has revised his colour names. He found that a great many purple stamps were in previous editions incorrectly described as lilac. All such colour names as lilac, violet, mauve and purple have been carefully revised.

Such a revision of the Gibbons' Catalogue would be nothing short of a philatelic earthquake.

Total Number of Stamps Issued.

In the preface to the new edition of their Catalogue, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that "The total number of stamps issued to date, as included in this catalogue, is 22,382, of which 6,849 are apportioned to the British Empire, and 15,533 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 4,685, Asia 4,342, Africa 4,974, America 4,961, the West Indies 1,808, and Oceania 1,612.

The Manchester Exhibition.

The arrangements for the Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress which are to be held at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, on February 18th, 19th and 20th, 1909, are making satisfactory progress, and everything points to the event proving an assured success.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, has just received a communication from the Earl of Derby, C.B., who, as Lord Stanley, was Postmaster-General from 1903 to 1905, signifying his willingness to become a Patron of the Exhibition and Congress. The Earl of Crawford, K.T., who is one of our leading Philatelists, and a Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, being also a Patron.

The Congress, the first of its kind to be held in this country, is receiving the unanimous support of all the Philatelic Societies, and will be undoubtedly a successful and unique gathering of all the prominent disciples of philately.

The Exhibition is to be open to the public entirely free by Ticket, obtainable at the Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

Postal Hoolligans.

Mr. Wilmot Corfield says in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that an album which he ordered from London, though carefully packed, reached him "after having been ruthlessly yanked out of its wrappings by the Postal Customs

people absolutely ruined for use," and he had to get another through a local firm.

I once posted a bound volume to New Zealand. It was strongly bound in thick cloth covered boards and was quite half an inch thick, and yet a postal hooligan nearly succeeded in doubling it up.

The wilful destruction of postal property in the Indian, Australian and New Zealand mails is a public scandal.

Against a private firm one would have a recognised claim for damages, but Government postal employees may wilfully destroy what they please with impunity.

#### The Royal Philatelic Society Criticised.

Mr. Crofton has made a violent attack on the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and for the purposes of this attack he has made use of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the official journal published by the Philatelic Society of India.

This is tantamount to an attack by the Indian Society, and as leading members of the Royal are prominent in the membership of the Indian Society I should imagine there may be ructions.

The Editor of an official journal can scarcely expect to attack another society without having to face the music of an official inquiry.

#### Mr. Crofton's Charges.

Mr. Crofton attacks the Royal for confining its membership to amateurs and asks, "if the exclusion of dealers is for social reasons," why "tradesmen in wares which are not a bit more reputable than stamps" are admitted?

Then, according to Mr. Crofton, the dealer is well represented in the Royal Society by men who are constantly making new collections "in order to sell them at a profit," private dealers, speculators, purchasers of remainders at auction in order to dispose of them retail on club sheets, &c., &c.

#### The Stamps of Crete.

The fate of Crete still hangs in the balance, and the island may or may not be handed over to Greece. The spirit of reform which dominates the old corrupt government of Turkey inclines the Great Powers to a sympathetic treatment of questions affecting the Turkish Empire. The annexation of Crete is not an accomplished fact as in the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina. But the handing over of the island to Greece, if it can be done, will relieve the Great Powers answerable for the good government of the island of an undesirable task, and for that reason I cannot help believing that we may look for a change in the government and in the postal issues.

Some folks are already inclined to doubt whether the series overprinted with the name of Greece will eventually be entitled to a place in the catalogue, but I am inclined to believe that the issue will legitimately mark an historical crisis.

#### New Chinese Stamps.

We have no further news of the series of new designs, but Mr. Lovelace tells me that he has seen the 2c. printed in green, and he hears that the 4c. will be changed to red and the 10c. to blue. These changes are presumably made for postal union purposes.

#### City of London going strong.

I hear that the City of London Philatelic Society is going strong. New members are coming in at a most satisfactory rate. At a recent meeting no less than 11 new members were elected, and the Committee hope to reach a membership of 120 this season.

Truly London is waking up in the matter of philatelic societies. We have at least four flourishing and important societies, to wit, the Royal, the Herts, the City of London, and the Juniors.

#### The Condition Crank.

A correspondent in a contemporary is very severe on the condition crank. He tells us that he has been very much amused by reading the various articles, mostly contributed by budding authors, that have appeared in the various stamp papers of late on the subject of condition.

As a collector of forty years experience he has come to the conclusion that the condition crank, very frequently a young gentleman of very youthful years, does an immense deal of harm to our hobby.

"By all means," says he, "obtain immaculate specimens, if you can, but remember that an off centred stamp, or one with a blind edge, is the stamp *as issued* by the post office, and, provided it has not lost any of its perforations, or become soiled, faded, or torn, it has, in my opinion, no right to be scorned by the stamp collector, who, failing to obtain a better copy, will very likely decry stamp collecting as an impossible pastime."

The sneer at youthful youths is excruciatingly funny when we remember that the most prominent collectors and writers of the day are the foremost in this condition crank business. Can the correspondent name a single great collector, or writer, who is not a so-called condition crank? Not he.

#### More U.S.A. Show Labels.

According to *Mekeel's Weekly* the great Republic is going to issue yet another series of "Exposition Stamps," and the conductor of that periodical thinks the news will "cause Editor Nankivell to shudder a great big shudder."

I imagine that the news will not only make Editor Nankivell to shudder, but will raise a blush of shame on the faces of all genuine American collectors who are jealous for the goodname of their hobby and the fame of their country.

The prostitution of a great Government Department to the advertisement of a little penny gaff show at Seattle is playing the game of fleecing stamp collectors lower and lower, and one wonders to what depths the great republic will yet tumble. If Barnum had been alive, he would no doubt have got a special series for use in the towns he visited.

#### Effect on U.S. Stamps.

The effect of these Show Label Swindles on the grand series of United States stamps must be to choke off collectors.

The only remedy will be for dealers to boycott the lot and exclude them from the general catalogue. If *Mekeel's* welcome of the rubbish represents the feeling of the general collector in the States, the condition of stamp collecting must be bad indeed across the water.

#### High Value Stamps.

I have more than once questioned the philatelic value of high value stamps, and here is an extract from an article on the stamps of British South Africa, by Mr. F. H. Melland, in the *London Philatelist*, which bears out my theory that £1 stamps are quite enough for collecting purposes:—

"The Principal Distributor of Stamps for North-Eastern Rhodesia informs me (25.1.08) that 'the highest value of stamps generally used for postal purposes is 20s., the largest amount for any package as postage (being on a letter of the maximum weight of 5lb.) would be 38s. 4d., and in the case of parcels 19s. 3d.' So that it will appear that only in this issue of 1890 should stamps of over £1 be listed (there were none in the intermediate issues before April, 1897), though as such stamps can be bought at post offices, I have listed them in this article, but it remains for philatelists to decide whether they can be called 'postage' stamps or not."

# Cape of Good Hope

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 88)

**1880.** One value. Design same as the series of 1871, i.e. without the outer line. Fine unused copies of this stamp are extremely scarce, and even nice used copies are far from common. In the new Gibbons the price for used will be advanced from 4s. 6d. to 6s. The scarcity of this lilac-rose 3d. is accounted for by the fact that some of the supply was overprinted with a numeral "3" to prevent its being mistaken for the 1d. value, which it resembled in colour.

*Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d lilac-rose	50	0	4	6

**1880.** One value. Design: the 3d. lilac-rose, overprinted with a bold figure "3". To further distinguish this stamp from the current one penny, which it resembled in colour, the colonial postal authorities overprinted all the stamps unsold with a large numeral "3." Lest any beginner may be led astray, I may here point out that there are two types of the numeral on the same sheet; the local printer probably ran short of one sort and had to fill up with the second type.



Type A.



Type B.

*Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
"3" on 3d. lilac-rose (type A.)	40	0	5	0
"3" on 3d. " (type B.)	4	0	0	9

**1881.** One value. Design unchanged, but colour altered from lilac-rose to claret, to prevent the 3d. being mistaken for the 1d.

*Colour changed.*

*Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d. claret	10	0	1	0

**1882.** One value. Design: the 3d. watermarked Crown CC of the last issue surcharged "One Half-



penny," in black, in two lines, with a bar obliterating the original value. Also the same value watermarked Crown CA similarly surcharged. The Crown CC is a very scarce stamp.

*Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d on 3d claret	-	-	60	0

*Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*

½d. on 3d. claret	-	-	7	6	6	0
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**1882-3.** Six values. Design unchanged, but watermarked Crown CA instead of Crown CC. The 6d. has the outer line, all the other values are without the thin outer line around the design. The 5s., unused, is the rarity of this series.

*Without outer frame (except 6d.).*

*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.		
½d. slate-grey	-	-	2	0	0	2
1d. rose-red	-	-	6	0	0	2
2d. bistre	-	-	10	0	0	1
3d. claret	-	-	4	0	0	2
6d. mauve	-	-	40	0	2	0
5s. orange-yellow	-	-	-	-	40	0

**1884-90.** Seven values. Design unchanged. Watermarked Anchor instead of Crown CA. All values are of the no outer line type, except the 6d. and 1s., which have the outer frame-line.

*Wmk. Anchor. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.		
½d. slate	-	-	0	4	0	1
1d. rose-red	-	-	0	6	0	1
2d. bistre	-	-	0	6	0	1
4d. blue	-	-	8	6	0	2
6d. violet	-	-	2	0	0	2
1s. green	-	-	30	0	0	3
5s. orange-yellow	-	-	20	0	1	0

**1891.** Provisional. One value. Design: the 3d. of the 1882-3 series printed in magenta on paper watermarked Cabled Anchor, and surcharged "2½d." This new value was required for the new Postal Union foreign universal rate of postage.



	Provisional.		Perf. 14.	
	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2½d. on 3d. magenta	-	-	0 6	0 4

**1892.** One value. Design unchanged, except a white label in the right upper corner under the name of the colony inscribed "2½d." A new value required for the new Postal Union rate for foreign postage. Watermarked Cabled Anchor and printed in a pale green.



	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Perf. 14.	
			Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2½d. pale green	-	-	4 0	0 2

**1893.** Provisional. One value. Design: the 2d. of 1884-90 surcharged ONE PENNY in small capitals in one line, in black, across the centre of the stamp, with a thick bar cancelling the original value. Each cancelling bar is a separate piece in this provisional cut to the exact width of the stamp, and when accurately printed does not extend to the perforations.



	Provisional.		Perf. 14.	
	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d. on 2d. ochre	-	-	0 4	0 2
<i>Double surcharge.</i>				
1d. on 2d. bistre	-	-	-	-
<i>No stop after "Penny"</i>				
1d. on 2d. bistre	-	-	10 0	10 0

**1893.** One value. Design: Figure of Hope standing with one arm resting on an anchor; figures of value in circular disks in the upper corners. Watermarked Cabled Anchor.



	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Perf. 14.	
			Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d. rose-red	-	-	0 2	0 1

**1894.** One value. Design unchanged, except for the removal of the thin outer line enfaming the design. Watermarked Cabled Anchor as before.

	No outer frame.		Perf.	
	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1s. blue-green	-	-	10 0	1 0

**1896-8.** Seven values. Design unaltered, but colours changed, the ½d. from slate to green, the 2d. from bistre to brown, the 2½d. from magenta to the Postal Union colour of blue, the 3d. from claret to magenta, the 4d. from blue to pale green, the 1s. from green to yellow-ochre, and the 5s. from orange-yellow to brown-orange. Watermarked Cabled Anchor as before.

	Change of colours.		Perf. 14.	
			Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. green	-	-	0 2	0 1
2d. brown	-	-	0 9	0 2
2½d. ultramarine	-	-	0 4	0 2
3d. magenta	-	-	0 6	0 2
4d. pale green	-	-	0 9	0 4
1s. yellow-ochre	-	-	1 9	0 3
5s. brown orange	-	-	12 0	1 0

**1900.** One value. Design: the Arms of the Colony in the upper half and a view of Table Bay and Table Mountain in the lower half, with numerals of value in all four corners. Watermarked Cabled Anchor. This stamp on its appearance was nicknamed "the rebel stamp."



	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Perf. 14.	
			Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d. carmine	-	-	0 2	0 1

**1902.** One value. Design: the standing figure of Hope, as in the 1893 issue of the 1d. value. Watermarked Cabled Anchor. This stamp had a short life, as in a few months it was superseded by the King's Head issue, hence its rising catalogue price.

	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.		Perf.	
			Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d. magenta	-	-	1 6	0 4

**1902-3.** Nine values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. with a different framework in each value. Watermarked Cabled Anchor. Perf 14.

	Wmk. Cabled Anchor.	Perf. 14.	Unused.		Used.	
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green	-	-	0	1	0	1
1d. rose	-	-	0	2	0	1
2d. brown	-	-	0	3	0	4
2½d. ultramarine	-	-	0	4	-	-
3d. magenta	-	-	0	5	0	2
4d. olive green	-	-	0	6	0	2
6d. mauve	-	-	0	8	0	2
1s. ochre	-	-	1	4	0	3
5s. orange brown	-	-	6	6	1	0

**Bibliography.**

A mass of articles may be found in our philatelic periodicals on the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, mostly dealing with the Triangular issues, of which the principal are:—

The Errors of Colour in the Triangulars, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 2, p. 261.

Notes on the Official Collection by Capt. Norris Newman, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 3, p. 13.

The "Find" of Emerald Shillings, by Major Evans, *The Monthly Journal*, Vol. 8, p. 86, and *Philatelic Record*, Vol. 20, p. 8.

Capes in the Tapling Collection, by Gordon Smith, *The Monthly Journal*, Vol. 8, p. 84

Notes on Capes by Capt. Norris Newman, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 5, p. 247.

The Provisionals of 1861, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 1, p. 258, Vol. 2, p. 137, Vol. 6, p. 10-175.

Official Information, by E. D. Bacon, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 1, p. 11, 46, 81.

Some further remarks on the Triangulars, by E. D. Bacon.

Perkins Bacon issues of Triangulars, by M. P. Castle, *London Philatelist*, Vol. 17, pp. 212, 235.

**Note.**

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."

# Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 8.—Cape of Good Hope, Error of Colour.

THE early stamps of the Cape of Good Hope have always been prime favourites with collectors not only on account of the beauty of their design, the fineness of the engraving, and their quaint shape, but also owing to the inclusion in this series of a locally produced provisional issue which have been, and probably always will be, known as "woodblocks." Much has been written regarding these provisional stamps, even in the earliest days of collecting, and Mr. E. D. Bacon's extensive researches have not only done much in giving us our present knowledge of these labels, but have also been successful in elucidating all the official information it will probably ever be possible to obtain relating to their issue. It is always difficult to make an exact statement as to the "last word" on any philatelic subject, but the notes contributed by Mr. M. P. Castle to the *London Philatelist* for July and August, 1907, certainly give the most complete history of these provisionals that has yet appeared, and seem to leave little scope for further investigation.

The method by which these stamps were produced excited the interest of many of the Great Moguls of philately's early days. It was at first thought they were lithographs, but the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for July, 1867 states decidedly that "they are woodcuts, printed from engraved woodblocks," and for many years from that date it was generally believed that the stamps were printed from engraved woodblocks, hence the name that has stuck to them ever since. It was not until 1892 that this popular fallacy was finally exploded by Mr. E. D. Bacon who was fortunate in getting all the official information available from the then Postmaster-General of Cape Colony.

It appears that early in 1861 the supply of 1d. and 4d. stamps was rapidly dwindling, and the postal authorities, fearing a complete exhaustion of the stock before a further consignment could arrive from Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., decided to make a provisional issue.

It was resolved to copy the Perkins Bacon stamps as closely as possible, and Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co., of 49 and 50, St. George's Street, Cape Town, were entrusted with the manufacture of this temporary issue. They engraved two dies on steel, for the 1d. and 4d. values respectively, and from each of these original dies sixty-four impressions were taken by what is known as the stereotype process. These impressions were cemented on to a wooden block to form the printing plate, so probably, the popular designation of "woodblocks" is not such a misnomer after all. The sixty-four impressions of both values were each arranged in four horizontal rows of



sixteen stamps to the row, forming eight squares, and in cementing the impressions on to the wooden blocks one of the 4d. stereotypes was by mistake fixed to the 1d. plate and vice versa, thus creating the well-known errors of colour—the 1d. blue, and 4d. red.

Mr. Castle has pointed out an interesting fact regarding these woodblocks that does not appear to have been noticed previously and that is they both differ from one another in many particulars. For instance, in the 1d. the name "CAPE OF GOOD HOPE" measures 28 mm, and on the 4d. 29½ mm, the word POSTAGE is 18½ mm long on the 4d., and 17½ mm on the 1d. and so on.

The 1d. value was issued on April 10th, 1861, and the 4d. two days later, which seems to prove that Mr. Castle's assumption that the die for the 1d. was engraved first (it is inferior in many respects to the 4d.) is correct. The errors occurred on the 64th stamp in each plate and if the

official numbers of the stamps produced are correct—24,660 of the 1d. and 12,480 of the 4d.—there should have been 201 copies of the 1d. error and 386 of the 4d. one. But judging by the number of errors in existence many authorities are inclined to doubt the authenticity of the official figures and as it is known that "no strict official check was kept upon the printing of these provisionals, and that the firm found all the paper and materials themselves" it is probable that a much larger quantity was printed. According to the official figures the 1d. error should be nearly twice as rare as the 4d. one but as a matter of fact it is not quite so scarce.

It is curious that no copy of the 1d. error in the dark blue shade is known, though, as it is believed the error was never removed from the plates during the whole period of issue, such must have existed. Possibly they were removed from the sheets by the authorities before selling the stamps, and destroyed.

No unused copy is known of the 1d. blue and the only known unused specimen of the 4d. red is said to have changed hands some years ago at £500. The present market price of the 1d. is about £75 and the 4d. is valued at £85. In the famous sackful of triangular stamps bought by Mr. Stanley Gibbons in the "dark ages" were a number of woodblock errors and these he beneficently disposed of for half-a-crown each. But times have changed since then and woodblock errors have somewhat appreciated in value!

In September, 1867, the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* informed a correspondent who had enquired as to the

existence and value of these errors that "a high price is easily had for them when they are forthcoming" and that "a pair, which came under our notice a few weeks back, sold for five pounds, although one of the individuals, the fourpence red, was in a damaged state."

In 1890 a copy of the 1d. *se-tenant* with the 4d. on piece of original is said to have sold for only £9. In March, 1891, a 4d. red was sold at one of Cheveley's auctions for £26 10s. 0d., in May of the same year a 1d. realised £19 10s. 0d. and in December another copy of the same value was "knocked down to the highest bidder" for £18 10s. 0d. In November, 1893, a 4d. red was sold for £26 and at the same sale a 1d. blue *se-tenant* with the 4d. was disposed of for £100—the highest price ever bid at an English auction down to that date.

In January, 1894, a mended copy of the 1d. fetched £26, and a damaged 4d. realised £18. In February of the same year a 1d. blue sold for £42, and at Messrs. Ventom Bull & Cooper's sale in the following month a 4d. red realised £32. This seems to have been a "standard" price for a time, for several copies sold in subsequent years realised the same figure. An exceptionally fine copy fetched £40 in January, 1895, and in the same month the 1d. in a pair with 4d. (the error fine and the other stamp damaged) was disposed of for £55.

In 1896, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold a 1d. blue for £25, and since then the errors have appeared at auction only at rare intervals, and have gradually increased in value until at the present time fine copies are worth, as stated above, £75 for the 1d., and £85 for the 4d.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 91).

**Hirlapjegy.**—An inscription shown upon the current newspaper stamp of Hungary. It means literally "journal."

**Hirschfeld, J. B.**—A printer and lithographer of Leipsic who manufactured the 3 pf. stamp of the 1850 and 1851 issues of Saxony.

**Hoi Hao.**—The principal town in Hainan Island, China. A post office, established by the French government, has been maintained here for many years and, since 1902, special stamps, formed by surcharging "HOI HAO" on the contemporary stamps of Indo-China, have been used.

**Holkar.**—A feudatory State in Central India more correctly known as Indore. "Holkar" is really the title of the ruling Maharajah, but the stamps of this State are more generally known by this name owing to the fact that they were so inscribed until the issue of the present set in 1904. It has an area of about 9,500 square miles and a population of over 339,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1886.

**Holland.**—A maritime kingdom of Central Europe lying between the North Sea, Germany and Belgium. It has a total area of 12,582 square miles and a population of over 5½ millions. The Kingdom of the Netherlands, as it is more usually termed, may be said to be a recent creation for it was not until 1815 that William Frederick, Prince of Orange, assumed the title of "King of the Netherlands." Under other names, however, it has an

ancient and eventful history from the time when, about 1900 years ago, it was inhabited by Celts and Germans. In 1815 the Netherlands consisted of Holland, Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. Belgium revolted in 1830 and became a separate kingdom, and in 1890 the Grand Duchy was finally severed from Holland. Thus, at the present time the Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of Holland and its Colonies though the old title is still retained. Postage stamps were first issued in 1852, and these were used in Holland only, Luxemburg having a separate issue.

**Holstein.**—(See "SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.")

**Honda.**—A town in the province of Tolima, Colombia, having a population of about 5,000, at which a special provisional 1c. stamp was issued in 1896.

**Honduras.**—A republic of Central America, extending between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, south of Guatemala. It has an area of 46,400 square miles and a population of about 750,000, which is largely composed of half-breeds. The chief town, Tegucigalpa, has a population of about 18,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1866.

**Hong Kong.**—A British Crown Colony consisting of the island of that name situated off the south eastern coast of China, and a portion of the adjoining mainland. Hong Kong was first taken possession of by the British in January, 1841, and was formally ceded by the Treaty of Nankin in 1842. The island is about eleven miles long and from two to five miles broad, its total area being 80½



square miles. Its possession of a magnificent harbour and the privileges of a free port under British rule, have made Hong Kong one of the principal ports of the world. The peninsula of Kowloon was acquired by the Peking Convention of 1860, and in 1898 the southern part of the Kwangtung province was leased for a term of ninety-nine years. The area of the whole Colony is about 400 square miles and it has a population of about 980,000 of whom only 11,000 are whites. Postage stamps were first issued in 1862.

**Honi soit qui mal y pense.**—The motto on the Arms of Great Britain meaning "Evil be to him who evil thinks." It is shown upon the current  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $\frac{2}{6}$  stamps of Antigua.

**Honolulu.**—The capital of the Hawaiian Islands. Until 1815 it was a mere village, but five years later it became the capital of the Archipelago and at the present time its population numbers about 40,000. The name of this town appears on the 5c. stamp issued in the Hawaiian Islands in 1858.

**Honor Libertad.**—The motto shown upon the commemorative stamps issued in Ecuador in 1895. It means "Honour, Liberty."

**Honour's City Express.**—The inscription shown upon the first stamp issued in connection with Honour's Post.

**Honour's City Post.**—The inscription shown upon the majority of the stamps issued in connection with Honour's Post.

**Honour's Penny Post.**—This inscription occurs upon the stamps issued in connection with Honour's Post from 1856 to 1858.

**Honour's Post.**—A semi-official postal service organised in Charleston, U.S.A., in 1849 for the delivery of local letters. The official service ceased with the arrival of the letters at Charleston, and various services were inaugurated for their prompt delivery within the district served by that post office. The extra fee charged was 2c.

**Horta.**—The chief town in the island of Fayal in the Azores, having a population of about 7,000. Since 1892 it has had the privilege of issuing its own special stamps which are used concurrently with those for the whole of the Azores.

**H. P. N.**—A surcharge found upon various stamps of Spain used in the Canary Islands and Murcia after the revolution in Madrid in 1868. The letters are a contraction for "Habilitado por la Nacion."

**Hrzgl. post Frm.**—The inscription appearing upon some of the stamps of Holstein issued in 1864. It is an abbreviation of "Herzogliche Post Freimarke," i.e., "Ducal Postage Stamp."

*To be continued.*

## Nyasaland Local Mails

**A**LTHOUGH the realities of life in Nyasaland are apt to fall short of the sometimes rather extravagant expectations of a first visit, there is much in the country, and in its postal service—which is the theme proper of this article—that is new and strange. The absence hitherto, of a railway, or of any general provision of vehicular transport, has led to the adoption of special modes of conveyance for man and goods; and in the case of mails forwarded overland, the negro has entirely supplied the place of beast or machine.

Dotted over the country, at intervals of twenty miles or so, along its main roads, are mailmen's resthouses. Here natives wearing the uniform of the Protectorate Post Offices wait to perform all allotted tasks, which may consist of conveying a mail bag to the next resthouse every second or third night—the men taking turns and travelling about eighty miles a week in all, or in dealing with the more irregular mail from England, for which they may have to wait a week if the steamer is late. Whichever it be, the mail goes from resthouse to resthouse, night and day, each succeeding gang of men on reaching the hut which marks the end of their section, handing the bags over to their fellows in waiting. If it be night, they awaken them from their slumbers, and lie down alongside the fires in the vacated places.

For the local mails passing between the different settlements two men per section are allowed, whilst the larger mails from countries overseas may require as many as forty. Of course this organized system had a beginning. At one time, the mails were forwarded by day only, and direct from station to station. A native would be sent off with a bag of correspondence and told to take it to its destination, which might be any distance up to a hundred miles. He would travel about twenty miles a day for the longer distances, and perhaps as much as forty miles in twenty-four hours when this completed the journey; but in such cases he would as a rule be fit for

little the following day. When the method of conveyance by relays of mailmen travelling mostly at night was first introduced, old settlers said that the men would be eaten by lions; and the men who commenced the new service were accordingly equipped with lanterns and rifles; but after a while the lights were given up as not worth the trouble of carrying; and, although rifles are sometimes still taken, it is generally when a wild beast has been visiting the villages in the district to be traversed. It must not be assumed that lions are not encountered. Cases have occurred where the mailmen have been driven to take refuge in a tree and leave the bags at the foot to be smelled and pawed and discarded as inedible by disappointed beasts of prey, and mails have sometimes been delayed on that account. But there are lions and lions. I know a "White Lion" in a Surrey village, who, to my certain knowledge, has often delayed the mail. But it would be incorrect to suppose, however, that the native of British Central Africa is a drunkard, or that, when employed as a mailman, he frequently proves unworthy of his post. As a matter of fact the mail service is conducted with marvellous punctuality; and instances of encounters with the alcoholic lion are comparatively rare.

Experience shows that, provided a route is well travelled by day, it is fairly safe to traverse at night; and the mails have been sent by night for the past five years without any injury to the men employed. Leopards are more common than lions; but they are usually more anxious to steal sheep or other small domestic animals than to encounter men and women.

As a rule the native mailmen are wonderfully faithful and trustworthy. Careful record is kept of the men engaged, even to the marks or scars upon their bodies, but only one case is known where a carrier made off with the bag entrusted to him—*J. Gosling in St Martin's Island.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Afghanistan.**—(Vol. II. p. 260).—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* reports having seen a used copy of the 1 abasi of the current type in emerald green, instead of blue green.

**Brazil.**—(Vol. III. p. 80).—We understand that, of the two commemorative labels recorded on page 248 of our last volume, no less than 5,000,000 were printed of the one emblematic of Portugal and Brazil and 2,000,000 of the other. There should, thus, be more than enough to go round.

**Canal Zone.**—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* states that a pair of the current 1c. stamps have been found imperforate between.

**Cayman Islands.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—The 6d. value in the new "Postage and Revenue" type, to which we referred on page 33, has now been issued. It is printed on the paper with multiple watermark, and makes the list of stamps in this type as follows:—



Inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE."

Wmk. Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1s. black on green ... ..	2	6
10s. green and red on green ... ..	12	6
Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.		
½d. green ... ..	0	1
1d. carmine ... ..	0	2
2½d. ultramarine ... ..	0	4
3d. purple on yellow ... ..	0	5
4d. black and red on yellow ... ..	0	6
6d. lilac ... ..	0	8
5s. green and red on yellow ... ..	6	3

**Dutch Indies.**—(Vol. II. p. 809).—We learn from several of our contemporaries that the following are the numbers of the stamps which received the "BUIZEN-BEZIT" overprint:—

		s.	d.
½c. lilac ... ..	3,170,000	0	0½
1c. olive green ... ..	2,400,000	0	0½
2c. brown ... ..	800,000	0	1
2½c. green ... ..	900,000	0	1
3c. orange ... ..	200,000	0	1
5c. rose ... ..	680,000	0	2
10c. dull blue ... ..	2,600,000	0	3
12½c. deep blue ... ..	260,000	0	4
15c. brown ... ..	204,000	0	5
20c. olive ... ..	150,000	0	6
25c. mauve ... ..	250,000	0	8
30c. chestnut ... ..	182,000	0	9
50c. lake brown ... ..	196,000	1	3
1g. lilac ... ..	84,000	2	6
2g. slate ... ..	16,000	—	—

**Holland.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—A new 20c., printed in two colours, has just been issued, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. The design is unaltered, but, being bi-coloured, it is now much more distinct from the 3c. than was the case before. The 15c. is also to be issued in two colours before long, in order to distinguish it more clearly from the 7½c., which is at present printed in a very similar colour. The varieties now known of the small type with Queen's portrait are as follows:—

Portrait type. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
3c. orange ... ..	0	2
3c. green ... ..	0	1
5c. rose ... ..	0	2
7½c. deep brown ... ..	0	3
10c. grey lilac ... ..	0	3
12½c. blue ... ..	0	4
15c. brown ... ..	0	5
17½c. lilac ... ..	0	6
20c. green ... ..	0	6
20c. yellow green and grey ... ..	0	6
22½c. brown and green ... ..	0	7
25c. rose and blue ... ..	0	8
50c. green and lake ... ..	1	3

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—We understand from the *Australian Philatelist* that the two varieties of perforation found in connection with certain values of the current issue are from two comb machines, both of which came from the same firm and were supposed to be identical.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 80). Still they come! Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us another 5c. provisional, formed by surcharging the ordinary 2c. stamp of 1904 with type, as shown in the accompanying illustration:—



Ordinary Stamps of 1904.  
Overprinted "Habilitado en-5 (or 20)-CENTAVOS"  
in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue green ... ..	0	3
5c. on 2c. carmine ... ..	0	3
20c. on 30c. violet ... ..	0	6

**Queensland.**—(Vol. III. p. 80).—The *Australian Philatelist* states that there are two very distinct shades of the current 9d. stamp on the paper watermarked with a crown over "A." One is pale brown and light blue, and the other is dark brown and deep blue.

**South Australia.**—(Vol. III. p. 70).—The *West-End Philatelist* mentions a curious variety of one of the early stamps of this Colony. We are told "it is the 6d. deep blue of 1876-77, perf. 10 × 12½ (S.G. No. 157), but the stamp is clearly doubly printed, and there is an extra line of perforation about 1mm. from the right-hand side. This latter gauges 10—the same as the perforation at the top and bottom of the specimen."

The *Australian Philatelist* states that of the 9d. of the old type, watermarked Crown SA, 50 sheets were issued. As each sheet contained 240 stamps, there were thus 12,000 of this variety.

**Roumania.**—(Vol. III. p. 57).—The colours of the two high values, recorded on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, as given on page 57, are incorrect, and, according to the same journal, our list should be revised as follows:—



No. wmk.	Perf. 11½, 12½, or compound.	s.	d.
5 bani, green	...	...	0 1
10 bani, carmine	...	...	0 2
15 bani, violet	...	...	0 3
25 bani, blue	...	...	0 4
40 bani, deep green	...	...	0 6
1 leu, grey brown	...	...	1 2
2 lei, red on red paper	...	...	2 4

**Siam.**—(Vol. III. p. 81).—Another provisional has made its appearance, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, the 24s. of 1887 being reduced in value to 2s. We wonder if the stock of 24s. will ever be used up! It must, like a certain cocoa, be most "grateful and comforting" to the Siamese postal authorities to always have a useful value like this on hand, ready to be surcharged at any emergency—and emergencies seem to be the usual thing in the stamp department of the Siamese Post Office. We understand that the new surcharge is very similar to the one applied to the 28s. in 1904, but the native characters are placed closer together, and variety is added by placing the English portion of the overprint under the Siamese characters—the first instance on record of this arrangement in any of Siam's many surcharges.

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 70).—*Makel's Weekly Stamp News* gives a copy of the official circular relating to the forthcoming new issue, which we reprint, as follows:—(1) Postmasters and others connected with the postal service are notified that the Department has in course of preparation a series of adhesive postage stamps of a new design, known as the series of 1906. (2) The denominations are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 50 cents and \$1. (3) The subject of the 1 cent. stamp is the head of Benjamin Franklin from Houdon's bust. All the other denominations bear the head of George Washington in profile, from Houdon's bust. The border designs of all the denominations are identical, the head being an ellipse on end, with laurel leaves on either side of the ellipse. Above the head are the words 'U.S.

Postage'; below it, the denomination. The size and shape of the stamps are the same as the series of 1902."

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* mentions a curious minor variety of the 2c. of the Trans-Mississippi issue of 1898 as follows:—"In each of the circular bulbs in the lower corners, at the left and right of the word TWO, there should apparently be a semi-circular line of shading. In a horizontal pair sent to us this semi-circle exists only in the bulb at the left of the left hand stamp and in that at the right of the right hand stamp. The other two are entirely unshaded. It is merely a defect of reproduction on the plate, no doubt, but occurs in a curiously symmetrical fashion in this pair."

**Venezuela.**—Numerous errors of the "Arms" surcharge, which was applied to the stamps of the 1882 set in 1893, are known and *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* now tells us of a few more, viz.:—red surcharge, 10c. deep brown with inverted overprint, 3b. violet blue, 5c. blue, 25c. brown and 50c. green with double surcharge; black surcharge, 20b. purple and 10c. red brown, both doubly overprinted.

**Western Australia.**—(Vol. I. p. 228).—The *Australian Philatelist* has seen a used copy of the current 2d. stamp on Crown A paper perforated 12½ × 11. Although this specimen is postmarked February, 1905, the variety does not appear to have been chronicled before. The list of these stamps with compound perf. is now as follows:—

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 12½ × 11.  
1d. carmine rose.  
2d. yellow.

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newspapers do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# From other Magazines

## Attack on the Royal Philatelic Society.

In the first place we do not see that any case has been made out for differentiating against the dealer. Certainly not for social reasons, for there is no particular social level laid down by the Royal Philatelic Society for its membership, including, as it does, tradesmen in wares which are not a bit more reputable than stamps.

The Royal Philatelic Society will lunch with dealers, tea with dealers, have its exhibition paid for by dealers and its books published by dealers, in face of which the retention of this rule on the books looks a little ungracious.

There is, however, some sort of indefinite idea that a society which nominally consists only of amateurs is in a strong position to take action against dangers which may threaten our pursuit. This idea is extremely intangible and has never to our knowledge materialised. And the reason is very clear. The interests of the collector and dealer in raising the position of philately are identical, they have never clashed and are never likely to. It is almost impossible to conceive of an amateur society having any cause to take action against the trade. On the other hand who is it who has won the victories of philately? Who got the Government to allow English stamps to be illustrated? Who got them to let us collect unused English official stamps without committing a crime? Who ran and paid for the CSAR forgeries case? The trade. The society has missed these opportunities and many more besides of standing for the interests of the collector, and its sphere has mainly been confined to the more passive occupation of producing literature, in which the co-operation of the trade has been constantly in evidence.

Turning now to dealing pure and simple, we have a first class which owns a shop window and advertises in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. Next comes the person who has no shop and only an undisplayed ad. in the *Exchange and Mart*. Thirdly comes the man who professes not to be a dealer at all, but nevertheless makes a very comfortable income from stamps. He is well represented in the Royal Philatelic Society. Part of his *modus operandi* is what we may tersely describe as buying on one side of the Strand and selling on the other. He buys good things in a dear market and hopes to sell in a dearer. To do this requires a consummate knowledge of philately and the man who makes it pay is an acquisition to any society though we cannot regard him as an amateur. Not far from the last named is the man who is constantly making new collections in order to sell them at a profit. He again grades himself according to the degree the selling motive is in the ascendant. He may very well be highly accomplished in our science and an ornament to any body that elects him. Then a long way below these is a mixed assortment of private dealers who are no use to anybody. They include speculators in new provisionals and the people who buy remainders of collections at auction in order to dispose of them retail on club sheets.—*Mr. Crofton in the Philatelic Journal of India, Oct., '08.*

## Recent South Australians.

Of the small type values—viz.,  $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 5d.—all except the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., are now issued upon Cr. and A. paper. The 1d. appeared in December, 1905, the 2d. in March, 1906, the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in April, 1907, and the 5d. in March, 1908. There is so little demand for the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. that its early appearance cannot even now be forecasted.

Of the large type values the following were issued on

Crown and A. paper on the dates named:—

- 1s.—May, 1906.
- 3d.—June, 1906.
- 4d.—September, 1906.
- 9d.—October, 1906.
- 6d.—June, 1907.

Of these the 3d. and 4d. do not exist upon Cr. and S.A. paper, with the word POSTAGE in thick letters—the change in watermark (Cr. and S.A. to Cr. and A.) and the alteration to POSTAGE having been made at the same time. The other three values do, the change having been made in 1904.

The following are still upon Crown and S.A. paper, but have had the type of POSTAGE “thickened” on dates named:—

- 2s. 6d., 5s. and £1—1905.
- 8d.—March, 1906.
- 10d.—August, 1907.
- 10s.—August, 1908.

The treadle machine which does the perforating of these “long” stamps is not very satisfactory, being very uneven, and resulting in the issue of badly centred stamps. At one end the needles perforate 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  instead of 12, although the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  never comes but a little way on the stamp itself, but can be found always through the uncoloured margin. A new machine is being tendered for, and will probably lead to a new perforation early in the next year.

The 6d., 9d. and 1s. stamps are now printed from new electros, but, except in the 9d., there is not a pronounced difference in the shade of their colours as compared with previous printings. In each case, however, a change has been made in the way the stamps (60) are arranged upon the sheets. The central strip of uncoloured paper has been omitted, thus reverting to the original arrangement. For some time previously all the sheets of the “long” stamp were divided, having three (3) rows of ten (10) stamps each on either side of the division. As now printed from the new electros there are six (6) similar rows without a division.—*Australian Philatelist, Sep. '08.*

## Queensland 1881. High Values.

The stamps are lithographed, and the stones contained one hundred and twenty impressions in twelve rows of ten. Transfers were taken from portions of the 1s. Perkins Bacon plate, and the whole or part of the value, and portions of the scrollwork at the sides, were erased, after which the new values were inserted. It is usual in such cases to take a small number of transfers and form a small intermediate stone, from which transfers are again taken and laid on a larger stone. These Queensland stamps were produced in this way. Mr. J. Bornfeld had given some attention to these stamps, but had not completed the plating. He found five types in the case of the 2s. and 20s., and from this he inferred that there were also five types in the case of each of the other values. This, however, is incorrect, and every one of the three—the 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.—has ten types, arranged in two rows of five. This number was no doubt chosen to suit the arrangement of the watermarks on the paper which was used for this series; there were a hundred and twenty watermarks (arranged in twelve rows of ten each), so that the sheets of the 2s. and 10s. were each made up of twenty-four strips of five types, while the other values were made up of twelve blocks of ten types. The watermark is the second type of the Crown and Q.—

*Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg in the Philatelic Record.*

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Mr. Griebert's Tips.

It is always interesting to have tips from experienced leading dealers when they give the reasons for their faith.

The following are from the circular recently issued by Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co., given under the heading "Facts worth noting":—

"That certain South American stamps, especially those of the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, Chili, and Brazil, are much in demand, and that a great advance in prices is not only probable, but certain.

"That Paraguay is not satisfied with the twenty different surcharges recently issued, and that before long at least another dozen new varieties will make their appearance.

"Dealers need not apply for these, as certain postal employes are buying them up themselves, and, we sincerely hope, will keep them for ever.

"That the boom for King's Head stamps is over.

"That a great number of collectors have started specialising in countries which have hitherto been much neglected.

"That early issues of Japan, Shanghai, Siamese surcharges, and nearly all the old issues of South America, are in a great many instances underpriced, and well worth going in for."

## The King's Head Boom.

I have no doubts about the end of the King's Head boom. Some prices may stick, but I fancy we shall find that the really scarce King's Heads will remain as scarce as ever, for the simple reason that neither dealers nor speculators were given time to secure stocks.

Consequently, many collectors are still hoping against hope that they may yet be able to fill up blanks when the so-called boom is over.

## South Americans on the Rise.

M. Griebert voices an opinion that seems to be gathering force.

No one can deny that the early issues of the Argentine, Uruguay, Chili and Brazil are grand stamps, but they are sadly handicapped by an overload of later issues.

Chili is perhaps the most manageable of the group. Its old Perkins Bacon issues are still quite cheap.

The old figure issues of Brazil are most tempting. So far as Brazil is concerned one might be well and wisely content with those alone.

## Whitfield King & Co.'s Revised Prices.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s new catalogue for 1909 is to be out in a few days, and I am told that it will contain an unusually large number of reductions in the British Colonial list, many stamps being now quoted as much as 50 per cent. lower than formerly.

That is an ominous announcement.

## Are Prices Falling?

Are prices falling? That is a question that goes home to the very marrow of some collectors whose philatelic life hangs upon the rise and fall of prices.

It would be strange, passing strange if stamps escaped the results of the all prevailing gloom that dominates almost every commercial interest.

Naturally the commercial side of stamps must be affected by the general scarcity of money, and, as a consequence, prices must suffer temporarily with everything else.

## Languishing Prices at Auction.

Prices have languished at the auctions. Competition

has not been keen. Good copies have not been enticed out of safe keeping. In fact, so far as the sordid side of collecting is concerned we are sitting on the fence waiting for better times. Those who can hold out are amusedly watching those down in the arena who must keep the ball rolling. They drop down occasionally to pick up a bargain, only to retire with it to the top of the fence.

## Stamps compared with other property.

It is only when you compare stamps with other property that you cheer up the stamp speculator. Take him to the Auction Mart at Tokenhouse Yard and let him watch houses and lands going begging for a bid, and thence to a stamp auction where only a lot now and again is "passed" for want of a purchaser.

## Now is the time to Buy.

As in stocks and shares, so in stamps, now is the time to buy, if you can pluck up the courage to do so on a falling market, and can trust yourself to keep a stiff upper lip to take only fine copies.

But the average collector will retire to his shell in times of opportunity like these. His philatelic soul is chilled by the prevailing depression.

I know more than one leading collector who remains in a chrysalis state. They tell you they are doing nothing in stamps just now—times are so bad.

## But times were never better.

For the real genuine collector times were never so good as they are to-day. He can get stamps at bargain prices, right and left, at auctions, in dealers' stock books and, most prominently, in dealers' advertisements in *The Postage Stamp*. And the sensible collector buys all the time, for he knows that when this temporary cloud has lifted he will have the pleasure of knowing that he has been building up a collection on prices that may never return.

## Our Advertisers' Offer this week.

Mr. Peckitt repeats his offer of Cape Triangulars from his unrivalled stock, and other good things in Cape of Good Hope stamps. The boom in Cape Triangulars can scarcely fail to send up prices.

Mr. D. Field's special bargain this week is a Bosnian catalogued at 12s. which he offers at 6s. He also advertises Mr. Poole's excellent little guide to the stamps of Hong Kong.

Mr. T. C. Appleton offers special lots of Papua and Sudan with selections of Dominica, Salvador, Nicaragua, etc.

Mr. W. T. Wilson offers a fine lot of Papuan used on original envelopes. Crete, Denmark, Iceland, etc.

Mr. W. Houtzamer offers cheap lots of Niger Coast, Northern and Southern Nigeria, and solicits "Want Lists" from readers of *The Postage Stamp*.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. announce the new edition of their Universal Standard Catalogue for 1909, the first out of the catalogues for the new year.

Mr. Rhodes has a tempting list of good things at low prices, including Austrian, New Caledonian, French, Gold Coast, Great Britain, Southern Nigeria, etc.

Messrs. Pemberton & Co. offer the 4d. Cape Triangular at 1s. to 1s. 9d., according to condition, and a long set of Austrian, catalogued at 3s. 6d., for 9d.

Mr. B. Gordon Jones offers Indian Convention States on which he is an authority.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newspapers or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

- Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.
- F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.
- Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.
- W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.
- James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP. Shall we send you post free a dozen

or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

### Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of 1d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges



At the request of several collectors we have decided to open a column for 'collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

**WANTED.** Large or small collections. Underwood, 70, Drury Road, Harrow.

WILL exchange for any countries, good North and South Americans. Basis, Scott or Gibbons'. Send lots and receive prompt returns.—APPLEYARD, 24, Thomas street, New York.

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† " 5d ... 3/9	† " 2d ... 1/9

### NORTHERN NIGERIA.

†1900, 2d ... 1/6	King, sing., 5d 1/0
† " 6d ... 4/3	" " 6d 1/0
† " 1sh ... 7/6	" " 1sh 2/0

### SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

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New Zealand Ch. Ch. Er. Issue 1, 3, 6d, mint, 2/6; block	10	0
E. A. & Uganda 1a to 8a, chalky, 2d ord., mint 3/6; block	14	0
B. Cent. Africa, 1, 2, 4, 6d, 1/, mint 3/- block, ...	12	0
N. Nigeria, CA 1d to 1/-, fine used (cat. 9/11); only	3	9
" 1d to 2/6 mint (cat. 23/11); only	10	6
Grenada, 1/-, mult., ord., mint 1/6; blk	6	0
" 5/-, 10/-, mult., mint	20	0
" 3d, chalky, mint 6d; block...	2	0
Natal Official, 1d to 1/-, mint	60	0
Antigua, 2d, chalky, CC mint 6d; blk 1/-	2	0
St. Vincent, chalky, 1d, mint 1 1/2; blk	8	0
" 2d, mint 5d; block	1	8
" mult., ord., 1/-, mint	12	0
S. Nigeria, mult. ord., 1/-, mint 1/6; blk	6	0
" Single CA 2d, mint 2/-; blk	8	0
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" 5/-, superb mint...	17	6

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3 1894. " " " " " " " "	5	7d.
4 1895. " " " " " " " "	5	7d.
<b>Hawaiian Islands.</b>		
13 1884. 2c. ...	1	6d.
14 1884. 4c rare ...	1	1/3
<b>Salvador.</b>		
15 1890. 5c-22 on white ...	5	1/0
16 " " on amber ...	5	1/0
17 " " on green ...	5	1/0
18 " wrappers, 3c-25 on white	4	6d.
19 " " on blue ...	4	9d.
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22 1895. 1c to 15c ...	5	6d.
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25 1891. 1c to 22c ...	7	9d.
26 " wraps., 2c-12 1/2 ...	4	5d.
27 Peru 1875. 2, 5, 5, 5c. ...	4	9d.
28 Guatemala. 1875. 1/2, 1, 2R:	4	9d.
<b>Honduras.</b>		
29 1890. on white, 5-25c. ...	4	5d.
30 " on blue, " " " " " "	4	5d.
31 1891. 5c to 25c. ...	4	6d.
32 1892. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25c. ...	6	8d.
33 1893. 5c to 25c. ...	4	5d.
34 " wraps., 1-10c ...	4	5d.
35 1891. " " " " " " " "	4	4d.
36 1895. 5c, 10c " " " " " "	2	4d.
37 Ecuador, 1892, 5, 10c ...	2	4d.
38 " wraps., 1, 2c ...	2	2d.
<b>Dominica.</b>		
39 1881. on white, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 45c. 7	5/0	
40 " on straw, " " " " " "	7	5/0
41 " on blue, 5-40c " " " " " "	6	3/9
42 " wrappers - 1881, 2, 3c ...	2	4d.
43 Canada, 1877, 1, 1, 3c, used	3	3d.
44 Turkey, 1870, 1, 1 1/2 pi, used	2	2/0
45 B. Bechuanaland, wraps. 1/2, 1, 1d 4	6d.	
46 " 5 diff., Reg. Enva.	5	3/9
47 B. Guiana wraps., 1, 2c, ...	2	3d.
48 Cape, 5 different ...	5	1/0
49 " 7 " used ...	7	9d.

### SUDAN.

Strips of 6 showing Setting of Surcharge.

1m brown, 1/-, 1m deep brown	1	6
2m green, 1/6, 2m deep green	1	6
3m orange, 2/-, 3m brown orange	2	0
5m carmine	4	0

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Approval Books or Sheets of any class of stamps sent on receipt of references. Ask for specimen of "Appleton's Weekly."

**T. C. Appleton, Ben Rhydding.**

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Egypt: Sheets of Early Issues.



**H**AS any one sheets of the first or second issues of Egypt? If so my friend, Dr. Cecil Rix, of Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells, would like to beg, buy, borrow, or steal them for the purposes of study.

It is surprising how few blocks or even pairs are known of the first issue. I think twelve is the largest block I have heard of in any one of the values.

Again, does any one know the history of the inverted overprint on the 10 piastres of the first issue? Are used copies known? I have seen a proof sheet from the plate on which it does not occur. If it does not occur on the proof how does it happen to exist at all? Can any specialist in Egyptians enlighten us?

A West End dealer tells me that he does not find Egyptians quite so popular as they were. I wish to goodness they would increase in unpopularity and become a drag in the market, then one might be able to get a few for study. As it is acceptable copies are terribly scarce.

**Popularising Postage Stamps.**

The Christmas number of *London*, a monthly magazine, has just come out with no less than eight pages about stamps, most flaringly illustrated. The flaring part of the business is attained by giving the stamps a background of bright scarlet vermilion. Of course it is not permissible to print stamps in colour; they must be printed in black only, or there will be trouble with the Inland Revenue authorities.

**The German Post Office.**

One of the writers of the articles on postage stamps in this Christmas number of *London* deals with the German Postal Service, and here is what he says about the courtesy of the German Post Office:—

“ I declare, Sir, I'd rather pay twopence for my penny

stamp elsewhere than wait half an hour for it in a German post office.”

“ The speaker, a well-to-do Englishman on his travels was storming outside the repelling matchboard barrier, with its two little shutters, like those of an English booking office, which characterises the German Post Office everywhere. Sometimes there is only one window, sometimes there are six. It makes no difference, because one out of two or five of the six are sure to be shut and barricaded with a cardboard notice ‘Geschlossen’ (closed). Even in a tiny village office there is the same stern barrier, the same significant symbol of the unapproachability of German officialdom. For the German Post Office is not the servant of the public, but of the Kaiser, who is by the constitution sole head of the whole service, the only person who can dismiss the high officials.

“ ‘Am I never going to be served?’ demanded a Southerner, hammering indignantly on the barred shutter of a Berlin office. The Southerner repeated his question. ‘Served?’ replied the Beamter, ‘Certainly not! we serve no one here save the Emperor. But we will settle your business for you presently.’”

**The French Postal Service.**

According to another writer who deals with the Postal Services of France, matters are not much better in France.

“ A Frenchman who wants to buy a postage stamp rarely goes to a post office for it. He makes for the nearest tobacco shop. Here we have, in a nutshell, what the French think of their own postal administration. It is, perhaps, the most generally abused of all their Government departments. Not only is it constantly peppered by critical sharpshooters, but the heavy artillery of Parliament is brought to bear on it regularly every year when the estimates come up for discussion. In most other countries the postal monopoly is regarded as a public service to be developed to the highest possible point compatible with sound finance. This view does not prevail in France. Every year there is the same difficulty in balancing the national revenue and expenditure. The Post Office has always shown a good margin of profit, and no Government has ever found itself able to dispense with this source of revenue. Economy and a fixed determination not to take any risks consequently remain the guiding principles of the administration; and the result is a postal system which can only be described as

imperfectly developed in comparison with the corresponding organisations in Great Britain and Germany, France's chief commercial rivals in Europe."

#### The Haytian Throat-cutters.

The throat-cutters of Hayti are at it again. Another revolution is in full going order, and when the business has run its course we shall presumably have a new series of stamps with portraits of the successful gang of throat-cutters.

Some day the United States will have to interfere in the interests of peace, and then it will have its work cut out to dragoon the niggers into order.

#### A New Issue.

I have just heard of a new issue which I am at liberty to chronicle, *i.e.*, a son born to Mr. and Mrs. B. W. H. Poole, and on behalf of the readers of *The Postage Stamp* I offer our congratulations. Of course this new issue will be illustrated in due course. Meanwhile, the happy philatelist prides himself upon the fact that he is the possessor of the only copy. The colour, he tells me, is rosy pink, not red lilac.

#### Transvaal. King's Head. 1d. on wmk. Anchor.

A Capetown correspondent writes to me as follows (8.11.08);—"On page 9 of Vol. III of *The Postage Stamp* the paragraph under the heading 'Transvaal' attracted my attention. I had still about 800 copies of the current 1d. Transvaal on hand, and thought I stood a slight chance of having an error in the lot. However, after cleaning them, I put them to rest for two weeks. Last evening, about 11.30 p.m., when half-way through my sorting of them, to my unbounded joy, I lit upon a decent copy with the error, watermark anchor. My specimen is dated at Johannesburg, 18th January, 1907."

I congratulate my friend on his good fortune. Had he not been a diligent reader of a philatelic journal he would probably have missed his chance altogether.

It would be interesting to know how many copies have been found up to date.

#### Bolivia: Reversion to Early Type.

According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 28.11.08, Bolivia is reverting to the design of the old 1867 issue, but printed in different colours, and it is believed that the old plates are being used.

The 1867 issue, with its nine stars, was always a popular set in my youthful days, and the 500c. black of that set was one of the most popular rarities of those days.

Bolivia is a nice South American country, and is, on the whole, very cheap.

#### Cayman Islands: No further Provisionals.

Mr. Ewen in his *Weekly* tells us that in October the Cayman Islands ½d. stamps "became completely exhausted and envelopes had to be franked by the Postmaster, no further provisionals being allowed."

It is to be hoped that the news that no further provisionals are to be allowed will be verified by events.

Recent occurrences seem to lend weight to the statement. The Governor of Jamaica recently paid a visit to the Group and a new Postmaster has been appointed.

However, they say it is an ill wind that blows good to no one, and no doubt a few enterprising dealers who have been able to get supplies will miss a source of quick return, and a few collectors who live and have their being in collecting abnormally active countries will miss the excitement of scrambling for Cayman provisionals.

#### South African Union.

Sir H. de Villiers, who is president of the Union Convention, said in the course of a speech at Capetown on the

27.11.08 that the prospects of the Convention were very satisfactory. No difficulty had hitherto proved insurmountable, and he felt assured of the consummation of the Union.

According to *The Times* if nothing occurs to mar present expectations, the draft constitution should be submitted to the various Parliaments in February, and another Convention would then perhaps be necessary in order to reconcile differences and give the constitution its final form. So strong, however, seems to be the belief in the success of the work of the Convention that he mentioned a general hope of sending the Constitution home for ratification during the next Session of the Imperial Parliament.

Then we shall begin to discuss the consequent issue of a new and important series of postage stamps, and I think one may hazard the opinion that they will be ready long before the much talked of new Australian Commonwealth issue.

#### New Zealand Pictorial Varieties.

A New Zealand correspondent, Mr. Jas. Boulden, tells me that he has the 2s. of the Waterlow printing of the Pictorials printed both sides, that, in fact he has two copies, one used and one unused. A Waterlow stamp printed both sides, and two copies, one used and one unused, in one collection is a poser!

Mr. Boulden can also boast of having the ½d. perf. 11 of 1900-1 series printed on both sides.

#### Philatelic Bequests.

Philatelic Bequests seem to be in the nature of white elephants when they have to be accepted by the unympathetic. Such a case was that of the gift of the Tapping collection to the British Museum, and now, according to a Huddersfield paper, the recent bequest of Mr. Holliday of his collection to his native town of Huddersfield promises to be a perplexity to the local authorities. However, it is consoling to note that well-known local collectors have taken the matter up, and have generously offered their gratuitous help in arranging the collection.

#### Funds for the Manchester Exhibition.

Here is a novel scheme for raising the necessary funds for the Manchester Exhibition from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*:—"In the course of a cordial and interesting letter on matters philatelic, 'W.H.C.,' Liverpool makes a good suggestion regarding the raising of further funds for the great enterprise the Manchester Juniors have in hand.

'We are not all millionaires,' remarks W.H.C. (and I think this remark shows him to be a very truthful person, don't you?) 'and there are many who cannot afford to contribute substantially to the Exhibition Fund. Others, in view of the publicity attached to their offerings, are afraid to risk criticism, for, after all, Mr. A.B.C.'s 1s. looks decidedly off when listed alongside Mr. D.E.F.'s £2 2s.; so I venture to suggest a little way out of the difficulty.'

'All stamp collectors have at times an abundance of good duplicates. They will accumulate in the best regulated collection. And I think if every collector were to make up one good approval sheet, and these were sent to the Secretary of the Junior Society at Manchester, the whole accumulation could be sold during the last hours of the Exhibition by public auction to the highest bidder, and the amount received placed to the credit of the Show.'

'I know the gentlemen who form that Committee at Manchester are in real earnest, and heartily wishful for the success of the undertaking; and as, in the words of the old saw, 'every mickle makes a muckle,' I feel sure they would be glad of the offerings.'

'I am quite willing to start the ball rolling!' adds W.H.C., like the good sportsman I feel sure he is."



# The Cayman Islands

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

**N**OW that we seem to have reached the end of official speculation in the issue of Cayman Islands provisionals, it may be well to review what has been done, and bring our postal history up to date.

I do not propose to repeat the history of the islands. It will be found in a previous list of the stamps published in Vol. I., page 127, of *The Postage Stamp*, but our knowledge of the islands has since been brought up to date in a "Handbook of the Cayman Islands" for 1908, edited by Mr. George S. S. Hirst, M.B., Commissioner of the group.

The inhabitants are stated to be mostly white and to number nearly 6,000. During 1905-06 there were 114 births, 57 deaths and 42 marriages.

There are three Customs Offices, at George Town, East End and Cayman Brac and at the latter two places the Customs Collector also acts as Postmaster. The imports during 1905-06 were valued at £23,820, and the exports at £15,204, the discrepancy between the two figures being due to the fact that many of the schooners built in the islands are taken abroad and sold.

Thirty-one schooners and eighteen sloops are at present owned in the Cayman Islands.

The taxes are very mild; there is a poll tax on males between the ages of 18 and 60 amounting to 6s., whilst boats and canoes pay 6d., dogs 6d., and horses, cattle, etc., 9d.

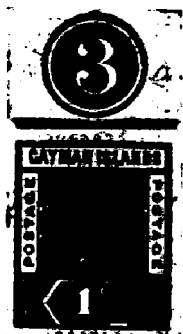
During 1905-06 10,490 letters were despatched and 13,890 received. The value of the stamps sold during 1904-05 was £280 and of those sold during 1905-06 £260, figures which seem unaccountably small.

The Handbook states that "there are throughout the Dependency one or two small places which in the past were used as gaols but within recent years no convicts being forthcoming they have been to all intents and purposes closed."

The only foreign Consuls resident in the Cayman Islands are those appointed by Norway and Sweden.

There are about forty miles of road in Grand Cayman and fifteen in the lesser Caymans. The roads are for the most part narrow (not exceeding 12 feet wide) a d flat, but pretty, the luxuriant growth of the almond and other trees providing plenty of shade.

**1900.** Two values. Design: Diademed head of Queen in profile to left within a circle, enclosed in a



rectangular framework of labels inscribed on the right and left with the word "Postage," above "Cayman Islands," and below a large tablet with numeral of value. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them in panes of 60, ten rows of six, on paper watermarked Crown CA, and perforated 14.

*Wmk. Crown Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green - - -	0 2	0 3
1d. carmine - - -	0 8	0 4

**1901-2.** Five values. Design: As in the previous issue, but with the head of King Edward VII. in profile to left, substituted for that of Queen Victoria. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them in panes of 60, in ten rows of six, on paper watermarked Crown CA (single) and perforated 14.



*Wmk. Crown C.A. (Single). Perf. 14.*

	Unused	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green - - -	0 6	0 4
1d. carmine - - -	0 6	0 3
2½d. ultramarine - - -	1 3	2 0
6d. brown - - -	3 9	3 6
1s. orange - - -	10 0	9 0

**Range of Catalogue Values, Unused.**

This is the only issue in this young stamp issuing colony that calls for notice in the matter of the range of catalogue prices, but it is a remarkable little series, for it has been steadily rising in value from the first.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. -	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 6
1d. -	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 6
2½d. -	0 4	0 4	0 9	1 3
6d. -	0 8	1 6	2 6	3 9
1s. -	1 4	2 6	7 6	10 0

**1905-6.** Five values. Design: Same as last issue, but printed on multiple CA paper, perforated 14.

*Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green - - -	0 2	0 2
1d. carmine - - -	0 8	0 9
2½d. ultramarine - - -	0 9	1 0
6d. brown - - -	2 0	—
1s. orange - - -	3 6	—

**1906.** Four values. Design: As in the last issue, but all bi-coloured, the 6d. changed from brown to olive and rose, the 1s from orange to violet and green, and two new values, 4d. and 5s., added to the series; all printed in panes of 60 in ten rows of six, on multiple CA paper, perforated 14.

*Bi-coloured.*

Wmk. Multiple C.A.	Perf. 14.	Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
4d. brown and blue	-	1 6	1 9		
6d. olive and rose	-	2 6	3 0		
1s. violet and green	-	3 0	4 0		
5s. vermilion and green	-	10 0	12 6		

**1907-8. Provisionals.** Design: "One Half-penny" in two lines on the 1d. carmine, "½" on 5s. vermilion and green, "1d." on 5s. vermilion and green, and "2½d." on 4d. brown and blue.

Of these provisionals, which have been the subject of much wild speculation, there were printed:—

½d. on 1d., 40 sheets, 4,800 stamps.
½d. on 5s., 19 sheets, 2,280 stamps.
1d. on 5s., 15 sheets, 1,800 stamps.
2½d. on 4d., 2 sheets, 240 stamps.

*Provisionals.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. on 1d. carmine	-	2 6	3 6	
½d. on 5s. vermilion and green	10 0	—	—	
1d. on 5s. vermilion and green	15 0	—	—	
2½d. on 4d. brown and blue	£5	—	—	

**1908.** Two values. Design: King's head as before, but with "Postage" on the left and "and Revenue" on the right labels, instead of "Postage" on both sides. Printed in panes of 60 in ten rows of six on paper watermarked Crown CA single, and perforated 14.



*Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1s. black on green paper	-	2 6	3 0	
10s. green and red on green paper	—	—	—	

**1908.** Eight values. Design: Of the "Postage and Revenue" type of King's head, printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in panes of 60 in ten rows of six, on paper watermarked multiple Crown CA, and perforated 14.

*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.*

	s. d.
½d. green	0 1
1d. carmine	0 2
2½d. ultramarine	0 4
3d. purple on yellow paper	0 5
4d. black and red on yellow paper	0 6
6d. lilac	0 8
5s. green and red on yellow paper	6 8

**1908.** One value. Design: Numerals of value within an oval band, surmounted by a crown and inscribed in the lower half "Cayman Islands Postage," value ½d. These stamps were announced for internal use only, but owing, it was said, to a shortage of ½d. stamps they were authorised for general use. They were designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and lithographed by them in panes of 60, in ten rows of six, on paper watermarked multiple Crown CA and perforated 14.

I take the following description of minor varieties from *Even's Weekly Stamp News*, 28.11.08:—

"The ½d. stamp appears to be lithographed in sheets of 120, divided as usual into two panes of 60, each ten rows of six, entirely without marginal lines or marks, except a + on the lower margin. The transfer is made up as shown in the diagram,

1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 1 2 1 2
3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 3 4 3 4
1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 1 2 1 2
3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 3 4 3 4
1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 1 2 1 2
3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 3 4 3 4
1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 1 2 1 2
3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 3 4 3 4
1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 1 2 1 2
3 4 3 4 3 4	3 4 3 4 3 4

"The whole 120 stamps are lithographed at one pull, so that defects occurring on the left pane are different to those found on the right-hand pane. The principal are:—

No. 19 (left pane, 1st in 4th row), large white rectangular space to right of crown.

No. 57 (left pane, 3rd in 10th row), white dot under N of 'Islands.'

No. 108 (right pane, 6th in 8th row), white spot under S of 'Postage.'

"These defects are of special interest, because they will probably serve to identify the first printing. It depends on what procedure the printers adopted. If the defects were caused in transferring the design to the machining stone, it is very unlikely they will be seen in the second supply.

"The same 4 types may however quite likely occur in future printings, unless the printers decide to preserve no transfers but to start direct from a single die each time.

"Type 2 is easily distinguishable from types 1, 3, 4, as the letters MA of 'Cayman' are separated, whereas in the other three types they are touching and more often than not appear to be joined by a white bar. We have not yet discovered a satisfactory means of distinguishing between types 1, 3, 4, but the identity of any specimen can of course be inferred if it is in a block with a specimen of type 2.

"In 1908 the ½d. stamps became completely exhausted and envelopes had to be franked by the Postmaster, no further provisionals being allowed to be created.

"On one and the same sheet of ½d. stamps, dark and light brown shades are to be found."



*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. brown	0 1	0 1		

# Our Library Table

## The Stamps of Hong Kong.

*The Postage Stamps of Hong Kong, by Bertram W. H. Poole. The "W.E.P." Series of Philatelic Handbooks—No. 1. Published by D. Field, 4 & 5, The Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, London, W., 1908. Price 6d net.*

This is an excellent, simple and straightforward guide to the various postal issues of the crown colony of Hong Kong. It presents a strong plea in favour of the collection and study of our far eastern colony.

At one time these stamps were of the more or less neglected class. Then a well-known specialist took a fancy to them, studied them, and built up a fine, highly specialised collection. Up went prices, and since then Hong Kong has been a "favourite country."

It would, however, be a mistake to imagine that the study of the stamps has been completed. Even after all that has been done, Mr. Poole is compelled to confess to lack of information for clearing up many interesting points. But so far as our information goes, and so far as Mr. Poole's own researches can advance our knowledge, his handbook is the latest, though not the last word, on the subject of the Stamps of Hong Kong.

## Whitfield King's Catalogue.

*The Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World. Published Annually, Ninth Edition. 1909. Whitfield King & Co., Stamp Importers and Publishers, Ipswich, England. Price 1s. 6d.*

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. bring out their Catalogue with reliable regularity, and every edition is made the occasion for some endeavour to further improve it and make it more acceptable and useful to the general collector.

In this edition some of the headings of the British Colonies have been re-arranged; British Central Africa will be found under its new official designation of Nyassaland, and British New Guinea is placed under Papua. The native States of the Malay Peninsula are grouped under the comprehensive name of Malaya, and British South Africa is listed as Rhodesia. In our own opinion no groupings will be satisfactory, as all are open to some objection. An alphabetical arrangement, pure and simple, removes all difficulty. As it is, each Catalogue is becoming a law with itself and more and more full of perplexities.

Collectors will be thankful for a careful revision of colour names throughout, especially in the case of lilac, violet, mauve and purple, a great many purple stamps in previous editions having been incorrectly designated lilac. In this matter of colours Mr. King has always been most painstaking in his endeavours to arrive at some consistency.

As regards prices we are told in the preface that "an unusually large number of reductions have been made in the British Colonial list, many stamps being now quoted as much as 50% lower than formerly."

Express Delivery Stamps are displayed as before. This being so, we are at a loss to understand why the Great Britain Express Delivery label has never been included in any catalogue, and yet it is surely as much entitled to inclusion as the foreign and colonial labels. If the one, why not the other?

Simplification is a most desirable aim, but it is sometimes hard to know where to draw the line. In the New Zealand list we have a very good example of half measures.

In the Pictorial issue, London Prints and Colonial Prints are separately listed, all no watermark and all the same colours. With no other help, what a puzzle must here be presented to the collector. As perforation, the distinguishing feature, is not permissible in a catalogue which does not include varieties of perforation, it would have been wiser to have given one list only and to have omitted the distinction of London and Colonial Prints.

## Senf's Catalogue.

*Gebrüder Senf's Illustrierter Postwertzeichen-Katalog, 1909.*

Like all other Catalogues Senf's is growing every year more and more bulky. It still crowds into one volume all the world's issues, and now runs into 1152 pages; advertising pages at the end bring the total up to 1299 pages. An excellent feature in Senf that is but slightly used in our English Catalogues is an abundance of explanatory notes of a most helpful character. In the matter of prices Senf has been subjected to much hostile criticism, many quotations being obviously below the acknowledged market range. But if the publishers can supply the stamps at the prices they quote they have a complete reply to such charges. Can they?

Some of the lists of stamps follow quite a different rule to ours. For instance in the now much talked of stamps of Crete, the list commences with the issue of 1900, the 1898 and 1899 stamps being placed under the heading of "British Post in Herakles," the stamps issued by the other powers for use in the island all follow in similar manner under the general heading of Crete. The same plan is followed in the lists of other countries. Thus under Turkey will be found all the stamps of the Foreign Offices, and so on. In the Transvaal lists the issues of the First and Second Republics follow on, and are thus kept separate from the stamps of the British occupations and British Colonial administrations.

## Hinton's Hints on Stamp Collecting.

*Hints on Stamp Collecting: An A B C of Philately and Handy Philatelic Guide for Beginners. Stamps that Puzzle Collectors, Illustrated and Described. By F. H. Hinton, Member of the International Philatelic Union, American Philatelic Association, &c. Third Edition, revised and enlarged. London: E. Nisbet, 26 and 28, St. Bride Street, E.C.*

Mr. Hinton's excellent little elementary guide to stamp collecting is now too well known to need any commendation from us. The book is divided into six parts. Part I. deals with the album and the mounting of the stamps; Part II. with the manufacture of the stamps; Part III. with the question of what to collect; Part IV. helps the beginner to place stamps that have no distinguishing name; Part V. deals with national and famous private collections, rarities, errors, &c.; and Part VI. with inscriptions, surcharges, and coinage.

On the vexed question under the heading "What to Collect," Mr. Hinton tells the collector that he must decide for himself, and he adds: "No collector possessing any individuality will be content to be bound down by any printed catalogue or album, but will rather accept them as aids to his own efforts." Then he describes the various classes of stamps.

But in the matter of Commemoratives he is a little more outspoken.

# Early New Zealand

From Gibbons' Stamp Weekly

**T**HE early stamps of New Zealand are very handsome in appearance, but are extremely hard to find in superb condition with margins all round or well centred.

The plates of all the first type were engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

The first stamps were issued in 1855, and were of three values—1d., 2d. and 1s. They were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. on paper watermarked Large Star.

The 1d. value is a dull carmine shade, and can readily be distinguished from the 1862 issue, which ranges from orange to vermilion.

The 2d. value was printed in deep blue. It resembles the 6d., deep blue, imperf., of South Australia, issued about the same time, and should not easily be mistaken for the 1862 2d., dark blue, which is a stamp of a much brighter shade. These two stamps are very hard to find.

The 2d. value was printed on paper more or less blued. The colour is of a duller shade than the preceding stamp. It is not a difficult stamp to find. A 1s. value was also printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon; it is only found on blued paper, and is a rare stamp to obtain.

These were the only stamps printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. The plates of these stamps, and afterwards the plates of all the other values of the first type, were sent to the colony by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. as they were engraved.

The next issue was printed in the colony on blue paper.

The 1d. value is not particularly hard to find, and the 2d. value is common, but the 1s. value is a very scarce stamp.

In 1856 the stamps were printed on unwatermarked white paper, and in addition to the three values of preceding issues of a 6d. value is now found.

The 1d. was printed in orange, and is not readily met with; the 2d., although common in a pale blue shade, is not easily found of a dark blue colour. The 6d. value is found in shades of brown, of which a chestnut shade is the best. The 1s. value in shades of green is not readily found.

These stamps are printed on a soft paper, and care should be taken when removing surplus paper or old mounts from their backs that the stamps are not thinned.

They are also found pin-perf., serrated perf., and rouletted, but as so, being unofficial, these stamps should be left to the specialist.

These stamps are also found on pelure paper.

In 1862 the stamps were printed on paper wmk. Star, and include five values, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s., to which was added a 4d. value when the stamps were perforated a year or so later.

The 1d., imperf., is found in several shades, but is not often met with in good condition. The 2d. value is common in pale blue, but the deep blue shade is not easily found, and never in a shade approaching the London print. There is a shade in slate-blue which is rare.

The 3d. value is found in three shades, of which a brown-lilac stamp is the only one usually met with; a lilac shade is scarce, and a mauve shade very rarely seen. The 6d. is readily met with in many shades of dark brown, but the 1s. value, which is now printed in shades of yellow-green, is not by any means easy to find in good condition.

In the perforated issue, wmk. Star, the 1d. value, although common, is not easily found well centred; but

the 2d. blue, which can be found in many shades, can be readily met with, either in pale or deep blue.

The 3d. is found in similar shades to the imperf. issue, but the relative values are not the same. The brown-lilac is not at all easy to find, the lilac is common, and the mauve is not particularly hard to obtain.

The 4d. value, first printed in rose-carmine, is not easy to find, but the yellow shade is more often met with. There is an orange shade, but it is rare.

The 6d. was printed in shades of dark brown, and although a black-brown is difficult to find, the other shades are common; while, as in the imperforate issue, the 1s. is a stamp hard to find in good condition.

In 1864 the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. values were printed on paper wmk. N.Z. They are found imperf., perf. 12½, and also rouletted.

The 1d. value, printed in orange-red, is comparatively common imperforate, but is difficult to find perforated, whereas the relative rarity of the 2d. is reversed, being more easily found perforated. The 6d., imperf., is rather hard to find, but the 6d., perf., is not uncommon. The 1s. value is not difficult to obtain imperforate, but perforated it is a scarce stamp.

In 1871 the colours of the 1d., 2d., 6d. were changed.

The 1d. was printed in brown, and is found on paper wmk. Star, and perf. 10, 10 × 12½, and 12½, the first-named being scarce. This is a peculiar-looking stamp, as the colour is so weak, and all varieties of it are extremely hard to find in good condition. It is also found with no wmk., perf. 12½, which is scarce thus, and wmk. N.Z., in which state it is very rare.

The 2d. was printed in vermilion, and is found perf. 10 × 12½ and 12½, watermarked Star; the former is hard to find. It is also found with no wmk., but is not scarce; but the variety with wmk. N.Z. is not easy to obtain. There is a rare variety with wmk. lozenges.

An orange shade is found of this value, wmk. Star, and perf. 12½, and is common.

The 6d. value was printed in blue, and is found on paper wmk. Star, perf. 10 × 12½ and 12½. The former is a scarce stamp, and the latter is by no means easy to obtain in fine condition.

The early stamps of New Zealand form a very interesting study, and although many of the stamps will require great patience to find in good condition, the collector will be well repaid for his trouble by the handsome show they will make.

The following list shows the advances in prices during the past twenty years or so of the line engraved stamps:—

	1855	1895	1897	1902	1905	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1855. 1d., London	—	—	60 0	90 0	150 0	150 0
2d.	—	—	75 0	50 0	60 0	60 0
2d., on blued	—	20 0	20 0	20 0	30 0	30 0
1s.	—	25 0	25 0	25 0	60 0	60 0
1856. 1d. blue						
paper	—	50 0	50 0	60 0	60 0	60 0
2d.	2 6	15 0	15 0	12 0	14 0	14 0
1s.	15 0	60 0	60 0	65 0	80 0	80 0
1856. No wmk. 1d.	—	15 0	15 0	12 0	12 6	12 6
2d.	1 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0
6d.	1 6	5 0	5 0	4 6	8 0	10 0
1s.	3 6	22 6	22 6	30 0	45 0	45 0

1862. Imperf. Star.							
1d.	1 6	5 0	4 0	7 6	10 0	10 0	
2d.	0 3	1 6	1 6	4 0	3 0	4 0	
3d.	0 9	5 0	5 0	10 0	12 6	12 6	
6d.	0 9	2 0	2 0	4 0	4 6	4 6	
1s.	1 6	10 0	8 0	10 0	15 0	15 0	
1864. Wmk. N.Z.							
imperf.							
1d.	—	8 6	8 6	6 6	15 0	18 0	
2d.	—	15 0	15 0	20 0	35 0	25 0	
6d.	—	30 0	30 0	25 0	50 0	50 0	
1s.	—	8 6	8 6	10 0	12 6	12 6	
Wmk. N.Z.							
perf. 12½.							
1d.	—	—	—	—	—	—	
2d.	1 6	6 6	6 6	6 0	6 0	6 0	
6d.	—	6 0	6 0	8 0	12 0	12 0	
1s.	—	25 0	25 0	40 0	50 0	50 0	
1863-66. Star.							
perf. 12½.							
1d.	0 3	0 9	0 9	1 6	2 0	2 6	
2d.	0 2	0 4	0 4	1 0	1 6	2 0	
3d.	0 6	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 6	2 6	
rose-carmine, 4d.	—	7 6	7 6	7 6	10 0	10 0	
yellow, 4d.	1 0	1 0	2 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	
6d.	0 3	0 4	0 4	0 8	1 0	2 0	
1s.	0 4	1 0	1 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	

1d., brown,							
perf. 10	—	10 0	10 0	8 0	15 0	15 0	
perf. 10 × 12½	—	4 0	2 6	2 6	2 6	3 0	
perf. 12½	—	0 6	0 6	2 0	2 0	3 0	
no wmk.	—	20 0	20 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	
wmk. N.Z.	—	—	—	—	—	£90	
2d., vermilion							
perf. 10 × 12½	—	3 0	3 0	5 0	4 0	10 0	
perf. 12½	—	0 4	0 4	2 6	3 0	3 0	
no wmk.	2 0	2 0	2 0	3 0	5 0	6 0	
wmk. N.Z.	—	10 0	10 0	10 0	7 6	7 6	
lozenges	—	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	
2d., orange,							
perf. 12½	—	0 4	0 4	2 6	2 6	2 6	
6d., blue,							
perf. 10 × 12½	—	35 0	35 0	—	45 0	45 0	
perf. 12½	—	0 6	0 6	1 6	2 0	3 6	

**The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.**

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 103).

**CORRECTION.**

**Hill, Sir Rowland.**—On page 91 it was stated in error that Sir Rowland Hill was born at Kidderminster in 1879. This date should be 1795.

**Huacho.**—A port in the department of Lima, Peru, at which special 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued in the eighties during one of the many revolutionary movements.

**Hulot, M.**—One of the principal engravers at the French mint at the time of the issue of the first postage stamps in France. He was entrusted with the manufacture of the plates, and many of the later issues were produced by him as well as the 1872 issue for Roumania.

**Humphries, Wm.**—The engraver who retouched the original die from which all the plates for the production of British 1d. and 2d. stamps were made prior to 1855. The stamps from the plates produced from the re-engraved die are known as "die II." to philatelists to distinguish them from the earlier impressions.

**Hungary.**—An independent member of the Austrian-Hungarian empire. With its dependent states it has an area of 125,430 square miles, being thus slightly larger than the United Kingdom. It has a total population of nearly 20 millions, which comprises, in addition to the Hungarians proper, Roumanians, Germans, Slovaks, Croatians, Servians, etc. The constitution of Hungary as a kingdom dates from the year 1000 and the first charter from the Golden Bull of 1222. The constitution was in abeyance from 1849 to 1860 but has existed in full validity since 1867. Postage stamps were first issued on May 1st, 1871.

**Hyderabad.**—The dominion of the Nizam situated in the Deccan, India. It has an area of 82,700 square miles and a population of over eleven millions. In 1748, when the country came under the contending influences of the British and French, the Nizam sided with the British, while, at a later date, Tipu Sahib, the son of Haider Ali,

favoured the French. The dominions were extended after the fall of Seringapatam and the death of Tipu Sultan in 1799. Sixty years later part of the territory—Berat—was transferred to Britain in exchange for certain other districts and the cancellation of a debt of two millions sterling. The Nizam is the premier native chief of India and, though a Mahomedan himself, practically all his subjects are Hindus. Postage stamps were first issued in 1869.

**I. A.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874. It showed that they were used upon the official correspondence of the Immigration Agent.

**Iceland.**—A large volcanic and treeless island in the North Atlantic Ocean belonging to Denmark. It lies about 500 miles to the north-west of the Shetlands, and 250 miles south-east of Greenland. It has an area of 40,497 square miles of which probably not more than one-sixth is habitable. Its population numbers over 80,000. Iceland was discovered and colonized by Norsemen or Scandinavian Vikings, between 870 and 950, though there is reason to believe that Irish monks visited the island, and partly settled there from the year 795 onwards. Christianity became established about the year 1000. At first the Icelanders constituted themselves into a sort of aristocratic republic of Franklins, whose central authority was the Al-thing, or national assembly. This met every summer for the discussion of all matters referring to the national welfare, the framing of new and re-adjustment of old laws, etc. During the period 1262-71 internal conflicts were regrettably frequent, and these ended with the island falling under the supremacy of the Kings of Norway. From about 1280 Iceland has been a dependency of Denmark. The right of national self-government was restored to the Icelanders in 1902, when the Governor transferred his headquarters from Copenhagen to Reikjavik, the capital of the island. Postage stamps were first issued in 1873.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Bahamas.**—(Vol. II. p. 260).—From several of our contemporaries we learn that current supplies of the 1d. pictorial stamp are printed in bright rose and grey-black, and on thinner paper than has hitherto been used.



**Bechuanaland Protectorate.**—The current British ½d. stamp, in pale yellow-green, has at last received the usual overprint for use here, and we have been shown a specimen by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The complete list of King's head stamps is now as follows:—

British Stamps surcharged "BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE."

	s.	d.
½d. blue-green ... ..	0	1
½d. pale yellow-green ... ..	0	1
1d. scarlet ... ..	0	2
2½d. ultramarine ... ..	0	4

**Canada.**—(Vol. III. p. 8).—We learn from various sources that a sheet of 100 of the 2c. King's head stamp has been found entirely imperforate. As it bears an early plate number—No. 18—it must have been issued some time ago.

A correspondent informs *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that he has a strip of the 2c. of the Quebec Centenary issue, from the bottom of the sheet, showing plate No. 4 inverted in the margin below.

We have a similar strip showing "OTTAWA—No.—4" inverted; and we also have a block of the 1c. from the bottom of the sheet showing the plate No. 3 below, but in a normal position, i.e. not inverted as in the case of the 2c. We believe that some, if not all, of the values of this set were printed in sheets of 200 stamps, and that these were divided before leaving the printing establishment so as to form the usual Post Office sheets of 100. These large plates had the plate number placed in the top and bottom margins, so that the small sheets printed from the lower half of a plate would have the plate number at the base. It is curious, however, that this should be inverted in the case of plate 4 of the 2c., and it would be interesting to know if the same arrangement was followed in the production of the other plates.

**Danish West Indies.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the current set has been enriched by the addition of two more values—15 and 30 bit. Both are bi-coloured stamps, and are in the new design, illustrated below, showing portrait of King Frederick VIII. From the same source we learn that the 50 bit. is printed in yellow and brown, not yellow and grey, as previously reported. The list of values issued to date in the new design is as follows:—



Wmk. Crown. Perf. 13.

	s.	d.
5 bit. green ... ..	0	1
10 " carmine ... ..	0	2
15 " violet and brown ... ..	0	3
20 " green and blue ... ..	0	4
25 " blue ... ..	0	5
30 " red lilac and black ... ..	0	5
40 " vermilion and grey ... ..	0	6
50 " yellow and brown ... ..	0	8

**Hong-Kong.**—(Vol. I. p. 206)—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records an interesting variety of the provisional \$1 postage stamp of 1897, which was formed by surcharging the large \$2 fiscal stamp with "ONE DOLLAR" at the base, and Chinese characters on the left hand side and diagonally across the upper right-hand corner. An error with the whole of the Chinese overprint omitted is well known, but in the one under notice only the diagonal surcharge is missing.

**JAVA.**—(Vol. III. p. 8).—We learn from the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* that the following are the numbers of the stamps of the Dutch Indies which received the "JAVA" overprint:—

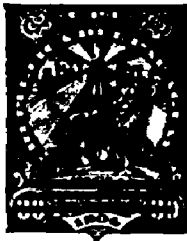


		s.	d.
1c. lilac ... ..	4,780,000	0	0½
1c. olive green ... ..	3,600,000	0	0
2c. brown ... ..	1,200,000	0	1
2½c. green ... ..	1,400,000	0	1
3c. orange ... ..	300,000	0	1
5c. rose ... ..	1,020,000	0	2
10c. dull blue ... ..	3,900,000	0	3
12½c. deep blue ... ..	390,000	0	4
15c. brown ... ..	306,000	0	5
20c. olive ... ..	225,000	0	6
25c. mauve ... ..	375,000	0	8
30c. chestnut ... ..	373,000	0	9
50c. lake brown ... ..	294,000	1	3
1g. lilac ... ..	126,000	2	6
2½g. slate ... ..	24,000	6	6

**Nyassa.**—Another value of the current pictorial set for this Portuguese colony has been found with inverted centre—the 2½ reis black and chocolate. The complete list of errors now known is as follows:—

*Errors. Centre inverted. No wmk. Perf. 12½ to 15.*  
 2½ reis chocolate and black.  
 10 „ green and black.  
 150 „ orange brown and black.  
 300 „ green and black.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—Again we have more novelties to record—the 60c. chocolate of 1904 and, by way of variety, the old lithographed 28c. of 1901-2, both surcharged 5c. with the type of overprint shown in the accompanying illustration.



Ordinary Stamps of 1904.

Overprinted "Habilitado en—5 (or 20)—CENTAVOS" in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue-green ... ..	0	3
5c. on 2c. carmine ... ..	0	3
5c. on 60c. chocolate ... ..	0	9
20c. on 30c. violet ... ..	0	6

Stamp of 1901-2 similarly surcharged.

5c. on 28c. orange ... ..	—	—
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**Sierra Leone.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* current supplies of the 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d. and 6d. values are printed in a paler shade of purple than before.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 93).—The 3 fr. value in the new design has now appeared according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* so that the complete list of values issued to date is as follows:—



New design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½.

	s.	d.
20c. vermilion and pale yellow ... ..	0	3
30c. red brown and pale green ... ..	0	5
35c. emerald and pale yellow ... ..	0	6
40c. purple and yellow... ..	0	6
50c. green and pale green ... ..	0	7
70c. purple-brown and yellow ... ..	0	10
3 fr. yellow bistre and chrome yellow ... ..	3	6

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their *New Issue Service*, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## Bhopal, First Issue.

As a collector of, perhaps I may venture to say a specialist in, the unpopular issues of the Native States of India, I am naturally interested in any announcements concerning the State Post Offices. It is some little time back that I made a note of an extract from *The Times of India*, which was published in *The Philatelic Record*, and according to which the State Post Office of Bhopal was transferred to the Post Office of India on the 15th of July. Some interesting details are given relating to the previous history of the Post Office, and the arrangements to be made for the future:—

"The Bhopal State Post Office, like all early postal systems, was first established for official purposes only in 1852, but was later thrown open to the public, the first postage stamps being struck in 1869. The money order system was introduced later, but remittances were limited to Rs. 5. Letters could be registered, but there was no provision for insurance and there was no savings bank. Stamps that will now be withdrawn from circulation are quarter anna, half, one, two, four and eight annas, and one rupee, and a new stamp for use exclusively on the Bhopal State Service will be introduced shortly. Postage Stamps affixed to all articles posted within the Bhopal State will, when obliterated, bear the impression of the Bhopal coat-of-arms. There will now be fifty post offices and 457 miles of mail lines, exclusive of railways, in the Bhopal territory."

The list of the stamps of Bhopal certainly occupies an amount of space in the Catalogue which might appear to

be unnecessary, but until within the last few years collectors have not really had much to complain of. I should add that the unnecessary productions of recent years have not all of them found their way into the Catalogue yet; the list might be considerably lengthened. If the statement that postage stamps were struck in in 1869 is correct, I fear that there must be some additions to be made at the beginning of our list, which starts with an issue assigned to 1877. The latter date is undoubtedly wrong, and I cannot now discover how it came to be adopted by all the catalogues; stamps of Bhopal were actually chronicled before the end of 1876, and the date first given to them was "1871," supposed to correspond with the date "1289" which is found at the top of the embossed device applied to the stamps down to 1902. As a matter of fact the Mohammedan year 1289 began March 11th, 1872, and ended February 27th, 1873. The embossing stamp, therefore, which fitted the centre of the earliest Bhopal stamps that we know, may be said to be dated 1872, and was probably engraved in that year; and the design with an octagonal blank space in the centre, in which the embossed device was impressed, cannot well be earlier than that date and may be later. It is not unlikely that the single-frame type, Type 2 in the Catalogue, may have been the earliest, as this appears to have been the type of the stamps seen in 1876; but stamps of Type 3 were seen in April, 1877, and the ½s. of Type 1 in the following August.

If stamps were issued in 1869 they were probably of a design that is entirely unknown; let us hope that such

was not the case; but philatelists in India might devote a little research to this problem, and endeavour at the same time to ascertain the actual date of issue of the stamps that are all listed under 1877.—

*Major Evans in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 28.11.08.*

#### Lilac, Mauve, or Purple?

In recent discussions on a simple catalogue it was contended that shades of colour were not necessary to be noted, but it is decidedly impossible to divide them under a dozen names formed from primary, secondary and tertiary colours. Then there is the important difference in price asked for by any seller between a rare and a common tint of one general colour, sometimes reaching to 500 per cent.

We are led to refer to this question of colour names again because of the difficulty expressed by studious collectors of the younger class to make out what certain names mean as given by older philatelists in the articles written for various journals, the usefulness of which is greatly impaired by using some catalogue names which do not agree with the stamps described, when tested by a clearer knowledge of the true colours represented by those names. Such combinations as lilac-rose, brown-lilac, violet-brown, &c., are virtually impossible; red-lilac or red-violet is only a double-barrelled name for simple mauve or a purplish shade. The recent death of Sir Wm. Perkin, the discoverer of the aniline dye called mauve, reminds us that that dye as a printing ink was used for the penny stamp of 1881, but all cataloguers insist on calling it lilac because the previous receipt stamp was nearer to that colour.

Lilac is said to mean blue, and is a bluish colour, or "dull pale violet" as technically described in cyclopædias, but most stamps listed alongside that name are mauves to purple, and if of the aniline class will, when damp, show a suffused red tint clearly seen on the gummed side of the stamps. Everybody should know the colour of an ordinary bunch of violets, but for stamps that colour is frequently expressed as purple. Yet all four colours—lilac, violet, mauve and purple, as shown on one page of a *Colour Dictionary* (now out of print)—are as different, to a close observer, as blue, green, red and brown, and should be more distinctly recognisable than many water-marks or perforations are, if they were as closely studied. Purple, claret and magenta are first cousins to the deepest reds.—*The Stamp Collector.*

#### Cape of Good Hope. 5s. C.A.

The 5s., watermark CA and Crown, issued at the end of 1883, was in use until superseded by that with the Anchor watermark in July, 1887, but despite its three and a half years' existence it has always been an extremely scarce stamp unused, and indeed takes high rank as a rarity among all our colonial issues.—*M. P. Castle in the London Philatelist, Oct., '08.*

#### Postal Revenues.

The United States Postal Department is run at a loss to the State of \$2,120,000. So says a Paris contemporary, which gives some interesting details of the gains made by other countries, beginning with Great Britain's profit of £5,120,000. Russia follows with £4,640,000; then comes Germany with £3,760,000. France clears £1,920,000, Japan £760,000, Spain £720,000, Belgium a little over £640,000. Austria-Hungary with £600,000, and Italy with £400,000, bring up the rear.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 24.10.08.*

#### Victoria. 1868, 5s. blue on yellow paper.

This stamp is very difficult to obtain in superb used condition, perfectly centred, and mint copies rank among some of the rarities of Victorian stamps. This is easily

understood seeing it was in use from January to July, 1868, only, a period of seven months, in addition to which a comparatively small number were issued.—

*C. A. Stephenson in the Stamp Collector, Nov., '08.*

#### The Holliday Collection at Huddersfield.

The constant reader of the *Fortnightly* will not need to be reminded that the late Mr. Robert Holliday, who died at Bexhill-on-Sea in April, 1901, left his fine collection of stamps to the municipality of his native Huddersfield in trust for the public.

It would appear, however, that the Huddersfield authorities have so far contented themselves with, metaphorically, "sitting on" the bequest. It was ever thus. The Trustees of the British Museum made no attempt to display the Taping Collection until they were forced into activity by the pressure of public opinion. I rejoice to note that the same process has begun in Huddersfield.

From a copy of the *Huddersfield Chronicle*, kindly sent me by the Hon. Secretary of the Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society, I extract the following minute of the Technical College Governors:—

"A deputation from the Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society, consisting of Rev. G. C. B. Madden, M.A., Messrs. E. C. Wigglesworth and C. H. Greenwood, waited upon the Governors. The deputation suggested that the Holliday collection of stamps in the College Museum should be classified and mounted, and further stated that the members of their society would be willing to do this work free of charge provided that the Governors would grant the use of a room for the purposes and supply the necessary slides and cabinet. After the deputation had withdrawn, it was resolved that further information be obtained and considered at a future meeting."—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 28.11.08.*

#### Saxony. Numbers Printed.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* publishes a very thorough history of the early stamps of Saxony, from which we gather that of the first Saxon stamps, the famous 3 pfg. red, was half a million copies were issued, these being all sold over the counter with the exception of 36,922 specimens, which were burned by the General Post Office. The actual figures of all the other issues are also given, and it will surprise many to find that, for instance, the 1851 issue was printed in such large quantities as the following:—

#### Head of King to right.

½ Neugroschen, silver grey	-	5,100,000
1 " red	-	5,700,000
2 " blue	-	2,200,000
3 " yellow	-	2,350,000

#### Issue 1854, Head of King to left.

½ Neugroschen, grey	-	17,705,000
1 " rose	-	17,345,000
2 " blue	-	5,980,000
3 " yellow	-	7,880,000
5 " red	-	1,590,000
10 " blue	-	250,000

#### Issue 1863, Arms in Oval.

3 Pfennige, green	-	10,850,000
½ Neugroschen, orange	-	17,100,000
1 " rose	-	15,175,000
2 " blue	-	4,780,000
3 " brown	-	5,870,000
5 " lilac	-	1,200,000

It may be mentioned that of the famous error, ½ ngr. blue, only 63 specimens were sold to the public—of which number very few surviving copies have been found.

*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 28.11.08.*



# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Speculators Checkmated.

It is always a pleasure to chronicle the checkmating of speculators who are the bane of stamp collecting, for they interfere with the ordinary course of demand and supply and create artificial prices that topple sooner or later to the disgust of the victimised. I quote the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 21.11.08. :—"Amongst the many speculative issues of the last few years, perhaps the 1904-6 issue of Indo-China ("Grasset" type), over-printed for use in various French offices in China, was the object of greater speculation than ever. The issue abounded in minor varieties which fetched extraordinary prices; even the regular stamps of the issue, or, at any rate, the higher values, were sold on the Continent at rates far above their value.

It is generally believed that certain speculators, either local officials or their friends in Paris, hold large stocks of these stamps, and should such be the case, their hopes will be rather dashed to the ground by the latest information on the subject contained in *La Revue de la Fédération Philatélique de France*. Our contemporary states positively that these stamps have been reissued, and are now on sale at the offices in China.

We anticipate a rapid drop in prices should this news be accurate."

## Recent Bargains.

For the encouragement of the despairing, I quote the following from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* :—

"From a small dealer in the suburbs some rare "snaps" have been obtained by a bargain hunter of my acquaintance. He secured a copy of the "V.R." British for considerably less than £5—to be quite precise he bought it for sixpence!—and among other little items he obtained some quite nice specimens of the ½d. rose, plate 9, at a penny apiece. Who says now that the day of great bargains in stamp collecting is gone for ever?"

## Fijian Issues that are scarce.

Mr. C. J. PHILLIPS in his recently issued fine work on the stamps of the Fiji Islands, says :—

"The stamps issued prior to 1890 are undoubtedly scarce and I consider that they are much under-priced in all catalogues. I have corresponded with all the prominent dealers, and seen practically all stocks and fine collections that exist; and it is only with great difficulty that I have been enabled to get together sufficient material to make anything like an exhaustive study of these very interesting stamps."

## Am I a Pessimist?

I ventured the other day to say that prices were languishing at auctions, and considering the times, that was not to be wondered at.

But Mr. Telfer writes to the Editor as follows :—"I was astounded to read in the current *Postage Stamp* that "prices are languishing at auctions," "competition is not keen," &c., and should much like to know where your Mr. O. R. Gum gets his information from. My experience (and I suppose I should know something about the subject) are very different, in fact exactly the reverse. Might I suggest that Mr. Gum wants waking up a bit?"

Well, I have no objection to be awakened to the fact that I was rather pessimistic, and that as Mr. Telfer

would have us believe, prices are booming at the auctions. But is it so?

## Prospects in America.

According to the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, "All signs point to a general advance in prices all along the line and collectors will do well to fill their special wants in old issues at the earliest possible date. All philatelists are not buyers, there is always a select few looking for a market in which to sell. Each must decide for himself when the time is opportune. At present there is a market, in a month's time it will be a better, in six months we hope it will have improved immensely, but we never know what may happen and by waiting too long the chance to unload may be lost."

## Turkish Reminders.

According to a writer in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* some of the Turkish reminders have found their way to England, for batches of several values were recently offered at a London auction, and he suggests that possibly some of the private buyers who invested in these stamps in Constantinople have sent a trial lot across the sea as a "feeler." That is very likely, but I fancy they will find their speculation a bit of failure in the London market.

## Cayman Farthings.

Supplies of Farthing Caymans have at last come over in sufficient numbers to bring the offers down to 3d. but the enumeration of flaws and varieties due to the stamps being lithographed, is likely to keep up the demand for some time.

## West Indians Coming to the Front.

West Indians have suffered from a big slump for many years. Around in 1896-7 they were on top. Then came the slump and catalogue quotations dropped terribly for prices had been run out of bounds entirely.

But most specialists have held that the stamps are far too good to suffer permanently, and that they would recover some day. That some day has been coming nearer for some time. Perhaps the latest indication that West Indians are going to be all right again may be found in the fact that Mr. Castle has recently gone strong for Bahamas and St. Vincent's, and made a fine display of these Colonies at the last meeting of the Herts Society. We all take it for granted that Mr. Castle's lead is an absolutely safe one from the financial point of view.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Mr. F. R. Ginn has recently made two considerable purchases, one of a highly specialised collection of Oil Rivers and Niger Coast Protectorate, and the other a magnificent collection of Cape of Good Hope Triangulars, used and unused. Both collections he reports to be rich in shades and fine copies in singles, pairs and blocks. His advertisement in this number includes many tempting offers from these collections.

Mr. Rhodes has his usual list of cheap stamps, and, as a special offer, the Cayman farthing varieties in singles and blocks.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay's Special Bargains this week are sets of Papua and Persia.

Mr. T. C. Appleton has Special Bargain Offers of Cayman Provisionals, scarce varieties of Gwalior, Papuas, &c.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVILL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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## Our Christmas Number.

It has been suggested to us that a well organised effort in the direction of popularising Stamps, Albums, and Philatelic Accessories as Christmas Presents might do a great deal to create a practically new and profitable Christmas trade for our Advertisers.

Spasmodic attempts have been made in the past, but with the commanding circulation of *The Postage Stamp* it is believed that a real success may be ensured, and a new trade opened up, and fostered in succeeding years.

With this view we propose to make an experiment of a Christmas Number of *The Postage Stamp* dated December 12th. when we hope to have a most interesting display of Advertisements devoted entirely to Christmas Presents of a philatelic character. There will be a special Editorial Article commending the suggestion, and dealing particularly with the advertisements in the the Number, as examples of what may be done.

We shall be glad of an early reply from intending Advertisers as to the space they will require, with order and copy, the earlier the better, in order that we can complete proofs for Editorial notice.

Our charge for Advertising Space in this number will be at the usual rate, viz., 6s a page and *pro rata*, or 5/- per inch three column measure.

## Pick Your Own Copies.

Superb Gambia, Niger Coast, N. F. Land and S. Leone, on APPROVAL at BARGAIN PRICES. References required.—CUTHBERTSON & Co., 26, Exchange Street East, Liverpool.

## PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

**NEW ISSUES**, wholesale and retail; see *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

**40 DIFFERENT** King's Colonials, 7d. 1 and 2 lei Roumania free to purchasers. Harvey, 74, Aldworth Road, Stratford, London.

**N. NIGERIA, K.**, 2/6, CA, price 6/- unused.—Claud Joy, 79, Gayville Road, Wandsworth Common, London.

**SPLENDID** Approval Sheets now ready. references.—7, Bullmore Buildings, Shirley Road, Southampton.

**233 DIFFERENT STAMPS**, including Ecuador, Luxemburg, Borneo, Grenada, Philippines, Servia, Barbados, 1/1.—Craig, Clenstone, Blandford.

**WHAT OFFERS!** Vols. 10-18 "Gibbons' Monthly Journal," 1-7 "Gibbons' Stamp Weekly," inclusive, unbound, mint.—Price, Podsmead Road, Gloucester.

**30 CHOICE** Colonials, all different, 7d., approval sheets.—Wilson Creighton, 402, St. Ann's Road, Harringay.

**FOREIGN & Colonial**, 66 to 80% under Catalogue, Mulreadies, Approval.—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

**LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.** Established 1893. Best Club for Europeans and General Collectors. Fees moderate. Splendid sales.—Secretary, "Lynton," Lonsdale Road, Barnes.

**APPROVAL** Sheets. Stamps from 1d. each. K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

**DON'T MISS THIS!** £1 wholesale lot Colonials, 3/9. Approval Selections. Give away Prices.—"Stamps," 28, Lansdowne, Hackney.

**NEW ZEALAND**, used copies, 1902, onward, 3d, 6d, 1/- and 2/-, one-third Gibbons.—Albert H. Harris, Buckhurst Hill.

**YOUR STAMPS FADED?** Restore to their natural colour by using my Magic Renovator. Post Free, 1/2.—Renovator, Ilkeston.

**60 DIFFERENT** English, 2/6; 30 different English, including 1d black, 6d; 100 different Colonials, 10d; 50 different Colonials, 3d; 130 1d reds, plates, all different, 2/6; 1,000 mixed, foreign, colonial, 9d. Approval sheets.—H. Walker, 14, Robert Street, Harrogate.

**COLLECTION** 1,000, 7/11; 250 Colonials, 1/1 (returnable).—P14t Second, Manor-park.

**PAPUA.** Type I.—4d, 18/6 each; 2/6, 12/- each. Type II.—4d, 3/- each; 1d. to 2/6, set, 14/- British New Guinea, 2/6 thick paper, 70/- each, all mint; also Caymans and others. Write for selection.—"Specialist," 48, Keyes Road, Cricklewood.

## "EXTRA FINE" USED COPIES.

British Bechuanaland, 1887, 1d. red	... 1d.
1891/4, 1d lilac	... 1d.
Bechuanaland Protect., 1897/8, 1d lilac	... 1d.
Cyprus, 1882/6, 1/2 on 1/2 pi (S.G. Type 9)	... 9d.
East Africa and Uganda, Mult., 2 rupees	... 2/3
Falkland Isles, King, Mult., 1d	... 1d.
Fiji, 1881/3, 1d blue	... 2d.
1891/1900, 2d green	... 11d.
1d lilac	... 1d.
Grt. Britain, 1887/91, I.R. Official, 1/-	... 2/-
1880/1, 1d I.R., strip of 3 or 4	... 1d.
1d I.R., block of four	... 1d.
King, I.R., 1d strip of 3 or 4	... 1d.
1d block of four	... 1d.
Grenada, 1863/71, 6d dull red	... 2/-
Grt. Britain, Queen, halfcrown	... 3d.
3d, plates 7, 8, 9, 16 each	... 11d.
Hongkong, 1891, 2c Postal-Fiscal, fine	... 4d.
clear dated postmark	... 4d.
India, Queen, 2 rs (pair 8d)	... 10d.
3 rs	... 2/6
5 rs, (set 2 3/5r, 3/6)	... 1d.
Malta, King, Single or Multiple, 1d	... 1d.
Muti. (Uni-col or Bi-col), 1d	... 2d.
N. Nigeria, King, Single or Mult., 2d	... 1d.
Sierra Leone, Mult. (Bi-col), 1d or 1d	... 1d.
Straits Settlements, King, 8d blue on white	... 5d.
St. Helena, 1884/94, 2d yellow	... 6/-
Siam, 1907, 10 ticals, superb	... 11d.
Transvaal, King, Mult., 6d (pair 3d)	... 5d.
Trinidad, 1896/1900, 4d or 6d	... 9d.
1902/3, Single CA, 1/-	... 4d.
1904/6, Multiple, 6d	... 1d.
Uganda, Queen, 1a carmine-rose	... 1d.
Victoria, Wmk. Crown A, 3, 4, 6d or 1/-	... 1d.
Western Australia, 1885/93, 1/-	... 11d.

**UNUSED, (Full Gum, Never Mounted).**

Cayman, 1d, variety MA joined, dp., brn. 11d.  
" 1d, " MA not joined, " 2d.  
" 1d, block of four " 6d.

There are three stamps in every four with the MA in Cayman joined.

Cayman, 1d, pale brown, a distinct shade 6d.  
The 1d Cayman I previously advertised were the pale brown.

**JAMES RHODES, 62, MARKET ST., MANCHESTER**

**60 DIFFERENT GENUINE STAMPS FOR 1/-**  
(Usually Sold for 18/6.)

Packet No. "659" contains 60 different foreign and colonial stamps, including Hong kong, 1 on 96c, obsolete; Orange Free State, 1/- yellow, 1st issue, Race Mozambique Co, 1st issue, 200 reis (cat 2/6), Dutch, De Ruyter issue, Chunking, rare 16 candarins, unused, Nicaragua, old issue, view, (cat. 4/-), Persia, 12 ch. on 1 kr. (cat. 2/6) and the 2 kr. (Shah) of the 1903 issue; the rare U.S.A. 80 cents black 1873 issue, (cat. 1/6), 5c blue 1875. (General Taylor) and the scarce 4c (Motor Car) of the Buffalo Exposition set and many other good stamps. Our price 1/- post free. Only 1 Packet to each applicant.

"A.B.C." Catalogue of the World's Stamps for 1908, 788 pps., post free 1/8.  
**BRIGHT & SON, 164, STRAND, W.C.**

**FREE.** Five unused Venezuela. We will give each earnest, responsible collector sending 1d. for return postage, this grand unused set of Venezuela, issue 1880, portrait of Bolivar, 10c. vermilion, 10c. rose, 25c. orange, 50c. brown, 1, Bolivar, green. One of the most striking sets issued. Genuine adhesive postage stamps. The usual price for this set is 4/- 500 best Stamp Mounts 1d.—The Empire Stamp Co., Thornton Heath, Surrey.

**FREE.** Rare unused set of Officials to all applicants for our approval sheets (50% discount).  
**STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS BOUGHT.**  
The London Philatelic Co., Apsley, Hemei Hempstead, Herts.,

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 11. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 63)

12 DECEMBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Our Christmas Number.



THIS number of *The Postage Stamp*, I understand, is to be a Christmas number, and that it is to be a practical presentation of the many good things which may be had in stamps as seasonable gifts. I have never yet been the recipient of anything philatelic as a Christmas present, but I have no objection to commencing this 'Xmas. For choice I may indicate any of the Historical

Rarities described by "An Old Specialist," or a set of the first issue of Jamaica, unused, in singles and blocks of four, or any similar unconsidered trifles.

But I must take this opportunity of wishing my excellent and patient friends, the readers of *The Postage Stamp*, a Merry 'Xmas.

### The Royal Philatelic Society.

Apropos of my note on page 98 Mr. B. Gordon Jones writes:—

"I see that in your issue of the 28th November you comment on Mr. Crofton's remarks about 'Amateurs and Professionals' in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. These views are an expression of Mr. Crofton's personal opinion, and can hardly be construed as an 'attack by the Indian Society' on the Royal Society. As a matter of fact both Societies are bracketted by Mr. Crofton, and his remarks apply equally to both. Most people will admit that there is much truth in what he says of 'private dealers,' and probably it is exactly these people who will display the most indignation, as this shaft must have found the weak spots in many an armour.

"Probably the Royal Society is best fitted to frame its own rules, but criticisms on these cannot amount to *dise majesté*! Mr. Crofton's remarks seem to have raised a great storm in a very small teacup, and he will be the first to smile at the trouble caused by his editorial. His social position however places him beyond the reach of

any suggestion that he had any ulterior motive in writing as he did. A man who belongs to the Indian Civil Service (one of the greatest services in the world) with a salary as large as a Cabinet Minister's, clearly has no axe to grind in reference to this matter.

"Mr. Crofton is not likely to have 'to face the music of an official enquiry' as the Indian Society gives their editor an absolutely free hand. Libel is of course another matter, but the statements made by him hardly can be so defined. Editing the *Indian Journal* is a labour of love, and prior to Mr. Crofton assuming charge last July, I had the honour to be Editor for fifteen months, my immediate predecessors being Mr. Wetherell and Mr. Stewart-Wilson, and the Indian Society were never foolish enough to ever dictate any policy to a single one of us."

### Official Editing.

I am not so sure as Mr. Gordon Jones seems to be as to the wisdom of an absolutely free hand in the case of an official journal published by an important society. I have a dim recollection of one editor's interpretation of a free hand, as exemplified in his attack on a well known London dealer whom he designated as "Jack the Ripper—" actually adding his name to the epithet. It was, to say the least, a bit venturesome.

### Cretan Stamps Overprinted "Hellas."

I am indebted to Mr. W. MacDonald Mackay, Cheshire, for the following interesting letter:—

"Re Crete postage stamps overprinted "Hellas" in Greek characters, your issue of the 21st inst. only reached me to-day, and I would like to supplement the information you give regarding these surcharges with the following:—

"(1) The 1 lepta stamp with design of Hermes 1900 issue design is printed on a pure white paper. The overprint ΕΛΛΑΣ in black is printed on sheets of 50, at least the sheets that reached me from Crete are in panes of 50 and two panes of 50 of the 1 lepta stamp have the same errors in the overprint, and in each sheet there are two distinct varieties. In the fourth row and fifth stamp from left of sheet the Greek S is upside down, thus ΕΑΑΑΣ. In the bottom row third stamp from right side of sheet the Greek letter A is replaced by the Greek D and is printed thus, ΕΑΑΔΕ. There are several minor varieties of setting in each sheet. I have several entire envelopes before me

with the 1 lepta on, the earliest being postmarked October 26th from Canea.

"(2) I understand the 25 lepta of the 1905 issue is not printed with this overprint or surcharge in addition to the 10 lepta 1905 issue, probably owing to the fact that there were none in stock.

"(3) Can any of your readers report having had supplies of the 10 lepta of the 1900 issue? I have not seen any copies. The 2 drachma of the 1900 issue is overprinted for I have had copies from Canea.

"(4) The new 10 lepta stamp rightly belongs to the issue of 1907, although not given out. The Director of Postes writing to me in 1906, gave me information regarding this new 10 lepta stamp which was to replace the 1905 issue with the portrait of Prince George of Greece, and I take it that the stock of the 1905 issue was sufficiently large to meet public demands until now. I am not aware of the 10 lepta 1908 issue having been sold to the public unsurcharged. The same design of Hermès de Praxitélès has been used on post cards from Crete for some eight months.

"The Director of the Crete P.O. writing to me under date of November 12th, gives me the list of the Crete stamps overprinted "Hellas" in Greek characters as follows:—

#### 1900 Designs.

- 1 lepta, Hermes, on pure white paper.
- 2 drachma, King Minos.

#### 1905 Issues.

- 2 lepta, Diana.
- 5 " Britomart.
- 20 " Jupiter.
- 50 " Ariadne.
- 1 drachma, Europea and Jupiter.
- 3 " Ruins of Minos.
- 5 " View of Mount Iva.

#### 1907 Issue.

- 25 lepta High Comsr., A.T.A. Zaimis.

#### 1908 Issue.

- 10 lepta Hermes de Praxitélès.

"I have copies of the design of the 1 lepta 1900, printed on three varieties of paper, 1st or 1900 issue on cream wove paper, (2) on toned or slightly yellow paper, (3) on pure white wove paper, the latter with overprint "Hellas."

### The Royal Society's Library.

According to the *London Philatelist*, considerable progress has been made with the rearrangement of the Royal Philatelic Society's Library consequent upon the acquisition of the Fraenkel books. The new Secretarial room at 4, Southampton Row, W.C., we are told, has been handsomely fitted up with suitable bookshelves, and the whole of the various outlying portions of the Library have been stored in the room and sorted out under different important heads.

### The Society's Duplicates.

A large number of duplicates has been disposed of, and the Society is offering others in the official journal. As the prices at which the Society offers duplicates of its own works are interesting, I append the list:—

- Nesbitt Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States. 1s.
- Australia and Oceania. 1887. Half-calf. 25s.
- Tasmania. 1890. 15s.
- West Indies. 1891. £3.
- British India and Ceylon, and Supplement. 1892. 17s. 6d.
- Africa. Part I. 1895. 17s. 6d.
- Africa. 1895-1906. Three parts. £3.
- British Isles, and Supplement. 1899-1903. £1.

### German-American Penny Postage.

A Røuter's telegram announces that "An agreement establishing penny postage for letters sent direct by sea between Germany and the United States, and vice versa, from January 1 next, will be signed at Washington to-day by the German Chargé d'Affaires and the United States Postmaster-General.

"As in the case of the arrangement with Great Britain, the fee for prepaid letters from the United States will be two cents (1d.) per ounce, while from Germany the rate is fixed at ten pfennige (1d.) per ten grammes (about a third of an ounce). The charges for unprepaid letters will be double the above."

The *Times* New York correspondent, commenting on the arrangement, says, "The condition that letters must be despatched only by German boats sailing from New York is likely to create complications. Many letters so stamped are certain to go by boats via British or French ports, and these would be subject to the old rate."

The more the complications in these early attempts to establish a ocean penny post the sooner will the inevitable Universal Penny Post be rendered necessary.

### Commemorative Philatelists.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* is responsible for the news that "at the request of the Argentine Philatelic Society the Administration of Posts has decided to issue a special set of stamps in 1910 to commemorate the centenary of the independence of the Argentine, which was declared on 26th May, 1810"

Amongst well-known philatelists who are said to be actively associated with this scheme for fleecing their fellow collectors are M. Marco del Pont, one of the most prominent philatelists in South America, and Messrs. Gregorio F. Rodriguez and Miguel Gambin, who are the President and Vice-President of the Argentine Philatelic Society respectively.

### A Bad Example Indeed.

No wonder *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* speaks of the business as a "Bad Example." It is worse. It is a most discreditable arrangement. It is bad enough when poverty stricken and unscrupulous Governments issue special sets of stamps for fleecing stamp collectors, but when men of philatelic reputation lend themselves to such shady shifts for raising money at the expense of their fellow collectors, it is high time to use a little plain language.

### South Americans Will Suffer.

We hear a great deal about the coming boom in South Americans, but if this Commemorative business goes on the most enthusiastic collectors of South Americans will find it hard to keep their favourite countries to the fore.

Nothing is more discouraging to a collector than to find his favourite country flooded with swindling series of Commemoratives.

One country after another has suffered eclipse or depreciation as the result of interlarding its genuine issues with Commemoratives.

And our South American philatelic friends, whose interests are concentrated in the fine old issues of their countries, will assuredly find their fellow philatelists, here and elsewhere, astounded that they should initiate a movement in favour of the issue of rubbishy Commemoratives.

It is a thousand pities that this news should reach us at a time when attention is undoubtedly turning to the stamps of South America. As it is, there have been too many questionable issues already in more than one South American republic.

# Stamps of Monaco

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

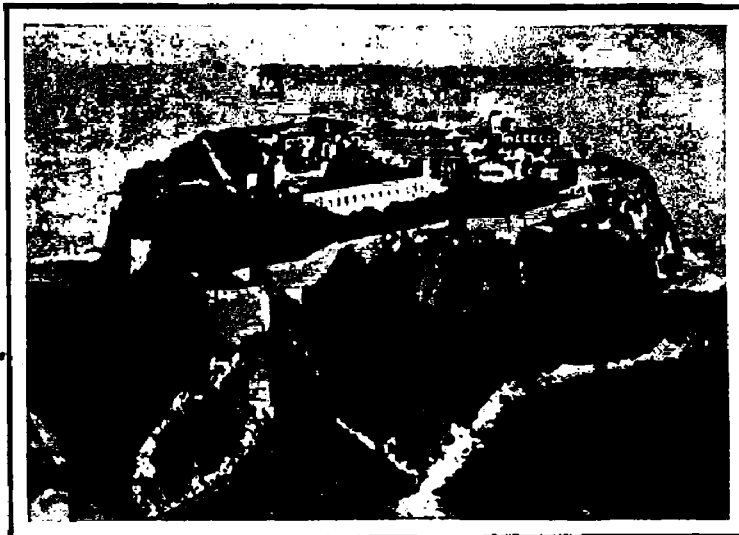
EVERYONE has heard of Monte Carlo, with its notorious gambling Casino, but the miniature principality of which it is the mainstay is not so well known. Nevertheless, it has to be reckoned with as a philatelic reality. The little principality juts out into the Mediterranean from the French department of the Alpes Maritimes. It has an area of only eight square miles, and a population, all told, of 15,180, or less than the little Hertfordshire town of St. Albans. Still, it is a principality of ancient renown, and of latter-day evil repute. It consists mainly of a rocky promontory surmounted by the town of Monte Carlo, and dominated by the Casino.

The authorities tell us that for more than nine hundred years it has belonged to the family of Grimaldi, that it is under French protection, and that the reigning sovereign is Prince Albert, who was born in 1848, and succeeded to the throne, such as it is, in 1889. The Casino bears the cost of government, and pays the Prince £50,000 a year for its gambling concession, which, unhappily, will not expire till 1947.

## Its Philatelic History.

The Principality of Monaco is a comparatively new philatelic country, for it has had only two sets of postage stamps, the first of which was issued in 1885. Until then current French stamps served all its postal needs. As the little principality is very jealous of its independence, it was but natural that it should wish to have its own separate postal labels to advertise the fact, and to add a little grit to the financial mill. But it must be admitted that the suspicion entertained at the time of the first issue that the real purpose was to milk stamp collectors, has not been altogether justified, for only three issues of stamps have been made, and the second was very legitimately called for on the accession of a new prince, and, even so, was not made for some two years after his accession.

**1885.** Ten values. Design: Head of Prince Charles III., the reigning prince. Values, in French currency of centimes and francs. First, the 5c., 15c., and 25c. were issued, and were evidently intended to serve all needs. Then followed, a few months later, two lower values, 1c. and 2c. All these were on white wove paper. Next came five values, 10c., 40c., 75c., 1 fr., and 5 fr., all on coloured papers. The stamps were designed by D. Dupuis and engraved by M. Mouchon, the engraver of the French



GENERAL VIEW OF MONACO.

stamps. Under each stamp the name of the designer appears on the left, and of the engraver on the right. The printing was done by the French Government factory, which prints the French stamps. All values afford plenty of scope for those who are fond of getting shades.

## Head of Prince Charles III.

Perf. 14 × 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 centime, olive-green ...	0	1	0	2
2 centimes, purple ...	0	2	0	2
5 centimes, blue ...	0	6	0	6
10 centimes, brown on buff paper ...	1	6	1	6
15 centimes, rose ...	2	0	1	0
25 centimes, green ...	1	6	0	4
40 centimes, indigo on rose paper ...	1	9	2	0
75 centimes, on rose paper ...	3	0	3	6
1 franc, black on yellow paper ...	10	0	10	0
5 francs, carmine on green paper ...	65	0	50	0

## Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The quotations for some of the values show considerable fluctuation, but, with the exception of the 40c., 75c. and 1 fr., they are all better than in 1899, the year of inflation. The high values promise to be scarce, and the 5 fr., which has had no set-back in price in all those years, looks like becoming a rare stamp. The 1 fr. was evidently very considerably overvalued when it was raised from 5s. in 1896 to 15s. in 1897, for it has steadily dropped to 10s.

There are not many shades in this first issue, and if the stamps of Monaco were more in demand the values of this issue would probably be much higher in catalogue quotations, but a general scepticism as to the need of postage stamps for a little bit of rock, with a population of a small country town, has probably much to do with the comparative unpopularity of the stamps.



	1896	1897	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1c....	0 1	0 2	0 2	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
2c....	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 2	0 2	0 2
5c ...	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 4	0 3	0 6	0 6
10c....	0 4	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 4	1 0	1 6
15c....	0 6	0 6	1 6	1 6	1 6	2 0	2 0
25c....	0 8	0 9	0 9	0 9	0 6	1 6	1 6
40c....	1 0	1 6	1 6	3 0	2 6	1 9	1 9
75c....	2 6	3 6	3 6	3 6	2 6	3 0	3 0
1fr. ...	5 0	15 0	12 6	12 0	12 0	10 0	10 0
5fr. 40	0 60	0 60	0 60	0 60	0 65	0 65	0 65

**1891.** Eleven values. Design: Head of Prince Albert in profile to left. Prince Albert succeeded his father, Prince Charles III., on September 10th, 1889, but stamps with the son's portrait did not make their appearance until two years afterwards, in 1891. The design with the portrait of Prince Albert is of a much more fanciful type than its predecessor. The head is placed in the left-hand portion of the design, on the right being a draped and crowned female figure holding a shield, with the motto in a scroll overhead, "Deo Juvante." The name of M. Mouchon may be deciphered by the aid of a magnifying glass under the stamp on the left, where the designer's name is always placed, and as there is no name on the right, where the engraver's is inscribed, it is assumed that M. Mouchon was both designer and engraver of this series. In all there are eleven values, a 50 centimes being added. As before, the stamps were printed at the French Government factory. The first of this new series, the 1 franc, made its appearance on the ominous date of April 1st, 1891.



## British South Africa, 1867, 3s, imperf.

I HAVE been unable to find any record of the 8d. imperf. as catalogued in Stanley Gibbons, but the facts as to the 3s. are as follows:—Only one sheet was known with this variety, and this sheet had the bottom row imperf., and therefore the adjacent (fifth) row imperf. on one side. This had been in the main stock in the Distributor's office at Fort Jameson for many years, and was eventually issued, in the ordinary course, to the post office at Fort Jameson, when two gentlemen were lucky enough to secure the entire double row containing the variety. Half—the right-hand double row of five—I eventually bought. Unless some of the errors of the Bulawayo provisionals are scarcer, which I doubt, and excepting the 8d. imperf. of which I know nothing, this is the rarest stamp in this country, as there are only ten in existence, and it is, in my opinion, of far more interest than, for instance, a local printer's error, such as the inverted centre "B.C.A." provisional penny of 1898, which was also limited to ten, and is catalogued at £65. An error from such a firm as Perkins Bacon & Co. is beyond suspicion as being "accidentally done on purpose," which all local errors are not—though I do not impute any such design to the particular error in the "B.C.A." quoted, though none of that provisional issue

were sold over the counter to the public, which accounts for the high price of unused specimens. The 3s. imperforate is undoubtedly a genuine error, which slipped into the consignment without the consignors' notice, and is entirely free from any suspicion of speculation. It was sold at the post office in the ordinary course of business.—F. H. Melland, in the "London Philatelist," Nov. 08.

Some details are given in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* (17.10.08.) of the collection left by the late Herr Fraenkel, the sale of whose library in England moves this journal to the hope that the stamps may not share the same fate. Fraenkel, it is said, viewed his collection rather as a means of study than a scope for accumulation, and his collection represents this attitude to philately. His collection of entires was one of the finest in the world, if not actually the finest, and its value is stated as over 100,000 marks, while that of the postage stamps is given at nearly 180,000 marks. Of the latter, the Europeans and British North American and British Guiana were the principal strength; of the former, his old German States were wonderfully complete and extensive.

### Head of Prince Albert.

Perf. 14 × 13½.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 centimes, olive-green.	... ..	0 1	0 2
2 centimes, purple.	... ..	0 1	0 1
5 centimes, blue.	... ..	0 1	0 1
10 centimes, brown on yellow.	... ..	0 4	0 4
15 centimes, rose.	... ..	0 5	0 2
25 centimes, green.	... ..	0 6	0 4
40 centimes, steel-blue on rose.	... ..	0 6	0 6
50 centimes, purple on orange.	... ..	0 8	0 9
75 centimes, brown on buff.	... ..	1 0	1 0
1 franc, black on yellow.	... ..	1 3	1 3
5 francs, rose on green.	... ..	5 6	—

**1901.** Four values. Design: as in the last issue but the colours changed, the 5c. from blue to green, the 10c. from brown on yellow to carmine, the 15c. from rose to brown and the 25c. from green to blue.

### Colours changed.

Perf. 14 × 13½.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
5c., yellow-green	... ..	0 1	0 1
10c., carmine	... ..	0 2	0 1
15c., brown	... ..	0 2	0 2
25c., blue	... ..	0 4	0 4

### General Remarks.

The miniature principality of Monaco is a most interesting one, historically, politically and philatelically. Its simple issues, free from commemoratives and speculatives, seem to invite the attention of the collector in search of a small and manageable European country. It is in fact an ideal philatelic *multum in parvo*.

### Bibliography.

Very little has been written about the postage stamps of Monaco, indeed all that is worth reading may be found in Mr. Westoby's "Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe."

# Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 9.—Western Australia, 1854, 4d. blue, inverted Centre.

**A**MONG Australian stamps the earlier issues of Western Australia are deservedly esteemed by philatelists owing to the beauty of the design and tasteful colours of the stamps produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and the interest attaching to those which were produced in the Colony itself.

In 1853 the Western Australian Government decided to follow the example of New South Wales and issue postage stamps for the prepayment of the various postal charges. A supply of stamps was ordered from Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and these reached the Colony in February, 1854. It was found that only 1d. stamps had been sent, and as at least two other values—4d. and 1s.—were required, it was decided to produce these at Perth so that all could be issued together on August 1st, 1854, the date which had been chosen for the inauguration of the new system.

It is only with the 4d. value that we are concerned at present. This denomination was required for the prepayment of the postal charge on ordinary letters to England, this being fixed at 4d. per half oz.

The territory of Western Australia was originally known as the Swan River Settlement, as the first colonists fixed their habitations on the banks of this beautiful river. It was, therefore, only natural that the black swan, the *rara aves in terris, nigroque simillima cygno*, as a writer in the old *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* put it, should be chosen as the design of the first stamps. In fact this design was fixed by law and, until the temporary high value stamps appeared in 1902 a swan formed the central device on all the stamps issued for this Colony.

By clause VII. in Ordinance No. 12 of 1854, it was enacted "That the Postmaster-General, Colonial Treasurer, or other authorised person, shall, with the approval of the Governor, cause stamps to be made, or procured, and sold, indicating such amounts of postage as may be directed in that behalf by the Governor, and that the lawful stamp or impression shall represent the figure of a swan, on a black or other ground, in addition to any other figure, mark, or words (if any) thereon impressed."

It would be interesting to know if this regulation has ever been rescinded. If not, it would seem that the current high value stamps bearing the portrait of Queen Victoria are hardly legal.

At any rate the 4d. stamp with which we are now concerned was quite legal for it certainly "represents the Figure of a Swan."

Early writers were almost unanimous in the opinion that this stamp was from lithographic transfers taken from a steel die engraved by Messrs Perkins Bacon & Co. But Mr. E. D. Bacon in the course of several interesting papers on Western Australian stamps proves that this firm had nothing whatever to do with the manufacture of this stamp. The gentleman just referred to is of the opinion that this 4d. stamp was prepared in the Surveyor-General's Department at Perth and printed by the lithographic press in that office. Mr. Horace Samson was draughtsman and lithographer to the Government in 1854, but resigned his appointment in July of that year, when he was succeeded by Mr. A. Hillman. There is, therefore, little doubt that one of these gentlemen was responsible for the manufacture of this stamp and, incidentally, with supplying philatelists with a very rare variety.



It is fairly evident that the central portion of the design was obtained by taking transfers from the 1d. stamp supplied by Perkins Bacon & Co. Mr. E. D. Bacon tells us that the method of procedure was as follows:—Sixty transfers were taken from the plate of the 1d. and, after the borders had been removed, the central portions were printed upon a sheet of stout paper or card, at equal distances apart, in six rows of ten stamps each. Transfers were then taken from the new engraved octagonal border, cut out, and pasted around the central portions of the design. This block of sixty stamps was then transferred four times to the lithographic stone to form the printing plate.

During the process of pasting on the new frames one was applied wrong way up resulting in the well known error with inverted swan, though it would be more correct to term it an error with inverted frame. The process was a difficult one as the workman was unable to touch the transfers with his fingers owing to the sensitive nature of the paper and ink employed. The finished plate, therefore, consisted of 240 stamps arranged in four panes of 60 and, apparently, there was an error in each pane, though I have been unable to ascertain its exact position.

The error was corrected as it did not appear in the later sheets and consequently did not occur in either of the two entire panes Mr. W. T. Wilson was so fortunate as to procure about ten years ago.

The error was well known to philatelists many years ago for I find a note by Mr. W. Dudley Atlee in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for 1871 to the effect that "among the earliest 4d. a few copies have been found with the swan *reversed*," though this writer apparently considered the error of secondary importance compared with the 1s. printed in the bistre colour of the 1d. which had just been discovered.

There are only six or seven copies of this rare stamp in existence.

One was shown at the Exhibition held in London in 1894 by the Royal (the London) Philatelic Society to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Society. This belonged to the late Duke of Leinster and is now in the National Collection which he bequeathed to the Dublin Museum. Another is included in the famous Tapling Collection in the British Museum, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg has a magnificent lightly cancelled copy, and a slightly damaged copy was sold at auction in 1906.

There is a specimen in the well-known Ferrary collection, the late Sir W. B. Avery possessed one, and another is said to be in a South American collection.

In *The Stamp Collector* Messrs. Hardy & Bacon assessed the value of this error at £150, but it has increased in value since that work appeared. I believe I am right in stating that Mr. Hausburg paid £400 for his specimen and the one sold at auction in 1906 realised the same figure so that we may take £400 as a fair "market value" for this rarity.

# Christmas Presents

**E**VERY line of business wakes up to increased activity at Christmas, no matter how dull may have been the rest of the year. All are alive to the fact that there is then scope for pushing trade in likely directions. All, that is to say all but the stamp trade. For while all other trades are booming their goods as the most suitable for Christmas presents, stamp dealers, with just one or two notable exceptions, shrug their shoulders, and say people won't buy stamps or stamp albums at Christmas, they only want toys, or purses, or pocket books, or turkeys, or boxes of crackers.

But experience shows that just those things sell at Christmas that are most advertised. There is no gain-saying this obvious fact.

Probably the idea of making a Christmas present of a stamp or an album, or a duplicate book, or a stamp tonge, has never occurred to stamp collectors. And why? Simply because the stamp dealer, whose interest it is to push his goods on all sorts of occasions, never dreams of converting a season of exceptional purchasing activity to his own advantage by advertising the claims of stamps, and stamp things, as suitable Christmas presents.

What stamp collector would not rather have a sensible philatelic present at Christmas than another pocket book, or purse, or cigarette case, or walking stick?

Can you imagine a more pleasant Christmas surprise present for a collecting friend than some stamp, or series, that you know to be wanting in his collection? Can you do better in other lines of trade for your boy than to start him with a stamp outfit, which shall include a nice album, a packet of stamps, with the necessary mounts, etc.? Or can you find anything more acceptable to a fellow collector who is hesitating about going in for New Issues than a paid-up subscription for a year's New Issues up to, say, 1s., or 2s. 6d., or 5s., according to your pocket?

It is because we believe a Christmas trade may be built up by persistent advertising, and sympathetic editorial help, that we have decided to try the experiment in *The Postage Stamp* at this season. We are a little late, it is true, with our scheme. We have left ourselves but little time for much response, but better late than never, and having begun with enough to show what can be done, we shall hope to make a much more ambitious attempt to boom stamps as Christmas presents another year.

Amongst those who have responded to our suggestion to make a special effort to work up a Christmas trade and to boom Philatelic Christmas Presents are the following:

**Mr. W. H. Peckitt,**  
47, Strand, London, W.C.

Offers as a novel Christmas present to start a collection by supplying the various issues up to 6d. in face value of 40 different Colonies, and of a total value of £2 16s. 7d., for £3 5s. 0d., or, that is to say, at a charge of only 15% over face value; or up to and inclusive of 1/- values to a total of £5 0s. 1d., for £5 16s. 0d., and if desired will add higher values at the same inclusive rate.

Some of the stamps will be the old single watermark stamps, shortly to become obsolete, and all are in the finest mint condition.

Considering the small charge made over the realizable value, it will be seen that there could be no more economical method of starting a collection.

And the up keep of the collection so started can be arranged by Mr. Peckitt upon even more moderate lines. He offers to supply the new issues of Colonial stamps regularly at a uniform rate of 10% over actual face value,

thus keeping the collection quite up to date, and ensuring the addition of any short-lived or provisional stamps as they come out.

These new issues Mr. Peckitt supplies to any limit, *i.e.*, all stamps up to 1s. face value, or any higher value limit, according to the desire of the collector.

**Mr. D. Field,**  
4 & 5, The Royal Arcade,  
Old Bond Street, London, W.

Has a formidable and long list of desirable stamps at all prices from a 1s. to many pounds, for choice as suitable Christmas presents. He also offers many priced philatelic outfits, combining albums, stamps, &c. Finally he offers special bargains in packets of 1,000 stamps for the low price of 10s. or a superb collection packet of 2000 for 45s.

**Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,**  
Foreign Stamp Importers, Ipswich,

Make a special feature "for one month only," at this season of a special lot of Philatelic Outfits as Christmas presents.

There are ten of these outfits, and they vary in price according to the contents from 15s. to £6.

They include all the necessaries for a satisfactory start in the shape of album, stamps, mounts, tonge, catalogue, &c., and they are graded according to price for all classes of collectors from the beginner to the specialist.

**Messrs. John Walker & Co.,**  
5, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

Offer their celebrated and now most popular Loose Leaf Postage Stamp Albums in all prices from 12s. 6d. upwards. These albums are well known to most readers of *The Postage Stamp* as being of the very best manufacture, most tastefully turned out, and most reasonable in price.

**Messrs. P. L. Pemberton & Co.,**  
68, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Offer as a suitable and most desirable Christmas present the set of four Cape Triangulars for 25s. Who could refuse, or resent, a present of grand old Cape Triangulars? They also offer special and scarce stamps of Great Britain, the Austrian Jubilee series, and the Quebec Commemorative 20c.

**Mr. T. C. Appleton,**  
Ben Rhydding,

Offers rare Cayman Islands Provisionals and Papuans at tempting prices; interesting embossed envelopes of Great Britain; and Xmas Investment Packets of a comprehensive character at about a third of catalogue prices.

**The Postage Stamp,**  
Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons,  
1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

And perhaps we may be forgiven for blowing our own trumpet a little and suggesting that a bound volume of *The Postage Stamp*, or a subscription, or both, would make a very acceptable Christmas present to any non-subscribing friend.

An excellent Christmas present to ourselves would be an addition of a few thousand collectors to our subscription list.



# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 115).

**I. E.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used in the department dealing with Intestate Estates prior to 1874. On that date they were superseded by the general series of official stamps overprinted "OS."

**I gildi.**—A surcharge applied to various Iceland stamps used during the years 1902 and 1903. Its literal meaning is "in validity," and it referred to the fact that the stamps overprinted could only be used for the defrayment of postal charges during the years named above.

**Imitations.**—(See "GOVERNMENT IMITATIONS").

**Imperforate.**—A philatelic term applied to those stamps issued without any perforations whatever. The word is usually contracted to "imperf."

**Imperial Crown Wmk.**—The name given to the type of Crown watermark shown in the paper of most of the stamps of Great Britain issued since 1880.

**Imperial Customs Post.**—After the Tai-ping rebellion it was suggested to the Government of China that the collection of the customs should be placed in the hands of foreigners. This was agreed to, and the consequent increase of revenue was so satisfactory that in 1863, Sir Robert Hart, an Englishman who had for four years been in the service of the Chinese Government, was appointed Inspector-General of Customs. The head office of this department was in Peking, and constant communication between it and the offices in the Treaty Ports was necessary. The regular service instituted for the interchange of instructions, etc., amounted to a fairly important system, and in 1878, Sir Robert Hart allowed it to be used by private residents in the Treaty Ports as well as for the official correspondence of the Customs officers. This post was known as the Imperial Customs Post, and it was maintained, and stamps issued in connection with it, until the Imperial Chinese Post was inaugurated in 1897.

**Imperial Journal Stamps.**—These are certain Austrian stamps (sometimes known as "Newspaper Tax" stamps) which, for some mysterious reason, are included in many modern postage stamp catalogues. As a matter of fact they are fiscal stamps pure and simple for they did not pay postage, but represented a tax on newspapers coming from foreign countries which was collected by the post office.

**Imperio do Brazil.**—The inscription shown upon the 300 reis stamp of the 1887-88 stamp of Brazil. It means "Empire of Brazil," and curiously enough it is the only stamp issued during the reign of Dom Pedro II. inscribed in this form.

**Imperio Mexicano.**—This inscription, meaning "Mexican Empire," appears upon the stamps of Mexico bearing the portrait of the Emperor Maximilian, which were issued in 1866.

**Imperium.**—This word appears on certain labels of the Queen's head type employed for Seychelles, etc. They are scarce essays, produced by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., some years ago, but whether for any particular colony or not is a moot point.

**Imper. reg. posta Austr.**—The inscription on the 1883 issue of stamps for use in the Austrian post offices maintained in the Levant. It means "Imperial and Royal Austrian Post."

**Impresos.**—An inscription shown upon certain stamps of Cuba and the Philippines which were issued for use on printed matter. The word means literally "prints."

**Impressed Wmks.**—These are watermarks produced, not while the paper is in the form of pulp during the process of manufacture, but by applying suitable dies under great pressure to the finished product of the paper mills. The stamps of Switzerland issued during the period 1862-1904 will furnish excellent examples of impressed watermarks.

**Impression.**—This is, of course, the actual printed design of any stamp but it is often used in conjunction with the words "early," "late," etc., to distinguish between certain printings of some stamps, like those of the early Mauritius, that vary greatly in sharpness according to the particular state of the plate.

**Imprimatur.**—Readers of articles on the stamps of Great Britain will often find reference made to the imprimatur sheets filed in the archives of Somerset House. These are the proof sheets submitted by the printers for approval and passed as satisfactory. The word "imprimatur" may be translated as "let it be printed."

**Imprime (or "Imprimes").**—A surcharge meaning, literally, "printed paper," applied to various Turkish stamps intended for use on printed matter.

**Impuesto.**—An inscription, meaning "tax," shown upon the various fiscal stamps of Chili, allowed to be used for postal purposes.

**Impuesto de Guerra.**—An inscription, meaning literally "Impost of War," shown upon the war tax stamps of Spain, and surcharged upon some of the stamps of Porto Rico.

**Independence.**—A small town in the State of Texas, U. S. A., at which a special 10c. stamp was issued by the Postmaster in 1861 prior to the arrival of the regular stamps for the whole of the Confederate States.

**India.**—The Indian Empire extends over a territory larger than the Continent of Europe without Russia. Legally "British India" is the title which should be properly applied to all territories governed by the King through the Governor-General of India or his subordinate officers, while "India" includes British India and any territories of any native prince or chief under the suzerainty of His Majesty. The total area of India is about 1,767,000 square miles, of which 680,000 are under native administration. The British Provinces comprise 61 % of the total area, and nearly 79 % of the population, which numbers about three hundred millions. Space prevents it being possible to give even the briefest outline of the eventful history of this territory. English dominion started at the close of the 16th century, when the first charter was granted by Queen Elizabeth to the East India Company. In 1853 the Company's charter was renewed for the last time, and in 1858 the govern-

ment of India was transferred to the Crown, though Queen Victoria did not formally assume the title of Empress of India until 1877. The first postage stamps used in India were those issued under the authority of Sir Bartle Frere in 1852, when he was Commissioner for the Scinde District, but the general issue for the whole of British India did not appear until September, 1854.

**Indian Native States.**—From a philatelic point of view this title comprises all the Feudatory States of India, whose chiefs are in subordinate alliance with or under the suzerainty of Great Britain, which have at any time issued postage stamps.

**India Port.**—The inscription shown upon all the stamps of Portuguese India issued prior to 1877. The second word is an abbreviation for "Portuguesa."

**India Portugueza.**—The inscription appearing on the 1887-1895 stamps of Portuguese India.

**Indian Settlements.**—The general name for the whole of the French settlements in India at the present time. They comprise Chandernagar (near Calcutta), and Karikal, Mahé, Yanam, and Pondichery in the Presidency of Madras, and they are all administered by the Governor of Pondichery. The first postage stamps for use in these settlements were issued in 1892.

**Indo-China.**—The French possession of this name

comprises the whole of the eastern and a great part of the northern section of the Indo-China peninsula, the frontier towards the British and Siamese territories being roughly indicated by the Mekong river. Politically this extensive tract comprises five separate divisions—the vassal kingdoms of Annam and Cambodia, the administrative territories of Cochin-China and Tong-King, and the Laos Protectorate. Its total area is about 270,000 square miles and its population is over 20 millions. The whole region except Cochin-China is under a governor-general and a resident-superior for executive purposes. Cochin-China is still administered by a lieutenant-governor directly responsible to the French Minister of the Colonies. The beginning of French influence in south-eastern Asia may be traced to missionary efforts begun in Nain in the 17th century, and from there spread to Annam and Tong-King. But the troublous times of the French Revolution retarded progress, and it was not until 1861-2 that France became master of the larger portion of Cochin-China. About the same time a protectorate was established over Cambodia, and from 1882 a highly aggressive policy was established by the French until they possessed all the country east of the Mekong. Since 1898 the country has been rapidly developed and from about 1899 it has been self-supporting on a fairly low basis of taxation. Postage stamps were first issued in January, 1889.

*To be continued.*

## American Notes

By L. G. DORPAT

WAYSIDE, WIS., U.S.A., 17th November, 1908.

### Philatelic Journalism in the United States.

During the last few years the number of philatelic papers published in the U.S. have dwindled down more and more, until last spring and summer we could count the survivors on our fingers. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, *Redfield's Stamp Weekly*, the *Chicago Collector's Monthly*, the *Philatelic West*, the *Stamp Journal of Denver*, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* were about all that was left of the erstwhile deluge of philatelic periodicals. It is true, there was C. H. Mekeel's Trade Circular and De Kay's Stamp Circular, but these appeared at free intervals, and hardly aspired to the dignity of journals.

### New American Journals.

Now, since the sun began to turn southward, there is a new crop springing up. There are *Dolson's Philatelic Flashes*, *Park's Philatelic Esperanto*, the *Colonial Stamp News*, the *Hartford Philatelist*, the *Daily Philatelic World*, the *Collectors' Own Magazine*, *DeKay's Philatelic Tribune*, and perhaps a few more. The most notable among these is undoubtedly E. S. Martin's *Daily Philatelic World*; it is small, indeed, but it comes every day, Sundays excepted, and it shows two special features. It says: "The publishers guarantee the responsibility of its advertisers, and will reimburse its subscribers (except in case of insolvency of the advertiser) for any sum sent in response to advertisement which is not properly accounted for;" and it makes front against the nuisance of Unsolicited Approval Sheets, publishing the names of dealers proven as guilty of this offence.

### Other Journals Promised and Wanted.

For the near future C. H. Mekeel announces the revival of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, which is to appear semi-monthly, and H. L. Lindquist proposes to

publish a new paper of at least 36 pages, 6 × 9, and covers, with a guaranteed circulation of 2,000. Both have made big plans, and if these are carried out, we shall have two journals in 1909 that we need not be ashamed of.

There is also a clamour for a quarterly to be issued by the American Philatelic Society, and, though at the last annual meeting the Nays had it, there are a good many who think that the A.P.S. Quarterly must and will become a reality.

### Wanted, American Writers.

What we lack most are more scientific men of leisure who will devote themselves, not merely to the collection and study of stamps for their own gratification, but who will publish the results of their studies for the profit of their fellow collectors also. Readers want something substantial besides what is entertaining, and unless both be forthcoming there will be a lack of support for papers new and old. It seems though that new efforts are being made in this direction, and that the increased activity in stamp collecting generally will exert an invigorating influence both on publishers and writers, and will stimulate the reticent to come forth with their hidden treasures for the benefit of all.

Here and there we find expressions of regret at our being behind our British friends in philatelic publications, whose example stimulates us to greater effort, and whose estimation we cannot retain unless we wake up and do something worthy of our name. This regret ought to bear some fruit, and we hope it may ripen out to its full maturity.

Better acquaintance with British, French, German, Dutch, and Scandinavian journals promises to have a stimulating effect on philatelists of the Western Hemisphere, inducing them to a more vigorous though still friendly rivalry.

L. G. DORPAT.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Bolivia.**—A correspondent has shown *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* a 50c. stamp of the same design as that of 1867, but printed in vermilion instead of blue. This is, apparently, to take the place of the 50c. with portrait of General Sucre, and we understand that a 1 bolivar stamp is to be issued in the same design. The 50c. stamp is said to have been printed from the original plate of 1867.

1908. Type of 1867. No wmk. Perf. 12.  
50c. vermilion.

**Cayman Islands.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the ½d. stamp (which the present postmaster, like his predecessor, Miss Parsons, persists in refusing to sell in any way except over the Post-office counter) is produced by lithography.



issue." Notwithstanding this paragraph, there can be no "single possible shadow of doubt, no shadow of doubt whatever," as to the *bona fides* of this issue. The stamps were surcharged under the official authority of the present Government in Crete, and are the only stamps now used in the island, and, whether the absorption of Crete by Greece follows or not, they are a *bona fide* issue, interesting as marking the present trend of events in the Near East, and of far better standing than the stamps issued under the "Russian Sphere of Administration," now catalogued at some length.

The complete list of values is now as follows:—



Various stamps overprinted "ΕΑΛΛΑΣ."

	s.	d.
1l. red-brown of 1900 ... ..	0	1
2l. violet of 1905 ... ..	0	1
5l. green of 1905 ... ..	0	1
10l. scarlet of 1900 ... ..	—	—
10l. red, new issue ... ..	0	2
20l. blue-green of 1905 ... ..	0	3
25l. blue and black of 1907 ... ..	0	4
50l. brown of 1905 ... ..	0	8
1 dr. carmine and sepia of 1905 ... ..	1	3
2 dr. brown of 1900 ... ..	2	6
3 dr. orange and black of 1905 ... ..	3	9
5 dr. olive-green and black of 1905 ... ..	6	0

The sheets are of the same size as the other values, consisting of 120 stamps, arranged in two panes of 60 (ten rows of six) placed side by side. The lithographic stone is composed of blocks of four transfers, each pane being arranged as follows:—

1 2	1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4	3 4
1 2	1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4	3 4
1 2	1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4	3 4
1 2	1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4	3 4
1 2	1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4	3 4

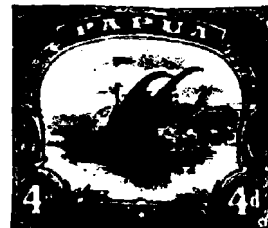
There are thus 30 blocks of four transfers on the sheets, and, possibly, each transfer in the block can be identified by means of small differences.

**Colombia.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records two new perforation varieties of some old stamps, viz., the 1 peso, lake on bluish paper, of 1883-6, perf. 10½ × 12; and the 1 peso, blue on green paper, of 1892-7, perf. 13¼ × 12.

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 99).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have shown us the 1 lepton and 2 drachmai of 1900 overprinted "ΕΑΛΛΑΣ," as shown in the accompanying illustrations. We find the following note regarding these provisionals in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*:—"The stamps were to have been used until the proper stamps of Greece could be issued in Crete, but recently the people of Crete have repented of their sudden action, and have left their future position entirely in the hands of the Powers. I do not think it very probable that the adhesion of Greece will be confirmed, so I shall be very surprised if these stamps are ever recognised as a duly authorised

**Papua.**—(Vol. III. p. 20).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 2d. of the permanent type, perf. 12½, and the 1s., perf. 11, leaving only the 2s. 6d. to be issued to complete the set.

The complete list of varieties issued to date is as follows:—



*Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."*

			Perf. 11.	
			s.	d.
½d.	green and black	...	0	1
1d.	carmine	...	0	2
2½d.	blue	...	0	4
4d.	brown	...	—	—
6d.	myrtle-green and black	...	0	8
1s.	orange	...	1	4
			Perf. 12½.	
2d.	violet and black	...	0	3
2½d.	blue	...	—	—
4d.	brown	...	0	6
6d.	myrtle-green and black	...	—	—

## NOTE.

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

# From other Magazines

## British South Africa: Issues Current.

SIR,—I have the pleasure of sending you the following notice, which is the latest official notice for Southern Rhodesia, and should be of interest as showing what stamps are still available, and also that 20s. is the highest sold at post offices in S. R.

### DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, Southern Rhodesia.

POSTAL NOTICE No. 15 OF 1908.

#### Postage Stamps on Sale in Southern Rhodesia.

The following schedule of varieties of postage stamps at present on sale at post offices in Southern Rhodesia is published for general information:

VALUE.	YEAR OF ISSUE.	COLOURS.
½d.	1898-1908	Green.
1d.	do.	Red.
2d.	do.	Bistre.
2½d.	do.	Cobalt.
3d.	1896-7	Chocolate and ultramarine.
3d.	1898-1908	Lilac.
4d.	do.	Olive-brown.
6d.	do.	Red-lilac.
8d.	1896-7	Olive-green and violet on buff.
1s.	1898-1908	Ochre.
2s.	1896-7	Indigo and green on buff.
2s. 6d.	do.	Brown and purple on yellow.
2s. 6d.	1898-1908	Grey.
3s.	1896-7	Green and mauve on blue.
3s.	1898-1908	Violet.
4s.	1896	Red and dark blue on green.
5s.	1896	Chestnut and green.
5s.	1898-1908	Orange.
7s. 6d.	do.	Black.
10s.	1896-7	Slate and vermilion on rose.
10s.	1898-1908	Green.
20s.	do.	Purple.
1s.	1905	Green
2s. 6d.	do.	Black
5s.	do.	Violet

G. H. EYRE, Postmaster-General,  
General Post Office, Salisbury,  
2nd June, 1908.

Printed by the Government Printer.  
Yours faithfully, F. H. MELLAND.  
—*London Philatelist*, Nov., '08.

## Indian National Philatelic Collection.

Our readers will remember that two or three years ago it was recorded in *The London Philatelist* and other philatelic journals that Mr. Wilmot Corfield had been entrusted, by the Trustees of the Indian Victoria Memorial, with the acquirement and arrangement of a national stamp collection to be placed in the Hall in Calcutta, when built. This collection had reached a most satisfactory stage and was making good progress until a few months ago, when the whole of the exhibits belonging to the Trustees of the Fund—pictures, statues, books, coins, weapons, etc., etc.—were handed over to the authorities of the Indian Museum, the Trustees of the Fund, by whom his appointment was made, relinquishing their control of everything of the magnificent nucleus for the contents of the Hall got together by Lord Curzon. The story is a long one, and put briefly, it amounts to this, that the present Indian authorities have little or no enthusiasm for the project as a whole, and the scheme has been, for a time at any rate, put to sleep. The foundations of the building have been laid since 1905, but nothing has been raised of the superstructure since the Prince of Wales laid the stone when visiting India about that time. There has been much newspaper controversy, but the fact remains that India will not possess a completed Victoria Memorial of a national character for many years to come.

Under these circumstances Mr. Corfield was rather glad when the Trustees, on terminating their duties, also relieved him of his, and had no reason to suppose that the museum authorities would not ask him to continue his work, but under all the circumstances it is pleasant to him to feel that for a time, at any rate, he is free of all responsibility as regards the stamp collection, which he has handed over to the care of its new custodians.

As the scheme for an Indian collection with him as its promoter has long been made known to the collecting world, through the stamp press, the present phase of the situation should be proclaimed to the philatelic world. The collection, as handed over, is a very fine one and admirably arranged, and its custodian parted from it with much regret, the more so as it is, of course, very far from complete.

It is urged that unless some announcement is made in a representative philatelic journal of the position to-day, it may be difficult for stamp collectors to find out some years hence exactly what has occurred to the collection.

The stamp collection is at present in abeyance (along with the colossal scheme of which it is only a part).  
—*London Philatelist*, Nov., '08.

# Royal Philatelic Society

*From the Philatelic Journal of India*

*We are told that our extract on p. 106 from the article in the "Philatelic Journal of India" in which an extraordinary attack is made upon the Royal Philatelic Society, London, does not do justice to Mr. Crofton, the Editor and author of the article, so we reproduce the matter in full.—Ed. P.S.*

WE take for our text this month the notice printed in the margin of the form of application for membership of the Royal Philatelic Society. It reads thus: "Any other person interested as an amateur in the science and practice of philately, and not engaged or employed in trade or trading transactions in connection therewith in any other capacity than that of compiler, author, editor or assistant, in the preparation or publication of any work of a scientific, technical, or literary nature, is eligible for election to membership of the society." Frankly, we disapprove of this, and also of the somewhat similar rule which is included in the constitution of our own society. Our disapproval is on two separate counts.

In the first place we do not see that any case has been made out for differentiating against the dealer. Certainly not for social reasons, for there is no particular social level laid down by the Royal Philatelic Society for its membership, including, as it does, tradesmen in wares which are not a bit more reputable than stamps. Besides, the man who looks back with pride on a line of ancestors unsullied by trade is hardly to be found now-a-days except among Irish landlords and Anglo-Indian officials. The Royal Philatelic Society will lunch with dealers, tea with dealers, have its exhibition paid for by dealers, and its books published by dealers, in face of which the retention of this rule on the books looks a little ungracious.

There is, however, some sort of indefinite idea that a society which nominally consists only of amateurs is in a strong position to take action against dangers which may threaten our pursuit. The idea is extremely intangible, and has never to our knowledge materialised. And the reason is very clear. The interests of the collector and dealer in raising the position of philately are identical, they have never clashed and are never likely to. It is almost impossible to conceive of an amateur society having any cause to take action against the trade. On the other hand, who is it who has won the victories of philately? Who got the Government to allow English stamps to be illustrated? Who got them to let us collect unused English official stamps without committing a crime? Who ran and paid for the CSAR forgeries case? The trade. The Society has missed these opportunities and many more beside of standing for the interests of the collector, and its sphere has mainly been confined to the more passive occupation of producing literature, in which the co-operation of the trade has been constantly in evidence.

We are not aware that an art dealer who was also a good enough artist would be excluded from the ranks of Royal Academicians, and there is a well-known fellow of the Royal Geographical Society who deals in atlases. The main qualification for admission to our first philatelic society should undoubtedly be philatelic distinction, and all other qualifications should go for nothing in comparison. We fear that in a general philatelic examination the amateurs as a class would cut a sorry figure. Not only are our stamp dealers among our greatest philatelists, but also a half hour spent with a dealer within the four walls of a club room, free from the

haunting fear that one ought to be buying something, is a very great treat to the ordinary collector. The exclusion of the trade is thus both a weakness and a depopulariser.

Our second count is that if a line must be drawn, it is drawn in the wrong place. The existing rule is possibly explicable by *ex post facto* influences. That is to say, the society may have found itself possessed of members whose status as amateurs was doubtful, and may have drawn up the carefully worded rule to fit in with its wishes regarding the retention of these members. When a dealer employs a man, that man is an employé of the trade whether the particular duties for which he is suited are writing the firm's catalogue, editing its journal or serving over its counter. Neither catalogue nor journal is issued for philanthropic or literary reasons. Both are advertisements pure and simple. The only thing that differentiates them from the man who addresses the envelopes or dresses the window is that they involve skilled labour. In whatever other pursuit the distinction between amateur and professional is maintained, it always rests on the point whether the man is paid for his skill or whether he displays it for mere amusement. We utterly fail to see why philately should be different, and in our opinion any one who is paid for his writing by a stamp firm is undoubtedly a professional. A salaried employé is a member of a trade as much as a partner who shares in the profits. We do not urge that professional philatelists should be turned out of any society, but we look upon any attempt to put them on a higher plane than ordinary dealing as supremely ridiculous.

From the salaried employé we pass by an invisible step to the jobbing philatelist. This is the man who is paid by piece-work, and his duties may be expertising or valuing stock, arranging stock-books, writing occasional books or even contributing occasional articles to his employer's journal. This class grades itself according to the regularity and extent of the employment. In its lighter phases, such as the mere contribution of a paid article to the press it connects with pure amateurism; at the other end of the scale it is indistinguishable from salaried services.

Turning now to dealing pure and simple, we have a first class which owns a shop window and advertises in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. Next comes the person who has no shop and only an undisplayed ad. in the *Exchange and Mart*. Thirdly comes the man who professes not to be a dealer at all, but nevertheless makes a very comfortable income from stamps. He is well represented in the Royal Philatelic Society. Part of his *modus operandi* is what we may tersely describe as buying on one side of the Strand and selling on the other. He buys good things in a dear market, and hopes to sell in a dearer. To do this requires a consummate knowledge of philately, and the man who makes it pay is an acquisition to any society though we cannot regard him as an amateur. Not far from the last named is the man who is constantly making new collections in order to sell them at a profit. He again grades himself according to the degree the selling motive is in the ascendant. He may

very well be highly accomplished in our science and an ornament to any body that elects him. Then a long way below these is a mixed assortment of private dealers who are no use to anybody. They include speculators in new provisionals and the people who buy remainders of collections at auction in order to dispose of them retail

on club sheets.

Why should anyone attempt the almost impossible task of drawing a line among these imperceptible gradations? Let them all in, we say, since it is impossible to keep them all out.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Sale of the Koch Collection.

At the sale of the second portion of the Koch collection in Paris the prices realised are said to have been exceedingly high. "so much so," says the *London Philatelist*, "that the bids sent by collectors and dealers in this country secured very few lots."

All of which is very satisfactory, but the prices, be it noted, ran up for *fine* stamps.

## The Future is for Fine Stamps.

I quote from the *London Philatelist*:—"The magnificent result of the Koch Sale, says the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, is a notable event in showing that the future is for fine stamps—that is, those which have been purchased at full catalogue prices or above them. It appears that the greatest eagerness was exhibited in the competition for the really choice stamps, and, writes our contemporary, 'We saw stamps exceeding catalogue prices by 100, 200, and even 500 per cent. We saw a 3d. Sydney View catalogued at 50fr. sell for 269fr 50c.—certainly an extraordinarily fine specimen. We saw the handsome engravings of the early impressions of Mauritius easily double the prices hitherto considered as their selling value, and we carried away with us the conviction that Philately has never been more vigorously alive than at the present moment.'"

## The Fraenkel Collection.

It is said that the Fraenkel collection will be sold in Germany. Mr. Castle says "the late Herr Fraenkel, whose methods of collection were well known to his numerous friends in this country, had, as was to be expected, accumulated a large number of stamps and envelopes, of uneven merit and importance, and lacking any finality in their system of arrangement. His collection of entires was undoubtedly his strongest point, as he had many specimens of the rarest European envelopes, and it is estimated by our contemporary that the catalogue value of this portion of the collection will surpass £5000. The adhesives, of which there are general and specialised collections, are expected to total up to £9000, of which the English Colonial probably represent one-third in importance."

## The most Fashionable Country.

Is there a most fashionable and best selling country just now? and, if so, which is it? The wish is the father to the thought in the South American direction, but I scarcely suppose that anyone would give the post of honour to any South American country above all others. Mr. Salvador Power would say Salvadors or Nicaraguas, but breezy Power is a born salesman. The only cent he follows is that which leads to dollars.

## What about West Indians?

Personally I should not be surprised to learn that the tide is at last setting once more in the West Indian

direction. St. Vincent, Bahamas, Grenada, Jamaica and even Bermuda, I would forswear for any South American group. They have been under a cloud, but they are not played out. Indeed they are probably amongst the best philatelic investments of the day.

## Sale of Mr. Wetherell's Collection.

So far as I can gather the sale of Mr. Wetherell's collection was fairly satisfactory, all things considered. Stamps that were fine fetched good prices, but many copies that fell below the high standard were flat, and probably lowered the sum total to a disappointing level.

Despite all the swear words used about the "condition crank" we are every year getting more and more fastidious about our copies. The "condition crank" must be a pestiferous nuisance to the average dealer, but when his collection comes under the hammer his sins are forgotten, and buyers rush in to reap the fruits of his fastidiousness.

## Where the Trouble Lies.

The trouble lies in the fact that dealers are driven almost wild in their endeavours to secure well centred copies of stamps that are rarely well centred, and, as often as not, they suffer considerable loss in bad copies that are not returnable.

## Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

## Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

# Auction Summary

\* signifies unused.

## Ventom, Bull & Cooper.

22 and 23, October, 1908.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell's Collection.

	£	s.	d.
Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperforate ...	8	8	0
India, 1st issue, ½a blue, unused sheet of 96 ...	17	17	0
Ditto, ditto 1a red, unused sheet of 96 ...	25	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, serrated perforation... ..	5	5	0
Ditto, 1860, no wmk., ½a, purple mint sheet of 80	5	5	0
Ditto, Faridkot, 6a bistre Service, error "Servic"	9	10	0
Cape, Triangular, 1s, yellow-green,* with gum	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue, pair on piece ...	9	5	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red,* creased ...	4	0	0
Orignaland, large "G," collection of 69 practically complete ... ..	13	10	0
Lagos, 2s. 6d., olive-black* ... ..	2	10	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., vermilion, earliest state, defective, ... ..	£3	17s.	6d. and
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red, intermediate, pair ...	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red, worn plate, pair* ...	6	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red, worn plate, 3 vertical strips of 4, constituting a reconstructed plate of 12 ... ..	5	15	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d., blue, early state ...	15	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, intermediate, £2 and	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, worn plate ...	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, small fillet, early, on entire, with 6d. blue ...	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, worn plate, block of 4, creased ... * ... ..	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, large fillet, on entire, with strip of 4 and a single 6d., blue ... ..	2	16	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, large fillet, on entire, with strip of 4 and a single 6d., blue ... ..	12	0	0
Ditto, Greek border, 1d., red, pairs £4 and	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, single ... ..	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, pairs, £4 4s and	4	15	0
Ditto, Britannia, "Four pence," in black, on green,* ... ..	£2	4s.	and
Ditto, ditto, 1s., vermilion, strip of 7 ...	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., deep green, perf., pairs, £2 12s. and	3	15	0
Orange River Colony, 1896, "Half Penny" on 3d., ultramarine, pair, twice surcharged, once inverted ... ..	3	5	0
Canada, "Specimen," in red, on 12d. black ...	2	16	0
Ditto, perf., 6d., purple-brown* ... ..	2	10	0
Newfoundland, 6d., scarlet-vermilion ... ..	8	10	0
Ditto, 6½d., ditto* ... ..	3	5	0
Ditto, 1s., ditto, no margins ... ..	4	4	0
Nova Scotia, 1d., red brown, pair ... ..	5	0	0
Barbados, 1878 1d. on half 5s. ... ..	2	16	0
Grenada, 1888, 4d. on 2s., orange, pair, one with upright "d" ... ..	3	17	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red, plate 1, on yellowish ... ..	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, on bluish ... ..	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, plate 2, pair ... ..	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, plate 2, pair ... ..	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, plate 1, earliest ... ..	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, plate 2 ... ..	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, plate 3, pair ... ..	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, plate 3, pair ... ..	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., myrtle-green ... ..	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., green, on piece ... ..	2	2	0
Ditto, Laureated, 8d., yellow, no leaves right of "South," cut into ... ..	5	5	0
Ditto, 1854-55, 5d., green, imperf. ... ..	3	7	6

New Zealand, 1863, no wmk., thick paper, perf. 13, 2d., blue, pair ... ..	2	17	6
Ditto, 1860-62, pelure, 6d., black-brown, rouletted ... ..	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1s., green, ditto ... ..	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2d., lilac-blue, perf. ...	3	5	0
Ditto, 1862, 6d., black-brown, serrated perf.	3	3	0
Queensland, Large Star, clean-cut, 15, 1d.* ...	2	2	0
South Australia, 1867-70, S A, 10d., in blue, on 9d., yellow ... ..	25	0	0
Ditto, 1872, 9d., grey-lilac, 11½, 12½, and rouletted ... ..	2	0	0
Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., lilac, fine background...	2	8	0
Ditto, 1858-61, 2s., green, rouletted ... ..	4	7	6
Ditto, 1857, 1d., yellow-green, Star, rouletted £2 18s. and	3	3	0
Western Australia, 2d., brown-black, on red ...	2	4	0

## Glendining & Co.,

6 and 7, October, 1908.

Great Britain, 1862, 3d., rose, variety with dots*	2	16	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1884-5, 5s., rose* ... ..	4	5	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1884-5, 10s., blue* ... ..	6	0	0
Oldenburgh, 1855, ½ sgr., three copies on original	3	15	0
Ditto, 1859, ½ gr., black on green ... ..	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 3 gr., black on yellow ... ..	2	2	0
Switzerland, Zurich, vertical lines, 4 rappen ...	5	18	0
Ceylon, 1861, rough perf., 6d., yellow-brown ...	4	12	6
Ditto, 1872-80, perf., 14 x 12½, 92c., slate, Gibbons 101a* ... ..	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, perf., 12½, 2r. 50c., Gibbons 101c*	6	0	0
Ditto, 1883-4, 24c., purple-brown, Gibbons 110*	6	15	0
Cyprus, 1880, 1d. red, plate 208,* vertical pair one stamp without overprint ... ..	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red, plate 208,* vertical pair, one stamp with double overprint ... ..	2	0	0
Hong Kong, 1863-71, 96c. yellow-brown* 1882, wmk. Crown C.A., 10c. blue-green* ... ..	4	10	0
Straits Settlements, 1867, 6c., yellow* ... ..	1	1	0
Ditto, 1879-2, 10c. on 30c.,* vertical pair, show- ing varieties, Gibbons 36 and 37 ... ..	2	15	0
Gambia, 1874, wmk. Crown C.C., imperf. 4d. brown ... ..	1	2	0
Gold Coast, 1891, £1 green and red* ... ..	7	0	0
Lagos, 1884-6, wmk. Crown C.A., perf. 14, 2s. 6d. olive-black* ... ..	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s. blue, superb* ... ..	5	7	6
Natal, 1869 postage. 13½ m m, 3d. blue, Gibbons 34b* ... ..	2	17	6
Nevia, 1867, 1883-9, wmk. Crown C.A., 6d green*	3	5	0
New Brunswick, 1s, violet* ... ..	9	15	0
St. Lucia, 1882-4, perf. 14, 1s. orange* ... ..	1	18	0
St. Vincent, 1881, 1d. on 6d., yellow-green, Gibbons 31 ... ..	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion ... ..	7	5	0
Ditto, Sept., 1884, wmk. Crown C.A., perf. 12, ½d. orange mint (see handbook on St. Vincent)...	4	0	0
Trinidad, June, 1861, rough perf., 1s. purple-blue ... ..	1	10	0
Turk's Island, 1893, ½d. on 4d., grey, strip of 3	3	3	0
United States, Aug., 1861, Premières Gravures. 1c. deep blue* ... ..	21	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 12c. black* ... ..	42	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 30c. orange-red* ... ..	19	0	0
Uruguay, 1857, 120c. pale blue ... ..	2	17	6

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnarvon, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

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Record value, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 20, 25, 30 and 35 hellers, all fine used copies, price 7d. the set of 11 stamps. INDIAN (Queen's Head), 2, 3 and 5 rupees, used, price 3/- the set. NYASSA (Giraffes) set of 7 used, price 6d. Packet of 150 different BRITISH COLONIALS, price 3/-; ditto 250 different, price 6/6. NICKEL STAMP TWEEZERS, including leather case, price 1/3. POWERFUL MAGNIFYING GLASSES, 7d., 1/1 and 1/4 each. STAMP ALBUMS from 6d to £5.

Our shop window is always full of bargains. Approval Selections sent at 50% off Gibbons.

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15, King William Street,  
Charing Cross, W.C.

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Or a really cheap way of adding to your Collection than a nice packet of good clean stamps. We have a few packets of 500 entirely different Colonial and Foreign, exclusive of rubbishy continentals and varieties of perforation. The catalogue value is not less than 60/- Price only 5/- post free. Only one to each purchaser. We also give a Pocket Duplicate Book free. Send at once as number is limited.—Cuthbertson & Co., 26, Exchange Street East, Liverpool.

## Xmas Bargains

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Brazil, 1906, 400, 700, or 1,000 reis ... 2d.  
Cayman Isles, Queen, 1d. (blk. of 4, 8d) 2d.  
King, Mult., postage both sides,  
1/2, 1d, 2d, 6d brown, 1/- orange, fine  
used set ... 9/0  
Chili, 1892/1900, 30c carmine ... 5d.  
China, 1904, surcharged postage due, 3c  
fine used block of 4 ... 2/8  
Dan. W. Indies, King Fred., 10, 20 or  
25b ... 2d.  
East Africa and Uganda, King, Single  
CA, 2 or 4 annas ... 9d.  
German Morocco, 1900, 50c on 40phg ... 24d.  
India, Queen, 2rs (dozen 3/9) ... 4d.  
" " Three Rupees ... 10d.  
" " Five Rupees ... 2/6  
Mauritius, 1863/72, 4d rose ... 2d.  
N. Nigeria, King, Single CA, 2/6 ... 5/0  
Patiala State, King, On Service, 1r ... 1/6  
S. Nigeria, Mult, bi-coloured, 24d or 1/-  
Seychelles, 1893, 3c on 4c (block 1/-) ... 3d.  
Tunis, 1906, Parcel Post, 1fr. ... 4d.  
" " " 2frs. ... 8d.

### UNUSED, (Full Gum, Never Mounted).

Br. New Guinea, thick paper, narrow  
rosettes, 1d, 2d, 2 1/2d, 4d, 6d, 1/-, set  
Costa Rica, 1892, 1, 2, 5, pesos, set ... 5d.  
Chili, 1877, 50c lilac (cat. 7/6), bargain  
do, pairs & blocks same rate.  
Cyprus, King, Single CA, 1 piastre ... 1/4  
" " " 2 or 4 piastre ... 3/6  
Cayman Is., King, Mult, postage-post-  
age, 1d 2d.  
" " " " 2 1/2d 6d.  
" " " " 6d brn. 2/6  
" " " " 1/- or. 3/6  
" " ditto, set of 4 values 6/3  
" " " set of four in  
blocks of four with control ... 26/0  
*The Caymans can be supplied in pairs and  
blocks of four at same rate.*  
Sierra Leone, 1897, surch. postage and  
revenue, 1d ... 8d.  
Zululand, 1894, 1d (cat. 9d) ... 2d.  
*All stamps guaranteed genuine and in fine  
condition.*  
*Cash cheerfully refunded for stamps not entirely  
approved of.*

I will buy 2 1/2d Gold Coast, King, Mult, (bi-  
col), used or unused, at 6d each; also Cay-  
man Islands, 1d on 5/- and 1d on 5/-, used or  
unused at 8/- each. WANTED a dozen  
copies 2 kroner Austrian Jubilee, at 5d each.  
*Price List full of Bargains free.*

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## XMAS GIFT

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ing parcel to all readers of *The Postage  
Stamp* sending us their name and address: A  
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all different, a Packet of Best Mounts, a  
Bundle of Transparent Envelopes, very use-  
ful, a Handy Collector's Note Book and a  
Perforation Gauge, and a Folding Pocket  
Case, fitted with transparent pockets for  
keeping duplicates, etc., in. Send two penny  
stamps for postage and packing, and we will  
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vince you that we are the cheapest firm in  
the trade. It is easy to say so in an adver-  
tisement, but get our catalogue and prove it  
for yourselves. We are also now giving  
away to our customers catalogues of the  
world's stamps, giving the value of every  
stamp issued. Send at once and get the  
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**YOUR STAMPS FADED?** Restore to  
their natural colour by using my Magic  
Renovator. Post Free, 1/2.—Renovator,  
Ilkeston.

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*When selecting stamps as Xmas Presents invest  
in those that will show an increase, we list to-day  
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The Rarest Provisional, 2 1/2 on 4d.,  
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1d on 5/-, ditto ... 15/-

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1, 2, 2 1/2, 4, 6, 1/-, 2/6, all fine used 20/-

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Queen's Embossed Compound Envelopes, i.e.  
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really rare, we offer set of 17 different, all  
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Packet No. 1 contains Hong Kong 1879, 5c  
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1a, 18c-bêche, used; Morocco, 20c error A  
for A; Bermuda, 1d., S.G. 22; Barbados, 1/  
and 1d., S.G. 72, 73; Sudan, S.G. 202, used;  
Niger Coast 1892, 1/2 to 5d; Great Britain 1887,  
1/- I.R., used; Ditto Army, 1/2, 6d, King;  
Cyprus, 1894, 12 pi; Fiji, 6d, S.G. 114, 115;  
Gold Coast, 1898, 10/-, used; India, 1882, 4 1/2a;  
Ditto Service 4a; Ditto O.H.M.S., 1874, 8a;  
South, 1a, entire sheet; Ditto, 4a, ditto;  
O.R. Colony, No. 200 S.G.; Seychelles, No.  
47 and 48; Tasmania, 1857, 1d., F.C.; Ditto,  
1864, S.G. 308, 309, F.C.; Transvaal, V.R., 1d  
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### Special Offer only £2 2s. 6d.

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E.A. & Uganda, 1/2 to 4a; Gambia, 1, 1, 2, 4,  
6d.; Gibraltar 2 1/2, 6d mint, 1d used; Gold  
Coast 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 6d, 1/- used; Ditto, 1/2, 1, 2 1/2,  
6d, 1/- mint; Grenada, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 3d used;  
Ditto, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 6d mint; Lagos, 1, 1, 2 1/2d;  
Ditto, 1, 3, 6d used; Leeward Islands, 1/2, 1, 2,  
2 1/2d; Malta, 1/2, 1, 3d 1/-; Ditto, 1/2, 1d, 2 1/2, 3,  
4d, 1/- used; Morocco, 5, 20, 25c mint, 5, 25c used;  
Natal, 1/2, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6; Ditto,  
used, 1/2, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 5, 6d, 1/-, 2/6; N.  
Nigeria, 1/2d to 2/6; Ditto, used, 1/2 to 1/-; St.  
Lucia, 1/2 to 1/-; Ditto, used, 1/2, 1, 2 1/2d; St.  
Vincent, 1/2, 2, 3, 6d; Ditto, 1/2, 1d used; S.  
Leone, 1/2, 1d used, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 5d mint; S.  
Nigeria, 1/2, 1, 2, 6d used, 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 4 mint;  
Straits, 1c to 1/2 used; Ditto, mint, 1c to 1/2,  
2 shades, 50c but no 30c; 1903, 1c to 8c used,  
4c mint, Labuan, 4c to 1/2 mint; Transvaal  
1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6d, 1/-, 1/- mint; Ditto, used, 1/2, 1,  
2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6d, 1/-, 1/-, 2/-, 1903. Catalogue  
Value £14 17s. 0d.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

A Novel Suggestion for Meetings.



**M**R. Karl Wiehen makes a very novel suggestion in the December number of the Monthly Report of the Herts Society. He says: "We have the good fortune to count among our members specialists and first-class authorities of the stamps of many countries, and we have other members who are much interested in these same countries, and would be glad to be permitted to

ask many questions with regard to the stamps of these, perhaps difficult, countries, and to submit their collections of some special stamps from their collections to some recognised authority. Now, my suggestion is, to give these members the opportunity of doing this. No doubt our members, who possess the greater knowledge and experience, would be willing to meet their fellow members in order to assist, advise and help them. Members wishing for this help would bring their collections with them, and the meeting would divide itself into several small sections in which the less advanced collector could and would gain the information he may want. Those members who are not interested in the special stamps put down for that evening, would bring the collections of their pet countries, and would certainly find among the other unattached members kindred spirits with whom to discuss and compare the collections they may have brought with them, and all would spend an enjoyable and instructive stamp meeting, learning much from each other.

"I am sure that a meeting like this, now and then, would be appreciated, and do good in many ways."

### Philatelic Question Time.

Now how would this work? There is no doubt about the novelty of the suggestion, and the aim at making the meetings more useful, interesting and instructive. But how will it work? That is the question.

Mr. Wiehen's proposal amounts to a plan for instituting a sort of Question time analogous to Question time in Parliament, and there is not the slightest doubt in my opinion that it is an excellent idea—if it can be worked.

### Is it a Workable Idea?

Can it be worked? That is the question.

I believe it can. Let us talk it over. The average member meets with all sorts of difficulties in his study of various countries. But if he could now and again put his difficulties into a question and get it answered by a specialist his way would be made smooth, and the difficulties would disappear. No one will doubt all this.

What are the pros and cons of the question being answered? And what are the pros and cons of an unfair use being made of the privilege, and how can the specialist protect himself or be protected from being pumped dry of information that he has accumulated by years of study for future use?

### How to Safeguard the Privilege.

Most obviously the specialist must be shielded from unfair attempts to pump him for ulterior motives. Can this be done? I suggest that it can, and by the most simple means.

Let each member come with his question clearly written on a slip of paper, one question only on each slip. All questions to be handed to the Chairman. Let the Chairman sort out the slips, and pass each question round. The specialists read them and any one who care to answer a question signs or initials the slip. Then when the slips come back to the Chairman, he reads them out one at a time and add Mr. So-and-So has kindly undertaken to answer this question.

### Possibilities of the Plan.

Properly worked, I believe Mr. Wiehen's suggestion would do much to add materially to the interest and usefulness of our philatelic gatherings.

Under the working plan I have outlined I venture to think that there could be no chance of friction or unpleasantness arising from a refusal to answer any question, for the questions would be passed round the meeting for anyone to answer. Slips not initialled should be laid aside, without comment, by the Chairman, and it should be out of order for any member to draw

attention to the fact that his question had not been dealt with.

Specialists must have the right to decline to answer any question, if they are to help in the working of the idea.

#### Desirableness of the Suggestion.

To my mind, this suggestion of Mr. Wiehen's is one of the best and most important that has been made for a very long time.

Displays and Papers are all very well in their way, but a great deal more may be done in the direction of the experienced helping the less experienced on the road. The more we can really fraternise and make our philatelic meetings useful and instructive, the better will be the attendance at those meetings, and this suggestion seems to me to be likely to prove a great attraction.

Questions should come directly after the formal business of the minutes and correspondence. The answers would most probably prove interesting to the majority if not to all the members.

#### Should Discussion be Allowed?

The question will no doubt arise, Should discussion be allowed on any answer? Generally speaking, I should say it should not, or there would be no time for the Paper or Display of the evening.

Perhaps the best plan would be to set apart a certain time as a limit for the Questions, and then the Chairman could allow discussion at his discretion, according to the number of Questions to be disposed of, and the time left for dealing with them.

#### Royal Society: Crofton's Attack.

Mr. Crofton's ill-judged attack on the Royal Philatelic Society meets with scant approval in this country.

Mr. C. J. Phillips speaking for stamp dealers writes in his *Weekly* :—

"Now let me revert to Mr. Crofton's arguments, with which, I may say at once, I disagree *in toto*

"First, he says that no case has been made out for differentiating against the dealers.

"Why in the world should the Royal Philatelic Society be asked to explain its adoption of any particular rule or regulation?"

#### Mr. Crofton Repudiated.

But the unkindest cut of all is the repudiation of Mr. Crofton by those whom he wished to champion. Says Mr. Phillips:—

"If Mr. Crofton wants to see dealers rendered eligible for election as members, it would be as well for him to consult and take the opinion of some of the leading dealers before taking up cudgels on their behalf, which we who are in the trade have not asked or wished him to do.

"Secondly, Mr. Crofton says that, if a line is drawn, it is drawn in the wrong place.

"Where else would he draw it?"

#### Dealers in Other Societies.

As we all know, the Royal Philatelic Society decided to confine its membership to collectors for the simple and sufficient reason that the interests of collectors and dealers are not always identical, and might in some cases lead to friction, or the undesirable domination of the dealer, and the restriction of the usefulness of the Society.

On this point Mr. Phillips says:—

"Now look at the present existing Philatelic Societies in France, Germany, and America. In almost all cases they are dominated by dealers, and what do they do to spread and popularize our hobby? In most cases nothing at all!"

#### The Royal Society's Work.

As to the twaddle in which Mr. Crofton indulged, as to the philatelic universe being run solely by Dealers, Mr. Phillips says:—

"Can Mr. Crofton give me the name of a Philatelic Society in the whole world that has done *one-tenth* as much for our hobby as has been done by, the Royal Philatelic Society, London?"

"I think I should be correct in saying that more than one-half of the *original* philatelic articles and books produced in the past twenty years have been produced by the members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

"We who are in the trade shall be well advised if we do all we can to support the Royal Philatelic Society, London, as it is at present constituted. It is very largely owing to the prestige of this Society that philately has obtained its present position with the aristocratic and moneyed classes, and the *least* that the dealers can do in return is to accord it the most loyal and strong support, and not to seek for the means of introducing members of the trade, which, in my opinion, would be a very false step, and one tending to materially weaken the position that is now held by the Society."

#### The Indian Society's Position.

Mr. Phillips very pertinently raises the question as to the responsibility of the Philatelic Society of India concerning this attack.

"I should like to know" says he "if this attack on the Royal Philatelic Society, London, has been authorized by the Philatelic Society of India. It appears in their official organ, and I should think that the Committee of the India Society would be well advised to repudiate this article by the editor of their journal."

Of course the article will have to be repudiated by the Indian Society. It is primarily responsible for its official journal, and it is high time that an end is put to this sort of thing

#### Crete: overprinted "Hellas."

Following up my note of last week (page 122), Mr. J. M. Searle, Birmingham, writes to me as follows:—

"The Crete overprinted Hellas. I have a used copy of the 10 lepta of 1900, postmark too indistinct to see date. I also have sheets of the 11. and 21 without any errors, in my opinion they are printed in sheets of 100 not panes of 50. I have the errors  $\text{E}$  for  $\text{E}$  and  $\text{A}$  for  $\text{A}$  in the 11. stamp, the  $\text{A}$  for  $\text{A}$  being the third stamp from the left side of the bottom row, not the right side as stated by your correspondent. I also have the  $\text{E}$  for  $\text{E}$  in the 21."

#### New Colour Dictionary.

Gibbons announce that they have published a new colour dictionary, and they make the further and much more important announcement that "in a great many instances the descriptions of the 1909 editions of our catalogue will be based upon the colours in this dictionary."

Why "in a great many instances" only? Why not in all? Presumably, because of the great expense involved in a wholesale revision. However, a move is being made in the right direction, the direction of uniformity of colour names, for where our Gibbons leads we follow.

#### Edward VII. Land Post Office.

The Lieut. Shackleton Expedition, sent out from New Zealand to discover the Edward VII. Land Post Office, and furnish it with a supply of ready made stamps, has returned much disappointed. They found that Edward VII. Land had taken its departure, that in fact it had disappeared like an absconding debtor, possibly in terror of those stamps that were known to be on the way.

# Transvaal: King's Heads

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

**1902-3.** Twelve values. Design: Portrait of King Edward VII. in profile to left within an oval, inscribed in all four corners with figures of value, and the values up to and including the 2s., with "Postage" on the left side and "Revenue" on the right, but the three high values, 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. inscribed with "Postage" on both sides. All values are printed in two colours, the portrait in black in all values except the 2s. 6d., in which it is in mauve, the rest of the stamp being printed in black. The 5s. and 10s. are printed on coloured papers. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single. Perf. 14.

*King's Heads.*

*Wmk. Crown C.A. Single. Perf. 14.*  
"Postage Revenue."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. bluish green, centre black	0 2	0 1
1d. scarlet	0 3	0 1
2d. purple	0 5	0 4
2½d. ultramarine	1 0	0 8
3d. sage green	1 0	0 4
4d. chocolate	1 6	0 4
6d. orange	1 0	0 4
1s. olive green	3 6	2 6
2s. brown	7 6	7 6

"Postage—Postage."

2s. 6d. black, centre black	3 3	3 3
5s. mauve on yellow	6 6	5 0
10s. purple on red	12 6	10 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

It will be noted that whilst the prices of all values are steadily rising, there is no sensational jump as in the case of other colonial single watermarks, the reason being that the single watermarks had a long run in the case of the Transvaal and are therefore not likely to run into great rarity as some values in other Colonies have done.

	1903	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. black and green	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 2	0 2
1d. black and scarlet	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3
2d. black and purple	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 5	0 5
2½d. black and ultramarine	0 4	0 4	0 4	1 0	1 0
3d. black and sage green	0 8	0 5	0 5	1 0	1 0
4d. black and chocolate	—	0 6	0 6	0 8	1 6
6d. black and orange	0 8	0 8	0 8	1 0	1 0
1s. black and olive green	1 9	2 6	2 6	3 6	3 6
2s. black and brown	3 0	4 0	5 0	7 6	7 6
2s. 6d. mauve and black	3 3	3 3	3 3	3 3	3 3
5s. black and mauve on yellow	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6
10s. black and purple on red	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6

**1903.** Four values. Design as in last issue with "Postage" on both sides. The 1s. and 2s. values are changed in colour, the 1s. from olive green and black centre, to red-brown and black centre, and the 2s. from brown and black to yellow and black. These changes

were occasioned by the introduction of 3d. and 4d. values in the first series of King's Heads, necessitating a rearrangement of some of the colours. The £1 and £5 are new values in King's Heads. Wmk. Crown C.A. Single and Perf. 14.

*Inscribed "Postage—Postage."*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1s. red-brown, centre black	3 0	0 9
2s. yellow, " "	15 0	12 0
£1 violet, centre green " "	24 0	—
£5 violet, centre orange-brown	£6	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The 1s. and 2s. of this series are it will be seen getting scarce and running into high prices. This is accounted for by the comparatively short life these values had on Crown CA single watermarked paper, and presumably in the case of the 2s., which has run up to 15s., to a small printing.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1s.	1 4	1 4	3 0	3 0
2s.	2 8	2 8	—	15 0
£1	24 0	24 0	24 0	24 0
£5	—	£6	£6	£6

**1904-7.** Ten values. Design as before, but printed on paper watermarked Crown CA multiple. As before the stamps are bicoloured, the portrait being in black in all cases and the rest of the design in another colour. Perf. 14.

*Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green, centre black	0 2	0 1
1d. scarlet	0 3	0 1
2d. purple	0 3	0 2
2½d. ultramarine	0 4	0 2
3d. sage green	0 5	0 4
4d. chocolate	0 6	0 4
6d. orange	0 8	0 4
1s. red-brown	1 4	0 6
2s. yellow	2 8	—
10s. purple on red	12 6	—

**1907.** One value. Design as before, but printed, presumably in error, on paper watermarked cabled anchor as used for the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.

*Error.*

*Wmk. Cabled Anchor. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. scarlet, centre black	—	—

**1907.** Two values. Design as before, but printed in one colour instead of two.

*Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green	0 1	0 1
1d. scarlet	0 2	0 1

## U.S.A. New Issue

**A** FRESH departure is being also made in the new issue of United States postage stamps. The present Postmaster-General, Mr. Meyer, considers that the national or patriotic idea as expressed in stamps does not need the multiplicity of heads now appearing in the various issues. In the process of simplification it has been decided to limit the designs to two, the portraits of Washington and Franklin. Washington, typifying the national idea, and regarded as "pater patriæ," will appear on all denominations, with one exception, the one cent stamp. For this Franklin is to be retained, the favour being shown to him alone by reason of the peculiar and unique place which he holds in the memory and affection of the American people.

The only decoration is a few laurel leaves with "U.S. Postage" at the top and the value at the bottom. The portraits will appear in direct profile, though hitherto the faces of both Washington and Franklin have appeared in a three-quarter aspect. This change is made partly for economy's sake, effecting a saving of £4,000 a year, as the steel plates from which the stamps are printed will not need to be replaced so often. The fine lines of the three-quarter face soon became indistinct. The United States is thus following the custom of other nations in using the same head of the ruler through all the denominations, and is giving up the variety which has almost run riot in special issues.

There is a strong sentiment against any innovation which would put the portrait of the actual President upon the national postage stamp as in the case of a

monarch, and apparently the plan of issuing those of past Presidents in regular sequence has been abandoned. For the new stamps it has been possible to obtain the most authentic likenesses of both Washington and Franklin by copying the original busts made by Houdon. When Franklin returned from abroad he brought with him the famous French sculptor, who made a cast in plaster of the head of the living Washington, and followed this up with a companion bust of the printer-philosopher.

The original Houdon bust of Washington is in the possession of the Bureau of Engraving at Washington, and the other is the most valued memorial in the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia. If a life mask is more satisfactory for such purposes than a death mask, it is worth remembering that the National Museum at Washington preserves one of Abraham Lincoln.

—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 27.11.08.

### To be Withdrawn.

After being in use for a few days only we understand that the new stamps are to be withdrawn because they do not conform to the regulation of the Universal Postal Union which provides that all values shall be expressed in Arabic numerals. The stamps will be withdrawn and destroyed unless the department decides that this ruling of the Berne conference is suggestive and not obligatory. In any event it will be well for collectors to obtain some of the stamps at once, as no doubt there will be a chance at an early date.

—*Daily Philatelic World* (U.S.), 24.11.08.

## Philatelic Musings

BY CYRIL SPLASHER

**B** EING of a naturally happy disposition I am always more inclined to look at the bright, rather than the dark side of things, and I have, therefore, a perfect horror of the collector who is for ever grumbling at the trend of things philatelic. When I think of the many philatelic blessings that we enjoy in the shape of unearned increment of all sorts, of the unexpected discoveries and delightful finds that fall to the lot of the deserving in stamp collecting, I marvel that we are not more contented as a body.

The pessimist should never collect stamps. Nothing ever comes his way in stamps, or anything else, and he is a wet blanket of the most undesirable sort to have in the ranks. He is always being done by some rascally dealer, or some fellow-collector of the amateur-dealer persuasion. If there are any forgeries about he is sure to be landed with a full supply. The stamps he has ordered, and is compelled to pay for, are, like himself, always off centre. If he is a dealer, his advertisements never pay, he never expected they would, but it is the fashion to throw good money after bad. Trade is always bad with him, and if anybody says it is otherwise, he knows all about that sort of bounce, and its truth. His saturnine face is a reflection of the misery that has taken permanent possession of his very soul.

But the optimist, the sanguine, the hopeful, the cheery collector, finds stamp collecting a pleasant hobby, full of pleasant surprises, crowded with the work that pays,

limitless in its scope for diverting study, and always at hand for dull moments and rainy days.

And when you take stock of the past year, what a record it yields the steady and consistent collector. His album pages are an illustrated history of the world's progress from year to year in the arts of peace, and sometimes, alas, also in the art of war. Take the years of this century alone, considerably short of a decade as they are, and note the story they tell. All along the line of British colonies there has been the change from the late Queen's head to that of King Edward VII. with all their developments, and common stamps of the day have already passed into the list of rarities. The consistent collector can show series after series then completed, but now most difficult to get. Then there are re-arrangements of colonial administration, as in Papua and Labuan, the addition of new issuing colonies, as in the case of Cayman Islands, British Solomon Islands, &c., in some cases reminding us of British Possessions of which we had hitherto heard or known little. There have also been continual reminders of the extent and importance of the colonies of other powers, and of the uprising of new States and Republics, as in the case of the Republic of Panama.

Much of the current rubbish is worthless, says the pessimist. That may be, but the cost of the rubbish is a mere song, and may be avoided. The net balance of genuine issues is all to the good and full of interest.

Again, knowledge tells, the knowledge that comes of a

wise study of the stamps collected by the watchful collector. No interesting variety escapes his attention.

The dull monotony of other lines of collecting has no place in stamps. We never know, from day to day, what pleasant surprise may be in store for us. Some change in postal rates, some development in the processes of manufacture, some necessity for a new design, brings us a new series, and retires the old to ripen into rarity.

We are everlastingly adding to our stock of knowledge of the old issues, the classic old issues of the crude beginnings of the postal system, and of philately.

We march with the spirit of a progressive age in the improvement of our methods of housing, mounting, arranging and exhibiting our treasures. We apply to our examination of our stamps the accumulation of knowledge concerning the development of the arts of engraving and printing and paper making.

Hence the life of an active collector is a busy life, as busy in fact as he cares to make it. Genuine stamp collecting leaves no room for growling and grumbling. There is far too much to do, too much to think of, to

plan, to accomplish. Any failure to get this or that desirable addition to one's collection is only an incitement to additional vigilance.

To be a successful stamp collector one must be cheerful and sanguine. Hence it comes that the man who is successful in business is successful as a stamp collector. It is a notable fact that the busiest men in the busiest lines of human activity are invariably the most successful stamp collectors. Has anyone ever heard of a lazy successful stamp collector? The terms are absolutely incongruous. The great stamp collections of the world have been made and are still being made by the busiest men of the day.

And so it is, the pleasure, the blessing, of stamp collecting is largely the result of the scope and the encouragement it affords for a life of abounding activity. We stamp collectors are pitted one against the other in good tempered, friendly, and continuous rivalry, and we are ever helping a lame dog over a stile, and converting the drones into busy bees.

## U.S.A. Postal Service

*From The Times New York Correspondent*

**W**HATEVER the Postmaster-General may do, there can be no mutually successful parcel post between America and Great Britain until some decent working arrangement has been made with the United States Customs authorities. Americans abroad or English people desiring to send their friends small Christmas presents would hesitate to do this if they only knew the annoyance to which they subject their friends here. It is no exaggeration to say that the pleasure of receiving such presents is more than overcome by the trouble, humiliation, and inconvenience which the recipient undergoes here. I have lived in Russia, Germany, Japan, and Italy, and have never been subjected to annoyance comparable with that which has become of daily occurrence here because of the receipt, in the ordinary course of business, of small packages and rather bulky letters.

Let me mention three cases within a week. First you sent me *The Times* telegraphic code book, value about 4s. This was detained, the mail was handed to the Customs collector, and I was written to and compelled to take a six-mile journey to that functionary to open a sealed letter containing the code book in the presence of the Deputy Collector, and after half an hour's further delay caused by placing a valuation on the book, I was charged one shilling and allowed to depart. I had the same experience a few days ago on receipt of a copy of "Queen Victoria's Letters," but the duty in this case was two shillings, which, as the book is published at six shillings, seems too high.

Worst and most petty of all, however, is the stoppage of letters from your office containing cuttings from British newspapers which you send me twice a week. These are enclosed in an ordinary Manila envelope and weigh less than two ounces. The detention of these letters by the Post Office and Custom-house authorities is intolerable. Yesterday I was compelled again to journey to the Custom-house, and had to open the letter in the presence of the American Custom-house authorities, and when the harmless cuttings—clippings they are called here—came out, even the officers smiled. If travellers were thus humiliated in Russia or Italy there would be a strong protest in *The Times*; but the enlightened American

people seem to stand it meekly. The time lost by this process was two hours, besides the delay caused by the detention of the letter, as one rescued from the Custom-house yesterday, dated London, November 8, was notified on November 30, and I obtained possession of it on December 2.

The above record is hard to beat; but I am told that it happens daily. I ask Mr. Meyer in all seriousness how the working of a parcel post is possible between the United States and Great Britain under such conditions?

### INTERNATIONAL POSTAL CONVENTIONS.

My Washington correspondent telegraphs:—

"The penny postage agreements of last summer with Great Britain, and of yesterday with Germany, are not the only successes which the American Postmaster-General has had in facilitating international intercourse. Parcel post conventions have been concluded during the last few months with Great Britain, Italy, Austria and Germany. They raise the parcel post limit to the 11lb. rate already in force with the West Indies and South America.

"The reason for restricting the new penny postage rate to Germany to letters carried direct by German mail lines is that additional expense, which would make a penny rate impracticable, is involved were the mail between the two countries carried over the territory of a third. When the British agreement was concluded, Mr. Meyer told me that he was willing to make a similar one with any country in direct communication with the United States. Germany, however, so far, has been the only country to take up the matter. Italy and France, both with direct steamship lines of their own, and other countries are apparently hanging back. Nor has Japan made any move, while the announcement published in *The Times* of October 26th, to the effect that penny postage might soon be established with New Zealand was at least premature. I am officially informed that no such arrangement is at present contemplated. Perhaps, however, it is as well for the United States, from the financial point of view, that the establishment of international penny postage should proceed gradually, as each change means a temporary loss of revenue."

*The Times, 4.12.08*

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 128).

**Indore.**—The correct name for the Indian Native State of Holkar as shown upon most of the current stamps—(See "HOLKAR.")

**Indus uterque serviet uni.**—The motto shown on all the Jamaica stamps of the "Arms" type issued since 1903. This is Latin for "Let each Indian be of service to one," and it apparently relates to the original inhabitants of the island who were peaceable Indians.

**Inhambane.**—A district of Portuguese East Africa having a population of about 300,000, the majority of whom are natives. Special stamps for the use of this district were first issued in 1895.

**Initials.**—Initials in manuscript often play an important part in the legitimatising of various provisionals. For instance, the handstamped and manuscript surcharges applied to certain stamps of British East Africa in 1891 were rendered official by the additions of the initials of the postal employees entrusted with their manufacture. Again, the roughly produced type-set stamps of British Guiana (1850, 1856 and 1862) were initialled before use as a precaution against forgery.

**Inland.**—The only inscription shown upon the 3c. stamp issued in Liberia in 1881.

**Inland Revenue.**—I.—An inscription or surcharge shown upon certain British fiscal stamps which were allowed to be used for the defrayment of postage in 1881 and 1882.

II.—The Government Department charged with the duty of collecting most of the revenue derived from excise, death duties, stamps, and taxes. All British postal and revenue stamps are issued by the authority of this department, and in one case—the embossed 6d., 10d., and 1s. stamps of 1847-54—the stamps were actually manufactured at the headquarters of this department.

**Inscriptions, Marginal.**—(See "MARGINAL INSCRIPTIONS").

**Instruccion.**—An inscription shown on some of the stamps of Venezuela intended for inland postage. Literally the word means "instruction," and it is here used in the sense of "learning" or "scholastic instruction." These stamps were intended for both postal and fiscal use, and the revenue derived from the labels used for fiscal purposes was supposed to be applied for the direct benefit of the National Schools. (See also "ESCUELAS").

**Intaglio.**—A term used in line engraving. The lines of the design are said to be cut into the plate in *intaglio*, or to appear on the sheet *en creux*.

**Interinsular Postage.**—The inscription shown upon the first 1d. stamp of Bahamas. One penny represented the postal rate on letters posted and delivered in any of the islands comprised in this group.

**Interior.**—The inscription shown upon various United States stamps used on the official correspondence of the Department of the Interior prior to the introduction of the so-called "penalty envelopes."

**Interisland.**—This inscription was shown upon most of the 1c., 2c. and 5c. type-set stamps used for internal postage in the Hawaiian Islands from 1859 to 1866.

**Intermediate Impression.**—A philatelic expression used to express the "state of the plate" in referring to impressions of such stamps as the early Mauritius, which vary to a considerable degree according to the manner in which the plate was worn.

**Interverted.**—A term coined by an ingenious American collector to describe certain vagaries of surcharge and watermark. Thus a stamp normally surcharged "V.R.I.—1d." in two lines which has the overprint so misplaced as to read "1d.—V.R.I" is said to have an interverted surcharge. Similarly a stamp watermark Crown CA., but having the letters "CA." over the crown has an interverted watermark.

**Inverted Centre.**—A stamp that has its central portion printed the wrong way up in relation to the surrounding frame.

**Inverted Surcharge.**—An overprint applied so that in looking at the stamp in a normal manner the overprint is upside down.

**Inverted Swan.**—The rarest and most famous of the world's postage stamps with the central portion inverted is the first 4d. stamp of Western Australia. Nowadays this error is often referred to as the 4d. with "inverted swan."

**Inverted Watermark.**—A watermark that appears wrong way up in relation to the stamp.

**Ionian Islands.**—An irregular chain of islands extending along the western coast of Turkey and Greece, having an area of 1,100 square miles, and a population of over 260,000. The islands include Cerigo, Corcyra or Corfu (the most important), Paxo, Santa Maura or Leukos, Cephalonia (the largest), Ithaca, and Zante. They have had an exceedingly chequered career, being under Hellenic, Byzantine (till 1081), Venetian (1386-1797), French and Russian rule successively until, in 1809-15, the islands came under British protection. They were ceded to Greece in 1864. Postage stamps were issued on May 1st, 1859, but these became obsolete on the cession of the islands to Greece.

**Ionikon Kpatoc.**—The only inscription shown upon the three stamps of the Ionian Islands. It means "Ionian Government."

**I.P.N.**—A surcharge found upon many Indian stamps but one which has no postal significance whatever. The letters signify "Indian Postal Note," and the stamps upon which they were overprinted were used to represent the "poundage" payable on these notes. Their use was thus purely fiscal.

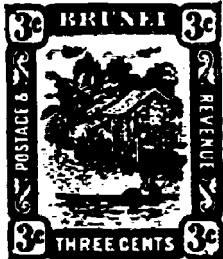
**I.R. Official.**—A surcharge found upon many British stamps which were used on the official correspondence of the Board of Inland Revenue. They were first issued in 1882 and were finally withdrawn on May 12th, 1904, together with all other British departmental issues.

To be continued.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Brunel.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. send us the 8c. printed in blue to which we referred on page 33. The stamp is on the same "multiple Cr. CA." paper as its predecessor and the complete list of varieties of this type is now as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1c. green and black ...	...	0 1
1c. green ...	...	0 1
2c. vermilion and black ...	...	0 1
3c. chocolate " " ...	...	0 3
3c. carmine ...	...	0 2
4c. mauve and black ...	...	0 2
5c. blue " " ...	...	2 6
5c. orange " " ...	...	0 3
8c. " " " ...	...	0 5
8c. blue ...	...	0 4
10c. deep green and black ...	...	0 5
25c. ochre-brown and pale blue ...	...	0 10
30c. black and violet ...	...	1 0
50c. deep brown and green ...	...	1 8
\$1 grey and red ...	...	3 3

**Cape of Good Hope.**—(Vol. II. p. 225).—A correspondent points out that current supplies of the 1d. stamp are printed in a much deeper shade than previously. Indeed, it is now more carmine than rose.

**Chili.**—(Vol. II. p. 201).—The 30c. blue-green and black of the current set has at last been issued for *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* has been shown a used copy. We believe the 12c. and 1 peso, although catalogued for some time, have not yet been placed on sale.

**China.**—(Vol. II. p. 140).—The new stamps with values in *candarin* which were rumoured as being in preparation some twelve months ago show no signs of materialising. The only new stamp that has actually appeared is



the 2c. of the current type but printed in green instead of crimson. This is evidently to conform to Postal Union regulations for, we understand, China is shortly to become a member of the U.P.U. The 4c. in carmine and the 10c. in blue will doubtless be issued before long and probably new colours will also be allotted to other values to prevent confusion.

New Colour. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.  
2c. green.

**China (Belgian).**—(Vol. II. p. 114).—Early in the year we chronicled four stamps which were reported to have been issued for use in the Belgian Consular Offices in China, then it was stated no such stamps had been printed, a little later it was "authoritatively" stated the labels had appeared, only to be again contradicted. It seems that a supply of Belgian stamps really were overprinted and actually dispatched to China, but, before any were used, the Chinese objected so strongly to this increased competition with the Imperial Chinese Post that telegraphic orders were sent to the Belgian Consul to return the stamps to Brussels. They were thus returned to the authorities within a few days of their arrival in China.

**Dutch Indies.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—The *Philatelic Adviser* states:—"We notice that our correspondence from the Dutch West (*sic*) Indies is franked with stamps overprinted with 'JAVA,' or with 'HUITEN BEZIT,' or without either overprint. As all three varieties come on the same envelope the reason given for the overprinting seems to be but an excuse for providing more stamps for collectors." As we explained on page 9 of the present volume these surcharged stamps were only issued with the object of ascertaining the relative totals used in the various islands comprised in the Dutch East Indies, and they were only to be on sale for a certain time. But so far as we can find out there was nothing to prevent anyone using say a Buiten-bezit stamp in Java if he wished to do so. The overprint did not limit their postal value only to a certain prescribed district. For all practical purposes we have no doubt that these surcharges helped the authorities to arrive at the facts desired, and a few stamps used in a freakish manner by stamp collectors would hardly affect the statistics one way or another.

**Greenland.**—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of a Continental journal, chronicles three stamps which the Danish postal authorities are said to have issued for use here. The design is said to consist of a bear in the centre, with the value in *öre* at foot, and "PÅRKE-PORTO" and crown at top. We await further information before including this set in our formal chronicle.

**Jaipur.**—(Vol. II. p. 33).—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that at the end of the present year this Indian State will cease to issue stamps of its own.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 117).—We learn from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that the 5c. on 2c. carmine recorded on page 117 may be found with inverted surcharge.

**Siam.**—(Vol. III. p. 105).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us another provisional—the 10 atts of 1900 reduced in value to 9 atts. The Siamese characters are at the top of the stamp and the English portion is similar to the 10 atts on 24 atts of 1895-98. Our Ipswich friends send us an entire sheet for inspection, but we can find no minor varieties worthy of note. Messrs. King & Co. also send us a sheet of the new 2 atts on 24 atts mentioned on page 105. We find the surcharge is very similar to the 2 atts on 64 atts of 1899 and not like the 2 atts on 28 atts of 1905 as previously stated. The complete list of new surcharges issued this year is as follows.

*Various Types, Surcharged.*

	s.	d.
1a. on 24a. purple and blue of 1887	...	0 1
2a. " 24a. " " "	...	0 2
4a. " 5a. rose and carmine of 1906	...	0 3
9a. " 10a. ultramarine of 1900	...	0 5

**Turkey.**—(Vol. III. p. 70).—From *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* we learn that a copy of the 20 paras, green of 1874-75 has been found with the overprint inverted.

**United States**—(Vol. III. p. 150).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the new 2c., the first of the set to appear. As will be seen from our illustration the design is neat and effective and a vast improvement on the 2c. it has displaced.



*New Series. Perf. 12.*

	s.	d.
2c. carmine	...	0 2

**NOTE.**

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

## From other Magazines

### **Cayman Islands, Queen's Heads.**

In W. Ward's interesting article "Philatelic Peculiarities" (14.11.08), attention is drawn to the fact that when Cayman Islands "Queen's Head stamps first came out, packets of them, unused, were mailed from Georgetown with a 3d. Jamaica to defray postage and registration," etc. As these stamps first appeared in 1900, and Cayman Islands were not admitted into the Universal Postage Union until 1901, Jamaican stamps had to be used, as this group was under the postal administration of Jamaica. For the first few months these "Queen's Heads" were only available for postal purposes between Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac, and were, for the time being, local stamps.

—*T. S. Fraser in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 12.12.08.*

### **Belgians overprinted for China.**

In May and June we made reference to proposed stamps overprinted for use in China. We reprint the following interesting letter on this subject from a Singapore journal:—

"Tientsin, N. China, *Sept 17th, 1908.*

"Messrs. Koh & Co., Singapore.

"GENTLEMEN,

"Just a valuable item of stamp news for your excellent little periodical.

"Some time ago it was decided by the Belgian Government to start Belgian branch post offices in the various treaty ports of China, as is done at present by the British, French, German, American and Japanese; and a lot of the present Belgian issue stamps were surcharged with 'China' and sent out for use; but meanwhile the Wai-wupu protested against this increased competition with the Imperial Chinese post office, and telegraphic orders were then dispatched to the Belgian Consul out here not

to issue the stamps but return them to Brussels. They arrived here about the middle of August, and next day one Belgian gentleman only purchased a couple of sets, being a friend of the Consul, and learning they had just arrived. Next day came the order of recall and the Consul tried—but in vain—to get the two sets back which he had in good faith, sold, as my friend had already dispatched them on letters to Belgium. So far as I know, therefore, he is the only possessor of such stamps; which of course, although printed for use, have never been authorised for or put in circulation, so the stamps must be regarded only as philatelic curiosities. But still I wish I had obtained a set myself.

"Yours faithfully,

"LT.-COLONEL NEWMAN,

"Editor *China Critic*, Tientsin."

### **Afghanistan: Inscriptions.**

It may interest your readers to know the history of the inscription used on the 1295 issue. The correct reading of the latter portion much puzzled Sir David Masson and me, as the only sound we could evolve from the last stroke was R S L (something like *parcel*, but with the first consonant omitted), and the preceding sound was either a B, an F, or a P. Anyway, we could not get any further, as the caligraphy was so wretched. Ultimately, I got a correct statement from His Majesty the Amir himself, who was then in Calcutta. The character was *Barsal*, but it was shortened from *Baras* (year or era) *Seedl* (leopard). I can assure you that puzzling out sense from illiterate, smudged Arabic inscriptions is more difficult than missing-word Limerick competitions. *Seedl*, again, like *sher*, is a generic term, and may mean either a leopard, a panther, or a jackal.—*B. Gordon Jones, in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 12.12.08.*



**British Stamps used abroad.**

Of all those questions two which there are two (or more) sides, perhaps there are none in which "right" is on both sides to a greater degree than that of the status of British stamps used abroad. On the one hand we have the great philatelist Major Evans and his followers, who argue with all logic that if British stamps are employed the office is a British office and the revenue goes to Great Britain, and therefore the postmark "Gibraltar," "Malta," etc., can no more alter the status of the stamp than "Glasgow" or "Wolverhampton." On the other hand, if we are specializing the issues of Malta for instance we should so arrange the collection as to show the history of the postal arrangements and issues of that island, and it would be necessary to show a representative series of British Stamps with the Malta obliterations to show that at one period of its history the stamps of the mother country were employed alone, and that the post office was British and not Maltese; for another period we should show that although Malta had its own ½d. stamp for internal postage, all the other stamps were British, and that as far as external use was concerned the stamps were those of Great Britain. Without such arrangement the collection would be incomplete "philatelically," however complete it might be from the mere "stamp collector's" point of view.

Now it seems to me that in view of so much difference of opinion on this subject—opinions which are diametrically opposed to one another—it should be possible to effect a compromise satisfactory to all; but such a compromise can be arrived at only by approaching the subject with an unbiassed mind, devoid of all personal ideas thereon.

Having thought out and studied the position with some care the following conclusions may be arrived at:—

1. The stamps of Great Britain used abroad have no status as varieties of British stamps, and are only of interest in a collection of British stamps to show the extent of the work of the British post offices in other parts of the world at different times.

2. But as representing a period in the history of the postal arrangements of another land, they have a philatelic status under that particular country, and should therefore be collected as specimens of that country.

3. One stamp (the 2½d. for choice) should be shown with the postmark of every different foreign post office, and mounted with the British collection to show the extent of the system, and all the rest should be mounted as the first issue from the post office in that particular country.

To illustrate my meaning—the opponents of the stamps as separate varieties claim that the stamps of Malta (for instance) commence with the Maltese ½d., they do not recognise the stamps sold in Malta prior to that issue, i.e., they do not consider that the change of post office government is of importance, yet they will collect Chilean stamps used in Peru, and pay fancy prices for Iquique post-marks. This does not seem logical, but I think the whole difficulty can be overcome by the three items mentioned above.

Of course, for cataloguing purposes it is simpler to arrange all the stamps with these foreign obliterations together under Great Britain, as is done in our publishers' A.B.C. catalogue; but in arranging a collection they should be arranged under their respective countries.

—E. W. W. in the *Philatelic Adviser*, Nov. '08.

against theft in the same manner that many firms in this country have all stamps used by them perforated with their initials. This "surcharge" has, therefore, not the slightest philatelic interest.

**The 1896 Provisional Stamps of Seychelles.**

It does not seem to be generally known that there are three interesting minor varieties in the 18c. and 36c provisional stamps issued in the Seychelles in 1896. These two values were surcharged upon the 45c. of the 1893 issue, pending the arrival of a supply of the regular stamps of these values. They were placed on sale on August 1, 1896, when revised rates of postage from the Seychelles to other countries in the Postal Union came into force.

The surcharges were applied to blocks of 30 stamps at a time (5 horizontal rows of 6), so that each pane of 60 stamps had to be placed in the printing press twice before all were overprinted. The same type was employed for both values, with, of course, the figures altered from "18" to "36," or *vice versa*. On the third stamp in the top row of each block of the 30 the "r" is much shorter than on the other stamps, owing to the lower part being cut away, and on the fifth stamp in the same row the first upright stroke of the "n" is short. These varieties are just as interesting and important as the similar ones in the 1889 surcharged issue of Gibraltar, which are catalogued in Gibbons at many times the price of the normal varieties. The other variety occurs on the third stamp in the bottom row of each block of 30. In this the limbs of the "x" are all too short, making the letter look much smaller than the others.

—B. W. H. Poole in the *West End Philatelist*, Nov., '08.

**Danish Postmarks.**

Denmark possesses various kinds of postmarks. Some are as heavy as any British obliteration—I am thinking at the moment of a Glasgow postmark I once saw on a British Official stamp, a cancellation that had dyed the whole stamp black in a twinkling. (My sister remarked at the time that Scotland was the place where she sent most of her things to be dyed.) When such a stroke descends on a 3 öre, Denmark, it simply shrivels it up. But there is a town somewhere in Denmark which has adopted the thin-line cancellation such as some London letters bear, or such as they have over in Chicago or Toronto—three or four parallel bars as thin as a light penmark. Almost the whole of my clean copies I found all in a heap; evidently they had all emanated from the same Danish town, and they all bore the thin-line mark. (May heaven prosper that town and may its example in postmarkmanship be universally followed!) This thin-bar cancellation is merciful to the stamp, and kind to a man who has to buy a hundred copies of it. Yet this stamp is only catalogued 1d., and again the reflection strikes one that it is really cheap.—"An Amateur Dealer" in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 21.11.08.

**Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."**

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

**Hong Kong overprinted "D.P."**

I have been frequently shown these as being rare "official" varieties, but as a matter of fact these letters stand for "Daily Press"—the leading Hong Kong newspaper—and the stamps are so marked as a preventive

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Auction Prices in Paris.

However prices may be in our English auctions they are certainly booming in Paris, so much so that Mr. C. J. Phillips, after compiling a list of the best prices of the first portion of the sale of the Koch collection, which list we have taken the liberty of reprinting in our auction summary, says that in many cases the French collectors seem to have lost their heads, indeed he finds that in large number of cases his firm could have supplied equally fine copies from their stock at from 20 to 30 per cent. less than the price paid at this auction.

What a time we should have if the same could be said of our own auctions.

## Cayman Islands Farthing.

At last the farthing stamps are coming over in sufficient numbers to drop the price from 3d. to 1d.

Those who rushed in to buy at 6d. and higher, will now be regretting their haste.

But it is easy enough to be wise after the event, and it is just possible that waiting for lower prices might have resulted in disappointment. One never knows in these matters what is best to do.

As a rule the prices of the moment are more often than not the safest, unless there is good ground for believing that the supply will continue.

Why collectors should have thought this farthing would be scarce it is hard to understand.

## Paraguay Provisionals.

According to a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, some of the provisionals of Paraguay will be scarce.

We are told that there are many varieties of the surcharge, such as inverteds, doubles, and missing letters and figures of value, &c. Of some it is said that very small numbers were printed, and some are already being sold locally by dealers on the spot at high prices.

The varieties, however, seem to be mostly in the Postage Due series. The only value in the ordinary postage stamps that is listed as scarce is the 5c. on 28c.

As Paraguay is not a popular selling country fancy prices are not likely to run high.

## Cretan Stamps Overprinted "Hellas."

Collectors will judge for themselves what are likely to be scarce of the Cretan stamps overprinted "Hellas." Here are the numbers printed:—

1 lepton	-	-	150,000
2 lepta	-	-	100,000
5 "	-	-	150,000
10 "	Prince George	-	50,000
10 "	Hermes	-	100,000
20 "	-	-	50,000
25 "	-	-	100,000
50 "	-	-	50,000
1 drachme	-	-	10,000
2 drachmai	-	-	10,000
3 "	-	-	10,000
5 "	-	-	5,000

It must not be forgotten that there may, and probably will be, further overprintings.

## Papuans. Latest Market Prices.

Papuans are still popular and in much demand. Prices, however, seem to be easing off a little.

The set of the large overprint, omitting the 2s. 6d. value, is now 22s. 6d. instead of 28s. 1d.; small overprint, wide rosettes, 2½d. (both shades), 1s. and 2s. 6d., is quoted at 9s. 6d. instead of 11s. 6d.; and the small overprint, narrow rosettes, on thick and thin papers, a mint set of 9 is offered at 10s. 6d. instead of 19s. 8d.

These are Ewen's latest quotations.

## British New Guinea 2s. 6d. unsurcharged.

One dealer is offering 40s each for unused copies of the 2s. 6d. without overprint, and there seems every prospect of this stamp going high.

Messrs Whitfield King & Co. in September last priced used copies at 75s., but in their recently issued catalogue they put the price at 20s. for both unused and used. Is this a mistake, I wonder, or have they happened on a "find?"

## Forthcoming Auctions.

Messrs. Glendinning & Co. are selling an exceptionally fine collection of Colonials in superb condition, formed by a well-known German collector. Their sale of the 12th and 13th of January, 1909, will include a portion of this collection.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's sale of the 5th and 6th of January, 1909, will be made up of a fine general selection of all countries.

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s sale of the 14th and 15th of January, 1909, will include a very fine collection of Colonials.

## Portuguese Nyassas Inverted.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., now price the inverted varieties of the 1901 issue as follows:—

		s.	d.
2½r.	black and chocolate	-	30 0
10r.	.. green	-	30 0
150r.	.. orange-brown	-	30 0
300r.	.. green	-	30 0

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. advertise particulars of their new Sectional Imperial Album with list of Sections now ready, and of the latest Sections published. Their advertisement also includes the Fiji Islands monograph by Mr. C. J. Phillips, which was reviewed in *The Postage Stamp* on page 30 of the current vol., and the announcement of a new and considerably revised Colour Dictionary by Mr. Warhurst.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay make a special offer of a mint set of British South Africa, 1896 on Cape, for considerably less than catalogue, a bargain which should be well worth snapping up.

Messrs. Griebert & Co. have a grand list of unused rare stamps at tempting prices including some of the best known rarities of several countries.

## The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.



# Auction Summary

(Continued from page 133).

\* signifies unused.

## Gilbert & Kohler, Paris.

Sale of the Koch Collection.		£	s.	d.
Philippine Isles, 1854, 1 rl. blue, "CORROS," torn	10	15	0	
Philippine Isles, 1863, 1 rl., violet*	4	16	0	
U.S., Providence, entire sheet (eleven of 5c., one of 10c.)	9	15	0	
U.S., St. Louis, 10c.	20	6	0	
U.S., Baltimore, 5c black on blue	33	8	0	
U.S., State, \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$20, unused, but \$5 slightly damaged	31	5	0	
Spain, 1851, 2 rl.	21	4	0	
Ceylon, 1857, 4d. and 5d. used together	15	0	0	
India, 1854, ½a., red*	8	12	0	
India, 1854, 4a., blue and red, with lines all round	4	16	0	
India, Service, long, 4a.*	6	8	0	
India, Service, long, 8a.*	11	9	0	
Patiala, 2, 3, and 5 rupees	11	11	0	
British Central Africa, no wmk., £10, used	6	3	0	
British Central Africa, no wmk., £25, used	18	1	0	
Bechuanaland, 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.*	23	15	0	
Cape, woodblock, 1d., scarlet, used	8	2	0	
Cape, woodblock, 4d., blue, used...	5	15	0	
Niger Coast, 5s. on 2d.*	13	8	0	
Niger Coast, 10s. on 5d.*	13	6	0	
Gold Coast, 20s., green and carmine*	13	10	0	
Mauritius, 1d., on blue, early print, used	24	5	0	
Mauritius, 2d., on blue, early print, used	33	0	0	
Mauritius, 2d., large fillet, used	30	16	0	
Swaziland, 10s. brown*	8	5	0	
Barbados, pair, 1d. on 5a., used	17	0	0	
Canada, 6d., perf., used on letter	7	2	6	
British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue	24	4	0	
British Guiana, 1851, 4c., blue	10	12	0	
British Guiana, 1856, 4c., crimson	28	0	0	
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	12	11	0	
St. Vincent, 5s., carmine	10	12	0	
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s.	11	2	0	
Newfoundland, 6d., vermilion, used	9	18	0	
Newfoundland, 6½d., vermilion*	13	4	0	
Newfoundland, 1s., vermilion, used	16	12	0	
New South Wales, Sydneys, Plate II, laid, pair with and without clouds	10	2	0	
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d., green on yellowish, used	10	16	0	
Queensland, 6d., imperf.	5	2	0	

## Puttick & Simpson.

27 and 28 October, 1908.

Gibraltar, 1889, 10c., value omitted,* minute crease	15	0	0
Great Britain, 1867, 3d., rose, plate 4, spray of rose, block of 9,* gum a little cracked	10	10	0
Ditto, Levant, 1906, 1 piast. on 2d. English, mint	6	0	0
Labuan, 1879, 12c., carmine	2	15	0
Straits Settlements, 1902, \$100, used	2	10	0
British Somaliland, 1903, 3r., brown and green, overprint inverted*	3	0	0
Southern Nigeria, 1902, £1, single CA.*	2	12	6
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, no margins, and cut into	2	10	0
Cayman Islands, ½d. on 5s., double surcharge*	2	8	0

Ditto, ½d. on 5s., a block of 4, one stamp showing inverted surcharge*	4	2	6
Ditto, 1d. on 5s., a pair, showing apparent double surcharge*	2	0	0
Ditto, 2½d on 4d*	3	0	0
New South Wales, February, 1860, 8d. orange...	4	2	6
Papua on British New Guinea, 1907, 2s. 6d., black and brown, with vertical surcharge*	2	12	0
Ditto, another copy, with two vertical surcharges	3	0	0
Ditto, 1856, pelure, 1d., brown red*	2	2	0
Ditto, 1867, serrated, perf. 19, 2d., yellow-green	2	17	6
Victoria, 1860, 2d., deep blue on laid*	3	10	0

## Plumridge and Co.

15 and 16 October, 1908.

Great Britain, 1d., black, reconstructed plate of 240	4	7	6
Sicily, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 gra., all used	2	15	0
Tuscany, 1853, 9 crazie, lilac-grey	2	2	0
Ceylon, clean-cut perf., 4d., rose	2	2	0
Ditto, 9d., brown, perf. 13, tiny tear...	3	10	0
India, Scinde Dak, ½ a., white (2), ½ a., blue, and ½ a., red	2	12	6
Southern Nigeria, King, single CA, £1*	2	17	6
Zululand, 5s., carmine, on piece	2	2	0
Cayman Isles, 2½d. on 4d., mint.	3	7	6
Trinidad, 1959, pin-perf. 14, 1s., purple-blue	3	0	0
Tasmania, 1855, Star, 4d., blue, block of 6*	2	10	0
Victoria, 1850, rouletted, 3d., blue, pair on entire	2	15	0

29 and 30 October, 1908.

Great Britain, 1847, 6d., mauve*	4	4	0
Ditto, 1867, 2s., brown, ditto	4	4	0
Straits Settlements, CC, perf 12½, 96 c., grey ditto	3	12	6
British Central Africa, 1898, 1d., red and blue, imperf., ditto	2	10	0
British South Africa, One Penny on 3d.*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, on 1s., ditto	2	12	6
Ditto, Three Pence on 5s., ditto	1	14	0
Cape, triangular, 4d., blue, deep blue paper*	3	5	0
Ditto, 6d., slate*	2	2	0
Ditto, 1s., deep green*	2	10	0
Ditto, 1s., yellow-green*	5	0	0
Ditto, woodblocks, 1d., scarlet	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., deep blue. £7 7s., £7 10s. and	8	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue	9	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., pale blue	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, De La Rue, 1s., emerald*	2	10	0
Gold Coast, CA, 1d., blue, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, 2ca., green and red, ditto	7	0	0
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Ditto, 5s., blue, ditto	5	10	0
Ditto, 10s., lilac-brown, ditto	11	5	0
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d., vermilion, on bluish, earliest state	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, medium state	6	10	0
Ditto, December, 1859, 1d., vermilion	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., dull red	3	12	6

## Editor's Letter Box

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**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL,  
Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted,  
will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of The Postage Stamp, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

The Postage Stamp is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William  
Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street,  
Manchester.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP. Shall we send you post free a dozen

or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwin, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 13. Vol. 3.  
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Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

South African Federation.



THE National Convention is said to have agreed upon a scheme for the conversion of British South Africa, not including Rhodesia, into a single State, after the pattern of the Dominion of Canada, but the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange Free River Colony and the Transvaal are to be parcelled out into six equal provinces, each with a single chamber legislature of its own.

It now remains to be seen whether each State will still have its own separate series of postage stamps or one series common to all, as in the Dominion of Canada.

Christmas and New Year's Presents.

I am told that the idea opened out in the Christmas Number of *The Postage Stamp* of educating stamp collectors up to the use of stamps and stamp albums, &c., as Christmas or New Year's presents has taken well, and is likely to sink into the minds and memories of collectors who had not thought of substituting stamps for other articles in this connection.

One correspondent suggests that neat cards might be prepared inscribed "A stamp you need. With the Season's greeting." There might be a neat frame in type in which to mount the stamp, or miniature albums for a series with decorative frames for the stamps.

The Royal Philatelic Society.

As a further contribution to the controversy raised by Mr. Crofton's attack on the Royal Philatelic Society, I should have quoted what the *Philatelic Adviser* has said. As a house organ for Messrs. Bright & Son it speaks from the dealers' point of view. It says:—"The article is, in a sense, unfortunate, as it is of such a nature that it will probably be supposed to be aimed in particular at some person or persons; but we are sure that any such intention was foreign to the writer, and that he merely wished

to discuss the abstract proposition of the desirability of the admission of dealers to the Royal Philatelic Society. This proposition is, as we have already stated, virtually closed, and in an opposite sense to the conclusions of our contemporary, and probably rightly so. The 'idea' that a society of amateurs is in a strong position to take action against dangers which may threaten the pursuit of philately may be 'intangible'; but it is not difficult to imagine circumstances which would create very undesirable relations between dealers and amateurs as members of the same body. The case of Royal Academicians and members of the Royal Geographical Society, does not appear to us to be in the same category and it would be easy to compile a list of learned societies from which persons commercially interested in the pursuit are excluded."

What is a Stamp Dealer?

On the vexed question, what is a Stamp Dealer? our contemporary says:—

"But, after all, the crux of the question is perhaps the answer to the riddle 'What is a Stamp Dealer?' This our author shows to be undefinable in set terms, but for practical purposes it is not perhaps difficult. A collector who sells a few stamps does not thereby become a dealer any more than a man who may sell a rare book or so from his library becomes a bookseller, and the collectors who have never sold a stamp could probably be numbered on the fingers of one hand."

Collectors Who Sell Stamps.

It would be a bad day for stamp dealers if collectors never sold their stamps. Their best supplies would be cut off at their source. In fact, in the dealers' interest probably the most useful collector is he who by correspondence or travel gathers together a fine collection, and having completed it, with all the obtainable rarities, sells it to a dealer on mutual terms, and then starts on another country. He is an active collector of the very best and most profitable kind for the dealer.

And what is wrong in his procedure?

One Form of Collecting.

Many collectors, like the late Mr. Ehrenbach, are what may be termed keen philatelic hunters. They enjoy the excitement of hunting up scarce stamps to the full, but as soon as the hunt is finished their interest evaporates, and they sell out and start another country.

Mr. Ehrenbach once assured me that he felt no interest whatever in keeping a collection after it was finished, and on my suggesting that such rapid collection and sale as he often indulged in was apt to land him in loss, he said he took care to safeguard himself from that by judicious buying, and with his great knowledge he found little difficulty in covering expenses. He told me he did not mind so long as he made a clear five per cent.

That is one form of collecting, and I do not see why a collector who follows his bent in this way should be dubbed a dealer.

#### Money Making Collectors.

Of course, we all understand the drift of the innuendo as to certain collectors being little better than dealers.

There are collectors and collectors, just as there are dealers and dealers. Some collectors have the dealing instinct rather largely developed. They could not, if they would, resist the opportunity of bargain hunting, and when they can do a good deal by selling a collection for four or five times what it cost them, they are supremely happy, and yet who will say they are dealers. They are money-making collectors, it is true, still they are collectors, for all that; poachers perhaps, but not dealers. No man would be recognised professionally as an architect who designed and built his own house, or a dozen houses.

#### Philatelic Poachers.

The collector who takes advantage of his position and knowledge, and who competes with the dealer, and may be described more truly as a dealer than as a collector, is he who persistently makes a practice of buying stamps at auctions and elsewhere mainly for the purposes of sale to fellow collectors.

There are a few of this description in active business, but after all they are not such serious poachers on the dealers' preserves as to be worth much fuss.

And after all is said and done the dealers get more in the end out of the Great Mogul who skates about in their preserves than they lose by his so-called dealing. They would weep tears of original gum if he publicly threw up collecting and dealing altogether.

#### A Journal for Specialists.

Says the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*:—"Considering the very large number of German Colonial stamps, and the many collectors in Germany who make a speciality of this branch, it is hardly surprising that a journal is published for their special benefit. This paper is called the *Illustrierte Zeitschrift für Deutsche Kolonial Märken* and is published in Hanover as an appendix to the *Deutsche Philatelist*. The paper enters very fully into all colonial issues and should be of great value to all collectors taking an interest in this branch. The history of the different issues is well known, and a collection should be both interesting and expensive."

#### Specialists' Journals.

Is it not matter for wonder, that we have not more journals devoted to one or more of the most popular forms of specialism. The only attempts in this direction that I can call to mind are the *English Specialists' Journal*, run by Mr. Ewen, its successor the *British Philatelist* now run by Mr. Nissen, and the *Transvaal Quarterly* run by Mr. Nankivell, which was put into quarantine by the outbreak of the Boer War. I am told that this quarterly is not at all unlikely to reappear in the near future.

#### The Scope for Specialist Journals.

When I think of the mountainous pages that are, from time to time, inflicted on the poor ordinary reader and average collector in the columns of some of our journals, I cannot help suspecting that the said average reader must heartily wish that specialists had a special journal of their own.

And yet that same frantic enumeration of microscopical varieties is provender of the most useful character to the out and out specialist, therefore he should be permitted to enjoy his particular philatelic dish in the judicious seclusion of his own specialist journal.

I commend this suggestion to the firm of Bornefeld, Nissen, Hawkins, Poole, Plain Anchor, N.Z. & Co.

#### Exhibition of Paper Making.

An Exhibition of Paper-making, as applied to the manufacture of postage stamps, will be held by the Junior Philatelic Society in Clifford's Inn Hall, on January 8th and 9th next. The central exhibit will be a paper-making machine at work. Admission will be free. The exhibition will be opened by Major E. B. Evans, R.A., on the 8th of January, at 12.30. Tickets can be obtained from the Hon. Sec. to the Exhibition, A. H. Clark, of 212, Mansion House Chambers, London, E.C.

#### The Proposed Philatelic Club.

As announced, a meeting of representatives of a number of leading Societies and Clubs was held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, December 10th, when there were present, J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), F. Reichenheim, W. Cool, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, T. Widdowson, D. H. Jackson, C. J. Phillips, W. S. King, A. Sellinger, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, P. P. Brown, J. L. Eastwood, A. C. Constantinides and T. H. Hinton.

A brief resumé of the previous meetings having been given, after an animated discussion it was proposed by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Joselin, and carried with two dissentients "That it is desirable to form a Philatelic Club in London under the auspices of existing Societies and Clubs," and the following provisional Committee was appointed to formulate a scheme and report to a future meeting. Messrs. W. Cool (Herts.), D. H. Jackson (City of London), J. E. Joselin (Birmingham), A. B. Kay (Fiscal), P. L. Pemberton (I.P.U.), C. J. Phillips (King Edward VII.), A. Sellinger (Juniors), T. Widdowson (Leicester), and T. H. Hinton, Hon. Sec. This Committee will meet at 68, High Holborn, on Thursday, January 7th, at 6.45 p.m. Meanwhile any suggestions from members of other societies who were invited to the above meeting but were unable to be present, will be laid before the Committee and carefully considered by them if forwarded to the Hon. Sec., T. H. Hinton, 26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

#### The Next Gibbons.

Mr. C. J. Phillips announces that the 1909 edition of the Gibbons Catalogue will be ready early in the new year. Part II., Foreign Countries, will be published first, and that volume he hopes to have ready for sale on the 14th January, 1909, and Part I., Great Britain and Colonies, some time in February, 1909.

Part II. will include about 36 extra pages, a number of alterations in prices, and many improvements designed to render the Catalogue of still greater use to collectors.

#### An Unsullied Editor.

A correspondent writes:—"I am glad the full text of the extraordinary and ill-natured attack on the Royal Philatelic Society has been published in *The Postage Stamp*, for the most interesting and tickling bit of all was omitted from the previous extract. I refer to the following: 'A man who looks back with pride on a fine line of ancestors unsullied by trade is hardly to be found nowadays except among Irish landlords and Anglo-Indian officials'

"As Mr. Crofton regards any attempt to put Major Evans, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Castle, &c., 'on a higher plane than ordinary dealing as supremely ridiculous,' we should be thankful that we have one solitary editor who can look back 'on a long line of ancestors unsullied by trade'—in Mr. Crofton."

# Limited Specialism

BY CHAS. M. C. SYMES

**H**ERE we have before us a question of considerable magnitude and on which no little controversy has settled itself. Some few years ago one or two of our leading collectors preached "Limited Specialism," but their doctrine was not of a very stable character, and, as is usual, the thing dropped out. In order that no misapprehension may occur, it may be as well to define specialism. Specialism denotes a careful, scientific, and systematic study and examination of stamps, and a collection is not complete until such study has been itself completed. There are two kinds of specialism which have to be taken into account:—

1. Unlimited Specialism, which is an absolute complete study in conformity with the above definition;
2. Limited Specialism, which is a collection in which each stamp is different and in which no duplicates are allowed.

On the face of these two kinds of specialism it may seem difficult to differentiate between them, but on close observation one will note that the second is simply a modified form of the first.

In theory, "Limited Specialism" appears to be an ideal form of collecting, and doubtless many are led into misapprehension by its theoretical force. In practice, however, its deficiency becomes apparent, as those who have had experience in "Specialism" will tell.

Now let us see the advantages of adopting this modified form of collecting. We are told that in collections formed in this way there is an absence of page after page of the same stamp, apparently identical, and that this is a highly dangerous method of accumulation, having regard to the fact that when other collectors see it they take fright, and to new collectors it is the basis of severe forms of biliousness. Another advantage is said to be, that it takes up less space, and, on account of it being the cheaper form of collecting, a larger range of countries may be included in one's repertoire.

A further point for the "Limited" is that each specimen being different commands individual attention, and that to them special notice is given.

Having thus stated the advantages as said to be by adherents to this side, I now propose to defend the side for Unlimited Specialism, and at the same time enumerating the advantages accruing from its study.

In the first place, we are told that Unlimited Specialism implies Bloating, and that, directly or indirectly I am not quite sure, it distributes various physical ailments. With regard to the last supposition I cannot offer any advice, nor can I defend it; but if such be the case, every collector who attends Society meetings should provide himself with the necessary remedy as advertised in various Church Chronicles.

In turning our attention to the first part, I say it, and I say it emphatically, that Unlimited Specialism is not a necessary implication of bloating. Many collectors complain of a weariness in looking through a specialist's collection on account of seeing page after page of the same stamp.

But what I want to know is, are all these stamps the same? It can be safely said, without fear of contradiction, that very few collectors have page after page of the same stamp.

In highly specialised collections one may see perhaps 200 or 300 of apparently identical specimens, and to the

casual observer they appear one and all the same, but is this so? This question can be confidently answered in the negative, as a study of the particular stamps will reveal.

As an instance, to prove my statement, I will quote Mr. Oldfield's collection of Bolivia. Mr. Oldfield got together about 400 or 500 copies of the 5c. of the 1867 issue. By close and intimate study he was able to elucidate the fact that there were 72 varieties on the plate, and in addition to this he found that there were five retouches of 72 varieties.

A further illustration may be taken of Chili. Take as the instance the 5c. and 10c stamps of the early issues. In those days watermarks were made by hand, and in the transference from the stone many defects manifested themselves, and in every sheet of 240 stamps there appear 240 more or less varieties of watermark. Thus it will be seen the immensity of the study and the refutation of the statement that each stamp is the same.

With regard to the "less space question," this is nothing less than mere twaddle, for it seems to me idiotic and senseless to say, "My collection takes up less room than So-and-so's," knowing at the same time that So-and-so's is a complete collection and yours is in a state of semi-completeness. I admit the fact that Unlimited Specialism is the dearer form of collecting. But our opponents say we are able to study more countries. This is all very well, but I contend that it is a much more satisfactory way to thoroughly study one country than it is to meddle with several and leave them all in an unfinished state.

To take up their last point, that each stamp in a Limited Specialist's collection commands individual attention is relatively easy, as the very same may be said of those in an Unlimited Specialist's collection. Let us just take a broad view of our topic, and we will at once see the inadequacy and incompetency of Limited Specialism. Sicily, for instance, what kind of show would a Limited Specialist make? A few shades of the seven values, a stray pair or a block, and that would be all. What has the Unlimited Specialist done? He has laid before us the difficulties of production, a list of essays and proposals of subsequent issues, and has given us an elaborate list of obliterations and postmarks. This brilliant feat could only have been accomplished by an Unlimited Specialist.

For further proof one may revert to the instances already given in Chili and Bolivia.

It is to the Unlimited Specialist we owe our knowledge of the stamps of particular countries, and if we had to rely on the Limited Specialist for our information we should be in a sorry plight. As regards the financial view of the question, it is a well-known truism that a highly specialised collection is the finest investment in the stamp line, and that there is always a market for them. Not so in the case of semi-complete collections, for one invariably finds a difficulty when wishing to sell.

Before I conclude I might say that I am of the opinion that the theory of simplification is the whole cause for agitation, and also that Specialism is the antithesis of simplification. The persistent clamour for a simplified mode of collecting will have, I think, an effect to drive many to Specialism, and to those thus directed, and to those whose aims for the good of philately are true, I hope the foregoing may be of some service.

# Antigua

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

## History of the Colony.

THE Colony of Antigua forms one of the Leeward Islands. This group of West Indian possessions includes Antigua, St. Christopher or St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, the Virgin Islands and Dominica.

The Island was discovered by Columbus in 1493, and the first British settlement was made in 1632.

Mr. C. P. Lucas tells us in his West Indian volume of his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" that the island is 40 miles east of Nevis, and is of rough circular shape, with very deeply indented shores. "It has a circumference of about 54 miles, and an area of 108½ square miles. It is in the main a low lying island. The highest ground is in the south and south-west, where Boggie's Hill in the Scheckerley range rises to some 1,330 feet, and from the south-west the land slopes down to the north-east into a plain, undulating downs, and rounded hills. The shores are lined by reefs and shoals which make the approaches to the land intricate; on the other hand the many bays and indentations mark it off from most other West Indian islands, as a place of safe harbours, if difficult of access. On the north-west is St. John's Harbour, nearly two miles in length, and three-quarters of a mile in breadth at its inner part, secure but confined, and wanting deep water near the shores. At its head, on ground sloping up from the sea, is St. John's, the seat of government of the Leeward Islands colony, a town of some 10,000 inhabitants. On the southern side of the island is English Harbour, very sheltered though limited in space, which was the place of call for the mail steamers, and is a disused station of the Imperial Navy. Close to it on the west, divided by a very narrow neck of land, is Falmouth Harbour, said to be the best harbour in the island; and of the numerous bays and inlets, with the little town of Parham Harbour on the north of the island, with the little town of Parham standing upon it, and Willoughby bay on the south-east, both of which perpetuate the memory of the great West Indian Governor, Lord Willoughby of Parham

"The climate of Antigua," Mr. Lucas tell us, "is dry and healthy, the average rainfall is about 45 inches, and the mean temperature is 78°. Absence of hills and of forest growth marks the island out from the rest of the group, as having little to attract rain or to hold it when attracted. Like all the Leeward Islands, however, it is liable to occasional visits from hurricanes, which occur principally in the month of August. Sugar is almost the only commercial product of Antigua; a certain amount of molasses is exported, but the island rum is consumed mainly in the colony. Antigua pine apples are famous in the West Indies."

The population of the island was 34,300 in 1871, 36,700 in 1891, and 34,953 in 1901. The government is vested in the Governor of the Leeward Islands, and a Council, consisting of eight official and eight non-official members, all nominated by the Governor.

## Its Philatelic History.

The philatelic history of Antigua is brief but interesting. Its first postage stamp was issued in 1862, and its last legitimate separate issue in 1886, a run of just a quarter of a century, during which period its total issues, reckoning marked shades, only number 30 stamps in Gibbons' catalogue.

The first stamp was a 6d. value of 1862, designed and engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and printed by them on unwatermarked paper. In the following year a penny value was added and both 1d. and 6d. were printed on paper watermarked with a star.

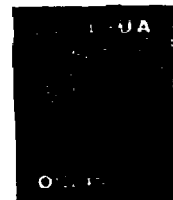
Mr. E. D. Bacon tells us, in the West Indian volume published by the Royal Philatelic Society, that the plates of the 1d. and 6d., constructed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., were of steel, and each contained 120 stamps, arranged in ten horizontal rows of twelve. These plates, he says, were handed over to the Crown Agents on the 23rd November, 1871, and afterwards given to Messrs. De la Rue & Co., who have since printed all further stamps required by the colony.

The first De la Rue printing was of the same two values, from the Perkins Bacon plates, but printed on paper watermarked Crown CC. In 1879 a 2½d. and a 4d. values were added, designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and printed by them on Crown CC. paper. In 1882 a ½d. stamp was added, of the same De la Rue design, but printed on Crown CA. paper. In 1884 Messrs. De la Rue & Co. made a printing from the Perkins Bacon plate of the 1d. on Crown CA. paper. In 1884 they printed a series of five values on Crown CA. paper. In this series the 1d and 6d. were of the old Perkins Bacon & Co. design, and the 2½d., 4d., and 1s. (a new value) were of the De la Rue design. The 1d. of this printing is distinguished from the 1d. of 1884 by its perforation, the 1884-5 series being all perf. 14, and the 1d. of 1884 perf. 12.

In 1890 the stamps of the colony were superseded by an issue for the Leeward Islands common to all the colonies of the group.

But in 1903, despite the provision of this issue common to all, a separate issue was made, and has since been kept on sale for so-called concurrent use with the regular stamps, solely and exclusively for the purpose of fleecing stamp collectors. As a swindling issue it is even worse than the worst of the much-condemned Seebecks, for the Seebecks whilst in issue were the only stamps in use.

**1862.** One value. Design: diademed head of Queen Victoria with profile to left. Designed and engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and printed by them in *taille-douce* on unwatermarked paper. Roughly perforated 14 to 16.



No wmk. Rough perf. 14 to 15.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
6d. blue green	-	50	0	30

**1863-7.** Two values. Design: same as last issue, but printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., on paper watermarked with a six rayed star, and roughly perforated 14 to 16.



*Wmk. Star. Roughly perf. 14 to 16.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose	6 0	3 6
1d. vermilion	7 6	5 0
6d. green	15 0	4 0

*Varieties: Imperf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose	—	—
1d. vermilion	—	£6
6d. green	—	—

**1873.** Two values. Design: as before, but printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., from the old plates engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., on paper watermarked Crown CC. The first supply was perforated 12½, and the second perf. 14.

*Wmk. Crown CC.*

*Perf. 12½.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake	7 6	2 6
1d. scarlet	17 6	10 0
6d. green	40 0	4 0

*Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake	3 6	1 6
1d. scarlet	3 6	2 6
6d. green	25 0	6 0

**1879.** Two values. Design: diademed head of Queen Victoria with profile to left in an octagonal frame, designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and surfaced printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.C., and perforated 14.



*Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½d. red brown	60 0	40 0
4d. blue	30 0	3 0

**1882.** Three values. Design as in the last issue, but printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown C.A., perf. 14.

*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green	0 3	0 4
2½d. red-brown	15 0	5 0
4d. blue	25 0	1 6

**1884.** One value. Design as in the first issue, a printing by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. from the plate engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., but on paper watermarked Crown CA, and perf. 12.

*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 12.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. carmine red	4 0	3 0
1d. scarlet	—	—

**1884-6.** Five values. Design: the 1d. and 6d. as in the issues of 1862-3, and the 2½d., 4d. and 1s. of the De La Rue type of 1879, all printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown CA and perf. 14. The 2½d. was changed from red-brown to ultramarine, and the 4d. from blue to chestnut.

*Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. carmine red	0 6	0 6
1d. rose	0 6	0 6
2½d. ultramarine	0 9	0 6
4d. chestnut	1 0	0 8
6d. green	5 0	10 0
1s. lilac	30 0	25 0

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

Antigua has suffered less than some other West Indian Colonies from the slump which sent prices down with a run in 1899 after a period of inflation. Indeed as will be seen from the following table with very few exceptions all the prices are at their best to-day. The first 6d., no wmk., has risen from 32s. in 1897 to 50s., but the 6d. of 1873, perf. 12½, though a very scarce stamp has dropped from 50s. in 1899 to 40s., and the 2½d. of 1879 from 75s. in 1897 to 60s., but the 4d. of the same issue has risen from 10s. in 1897 to 30s.

	1896	1897	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>1862</b>							
6d. -	20 0	32 0	25 0	30 0	—	50 0	50 0
<b>1863-7</b>							
1d. -	4 0	6 0	6 6	6 0	6 0	6 0	6 0
6d. -	10 0	20 0	17 6	17 6	15 0	15 0	15 0
<b>1873, perf. 12½</b>							
1d. -	3 0	6 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
6d. -	15 0	45 0	50 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0
<b>Perf. 14</b>							
1d. -	2 0	2 0	1 9	2 0	3 6	3 6	3 6
6d. -	6 6	20 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
<b>1879</b>							
2½d. -	40 0	75 0	65 0	60 0	60 0	60 0	60 0
4d. -	8 0	10 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	30 0
<b>1882</b>							
½d. -	0 3	0 3	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
2½d. -	6 0	10 0	7 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
4d. -	6 0	20 0	12 6	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0
<b>1884</b>							
1d. -	2 0	4 0	3 0	3 0	4 0	4 0	4 0
<b>1884-6</b>							
1d. -	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 6	0 6
2½d. -	0 9	0 9	0 8	0 9	0 9	0 9	0 9
4d. -	1 6	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0
6d. -	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0
1s. -	20 0	26 0	22 6	25 0	30 0	30 0	30 0

**1903.** Ten values. Design: the Seal of the Colony for all values up to and including the 2s. 6d. stamp, and portrait of King Edward VII. with profile to left for the 5s. value.

This series is in concurrent use with the stamps inscribed Leeward Islands, and is kept on sale for the sole purpose of fleecing stamp collectors and so adding to the revenue of the colony. As a dishonest issue this, and similar separate issues for the other colonies of the Leeward Islands, have no parallel in any other British Colony. The stamps are all of large size. They were designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. and were printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CC, single, and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown CC. single. Perf. 14.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. grey-black and grey-green	- 0 1	—
1d. " " " scarlet	- 0 2	—
2d. purple and brown	- 0 3	—
2½d. grey-black and ultramarine	- 0 4	0 5
3d. grey-green and orange brown	- 0 5	0 6
6d. magenta and black	- 0 8	0 8
1s. ultramarine and purple	- 1 4	1 4
2s. grey-green and purple	- 2 8	3 0
2s. 6d. grey-black and magenta	- 3 3	3 6



5s. grey-green and violet	- 6 6	—
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1908. Four values. Design as in last issue, but printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on paper water-marked Crown CC multiple, perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown CC, multiple. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green	- 0 1	0 1
1d. red	- —	—
2½d. ultramarine	- 0 4	0 4
1s. " and purple	- 1 3	1 6

#### General Remarks.

This little colony is probably one of the most compact and manageable of the classic old issues. It is comparatively simple. It is free from complexities and, with one or two exceptions, its stamps do not run into high figures. Just now prices may be regarded as being as low as they are likely to be and there is the prospect of a return of West Indians to popular favour. The colony it is true is somewhat handicapped by the speculative fleecing issue of 1903, but those stamps may be wisely disregarded. No serious specialist would regard their absence from a specialised collection of the colony as a loss.

#### Bibliography.

Comparatively little has been written about the stamps of Antigua, but the following may be referred to:—

West Indies, published by the Royal Philatelic Society in 1891.

Antigua Stamps in the Tapling Collection. *Monthly Journal*, Vol V. p. 174.

Stamps of Antigua by E. Heginbottom. *Stamp Collector*, Vol. VIII. p. 178.

#### Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."

## De la Rue Perfs.

From the *Philatelic Journal of India*

It is generally accepted that prior to 1862, all stamps of De la Rue's manufacture were sent to Somerset House for perforation by the various comb machines established there. In January, 1862, a number of Perkins, Bacon Colonial plates were delivered up to the Agents-General by whom they were passed on to De la Rue for printing from. The sheets from these plates would not fit the Somerset House perforators, and we believe that the printers were asked to perforate them until Somerset House were able to acquire a single cutter. The date of this single cutter seems to be before 1864 (c. f. St. Helena) and after September, 1863 (c. f. Ceylon 10d.) Hence stamps were perforated by De la Rue for about 18 months, i.e., from the first quarter of 1862 to the last quarter of 1863. During this period they used two guillotine machines gauging 13 and 12 respectively. The list of stamps put through these machines is as follows:—

Perf. 13.

Bahamas, 1d. 4d. 6d.  
Ceylon, 1d. 5d. 6d. 9d. 1s.  
Ceylon, receipt, 1d.

Natal, 1d.

Trinidad, 1d. 6d. 1s.

W. Australia, 1d. 6d.

Perf. 12.

Bahamas, 1d. 4d. 6d.

Ceylon, 1d.

Trinidad, 1d. 4d. 6d. 1s.

Allsop's, receipt, 1d.

Both perforations are found on both watermarked and plain paper, and assuming that the papers were not used simultaneously, it follows either that the two perforators were used at the same time, or else that a considerable interval elapsed sometimes between printing and perforating. The existence of the Trinidad stamp on plain paper perf. 12½ seems to show that the second alternative is the truth, and that perforations are not necessarily simultaneous. It will not be possible to discover which came first from the Bahamas and Trinidad stamps (except the 4d.) but all the rest could be easily identified with their respective dates if only we had a list of consignments available. As a matter of fact, Ceylon and the Allsop stamp are the only ones we know anything about, and

they both show quite clearly that the 12 gauge was the later. We need not repeat the Ceylon arguments which were given fully enough in our July number, and for the Ailsop stamp we have only to mention the fact that its plate was not registered till the end of May, 1863. Thus it would seem that the 13 gauge was in use for a year and the 12 for the succeeding six months.

Both these machines may be regarded as provisional for there is no positive evidence that De la Rue did any perforating from the time Somerset House got a single cutter until 1876, when, on their own showing, part of the work formerly done at Somerset House was transferred to them. Now it seems to us tolerably certain that Somerset House would not throw off the work that was going on with the maximum ease and efficiency, viz., the work of the comb machines, but would rather seek to get rid of the slower and more troublesome work of the single cutter. We have already pointed out that the only outward and visible sign of transfer in 1876 was the change in a number of stamps from 11½ to 14 single cutter. Hence the third De la Rue machine was the 14 guillotine.

This perforation first appeared on a stamp which we find exceedingly difficult to explain; it is the one shilling Cape De la Rue fiscal printed in green. Unfortunately we have no dated specimen at hand, but from the fact that the variety is found with the Griqualand surcharge of 1877 we conclude that it was a late printing of this colour. The value is one of those in most frequent use and would require replenishing more often than the majority of stamps in the set, so it possibly formed a con-

signment of its own and was the last of the green issue to be sent out. The difficulty arises in the fact that it was succeeded in 1876 by a printing in brown perf. 15½ x 15 which in its turn almost immediately gave place to brown printings perf. 14. Can the green stamps have been a trial of De la Rue's new machine which led to its adoption for this Cape set several years before similarly shaped stamps of any other Colony were handed over?

The use of the 14 single cutter from 1876 to 1879 is fairly plain sailing. In the latter year it is found either by itself or in conjunction with 12½ on a selection of the stamps whose perforating was transferred in that year. If this 14 was De la Rue's, the accompanying 12½ must also have been there. In our experience the 12½ of 1879 is considerably cleaner in its work than the same gauge prior to 1876 and we think the perforations are the products of two different machines. De la Rue also acquired in 1879 a 14-comb for large square sized stamps, the earliest appearance of which is the 1st September of that year on an Indian receipt stamp. Shortly afterwards they got the 18-comb for colonial stamps in four panes having two rows of holes between the panes. This is recorded on Cape stamps surcharged for Griqualand, which must have been prepared before October 1880.

According to their own statement regarding the 2 cents Hong Kong, Messrs. De la Rue were using a 12 single cutter in 1882 during a temporary emergency, and in 1883 they got a new 14-comb for the large Indian High Court Fee Stamps.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 140).

**I.S.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used prior to 1874. They were used for franking the official correspondence emanating from the office of the Inspector of Sheep.

**Island.**—The Danish rendering of Iceland as shown upon all the stamps of that country.

**Issue.**—Philatelically this refers to the stamp or stamps placed on sale at a certain period, or in use at a certain time. Thus the 6d. mauve stamp of Bermuda, which appeared in 1865, belongs to the 1865 issue and, as it is still in use, it may just as correctly be classed as belonging to the current issue.

**Italian Somaliland.**—(See "BENADIR").

**Itallane.**—The local rendering of Italy as shown upon most of the postage stamps for that kingdom.

**Itallano.**—Another form of Italy shown only upon the 20c. stamp first issued in 1867.

**Italic Type.**—A variety of printer's type often used in surcharging stamps for provisional use. The letters in this style of type are sloping thus "ITALIC, italic."

**Italy.**—A kingdom in the south of Europe consisting of a peninsula, the large islands of Sicily and Sardinia, the island of Elba, and about 66 minor islands. It has a total area of 110,623 square miles, and a population of over 32 millions. Formerly it was composed of the various States of Sardinia, the Two Sicilies, the Pontifical

States, the Lombardo-Venetian Provinces of the Austrian Empire, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, and the Duchies of Modena and Parma. In 1870 the unity of the country was finally effected and Rome again became the capital of Italy, which is now divided into 69 provinces for administrative purposes. Postage stamps were first issued in March, 1862.

**Ivory Coast.**—A French colony on the west coast of Africa, abutting on the Gulf of Guinea, between the British colony of Gold Coast and the Republic of Liberia. It has an area of about 200,000 square miles and population of over three millions. The coast was first settled in 1843, but the *hinterland* was not effectively occupied until 1883. The existing colony was established in 1899 and postage stamps were issued seven years prior to this date.

**Ivory Head.**—Some of the early line engraved stamps of Great Britain (especially the imperf. 1d. red) may be found with the paper deeply blued at the back excepting where the portrait of the Queen is shown and these are known to collectors as "ivory heads."

To be continued.

## The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 80).—Although it was reported that all the stamps of the 1894 issue were sold out some time ago, it is evident that the authorities have a reserve supply safely stowed away, for Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the complete set overprinted with corresponding values in the Turkish currency of piastres, which has now been adopted in Abyssinia. The stamps are all surcharged in black, the style of overprint being clearly shown in our illustration.



Provisional Issue. No wmk. Perf. 14 × 13½.

				s.	d.
½ pia. on	½ g. green	...	...	0	1
½ "	½ g. red	...	...	0	2
1 "	1 g. blue	...	...	0	3
2 "	2 g. brown	...	...	0	5
4 "	4 g. claret	...	...	0	9
8 "	8 g. lilac	...	...	1	6
16 "	16 g. grey-black	...	...	3	0

**Canada.**—(Vol. III. p. 116).—We learn from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* that a 50c. King's head stamp was officially issued on Nov. 19th, though it was not on sale at the General Post Office at Ottawa at the end of November. We gather that "the design is the same as the other values, the only changes being in the tablets containing the figures of value, and the arrangement of the maple leaves around them. The colour is a deep rich violet, and the stamp presents a very handsome appearance." The complete list of King's head stamps is as follows:—



No wmk. Perf. 12.

				s.	d.
1c.	green	...	...	0	1
2c.	carmine	...	...	0	2
5c.	deep blue	...	...	0	4
7c.	olive yellow	...	...	0	5
10c.	brown lilac	...	...	0	7
20c.	olive green	...	...	1	0
50c.	deep violet	...	...	2	9

**China.**—(Vol. III. p. 141).—We understand that the 10c. in its new colour, blue, has now been issued. It is interesting to note that this is the first time blue has been made use of for any Chinese stamps. Blue is the mourning colour, and it was considered unlucky to make use of it for this purpose, but apparently Postal Union needs have triumphed over John Chiuaman's deeply rooted superstition.



New colours. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.  
2c. green,  
10c. blue.

**Lagos.**—A correspondent informs the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* that he has the 2½d. ultramarine, Queen's head stamp, printed on the gummed side of the paper.

**Nabha.**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the ½a. and 1a. stamps inscribed "postage and revenue," suitably surcharged for use in this State. We understand that, though the stamps have been catalogued for some months, they have only just been issued.

Inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE." Wmk. Star. Perf. 14.

				s.	d.
½a.	pea-green	...	...	0	1
1a.	carmine	...	...	0	2

**New Hebrides.**—(Vol. III. p. 56).—The *Australian Philatelist* announces the issue of a provisional set of stamps under British authority as follows:—"We have received from a direct source, proofs and information to the effect that the current Fiji stamps have been surcharged 'New Hebrides—Condominium' (joint control), in two black lines, the overprint on the stamps on white paper being in heavy narrow block capitals, with the words New Hebrides on a yellow-green background. The overprint on the stamps on coloured paper is in thin narrow block capitals without any coloured background." The stamps are said to have been issued on November 1st.

**New South Wales.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—A correspondent informs us that he has a copy of the 2d. Sydney View, with the whip omitted, a variety which has hitherto only been recorded in connection with the 3d. stamp.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 141).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us another new provisional. This is the 1 peso Official stamp, surcharged "Habilitado" and with the word "OFICIAL" barred out, referred to on page 284 of our last volume, with two further overprints. The first of these consists of "UN CENTAVO," in black and the other of the date "1908" in red. The stamp exists with the border in two distinct shades, and we understand that on one stamp on each sheet an error with the new value spelled "CETTAVO" occurs.



Official Stamps surcharged "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO" in three lines.

1c. on 1 peso carmine and black.  
1c. on 1 peso lake and black.

**St. Pierre and Miquelon.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—It is rumoured that a series of pictorial stamps will be issued here before very long. The design of the values from 1c. to 20c. will be the head of a fisherman, on the 25c. to 75c. a seagull with extended wings will be shown, and a ship will form the centrepiece on the franc values.

**Tasmania.**—(Vol. II. p. 297).—We learn from the *Australian Philatelist* that the 10s. stamp on Crown A paper has been issued perf. 11. The complete list of values with this perforation is as follows:—

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.		s.	d.
1d. rose red	...	...	0 2
2d. violet	...	...	0 3
3d. deep brown	...	...	0 5
4d. buff	...	...	0 6
6d. rose red	...	...	0 8
8d. purple-brown	...	...	0 11
10s. mauve and brown	...	...	—

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 142).—It appears that the new 2 cents stamp, chronicled on page 142, is likely to be the only one of the set issued in that design after all. After some millions (variously estimated at 20 to 200 millions) of the stamps had been printed, it was found



that the new issue did not conform with the Postal Union regulation that the value should be expressed in figures. Fresh plates are being prepared and, we gather from various sources, that dies of the other values are being re-engraved. The new 2c. was first of all only obtainable in the small booklets containing 12 stamps, but it has now been issued in sheets to most post offices.

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## Papal States Cancellations.

The following note appeared in *Gibbons' Weekly* of October 17th:—

D. C. G., in "Some Notes on the 1852 Issue of the Papal States" in *G. S. W.*, 189, said "these stamps were occasionally obliterated with a large black St. Andrew's Cross. This postmark is said to have been used in Ferrara during an outbreak of the plague."

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (Sept.) in its answers to correspondents, replies to a question as to the signification of this obliteration, as follows:—

"We were formerly under the impression that when the Papal States were incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy certain folks in Romagna, Bologna, Ancona, etc., either through ignorance, or as a protest against such incorporation, continued to use the stamps of the Papal States. The Italian Government not being willing to permit this use, obliterated the stamp with the St. Andrew's Cross, at the same time surcharging the letters as unpaid.

"We have since been told that this St. Andrew's Cross was applied in pursuance of Article II. of the Postal Convention concluded with Austria 15th November, 1852, which directed that the home and foreign rates of postage on letters should be specified separately in Papal State currency. The article concluded thus:—

"Two lines in the shape of a cross should be marked on the address of *prepaid* packets."

We have been under the impression that D. C. G.'s statement was correct, but on reading the above paragraph we communicated with some of our friends in Italy with the following results:—

Cav. Turchi says:—"I made enquiry about the St. Andrew's Cross impressed on the Church stamps; it is officially stated that such a cancellation was only used in the communities of Ferrara and Pontelagoscuro. Yesterday I had the visit of Sr. A. E. Fiecchi, the expert of the Lombard Philatelic Society, and he confirmed the above, adding that it is universal belief in Italy among the experts, that the reason of such peculiar cancellation limited to such a narrow radius, was only used in order to indicate to the receiver that care was to be taken, the letter coming from an infected district, the cholera raging at that time on each border of the River Po."

Dr. Emilio Diens writes:—"As to the St. Andrew's Cross cancellation, I think that it has no special meaning, as has been frequently said. This form of cancellation is special to Ferrara and a few other small post offices in the Province of Ferrara."

Doctors evidently differ in Italy as well as in England. The cancellations on the stamps of the old Italian States are very interesting, and much has been written about them, but there is evidently something yet to be learnt about the particular cancellation in question.

—*The Philatelic Adviser*, Nov. '08.

**Western Australia: Punched Holes.**

Two fair collectors were comparing notes and collections. "I have some lovely Western Australians on entires," said the one; "they were sent home by my grandfather, and have been locked up ever since." "Oh, how dreadful!" replied the other, pointing out the holes officially punched; "he must have been locked up too!" Then she read: "Western Australia. Issue of 1864. Some of the . . . stamps are found with holes pierced through them. This is done before giving them to convicts for payment of their letters home: by this means their letters can be easily recognised."

The letters were locked up again, and that old Oppen album was placed out of bounds.—*The Stamp Dealer.*

**Amateur and Dealer.**

Last week I said a few words under the heading "Amateur and Professional," arising out of an editorial of Mr. Crofton's in the *Philatelic Journal of India.*

This week I wish to deal with the latter portion of Mr. Crofton's remarks, in the course of which he makes a by no means thinly veiled attack upon some of the leading members of the R.P.S.L.

Mr. Crofton, in the course of his remarks, divides dealers into about five classes:—

- 1st. The dealer with a shop front and a bold advertiser.
- 2nd. The dealer with no shop and a small advertiser.
- 3rd. The man who professes not to be a dealer, but who makes a good income from stamps.
- 4th. The man who is constantly making new collections in order to sell them at a profit.
- 5th. Private dealers who are of no use to anybody, including speculators in new issues, etc., etc.

Mr. Crofton claims that his Class 3 is well represented in the Royal Philatelic Society. With this I quite disagree. I have the pleasure and honour of knowing nearly all the leading collectors in the R.P.S. personally, and among them I number some of my best friends, and I am in a position to assure Mr. Crofton that there is hardly a collector in the Society who makes a good income from stamps.

There have been, and I trust there always will be, col-

lectors in the Society of great philatelic ability, and whose desires often outrun their income. There are many men who take up a country or a group of countries, and in a few years they have exhausted all there is to learn about the stamps of their group, are these gentlemen to be termed "dealers" if they decide to sell such collections and turn their energies to pastures new?

Such arguments and many others used by Mr. Crofton in this article appear to me to be futile in the extreme.

Mr. Crofton further states:—

"When a dealer employs a man, that man is an employé of the trade . . . and in our opinion any one who is paid for his writing by a stamp firm is undoubtedly a professional . . . we look upon any attempt to put them on a higher plane than ordinary dealing as supremely ridiculous."

Now, I think that Mr. Crofton goes too far here, and that not only are his remarks in bad taste, but they are also unsound.

First of all, what is a "dealer"?

*Chambers's Dictionary* says: "One who deals—a trader."

And to "deal" is to "transact business." Now, the R.P.S. says in effect: "Our Society must consist of amateurs."

Then in its well-considered regulations it goes on to say that it does not bar any one from being a member who acts as compiler, author, or editor of any publication, as long as they are not *dealers* in stamps.

According to Mr. Crofton, the R.P.S. must bar such men as Mr. Bacon, who has written several handbooks, Major Evans and Mr. Castle, who edit magazines, simply because these gentlemen, whose time is valuable, accept remuneration for work of this nature.

If one carried out Mr. Crofton's Utopian ideas the Society would probably lose nine-tenths of its members, and these the very men who have helped the Society to attain its present position.

Surely Mr. Crofton cannot argue that the mere fact of writing handbooks or editing papers is "dealing" or transacting business in stamps; and yet that is what he seems to suggest.

—C. J. Phillips in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 19.12.08.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

**A Lesson in Cataloguing.**

Mr. C. J. Phillips is very severe in his strictures on our Auctioneers concerning their methods of cataloguing. Speaking of the catalogue of the celebrated Koch collection now being sold in Paris, he writes:—

Following the example set by Mr. J. Bernichon, Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler have once more shown us how an auction catalogue of stamps should be written, and I consider that all our London auctioneers, *without any exception*, might take lessons from their French confrères.

Each good stamp is most carefully described, and EVERY FAULT, EVEN THE MOST MINUTE, is pointed out. All stamps that are mentioned singly are guaranteed *in all respects*. All scarce stamps or rare obliterations are illustrated, and in the third catalogue of this sale there are no less than *twelve* full-sized plates of illustrations, a most important feature for those who are unable to attend personally.

I shall have to interview my old friend, Mr. Gwyer, who catalogues Glendinning's sales, on this pronouncement. I suspect his comment will be "Phillips must

have been hard up for copy."

But I am not so sure that the criticism is so easily disposed of.

Any way, there is one man who will not want such exact cataloguing, and that is the bargain hunter.

**India: the Best Stamps for Investment.**

The *Philatelic Journal of India* being asked for an opinion on the best Indian stamps to buy as an investment, had no hesitation in replying the half anna King, postage only, On H.M.S.

**Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.**

Mr. Peckitt offers a picked lot of Antigua of all issues. Mr. D. Field's special bargain is Paraguay 5c. on 60c. yellow-brown, rare error with inverted surcharge, only one sheet of 100 discovered, at 1s. 6d.

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. offers rare essays, proofs, entire original sheets, re-constructed plates, &c. at bargain prices.

Mr. W. Houtzamer offers British South African provisionals of 1891 and 1896 at special prices.

# Auction Summary

(Continued from page 145).

## Puttick & Simpson.

10th November, 1908.

Great Britain, 1847, 1s., brown, embossed, error colour of 10d. ... ..	5	10	0
Egypt, 1872, 1 piastre, brick red, a block of six, showing edge of sheet, two stamps <i>tête-beche</i> , no wmk.* ... ..	0	16	0
Niger Coast, 1894, ½d. on 2d., blue ... ..	0	18	0
Ditto, ditto, ½d. in red on half of 1d., blue, on piece of original ... ..	1	14	0
British South Africa, 1891, Provisionals, ½d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1s ... ..	3	0	0
Northern Nigeria, 1900, ½d. to 10s.* ... ..	3	7	6
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., value omitted, ½d. Ditto, ditto, 1d. ... ..	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d.* ... ..	2	15	0
Southern Nigeria, 1901, ½d to 10s.* ... ..	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1866, 4d. deep blue, block of four*	1	12	0
	3	10	0

## Ventom, Bull & Cooper.

12th November, 1908.

Great Britain, Levant, 1 piastre on 2d.* ... ..	8	0	0
Gibraltar, 1886, 1s * ... ..	1	18	0
Eastern Roumelia, 20 paras black and rose, a mint horizontal strip of 3, the centre stamp of which is the error 10 paras, extremely rare ... ..	15	0	0
Ditto, 20 paras black and rose, a vertical <i>tête beche</i> pair, very rare* ... ..	2	10	0
Ditto, a similar pair imperforate ... ..	2	10	0
Ditto, 1 piastre black and blue, a vertical <i>tête-beche</i> pair, very rare* ... ..	3	0	0
Ditto, 1881, a similar pair imperforate* ... ..	2	10	0
Ditto, 5 piastres red and blue, a vertical <i>tête-beche</i> pair, very rare* ... ..	4	0	0
Ditto, a similar pair imperforate* ... ..	3	0	0
Ditto, 1894, 5 piastres brown, very scarce* ... ..	2	0	0
Ditto, 5 piastres brown, imperforate, block of 4, rare* ... ..	10	0	0
British Central Africa, 1896, £10 ... ..	15	10	0
Ditto, ditto, £25 ... ..	36	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 4d. pair ... ..	25	0	0
Sierra Leone, 1883, CA., 4d. blue* ... ..	3	5	0
British Columbia, 1st issue, 2½d., imperf.* ... ..	3	10	0
<i>26 November, 1908.</i>			
Great Britain, 1867, 10d., red-brown, plate 2 ... ..	13	10	0
Austria, 1858-9, 2kr., orange* ... ..	4	0	0
Crete, first issue, 20 parades, hor., pair on entire	1	5	0
British South Africa, Buluwayo Provisional, "One Penny" on 3d., pair* ... ..	4	7	6
Zululand, 1888-92, 5s., carmine £2 1s. and	1	19	0
Bermuda, 1884-93, CA, perf. 12, ½d.* ... ..	0	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d.* ... ..	0	17	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue* ... ..	0	19	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., violet-brown* ... ..	0	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d.* ... ..	0	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d.* ... ..	0	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d.* ... ..	0	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s.* ... ..	0	16	0
Cayman Islands, 1908, Provisionals, 1d. on 5s., and ½d. on 5s., both* ... ..	1	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d. on 5s. ... ..	0	10	0
St. Vincent, 1866, perf. 11½, 6d., blue-green, block of four* ... ..	7	0	0
Ditto, 1883-4, perf. 12, 1d., violet* ... ..	2	15	0

## Glendining & Co.

17 November, 1908.

	2	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 5s., used ...	8	17	6
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 10s. used...	5	0	0
Great Britain, Admiralty, 2½d., Type 2, mint...	3	5	0
Levant, 1906, 1d. on 2d., used ... ..	5	0	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g. (2), 1 g. (2), 2 g. (3), 5 g. (5), 10 g. (2), 20 g. (4), and 50 g. (1), all mint...	7	5	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g. (2), 1 g. (1), 5 g. (4), 20 g. (2), all unused, and 1 g. (4), 2 g. (3), and 5 and 10 g., used ... ..	4	18	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g., 1 g. (4), 2 g. (3), 5 g. (4), 10 g. (3), and 20 g. (2), used ... ..	5	0	0
Sicily, 1859, 5 g., brick-red, mint horizontal pair, rare piece ... ..	4	0	0
Sicily, 1859, 50 g., brown-lake, re-touched plate, fine unused copy ... ..	3	12	0
Pahang, 1890, 8 c., orange, mint ... ..	3	0	0
Perak, 1883, 1 c. on 2 c., rose, mint ... ..	8	0	0
Sungei Ujong, 1878, 2 c., brown, unused ... ..	11	0	0
Sungei Ujong, 1878, 8 c., orange ... ..	4	0	0
British South Africa, 1d on 3d., mint ... ..	3	0	0
Cape, 1s., pale green, pair ... ..	5	15	0
Lagos, 1884, 10s., lilac-brown, mint ... ..	11	0	0
Lagos, 1904, 10s., single CA, mint ... ..	5	0	0
Natal, 1859, no wmk., perf. 14, 1d., red, mint block of twenty-five ... ..	5	15	0
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 4d., brown-lilac, strip of six, mint ... ..	6	15	0
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 6d., deep yellow-green, block of six, mint ... ..	7	17	6
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 6d., pale yellow-green, block of six, mint ... ..	9	5	0

1 December, 1908.

Great Britain, Levant, July, 1906, 1 piastre on 2d.* ... ..	7	15	0
St. Vincent, 1866, compound perfs., 1d., rose red*	5	10	0
Ditto, 1869, perf. 11 to 12½, 4d., yellow, superb*, scarce ... ..	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another superb* ... ..	1	8	0
Ditto, 1s. indigo, and 1s., brown, both fine ...	1	2	0
Ditto, perf. 11 to 12½, 1s., rose-red, two fine shades ... ..	1	2	0
Ditto, 1875, perf. 11 to 12½, 1s., claret, good copy; and 1880, perf. 11 to 12½, 1s., vermilion, fine ... ..	1	0	0
Ditto, 1877, perf. 11 to 12½, 4d., deep blue, well centred,* very scarce ... ..	2	12	0
Ditto, Feb., 1887, perf. 11 to 12½ x 15, 6d., pale yellow-green, superb* ... ..	1	7	0
Ditto, July, 1880, 5s., rose red, brilliant, well centred copy of this rare stamp* ... ..	7	10	0
Ditto, 1880, 1d. of half of 6d., blue-green, Gibbons 29, very fine and scarce ... ..	2	14	0
Ditto, 1881, 1d. on 6d., yellow-green, Gibbons 31, very fine ... ..	1	18	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion, Gibbons 32, a very fine, lightly-marked copy of this rare stamp ... ..	6	15	0
Ditto, 1d., drab, well centred* ... ..	1	2	0
New Zealand, 1863-6, 3d., brown-lilac* ... ..	5	5	0
Ditto, 1872, wmk. lozenge, 2d. ... ..	4	2	6

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The late Mr. Avery.



MY friend, Mr. C. Whitfield King, had the late Mr. Avery as a customer in the early days of his collecting, and in response to my invitation to send me some recollections of those times, Mr. King writes to me as follows:—

“Mr. Avery’s first wife was a Miss Bell, and her sister and aunt lived together at Ipswich, and this brought Mr. and Mrs. Avery to Ipswich fre-

quently, and Mr. Avery always called here, so we got very friendly. I did not, at that time, know that he was very wealthy, so the first time he called he asked for a dealer’s list, and said he wanted to buy in whole sheets; consequently I gave him a wholesale list, and he bought a lot of Colonials in full sheets at wholesale prices I can particularly remember his buying 12c., 13c., and 24c. Newfoundland stamps in entire sheets. He always tried to beat me down in prices, making the remark, ‘I am a poor man, you know,’ and taking compassion on him, I used to knock off a few shillings here and there, but I was quite satisfied with the business I did with him at the time.”

**A Contra Account for Scales.**

“On one occasion, when I had sold him a lot of stamps at wholesale stamp prices, I suggested that he might return the compliment by selling me some scales at trade prices. He said he was quite agreeable to do so, and he gave me a note to his London manager with instructions to allow me the best trade prices. The machine on which so many well-known philatelists have been weighed was got in this way, also several pairs of scales for use in the office.”

**A Week-end at Birmingham.**

“When he lived at Birmingham I spent a week-end with him, chiefly in looking through his collection, and in selecting some rarities, which he kindly lent me for the

Exhibition which was held in my offices in 1895, and he showed me a Senf’s album which I had sold him years previously, and which was pretty well filled. He turned to the first page of Mauritius and showed me the two ‘Post Office’ stamps at the top of the page, remarking ‘I expect this is the only Senf album with these two spaces filled.’”

**A Kind-hearted Man.**

“Although Mr. Avery used to drive a hard bargain in a business way, he was a kind-hearted man. The Saturday afternoon when I was with him he was entertaining in his garden the Works’ band, with their wives and children, and he gave them a good time, sending them all away with bags of good things, a distribution at which I assisted.”

**But Economical Withal.**

“When I left Birmingham on the Monday, Mr. Avery accompanied me to the station in a cab, and on my giving the cabman a florin, he remarked ‘You shouldn’t do that; the fare is only a shilling. You’ll spoil our cabbies.’ To which I replied, ‘Well, they don’t drive a King every day.’”

**Crete: Errors removed and destroyed.**

Mr. Whitfield King tells me that a large parcel of Crete stamps, long overdue, has just turned up, and it appears that the stamps were kept back for the purpose of taking all the errors out of the sheets!

“There are as you know,” writes Mr. King, “more printings than one, in some printings there are no errors, in others there are two in each sheet, and in the Postmaster’s letter to us he stated that a Committee of Inspection had been appointed to superintend the surcharging, and that the Committee had removed the errors from the sheets and burnt them, so that the few which have got out will be worth keeping.”

**A Sharp Postmaster.**

That Postmaster of Crete knows his way about, and if he failed to pocket a few of those errors he makes an exception to the rule. Anyway, he charged Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. 20 francs for postage on the parcel, and 5½ francs for the very arduous labour of putting the stamps in the envelope.

There are rumours that the officials are having a gay time in postal speculation.

### Postage on Newspapers.

The Postmaster-General states that the heaviest journal carried for one half-penny under newspaper postage rates weighed 3lbs. 6ozs. The cost by letter post would have been 1s. 2d., and if it had been a monthly periodical it would have cost 1s. 2d. by the lowest rate.

Either the newspaper rate wants readjusting or the periodical rate wants extending, to square things a bit.

### The New United States Stamps.

We are getting a bit mixed in regard to this new United States series, for no sooner did we get the new 2c. than it was followed by an announcement that it was to be withdrawn because it did not conform to the Postal Union regulation that all values must be expressed in figures. Then it was said that no more of the series were to be issued of this wrong type. But, lo, here comes the 1c. in the same no figures type!

Are the U.S.A. postal authorities making hay while the sun shines on their wrong doings? Some ill-natured ones are asking if this no figures type was a little mistake made on purpose to run up the sales a bit, and so pay for the dies out of collectors' pockets.

Uncle Sam is rather given to that sort of game.

### Values in Figures Regulation.

If this much talked of regulation of the Postal Union is so imperative that the U.S.A. stamps must be re-engraved, how comes it that our own 4d., 1d. and 1s. stamps show no sign of conforming to the regulation?

Evidently there must be some go as you please, or take your own time about it arrangement in the matter of the regulation. Perhaps it refers to new designs or dies. Will some one enlighten us?

### Angle-French Postal Rates.

I quote the following announcement from the Paris correspondent of *The Times*, dated Paris, 21.12.08:—

"The Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies which was appointed to consider M. Siegfried's Bill in favour of reducing postal and telegraph rates between France and England has now presented its report. It surveys the whole question of international tariff reductions in principle and in practice, discusses the trend of British opinion on the subject, and expresses the opinion that 'the state of our relations with England permits us to count upon a complete agreement at the first exchange of views.'

"In explanation of the circumstance that the British Post Office authorities have not already moved in this matter, it is suggested that the English prefer to leave the initiative to France—not as at Fontenoy, out of courtesy, but for fear of meeting with hesitation on the French side. The hope is expressed that if the British authorities, for their part, show a disposition to reciprocate the proposed reduction, the French Government will without any undue delay take steps to reduce the postal tariff for letters from France to England from 25c. (2½d.) to 10c. (1d.)."

### Transvaal: King's Head, 1d. red. Wmk. Anchor.

The hunt for this freak is getting hot, but so far we have heard of no further discoveries, but a correspondent calls my attention to the description of the error on page 187, in the enumeration of Transvaal King's Heads, in which it is catalogued as being the bi-coloured stamp, whereas I understand it is on the current carmine 1d. This 1d. carmine was issued in 1906, and the error which the Capetown correspondent notified (see page 110) was dated Johannesburg, 18th January, 1907.

### Christmas Postal Arrangements.

The staff at our London Post Office has been recruited by about 8,000 of the unemployed to deal with the special

demands of the Christmas postage, many of whom have been in training since the end of November. It is estimated that about 20,000,000 Christmas missives will pass through the post this week in addition to the ordinary correspondence.

### British South Africa. 1896-7. Imperfs.

Mr. F. H. Melland, who is contributing some interesting, but not very comprehensive, articles on British South African issues to the *London Philatelist*, after giving quite new information about a 3s imperf. of the 1896-7 series, says he knows nothing about the 8d. of the same series.

I believe I am right in saying that the 8d. imperf. was discovered in the London office by Mr. G. Hamilton Smith, and that only a portion of a sheet was imperf. Probably Mr. Hamilton Smith can remember the details as to how many rows were imperf. I had a block of four from him.

### To be "Priced in Error."

An ingenious correspondent endeavours to egg our Gibbons on to a somewhat novel competition.

He suggests that they might place on a few of their approval sheets, during a certain month, a number of stamps "Priced in Error," and then let us know afterwards if they were spotted. He thinks there would be a grand scramble for sheets that month.

I wonder how the scramblers would fare if the pricings in error were all in favour of the firm. That of course is not the intention. The bait is for Gibbons to put on a few trifles, such as a "Post Office" Mauritius, a few rare varieties of Sydney views, &c, at a shilling each, just to see if they would be spotted.

### Great Chances Missed.

It would be no new thing for even the shrewdest to miss a bargain.

I remember once Mr C. J. Phillips engaging with other knowing ones in a hunt for a certain rare variety of overprint in a highly specialised country. Only two or, at most, three specimens were known. And one day we were looking over a small book of duplicates I had with me, and there, marked as a common stamp, was a hitherto unknown variety of that very stamp. It had been in my possession for years, I had passed it round for sale or exchange, and even C.J.P. himself had seen the page, looked at the stamp and failed to spot it, as I had.

But now it reposes in my collection and, so far as I know, is still unique. I nearly lost it for a few shillings.

### Condition Cranks.

It seems, according to some great authorities, that I was entirely mistaken in believing that most, if not all, serious collectors are "condition cranks."

There are said to be some who absolutely revel in poor copies, and badly centred stamps. Well, let them revel. I have never met them in the ranks of careful collectors.

### Some Difficult Stamps.

As everyone knows, there are some stamps of which you have to take the best you can get, for the simple reason that perfect copies are rarely ever met with, but a few instances do not vitiate the general statement that the best collectors are what some folks call "condition cranks."

Let those dealers who are so anxious to glorify the collector of bad copies try some of their damaged stuff on such philatelists as Mr. Castle.

### Condition tells, but freedom is precious.

Condition tells in every way, but there is no reason why those who prefer the refuse heap should not revel in it as much as they please. Let them chortle over their natural preference to their heart's content. It might not be wise to disturb their philatelic condition.

# King's Heads

BY THE EDITOR

## Specialising in King's Heads.

**A** GREAT many collectors are now specialising in British Colonial King's Heads. And it must be admitted that King's Heads make a very distinctive and interesting collection. They are a definite point of departure, infinitely simpler and more to the purpose than a break which commences with the century.

In the seemingly simple start with the century there are numberless difficulties to be faced. It is easy enough to say that a collector may conveniently confine himself to such issues as were current when the present century began. But that line of collecting lands him into a most unsatisfactory, confused, and piecemeal conglomeration of issues.

In such a choice many issues inevitably overlap, series of stamps are broken up, and, in some cases it is hard to say what was or what was not current at the opening of the century. Indeed, in not a few cases we know of no means of telling what was or what was not current in 1901, even in our own colonies. For instance, a list has just been published (page 130) of stamps still current, and on sale at the post offices, in British South Africa, and this list includes two 3d. stamps, one issued in 1896 and the other in 1903.

There are no doubt many other cases in which it will be found that stamps long thought to be obsolete at the beginning of the century are still current. In fact, any stamp not demonetised may be on sale in out of the way post offices, and therefore current. Where then will the collector who starts with chronological limit draw the line? As a matter of fact he cannot draw any definite line. He will always be in a quandary as to what he should, and what he should not, include.

Then it is urged he may simplify matters by confining himself to new stamps issued since the century began. But, even so, such a list will necessarily include an undesirable and confusing lot of odd values of previously incomplete sets, and probably many values, the precise date of issue of which cannot be ascertained or fixed.

Therefore, when all is said, collectors will mostly agree that if a line must be drawn, it can much more easily, satisfactorily, and definitely be drawn at King's Heads, or any other chosen design, than at any chronological period.

Moreover, King's Heads are full of interest and variety. When they were first introduced it was thought that we should have a wearisome monotony of design for many years, and that there would be no change of any sort to relieve the deadly sameness of the issues. But, long before the change from the Queen's to the King's Heads was completed throughout our colonies, there came a change of watermark from single to multiple, then followed changes from "Postage—Postage" to "Postage—& Revenue," and now we are passing through an interesting change of colours and papers.

What more is needed to popularise the limitation? What more is wanted to make the specialising of King's Heads a fascinating branch of collecting for those who wish to make some limitation?

With the view of helping those who are specialising in King's Heads we propose to occasionally publish lists bringing the issues up to date.

In our issue of the 19.12.08, we made a commencement with the King's Heads of the Transvaal, and we now turn to those of Southern Nigeria.

## Southern Nigeria

**A**S the most prosperous and promising of the British Colonies on the West Coast of Africa, the Colony of Southern Nigeria is a most attractive one from the point of view of the specialist in King's Heads.

Its stamps are of a peculiarly neat design that breaks away from the ordinary De la Rue type common to so many colonies; its values extend to £1, but do not go beyond that limit; its single CA's are steadily increasing in value, its combination of colours is more than usually striking and effective, and the future of the colony, absorbing other colonies, one after another, seems to mark it out as one of the most important of the comparatively undeveloped British possessions on the western side of the African continent.

1902. Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. with profile to left, within an oval surmounted by a crown, above which is a small tablet bearing the figure of value forming, as it were, the key stone of an arch, the left hand curve being inscribed with the word "Southern" and the right "Nigeria." In a label at the foot is the value in words. On the left lower half of the design is the word "Postage" and on the right the word "Revenue." The general design is the

same as that of the Queen's head series which it supersedes, with exception of the crown which surmounts the oval, bearing the portrait instead of resting on the head as in the case of the Queen's head type.

The values of the previous Queen's head series are all repeated and in the same combinations of colours, with the addition of two new values, viz., 2½d. and £1.

The stamps were designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and were printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CA single, and perf. 14.

All the values were issued in 1902, except the 2½d. value, which was not added to the series until 1904. In a few months this value on Crown CA single paper was superseded by a supply on multiple paper, hence its scarcity.



*Wmk. Crown CA Single. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green and black -	2 0	0 3
1d. carmine and black -	0 6	0 4
2d. orange brown and black -	1 0	1 0
2½d. ultramarine and black -	4 0	2 0
4d. olive green and black -	1 0	1 0
6d. mauve and black -	2 6	2 0
1s. black and green -	6 0	4 0
2s. 6d. brown and black -	18 6	10 0
5s. yellow and black -	—	20 0
10s. purple and black on yellow -	15 0	20 0
£1 violet and green -	120 0	—

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

Here we have a steady rise in all the values. The advance of the ½d. value from 3d. in 1907 to 2s. in 1908 was presumably a clerical error, as the stamp has never been so scarce as such an advance would indicate, and in their latest catalogue Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. price the stamp at 6d. only. The 1d. and 2d. are improving stamps, the 2½d. jumped from 4d. in 1905 to 3s. in 1906 and has since been advanced to 4s.; the 4d., 6d. and 1s. have remained stationary since their advance in 1905, but the 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. are all promising stamps. The 5s., which has not been priced by Gibbons since 1905, is priced by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. in their catalogue for 1909 at 16s. unused and 20s. used. The £1 is a somewhat unsettled item. Some unexpected supplies having come on the market its price has fluctuated considerably and will probably be dropped in the next catalogue.

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. -	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 3	2 0
1d. -	0 2	0 3	0 6	0 6	0 6
2d. -	0 3	0 5	—	—	1 0
2½d. -	0 6	0 4	3 0	3 0	4 0
4d. -	0 8	0 6	1 0	1 0	1 0
6d. -	0 8	1 0	2 6	2 6	2 6
1s. -	1 4	—	6 0	6 0	6 0
2s. 6d. -	3 3	3 3	12 6	12 6	13 6
5s. -	6 6	6 6	—	—	—
10s. -	12 6	12 6	15 0	15 0	15 0
£1 -	—	—	—	—	£6

**1904-5.** Ten values. Design: as in the last issue, but printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., on paper water-marked Crown C.A. multiple. Perf. 14.

All values and colours are repeated as in the last issue,

except the 10s. value, which we have not yet seen on multiple paper though we note that it is included by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. in their new catalogue, presumably in error.

There are some notable shades in this series, more especially in the printing of the oval containing the portrait which, in the 2d., is found in a dull slate and in a clear black.

Why the £1 should be priced 60s. is not quite clear, except for the difficulty of getting supplies during the period when the stock of the stamps of Lagos was being used up. It is now priced by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. at 25s.

*Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green and black -	0 2	0 2
1d. carmine and black -	0 4	0 4
2d. orange, brown and black -	0 4	0 4
2½d. ultramarine and black -	0 6	0 4
4d. olive green and black -	0 6	0 6
6d. mauve and black -	0 8	0 9
1s. black and green -	2 0	1 4
2s. 6d. brown and black -	3 3	—
5s. yellow and black -	6 6	—
£1 violet and green -	60 0	—

**1907.** Four values. Design: King's head, unchanged ½d., 1d. and 2½d. in single colours to conform more strictly to Postal Union requirements, and a new value, 3d.

*Wmk. Crown CA. Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green -	0 1	0 1
1d. rose -	0 2	0 2
2½d. ultramarine -	0 4	0 4
3d. mauve, centre orange brown -	0 5	0 6

**General Remarks.**

Should Southern Nigeria adopt the new colour scheme, as no doubt it will in due course, all the values will have to undergo a change of colours, except the low values which are in the Postal Union colours.

For some years the stamps of the colony have been more or less kept in the background, whilst the large stock of the stamps of Lagos is being used up, Lagos having been placed under the administration of Southern Nigeria. This using up of the Lagos stock is still going on, and there seems to be much doubt as to when an end will be made of it.

## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in

philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready in a few days and will be

### No. 1. Jamaica and Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

# Manchester Exhibition

18, 19 & 20 February, 1909.

## OFFICIAL CIRCULAR

MANCHESTER POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION,

HULME TOWN HALL, STRETFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,

February 18th, 19th and 20th, 1909.

*The Exhibition will be opened on Thursday at 3.30 p.m., on Friday at 10.30 a.m., on Saturday at 10.30 a.m., and close at 10 p.m. each day.*

**S**TAMP collecting of to-day is no longer the mere accumulating of stamps, but occupies the serious attention of collectors of all ages and classes, who study not only the stamps themselves but their manufacture and origin.

It being ten years since an Exhibition of Postage Stamps was held in Manchester, the Committee feel that they are complying with a public demand in organising this Exhibition with a view to further popularising the hobby of stamp collecting.

The numerous promises of support which have been received from many eminent collectors will, it is hoped, enable them to make an interesting display of both British, Colonial, and Foreign Postage Stamps, Proofs, Forgeries, and Reprints, together with other objects of Philatelic interest.

### The Exhibition Hall.

The Exhibition area consists of about 7,000 square feet, and the display will be made all on the same level in a large and small hall, both of which are eminently suited for the purpose. They are lofty and well lighted, and there is no top light whereby the stamps might be faded. The display is entirely non-competitive, but a diploma has been designed, suitable for framing, which will be presented to all exhibitors as a memento of the occasion. All stamps will be exhibited under glass, in locked or sealed frames or cases, night and day watchmen will be employed, and every possible precaution will be taken to secure exhibits from damage or loss. The building is fireproof, and in addition has under the same roof a station of the Manchester Fire Brigade.

The "Ross" Ladies' Band has been engaged, and will perform in the main hall throughout each day.

### Dealers' Stalls.

Accommodation has been found for fourteen trade stalls—most of the principal London and Provincial dealers will be represented,—thus affording for the first time in Manchester an opportunity for collectors and dealers to make personal transactions.

The large hall above the Exhibition will be devoted to the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to Lantern Lectures on popular and educational Philatelic matters.

A large hall has been set aside for a refreshment room, and the catering will be undertaken by a well-known local firm.

Admission to the Exhibition will be entirely free by ticket, which can be obtained from all stamp dealers, or the Hon. Sec., J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

The hall is easily accessible by electric car (fare 1d.) from all parts of the city, and all the cars running to the Exhibition will bear announcements to that effect.

### The Philatelic Congress.

This will be the first opportunity afforded in this country to Philatelists of all shades and opinions to confer upon many important matters connected with Philately. The most important British Societies have already expressed their willingness and desire to help it forward and take part in it.

Delegates have already been appointed to attend, the result of whose deliberations must undoubtedly be of permanent value to the hobby. Special matters of Philatelic importance will be discussed, such as the following:—

- The formation of a national Society or Federation.*
- The holding of an annual Congress.*
- The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, etc., etc.*
- The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide.*

Suggestions of further subjects of interest will be carefully considered, and all Philatelists are heartily invited to attend and make the Congress successful and worthy of the traditions of British Philatelic Societies.

Days and time of meetings will be announced later.

Please address all communications and suggestions to—  
J. J. DARLOW,

Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

### Competitions.

*Open to all Stamp Collectors under 18 years of age.*

Two First Prizes will be awarded:—(1) for the Collection displaying the greatest care in arrangement, and largest amount of Philatelic research; (2) for the best Essay on any Philatelic subject.

A limited number of other Prizes will be awarded to the competitors next in order of merit, and full details will be sent to intending competitors.

The First Prize shall, in each case, consist of Two Guineas' worth of Stamps, Album, Philatelic Literature, or Outfit. The First Prize winners to select their prizes from any of the dealers having stalls at the Exhibition.

There will be no entrance fee or other charge, and the Competition will be open to any collector, of either sex, under the age of 18 years.

The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society will take every care of the Albums and Collections, but cannot accept any responsibility.

The successful Collections will be exhibited in glass cases, and arrangements will be made to publish the successful Essay.

Competitors must observe the following Rules:—

### Collection Competition.

Albums intended for this section must be addressed to Mr. J. R. M. ALBRECHT, EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9, ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER, not later than February 1st, 1909, marked "Competition."

2. An addressed cover, with sufficient stamps for return postage and registration, must be enclosed with each.

3. The collection must be the sole property of the competitor, who must, on the 20th February, 1909, not exceed the age of 18 years.

4. A written testimony to that effect, signed by parent, guardian, schoolmaster, or other responsible person, must accompany each entry.

#### Notes to Competitors.

The rarity or value of the stamps in collection will have little effect on the decision of the judges, neither will the size or price of the albums; *neatness, care, and condition*, together with the amount of study shown in the arrangement, however, will.

A collection may be either general or specialised; may be of used stamps or unused stamps, or both. There are no restrictions as to size.

#### Essay Competition.

1. Competitors must be under the age of 18 years on 1st February, 1909.

2. All Competitions must be addressed in envelope marked "Essay" to Mr. J. R. M. ALBRECHT, EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9, ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER, *not later than February 1st, 1909.*

3. The Essay should not exceed 500 words, and may be written on any Philatelic subject. It must be written on one side of the paper (f'cap) only.

4. Each Essay must bear, on the top of the first page, the name and address of the Competitor, and must be

accompanied by a note, signed by a responsible person, that it is the entire work of the Competitor, unaided by suggestions or corrections.

Any further details will be supplied on enquiry, by J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Hon. Sec., EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9, ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER.

#### What to See at the Exhibition.

**Main Hall.** Collections of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain and British Colonies, both used and unused, will be shown.

*Fourteen* of the principal dealers will display the latest in Albums, Philatelic Accessories, etc., together with an unequalled stock of stamps.

*The "Ross" Ladies' Band* will perform each afternoon and evening.

**The Small Hall.** Collections of Foreign Countries and their Colonies.

*Philatelic Curiosities*, Pictures made of Stamps, Proofs, Essays, Forgeries, etc.

*Postal* On the Ground Floor will be found a working department of the Post Office.

*Manchester Junior Philatelic Society's Stall*

*Dinners, Teas, and Refreshments* at popular prices in the Restaurant.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 153).

**Jaipur.**—A feudatory State in Rajputana, India, sometimes known as Jeypore. It has an area of 15,349 square miles and a population of about 2½ millions. It is one of the wealthiest and best administered States under native rule. Some years ago various Indian stamps surcharged "RAJ-SERVICE" in two lines were used in this state and were supposed to be official stamps. It has since been proved that, though the stamps were employed by the Public Works Department of Jaipur, the overprint was intended rather as a precaution against theft than as a mark to distinguish them as an issue for this State, and it is therefore more of a private than of an official nature. Postage stamps proper were not introduced until 1904.

**Jamaica.**—An island situate in the West Indies about 90 miles south of Cuba. It is the largest and most valuable British possession in the West Indies, having an area of 4,193 square miles and a population of well over 800,000. The aboriginal name for the island was Xaymaca, or Land of Wood and Water. It was discovered by Columbus on May 3rd, 1494, and he named it St. Jago. It was taken possession of by the Spaniards in 1509; but in 1655 a British expedition, sent out by Oliver Cromwell, under Penn and Venables, attacked the island and the Spaniards capitulated after a trifling resistance. It was formally ceded to Britain in 1670 by the Treaty of Madrid. The emancipation of the slaves in 1833 resulted in the almost total ruin of the Jamaican plantations. The emancipation was followed by negro risings which were put down by Governor Eyre, in the words of a Commission appointed to investigate his conduct, "with commendable firmness." Representative government was restored in 1884. The Cayman Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands are under the jurisdiction of the Jamaican government. Postage stamps were first issued on the 29th Nov., 1860.

**Jammu and Kashmir.**—A feudatory State of India situated to the north of the Punjab and having Tibet on its eastern border. It has an area of 81,000 square miles and a population of about three millions. Except at the extreme south the country is very mountainous. At one time Nagas (serpent-worshippers), the Kashmiris came under Buddhist influence about 245 B.C., and the subsequent corruption and decay of Buddhism paved the way for Hinduism. With the Mogul invasion the country passed into the possession of Afghanistan and Mohammedanism became paramount, and is still the faith professed by the majority of the people. In 1846, Gholab Singh, chief of Jammu, was allowed by the British to purchase Kashmir and assume the title of Maharajah carrying with it a salute of 19 guns. Though subject to British control it is to all intents and purposes a "buffer-state." Postage stamps were first issued in 1866 and the State ceased issuing its own postage stamps on November 1st, 1894.

**Japan.**—This ancient and extensive Empire, now in alliance with the United Kingdom, consists of four large and many small islands numbering more than four thousand. It is called by its inhabitants Nihon or Nippon and has a total area of 162,655 square miles with a population of about 44½ millions. The Ainu, an uncivilised but harmless tribe, who in ancient times occupied the greater part of the country, are still found in the island of Yezo. Japan is said to possess a written history extending over 2,500 years and its sovereigns to have formed an unbroken dynasty since 660 B.C., the present Emperor being the 121st of his race. Authentic history, however, begins about 400 A.D. and within the last few years the nation has made unparalleled progress in civilisation and the adoption of Western manners and customs. Postage stamps were first issued on March 1st, 1871.

**Japanese Consular Offices.**—For many years the Japanese maintained local post offices at various towns in China and Corea these being usually under the supervision of the resident Consul. The stamps used in these offices were the ordinary labels of Japan overprinted at the base with minute native characters. The offices in China are still carried on but surcharged stamps for use in Corea were discontinued in 1901.

**Java.**—An island in the East Indies belonging to Holland. It is a long narrow island being about 600 miles in length and varying from 45 to 120 miles in width and having a total area of 48,600 square miles. Though not the largest it is the most populous island in the East Indies its inhabitants numbering well over 28 millions. From 1811 to 1816 the British held the island under Sir Stamford Raffles, but it was restored to the Dutch in 1817. Until quite recently the general stamps for the Dutch Indies were used in Java but in 1908 the current set were surcharged "JAVA" for use in this island and the neighbouring island of Madura.

**J.B.**—The initials of J. Barron, the engraver of the famous "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, which are said to appear in microscopic letters at the base of the neck of the portrait of Queen Victoria shown on these rare labels.

**Jecnd State.**—The Indian stamps surcharged for use in the Native State of Jhind in 1885 had the name spelt in this manner instead of "JHIND" as on all the other issues.

**Jefatura de Hacienda del Estado de Campeche.**—The inscription shown on the lower portion of the provisional stamps issued in Campeche, Mexico, in 1867. It means "Office of the Treasury of the Province of Campeché"

**Jerez.**—This name is shown on the circle in the lower right hand corner of some of the stamps of Salvador issued in 1887-89. Jerez was one of the former Presidents of Salvador.

**Jervis, H. C.**—An engraver of Sydney, New South Wales, who engraved the plate for the first 3d. stamp issued in the Colony and also re-engraved the plates of the 1d. and 3d. stamps in 1850.

**Jetersville.**—A town in the State of Virginia, U.S.A., at which a special 5c. stamp was issued by the postmaster in 1861 to facilitate the prepayment of postage prior to the introduction of the general stamps for use in the whole of the Confederate States.

**Jeypore.**—(see "JAIPUR.")

**Jhalawar.**—A feudatory State in Rajputana, India, having an area of 8,043 square miles and a population of about 100,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1887 and in 1900 it was decided to cease issuing special stamps for this State.

**Jhind.** A native State in the Punjab, India, at which locally produced postage stamps were issued in 1874. These ceased to be used for postal purposes in July, 1885, and their place was taken by ordinary Indian stamps suitably surcharged.

**J. H. S.**—These initials are shown above the motto on all the stamps of Geneva.

**Johnson, J. P.**—The Postmaster of Pittsylvania, Virginia, U.S.A., who, in 1861, issued a special 5c. stamp prior to the introduction of the regular Confederate States' issue.

**Johnson, M. F.**—This gentleman was Postmaster of Tellico Plains, Tennessee, U.S.A., in 1861, and he is known to philatelic fame from the fact that his name appears on the special 5c. and 10c. stamps issued in that town before the arrival of the ordinary stamps for use in the whole of the Confederate States.

**Johore.**—One of the British protected states in the extreme south of the Malay Peninsula. It is ruled by its native Sultan under the advice of a British Resident. Its area is 7,500 square miles and it has a population of about 300,000 of which Chinese outnumber the native Malays to the extent of about four to one. Postage stamps were first issued in 1878.

**Jornaes.**—The inscription shown above the base of the 24 reis newspaper stamps of Portugal. It means literally "journals."

**Journal Stamps.**—These stamps were used on newspapers in France from 1868 onwards and represented a fiscal and postal charge combined. There were two values, 2c. and 5c., the latter being for the Department of the Seine and Oise, and the 2c. for all the other Departments.

**Journaux.**—The French word for "journal" as shown at the base of the journal stamps issued in 1868.

**Jubile de L'Union Postale Universelle.**—The inscription shown upon the three large stamps issued in Switzerland in 1900 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union.

**Jubilee issues.**—Stamps issued to commemorate the jubilee of any historical event of local or general significance.

**Jubilee lines.**—The lines that appear around most panes and sheets of stamps printed by Messrs De La Rue and Co. They derive their name from the fact that they were first introduced in the production of the 1887 stamps of Great Britain.

**Jubileul de 25 ani al Domniei Regelul Carol I.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps of Roumania issued in 1891 to commemorate the 25th year of the reign of King Charles.

**Julia.**—The engraver of several of the stamps of Spain whose name is shown in small letters on the base of the bust of the designs of 1879, 1882, and 1889.

**Justice.**—The inscription shown on the United States stamps used for franking the correspondence of the Department of Justice prior to the introduction of the so-called penalty envelopes.

**Justice, Commerce, Freedom.**—The motto shown below the Coat-of-Arms on the stamps issued by the British South Africa Co.

**Juvara T. Airisio.**—An Italian engraver who engraved the die from which the stamps of Sicily were produced.

**Kaiser, J. W.**—An engraver of Amsterdam who engraved the die for the production of the 1864 stamps of Holland.

**Kais Koenigl Oesterr Post.**—The inscription shown upon all the stamps of Austria issued since 1890. It means "Imperial and Royal Austrian Post." A similar inscription, but with the "e" omitted from the second word, appears upon the stamps of 1888.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Bhopal.**—(Vol. II. p. 224).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have received the last consignment of stamps from the Postmaster-General of this Indian State. Our correspondents tell us that the Post Office is now closed, and that there are no more postage stamps left in the Treasury, the last 800 rupees worth having been purchased by a private individual in Bhopal. The new stamps, some of which were stolen from the printers' premises in London, have not been brought into use, and it is now hardly likely that they ever will be.

**Bolivia.**—(Vol. III. p. 129).—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, the 50c. stamp mentioned on page 129 is not a reissue of an old design in a new colour, but merely a reissue of old stock. It appears that there were considerable remainders of the 50c. red and 100c. yellow of 1891 (S. G. Nos. 55 and 56), and these have, for some reason or other, been brought into use again. A new issue is promised for 1909.

**British Honduras.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—*Der Philatelist* mentions the 2c. and 5c. in the Postal Union colours of red and blue respectively, but as this information probably refers to "specimen" copies, we defer including these stamps in our formal chronicle until we have actually seen them.

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 129).—Some of the values of the set overprinted "ELLAS" in Greek characters may be found with the last letter inverted, and another error has the Greek character for "d" (delta) instead of the "A". Both these varieties occur in the same setting. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* also reports the 5 lepta with the "A" omitted, the 5l. and 10l. (Prince George) with the surcharge reading "Elals," the 25l. with double surcharge, and the 10l., Hermes type, with the overprint omitted. The following are the numbers of the stamps surcharged:—



				s.	d.
1	lepton	150,000	...	...	0 1
2	lepta	100,000	...	...	0 1
5	"	150,000	...	...	0 1
10	"	(Prince George)	50,000	...	3 0
10	"	(Hermes)	100,000	...	0 2
20	"	50,000	...	...	0 3
25	"	100,000	...	...	0 4
50	"	50,000	...	...	0 8
1	drachma	10,000	...	...	1 3
2	drachmai	10,000	...	...	2 6
3	"	10,000	...	...	3 9
5	"	5,000	...	...	6 0

The 10l. Prince George and the 1dr. have all been sold, and it is said there are no more of these to be overprinted. Of the other values there will probably be further overprintings.

**Greenland.**—(Vol. III. p. 141).—The "PAKKE-PORTO" stamps which were said to have been issued under official authority are evidently a private speculation akin to the Labrador labels mentioned some months ago. A correspondent informs *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that he has received a post card from the Danish Postmaster-General, Copenhagen, on which the following appears:—"I beg to inform you that no stamps for Greenland have been issued. Letters from Greenland are by care of 'The Royal Danish Greenland Trading Company' forwarded to Copenhagen, and in this city the letters are furnished with Danish stamps."

**Holland.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a copy of the 15c. in two colours, to which we referred on page 104. Instead of being printed in brown the stamp now has the border in blue and the centre in rose. The complete list of varieties of the small type with Queen's portrait is now as follows:—



No wmk. Perf. 12½.

				s.	d.
3c.	orange	...	...	...	0 2
3c.	green	...	...	...	0 1
5c.	rose	...	...	...	0 2
7½c.	deep brown	...	...	...	0 3
10c.	slate	...	...	...	0 3
12½c.	blue	...	...	...	0 4
15c.	brown	...	...	...	0 6
15c.	blue and rose	...	...	...	0 5
17½c.	lilac	...	...	...	0 6
20c.	green	...	...	...	0 8
20c.	yellow green and grey	...	...	...	0 6
22½c.	brown and green	...	...	...	0 7
25c.	rose and blue	...	...	...	0 8
50c.	green and lake	...	...	...	1 3



**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III, p. 117)—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports a slight modification in the design of the 40c. of the new type the name of the engraver "C. L'Epplatennier" being replaced by the initials "C.L." as on all the other values.



**United States.**—(Vol. III, p. 155)—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1c. of the new type with portrait of Franklin as a centre-piece and, as will be noted from our illustration, the design is in every way as neat and effective as the new 2c. It will be seen that the value is in words only so that the surmise that only the 2c. would be issued in this state is incorrect.



*New Series. Perf. 12.*

				s.	d.
1c. green	...	...	...	0	1
2c. carmine	...	...	...	0	2

**NOTE.**

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

# From other Magazines

**New Zealand Pictorials.**

The reduction in size of the 3d., 6d., and 1s. values is now a matter of ancient history, but the reason which brought it about is not quite apparent. It is merely a question of the stamps fitting the watermark. The single-lined NZ Star watermarked paper exists in two varieties, (1) 240 to the sheet with a space of 9mm. between adjoining watermarks, and (2) 120 to the sheet with a space of 24mm. The former exactly fits the small size stamps (½d., 1d., 2d., 4d.\*) and the latter the large stamps† (2½d., 5d., 9d., 2s.). For the small stamps from the original (unreduced) Waterlow plates (3d., 6d., 8d., 1s.) the first was used sideways, but in consequence of the watermark not being in register with the stamp, the marginal rows and columns did not bear the watermark at all, but portions of the marginal watermark of the sheet, "New Zealand Postage," and the corner stamps were generally without any watermark whatever. It was to remedy this defect that the three above-mentioned values were reduced in size. The reduction was carried out by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., Ltd., and in each case the design of the stamp was slightly altered. In addition to this, the 3d. and 6d. values have a minute dot between the stamps in the horizontal rows.

The 6d. stamp made its appearance in March, 1907, and was perforated 14. About February, 1908, this perforation gave way to a comb producing a perforation 14 x 13, 13½, and this in its turn was superseded a few months later by a new comb of 14 x 15. In the first comb perforation it bids fair to become one of the rarities of the series.

The 8d. appeared in July, 1907, perf. 14, and with the first comb perforation about February, 1908. It has not yet been met with in the second comb perforation.

The 1s. was issued at the end of December of last year in the first comb perforation, and in the second about August last.

The only other stamps that have appeared in the new comb perforations are the ½d. and 4d. values. The former

has appeared in both, and the latter in the first one only.

These are not the first comb machines that have been used for these stamps. As far back as May, 1906, a comb machine gauging 14 x 14½ was used for a short time for the ½d. and 1d. values, and then for some reason or other abandoned. The stamps are very scarce in unused condition and well worth looking for.—*J. A. L., in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, Dec., '08.*

\* The 4d. plate only contains 80 stamps, and the sheet is cut up to print it.

† The 1½d. and 5s. stamps are of still larger size, and for their production the first paper is used; two watermarks fall to every stamp.

**Indian Stamps used Abroad.**

Now that so much attention is being paid to British stamps used abroad, we think it is time somebody made a study of Indian stamps used outside India. The study would be of great historic and philatelic interest, and by no means a simple matter. Indian stamps were used by our armies in the Persian, Abyssinian, Chinese and Somali wars, and also occasionally in South Africa, but in the latter it is doubtful whether they were officially authorized. In times of peace they were used in the Straits Settlements, which were part of India till the middle sixties, in Zanzibar, B. E. A., Uganda, Somaliland, Persian Gulf ports, e.g., Bushire, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, and in Baghdad and Teheran. Outlying portions of the Indian Empire as at present constituted should also be attended to, for instance, Aden, Perim, Andamans, the former of which has at various times recently been on the verge of going over to the Foreign Office. Both service and ordinary postage were in use wherever Indian stamps were current after 1866.—*Philatelic Journal of India.*

**British South Africa, 1896-7. Imperfs.**

I have been unable to find any record of the 8d. imperf. (1896-7 issue) as catalogued in Stanley Gibbons, but the facts as to the 3s. are as follows:—Only one sheet was known with this variety, and this sheet had the

bottom row imperf. and therefore the adjacent (fifth) row imperf., on one side. This had been in the main stock in the Distributor's office at Fort Jameson for many years, and was eventually issued, in the ordinary course, to the post office at Fort Jameson when two gentlemen were lucky enough to secure the entire double row containing the variety. Half—the right-hand double row of five—I eventually bought. Unless some of the errors of the Bulawayo provisionals are scarcer, which I doubt, and excepting the 8d. imperf. of which I know nothing, this is the rarest stamp in this country, as there are only ten in existence, and it is, in my opinion, of far more interest than, for instance, a local printer's error, such as the inverted centre "B.C.A." provisional 1d. of 1898, which was also limited to ten, and is catalogued at £65. An error from such a firm as Perkins Bacon & Co. is beyond suspicion as being "accidentally done on purpose," which all local errors are not—though I do not impute any such design to the particular error in the "B.C.A." quoted though none of that provisional issue were sold over the counter to the public, which accounts for the high price of unused specimens. The 3s. imperforate, is undoubtedly a genuine error, which slipped into the consignment without the consignor's notice, and is entirely free from any suspicion of speculation. It was sold at the post office in the ordinary course of business.

—F. H. Melland in the *London Philatelist*.

#### France: Current 10c. Semeuse Imperf.

Apart from the 5 centimes, Semeuse type, plain background, imperforate, which have turned up in considerable quantities from no one knows where, and whose appearance is the subject of an official enquiry, we record the existence of the 10 cent Semeuse, current type, imperforate, which was officially issued in error.

A sheet of these stamps was discovered by a young employee of the post office at Mans, and he immediately set himself to cut them up, until he was interrupted by an officer of the garrison, an ardent collector, who appropriated a block of 25 for his collection. Thinking that these unperforated stamps might possibly interest one of his friends at Paris who was a collector, he wrote to him, and received at once a request to send all he had. Having a block of 75 left he sent them to his friend, and had hardly done so when the noise of his find came to the ear of a superior, also a collector, who came too late to get a block of four for his collection, although he ultimately obtained what he wanted from the recipient at Paris.—*L'annonce Timbrologique*, translated by *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Dec., 08.

#### Liberia: First Issue Imperf.

In the case of this issue we are first of all met with the question as to the status of the imperforate stamps. Were these ever in use? As far as I am aware, no; undoubtedly used specimens are known, and all we can say of them is that they seem to have been regarded by the early authorities as a separate issue. Writing of them in 1867, E. L. Pemberton described them as being far rarer than the perforated set, adding that "they can only be secured now on the breaking up of an old collection."—*Philatelic Record*.

#### Abyssinia: Piastre Provisionals.

This country, as I have previously stated, was admitted to the Postal Union on 1st November, 1908, but the new set of stamps to celebrate the occasion, and which will conform to Postal Union requirements, will certainly not be ready for issue before 1st January next.

A short time ago, probably some time in August or September, a stock of 200,000 of each of the values  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 guerches (or piastres) of the current (old design)

stamps was delivered in Adis Ababa, the capital of Abyssinia, as it was thought that that quantity would last till the new stamps could be put on sale.

According to the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, 100,000 stamps of each value were delivered to the Royal Treasury and 100,000 to the Post Office. Between 10th and 18th September the whole of stock held by the Treasury was overprinted with the corresponding values in piastres in each case; and these stamps were apparently sold concurrently with the uncharged stamps at the Post Office!—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 19.12.08.

#### Hamburg Post Office "Find."

A rumour has been going round that a number of boxes have been unearthed in the Hamburg post offices, which are said to contain a quantity of unused postage stamps, issued subsequent to 1859. A certain dealer residing in the town made inquiries at the head post office, but was told very mysteriously that it was an official secret, about which no information could be given.

I expect that the "find," presuming it exists, forms part of a reserve stock, which used to be kept at the chief post office, and that it was lost sight of in 1866, that year of confusion and tumult throughout the whole of Germany.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 19.12.08.

#### Liberia: First Issue Dies.

There can be no doubt that, as Dr. Legrand wrote, the Liberian stamps must have been produced from three separate line-engraved dies. "The sheets were made up by transferring to the lithographic stone impressions taken from the original dies, and when one stone became too worn, it was easy to make another transfer by the same method"; but, as he went on to point out, these transfers would vary, even if done by the most skilled workman, who would naturally pay more attention to the actual designs than to the minute accuracy of their arrangement.—*Philatelic Record*.

#### Fiji: Queen's Head, 5s.

There is, as students of Fiji are aware, an unissued as well as an issued stamp of this value and design. Mr. Phillips describes both in his handbook, and adds:—

"These unissued stamps differ in many details from the issued stamps. . . . The easiest points for distinguishing them are as follows:—

##### "ISSUED, LITHOGRAPHED.

"Star in left corner some distance from label containing value. Tongue of 'F' in 'Fiji' well centred. Thin black line enclosing central circle.

##### "UNISSUED, ELECTROTYPED.

"Star nearly touches the label. Tongue of 'F' too near the top of the letter. Thick black line enclosing central circle."

The imperforate specimens discovered by Mr. Nissen are of the issued variety, lithographed, and on the Cowan paper, with the watermark of the word "Cowan" in old English outline type extending over five stamps, whereas the unissued stamps are watermarked "New South Wales Government" in large double-lined capitals.

Probably not more than fifty specimens (one sheet) of the 5s. imperforate are in existence.—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 12.12.08.

#### Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## British New Guinea: 2s. 6d. Unsurcharged.

As I suspected, the price of 20s. in Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s new catalogue for the 2s. 6d. value of British New Guinea unsurcharged is a mistake.

Mr. Whitfield King writes to me as follows:—

"With reference to the paragraph in this week's *Postage Stamp* (page 144), I should explain that the prices in the catalogue ought to have been revised, but owing to the type being shifted from the beginning of the catalogue to its new heading of Papua, it was overlooked, but a revised list has been published in the December 'Novelty List,' a copy of which I enclose. I have sold completely out of the unused 2s. 6d. unsurcharged."

In the Novelty List which accompanied this letter the stamp is priced 75s. used, but unused it is left unpriced

## Whitfield King's Novelty List.

Messrs Whitfield King & Co's Novelty List for December contains a full and revised list of Papuan varieties for specialists, a priced list of the overprinted Crete stamps, and a special offer of scarce errors of the Provisional issue of Iceland surcharged "Gildi."

## Roumanian Jubilee Stock.

It is stated that the stock of Roumanian Jubilee stamps has been sold to a banking firm for 200,000 francs. and that it will be offered in sets in lots of the value of not less than 5,000 francs.

I fancy the price will have to be a very low one to secure buyers.

## Mirabau's Swiss Collection.

It has been understood that M. Mirabau's collection was destined for some public museum, but that rumour was evidently wrong, for it is announced that the Swiss portion, valued at 200,000 francs, has been sold to Herr Zumstein, of Berne.

## Crete Overprints: Official Speculation.

Mr. Frank Phillips says in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* that there is no doubt that the overprinted stamps was not merely an official speculation as the number overprinted was large except the 10 lepta with head of Prince George, of which he hears that about nine-tenths were bought up privately by post office officials, "as they know very well that there was no stock of that value overprinted to spoil their market later on."

## Crete: Numbers Overprinted.

The numbers overprinted are given as follows:—

1 lepton	...	...	150,000
2 lepta	...	...	100,000
5 "	...	...	150,000
10 "	(Prince George)	...	30,000
10 "	(Hermes)	...	100,000
20 "	...	...	50,000
25 "	...	...	100,000
50 "	...	...	50,000
1 drachma	...	...	10,000
2 drachmæ	...	...	10,000
3 "	...	...	10,000
5 "	...	...	5,000

## The J. M. Bartels Co.

Mr. Bartels sends me his list of specialised approval books. He recognises that specialisation is the tendency of the times and he has arranged his stock accordingly. His address now is Old South Building, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

## B. & K. Items.

Which, being translated into plain English, means Bridger & Kay's circular list of offers of special stamps.

It is a tempting list of fine colonial stamps at low prices, with here and there the philatelic reason why some stamps are particularly worth buying for investment. Messrs. Bridger & Kay's address is 71, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

## The Tiffany Collection.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* is informed that the famous American Collection of the late Mr. John K. Tiffany, first president of the American Philatelic Association, has finally been disposed of to Mr. Frank P. Brown, of Boston, U.S.A. "Mr. Tiffany was the discoverer of the Alexandria Postmaster's stamp and for years had the only known copy. Another specimen, however, recently turned up and was sold for £700. It will be remembered that a year or two ago Mr. Tiffany's philatelic library was purchased by the Earl of Crawford, K.T., for a sum reported to be no less than £2,000."

## Auction Summary.

*Puttick & Simpson, 8.12.08.*

	£	s.	d.
Lubeck, 1859, 2½ sch., brown, the error "Zwei ein halb," no gum*	...	1	7 6
Saxony, 1850, 3 pf., red	...	6	5 0
Tuscany, 1853, 9 cr., lilac grey, white paper	...	2	0 0
British East Africa, 1890, 1s. on 2d.*	...	1	12 0
Ditto, 1891, 1s., AB in MS on 2s.	...	3	5 0
Ditto, 1891, 1s., AB in MS on 4s.	...	1	18 0
Lagos, 1884, 2s. 6d., olive black*	...	3	0 0
Transvaal, 1885, 1d. on 3d. mauve, mint sheet of 60, with error "Prny" and inverted N, and first vertical row perf. 11½ x 12"	...	2	10 0
Ditto, 1885, 2d. on 6d., black, sheet of 60*	...	3	0 0
Uganda, March, 1895, 10 cowries, black, on thin laid paper, width of stamp 20 mm.*	...	1	8 0
Ditto, 1895, 5 cowries in violet, 17 mm., with large margin on left hand side*	...	1	10 0
Ditto, 1896, overprinted with L in black, 2s., 3s. and 1 rupee*	...	2	10 0
Ditto, ditto, 1 rupee*	...	1	12 0
Zanzibar, 1895, 1s., plum, blue surcharge*	...	2	5 0

*Venton, Bull & Cooper, 10.12.08.*

Great Britain, 1840, 1d., black, hor. strip of 3 with side margin*	...	2	10 0
Ditto, 1858-9, 1d., red, collection of plate numbers, including blocks and pairs,* 213 stamps	...	4	0 0
Ditto, 1d., red, plate No. 225, a hor. pair*	...	2	2 0
Ditto, 1d., red, imperf., plate No. 116, issued at Cardiff*	...	3	5 0
Ditto, 1878, wmk. Maltese Cross, £1, brown lilac, hor. pair*	...	4	17 6
Ditto, 1883, wmk. Anchor, £1, brown lilac on white paper	...	4	0 0
Ditto, 1884, wmk. 3 Crowns, £1, brown purple*	...	3	3 0
Maldives, 1906, set of 6 complete*	...	2	2 0

\* Signifies unused.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Messrs. John Walker & Co. repeat details of their popular Loose Leaf Stamp Albums with prices. They make excellent presents for this season of the year.

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. offer from their fine stock a few sample rarities at sample prices.

Messrs. Haworth & Co., Ltd., beg you not to pay fancy prices for your stamps, but write them for a selection and see for yourself what they can do for you.

Mr. F. R. Ginn has a long list of tempting items for your perusal

And Mr. Baldwin is anxious to bind all your philatelic periodicals for you. His work is done promptly and thoroughly.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

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### Philatelic Dictionary.

DEAR SIR,

The translation of "Indus uterque serviet uni" in *The Postage Stamp* (page 140) leaves something to be desired. The meaning is—Each of the two Indians (that is the Indian of the East and of the West) shall be servant to one (that is to the British ruler). "Uterque" means "both the one and the other," and "serviet" is in the future tense.

The West Indies were so named because the early discoverers believed that they were arriving at the East, or Asian, Indies.

The motto of Jamaica is an evident reminiscence of a fine passage at the end of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* (Book XV., lines 429-430), which speaks of "gentes ab utroque jacentes Oceano . . . pontus quoque serviet illi;" illi there referring to Augustus the Emperor—translated by Dryden, "Far as both Oceans roll, his power shall spread. •

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM BARNARD, M.A., LL.B.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from

the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

- Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.
- F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.
- Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.
- W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.
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### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### The Eastern Question.



It is stated that Russia will demand that some form of autonomy shall be guaranteed to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Seeing that Austria has annexed these two provinces without saying "by your leave," Russia's proposal to give them autonomy is a poser which may mean strained relations, and possibly war.

Meanwhile, philatelic changes await the political

### Foreign Post Offices in Turkey.

Austria has handed to Turkey proposals for a settlement of differences which include the closing of her Post Offices in Turkey, should other powers adopt the same course.

That is rather a tall order, and if carried out, will retire a great many sets of postage stamps, which will not be regretted philatelically.

### The "Unsuilied" Editor.

The "Unsuilied" Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India* having placed his Society in an embarrassing position by his attack on the Royal Philatelic Society, now disowns his predecessors, and then falls foul of Major Evans. Says he, "For as long as the present regime lasts, we are anxious to dissociate ourselves from the views of some of our predecessors regarding the legitimacy of the current issues of the two States above-mentioned, i.e., Bhor and Orcha."

His method of "disowning" his preceding editors is, to say the least, peculiar. He refers to a previously published item explanatory of the Orcha issue as "a pretty little story, which has since been incorporated in Gibbons' Catalogue," inferring that the previous editor was merely gulling his readers, and had duped Gibbons into following suit.

### Crofton v. Evans.

Then he goes on to sneer at the *Monthly Journal's* reception of the stamps of these States, twits Major Evans on his treatment of them, and says that in the case of Bhor, a Poona tradesman who was charged in the *Philatelic Journal of India* by a former "We" with "engineering" the issue, turned out on enquiry, to have been merely the contractor for supplying the presses and material, and he suggests that if the Orcha Jeweller, who is credited with having hit upon the stamps as a private speculation, had not died, he too would have no difficulty in clearing his reputation. He adds, "Mr. Wetherell's official account shows that Orcha has seventeen post offices of its own, which is more than several of the accepted stamp-issuing States. The account is eloquently silent as regards postage stamps, but we do not know whether this is due to editing."

Evidently other philatelists, especially other "We's" are a sad lot, according to the present "We."

### Major Evans's Reply to the Unsuilied "We."

To all this Major Evans replies:—

"It would manifestly be unseemly for an ignorant person like myself to express any decided opinion upon a subject on which the views of the present "We" of *The Philatelic Journal of India* are diametrically opposed to those of former occupants of the editorial chair. I possess the stamps in question and therefore speak of them without any prejudice against them.

"Bhor is a State which has never pressed its stamps upon the attention of collectors; its earlier half and one anna stamps remained in use for many years, without any intentional change, varying only in the shade of the red paint employed, and in the illegibility of the impressions produced; it is therefore not impossible that the stamp chronicled in 1901 may have been doing its duty during the last seven years, in the same unobtrusive manner as its predecessors, though it is curious that, if such be the case, no used copies should have turned up in ordinary course.

"Orcha commenced business in a very different fashion; the first stamps seen were in entire sheets, neatly postmarked to order, indicating an intimate acquaintance with the weaker side of philately, which was only too likely to arouse a certain amount of suspicion. So far as I am aware, the stamps of Orcha have never yet been

seen by European collectors and dealers in any less questionable shape; if therefore their reputation is none of the best, that fact is due in part to the action of the State authorities at the commencement of the issue, and in part to the inaction of the writer of the article given above, who has allowed an innocent and indeed highly meritorious State to be grossly libelled for eight long years."

**The Present "We" of the Philatelic Journal of India.**

The present "We" of the *Philatelic Journal of India* says, "For as long as the present regime lasts." Ah!

And some members of the Philatelic Society of India are said to wish the present regime to Jericho. He seems almost as effective as the occupant of the chair who dubbed a London stamp dealer "Jack the Ripper" for making things too lively to be acceptable to sedate bodies.

Some time ago I met a prominent member of the Indian Society, and I begged him not to disturb the "present regime," for it keeps us from going to sleep. But he looked furious!

**The Imperial Gazetteer of India.**

Mr. Crofton refers to the "Imperial Gazetteer of India" as being published in four volumes! I wish it had been got into four volumes, for then I should not have had to pay for twenty-three vols. out of the scanty earnings of a humble scribbler.

I have turned up the reference to Orcha in Vol. 19, which is as follows:—"There was no postal system of any kind in the State until 1895. A regular State service was then instituted, with an office at each police station. An issue of stamps was also made. British post offices are maintained at Tikamgarh, Baldeogarh, and Jatara."

Apparently our Gibbons will have to remove its boycott, and philatelically recognise the State of Orcha, or "Orcha" as it is given in the official "Imperial Gazetteer of India."

**Effectiveness of the Gibbons Boycott.**

This Orcha business illustrates very forcibly the effectiveness of the Gibbons boycott, or, in other words, the power which the Gibbons catalogue still has in the stamp world.

Here is a State which according to an eminent Indian philatelist and the official "Imperial Gazetteer of India" has been legitimately issuing postage stamps since 1895, and because it is ignored by Gibbons, it is also ignored by Scott, Whitfield King, and Field, inserted by Bright with a note that "It is possible that these stamps have been made only for collectors," and duly catalogued only by Senf.

**Some Other Reflections.**

It also illustrates other considerations. It illustrates the effect and the punishment of a State which introduces itself to the stamp collecting world by means of sheets postmarked to order, which certainly justified Major Evans in his estimate of the standing of the first postal issues of Orcha.

And it illustrates the strange unconcern of Indian philatelists. The *Philatelic Journal of India* has been in existence for the past twelve years, and yet it has taken all this time to get even an inkling of the facts as to the status of stamps issued by a Treaty State of Central India.

Are native issues so unpopular in India as to be below the investigation of such a representative periodical as the official journal of the Philatelic Society of India?

**Duke of Orleans Stamps.**

An Anti-Republican waiter out of employment, who violently assaulted M. Fallieres, the French President, on Christmas Day, 1908, on being searched after his

arrest was found to have in his possession an adhesive postage stamp bearing an effigy of the Duc d'Orléans, or, according to *The Times* correspondent "a collection of postage stamps bearing the effigy of the Duc d'Orléans." These bogus stamps are said to be part of the stock-in-trade of a movement for placing this capering Frenchman on the throne of France.

I wonder if some enterprising dealer will buy up the stock for sale as curiosities. They might find a place with Sedanga, Clipperton Islands, Pietersburgs, and other similar conceptions.

**Not for Use, but Used.**

Mr. W. R. Woodroffe, Durban, sends me a curiosity in the shape of an envelope franked by two ½d. Natal stamps with a "Not for Use" stamp between them, all duly cancelled, and passed through the post.

It will be remembered that the booklets of penny stamps issued some time ago in Natal had, on the outside, a sample 1d. stamp overprinted "Not for Use."

Of course my correspondent's envelope must be an oversight on the part of the cancelling clerk.

**Great Britain, 1d. red, Stars in Corners.**

So much interest is being paid to minor varieties in the stamps of Great Britain that no excuse is needed for quoting from Mr. Oswald Marsh's trade circular the following description of a block of the 1857-8 1d. rose-red on white, which he has recently obtained:—

"The block which is lettered GH—GJ, HH to LJ, MH—MJ, and also ML shows two distinct varieties of corner lettering, specially noticeable are the letters J, K and M. The stamp lettered IJ has the J with a flat curve, that lettered JH has a very tall J with the curve almost straight and hardly showing any trace of a curl to the ball. All the others lettered with a J seem of a more normal shape and closely resemble each other. The stamps lettered K in right corner are all quite normal but the K in left corners of KK and KL seems to be top-heavy. MH and MI show normal letter M but MJ and ML have the last stroke much shorter than the first, being only about four-fifths of the height and not reaching properly to the level of the 1st stroke, though on the same base line at the foot. We do not know which plate this block is from, but it is not from plate 48 of which plate we have a block showing the 8 top rows with full margins."

**Royal Free Use of the Post.**

It is said that the Grand Duke of Oldenburg has renounced his royal prerogative of the free use of the post, and that some German papers which have recently advocated the suppression of this prerogative in the case of all the German Royal Families praise the Grand Duke's example.

**The Two C. J. P's.**

Mr. C. J. Phillips (Stanley Gibbons) has at last found it necessary to issue a "disclaimer" that he is not Mr. C. J. Phillips, of Bedford Park.

I thought we should get a bit mixed over these two C. J. P's. They are both active in stamps, but it must be awkward to find one speaking as it were for the other. If they were a couple of kittens we could have drowned one and so got rid of the confusion.

However, I think I can suggest a way out of the difficulty: the Bedford Park variety is called Cyril J. Phillips, and the Strand one is Charles J. Phillips; now if we do the familiar and call one Cyril and 'other Charlie all will be well with us and them, and remember that "Cyril" is of Bedford Park and King's head Club fame, and "Charlie" deals in "Post Office" Mauritius and other trifles in the Strand.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## Northern Nigeria.

THE colony of Northern Nigeria is a vast undeveloped native territory adjoining Southern Nigeria, with an area of 258,000 square miles and a population of 8,782,183.

Its first postage stamps were issued in 1900. Many of the values are getting very scarce. The first King's heads were issued in 1902, and were on single CA paper; the same series was not repeated on multiple paper until 1905, consequently the single CA's of this Colony have not risen so much in the catalogue as those of many other colonies.

Should the colony adopt the new colour scheme, further changes will be required.

**1902.** Nine values. Design: the same as in the previous series, the head of King Edward VII being substituted for that of Queen Victoria, and a miniature crown breaks the frame above the head. Otherwise the stamps are the same in value, colour, watermark and perforation, as the Queen's head issue.

As in the Queen's head series, the name and value tablet are in one colour, and the rest of the design in another. In this King's head series the colours are stronger. The 5d. and 6d., as before, are the only values with the value tablet unshaded.



*Wmk. Crown CA Single. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. purple and green	0 4	0 4
1d. " carmine	0 4	0 4
2d. " yellow	0 9	0 6
2½d. " blue	0 9	0 9
5d. " chestnut	1 8	2 0
6d. " violet	3 0	2 0
1s. green and black	5 0	4 0
2s. 6d. " blue	12 6	—
10s. " brown	20 0	20 0

### Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

This single CA watermark series having been superseded by a multiple CA watermark series in 1905 show considerable increase in quotations in 1906 with a further upward tendency in 1908.

Without a single exception all values have steadily increased in price during the last three years, thus demonstrating the fact that King's heads single CA stamps, even in such cases as this where they had a fairly long life, are a good investment. The 6d., 1s. and 2s. 6d. seem to be the most promising of the series.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d.	0 1	0 1	0 4	0 4
1d.	0 2	0 2	0 4	0 4
2d.	0 3	0 3	0 6	0 9
2½d.	0 4	0 4	0 9	0 9
5d.	0 7	0 7	1 3	1 3
6d.	0 8	0 8	2 0	3 0
1s.	1 4	1 4	4 6	5 0
2s. 6d.	3 3	3 3	—	12 6
10s.	12 6	12 6	20 0	20 0

**1904.** One value. Design: as in the last issue, but printed on paper watermarked multiple Crown CA.

*Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used
	£25	£28
green and carmine	—	—

**1905.** Nine values. Design: as in the last series, but printed on paper watermarked multiple Crown CA. Values and colours remain as before, but some specialists differentiate between ordinary paper and a subsequent printing on a surfaced paper termed chalky paper. The 1d., 1d., 6d., and 1s. exist on both papers, the other values on ordinary paper only up to the present. Perforated 14.

*Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. purple and green	0 1	0 2
1d. " carmine	0 2	0 2
2d. " yellow	0 3	—
2½d. " blue	0 4	—
5d. " chestnut	0 7	—
6d. " violet	2 0	—
1s. green and black	1 6	—
2s. 6d. " blue	3 3	—
10s. " brown	12 6	—

### General Remarks.

The 1d. green, 1d. carmine, and 2½d. blue, all unicoloured in conformity with the Postal Union scheme of colours have been announced, but have not yet been received.

The stamps of this colony are favourites with many collectors, and especially with those who specialise in King's head, though for some they are not sufficiently productive of varieties. Still, there is much to be said for a comparatively quiet country that does not make too frequent call upon the pocket. Northern Nigerians may be described as solid, substantial, quiet, and free from all speculative taint.

### Note.

*For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

# Our Library Table

## A Colour Dictionary.

*A Colour Dictionary, giving two hundred names of colours specially prepared for Stamp Collectors by B. W. Warhurst. (Second edition). Sixty illustrations in colours. London: Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, W.C. 2s. 6d.*

We have received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., a second edition of their Colour Dictionary prepared by our old friend Mr. B. W. Warhurst, our philatelic authority on colours and colour names.

There are sixty illustrations in colour as before, but they have been revised, and more carefully graded and more delicately printed. And it seems to us that many are more true to their colour names than in the first edition of the work. This is particularly noticeable in the case of the scarlet plate which in the first edition was really a carmine tint, and even in the new edition it strikes us as being too pale and lacking the brightness that we are accustomed to associate with scarlet. Light rose or rose pink is a decided and much needed addition. Lilac is much improved in its paler shade, also violet in its intenser shade. The purples are posers, and do not accord with De La Rue's designation of that colour.

Stamp collectors will be glad to learn that future editions of the Gibbons' Catalogue will as far as possible conform to the colours of this Dictionary, for then there will be some basis to go upon.

### Stamp Colours are changed by age.

Mr. Warhurst reminds us that "difficulty is often experienced in recognising that stamp colours are changed by age, and that a name given correctly for a stamp as seen in its newly printed 'mint' condition, can really be the right name when postmarked specimens only are to be had some years after," and he goes on to explain that "the same issue of stamp when sold by a dealer may vary according to whether it is used or not, the catalogue colour being from the unused one which has not been exposed to sea air, obliterating inks, or contact with other discolouring articles in a mail bag. Badly made paper when damped for printing sometimes gives off a sufficiently appreciable quantity of soda or lime (used in the bleaching of the paper pulp) to affect chemically the printing ink after a time, if that also is of inferior quality. Strong sunlight or even ordinary atmospheric exposure often changes or fades away the original colour, some pigments being of a very fugitive character. The surface of the paper, rough or smooth, texture of silk, cotton or woollen fabrics, affect the apparent colours very much, as shown in the varying degrees of luminosity of certain colours already given, in different circumstances."

### How to Study Colours by Gas Light.

Artificial light is apt to upset our study of the colours of stamps, more particularly the electric light. Mr. Warhurst tells us that "a simple method of neutralising the yellow light from gas in matching colours at night is to place the stamp or colour to be matched in such a position that the light does not fall directly on it at a right angle and to hold a bright blue card or paper so that the light is reflected from it on to the stamp."

Some day we trust the success of this excellent edition will warrant author and publishers in a much more elaborate work on the same lines with double the number of illustrations. The production of such a work, entailing so many different printings, must necessarily be very costly.

## The Stamp Collectors' Annual.

*The Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1909. A Year Book of Philately, edited by Percy C. Bishop and Chas. Nissen, London: Chas. Nissen & Co., 7, Southampton Row, W.C. Price One Shilling net.*

This edition of the Stamp Collectors' Annual for 1909 is the sixth year of publication, and the Editors think it is the best of the series.

There are many useful features of a permanent character in the Annual, such, for instance, is the "Philatelic Literary Index" to the more important articles published in the various stamp journals during the year, the story of the year, and special articles on "Postmarks and their Collection" and "Condition in the Auction Rooms," are decidedly interesting. "The Potential Value of Used Queen's Heads" by a Speculator touches the fringe only of a big question.

## A Directory of Dealers.

*Nunn's Directory: The Stamp Dealers of Great Britain; compiled and published by Chas. J. Endle & Co., Boscombe, Bournemouth. Revised and corrected to November, 1908. Sixpence.*

This is the twentieth edition of Nunn's Directory. It is a Directory of Stamp Dealers and their wares. But it is a curious compilation. For instance, under the head of "Dealers and Manufacturers of Albums," there is no mention whatever of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., who probably send out more albums than all the rest put together. Under the head of "Publishers" there is again no mention of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., nor of Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, the Publishers of *The Postage Stamp*, and why? Simply because these firms do not fill up some form sent them by the compilers of this Directory, as if the publications sent out by these firms did not convey ample information for any compiler of a Directory.

## Great Britain: Line Engraved.

*Great Britain Line Engraved Stamps. By Fred J. Melville, President of the Junior Philatelic Society, 1909, Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, London, W.C. Sixpence net.*

This is a very attractively got up little handbook to the line engraved stamps of Great Britain. The chapters, seven in all, treat of the production of the stamps 1840-1880 one penny, 1840-1880 twopence, 1870-1880 one halfpenny, 1870-1880 three halfpence, bibliography and check list.

It is very neatly and effectively illustrated with enlarged and other illustrations of the stamps, watermarks and cancellations, also portraits of Rowland Hill and the partners in Perkins Bacon & Co. when they were the printers of our English stamps.

Accompanying the book is a very useful gummed sheet of labels for affixing to the pages of an album.

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series



# Bhor and Orcha

From the "Philatelic Journal of India"

FOR as long as the present regime lasts, we are anxious to dissociate ourselves from the views of some of our predecessors regarding the legitimacy of the current issues of the two States above-mentioned. It was in September, 1900, that we first announced a forthcoming issue for Bhor, adding that as the post offices in Bhor have for years past been worked by the Imperial Post, the stamps cannot be employed for any legitimate purpose. The current half-anna stamp did not reach England until about a year later, when it was greeted by the *Monthly Journal* for September, 1901, in the following terms:—

"In spite of the inscription 'Bhor State Postage' at the top, we believe it to be intended solely for the extraction of Revenue from stamp collectors, as the post offices in that State have long been worked by the Imperial Government. We mention this curiosity by way of warning."

In June, 1902, the *Monthly Journal* disposed of the matter to its own satisfaction as follows:—

"There has been some discussion in the magazines as to the possibility of there being any use for a state issue of postage stamps here, and we published in January some information which professed to show that there was still a State Post Office in Bhor, though it did not do much business. We are glad, however, to learn from the following letter, received by Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son, that such is not the case, and that the stamp of last year may be safely struck out of our lists."

"OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE  
POST OFFICE OF INDIA.

CALCUTTA, 22nd April, 1902.

"GENTLEMEN,—With reference to your letter dated the 10th October, 1901, containing an enquiry relative to the stamps issued by the Bhor Native State, I have the honour to say that as the postal arrangements within the State in question are managed by this department, there is no scope for the use of the Bhor Native State stamps for the payment of postage within that State.

"I have, etc.,

"Asst. Director-General."

## Crofton & Wetherell's Accounts.

About a year later, when we were ourselves exercising the functions of political agent to the Bhor State, we took the trouble to write in these pages a description of the State Postal system, including a list of the State Post Offices which were working at that time. When a system which is in progress under one's own eyes is disbelieved in, one is rather at a loss to know what to do next to conquer prejudice, and there the matter had to rest for a time. In 1906, however, Mr. Wetherell got hold of, and printed in this journal, an official description of the postal arrangements in the majority of the Native States which contained the following passage:—

"Though the Nawab of Junagad and the Chief of Bhor have no objection to the opening of Imperial Post Offices and lines in their States, they are unwilling to abolish their State daks and stamps. The Government of Bombay is also unwilling to bring pressure to bear on these Chiefs to accept postal unity."

## Imperial Gazetteer on Bhor and Orcha.

During the present year the Government of India has published an official Imperial Gazetteer in four volumes containing a chapter by a leading authority on each department of the administration. That the chapter on the Post Office is innocent of philatelic influence may be gathered from the fact that postage stamps take up no more than twelve lines out of many pages, and that the most important change that has ever taken place in Indian postage stamps was the adoption of Postal Union colours. In discussing the Native State postal systems, this chapter states clearly that Bhor and Orcha use their own stamps

## Bhor Stamps not Speculative.

The various reasons, inherent in the stamps themselves, why the Bhor issue should not be speculative have been pointed out before, and do not require more than the briefest recapitulation. They are:—

1. That the issue is confined to one low value.
2. That it was accompanied by similar stamps for receipts and Court Fees.
3. That so far from pushing its sale, the State has actually discouraged applications from philatelists
4. That the stamp it succeeded was hopelessly inefficient.

The current issue of Orcha was announced by us at very much the same time as the Bhor stamp, and while the same spirit was in the air. In the autumn of 1900 we suggested that all the Orcha stamps were intended for the collection of revenue; a little later we expressed the belief that the stamps were entirely speculative, and that they were not used for any postal purpose, and finally we produced the following pretty little story which has been incorporated in Gibbons' Catalogue ever since.

## The Pretty Little Story.

"We have now some more definite news about the Orcha stamps. It seems they were a private speculation on the part of a European jeweller, who hit upon the idea when on a trade tour in the Orcha State. He stipulated that he alone was to have the sale of them. He is dead now, and the State considers that this incident has loosened the bonds of the contract, and it is now, we believe, prepared to supply philatelists (if they care to buy)."

As an amusing instance of the lengths to which people may be led astray by a story of this kind, we may point out that no less an authority on Indian Native State stamps than Major Evans illustrated in the French Official Catalogue of 1904, the common one anna receipt stamp of Orcha as a bogus postal!\*

This is all the more remarkable since he himself in the *M. J.* of October, 1900, considered the same stamp was probably correctly classed as a fiscal.

The circumstances of Orcha are extraordinarily like those of Bhor. In the latter a Poona tradesman who was charged in these pages with "engineering" the issue,

\* I do not quite understand why my faith in a story, which was published in a highly respected contemporary, should have led to the insertion of the wrong illustration in the French Official Catalogue. The fact is that after sending my MS. (in which no illustrations were inserted) to the editors of the Catalogue in question, I heard no more of it until the work was published, and I therefore had no opportunity of correcting any errors in illustrations or otherwise.—E. B. E.

turned out on enquiry to have been merely the contractor for supplying the presses and material; and if only the Orcha jeweller had not died, we expect he too would have no difficulty in clearing his reputation. Mr. Wetherell's official account shows that Orcha has seventeen post offices of its own, which is more than several of the accepted stamp-issuing States. The account is eloquently silent as regards postage stamps, but we do not know whether this is due to editing. The Imperial Gazetteer clearly states that Orcha uses its own postage stamps, and, finally, the postal issue was accompanied by issues for receipt and court fee purposes which are very familiar in used condition to collectors of fiscals.

Between 1900 and 1904 our editorial outlook underwent a considerable change, for in the latter year the new issue for Jaipur was chronicled without any reservation, though there were just as many Imperial Post Offices in that State as in the former two. A philatelic demand accordingly arose for Jaipur stamps that could not be satisfied with the original primitive methods of manufacture and a new issue was therefore ordered from England.

We have now to endeavour to account for the prejudice on the part of the Imperial Post Office which has given rise to misleading and inaccurate statements regarding the Bhor issue. It is hardly necessary to state that we do not for a moment believe the inaccuracies are intentional. We look upon them as merely careless, or in the alternative, as inspired by excessive zeal. In the administration of a system of uniform rates, irrespective of distance, over a large area, the loss on the long distances is expected to be made up by the profit on short distances, and when the latter is carried off by any considerable number of local posts, the success of the whole is seriously impeded. It was for this reason that in most European countries the introduction of uniform rates was accompanied by the suppression of local posts. The English Circular Delivery Companies and the Oxford and Cambridge College issues are instances of infractions of the postal laws which were visited by the displeasure of the authorities. In India the Government has not cared to enforce postal laws upon the semi-independent native princes, and the absorption of the local posts is left to amicable and mutual arrangements made by the Post Office Department, with whom the extension of these arrangements has always been a cardinal point of policy. The Imperial Post Office is always trying to get the Native States to give up their own systems, not, as some think, out of tender care for philatelists, but simply for its own profit and efficiency. Much as we sympathise with these endeavours, and much as we wish them success, yet we are bound to say that the official opinion of the Imperial Post Office regarding the necessity or scope of any native issue is the very last opinion we should look to to form

our own estimate. The post offices of Bhor and Orcha may at any time succumb to the blandishments of their big neighbour, and collectors of native issues, among whom we do not number ourselves, may find themselves with some awkward blanks to fill.

#### Major Evans's Reply.

It would manifestly be unseemly for an ignorant person like myself to express any decided opinion upon a subject on which the views of the present "we" of *The Ph. J. of I.* are diametrically opposed to those of former occupants of the editorial chair. I possess the stamps in question and therefore speak of them without any prejudice against them.

Bhor is a State which has never pressed its stamps upon the attention of collectors; its earlier half and one anna stamps remained in use for many years, without any intentional change, varying only in the shade of the red paint employed, and in the illegibility of the impressions produced; it is therefore not impossible that the stamp chronicled in 1901 may have been doing its duty during the last seven years, in the same unobtrusive manner as its predecessors, though it is curious that, if such be the case, no used copies should have turned up in ordinary course.

Orcha commenced business in a very different fashion; the first stamps seen were in entire sheets, neatly post-marked to order, indicating an intimate acquaintance with the weaker side of Philately, which was only too likely to arouse a certain amount of suspicion. So far as I am aware, the stamps of Orcha have never yet been seen by European collectors and dealers in any less questionable shape; if therefore their reputation is none of the best, that fact is due in part to the action of the State authorities at the commencement of the issue, and in part to the inaction of the writer of the article given above, who has allowed an innocent and indeed highly meritorious State to be grossly libelled for eight long years. For a State which starts its stamp-issuing career in such a very dubious manner, and which, on being shown the error of its ways, forthwith repents, reforms, and employs its stamps for so many years, without further advertisement of their existence is truly deserving of the greatest credit. Still it is odd that none of those used stamps turn up, and I hesitate to recommend the stamps of Orcha, without some further information as to their character, least, peradventure, the original story as to their illegitimate origin should turn out to be true after all, and it should appear that the State authorities, finding that Stamp Collectors had no use for their stamps, realized that they had no use for them either.—E. B. EVANS.

## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in

philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready in a few days and will be

#### No. 1. Jamaica and Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 165).

**Kais Kon** (or *Konigl Zeitung Stampel*).—The inscription shown upon the Imperial Journal stamps of Austria. It means "Imperial and Royal Journal stamps."

**Kamerons.**—(See "CAMEROONS.")

**Kamerun.**—The German rendering of "Cameroons" as shown upon the stamps of that Colony.

**Karoline Is.**—(See "CAROLINE IS.")

**Karolinen.**—The German equivalent of "Caroline Is." as shown upon the stamps of that Colony.

**Kashmir.**—(See "JAMMU & KASHMIR.")

**Katchak stamps.**—There are Turkish stamps surcharged with certain marks indicating that they are from "contraband" letters. Most of the male and female servants employed in Constantinople come from the provinces or from the Greek Islands of the Archipelago, and in journeying to or from their homes they frequently carry letters for their friends. This is contrary to the regulations and if the fraud is detected at the Customs House the luckless individual is charged double postage, half of which becomes the perquisite of the detector. Stamps in payment of the postage and fine are affixed to the letters and stamped with various devices in Turkish characters which read "Katchak Posta," i.e., "Smuggled letter."

**Kate, F. C. Ten.**—A Dutch artist who was responsible for the designs of the 1872-88 stamps of Holland.

**K. C.** (or *CPbCKA*) *KHOWTA*.—The inscription shown on most of the early stamps of Serbia, meaning "Kingdom of Serbia, Postage."

**Kemahkotaan.**—A surcharge applied in 1896 to the then current stamps of Johore to commemorate the coronation of the new Sultan. The word means "Coronation."

**Keneta.**—The Hawaiian rendering of "cents" as shown upon most of the stamps of the Hawaiian Islands issued prior to 1894.

**KGL. Post Frm.**—The inscription shown on most Danish stamps issued prior to 1890. The first three letters are an abbreviation for "Kongeligt" and the last three for "freimærke," the whole inscription meaning "Royal Post, Free stamp."

**Khartoum.**—This name, in microscopic capitals, is engraved on one of the bales on the camel stamps of the Sudan.

**Kiautchou** (or "Kiao-Chao").—A German protectorate bordering the sea in the province of Shan-tung, China. The territory covers an area of about 200 square miles and has a population of about 90,000. It was leased to Germany in January, 1898 for a term of 99 years and was declared a German protectorate two months later. Postage stamps for this territory were first issued in 1900.

**Kingman's City Post.**—The inscription shown upon the labels issued in connection with Kingman's post.

**Kingman's Post.**—A semi-official postal service or-

ganised in Charleston, U.S.A., in 1850 for the delivery of local letters. The official service ceased with the arrival of the letters at Charleston, and various services were inaugurated for their prompt delivery within the district served by the post office. The extra fee charged was 2c.

**King's Heads.**—A very generally-used philatelic expression applied to stamps of the British Empire bearing the portrait of His Majesty King Edward VII.

**Kingston.**—A small town in the State of Tennessee, U.S.A., at which special 5c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861 previous to the introduction of the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States.

**Kingston Relief Fund 1d.**—A surcharge applied to a number of the 2d. stamps (1899 issue) of Barbados in 1906. The stamp was sold for 2d. but had only franking power to the extent of 1d., the extra 1d. being given to a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the disastrous earthquake in Jamaica.

**Kishengarh.**—A feudatory state in Rajputana, India, having an area of 874 square miles and a population of about 2½ millions. Postage stamps were first issued in 1899.

**K. K. Brief Marken.**—A watermark found once on the sheet of many of the stamps of Austria. It means "Imperial and Royal letter stamp."

**K. K. Post Stempel.**—The inscription shown upon the first stamps for Austria and Austrian Italy, meaning "Imperial and Royal Postage stamp."

**K. K. Post Zeitungs Stampel.**—The inscription shown upon the newspaper stamps of Austria. It means "Imperial and Royal Newspaper Postage stamp."

**Knoxville.**—A city in the state of Tennessee, U.S.A., having a population of about 33,000. It is one of the most important cities of the state and is famed for the beautiful marble quarried there. In 1861 special 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster to facilitate the prepayment of postage. These were superseded by the general set for the Confederate States.

**KNTAN.**—A surcharge applied to many of the stamps of Russia for use in the offices maintained by that country in China.

**Kobner (H.W.) & Lemkuhl.**—A firm of printers at Altona, who manufactured the stamps issued in the joint Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein in 1850.

**Kolonie Curacao.** This inscription is shown upon the current stamps of Curacao bearing the Queen of Holland's portrait. It means, of course, "Colony of Curacao."

**Kolonie Suriname** (Colony of Surinam)—The inscription that appears upon the current stamps of Surinam of the facial value of 10c. to 2½ gulden.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
 After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**British North Borneo.**—The 10c. brown and slate lilac has been found with the "BRITISH PROTECTORATE" overprint double according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.

**British Solomon Islands.**—(Vol. III. p. 56)—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the new stamps to which we referred on page 56. The design, as will be seen from our illustration, is very similar to that of the lithographed issue, the stamps being of ordinary shape, but with the design sideways. They are printed on multiple watermarked paper and are perf. 14.



Wmk. Multiple Cr. GA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
4d. pale green	...	0 1
1d. rose	...	0 2
2d. grey	...	0 3
2½d. bright ultramarine	...	0 4
5d. sage green	...	0 7
6d. mauve	...	0 8
1s. black on green paper	...	1 4

**Buiten Bezit.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 7½c., 17½c., and 22½c. of the Dutch Indies surcharged "BUITEN BEZIT," so that the complete list of values is now as follows:—

Numeral type. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
¾c. lilac	...	0 0½
1c. olive green	...	0 0½
2c. brown	...	0 1
2½c. green	...	0 1
3c. orange	...	0 1
5c. rose	...	0 2
7½c. slate	...	0 3



Portrait type. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
10c. dull blue	...	0 3
12½c. deep blue	...	0 4
15c. brown	...	0 5
17½c. bistre	...	0 6
20c. olive	...	0 6
22½c. brown and olive	...	0 7
25c. mauve	...	0 8
30c. chestnut	...	0 9
50c. lake brown	...	1 3

Portrait type. Large stamps. Perf. 11½ × 11.

	s.	d.
1 gul., lilac	...	2 6
2½ gul., slate	...	5 6

**Dutch Indies.**—(Vol. III. p. 141).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us copies of the new 17½c. and 22½c. stamps, which, though chronicled some months ago, have only just been issued. They are in the small portrait type, and the complete list of values is now as follows:—

Portrait Design. No wmk. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
10c. slate	...	0 3
10c. dull blue	...	0 3
12½c. deep blue	...	0 4
15c. brown	...	0 5
17½c. bistre	...	0 6
20c. greenish slate	...	1 6
20c. olive	...	0 6
22½c. brown and olive	...	0 7
25c. mauve	...	0 8
30c. chestnut	...	0 9
50c. lake brown	...	1 3

**Gold Coast.**—(Vol. II. p. 140).—The new 1d. stamp to which we referred on page 140 of our last volume, has at last been issued. As shown in our illustration the King's portrait occupies a central medallion something like that shown on the Transvaal stamps. At the top is an Imperial Crown with "GOLD" on the left and "COAST" on the right. The value, in numerals, is shown on two shields of triangular shape in the lower corners and between these is the inscription "POSTAGE & REVENUE," while ornamental scrolls and foliage appear on each side of the portrait medallion. The stamp is on "multiple" paper and perf. 14.



Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1d. carmine	...	0 2

**Java.**—(Vol. III. p. 116).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 7½c., 17½c., and 22½c. of the Dutch Indies with the "JAVA" overprint, so that the complete list now stands as follows:—



Numeral type.				s.	d.
	No wmk.	Perf.	12½.		
¼c. lilac ...	...	...	...	0	0½
1c. olive green ...	...	...	...	0	0½
2c. brown ...	...	...	...	0	1
2½c. green ...	...	...	...	0	1
3c. orange ...	...	...	...	0	1
5c. rose ...	...	...	...	0	2
7½c. slate ...	...	...	...	0	3



Portrait type.				s.	d.
	No wmk.	Perf.	12½.		
10c. dull blue ...	...	...	...	0	3
12½c. deep blue ...	...	...	...	0	4
15c. brown ...	...	...	...	0	5
17½c. bistre ...	...	...	...	0	6
20c. olive ...	...	...	...	0	6
22½c. brown and olive ...	...	...	...	0	7
25c. mauve ...	...	...	...	0	8
30c. chestnut ...	...	...	...	0	9
50c. lake brown ...	...	...	...	1	3

Portrait type. Large Stamps. Perf. 11½ × 11.				s.	d.
1 gul., lilac ...	...	...	...	2	6
2½ gul., slate ...	...	...	...	5	6

**Martinique.**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us three stamps of an entirely new design for this French Colony. In the centre is the portrait of a Creole lady of an evidently cheerful disposition. At the top is "MARTINIQUE," and below the portrait is "POSTES" with numerals of value at each side. On a tablet at the base is "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE," and in microscopic letters on the border at the left lower corner is the name of the designer "L. COLMET-DAAGE." The name of the colony, portrait, and numerals are printed in a colour quite distinct from that employed for the rest of the design.



No wmk. Perf. 13½ × 14.

	s.	d.
1c. brown and purple ...	0	0½
2c. sage green and purple ...	0	1
4c. claret and purple ...	0	1

**Nyassa.**—We have been shown the 50 reis. of the current type with the central portion inverted, so that the complete list of errors is now as follows:—

Errors. Centre inverted. No wmk. Perf. 12½ to 15.	
2½ reis, chocolate and black.	
10 " green " "	
50 " blue " "	
150 " orange brown and black.	
300 " green and black.	

**Natal.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—Mr. D. Campbell, Pietermaritzburg, kindly informs us that on November 30th, 1908, all stamps from 6d. to £1 inscribed "Postage & Revenue" were withdrawn and are to be burnt. The 2s. and 5s. inscribed "Postage" only were issued on the 3rd December, 1908. Both are on multiple paper. The colours are, 2s. blue frame, purple centre, and 5s. red frame, green centre, on yellow paper. The other values were not yet issued, but the £1 was expected the next day and further values as they are ready.

Inscribed "Postage" only.  
Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf. 14.  
2s. blue, purple centre.  
5s. red, green centre on yellow paper.

**Nicaragua.**—(Vol. III. p. 99).—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly records the 15c. on 2c. of 1902 with a double impression of the surcharge.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 154).—We have been shown the 60c. of the ordinary type, in orange brown, surcharged 5 centavos as shown in the accompanying illustration, making our list to date as follows:—



Ordinary stamps of 1904.  
Overprinted "Habilitado en—5 (or 20)—CENTAVOS"  
in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue green ...	0	3
5c. on 2c. carmine ...	0	3
5c. on 60c. chocolate ...	—	—
5c. on 60c. orange brown ...	—	—
20c. on 30. violet ...	0	6
Stamp of 1901-2. Similarly surcharged.		
5c. on 26c. orange ...	—	—

Mr. D. Field has shown us the 5c. on 60c. orange-brown mentioned above with the surcharge inverted.

Gibbons' Stamp Weekly records three errors in the 1c. on 1p. provisional which we chronicled on page 155.



The first of these has the date "1908" omitted, another has "UN CENTAVO" surcharged twice, and the third has "Habilitado" and the bar omitted. The first two are on the stamp with the carmine border, and the other on the variety in lake and black.

**Stam.**—(Vol. III. p. 142).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us three values of the current type sur-

charged with three lines of Siamese characters, then "Jubilee," and finally "1868-1908," as illustrated below. These are intended to commemorate the 40th year of the reign of King Chulalongkorn.



Surcharged as above.

	s.	d.
1 att, orange and green ... ..	0	1
3 atts, green... ..	0	2
18 atts, brown ... ..	0	8

Switzerland.—(Vol. III. p. 167).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1 franc in the new design, so that the complete list of values is now as follows:—

New design.  
Wmb. Cross. Perf. 11½.



	s.	d.
20c. vermilion and pale yellow ... ..	0	3
30c. red brown and pale green ... ..	0	5
35c. emerald and pale yellow ... ..	0	6
40c. purple and yellow ... ..	0	6
50c. green and pale green ... ..	0	7
70c. purple brown and yellow ... ..	0	10
1 fr. red and pale green ... ..	1	2
3 fr. yellow bistre and chrome yellow ... ..	3	6

Tetuan.—*Le Timbre Poste* states that the current 5c., 10c., and 25c. stamps of Spain have been surcharged "TETUAN" diagonally reading upwards. We await further particulars before including these in our formal chronicle.

Travancore.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us of a new stamp which has just been issued by this Indian State. Its face value is 4 cash, and apparently it is intended to take the place of the recent "¼" on ¼ chukram provisional. The design consists of the well-known Conch shell in a circle in the centre. Around this is a diamond frame on which "TRAVANCORE ANCHEL" is shown at the top and native characters at the base. On small diagonally placed tablets in the upper corners is "FOUR" on the left, and "CASH" on the right, while native equivalents are shown on corresponding tablets in the lower corners. The spandrels are filled with trefoil ornamentation.

#### NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

## From other Magazines

### Australian Stamps: Fades.

It may be that familiarity breeds contempt (remarks our contemporary) but we see so many "fades" of various Australian stamps that we have ceased to consider any of them remarkable. Exposure to the strong semi-topical sun to which we are accustomed in this country will quickly fade the colours of many of our stamps; some are more susceptible to change than others, violets and purples seem the most so. For instance, the New South Wales 1d. centennial (harbor) and the old South Australian 4d. first type, frequently present themselves in a pale grey-green, and we have seen the old Q. L. full face 1s. violet in a lovely greenish colour.

We have often wondered to what extent exposure either to a strong sun or ordinary daylight is responsible for some of the pale shades seen.—*The Australian Philatelist*.

### Sea Water Varieties.

A curious result of the wreck of the mail steamer Aeon on Christmas Island was the change in the colour of the U.S. 2c. stamp to a reddish brown or chestnut in consequence of immersion in salt water. For a few days after the mails arrived in Sydney, several of our friends brought specimens in to show us, and some tried to make us believe it was a new issue, but the scheme didn't work. We simply told them their story was "Ancient History" to us. We received several letters by the same steamer, and were prepared.—*The Australian Philatelist*.

### Recent Provisionals of Paraguay.

It appears from the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* that certain recent provisionals of Paraguay surcharged "Habilitado en 5 centavos" have never been used for postage. The following are the stamps in question:—

10c. dark violet, Official, 1904.	
20c. " " " "	
20c. green " " "	
20c. bright red " " "	
60c. violet " " 1908.	
15c. orange " " 1892.	
50c. grey " " "	

These five provisionals, it is said, have never been issued in Paraguay, although 408 specimens were sent to the Postal Union Offices at Berne. Three of the values were sent straight from the printing office to Buenos Aires, two values were sold direct to Paris, while the two 1892 issues still remain in the hands of the late postmaster. The issues of these last-named stamps is said to be 698 copies each, whereas the others are printed in an issue of 50,000 each, with the exception of the 1908 issue, of which there were 20,000. The stamps it is stated, have no postal value whatever, although they were ordered by officials of the Paraguay Post Office.

The above information is sent by a correspondent of our contemporary direct from Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay.—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 26.12.08.

**Great Britain Varieties.**

ny, he left the Fatherland in the late up an official position in Australia, until two or three years ago. As a director of a number of mining con- took him to all parts of the Common- ny years now he has been at work on (in) stamps, with the result that he has rful and most interesting discoveries, being the classification of four entirely s of the check letters used for the early ny stamps. Needless to say, when Mr ublished the result of his researches, an one scoffer who ridiculed the idea, eries have absolutely left no loophole of ur entirely different general classes of sed, which in turn have various sub- and purposes of the specialist in general alphabets are sufficient, they are un-

doubtedly *intended* changes and much more collectible than mere separation methods of perforation.

Readers who would like to compare the four alphabets can, he tells us, easily do so by taking the four following stamps—2d blue, imperf.; 2d blue, perf., say 14 L.C., and known as plate 5; 2d. blue, perf., with thin line above "Postage," known as plate 6; and the extra- ordinary large letterings to be found among the rose shades of the 1d., perforated 14, on white paper; these stamps illustrating the respective alphabets.—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, Dec., 1908.*

**Great Britain 1d. Black, Worn Plates.**

Worn plates? Well, Mr. Bornefeld says that what are known as worn plates of the 1d. black do not come from worn plates at all, but are caused by unskilled manipulation of plates and printers ink. The bulk of such stamps are from Plates 1 and 2, and were issued before August, 1840!—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain Dec., 1908.*

# The Stamp Market

**FINALD GUM****Papuans.**

(page 144) I commented on the fact still popular and in much demand, and d to be easing off a little, instancing made by Mr. Ewen.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips I learn that the at demand. He says that only three ught a collection of Papua and made up e book was quickly so skimmed that of stamps was left in it. Now he has rchase a *very* fine collection of these sheets, blocks, and errors and another en made up, "but," we are warned that prices have had to be advanced on gh prices he has had to pay" for re- ck.

en repeats his offers at reduced prices.

**Inverteds.**

opped his price for these inverteds of the 30s., and a contemporary advises its y fancy prices for them. I am told that rewing on account of some of the state- ter, but I hope my informant is wrong. ncredible that any stamp printer should plies to go out so plentiful in inverteds, e 2½ reis, 10 reis, 50 reis, 150 reis, and all offered with centres inverted.

of giving all sides of a question I quote o current auction prices from the *Stamp ghly* :—

of auctions, by the way, reminds me thatendency of late in certain quarters to of philatelic auctions, to suggest that, that prices are no longer what they e attendances are thin and listless, and er such utterances are in any way in- now, but, if not, it is difficult to under- et into print, for I believe them to be n the truth. From one firm, the only n an opportunity of consulting on the Messrs. Plumridge & Co., I learn that cently made are diametrically opposed case so far as their experience is con-

cerned. Messrs. Plumridge, in fact, assert that so far from the philatelic auction business being in any way depressed the present season is, up to the present time, the most successful *in every sense of the word* which the firm have ever enjoyed. That is a very decisive and categorical statement, and I daresay there are others in the auctioneering profession who can speak equally strongly."

The suggestion that what I said about prices languishing at auctions being "inspired" is *very* funny. You cannot express an opinion that runs counter to a certain class without laying yourself open to the insinuation that you have been inspired or "got at."

**Solomon Islands.**

The new stamps superseding the large lithographed stamps having arrived, my readers should not delay in getting all they want of the first set, especially strips of six of each value showing all the types. Where litho- graphed stamps are so faultily produced as to yield noticeable varieties, they are almost certain to run up in price directly they are superseded and the ordinary post office supply ceases.

**Abyssinian Provisionals.**

I doubt very much the recently issued Provisionals of Abyssinia will be of much account. The uncertainty as to the number surcharged and available for further- sur- charging must temper the demand considerably.

**Crete Provisional Errors.**

Despite the fact that the Post Office officials manipu- lated many of the sheets with errors, a good few seem to have come on the English market. One dealer is offering a set of entire sheets of the 1 and 2 lepta with delta and inverted sigma errors for 6s. 6d., and the 1 and 2 lepta set of four errors for 5s.

**Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.**

Mr. W. H. Peckitt calls attention to his stock of King's Heads, of which he is believed to have the finest stock in this country.

Mr. D. Field's Special Bargain is the Admiralty Official 3d. purple on yellow, type I., catalogued at 12s. used. He offers it at 5s.

Mr. Appleton offers some rare Cayman Provisionals, some O.H.M.S. Indians said by the *Philatelic Journal of India* to be a good investment, and a fine lot of Indians.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* I, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, I, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

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### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

- Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.
- F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.
- Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.
- W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.
- James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

### Answers to Correspondents.

E. A. (Peckham). We do not chronicle inverted watermarks. Many thanks for your kind wishes, which we reciprocate.

W. S. R. (Manchester). The following are two works on Postmarks which may help you:—

"The History of the Early Postmarks of the British Isles." From their introduction down to 1840, with special remarks on and reference to the sections of the postal service to which they particularly applied; compiled chiefly from Official Records by John G. Hendy, Curator of the Record Room, General Post Office; illustrated; in cloth, price 3/6 nett, by post 3/9. L. Upcott Gill, Bazaar Buildings, London, W.C.

"History of British Postmarks." With 350 illustrations and a list of numbers used in Obliterations, by J. H. Daniels; in cloth gilt, price 2/6 nett, by post 2/9. L. Upcott Gill, Bazaar Buildings, London, W.C.

H. C. W. (Yeovil). Many thanks for your congratulations. Your suggestion is down on our programme of things to be done and which we hope to tackle soon.

H. M. S. (London). We note that the 10s. Southern Nigeria has been issued. It was overlooked.

P. B. (Ipswich). Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. of your town price a Cayman Single CA used set at 1s. 1d. in their 1909 catalogue. Proofs of Colonials are not supplied by any office or official that we know of to the public. They crop up only and occasionally in dealers' stocks, and are obtained in divers ways.

F. C. M. (New Malden). Many thanks for your letter.

W. R. W. (Durham). Many thanks for your letter with "not for use" 1d. on envelope, cancelled. You will find it noted in our Gossip page in this number. It is of course an oversight on the part of the postal officials.

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION to THE POSTAGE STAMP would be an excellent gift to any friend who is interested in stamp collecting. If you will send a postal order to the publishers (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., I Amen Corner) they will see that your friend gets a copy regularly, post free. You will thus be saved all trouble yourself, and have the satisfaction of knowing that your friend is reminded of your remembrance every week of the year. If you prefer to send the copy of your first week's subscription yourself, the publishers will send this to you gratis.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Pity the Poor Chalkies.



WE hear very little now about the collecting of chalkies. The necessity of making a variety of such an elusive distinction has no doubt come home to all but the very chalky by this time. Experience mellows most enthusiasms

Here is the latest nail in the coffin of the collection of chalkies from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. Mr Ewen writes: "We have received some-

thing of a phenomenon from this colony (Southern Nigeria), in the shape of an entire sheet of the new 10s stamps, which ought to be on chalk-surface paper and which may have been printed on that paper. The chalk-surfacing has however entirely disappeared, except for a trace along the extreme edge of the left margin of the sheet. Only in that place does a silver coin leave a black mark; on the rest of the margin and on the stamps we failed to get the slightest sign of a mark. If this sheet was treated with the chalk solution, where has the latter gone to? The design of the stamps is quite unaffected. As the stamps show no signs of the chalk-surface, we feel bound to chronicle them as 'multiple ordinary,' notwithstanding the trace of the chalk-surface on the margin."

**Puzzle: Find the Chalky.**

So that, as I anticipated, the collection of chalky varieties is developing into a considerable puzzle. According to this evidence it will be necessary to possess not only a small silver coin, but also a bit of margin paper attached to each stamp to be able to swear to some chalkies, instead of swearing at them. No wonder the demand has gone off a bit, except of course where all things temporal are blooming as they never, never bloomed before.

**New Style of Overprint.**

Mr. Peckitt sends me the first set I have seen of the New Hebrides. They are interesting as introducing a

new style of overprinting. In all the values, except the 4d and 1d., the original name of "Fiji" on the Fiji King's heads is barred out by a bar of solid colour, and on this bar is overprinted the new name, New Hebrides.

I have not yet heard of any varieties, but as the overprinting has evidently been done in London, varieties are not likely to be much in evidence.

**On Picking up Bargains.**

The Editor has handed me the following letter from a collector in Cambridge, who prefers to be referred to as "An Enthusiastic Collector." He writes:—"As a constant reader of your most valuable journal, *The Postage Stamp*, I notice in your 'Gossip of the Week' a correspondent suggests that Gibbons should give his clients a treat by making errors in his pricing on approval sheets. This no doubt would be an excellent incitement for people to write for selections, but I find Gibbons, like many others, is liable to mistakes. Only a few weeks back I had the chance of getting a Cyprus 18 piastres single CA in mint condition for 3s (catalogued at 20s.), but my conscience however forbade me taking it. This is not the only mistake I have found Gibbons making. If "A Correspondent" carefully reads the advertisements in *The Postage Stamp* he can snap up many bargains. I have found many stamps, I have for years been looking about for, through the medium of *The Postage Stamp*, and at bargain prices."

**Knowledge and Bargains.**

There is not the slightest doubt that bargains are just as plentiful as ever they were, and are likely to continue to be plentiful, for many reasons, amongst others for the reason that dealers are continually sorting and mounting up stamps for sale that are prolific of varieties but are known only to those who study the particular country. The larger or smaller the dealer the more plentiful the bargains. I must explain this paradox. The large dealer is compelled to trust his work to his assistants, and as no assistant is philatelically encyclopaedic, of course valuable varieties occasionally get overlooked and fall to the lot of the first collector, shall I say, without a conscience. The small dealer sends out bargains because he cannot be encyclopaedic and therefore cannot help himself. The medium dealer who possesses knowledge, and has time to do his own mounting and pricing, is not often caught tripping.

**A Desirable Reputation.**

I am not sure that it is not a good reputation to cultivate as a dealer, that you are a bit of an ignoramus, and more likely to make mistakes in pricing than not. But, of course, the mistake may be the wrong way. The other day I was offered a rarity, unchronicled, &c., that I could have as a favour at 5s. The seller did not know his country, or he would have known that it was the newest of new issues, and worth only a few pence.

**More New Zealand Varieties.**

Mr. W. B. Edwards writes to me as follows:—"The 3d. perf. with the latest comb machine, 14 x 15, is now out, so far not recorded by anyone. The 1d. current (new plate without dot) is to hand compound perf."

Will some New Zealander get us some explanation of the secret dot, its introduction, its disappearance, and its reappearance.

**Story of the late Mr. Paul.**

A correspondent in Canada kindly sends me the following cutting from the *Chicago News* giving a story of the late Mr. Paul the well known American collector:—"There has been recalled by the death of James W. Paul, the Philadelphia banker, this story, which he told long ago. 'I was going home one night late and saw a man who had evidently looked too deep into the cup making frantic but unsuccessful efforts to open a door with a latchkey. I decided to help the man, who was not so far gone as to have forgotten his politeness, for before entering the house through the door which I succeeded in opening he asked my name and thanked me. I proceeded on my way, but had only gone a few steps when I heard some one call 'Mr. Paul, Mr. Paul!' I turned, and there was my friend of the latchkey coming toward me with unsteady gait. He put one hand affectionately on my shoulder, and, looking me in the face, said: 'Say, did you ever get an answer to that long letter you wrote to the Thessalonians?'"

**Manchester Fairy Tales.**

Some very interesting fairy tales are coming from Manchester. A local daily newspaper informs its readers that "the most valuable collections in the country, apart from those of the Prince of Wales, are probably owned by Manchester members."

Evidently some of the very junior members of the Exhibition business are supplying a few fables for public consumption to the Manchester newspapers.

**Proposed Manchester Exhibition Postmark.**

We shall none of us see any objection to the proposed grant of a special postmark for the use of the Exhibition. It would be a great blessing if the Promoters of Swindling Show Labels, and other forms of fleecing the philatelic public would take the hint, and confine themselves to Special Postmarks, but unfortunately mere postmarks would not be so productive in monetary profit as bogus stamps.

**The New Gold Coast Design.**

On the New Issue page last week there was illustrated a new design for the Gold Coast 1d. stamp, with the larger head of the king in an oval, and with numeral of value in each lower corner.

Presumably this new design is issued in compliance with the new regulation of the Postal Union for the expression of the value in Arabic numerals.

The question is whether this design is to run through the whole series of values of the colony, or is to affect only the Postal Union values of 3d., 1d. and 24d.

**The Import of the New Design.**

And what is the import of the new design as affecting other colonies? Is it the forerunner of a general change

throughout with the larger head and figures of value in the lower corners? I should not be surprised to learn that it is to be the Colonial design of the future.

If it is to be the design of the future it is obvious that it cannot be used for other colonies without modifications, for the curved label which carries the name of "Gold Coast" would not do for other colonies.

Anyway, this new design is a bit of a poser as to what it may indicate in other directions.

**Serious Illness of Mr. E. B. Power.**

All who have had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr. E. B. Power, of Stanley Gibbons' New York branch, during his trips to this country, will sincerely regret to read in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, of his serious illness. He is suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia, but the last cable encouraged the hope that the crisis was passed. We cannot afford to lose such a breezy and genial hustler as Eustace from the ranks of stamp pushers.

**Philatelic Politics.**

Mr. Chas. J. Phillips (Gibbons) contrasting the free welcome we give to the German stamp dealer with the annoying obstacles which the German places in the way of English dealers visiting Germany says:—"Here we in the stamp business look forward to, and welcome, our friends in the trade who visit us on business from America, Germany, France, Holland, etc. They are free to stay where they like, to bring their goods free into the country, and to sell them to anyone without any restrictions whatever.

"But how are the British treated abroad? If I go to Germany to sell goods, the first thing I must do is to go to the police, notify where I am stopping, answer a string of the most ridiculous questions, amongst which—in Berlin—I remember they asked me if I had provided for my children, if I had any special marks on my body, and dozens of others as absurd; and then, after paying a smart fee, in from three to six days they will grant you a *gewerbschein* or licence to trade, which is, I believe, only good for about fourteen days, when another fee must be paid and a renewal of the licence is granted. This is good for one town only, and strictly speaking, if I leave Berlin and go to Leipzig the same thing should be gone through again."

Mr. Phillips thinks it is about time that we set about remedying this sort of thing, and many of us heartily agree with him.

**Philatelic Dealings with Holland.**

According to Mr. Phillips, in Holland, British stamp dealers are even worse off than in Germany. Says he, "All stamps going into that country are subject to a duty of 5 per cent. on the marked value of the stamps; if you cross the frontier with a book of stamps worth £2,000, you must deposit £100. I think that if you *prove* you bring the same stamps out of the country they will refund the money, but proof is difficult, and so we in the trade leave Holland severely alone."

That is to say, a Dutchman may come here and trot about and sell his goods to his heart's content, without let or hindrance; but he takes care to render it impossible for any British stamp dealer to do any business in his country. Such are the blessings of Free Trade of the one-sided variety.

**New Hebrides.**

My congratulations are due to Mr. Peckitt for being first in the field with the New Hebrides, of which he kindly sends me a full set.

I shall have something to say about these interesting stamps next week.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## Gold Coast.

THE stamps of the Gold Coast are simple and straightforward from the first issue to the last. There are only four provisionals, and only a couple highly priced stamps in the lot. Hence the little African Colony on the West Coast is a great favourite with many collectors, although it does not attract the specialist in search of a country to study; for there is nothing to study; it is all plain sailing.

### King's Heads.

The King's heads were first issued in 1902, when a full set of eleven values were issued. These were on single CA paper, and remained in use for about a couple of years, when several of the values were superseded by the same design on multiple paper.

Then in 1907, the ½d., which had been printed in lilac with name and value in green, was changed to all green, the 1d. from purple and carmine to all carmine, and the 2½d. from purple and blue to all blue, to satisfy the requirements of the Postal Union.

A further change has just been made in the 1d. value; the all carmine stamp with its small head and large tablet of value has been superseded by an entirely new design with a larger head, and with numeral of value on a triangular shield in each lower corner. Whether the other values will eventually appear in this new design remains to be seen. It seems probable, in view of the declared preference of the Postal Union for stamps with the values plainly set out in numerals, that the old design, with its central tablet of value, will give way to this new design for all values.

As a country for the specialist in King's heads it is full of promise, even for the beginner, for there is nothing yet unattainable or beyond reach of an ordinary purse.

**1902.** Eleven values. Design: small portrait of King Edward VII. with profile to left in an octagonal frame of curved lines. In a straight upper tablet is the name, "Gold Coast," and in a large tablet at the bottom of the design is the numeral of value. All the values were printed in two colours, the name and value tablet in one colour, and the rest of the design in another. The stamps were designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and were printed by them on paper watermarked with a Crown CA single, i.e., one watermark on each stamp. The stamps were issued in panes of 60 in ten rows of six.



### Wmk. Crown CA Single. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple and green	0	2	0	2
1d. " carmine	0	3	0	1
2d. " orange red	1	6	1	0
2½d. " ultramarine	0	6	0	6
3d. " orange	1	3	1	0
6d. " mauve	1	6	1	0
1s. green and black	2	0	1	6
2s. " carmine	2	8	2	8
5s. " mauve	6	6	—	—
10s. " brown	12	6	—	—
20s. purple and black on red	25	0	—	—

### Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

There is little to be said about the fluctuation of prices of the single CA series of this colony, because the stamps were not so suddenly superseded as some others, but it will be noted that all the values that have been superseded by multiple CA are steadily rising in value. The 2d. promises to be a good stamp, as its price was about doubled in 1906, and again in 1908. The 3d. and 6d. are also promising values.

	1904		1905		1906		1908	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
½d.	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2
1d.	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	3
2d.	0	3	0	5	0	9	1	6
2½d.	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	6
3d.	0	5	0	5	0	9	1	3
6d.	0	8	0	8	0	8	1	6
1s.	1	4	1	4	1	4	2	0
2s.	2	8	2	8	2	8	2	8
5s.	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
10s.	12	6	12	6	12	6	12	6
20s.	24	0	24	0	25	0	25	0

**1904-7.** Seven values. Design: as in the last issue, but printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown CA, multiple, i.e., portions of two or more watermarks appearing on each stamp. Only the low values, up to and including the 6d., and the 2s. 6d. of the high values have yet appeared on the multiple paper. For the sake of those who collect chalky varieties, I have adopted the Gibbons method of indicating ordinary paper with an "O," and chalky paper with a "C." Perforated 14.

### Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple and green, O.C.	0	2	—	—
1d. " carmine, O.C.	0	4	0	2
2d. " orange red, O.C.	0	3	0	3
2½d. " ultramarine, O.	0	8	—	—
3d. " orange, O.C.	0	5	0	4
6d. " mauve, O.C.	0	8	0	5
2s. 6d. green and yellow, C.	3	3	—	—

1907. Three values Design: unchanged, but colours changed; the ½d. from purple and green to all green, the 1d. from purple and carmine to all carmine, and the 2½d. from purple and blue to all blue. These three values were all printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on multiple CA paper and ordinary paper and perf. 14.

*Printed in one colour.*

*Wmk Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s d.	s d.
½d. green, O.	0 1	—
1d. carmine, O.	0 2	0 1
2½d. ultramarine, O.	0 4	—

1908. One value. Design: larger head of King Edward VII. with profile to left enclosed in an oval, with a small Imperial crown at the top, and "Gold" on the left and "Coast" on the right in curved labels. The numeral of value in a triangular shield in each lower corner, and "Postage and Revenue" in a curved label

*Previous articles on King's Heads appeared in our issues of Dec. 19, 1908, and Jan. 2 and 9, 1909.*

between. Presumably this design is the forerunner of a new series of the same pattern. The stamp has been designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., printed by them on ordinary paper watermarked Crown CA multiple.



*New Design.*

*Wmk. Crown CA Multiple. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s d.	s d.
1d. carmine	0 2	—

## Notes for Specialists

BY SPECIALISTS

### The Stamps of Egypt

WE propose to set apart a page, now and again, for what we shall term "Notes for Specialists by Specialists." These notes are designed to open the way for a discussion by Specialists of points in regard to the stamps of the country they are specialising and studying. Questions are continually cropping up in the study of the specialist that do not concern the New Issue Chronicler, yet are, nevertheless, of much importance to the Specialist. It is true that many Specialists correspond and compare notes, but knotty points are not infrequently cleared up by a stray collector outside the known circle of specialists. A bit of information wanting to complete a chain of evidence as to a particular variety may be brought to light in an ordinary general collection by a little open discussion in our pages.—ED. P.S.

#### Egyptians for the Specialist.

Few stamps present a more open, or more interesting, field for the studious specialist than the issues of Egypt. The country is intensely interesting from every point of view, historically, politically, and philatelically. Its future, often discussed, remains unsettled. The British occupation, originally intended to be only a temporary one, has developed into a more or less compulsory permanent occupation, with a probable protectorate in the near future. In everything but name, and a few troublesome capitulations for the protection of foreign subjects, it is now a British Protectorate.

Its postage stamps, so far as the first three issues are concerned are full of unsolved problems for the specialist. For several years past three of us have been specialising in Egyptian stamps, and we have recently undertaken to prepare a Handbook which will be published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. in the same style of production as Mr. Chas. J. Phillips's recently issued monograph on the stamps of Fiji. But there is so much to do in the matter of research that some two years will probably elapse before we shall be able to complete our researches

Meanwhile, we shall keep our friends informed through this page in *The Postage Stamp* as to how we are progressing and how they can help us, and we shall be glad to hear from and to compare notes with other specialists.

#### The First Issue of 1866.

This is, like many first issues, the most interesting of all the issues of Egypt. It is full of points that need clearing up.

Here is one, for instance, to start with. One of the greatest rarities in Egypt is the 10 piastres *tête-bêche*. Now, we have recently acquired a complete reprint sheet of each value of this issue, seven sheets in all, which are invaluable to us in our study of this series, and the curious thing is that the inverted overprint which makes the *tête-bêche* variety in the 10 piastres is not to be found on our sheet of the reprint of that value. Hence the questions arise, Was it corrected? and, if so, when? or, Is it a questionable variety? Can anyone throw any light on this matter? Another point that wants clearing up is the question why the 1 piastre, mauve, alone of all in the series, came to be printed on unwatermarked paper.

#### The Second Issue of 1867.

In this issue there are several questions awaiting solution, e.g., as to the position of the varieties that distinguish the make up of the blocks of four from which the lithographed sheets were constructed. In one or two values this has been clearly set out by other writers, but much remains to be done.

#### The Third Issue, 1872-5.

This issue has been specially studied by one of our number and he has found hitherto unsuspected varieties in the designs which may lead to other interesting discoveries, in fact, the probabilities are that this series will be found to be more prolific in varieties than any other issue.

There is particularly the question as to the printers.

We have reason to believe that the facts are not as stated in the catalogues and elsewhere. There certainly were at least two printings, one with a plain heavy marginal line above and below on each sheet, and the other with an ornamental scroll work border all round the margin of each sheet.

Then again there is the question of the perforations. Some are clean-cut 12½ and some rough 13½ and compound.

This issue is further notable for its *tete-beche* varieties. These are fairly well known and their positions on the sheets, i.e. all but that of the 5 piastres. It has always been catalogued and is widely accepted, but we have never yet come across a pair, or ever succeeded in getting hold of anyone who had ever seen a pair.

Again, why was so much trouble taken to get the centres and the frames all sizes and sevens in the April,

1875, printing of the 5 paras? It is hard to believe that so much confusion can have been the result of mere carelessness.

**Numbers Printed.**

Has anyone ever come across any record of the numbers printed of the values of these first three issues of Egypt, or of any of them? Such figures would be most interesting if they are available, and they may yet be found in some unsuspected pigeon hole or official drawer.

**Our Secretary.**

Mr. J. Cecil Rix, 1, Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells, is acting as Secretary of our little coterie of Egyptian specialists. He is an enthusiastic specialist in all the issues of Egypt and will be glad to hear from any fellow specialists on points which may be raised from time to time.  
E. J. N.

# Perforations

From the "Philatelic Adviser"

THE relative importance of perforation varieties differs enormously in the case of different countries. For instance, the 12½ and 14 of De la Rue and the 14 and 16 of Perkins Bacon have come to be considered as *prime* varieties, partly because of their actual importance and partly because they have been listed in standard catalogues for very many years and have been recognised as important since philately was born. There are many other countries in which perforations play an important part, for the same reasons as mentioned above, such as early Australians, British Guiana, etc. Then again there are those countries whose perforations are important, but of which the differences have been worked out only during the last ten years or so, and these lack the glory which long-standing "catalogue rank" would give them—such as Holland, where not only the gauge is important, as it indicates time, but the sizes of the holes have to be taken into account.

Then in the case of many other countries, such as Austria, Bosnia, and modern Australians, the variations lack most of their importance for the simple reason that many of the machines are in concurrent use by the same manufacturers, and it is just a matter of chance or of convenience which one happens to be used for a particular batch of stamps. Unfortunately many of these have attained to catalogue rank although in many cases quite unworthy of it.

For instance, there are Bosnian stamps of the late issue which have three or four different perforations on the same stamp, and there is no reason why some freak-issuing country should not order a harrow machine which should so perforate a sheet of stamps at one operation that everyone of the 240 or so should show a different perforation gauging from 1½—40, and if that did not suit they might so adjust the positions of the horizontal rows with reference to the verticals as to get a stamp 2½ on the left side of top row, 23½ on the right half, 16 down the right side, 24 along the bottom, and 1½ and 17 in different parts of the left side. It seems to be a very silly thing to collect concurrent perforations so different.

Now let us take some of the best known countries and classify the importance of their perforation varieties.

PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.	SECONDARY IMPORTANCE.
Transvaal.	Sweden.
Early Australians.	Montenegro.
Belgium.	Middle Austrians.
Russia.	Middle Australians.
Early Austria (eagles).	Mexico (simple).
Bavaria.	Bolivar.
Denmark.	South Americans.

Italy, Germany, France, Spain, and the United States do not trouble us with perforation varieties.

A few words about the above.

I have shown that the well known varieties of De la Rue and Perkins Bacon are of great importance, so are those of the group of Holland, Luxemburg and the middle issues of the Transvaal

The early Australians are well known. The others have all had two different and important varieties apiece. In the case of the second column, Portugal has had three of her machines for herself and her colonies in *concurrent* use for many issues, yet there are only three, and they are not found in combination. Roumania has compound perforations, but there is some interest in them, and Bolivar has two in concurrent use but very distinct. In the third column we come upon a shocking state of affairs. In the case of the late Australians there are many machines, several of which gauge about the same, and they are in concurrent use, and signify nothing much more than the convenience of the manufacturers at the moment. Austria possesses more perforating machines than any other country, and they seem to be used anyhow, anywhere and anywhen.

Bosnia is shocking, and to consider the modern compounds as interesting seems to me to be on a par with the man who collected books and arranged them by the colours of their bindings.

The compound perforations of Mexico are caused by the breaking off of alternate pins, and in some cases this was not very carefully done, so that I possess a specimen which is perforated 12 top and bottom, 6 on the right side and the lower portion of the left side, while at the top of the left side it is perforated 12. I think it is unfortunate that a perforation caused by a more or less regular breakage of pins should ever have attained catalogue rank, and if in future they were mentioned in a footnote it would be an improvement.

PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.	SECONDARY IMPORTANCE.	SLIGHT IMPORTANCE.
De la Rue perforations.	Portugal.	Recent Austrians.
Perkins Bacon "	Roumania.	Recent Australiana.
Holland.	Greece.	Recent Bosnia.
Luxemburg.	Early Bosnia.	Compound Mexico.

## Christmas Postal Traffic

**T**HE postal traffic this Christmas was again very heavy. The weather during Christmas week was ideal from a postal point of view, a fine dry open Christmas being most suitable for the work.

Compared with last year, the number of letters was about the same as usual. It is calculated at St. Martin's-le Grand that during Christmas week about 70,000,000 letters, cards, and newspapers were dealt with by London offices alone. This total includes letters dealt with by the district offices, those coming in from the country, and those passing through London. At ordinary times the staff handles about 50,000,000 letters, cards, and newspapers during the week. The greater part of the 16 or 20 millions excess during Christmas week represents Christmas cards. A number of the unemployed were engaged to assist in the simpler work; 700 more were on duty this year than last year, over 8,000 being engaged for the whole of London.

At Mount Pleasant Post Office, the number of parcels handled was the highest on record, and the deliveries were cleared out of the office in less time than was the case five years ago, when the traffic was much lighter. In order to cope with the Colonial Christmas parcels traffic about 100 casual men were engaged, and nearly 100 telegraphists were also employed. The first Colonial mail

of importance was a despatch of 3,842 parcels to New Zealand, but the next mail—too late for delivery at Christmas—took out 5,311 parcels. During the eleven weeks preceding Christmas 78,972 parcels were despatched to India, an increase over last year's returns of 2,664. There was also, for the first time, an Indian mail sent from Edinburgh, taking 7,340 parcels. The total number of parcels sent abroad from Mount Pleasant during the nine weeks ended December 19 was 468,736. During Christmas week, 64,110 parcels were sent to the Colonies and the Continent; during an average week the number would be about 36,200. As regards the inward mails, during the week ended Christmas Eve, 58,861 parcels from abroad were received. During Christmas week the Customs officers dealt with 14,518 parcels, and duty amounting to more than £2,868 was assessed.

More than 1,200 extra hands were employed to deal with the home traffic. In a normal week, 746,500 parcels pass through the office, but during Christmas week 2,295,321 parcels were dealt with, an increase of 5 per cent. over the figures for last year. The heaviest deliveries were 12,866 parcels on December 21, and over 18,000 on December 28. A large quantity of parcels was dealt with at over a hundred sub-district offices—*The Times* 30.12.08.

## "Insured Box" Post

We have received the following announcement from the Postmaster-General:—

On January 1 next an "Insured Box" Post will be established between the United Kingdom and France and Belgium. The new service is intended for the conveyance of articles of gold and silver (other than current coin), precious stones, jewelry, and valuable articles of a like nature, but not letters, bank notes, drafts, bonds, or similar securities. An "insured box" must not exceed 2lb. in weight and must not measure more than 12in. in length, 4in. in breadth, and 4in. in height. The boxes employed for packing must be strongly made of metal, or of wood at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, and must be tied cross-wise with a single strong string (not two or more pieces joined), the two ends of the string being held together under a seal of fine wax bearing a private mark. Identical seals must also be placed on the strings on each of the four sides of the box. The surfaces of the top and bottom must be covered with white paper to receive the address (which must be in ink), the insured value of the contents (which must be indicated in both words and figures without alteration or erasure), and the impression of the official stamps.

Insured boxes are subject to the Customs regulations of the country of destination and must be accompanied by Customs declarations prepared by the senders. One declaration is sufficient for an insured box addressed to France or Belgium. The Customs declarations must be clear and exact and must contain the registration number, style of packing, and description of the box, full particulars of the contents, the gross weight, and total value, as well as the net weight and value of each article. The postage to be prepaid on an insured box for France or Belgium is 1s., and the insurance fees and scale of com-

pensation are the same as in the case of insured letters, namely, 4d. for the first £12 insured, and 2d. for each additional £12. The *maximum* limit of insurance for both France and Belgium is £400 (10,000 francs). The regulations as to addressing, prepayment, declaration of amount insured, advices of delivery, express delivery, &c., in the case of insured letters, apply also to insured boxes.

### Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends—post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

### The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 177).

**Kongeligt Post Frimærke.**—The inscription shown upon the first 4 rbs. stamp of Denmark. It means "Royal Post Free stamp."

**Koninkrijk der Nederlanden.**—This inscription is shown at the top of the current gulden stamps of Holland and it means "Kingdom of the Netherlands."

**Kop** (or "Kоп").—An abbreviation for Kopek found upon many of the stamps of Russia, Wenden, Poland and Finland.

**Kopec.**—The value in which most of the stamps of Russia, Wenden, Poland, and the early issues of Finland are expressed. A kopec is the hundredth part of a rouble and is practically equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in English currency.

**Korea.**—(See "COREA")

**Korona.**—The unit of value in Hungary since 1900. The korona is divided into 100 filler and it has the nominal value of 10d. in English money.

**Kouang Tcheou Wan.**—This is a "sphere of influence" leased to France by China in 1898. The name should, properly, be only applied to the bay on the east coast of the Lei-chau peninsula, in the province of Kwang-tung, but it is now also applied to the adjoining coast controlled by France. The stamps of Indo China, suitably surcharged, have been used in this territory since 1906.

**Kphth.**—The Greek word for "Crete" shown upon all the regularly issued stamps for this island

**Kr.**—1.—A contraction for kreutzer shown upon the stamps of Austria, Baden, etc.

2.—A contraction for "krajczar," the Hungarian word for kreutzer, as shown upon the first stamps for that country and in the watermark for the 1881 to 1898 issues

**Kraft, Guillermo.**—A lithographer, of Buenos Ayres, who produced several of the stamps for Paraguay during the period 1884-89.

**Kran.**—The value in which many of the stamps of Persia are expressed. A kran consists of 20 shahi and is equal to about 4d. in our money.

**Kreuzer.**—The value in which many of the stamps of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and other German States until 1875, those of Austria until 1899, and of Hungary until 1900 were expressed. In the German States the kreuzer was worth about  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., in Austria until 1858 it was worth nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and in Austria after 1858 and also in Hungary it was worth only about  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of a penny.

**Krona.**—The unit of value in Hungary, Iceland and Sweden. In Hungary the krona consists of 100 filler and has a nominal value of 10d. In Iceland it consists of 100 aur and is worth about 1s. 2d. and in Sweden it consists of 100 ore and is also equal to 1s. 2d. in English money.

**Krone.**—The unit of value in Austria, Bosnia, Montenegro, Denmark, and Norway. In the three first-named countries the krone of 100 filler has a nominal value of 10d., and in Denmark and Norway it consists of 100 ore and is worth about 1s. 2d. in English money.

**Kurz, L.**—An engraver of Frankfort, Germany, who engraved the die for the 1859 issue of Luxemburg, and also the Arms dies for the stamps of Baden.

**K. Wurt Post.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps of Wurtemberg issued since 1875 meaning "Kingdom of Wurtemberg Post."

**L.**—A surcharge found upon some of the 1896 type-set stamps of Uganda. This "L" was stamped by hand and was applied to the stamps by the "Collector" at Kampala. The stamps so overprinted were supposed only to be used on local letters, i.e., in Uganda.

**L.A.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used upon the departmental correspondence connected with the Lunatic Asylum during the period 1868-74. In 1874 these stamps were superseded by the general official issue surcharged "OS."

**Labourdonnais, Mahe de.**—The inscription shown upon the special 15c. stamp issued in Mauritius in December, 1899, to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Admiral Bertrand Francois Mahé de Labourdonnais who was Governor of the island from 1784 to 1746 at the period when it belonged to France and was known as the Ile de France. Labourdonnais was born at St. Malo in 1669 and served gallantly in the French East India Company's navy. In 1740 he began the conflict with the British for the naval sovereignty of the Indies and in 1746 captured Madras but was bribed with £40,000 to restore it to the English. Shortly afterwards he was recalled to France, accused of treachery and imprisoned in the Bastille (1748-52). He died in 1755.

**Labuan.**—An island of the Malayan Archipelago situated about six miles of the north-west coast of Borneo. It has an area of 81 square miles and a population of nearly 9,000. The island was ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Borneo in 1846 and at that time it was uninhabited. It was administered as a Crown Colony until 1890 when it was transferred to the British North Borneo Co. This arrangement was cancelled in October, 1906, and the island is now incorporated with the Colony of the Straits Settlements. Postage stamps were first issued in May, 1879, but since October, 1906, Labuan has ceased to issue its own special stamps.

**La Canea.**—A surcharge applied to certain Italian stamps used in the Italian post offices in Crete.

**La Conception.**—An inscription shown upon the special 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp issued in Grenada in 1898 to commemorate the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the island by Columbus. La Conception was the name of the flagship of the great voyager at this time.

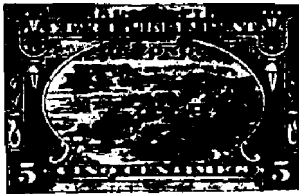
**Lady McLeod.**—The name by which a rare and well-known local stamp of Trinidad is generally known. The design of the stamp consists of a ship with the letters "L. McL." in a monogram below, and it was issued in April, 1847, by David Bryce, owner of the s.s. *Lady McLeod*, for the prepayment of postage upon letters carried by his vessel between Port of Spain, Trinidad and San Fernando. The face value of this interesting local was 4 cents.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Congo.**—(Vol. III, p. 88).—The change of name in the official designation of this territory, now that it has been annexed to Belgium, foreshadowed on page 88, has resulted in the issue of two provisionals, and we have received specimens from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. These are the 5c. and 10c. of 1900-1 surcharged at the top with "CONGO BELGE" (Belgian Congo), in tall thin letters as shown in our illustration. Other values will, doubtless, be similarly surcharged before long.



Stamps of 1900-1 surcharged "CONGO BELGE"  
No wmk. Perf. 12½ to 15.

	s.	d.
5c. green and black ... ..	0	1
10c. carmine and black ... ..	0	2

**Gold Coast.**—(Vol. III, p. 178).—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that this Colony has decided to adopt the new colour scheme, and that stamps have been supplied in accordance therewith, *i.e.*, all purple instead of purple and mauve as at present.

**Jaipur.**—(Vol. III, p. 141).—A correspondent informs *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that this State will not entirely cease to issue stamps of its own as stated on page 141, but that the labels of the Chariot and Sun design will be replaced by Indian stamps surcharged "JAIPUR STATE" in a similar manner to those now used in Jhind, Gwalior, etc.

**Leeward Islands.**—(Vol. III, p. 20).—The *Colonial Office Journal* informs us that this Colony will adopt the new colour scheme for its stamps so we may expect several changes in the near future.

**New Hebrides.**—(Vol. III, p. 154).—We are indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt for a set of the current Fiji stamps surcharged "NEW HEBRIDES—CONDOMINIUM" as mentioned on page 154. The surcharge is the same on all values, and has the inscription given above in thin sans-serifs letters in two lines in black. On all the values, with the exception of the ½d. and 1d., the name "FIJI" is covered with a thick bar in the same colour before the overprint is applied, *i.e.*, on the 5d. value the bar is green and so on. Mr. Peckitt has been fortunate in getting such an early supply for we believe he is the only dealer who has yet secured any.



King's head stamps of Fiji surcharged as above.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

2d. purple and orange.

2½d. " and blue on blue.

5d. " and green.

6d. " and carmine.

1s. green and carmine.

Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

½d. green.

1d. carmine.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III, p. 179).—According to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* the redrawn 40c. of 1901-2 has been surcharged 5 centavos as shown in the accompanying illustration, so that our list is now as follows:—



Ordinary stamps of 1904.

Overprinted "Habilitado en—5 (or 20)—CENTAVOS"  
in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue green ... ..	0	3
5c. on 2c. carmine ... ..	0	3
5c. on 6c. chocolate ... ..	—	—
5c. on 6c. orange brown ... ..	—	—
20c. on 30c. violet ... ..	0	6

Stamps of 1901-2. Similarly surcharged.

5c. on 28c. orange ... ..	—	—
5c. on 40c. blue (re-drawn) ... ..	—	—

From the same source we learn that this latter variety exists with inverted surcharge.

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III, p. 93).—The *Colonial Office Journal* informs us that a supply of 2s. and 5s. King's head stamps printed in colours conforming with the new official scheme has been ordered. We are also told that new 6d. and 1s. stamps in the Arms type were despatched to the Colony at the end of November. The design has been modified and improved, and a new plate for the 1d. value, embodying the same alterations, is being prepared. Other values similarly redrawn will doubtless be issued later.

**Siam.**—(Vol. III, p. 179).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the recent "4" on 5 atts. provisional with the Jubilee surcharge as illustrated below. Our correspondents show us a block of 30 (3 vertical rows of 10) of the same value in which the central row of stamps are imperforate horizontally and also on the left-hand side, caused by one stroke of the comb machine having been missed. The only other Siamese stamp we know of in partly perforated state is the 1 lotte of 1888.





Surcharged as above.

	s.	d.
1 att, orange and green ... ..	0	1
3 atts, green... ..	0	2
4 on 5 atts, carmine ... ..	0	4
18 atts, brown ... ..	0	8

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us a set of high values in an entirely new design which has just made its appearance. The set consists of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20 and 40 ticals, the three latter replacing the provisionals issued in 1907, while the 2, 3 and 5 ticals are entirely new values for this country. All are bicoloured and in the same design. In the centre King Chulalongkorn is shown on horseback—evidently a representation of some statue—and in the border around this is "SIAM" and its native equivalent at the top, an inscription in Siamese characters appears below, and at the base the value in English and Siamese is shown. These, like the surcharged stamps listed above, are evidently commemorative of the 40th year of the King's reign, but we understand they are to be a permanent set. It will be noted the inscription under the centre corresponds very closely with the surcharge as depicted on the Jubilee stamps.



No wmk Perf 14.

1 tical, green and purple	} Set of 7. £9.
2 ticals, claret and orange	
3 ticals, olive and blue	
5 ticals, lilac and black	
10 ticals, sage green and crimson	
20 ticals, slate and lake	
40 ticals, blue and black	

**South Australia.**—(Vol. III p. 105).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 10s. with the word "POSTAGE" in large letters on the Crown SA. paper, making the complete list of varieties as follows:—



Large "POSTAGE."  
Wmk. Crown SA. Perf. 12.

	s.	d.
6d. blue green ... ..	1	0
8d. ultramarine ... ..	1	6
9d. brown lake ... ..	1	8
10d. buff ... ..	1	3
1s. brown ... ..	2	0
2s. 6d. deep mauve ... ..	3	6
5s. carmine ... ..	6	3
10s. green ... ..	12	6
£1 blue ... ..	24	0

**Straits Settlements.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that the colours of the \$25 and \$100 stamps referred to on page 33 have now been decided on. The former will be printed in blue and purple on blue paper and the latter in red and black on blue. It has also been decided to issue a \$500 stamp in yellow and purple, but the postal necessity of this is somewhat obscure. The Crown Agents have not received orders for either of these stamps yet.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 180).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new 2c. stamp which differs very considerably from the one it replaces. The word "FRANCO" is omitted and the background is solid and quite plain. We append illustrations of the old and new types for comparison.



New design. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 11½.  
2c. olive ... .. 0 1

**Transvaal.**—(Vol. III. p. 9).—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that a supply of 2s. 6d. stamps on the paper with multiple watermark has been despatched to the Colony.

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 167).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. and Mr. W. H. Peckitt send us the new 5c. stamp, which, it will be noted, has the value expressed in numerals in accordance with the Postal Union regulations. The list of values issued to date is as follows:—



New Series. Perf. 12.

	s.	d.
1c. green ... ..	0	1
2c. carmine ... ..	0	2
5c. blue ... ..	0	4

**Virgin Islands.**—The *Colonial Office Journal* states that this Colony has decided to adopt the new colour scheme for its stamps.

## NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

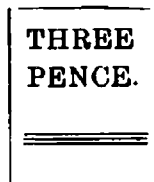
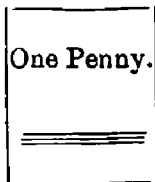
The Prices quoted are for unused.

## From other Magazines

British South Africa: Provisionals, 1896.

APRIL, 1896.

Provisionals used at Bulawayo during the Matabele rebellion. The stamps of the colony surcharged:—



This is undoubtedly the most interesting issue in this country's stamps, and unlike so many provisionals, it is a perfectly legitimate issue, being rendered necessary by the shortage of stamps, due to the cutting off of communication with the outside world (and with Salisbury—the capital).

1d. on 3d., of 1891-4.	1,200	printed.
1d. on 4s., of 1891-4.	1,200	"
3d. on 5s., of 1890.	3,000	"

## Errors.

- (a) 1d. on 4s., "P" in "PENNY" inverted. [I do not know what position this held in the sheet.]  
 (b) 3d. on 5s., "R" in "THREE" inverted. [Nos. 14, 29 in a block of 80, as seen by Mr. C. J. Phillips.]  
 (c) 3d. on 5s., "T" in "THREE" inverted. From the bottom row.  
 (d) 1d. on 4s., only one bar over value instead of three.  
 (e) 1d. on 3d., no stop after "PENNY"

Neither the Secretary of the Company in London, nor the Postmaster-General in Salisbury, have been able to give me any information as to the printing of these provisionals, what sized blocks were surcharged at a time, nor the position on the sheets (or blocks) occupied by the errors. Since writing foregoing I have however ascertained that all the Bulawayo provisionals were over-printed by the Argus Company, Capetown.

APRIL, 1896.

On the exhaustion of the former issue a supply of Cape of Good Hope stamps were procured and surcharged. (Surcharged in Cape Colony or Rhodesia?)

There were seven values, surcharged "BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY" in three lines, small sans-serif capitals.

1d. black, 24,000	surcharged.
1d. rose,	36,000.
2d. brown,	18,000.
3d. claret,	2,640.
4d. blue,	9,000.
6d. violet,	3,960.
1s. yellow-ochre	(?).

## Errors.

- 4d. blue, "COMPANY" omitted. This was on the bottom line of the sheet.  
 3d. and 6d. Only half of the "H" in "SOUTH" appears.  
 All values, the fifth stamp in every row of six the right leg of the final "A" in "AFRICA" was broken off short.

Any details as to the printing of these surcharges too would be interesting if published. Unfortunately, I have been unable to find any more details than those recorded above in London or Southern Rhodesia—*Frank H. Melland in the London Philatelist, Dec., 08.*

## The Sale of Varieties by Post Office Clerks.

The question as to whether the employes in a post office are allowed to sell any varieties or errors they may find amongst ordinary stamps has now been definitely settled, in France at any rate.

*Le Collectionneur de Timbre-Poste* copies the following information from the monthly circular of French Postal Administration:—

"The clerks and employes of the Post Office are sometimes requested by stamp dealers and collectors to sell to them at an enhanced price any stamps that may be of faulty manufacture.

"Post Office employes are forbidden to accede to such requests.

"It is true that defective stamps occasionally pass the checking clerks, the most frequent defects being lack of gum or perforation, an abnormal perforation, an abnormal print.

"Should the departmental distributing officers discover any defective stamps, they should return them to the Head Accountant's Office.

"On the other hand, post office counter clerks are supposed to make certain that all stamps they sell are perfect in ever respect.

"In every case all defective or imperfect stamps must be withdrawn from sale as soon as discovered, and dealt with according to paragraph 153 of the General Regulations."—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 9.1.09.*

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Collectors' Record of Values.

A collector sets out in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* his method of keeping a record of the value of his collection. In an index at the end he summarises the figures thus:—

	No. of Stamps.	Value.
Page 1. Great Britain ...	68	£6 8 3
8. Antigua ...	15	17 2

and he contends with much force that this keeping of a record of the catalogue value of a collection is of more than passing or speculative interest, for in case of death and the consequent passing of the collection into the hands of relatives ignorant of the value of postage stamps, it affords a clue to the value of the property.

Many collectors keep a record of what they have expended on each country, but the catalogue value should also be recorded and if possible columns provided for keeping it up to date.

The holder of securities takes stock every year of the value of what he holds based on the latest Stock Exchange Quotations. Why should not the Stamp Collector at the close of each year similarly review his philatelic possessions. But in anticipation to his translation to a better sphere of labour he should attach some general instructions as to the best methods of realisation and the average price to be expected.

## A Dealer's Satire on trade competition.

Mr. Chas. S. Quinton is amusingly satirical on the trend of a certain class of stamp dealing. In his trade circular *The Stamp Dealer*, he says the result of the present keenness of competition in the stamp trade is "that the stamp collector is having a good time of it, and a cheap one," and he adds "if you send your name to Cheap, Jack & Co., they will for the pleasure of having your name on their list, send you for a mere penny or twopenny stamp a collection of stamps, a guinea album, a perforation gauge, stamp hinges to last a lifetime, a collecting book, and a catalogue, with a 'Post Office' Mauritius thrown in. If you can get a friend to send his name also, they will provide you with a house, or an asylum of some sort where you can indulge your mania with them of getting, and giving, something for nothing."

## New Hebrides for the Investor.

I wonder what sort of an investment the New Hebrides series will turn out. They may be a good thing to buy, for they may be superseded by a permanent issue in a short while, but I fancy the possibilities are rather in favour of this first supply being sufficient for use and for collectors for a long time to come.

## British New Guinea.

Who would have thought British New Guinea worth buying up to the end of 1905, and yet the 2s. 6d. which might have been had by the sheet at 3s. 3d. per stamp, is now priced 75s., and is not plentiful at that price.

## First Issues a Good Investment.

Generally speaking I think it will be found that First Issues of British Colonials, when current, at a little over face, are a pretty good investment.

There have been a great many first issues in my collecting time that have gone up into high prices. For instance, I bought Northern and Southern Nigerias in blocks of four when current and have them still.

Gibraltars first issues were not considered worth collecting, now the set, which might have been bought in 1886 for 3s. or 4s., catalogues up to £5 19s. 0d., and if sold at auction prices would yield a grand profit, even allowing for compound interest. The three values of the first issue of the Gold Coast, face value 11d., which could have been had in 1875 for less than 2s., is now catalogued at £5 15s. 0d.

## Forthcoming Sales.

On 19.1.09, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson will sell a fine collection of Great Britain and Colonies, all unused, formed by Mr. Courtenay Welch. This collection, housed in twelve vols., contains a very fine lot of the middle and later issues, the King's heads single CA.'s being practically complete.

On 26.1.09, Messrs Glendining will sell a further portion of a valuable collection of Colonials formed by a well-known German collector.

## Fine Lot of Transvaals for Sale.

Messrs. Glendining's sale of 26.1.09, will include the finest lot of Transvaals that have come under the hammer for some years, and will no doubt yield some grand bargains to the specialist. Amongst the rarities are the 6d. ultramarine of July, 1870; an imperfect copy which the cataloguers say should be Gibbons' 38s., a single copy of this stamp, however, scarcely warrants chronicling unless it has exceptional margins; a mint copy of the 6d. deep indigo of Sept., 1870; Gibbons 50 described as blackish blue; fine rouletted copies of the 1876 pelure 1d. and 3d.; an unused copy of the 6d. brown gum fine roulette; a stamp I have never yet come across; and a lot of other grand and rare stamps occupying altogether nearly five pages of the catalogue.

## Auction Summary.

<i>Glendining &amp; Co. 15.12.08.</i>		£ s. d.
Great Britain, 1867-80, wmk. spray, 1s., green, plate 5, pane of 20*	... ..	12 0 0
Grenada, 1883 (4d.) half of 1d. ... ..	... ..	2 0 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, diagonal sur., pair ... ..	... ..	5 0 0
Nevis, 1878, litho, 4d.* ... ..	... ..	3 10 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., rare yellow shade* ... ..	... ..	2 17 6
New Brunswick, 1851, 1s., violet ... ..	... ..	8 0 0
Nova Scotia, 1851, 1s., cold violet ... ..	... ..	8 5 0
New South Wales, 1850, 2d. blue, no pick and shovel ... ..	... ..	7 5 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 2d. blue, variety, fan with 6 segments ... ..	... ..	3 12 6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1853, 2d. full blue* ... ..	... ..	3 5 0
Queensland, 1860, wmk. star, imperf., 6d., deep green, full margins ... ..	... ..	2 8 0
Western Australia, 1865, Crown CC., perf. 12½, 1s., green*	... ..	1 4 0
<i>30.12.08.</i>		
Great Britain, 1841, 1d., red brown, letter missing from right label ... ..	... ..	18 0 0
Ditto, ditto, 1862, 3d. rose, with dots* ... ..	... ..	3 15 0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, 4d., red sur. ... ..	... ..	0 19 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2d., green sur. ... ..	... ..	4 12 6
British South Africa, 1896, 1d. on 3d. ... ..	... ..	2 12 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 1d. on 4s. ... ..	... ..	1 8 0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 3d. on 5s. ... ..	... ..	1 3 0
Gold Coast, 1883, CA., perf. 14, 1d., blue, pair*	... ..	6 5 0
Liberia, 1892, \$5, centre inverted* ... ..	... ..	3 5 0

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1½d.

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## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Thursday, 5 o'clock p.m.

## Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of The Postage Stamp, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

The Postage Stamp is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.

F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.

Lewis May & Co., 15, King William

Street, Strand, W.C.

W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.

James Rhodes, 62, Market Street,

Manchester.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP. Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwin, Printers of The Postage Stamp, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Cover.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of The Postage Stamp, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, The Postage Stamp, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

## Answers to Correspondents.

D. C. (Durban). Many thanks for your excellent information as to the changes in the postal issues of Natal. We highly appreciate the kindness of our readers in sending us early information concerning new issues, provisionals, or other changes.

C. J. R. (Durban). We are much indebted to you for an early copy of the official notice as to the changes in the stamps of Natal. We are always glad of copies of official notices issued by the postal authorities concerning the issue or use of postage stamps: they make philatelic history.

J. S. R. The Paul story is fine. You will recognise it in this number. Cornelius is glad of it.

P. L. B. (Steeple Claydon). I find as a result of my study of the chalky varieties that they are not worth separation, that in fact in numbers of cases they are absolutely indistinguishable. That being so what is the use of collecting them? Gibbons has made some sort of an attempt to list some chalkies by the letters "O" and "C," but even that seems not worth doing. Many thanks for your good wishes for The Postage Stamp.

K. S. L. (London). I have not the slightest idea where you could get copies of the bogus Labrador and Clipperton Islands. Mr. J. N. Luff, c/o Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 198, Broadway, New York, U.S.A., might be able to help you. For King Edward VII. Land stamps try Mr. Ewen, 32, Palace Square, Norwood, S.E. Until recently he was offering copies at 12s. 6d each. I regret that I do not know Prof. Hamilton's address.

F. J. N. (Margate). Your Cape of Good Hope 1s. stamp with outer frame all round, except on the left side, must be due to defective printing filling up the space on the left, for the stamp is not known without the outer line all round, except as a defective print, which easily gives the appearance you note.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges



At the request of several collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

WANTED copy Austrian, Crete 416 (S.G. 1908), Hungary 154 (used), Tunis 29, 8, Macao 185, 191, Dutch Indies Buiten Bezit 2) gulden. C., 24, Westfield Road, Beckenham, Kent.

## Switzerland.

Set of 50 different guaranteed genuine Swiss stamps, all in perfect condition, including issues from 1859-1909. Price 2/8 only, post free E. A. SCHMID, 67, Alexandra Rd., Finsbury Park, N.

PUNCTUATION AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSION: Its Theory and Practice. (Pitman). A complete Manual, by A. E. LOVELL, M.A., Director of Education for the City and County Borough of Chester. An interesting and helpful manual of the subject, that will greatly impress the intelligent student and be much appreciated by all who value clearness and thoroughness in writing. Price 1s. 6d.

PERHAPS YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED an advertisement in our columns. Perhaps it has not occurred to you to send your "Offers" along to THE POSTAGE STAMP. The next time you want anything why not use our columns? For particulars and prices see above.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 17. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 69)

23 JANUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Transvaal: King's Head, 1d. red, wmk. Anchor.



**F**OLLOWING up previous references to the discovery of the Transvaal 1d. red, of the current

King's head series on paper watermarked with the cabled anchor of the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope (see pages 9, 110, 160) Mr. J. S. Denton, Rushden, now writes to me as follows:—

"With reference to your note on page 110, Vol. 3, of *The Postage Stamp*, re Transvaal King's Head,

with the Cape anchor watermark, the other day I had the good fortune to unearth, from my duplicates, three specimens with the anchor watermark. Two of them are good specimens, whilst the third is torn. They each have a Johannesburg postmark, but I am unable to let you know the date. But for your valuable paper (which by the way was the first paper I had taken regularly, and which I consider the best) I should probably never have discovered the three mentioned above."

So that we now have established the fact that this variety on anchor paper was undoubtedly issued, unnoticed, and in the ordinary course, and that it was probably only issued by the Johannesburg post office, for all the postmarks I have heard of, so far, are those of Johannesburg.

I wonder if we shall ever get to know how the error occurred, and how many were issued.

We shall naturally be glad to hear of the discovery of other copies, and the postmarks with dates. Now that so much attention has been directed to the variety we shall probably have many more turning up.

I have since heard from my correspondent who announced the discovery of a copy in a lot of 800 when half way through. He tells me that the remaining half did not yield another specimen.

Evidently this error is going to be a sporting item, for no one knows, or is likely to know, how many were printed, or how many may turn up, or when, or where.

United States: New Series.

The appearance of the 9c. and 8c. with the values expressed in numerals in each lower corner may presumably be taken as evidence that the omission of the figures from the 1c. and 2c. was an oversight, which will be remedied in due course.

The stock of the 1c. and 2c. without numerals, it is said, is to be used up for inland postage, to which the Postal Union regulation does not refer.

New United States stamps unpopular.

Meanwhile, we learn that the new stamps are by no means so popular as their designers anticipated.

According to the *Metropolitan Philatelist* of New York, "public sentiment is crystallising around Senator E. R. Ackerman, who will make strong efforts to have the portrait of Lincoln placed on at least one value."

Senator Ackerman, it is explained, is "one of the foremost collectors of the day, as well as the most popular statesman in his native state."

I wish Senator Ackerman every success in his efforts to break the monotony of the series. Indeed, if he were to induce the postal authorities to restore the grand series of portraits of Uncle Sam's most noted men it would be a great improvement from a national, as well as from a philatelic, point of view. Economy might be studied by retaining the same framework and changing only the portrait.

Postmarks of Hong Kong.

Mr. M. J. Elsbury writes to me as follows on the Postmarks of Hong Kong:—

"On page 258, Vol. II, of *The Postage Stamp* you have an article on the Postmarks of Hong Kong. This is a subject I have been taking a great interest in during the last two years, and I can throw a little light on some of the doubtful parts of Mr. Poole's article.

"The obliterations Mr. Poole was unable to definitely allot to any towns were D27 and Y1.

"D27 is the obliteration that was used at Amoy before the A1 cancellation came into use.

"Y1 stands for Yokohama, Japan.

"Re the postmarks bearing name of town straight across. Mr. Poole says he believes these were used prior to 1887. I have a copy postmarked Canton, straight across, dated November 22, 1893.

"Foochowfoo postmarks were also in use, concurrently with the shortened postmark Foochow, as I have stamps postmarked Foochow dated July 30, 1888, and Feb. 22, 1896, and a King's Head Multiple Wmk. stamp postmarked Foochowfoo dated April 1, 1906.

"I also have copies of Hong Kong stamps postmarked Macau, in Portuguese China and at Kobe, Japan."

#### The New Hebrides Stamps.

*Le Journal des Philatelistes* publishes a startling announcement to the effect that the French and English stamps overprinted for use in the New Hebrides are likely to be suppressed and replaced by a joint set with inscriptions in English and French. As it is understood that the joint control includes various public services, the posts and telegraphs, public works, public health, ports and harbours, all undertaken in common, there is nothing improbable in the announcement, except that it is strange separate sets should have been started under the circumstances.

#### The Joint Control: English and French.

It should be explained that the New Hebrides is a chain of volcanic islands in Western Polynesia, lying west of Fiji and north-east of New Caledonia, and that under the Anglo-French Convention of November 16th, 1897, and the agreement of June 26th, 1888, the islands were, for the protection of life and property, placed under a joint commission of French and English naval officers on the Pacific stations.

#### Mr. Peckitt scores.

From all I can hear Mr. Peckitt has scored well this time with his New Issue Service, for so far as I have seen not another dealer has yet announced the receipt of a supply.

Should the stamps be withdrawn, Mr. Peckitt's customers will have had a nice little plum all to themselves.

#### The Extent of the Supply.

According to the French paper mentioned only about £600 worth of Fiji stamps have been overprinted, and they were only expected to remain in use a short time. I fancy the stamp trade can easily absorb all the £600 it can get hold of.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says the date fixed for the issue of the stamps was 1.11.08, and this date it thinks was adhered to, as its correspondent's letter was dated "Port Vila, 12.11.08."

Port Vila is the seat of Government for the group.

#### Colonies adopting the New Colour Scheme.

The new colour scheme, of which I published the particulars some months since, (see page 38) has already been adopted by several colonies, and there is little doubt that all the colonies whose stamps are printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. will eventually fall into line.

The following is a list of those colonies which so far have adopted the scheme:—

Fiji.	St. Vincent.
Gold Coast.	Straits Settlements.
Leeward Islands.	Trinidad.
Mauritius.	Virgin Islands.
Northern Nigeria.	

#### Cayman Farthings.

The following notice has been sent to those who applied for Cayman Farthing stamps:—

Notice is hereby given that farthing stamps being issued primarily for internal use, can only be purchased over the counter at a post office in the Dependency.

{W. Graham McCausland

The use of the word "primarily" in this notice takes my fancy, also the intimation that they are for "internal use."

#### The Belgian Congo Overprints.

An announcement in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* opens up a prospect of varieties in the overprinting of the Congo stamps with the words "Congo Belge." It says, "The Belgian Colonial Office authorized the surcharging of the stock of stamps on hand by means of handstamps inscribed 'CONGO BELGE,' but as might have been expected this method was found too slow and in the end the surcharge on the bulk of the stock had to be printed. Needless to say the hand-stamped issue was immediately bought up by local collectors." And then our contemporary wickedly suggests that, "Should more stamps be required Messrs. Waterlow & Sons could be instructed to apply the surcharge before sending out the stamps, thus ensuring a third type and this could be followed by a fourth issue with 'Congo Belge' engraved!"

#### Paraguay Provisionals Perpetual Supply Association.

It is evident that the Paraguay Post Office has converted itself into a Paraguay Provisionals Perpetual Supply Association, for every mail brings fresh varieties.

It will take a lot of persuasion to gull stamp collectors into the belief that all this flood of provisionals is unconnected with a little scheme for fleecing stamp collectors of a little necessary revenue.

And stamp collectors will buy, buy, buy, to the end of time, any old rags and bones of issues.

I am seriously thinking of going into the business myself; diademed head of Cornelius, with profile to right, &c., eh?

#### Falkland Islands Printers.

As everyone knows, Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. designed, engraved, and printed the first issues of the Falkland Islands stamps, but most people have been under the impression that later printings were by Messrs. De la Rue & Co.

Our Gibbons, which has in the last few years been adding the valuable information of the names of the printers of the various issues, has been very silent in the matter of the Falkland Islands. Even the known De la Rue printings of the King's heads are not credited to them.

Mr. Poole, who has been writing up the history of these interesting stamps in the *West End Philatelist*, has been making direct inquiries on this point, and now tells us that he has ascertained from Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. that they printed *all* the Queen's head stamps, and that their plates were never handed over to Messrs. De la Rue & Co. as has so often been suggested.

#### British Solomon Islands.

According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* of 9.1.09, the following are the numbers of the stamps of the new small design sent out to the Solomon Islands:—

1720 sheets of ½d.	=	108,200 stamps.
1749 " 1d.	=	104,940 "
1697 " 2d.	=	101,820 "
1726 " 2½d.	=	103,560 "
506 " 5d.	=	80,880 "
520 " 6d.	=	31,200 "
508 " 1s.	=	80,480 "

Of course this enormous printing is almost entirely wanted for sale to collectors. It is an object lesson of its sort.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us that although only 60,000 of the first issue were printed, there were in June, 1908, some 42,000 still on hand!

# The Belgian Congo

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL



## History of the Territory.

THE Congo Free State has been changed to the Belgian Congo, and the administration has passed from the malign personal control of the King of the Belgians to that of the Constitutional Government of Belgium. This change of government necessitates a total change in the postal issues and a naturally increased philatelic interest in the country. It may not therefore be amiss to take stock of the issues of the Congo Free State as a most desirable and improving little country for the average collector or even for the specialist

who wants an attractive, simple and cheap country comparatively easy to complete.

This Congo Free State, which has now been happily converted into a Belgian Colony, is a vast territory in the heart of Africa which takes its name from the great equatorial river of Central Africa, stretches from the west coast of Africa across the continent to British East Africa. As its maladministration has occupied the attention of the Governments of Europe, I cannot do better than quote a semi-official version of the history of the founding of the State, from the pen of Mr. Sidney Langford Hinde, formerly Captain of the Congo State Forces. He writes in the *International Geography* as follows:—All efforts to explore the Congo from the sea, or to discover whence its vast volume of water was derived, were without effect, and the existence of the great inland course of the river was unknown until, in 1876, Mr. H. M. Stanley struck its upper waters in East Africa and followed the river to the Atlantic Ocean. On the initiative of Leopold II, King of the Belgians, a society called *Comité d'Etudes du Haut Congo* was formed in Brussels in November, 1878, with the object of exploring and exploiting the basin of the River Congo, the vast size and importance of which had just been revealed. In 1879, Mr. Stanley, accompanied by fifteen Europeans, returned to the Congo, his first aim being to make a practicable road through the cataract region to the upper river. At Vivi, the highest point of the river navigable from the sea, he established a station directly below the last of the cataracts and made his road along the right bank nearly due north to Isanghila, after which it took an eastward course, following the river as closely as possible to Manyanga, where he crossed and proceeded up the left bank to Stanley Pool. Here he established the station now known as Leopoldville. At Stanley Pool a steamer was soon launched, and the difficulty of communication with the interior was thus greatly reduced, since from Stanley Pool to Stanley Falls, 1000 miles further up the main river, steamers of comparatively large size can voyage in safety at all seasons of the year. Mr. Stanley spent five years in the work of exploration, and soon after his return to Europe the

society became merged in the *Association Internationale Africaine*.

In 1885 the Berlin Congress guaranteed the Congo Free State as a Sovereign Power, and the King of the Belgians—who had borne all the expense from the commencement—was proclaimed sovereign. Five years later the Belgian Government advanced a small loan to the embryo State, reserving the right of annexing it as a Belgian colony in the year 1900. The Arab slave-traders who raided the western part of the country had for many years rendered the position of the few Europeans at remote stations exceedingly dangerous; and the military forces of the State were obliged to carry on a campaign against them before the evil influence exercised on the more peaceful natives was destroyed.

According to recent evidence no more evil influence ever held sway in Africa than that of the King of the Belgians.

What is termed the Congo scandal concerns the maladministration of the territory by Leopold II. To quote the *Daily Mail Year Book*:—Rubber and ivory are the chief natural products of the vast territory of the Congo. To obtain these, which supply the revenue of the country, and also vast dividends to the shareholders in all the Congo companies, of whom the King himself is indirectly one of the largest, barbarous methods of collection are used. The natives are forced to bring in amounts which are fixed arbitrarily, and increased at will by subordinates; inability is punished by fire and the sword; mutilations of the wretched beings are common, and punitive expeditions, which sweep away communities, are resorted to on the merest pretext. Moreover, an armed and quite uncivilized native soldiery is loosed on the wretched communities to do as it likes. The outrages chiefly brought to light by devoted missionaries have profoundly stirred public opinion. A fairly independent Committee of Inquiry, appointed by the King of the Belgians in 1905, took evidence widely, and practically found all the charges against the Government proved. The gruesome evidence was, however, suppressed, and there is reason to believe that even the report was toned down. Still there was a great international outcry, stifled to some extent in Belgium by the money and terrorism of King Leopold.

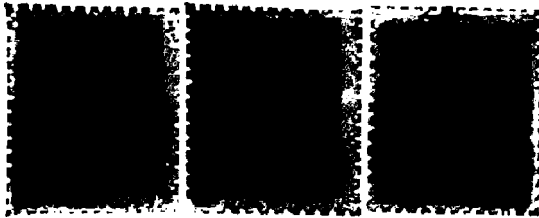
The area of the Congo Free State is estimated at 900,000 square miles and the population at 30,000,000. The capital is Boma on the Lower Congo. The central Government at present is at Brussels, and consists of King Leopold and three departmental chiefs. At Boma there is a Governor-General with a local Government and European Commissioners, assisted by civil and military officials, who govern the fourteen administrative districts into which the state is divided.

## Its Philatelic History.

The Congo Free State commenced its issue of postage stamps in 1885, when the Berlin Congress recognised it as a Sovereign State, and the stamps were duly inscribed *ETAT INDEPENDANT DU CONGO*. The first issue bore the portrait of Leopold II in profile. In the second issue the portrait was changed to a three-quarter face in 1887, and then in 1894 a finely engraved pictorial series was obtained from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, and has since remained in issue. And now we have the change to a Belgian Colony marked by the overprinting of the Free

State issues with the words "Congo Belge," to be followed in due course by a permanent Colonial series.

**1885.** Five values. Design: Portrait of Leopold II., King of the Belgians, with profile to left as used in the then current stamps of Belgium. For the 5c., 10c. and 5 fr. the design of the 5 fr. of Belgium was used, and for the 25c. and 50c. the corresponding designs with the alteration of the name. In all the portrait is the same, but there are three varieties of the framework, the same for the 5c., 10c. and 5 fr., and a separate design for the 25c. and for the 50c. Presumably the stamps were designed and engraved in Paris by M. E. Mouchon, who engraved the corresponding Belgian stamps. The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and perf. 15.



Perf. 15.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c. pale green	0 2	0 9		
10c. carmine	0 2	0 6		
25c. blue	2 0	2 6		
50c. sage green	1 0	2 6		
5 fr. lilac	15 0	15 0		

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The prices in this series have fluctuated considerably. The 25c. has grown steadily, but the 5 fr. which was started at 30s. in 1897, raised to 32s. 6d. in 1897, and to 35s. in 1899, has since then steadily dropped to its present quotation of 15s.

	1896	1897	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c.	0 5	0 3	0 4	0 3	0 3	0 2	0 2
10c.	0 3	0 5	0 6	0 3	0 2	0 2	0 2
25c.	0 3	2 0	0 9	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0
50c.	0 9	1 6	2 0	1 6	1 0	1 0	1 0
1 fr.	30 0	32 6	35 0	27 6	15 0	15 0	15 0

**1887-92.** Six values. Design: A very badly executed so-called portrait, three-quarter face, of Leopold II. Same design for all values. In 1892 the colour of the 50c. was changed from chocolate to grey and the 5 fr. from lilac to grey. Perf. 15.



Perf. 15.

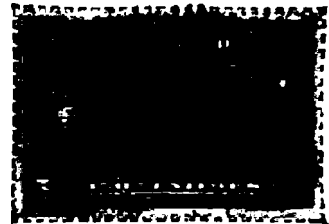
	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c. green	0 1	0 3		
10c. carmine	0 2	0 4		
25c. blue	0 6	0 6		
50c. chocolate	1 6	0 6		
50c. grey	1 0	2 6		
5 fr. lilac	17 6	7 6		
5 fr. grey	6 0	6 0		
10 fr. dull orange	20 0	20 0		

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The higher values in this series show much fluctuation and none of the stamps stand at their best. There was a general drop in 1904. The 50c. chocolate has not risen to expectations. It was doubled in price in 1897 and again in 1899, since when it has been on the down grade. The 5 fr. lilac, despite ups and downs, bids fair to be the best of the bunch yet.

	1896	1897	1899	1902	1904	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c.	0 1	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 1	0 1	0 1
10c.	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 2	0 2	0 2
25c.	0 4	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 4	0 4	0 6
50c. chocolate	1 0	2 6	4 0	2 0	1 6	1 6	1 6
50c. grey	1 9	2 6	2 6	2 6	1 6	1 6	1 0
5 fr. lilac	10 0	20 0	15 0	—	15 0	—	17 6
5 fr. grey	15 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	5 6	6 0	6 0
10 fr.	14 0	25 0	12 6	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0

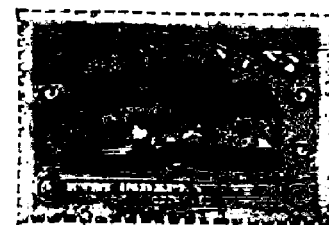
**1894.** Six values. Design: A separate pictorial design for each value, designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. In each stamp the picture or central portion of the design is printed in black, the framework of the design being of a different colour for value.



Port of Matadi.



Stanley Falls.

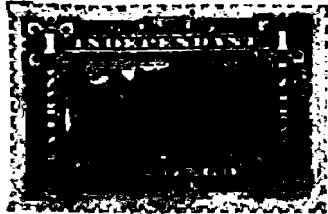


Inkissi Falls.





Railway Bridge over M'pozo.



Elephant Hunt.



Bangala Chief and Wife.

Perf. 12½ to 15.

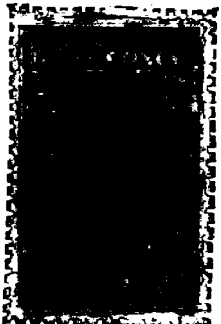
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5c. blue and black	1 6	1 6
10c. brown	1 6	2 6
25c. orange	0 8	0 5
50c. green	0 9	0 6
1fr. lilac	1 9	—
5fr. lake	—	—

1895. Two values. Design: As in last issue, but colours changed.

Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5c. red-brown and black	0 2	—
10c. greenish blue	0 8	0 3

1896. Two new values. Design: Pictorials by Waterlow.



Banana Gathering.



Native Canoe.

Perf. 12½ to 15.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15c. ochre	—	0 2
40c. green	—	—

1900-1. Five values. Design: As before, and centres again printed in black, but framework colours changed.

Perf. 12½ to 15.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5c. green and black	0 1	0 1
10c. carmine	0 2	0 1
25c. blue	—	0 3
50c. olive-green	0 8	—
1fr. rose	1 4	0 4

1908. Two values. Design: The 5c. and 10c. of 1900-1, overprinted "CONGO BELGE" (Belgian Congo) in one line in tall thin capitals in black on the upper part of the stamp, the territory having been converted from a Free State to a Belgian Colony. Other values are expected.



Stamps of 1900-1.

Overprinted CONGO BELGE.

Perf. 12½ to 15.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5c. green and black	0 1	—
10c. carmine and black	0 2	—

### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

### The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No 10.—St. Louis, U.S.A., Postmaster's Stamps

**B**Y an Act passed by the United States Congress on 3rd March, 1845, uniform rates of postage were established for the whole of the country in place of the varied and, at times, excessive charges that had hitherto been in force. No provision seems to have been made for the issue of adhesive postage stamps for the prepayment of the new charges until more than two years later, for the first Government issue of United States stamps did not appear until the 5th August, 1847. Some of the postmasters in various towns, however, anticipated matters by issuing postage labels on their own initiative. Most of these semi-official stamps appeared in 1846, but in the cities of New York, St. Louis, and Baltimore stamps or stamped envelopes were issued in 1845, within a few months of the passing of the postal reform Act. The majority of these Postmasters' stamps are rare, some exceedingly so, and in the latter category we must include the subject of this sketch—the 20c. stamp of St. Louis.

Speaking generally these Postmasters' stamps are crude in the extreme, the only ones having any pretensions to artistic merit being those issued in New York and St. Louis.

The 5c. and 10c. stamps of St. Louis seem to have been known to philatelists at an early date though the first reference I can trace of them in the literature of our hobby appears in the first volume of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* (1863) in which the 10c. is included in an addenda to Mount Brown's catalogue. For a considerable period opinion as to their authenticity was very divided in philatelic circles, and in 1869 they were the subject of lengthy articles in the philatelic journals of that day.

The leading British philatelists, such as the late Mr. E. L. Pemberton and His Honour Judge (then Mr.) F. A. Philbrick seem to have been quite satisfied as to their bona-fides though many of the foremost Continental collectors were just as confident that they were bogus.

About 1873 a 20c. St. Louis stamp was discovered and the storm broke with redoubled fury, the general opinion being that the new variety was a fraud concocted from the genuine 5c. label. Its status seems to have been more or less in doubt until the early nineties for nothing satisfactory was settled as to its standing until the late Mr. J. K. Tiffany made a thorough investigation of the whole history of the St. Louis stamps. Although this famous philatelist was, at the commencement of his study, extremely sceptical as to the genuineness of the 20c. he was ultimately able to prove conclusively that this stamp actually was issued and that it was a perfectly legitimate as well as an extremely rare variety. Not only was he able to prove that the 20c. was a genuine variety but Mr. Tiffany also showed that, instead of being a copy of the 5c. with the figure "5" removed and "20" inserted instead, the 20c. was really printed from the same plate as the other values, two of the types of the 5c. having been altered for that purpose. Mr. Tiffany was also able to show that there were three types of each of the 5c. and 10c. stamps and that the plate was altered twice altogether; the second time the 20c. stamps were restored to their original value 5c. while the unaltered 5c. was also retouched. Mr. Tiffany's notes and deductions received remarkable confirmation in 1895 when a find of St. Louis

stamps—I shall refer to this later—which included strips and blocks, showed the exact manner in which the types were arranged.



According to a writer in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* in 1863 the postal act of March 3rd, 1845, "abolished the previous dear rates, as well as the annoying scale of varying distances; and, whilst substituting the weight standard, reduced, at the same time, the rate for a single letter to 5 cents for any distance under 3000 miles, and 10 cents for any distance over 3000 miles."

At the time of the passing of this Act Mr John M. Wimer was Postmaster of the rising commercial city of St. Louis and the idea of issuing adhesive stamps for the prepayment of postal charges soon occurred to him. In the *Missouri Republican* for November 5th, 1845 the following paragraph relating to the issue of these stamps appeared:—"LETTER STAMPS.—Mr. Wimer, postmaster, has prepared a set of letter stamps, or rather marks, to put upon letters, indicating that the postage has been paid. In this he has copied after the plans adopted by the postmasters in New York and other cities. These stamps are engraved to represent the Missouri coat-of-arms, and are for five and ten cents. They are so prepared that they may be stuck upon a letter, like a wafer, and will prove a great convenience to merchants and all those having many letters to send postpaid, as it saves all trouble of paying at the post office. They will be sold at the same rate they are sold in the East, viz., sixteen 5c. stamps and eight 10c. stamps for a dollar. We should recommend merchants and others to give them a trial." At the same period it was stated that no official value was intended to be placed on these labels outside the post office as they merely represented the amount of postage paid by the sender to the postmaster. All letters were still marked "paid" as in the pre-stamp days and this fact seems to have formed one of the main arguments against their authenticity by the sceptics of 1863-69. There is, however, not the slightest doubt but that they were adhesive postage stamps in every accepted sense of the term though their use seems to have been quite optional.

The design is pleasing and consists of an armorial circle surrounded by the motto "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL." As supporters there is a bear on each side and underneath is "SALUS POPULI SUPREMALEXESTO." This formed the arms of the State of Missouri. Numerals denoting the value appear above the central circle, the name "SAINT LOUIS" is at the top, and "POST OFFICE" is shown at the base. A writer in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for March, 1863 refers to the design as "peculiar and not unpleasing, though we must ack-

knowledge there is a reminiscence of the bear's-grease label about it."

Mr. Wimer engaged Mr. J. M. Kershaw, proprietor of the Western Card and Seal Engraving establishment in St. Louis, to engrave these stamps and on the original plate there were six stamps arranged as follows:—

5c.	10c.
5c.	10c.
5c.	10c.

They were engraved on an ordinary copper visiting card-plate and as each stamp was separately engraved there are three types of each value. It is said that 500 sheets were printed from this plate on greenish wove paper. Soon after the issue of these two stamps the necessity for a higher value for the prepayment of the charges on heavy letters became apparent. A new plate was not made but the two top 5c. stamps were altered to 20c. making the arrangement as follows:—

20c.	10c.
20c.	10c.
5c.	10c.

The alteration was probably made by laying the plate face downwards on a hard flat surface and hammering the back, where the alteration was desired, until the

surface was flush and the new numerals were then engraved on these spaces. Mr. Kershaw, the engraver of the original, denied altering the plate, so that the work was evidently done by some other and less skilled worker for it is much inferior, the figures being very crude compared with Mr. Kershaw's productions. Early in 1847 the plate was again altered to its original state, the "20's" being replaced by "5's" and at the same time the figure "5" in the lower row was retouched.

This is the correct history of the manufacture of these interesting labels, and the facts relating to the three plates and the various types elucidated by Mr. Tiffany were fully corroborated by the find of 137 of the stamps during a "clearing up" of certain rooms in the Louisville Court House in 1895. The find consisted of 75 of the 5c., 46 of the 10c., and 16 of the 20c. Prior to the discovery I believe only four copies of the 20c. were known and I do not think any more have since been unearthed.

As to the present value of the rarity of the set, the 20c., it is difficult to say. At Sotheby's auction in 1872 two specimens realised £6 and £8 10s. respectively and, although the latter represented the largest amount realised for a single lot up to that date at auction, but for the very great suspicion under which the variety rested it would probably have realised much more. In the same year two copies (possibly the identical ones sold at Sotheby's) fetched £5 10s. each at Scott's auction in New York. In the St. Louis find was a vertical strip of the two 20c. and a 5c. *se-tenant* and this changed hands then, or later, at \$5,000 (about £1,080). This is about the only *data* available as the known copies are all held by enthusiastic collectors and are never on the market. But if a fine specimen were offered for sale nowadays it would hardly realise less than £400.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 189).

**Lafresterie, M.**—A Haytian sculptor who was responsible for the design of the first stamps issued in the Black Republic.

**Lagos.**—A British Colony in West Africa now forming part of the territory of Southern Nigeria. It has an area of 28,910 square miles and an estimated population of 1½ millions of whom less than 500 are Europeans. The colony consists of Lagos Island and a strip of land along the coast of about 140 miles. It became a British possession in 1861 and was administered as a Crown Colony until February, 1906 when, by an Order in Council, the territories of Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated under the name of the latter, while the headquarters of the Government are at Lagos. Postage stamps were first issued in June, 1874.

**Laid batonne paper.**—This is *bâtonné* paper with the spaces between the lines "laid." *Bâtonné* means ruled, and the lines watermarked in such paper are intended as a guide for writing. In the case of laid *bâtonné* paper the spaces between these distinct lines are filled with other lines (not quite so apparent) all running in the same direction. (See also "PAPER.")

**Laid Paper.**—In making this paper the gauze over which the pulp is run is set in parallel lines close together and these lines may be plainly seen in the finished paper when held up to the light. Stamps printed on laid paper

are described as vertically-laid or horizontally-laid according to whether the lines run from top to bottom or side to side. (See also "PAPER.")

**La ley.**—These two words are shown upon the book forming part of the design of the 1878 stamps of Bolivia. It means "the law."

**Land-post, Porto-marke.**—The only inscription shown upon the Rural Post stamps of Baden. It means "Land (or Rural) Post—postage due stamp." The rural post was established in 1859 for the purpose of connecting villages which had no post office with the nearest State post office. In 1862 the organisation of this post was much improved and these stamps, inscribed as above, were issued as a check upon its employees as all postal charges were collected on delivery.

**Lange, R.**—A lithographer of Buenos Aires who produced 5c., 10c., and 15c. stamps for the government of the Argentine Republic in 1862.

**Lao, Francois.**—A typographic printer of Palermo who prepared the plates and printed the stamps of Sicily.

**Laprot, Mr.**—An engraver of Mauritius who engraved the copper plate used in the production of the 2d. stamps of March, 1859 for that Colony. Judging from the crudity of the stamps he was hardly a finished artist.

To be continued.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Argentine Republic.**—(Vol. III. p. 69).—Another value—the 12c.—has been issued in the new design, making the set to date as follows:—

New Design. Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.

	s.	d.
2c. chocolate ... ..	0	1
5c. dull carmine ... ..	0	2
12c. yellow ... ..	—	—
15c. yellow-green ... ..	0	5

\* **British Solomon Islands.**—(Vol. III p. 178).—We gather from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that the number of stamps of the new issue despatched to this protectorate was as follows:—



¼d. ...	103,200
1d. ...	104,940
2d. ...	101,820
2½d. ...	103,560
5d. ...	30,360
6d. ...	31,200
1s. ...	30,480

**Chile.**—(Vol. III. p. 141).—Mr. J. Wedderburn Wilson points out that the 30c. blue-green and black, of the current set, was issued some time before our paragraph on page 141 would seem to suggest. Our correspondent has a copy dated "Valparaiso, 25th August, 1908," so the stamp has evidently been in use for some months.

**China (French).**—(Vol. II. p. 140).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the current 2c. on 5c. stamp in green—a shade quite distinct from the blue-green hitherto in use.

**Natal.**—(Vol. III. p. 179).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2d. and 5d. stamps on the paper with multiple watermark, making the list to date as follows:—

Inscribed "POSTAGE—REVENUE."  
Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
¼d. dull green ... ..	0	1
1d. carmine ... ..	0	2
2d. olive green and red ... ..	0	3
4d. brown and carmine ... ..	0	6
5d. orange and black ... ..	0	7
1s. pale blue and carmine ... ..	1	3
2s. violet and green ... ..	4	0
2s. 6d. purple ... ..	4	0
£1 10s. purple and orange ... ..	40	0

Mr. C. J. Richardson, of Durban, sends us a copy of the following official notice, which appeared in the *Natal Mercury* for December 10th:—

## " NATAL STAMPS

### " NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL.

"The combined 'Postage and Revenue' stamps of all denominations from 6d. to £1 (inclusive) have now been withdrawn from public use, and are being substituted by separate issues as follows:—

"Postage.—\*6d., \*1s., 2s., \*2s. 6d., 5s., \*10s., and £1

"Revenue.—6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1.

"For the present, however, the denominations marked thus \* are not on sale, and until they are the combined 'Postage and Revenue' stamps of these values will be available at the Public Counters at Maritzburg and Durban for telegrams and cablegrams only, and for no other purpose.

"They are not, therefore, to be used for postage or for stamping deeds or other documents."

It will thus be seen from the above that the new "POSTAGE-POSTAGE" 2s., 5s., and £1 stamps have been issued. The two former we listed on page 179, though it should have been stated that the 2s. value is on blue paper.

Inscribed "POSTAGE—POSTAGE."

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
2s. blue and purple on blue ... ..	2	6
5s. red and green on yellow ... ..	6	3
£1 black and purple on red ... ..	24	0

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—The flood of provisionals from this Republic seems unending. We have another to record this week, on the authority of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.—the ordinary 60c stamp in pink, reduced, "regardless of cost," to 5c by means of the surcharge illustrated below:—



Ordinary Stamps of 1904.

Overprinted "Habilitado en—5 (or 20)—CENTAVOS"  
in three lines.

	s.	d.
5c. on 1c. blue-green ... ..	0	3
5c. on 2c. carmine ... ..	0	3
5c. on 60c. chocolate ... ..	—	—
5c. on 60c. orange-brown ... ..	0	6
5c. on 60c. pink ... ..	0	9
20c. on 30c. violet ... ..	0	6

Stamps of 1901-2 similarly surcharged.

5c. on 28c. orange ... ..	—	—
5c. on 40c. blue (redrawn) ... ..	—	—

**Rio de Oro.**—(Vol. II. p. 310).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new provisional—the 1 peseta surcharged "Habilitado para 15 cents" in the type illustrated below. The overprint is in violet. The list of recent provisionals is now as follows:—



Provisional Stamps.

	s.	d.
10c. on 50c. deep purple	7	6
15c. on 75c. orange-brown	7	6
15c. on 1 pes. " "	7	6

**Siam.**—(Vol. III. p. 191).—We learn from several of our contemporaries that the 8c. stamp has received the Jubilee surcharge, making the complete set as follows:—



Surcharged as above.

	s.	d.
1 att orange and green	0	1
3 atts green	0	2
4 on 5 atts carmine	0	4
8 atts bistre and black	—	—
18 atts brown	1	0

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, all except the "4" on 5a. were issued on the 11th November, the numbers surcharged being as follows:—

1a.	300,000
3a.	150,000
8a.	8,000
18a.	100,000

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 191).—The 25c. value has been issued in the design illustrated below. It is printed in one colour only, the figure of Helvetia, &c., being uncoloured. The set issued to date is as follows:—



New Design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½.

	s.	d.
20c. vermilion and pale yellow	0	3
25c. blue	0	4
30c. red-brown and pale green	0	5
35c. emerald and pale yellow	0	6
40c. purple and yellow	0	6
50c. green and pale green	0	7
70c. purple-brown and yellow	0	10
1fr. red and pale green	1	2
3fr. yellow-bistre and chrome-yellow	3	6

**Transvaal.**—(Vol. III. p. 191).—Mr. Conrad F. Jacobs, of Cape Town, tells us that he has received the 5s. on the paper with multiple watermark, making the complete list as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. bluish green and black	0	2
½d. green	0	1
1d. scarlet and black	0	3
1d. carmine	0	2
2d. purple and black	0	3
2½d. ultramarine and black	0	5
3d. sage green	0	5
4d. chocolate	0	6
6d. orange	0	8
1s. red-brown	1	3
2s. yellow	2	6
5s. black and mauve on yellow	6	3
10s. purple and black on red	12	0
£1 violet and green	24	0

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 191).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 3c., 4c., 6c., and 8c. stamps in the same design as the 5c. illustrated below:—



Value expressed in words.

	s.	d.
1c. green	0	1
2c. carmine	0	0



Value shown in numerals.

3c. violet	0	3
4c. brown	0	3
5c. blue	0	4
6c. orange	0	5
8c. olive green	0	6

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## Belgium: 1851. Numbers Printed.

*First printing.*—Took place in January, 1851, on thin paper.

10c. greyish brown	-	400,000 copies.
20c. deep blue	-	300,000 "
40c. vermilion-red	-	240,000 "

*Second printing.*—Took place in September, 1851, and consisted of a larger quantity of stamps than the first printing. Thick paper.

10c. greyish brown	}	-	4,500,000 copies.
10c. deep brown			
20c. deep blue	-	-	4,000,000 "
40c. vermilion	-	-	300,000 "

*Third printing.*—On thick, yellowish paper.

10c. russet-brown	-	12,200 copies.
20c. blue	-	15,600 "
40c. vermilion-red	-	8,400 "

*Fourth printing.*—Took place towards the end of 1852, on the same paper as the third printing.

10c. bistre	-	60,000 copies.
20c. blue	-	50,000 "
40c. vermilion	-	40,000 "

*Fifth printing.*—Took place in February, 1853, on medium paper. This was one of the largest printings, consisting, as it did, of 128,000,000 stamps.

10c. deep bistre	-	70,000,000 copies.	
20c. deep blue	-	50,000,000 "	
40c. carmine	}	-	8,000,000 "
40c. vermilion			

*Sixth printing.*—Took place in 1854, on ribbed paper.

10c. brown	-	100,000 copies.
20c. blue	-	60,000 "
40c. carmine-red	-	45,000 "

The paper used for this printing was used in such a way that stamps may be found with vertical, horizontal, and even diagonal ribbing.

*Seventh printing.*—Took place in 1855, on very thick, porous paper. I am unable to quote figures, but the printing was an exceedingly small one.

*Eighth printing.*—Took place in 1858, on a very thin paper, sometimes called *pelure*.

10c. brown	-	72,000 copies.
20c. blue	-	54,000 "
40c. pale red	-	36,000 "

*Ninth printing (and last).*—Took place in 1858, and is particularly interesting, owing to the employment of a peculiar kind of thick wove paper. As this paper dried very rapidly during the process of printing, the sizes of the impressions are often appreciably different from the stamps of other printings. Copies may be found with the oval measuring only 18 x 15 mm., instead of 18 x 21 mm., while the complete specimen may be only 15 x 18½ mm., instead of 18½ x 21½ mm.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 9.1.09.

## Rhodesia or British South Africa.

It has been remarked by reviewers of the Whitfield King catalogue, as if a great discovery, that Rhodesia is

now substituted for British South Africa, but the latter name has never been correct, nor is it used as such on the stamps themselves which are issued by a Company and duly inscribed from the first with their title only. They used the word Mashonaland at first on postcards as their designation of the country, and have since officially inscribed them and named their territory as Rhodesia, consequently these are the correct names for lists.—*The Stamp Collector*, Dec., '08.

## United States: New Issue.

The new stamps are coming out slowly, and contrary to special information we find that the design has been altered to include numerals on all the higher values. Up to going to press the following have been received:—

1c. green, plates 4874, 4875, 4880, 4882, 4885.
2c. carmine red, plates 4829, 4830, 4831, 4833.
3c. purple, plate 4926.
4c. brown, plate 4932.
5c. blue, plates 4929, 4931.
8c. olive, plates 4919, 4922, 4923

We note almost universal disappointment at the removal of the portrait of Lincoln from the five cent. stamps and see with pleasure that public sentiment is crystallising around Senator E. R. Ackerman, who will make strong efforts to have the portrait of our greatest president replaced on at least one value. It is almost like an intentional slur on Lincoln to remove his portrait from our stamps, where it has been for over forty years, on the eve of his centennial year, when the entire population of the country are united to do him honour. Senator Ackerman is fully qualified to give the administration points on stamps as he is one of the foremost collectors of the day, as well as the most popular statesman in his native state.—*Metropolitan Philatelist*, U.S.A., 2.1.09

## New Hebrides Condominium.

The date fixed for the issue of the stamps was 1.11.08 and this was doubtless adhered to, as our correspondent's letter was postmarked "Port Vila, 12.11.08." It took just under two months in transit.

Port Vila is not unknown to stamp collectors, as the stamps of the Australasian New Hebrides Company bear a view of the town. The Company issued two stamps in 1897, 1d. black and magenta and 2d. blue and brown for inter island postage, but for some reason they were quickly withdrawn from use.

We have had a cablegram from the authorities to the effect that the face value of the complete set is 2s. 5d., so that the seven values listed are all that exist.

*Le Journal des Philatélistes* (31.12.08/361) contains some interesting notes on the new issue and illustrates the 1d. and 2½d. values, the latter being on a registered letter, used in conjunction with two 5c. of the French series, the whole postmarked "Port-Vila, NELLLES Hebrides, 30.10.08," one day earlier than the official date of issue.

According to our contemporary (page 866), only 15,000 francs (about £600) worth of Fiji Islands stamps were surcharged and they were only expected to remain in use a very short time; in fact both the French and English sets are likely to be suppressed and replaced by a joint set with inscriptions in English and French.

All the values except the ½d. and 1d. have single watermark.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News*, 16.1.09.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Small Dealers' Protection.

A small dealer writes to me as follows:—" Might I suggest to you and through your readers of *The Postage Stamp*, this proposal, viz. :—The opening up or establishing of a small Society for the Protection of Stamp Dealers who send out approval selections of stamps against fraud and persons who wrongfully retain them. There appears to be only one Stamp Trade Protection Society, and this particular Society charges rather a high subscription. If a Society could be formed for the benefit of smaller dealers and a nominal fee charged as subscription, I fancy there would be no lack of members, and it would be a great benefit in the interests of those dealers who are not prepared to pay £2 2s Od. for a subscription of this kind."

## Early Transvaals Wanted.

I note that a dealer is advertising for a client to buy an omnibus lot of the early Transvaals, indeed his list of the Gibbons numbers practically includes the lot. But early Transvaals are not plentiful in even moderate condition.

The stocks of these rarities have gravitated almost solely into two hands, Mr. W. H. Peckitt and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and prices are governed accordingly, i.e., they are affected by the half Gibbons competition dealers, for the simple reason that they are not to be for competition purposes.

On the other hand there are very few buyers, for they are expensive stamps, and are consequently more or less restricted to collectors with long purses.

Nevertheless, for those who can afford them they are grand stamps. You would imagine from the Gibbons list of the First Republic that there must be an enormous number of stamps, and yet, all told, there were under 800,000 stamps, printed as follows:—

	1d.	3d.	Gd.	1s.
First German	4,800	—	800	400
Viljoen	23,200	—	29,480	12,600
Borrius	65,480	8,040	144,800	24,040
German	—	8,000	39,320	—
Davis, Natal	24,120	—	40,600	—
Stamp Commission	116,760	24,030	198,200	—
	294,360	40,040	453,200	37,040

Added to these numbers must be a small printing made immediately before the First British Occupation.

## Sale of Mr. Robert Reid's Collection.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper announce that they have received instructions from Mr. Robert Reid to dispose of his superb General Collection, consisting of unused only.

The first sale will take place on February 18th and 19th, when the European portion will be offered. The British and Colonial portions will be sold in the following sales. The catalogues are to be ready shortly.

## New Hebrides Stamps.

The report that the New Hebrides stamps, which have only just been received, are to be replaced by a series overprinted in French and English will create a rush for this new issue.

We are not told yet the numbers printed, but it is said that the supply of Fiji stamps overprinted represents a total value of £600. As the values are low, the highest being a shilling, the numbers cannot be very small, still the mere mention of withdrawal, or replacing, will make a rush.

But as in the case of Papua, collectors will have to possess their souls in patience for it takes some two months for supplies to come over.

## Business Booming in Stamps.

Mr. Whitfield King tells me that business is booming with him, that, in fact, he has not been so busy for five or six years as he is just now. He says he printed what he thought would be enough of his new Catalogues to last to the end of March, but he is already compelled to go to press with a fresh supply.

Apparently the expectation that business would wake up in the new year is already being realised.

## Prospects of the New Year.

It should be a record year, for there is much to generate business. For instance, all the changes that are taking place under the adoption of the new Colonial Colour Scheme must alone mean an enormous output of saleable stamps, in addition to which is the fact that in times of depressed general trade people are slow to buy anything, especially luxuries, and when things show a return to prosperity they come in with a rush to buy.

## Developments in the Stamp Trade.

There is much to keep up the spirits of the stamp trade, as compared with the old days, for many new developments make for an increased turn over. The fashion for collecting blocks must mean a very great difference in sales all round. And the fashion is likely to spread, for nothing adds more distinctly to the insignificance of a collection than a nice lot of blocks of four.

One industrious dealer of my acquaintance has for years been making up a great collection in unused blocks of four for a client on a carte blanche order as to expenditure, and I have rarely seen anything finer in my philatelic life than that same collection. It consists exclusively of blocks of four, no singles or pairs. If a variety is difficult to get in a block of four, the order is to wait and get it.

## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative

rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready in a few days and will be

### No. 1. Jamaica and Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** BD. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Thursday, 5 o'clock p.m.

## Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert," c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

The *Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

- Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.
- F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.
- Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.
- W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.
- James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP. Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins' Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of 3d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

# Pitman's New Commercial Dictionary

OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

With an Appendix containing Forms of Addresses, Chemical Elements, Coinage systems, Common Foreign Phrases, Mensuration Notes, Metric System, Correction of Printers' Proofs, Notes on Punctuation, Signs and Symbols.

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" " one dollar (cat 2s)	6d.
" " 2 dollars (cat 5s)	1/6
" " 2c green or 10c blue	1d.
Dominican Republic, 1901, 5 or 10c	1d.
" " 20 cent	3d.
" " 1908, 10c violet & blk.	1d.
French Guiana, 1900/4, 2 francs	4d.
" " 1904/6, one franc	4d.
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" " 15 or 20 sen	3d.
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" " 3 rupees	10d.
" " 5 rupees	2/6
G. Britain, 1865, 9d lar. letters, emblems	10/6
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" " Pictorial, mult., 4 1/2 or 5d	3 1/2d.
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" " 2 or 4 pesos	1/6
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Straits Setts., King, Single CA, 1 dollar	1/4
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## Special Bargains in Unused (full gum).

Lagos, King, Multiple CA, 2 6	4/6
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JAMES RHODES, 62, MARKET ST., MANCHESTER

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A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE POSTAGE STAMP would be an excellent gift to any friend who is interested in stamp collecting. If you will send a postal order to the publishers (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1 Amen Corner) they will see that your friend gets a copy regularly, post free. You will thus be saved all trouble yourself, and have the satisfaction of knowing that your friend is reminded of your remembrance every week of the year. If you prefer to send the copy of your first week's subscription yourself, the publishers will send this to you gratis.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 18. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 70)

30 JANUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### Proposed Philatelic Club.



THE Provisional Committee formed for the purpose of drawing up a scheme for the formation of a Philatelic Club in London, met on January 7th, when the following gentlemen were present:—

P. L. Pemberton, W. H. Eastwood, Cyril J. Phillips, T. B. Widdowson, A. B. Kay, T. H. Hinton, W. Cool, and J. E. Josefin. After some hours' deliberation the following

proposal was drawn up for publication:—

It is proposed to form a Club in the Strand district of London bearing the title "Central Philatelic Club, Ltd." The club is intended to be run on social lines under the auspices of existing societies, and open to all classes of philatelists. Suitable premises of from four to six rooms have been offered to the committee, and it is proposed to make provision for a restaurant, billiard room, reading room, rooms for general club purposes, &c.

### Proposed Capital.

The company should be formed with a nominal capital of £500 in £1 shares, and should raise working capital by the issue of £500 debentures bearing 5% interest. It is estimated that the expenses of inauguration and of the first year's work would not exceed £500, and it would be necessary to raise this amount from the above two sources in order to enable the scheme to be proceeded with.

### Membership and Management.

The Provisional Committee consider that membership should be secured by holding a £1 share and an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. The management of the club should consist of a committee composed of one representative from each society holding in its corporate capacity at least one share. Country and foreign membership could be obtained by any member of a shareholding society for the proposed subscription of 5s.

This scheme will be brought forward for discussion at the Manchester Congress by Mr. P. L. Pemberton. Meanwhile any correspondence on the subject should be addressed to the Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Committee, Mr. T. H. Hinton, 26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

### Paraguayan Provisionals.

Following up my note of last week (page 196) on the flood of Paraguayan Provisionals, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. state that "the current Paraguayan stamps are printed in Buenos Ayres, from whence a number of surcharged stamps have come on the market which have never been issued in Paraguay, and probably never will be."

They add: "We shall only include in our catalogue such varieties as have actually been purchased at the Post Office by our agent at Asuncion."

I wish all cataloguers would be equally particular in excluding rubbish from their catalogues.

### British Crete Issues.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. call attention to the fact that the first stamps issued in the British Sphere of Administration in Crete in 1898 and 1899, i.e. in the Province of Candia, were employed exclusively at the British Post Office there. They contend, and rightly so, that "the stamps are on exactly the same footing as those employed at the British Post Offices in the Levant, Morocco, &c., and, therefore, properly belong to the British Empire section of catalogues and albums."

Of course, they do. Why they are excluded from the Gibbons' British Colonial Catalogues it would be hard to explain. It is probably a case of never having thought of it.

### Proper Division of Cretan Stamps.

Not only should the stamps issued for use in the British Sphere be transferred to the British Colonial sections of our albums and catalogues, but the stamps of the Russian Sphere should be transferred to the Russian list, and the Cretan list confined to those issued by the permanent Government, commencing with the issue of 1900.

In all the French, German, and Spanish catalogues we are reminded that the British issues are described as "British Crete."

**Belgian Congo Overprints.**

Mr. M. Stewart, Westgate-on-Sea, writes to me as follows:—

"I purchased in Brussels on December 8th, the 5, 10, 15, 25, 40 and 50 centimos, and the 1 and 5 franc Congo stamps overprinted "Congo Belge," the printing is extremely bad and there was a general outcry in the Belgian papers about it, *Masquiere* being the general opinion and the English method of overprinting was cited as an example of how it should be done.

"On the 15th December I purchased a set of the second printing that included the 3, 50 and 10 franc stamps, the workmanship was much better and the stamps you illustrate are evidently this emission."

**The Handstamped Variety.**

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 23.1.09, sets out the points which distinguish the handstamped variety from the typographed stamps as follows:—

*Handstruck.*

- (i.) Overprint does not show on back of stamp.
- (ii.) Letters "o" have square appearance.
- (iii) Length of overprint varies from about 16½ to 17½ mm.
- (iv.) Height of letters slightly under 4 mm.

*Typographed.*

- (i.) Impression of overprint shows clearly on back.
- (ii.) Letters "o" more oval.
- (iii) Length always 17 mm.
- (iv.) Height exactly 3½ mm

**Rather Rough on all of us.**

Mr. Griebert in his trade circular is rather rough on philatelic journals.

Says he, "most of the philatelic papers which appear every month endeavour to furnish their readers with 'news,' and yet few are successful in bringing to their notice anything besides reports on stamps recently issued, club and society notices, auction prices, etc."

Ah! Mr. Griebert, who is a very busy dealer, evidently has not time to read the philatelic journals. Anyway, as a professional journalist and an experienced specialist in many countries, he will forgive my differing in toto from him.

**The "Philatelic Record" changes hands.**

After many vicissitudes, our oldest philatelic journal, the *Philatelic Record*, has once more changed hands. An Editorial in the December No. says:—

"This is the last occasion on which the present Editor will have the pleasure and privilege of extending greetings to those who for so long have been such kindly critics and friends, and our words are peculiarly halting under such conditions. After the issue of the present number the *Philatelic Record* will undergo a change in management, brought about mainly owing to the fact that those who have guided its fortunes during the past eight years can no longer devote the time which such work demands, and also because they have felt at times a staleness creeping over them, and recognise that the Journal will greatly benefit by the infusion of new blood. Yet when the moment comes to say good-bye, how hard it is to do so! We can assure our readers that an affection exists between us and the *Philatelic Record*, and it is not without many pangs of regret that we lay aside our pen, but our task is made easier by the knowledge that those who will follow us in the editorial chair are not only eminent philatelists, but are animated by the same feelings towards the Journal as ourselves."

The new régime commences with the January No.

**Stamp Trade Protection Association.**

Mr. J. S. G. Telfer, the energetic Secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd., informs me

that the present strength of the Association is 51 subscribing members, two having been elected during the past year and one retired. At this moment four gentlemen are applying for election.

The Brighton Case, which resulted in a conviction for forging stamps, has now been fully wound up, the expenses amounting to £140. The Association still has a substantial balance in hand towards any future case.

The financial position of the Association is very sound, after heavier expenses being met than had ever previously been incurred, a good credit balance being carried forward.

The number of cases placed in the hands of the Secretary during the year amounted to 314; in nearly 50 per cent. of these cases cash or stamps being recovered.

Full particulars of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

**Exhibition at Birmingham.**

The Birmingham Philatelic Society held a very successful Exhibition at the Midland Institute, from January 12th to 15th, 1909. It was limited to Great Britain and her Colonies, but of these a very representative collection was shown, nearly every Colony being included. Each subscriber of one guinea is allowed a ticket for self and friend, and as there are some 3,000 subscribers it meant a very good attendance.

Some 5,900 attended on the four evenings, in addition to 120 who were at the private view on Wednesday afternoon.

The chief exhibitors were Messrs. B. B. Tilley (India, India Native States, Straits Settlements, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, &c.), C. A. Stephenson (Barbados, Victoria, B.C.A., B.S.A., Transvaal, &c.), R. Hollick (Canada and all the other Colonies of British North America, Bahamas, Mauritius, Bechuanaland, &c.), J. J. Knowles (Great Britain, Cape of Good Hope), W. Pimm (N.S.W., Queensland, West Australia, St. Vincent, Nevis, &c.), H. Grindall (Sarawak), T. W. Peck (South Australia), F. T. Collier (Trinidad), T. Groom (St. Helena), W. S. Vaughton (Ceylon), Society's Collection (pair of V.R. 1d. black).

All the exhibits reached a high standard of excellence, the Committee having spent several months in selecting the most representative collection of each Colony from the various members.

**Novel Method of Collecting Postmarks.**

A post office official complaining of the inconvenient use which some depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank make of their privilege, said to a *Daily Mail* interviewer:—"One of our depositors is a professional man, who frequently goes for cycle tours. At each place he passes he deposits one shilling, for his hobby is to collect post office stamps and thus have a complete record of the towns seen on his different journeys. We pointed out to this gentleman that his account was a considerable expense to us, and he replied that he was quite willing to pay the cost, but that he must have his collection of post office stamps. Of course, we could not accept his offer to pay expenses."

**New Hebrides: Complete Set.**

The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* says it has received a full set of the "New Hebrides or Endomonium" series, which includes the 8d. and 4d., the colours of which are given.

This is a bit of a poser, for no one else seems to have heard of these two values.

One of two things must have happened: others must have been left out in the cold, or a special set has been printed for the *P.J.G.B.*

# King's Heads to Date

## Lagos.

**P**HILATELICALY, the Colony of Lagos has been merged in that of Southern Nigeria, but politically the statement of the case stands thus: By an Order in Council, dated February 16th, 1906, the name of the Colony of Lagos was altered to Southern Nigeria, and the administration of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate was placed under that of the new Colony, which is now known as the *Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria*.

At the time of the change in the administration it is said that there was an immense stock of the stamps of Lagos in hand, which the authorities decided to use up, and for this reason stamps of Southern Nigeria were held back and were only brought into use as the stock of corresponding values of Lagos were exhausted. Some values of Lagos are still in use, but the stamps of Southern Nigeria are now once more coming into use.

**1904.** Ten values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left in a framework somewhat similar to the Queen's head type, but inscribed "Postage and Revenue" and with the name of the Colony removed from above the head to a small label below the bust. The stamps were printed on paper watermarked Crown CA single and perforated 14, but the 4d., 5d., 7½d. and 10d. values were omitted. In the 2½d. stamp the value is found printed in one in smaller type than the other. The smaller type was the first printing, the larger and bolder type was the later and was repeated in the subsequent series on multiple C.A. paper.



*Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. dull green and green	-	2 0	2	0
1d. purple and black on red	-	0 8	0	6
2d. „ blue	-	2 6	2	0
2½d. „ „ on blue	-	0 9	0	9
3d. „ brown	-	2 0	2	0
6d. „ mauve	-	17 6	4	0
1s. green and black	-	30 0	10	0
2s. 6d. „ carmine	-	75 0	-	-
5s. „ blue	-	45 0	-	-
10s. „ brown	-	-	-	-

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

The stamps of this series of King's heads show a more rapid rise in catalogue quotations than any other series in the whole range of King's heads. And the rise has not been confined to one or two values; each value has risen enormously. The rise in the higher values is simply phenomenal; the 6d. has risen from 8d. in 1904, the year

of issue, to 17s. 6d. in 1908; the 2s. 6d. from 3s. 3d. to 75s.; the 5s. from 6s. 6d. to 45s.; and the 10s., for which Gibbons has never been able to quote a price, has been selling for as much as £10 at auction. It is now quoted at £8 in Whitfield King & Co.'s latest catalogue.

The prices attest the old standing popularity of this Colony amongst collectors who can afford to pay long prices.

	1905		1906		1908	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d.	0	2	0	6	2	0
1d.	0	2	0	3	0	8
2d.	0	4	1	0	2	6
2½d.	0	6	0	9	0	9
3d.	0	6	1	0	2	0
6d.	-	-	10	0	17	6
1s.	-	-	-	-	30	0
2s. 6d.	-	-	75	0	75	0
5s.	10	0	35	0	45	0
10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-

**1904-5.** The same values and design but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A., that is to say, on paper with the design Crown C.A. reduced in size and so crowded together that the watermark is repeated several times on each stamp.

*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. dull green and green	-	0 2	0	2
1d. purple and black on red	-	0 3	0	2
2d. „ blue	-	0 3	0	4
2½d. „ blue on blue	-	0 4	0	4
3d. „ brown	-	0 9	0	5
6d. „ mauve	-	1 0	0	8
1s. green and black	-	3 0	0	9
2s. 6d. „ carmine	-	10 0	6	0
5s. „ blue	-	6 6	-	-
10s. „ brown	-	12 6	-	-

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

As these stamps are being used up and superseded by those of Southern Nigeria they drop out of current prices and drift into higher quotations. The 1s. and 2s. 6d. are already on the road to high quotations; but the others will probably be obtainable at more reasonable prices for some time to come.

	1905		1906		1908	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d.	0	1	0	1	0	2
1d.	0	2	0	2	0	3
2d.	0	3	0	3	0	3
2½d.	-	-	0	4	0	4
3d.	-	-	0	5	0	9
6d.	0	8	0	8	1	0
1s.	1	4	1	4	3	0
2s. 6d.	8	3	3	8	10	0
5s.	-	-	6	6	6	6
10s.	12	6	12	6	12	6

## Sierra Leone

The stamps of this Colony may be described as somewhat slow in the market. The Colony offers the philatelist a fine range of interesting series from 1860, most of which, with here and there a scarce value, still stand at reasonable figures.

**1903.** Thirteen values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. in profile to left enclosed in the same design as the Queen's head issue of 1896-7 slightly modified. Engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single. The stamps were printed in the same combinations of two colours on each stamp as in the Queen's head issue of 1896-7.



*Wmk Crown C.A. single. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple and green	0 2	0 6		
1d. " red	0 6	0 2		
1½d. " black	1 3	—		
2d. " orange	2 0	—		
2½d. " ultramarine	1 6	—		
3d. " grey	2 0	—		
4d. " red	2 6	—		
5d. " black	2 0	—		
6d. " deep purple	2 6	—		
1s. green and black	8 0	8 0		
2s. " ultramarine	12 0	10 0		
5s. " carmine	20 0	—		
£1 purple on red	40 0	—		

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

This series of single C.A.'s show a steady, though not sensational, rise. The 1s., 2s. and 5s. are promising stamps, and should the country come more into fashion, as it may, all the values of this series will, no doubt, run up into much higher prices.

## Malta

The stamps of Malta offer a great attraction for the specialist of moderate means for its issues include no great rarities and are yet of considerable interest, and, above all, it is not handicapped with high values.

The King's head design of the little colony have a framework design of their own and are thus marked out from the general type of King's heads. The design is an adaptation of that of the first issue with the larger King's head of the De la Rue colonial type.

**1902-3.** Seven values. Design: the King's head with profile to left, enclosed in an octagonal frame with outer decorations after the style of the first halfpenny

	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 1	0 2	0 2
1d.	0 3	0 3	0 6
1½d.	0 3	0 8	1 3
2d.	0 3	0 6	2 0
2½d.	0 4	0 8	1 6
3d.	0 5	0 9	2 0
4d.	0 6	0 9	2 6
5d.	0 7	1 0	2 0
6d.	0 8	1 6	2 6
1s.	1 4	—	8 0
2s.	2 8	—	12 0
5s.	6 6	—	20 0
£1	24 0	—	40 0

**1904-5.** Thirteen values. Design: as in last issue, but watermark changed to multiple C.A., i.e., the design of the watermark condensed in size and crowded together so that two or more Crowns and C.A.'s show on each stamp. Perf. 14.

*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple and green	0 3	0 3		
1d. " red	0 2	0 2		
1½d. " black	0 3	—		
2d. " orange	0 3	—		
2½d. " ultramarine	0 4	—		
3d. " grey	0 5	—		
4d. " red	0 6	0 6		
5d. " black	0 7	—		
6d. " deep purple	0 8	0 8		
1s. green and black	1 4	—		
2s. " ultramarine	2 8	—		
5s. " carmine	6 6	—		
£1 purple and red	25 0	—		

**1907.** Three values. Design: as before, but with a change from bicolours to single colours, bringing the stamps more into consonance with the Postal Union regulation for the three low values. Watermark multiple C.A. and perforated 14.

*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green	0 1	0 1		
1d. carmine	0 2	—		
2½d. ultramarine	0 4	—		

stamp. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CA single and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown CA Single.	Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green . . . . .	0 4	0 2
1d. black and carmine . . . . .	0 4	0 2
2d. mauve and grey . . . . .	0 6	—
2½d. marone and ultramarine . . . . .	0 8	0 8
3d. grey and mauve . . . . .	0 5	0 5
4d. black and brown . . . . .	0 9	0 9
1s. grey and violet . . . . .	3 0	3 0

1904-5. Six values. Design: as before, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. multiple.

Wmk. Crown C.A. multiple.	Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green . . . . .	0 1	0 1
1d. black and carmine . . . . .	0 3	0 1
2d. mauve and grey . . . . .	0 3	0 3
2½d. marone and ultramarine . . . . .	0 4	0 3
4d. black and brown . . . . .	0 6	—
1s. grey and violet . . . . .	1 4	0 10

1907. Two values. Design as before, but the colours changed from bicolours to single colours. The 2½d. will no doubt appear all blue in due course.

Wmk. Crown CA Multiple.	Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green . . . . .	0 1	0 1
1d. carmine . . . . .	0 2	0 1

Previous Articles.

Previous articles in this series of "King's Heads up-to-date" have appeared as follows:—

Transvaal . . . . .	Vol. 3, page 137
Southern Nigeria . . . . .	" " 161
Northern Nigeria . . . . .	" " 173
Gold Coast . . . . .	" " 185

To be continued.

# Travelling Notes

BY LIEUT. R. H. HILLIARD, R.N.

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 23rd, 1908.

I send a few notes on the stamps of Natal, Transvaal, O.R.C., Cape Colony, St. Helena, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay, which I have made while visiting ports in those countries. I hope they may be of some use although they are very scanty.

Natal, Oct. 1908.

The *Natal Mercury* of Durban publishes about half-a-column per week on Philately. The following stamps with multiple wmk. were on sale at Maritzburg and Durban G.P.O.'s:—Gibbons' 146, 147, 152, 153, 156, and 157, but the 1/- single was obtainable at many of the small offices. All other stamps were with single wmk. or else Crown CC. Most railway stations in Natal, Transvaal, and O.R.C. have branch post offices attached to them, but they generally only stock the stamps most used.

Transvaal, Oct. 1908.

All stamps were with multiple wmk. except 5s. and upwards.

O.R.C., Oct. 1908.

Only multiples in issue were the ½d., 1d., and 4d.

Cape Colony, Oct. 1908.

The 2½d 1892 was still in issue at several principal P.O.'s, and at the G.P.O. Cape Town the King's head 2½d. was not obtainable. Otherwise the King's heads are used entirely.

St. Helena, Nov. 1908.

The stamps in use here were the ½d. 1902 King's head. The 1903 Pictorial Set, ½d., 1d., 2d., 8d., 1s., and 2s. and the four recently issued stamps in the new colours namely, 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 10s. The 1d. 1902 King's head was sold out. There were 37,000 Pictorials remaining on hand in the post office although I do not know how many of each value. There is only one post office at Jamestown, the Capital, and as there is no local post at all, the postal business cannot be very great. Also the population of the island is now about 2500.

Brazil (Rio de Janeiro), Dec. 1908.

The commemoratives of this year (two 100 reis stamps) can only be used for internal postage. They were still on sale. The officials and unpaids are obtainable in any post office; among the latter I found a 100 reis red, perf. 11 x 11½, Gibbons No. 524 but with watermark.

Uruguay, Dec. 1908.

The stamps in issue are:—S. G. 1908, Nos. 268, 272, 273, 274, 293, 276, 270, 286, 294. The shades of the 5c. and 20c. seem to me slightly different to when first issued in 1900-1.

Paraguay.

The neighbouring country of Paraguay seems to be turning out new provisionals every week. I give a list of the ones I have seen so far; among them I think there are two not noted at home yet:—

(Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, 1908).

Surcharged with type 41 (in 4 lines).

- 5c. on 2c. vermilion
- 5c. on 2c. olive

Surcharged with type 42.

- 5c. on 5c. dark blue
- 5c. on 5c. pale greenish blue
- 5c. on 5c. slate grey

Surcharged with type 43 (in 4 lines).

- 5c. on 10c. bistre
  - 5c. on 10c. dark purple
  - 5c. on 20c. green
  - 5c. on 20c. slate grey
  - 5c. on 20c. greenish blue
  - 5c. on 60c. chocolate
  - 5c. on 60c. chestnut
  - 5c. on No. 264 (official of 1908)
- } all  
1904  
officials

*Surcharged with new type (in 8 lines).*

5c. on 1c. greenish blue,	ordinary (1904)
5c. on 2c. carmine	ordinary
5c. on 10c. green	official
5c. on 10c. lilac	"
5c. on 20c. bistre	"
5c. on 20c. pink	"
5c. on 30c. pale greenish blue,	"
5c. on 80c. yellow	"
5c. on 60c. yellow brown	"
5c. on 60c. pink	ordinary

*Unsurcharged new color.*

10c. ultramarine.

All the above are on 1904 type except the 5c. on No. 254.

I hope to get more information about both these and the Uruguayan stamps.

**Argentina, Dec. 1908.**

The only new "San Martin" stamps in issue were the 2c., 5c., 12c., and 15c. You will no doubt have seen them before now but I enclose the two latest issued 12c. and 15c. in case you have not. The other stamps in issue were all of the 1899 type, the 15c. and 30c. being in the last chronicled shades.

R. H. HILLIARD, R.N.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

*(Continued from page 201).*

**Large Crown.**—A watermark shown in many of the early line-engraved 1d., 1½d., and 2d. stamps of Great Britain, so-called in contrast to the device at first used which was smaller and of simpler design.

**Large star.**—A watermarked device shown in many of the early British Colonial stamps produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. In this paper the stars measured from 15mm. to 16mm. across from point to point and they were so arranged that the distance from the centre of one star to the centre of the next above or below it was about 27mm. This paper was made primarily for long stamps like those of St. Helena and Ceylon but it was often used for ordinary sized stamps such as those of Grenada. (See also "SMALL STAR" and "BROAD STAR.")

**Las Bela.**—A native state in India situated in the south-eastern corner of Baluchistan. Postage stamps were first issued in 1897 and were withdrawn from use ten years later.

**Laureated Issues.**—These are stamps like the 1851-54 issue of New South Wales and the 1862-70 issues of France in which the portrait is crowned with a wreath of laurel leaves.

**L.C.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used during the period 1868-74 upon the official correspondence of the Legislative Council. These stamps were superseded in 1874 by the general issue (overprinted "OS") for use in all the Government departments.

**Leeward Islands.**—This is really a geographical division consisting of various groups of islands in the Caribbean Sea, but so far as we are concerned at present it is the official designation of a British West Indian Colony consisting of five separate presidencies which are administered by one Governor. The five presidencies are (1) Antigua, with Barbuda and Redonda, (2) St. Christopher and Nevis, with Anguilla, (3) Dominica, (4) Montserrat, and (5) The Virgin Islands. With the exception of the latter they all have their own local legislatures which are subordinate to the Legislative Council for the whole Colony. In 1890 it was decided to issue a set of stamps for use throughout the Colony, and these superseded the separate sets for Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, and the Virgin Islands, which had been in use up to that date. Although a general issue for the Leeward Islands is still in use, all five presidencies have, of recent years, issued their own particular stamps, which are in concurrent use with the general set,

**Lemaire, P.**—A Belgian artist who designed the postage due stamps issued in Belgium in 1895. His initials "PL" are shown on the left hand end of the label containing the words "a payer"

**Lenoir.**—A small town in the State of North Carolina, U.S.A., at which the Postmaster issued a special 5c. stamp for the prepayment of postal charges in 1861. This was superseded by the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States after a very short life.

**Leon.**—A province in the republic of Ecuador in which all the stamps used in 1902-3 were surcharged "DE LEON" before being sold to the public. This overprint was applied in consequence of a disastrous fire at Guayaquil in July, 1902, during which a large quantity of stamps were either burned or stolen from the Government stores. In the case of the latter eventuality it was feared they might be brought into use and as a precaution against this the Government ordered the governors of the various provinces to hand stamp control marks on all supplies on hand and to recognise no stamps that were unsurcharged. As, however, each governor chose a device at his own sweet will and no official list of the various surcharges seems to have been made, the value of these control marks as a prevention of fraud seems somewhat obscure.

**Lepton** (plural "LEPTA").—The value in which most of the stamps of Greece and Crete are expressed. A lepton is the hundredth part of a drachma and is nominally equal to  $\frac{1}{100}$ th of a ld. in English money.

**Leu.**—(plural "LEI.")—The unit of value in Roumania. A leu is divided into 100 bani and is equal to about 10d. in English money.

**Leva.**—The unit of value in Bulgaria. A leva consists of 100 stotinki and is the equivalent of 10d. in English currency.

**Levant.**—I.—A surcharge shown upon several of the current stamps of our own country used in the British Post Offices maintained in the Turkish Empire.

II.—The inscription shown on the special stamps issued by France for use in the French Post Offices established in the Turkish Empire.

III.—A geographical name applied to the east end of the Mediterranean Sea and the adjoining countries. Its philatelic significance covers all those towns in the Turkish Empire at which British, French, Austrian, German, Italian, Roumanian or Russian post offices are established.

**Ley nacional de sello.**—The inscription shown upon the 5c. postal-fiscal stamp of the Argentine Republic. Its literal meaning is "National Stamp-office law."

**L. H. P. A.**—These letters are shown in the spandrels on the stamps of Bergedorf and stand for "Lubeck, Hamburg, Post Anstalt (Post Office)."

**Liberia.**—An independent negro republic of Western Africa situated between Sierra Leone on the West and French Ivory Coast on the east. Its total area covers about 48,000 square miles and it has a population of about 1½ millions. In 1816 Liberia was suggested as a home for freed American negroes, in 1820 it was founded by the American Colonization Society, and the first settlement was made in 1822. In 1847 it was recognised by the European powers and the United States as an independent republic. Intertribal wars have been frequent, but the declaration of peace signed in 1904 by the most powerful chiefs may lead to their cessation. English is

is the official language and British weights and measures and money are largely used. The executive power is vested in a President elected for two years, assisted by a ministry; there are two houses of Legislature, the Senate, with eight members elected for four years, and the House of Representatives, with 14 members elected for two years. Postage stamps were first issued in 1860.

**Libertad.**—The motto under the coat of arms on the early stamps of Venezuela. It means "liberty" or "independence."

**Libertad, 15 de Septiembre, 1821.**—The inscription shown on the Guatemalan stamps of 1886-94, the date being that of the declaration of independence from Spain.

**Libertad y orden.**—The motto shown with the coat-of-arms on many of the stamps of Colombia. It means "liberty and order."

*To be continued.*

## A Homily on Prices

*From Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers*

### The Fifty Percenter.

**O**NE of our correspondents who had read our article on "Prices" in our previous number, wrote to us and tried to prove that most of the stamps in existence could be procured at an "enormous" discount on catalogue prices.

On this point we could argue much. We ourselves mentioned that every dealer who has any larger stock can often allow such a discount as 50%, and at times even greater. Now if certain people imagine that this can apply in a general way to *all* stamps they are evidently beginners, or they care very little whether a stamp is in perfect condition or shows small "unimportant" defects.

Advanced collectors know from their own experience what a great mistake the "50% Buyers" are making. How often it happens that Stamp Dealers receive want-lists in which the greatest rarities are put down, but of which the "Discount Buyer" does not receive anything. In many instances the thoughtful collector states that he would be willing to pay full catalogue price, and yet he only receives very little according to his list. We need not look far to see the reason of this, for unfortunately various publishers of catalogues make a point of fixing prices for unused as well as used stamps, even for those which are most difficult to obtain, and this causes the collector to believe that any stamp, for instance, priced at £5 can be procured everywhere with the usual discount of 25-50%. Very often, however, it is not possible to acquire certain rarities, even at double the catalogue price.

The best proof of this is that many of the fine stamps from the collection of G. Koch, which was recently sold at auction in Paris, realised 50 and in many cases 150% above catalogue price. The various buyers would certainly not have agreed to such prices, if there were any chance of getting the stamps in question cheaper elsewhere.

The fault now lies therein that the catalogue publisher will insist upon fixing a price for *every* stamp, but according to our opinion they should only price such stamps which they can supply themselves, or which are offered by and are actually to be obtained at other dealers.

The rarer a stamp is the more difficult it is to supply, therefore, for great rarities a *deducted* price should never

be fixed. Stamps such as the Br. Guiana 2c 1850, 4c. blue 1856, Hawaii 2c., 5c., 13c. so-called Missionary issue, some extremely rare old unused Australians or Ceylon, several values of the first issue unused and many others, in fine condition, are often worth double and three times the catalogue price; and if such are to be found at dealers, who may have acquired them through the purchase of some large collection, they certainly do not remain on hand and become "Old Stock," but are sold immediately at enormous prices. Why then simply copy the same prices from year to year?

It is only of value to fix the price of a stamp, as is done by a few firms in England, if that stamp can be supplied; and it would be more to the purpose if prices for about 500 stamps, at least, which cannot possibly be supplied at catalogue prices, were not quoted at all in future. This was the rule 20 or 25 years ago, and was not at all a *disadvantage to the collector*, for many a great rarity was obtained by him at less than its real value. Either prices should be quoted which have been really obtained, or they should be left out altogether; which latter course we think the more practical.

The reduction of prices for the many smaller and medium stamps in order to annihilate the discount giver is simply a mistake. If collectors lose their interest in collecting on account of the fall in prices, then the dealer can only pay corresponding low catalogue prices, and the offers with 50% discount still remain and are not set aside.

Advanced collectors know from their own experience what value to set upon such offers. We therefore again repeat what we said in our last number, that *we can also supply many thousands of different stamps at a great reduction*. This, however, is impossible as far as genuine rarities are concerned, and if the gentleman who wrote to us saying he could procure most of the stamps at an "enormous" discount, will keep his word, he will find in us the best buyers in the world, and we should be very pleased to send him a want-list which would surprise him.

Again we say that catalogue prices for first-class rarities are of no use whatever, unless the stamps can be supplied at the prices quoted, and it is impossible to sell such stamps in fine condition with a large discount.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

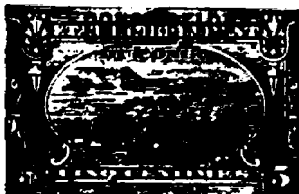
**British Honduras.**—(Vol. III. p. 166).—The 2c., in carmine, referred to on page 166, has now actually been issued. It is printed on the paper with multiple Crown and CA. watermark, and makes the complete list of stamps now known on this paper as follows:—



Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
1c. bluish green	0	1
2c. lilac and black on red	0	2
2c. carmine	0	2
5c. black and blue on blue	0	4
10c. purple and green	0	8
25c. " orange	1	4
50c. grey-green and carmine	2	8
\$1 " "	5	0
\$2 " blue	10	0
\$5 " black	25	0

**Congo.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us several more values of the current set surcharged "CONGO BELGE" as shown in the accompanying illustration. The complete list of values is now as follows:—



Stamps of 1896-1901 surcharged "CONGO BELGE."  
No wmk. Perf. 12½ to 15.

	s.	d.
5c. green and black	0	2
10c. carmine	0	2
15c. ochre	0	3
25c. blue	0	4
40c. green	0	6
50c. sage-green	0	8
1fr. carmine and black	1	3
3½fr. vermilion and black	4	0
5fr. lake	6	0
10fr. reën	10	0

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 166).—On some of the values of the current Cretan stamps surcharged "ΕΛΛΑΣ" varieties may be found and we referred to some of these on page 166. From various sources we learn that the following are known:—



Error, "Λ" instead of "Α" in overprint.

	s.	d.
1 lep. red-brown	1	0
2 lep. violet	1	6
5 lep. green	—	—
10 lep. carmine (Hermes)	—	—

Error, "Ξ" inverted so that word reads, "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

	s.	d.
1 lep. red-brown	1	0
2 lep. violet	1	6
5 lep. green	—	—
10 lep. carmine (Hermes)	—	—
50 lep. brown	—	—

Error, Surcharge reads, "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

	s.	d.
5 lep. green	—	—
10 lep. carmine (Prince George)	—	—

Error, "Κ" of overprint omitted.

	s.	d.
10 lep. carmine (Prince George)	—	—

Error, first "Λ" of overprint omitted.

	s.	d.
5 lep. green	—	—

Error, "Α" of overprint omitted."

	s.	d.
5 lep. green	—	—

Error, Double surcharge.

	s.	d.
25 lep. blue and black	—	—

**Jaipur.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—Evidently this State has not yet ceased the issue of the stamps of the Chariot and Sun design and replaced them with surcharged Indian stamps as suggested on pages 141 and 190, for Mr. W. J. Hodges, of Cardiff, informs us that, in a letter from a correspondent residing at Jaipur City, the date of this change is stated to be "after March or April next."

**Mauritius.**—(Vol. III. p. 93).—"Specimen" copies of some of the values with the re-drawn "Arms" have been distributed from Berne but we believe none of the stamps have actually been issued yet.

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the 25c. has appeared on the paper with multiple watermark making the complete list to date as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf 14.

	s.	d.
1c. black	0	1
2c. lilac and violet	0	1
3c. green and carmine on yellow	0	1
4c. black and carmine on blue	0	2
6c. lilac and carmine on red	0	2
15c. black and blue on blue	0	6
25c. green and carmine on green	—	—
50c. green and deep green on yellow	1	0
1r. black and carmine	1	9



**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 3d. in the reduced design with the compound perf. of 14 × 15. The values now known with this perforation are as follows:—

*Wmk. Single-lined "NZ" and Star.*  
*Perf. 14 × 15.*  
 ½d. green.  
 3d. brown.  
 6d. rose.  
 1s. red.

**Northern Nigeria.**—(Vol. III. p. 33).—"Specimen" copies of the ½d. and 1d. values in the Postal Union colours of green and carmine are chronicled by some of our Continental contemporaries, so these stamps will doubtless be issued before long.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 202).—We have been shown the 1 peso official stamp with the border in orange-brown surcharged as in the accompanying illustration.



*Official Stamps surcharged "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO," in three lines.*

	s.	d.
1c. on 1 peso carmine and black	...	—
1c. on 1 peso lake and black	...	—
1c. on 1 peso orange-brown and black	...	—

We understand that an entirely new series of provisionals has been issued, the ordinary stamps of 1904, but in new colours, having been overprinted "1908." We shall doubtless have full particulars before long.

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—Some of our Continental confrères describe the four new stamps referred to on page 190, but as these are evidently "specimen" copies we defer our formal chronicle until we have actually seen the stamps.

**Siam.**—(Vol. III. p. 203). *Der Philatelist* states that the numbers printed of the provisionals recorded on page 142 were as follows:—

2s. on 24s.	...	500,000
4s. on 5s.	...	200,000
9s. on 10s.	...	50,000

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 203).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5c. in the same design as the 2c. illustrated below.



*New design. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 11½.*

	s.	d.
2c. olive	...	0 1
5c. green	...	0 1

**Trinidad.**—(Vol. III. p. 34).—The 4d., 6d. and 1s. stamps in colours conforming to the new scheme should arrive before long for "specimen" copies have been distributed from Berne.

**Turkey.**—(Vol. III. p. 142).—The opening of the Turkish Parliament on December 17th, 1908, was marked by the issue of a special set of stamps to commemorate the event. The five lowest values were heightened to the extent of about 1 cm. and in this space at the top of the stamps an ornamental tablet was added containing Turkish characters signifying "In Commemoration of the Constitution, July 10th, 1286." They were supposed to have been in use for 90 days, but the 2 piastres was sold out two days after issue. The values and numbers printed are as below:—

*Commemorative Issue.*

5 paras, yellow-brown	...	1,000,000
10 ,, green	...	1,100,000
20 ,, carmine	...	2,000,000
1 piast, blue	...	1,000,000
2 ,, greenish black	...	50,000

**NOTE.**

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks

No. 1 ready 30th January, 1909.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative

rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready on January 30th, and will be

### No. 1. Jamaica and Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

# From other Magazines

## Abyssinia, 1908.

Piastre provisionals have been found. The stamps were surcharged in sheets containing only 25 stamps, probably because the supply of printing type was not sufficient to allow whole sheets or half the original sheets to be surcharged at the same time. This is a proof that in Abyssinia Provisionals are not made intentionally for the benefit of collectors, otherwise the Abyssinian Postal Authorities could have issued these provisionals in various types, in the same way as was done in various French Colonies.

—*Griber's Philatelic Notes, Jan., 09.*

## Cayman Islands. Miss Parsons.

Mr. O. R. Robinson writes:—"It might interest some of your readers to know that I have had a letter (dated 26.11.08) from Miss Parsons, who was the postmistress of Georgetown, Cayman Islands, and she informs me that she has taken another appointment in the Government service, that of clerk to his Hon. the Commissioner; also that she still assists in the Post Office for an hour each day. She says the 1/- stamps are not on sale at present; they were ordered but have not arrived. Speaking of the 1d. stamps she says they will not be supplied by the Postmaster." Why not?

—*Even's Weekly Stamp News, 16 1.09.*

## British South Africa: Cancellations.

Postally cancelled stamps have a postal cancellation, almost invariably in black (though in a few newly opened offices it has been for sometime in violet) and with one exception, always have the word "RHODESIA" and never "THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY." The one exception is that a few offices in N.E.R. had at one time (1900-1) a small-sized, round cancelling stamp with "B.S.A.C." instead of the name of the office. Secondly, the postal cancelling stamps have always the date in the centre. Thirdly, they are when round—some are square—always smaller than the round Revenue cancelling stamps. The same remark as to size applies to the B.C.A. stamps, where the postal cancellations have a much smaller circumference than the fiscal cancellation stamps.

Thus, to sum up, if a stamp has a cancelling mark on it which contains the words "BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY" instead of the name of the post office, and "RHODESIA" (or "N.E. RHODESIA" or "N.W. RHODESIA"), or if it has not the date in the centre, or if the circumference is large, giving a diameter of about 34 mm., then it is a fiscally cancelled stamp.—*F. H. Weiland in the London Philatelist, Dec. '08.*

## Commonwealth Stamp Prospects.

The Federal Treasurer in his Budget Speech delivered in the House of Representatives last month said:—

"It is proposed to establish at once a Commonwealth Stamp Printing Office, under the control of the Treasury. All stamps required by the Commonwealth, with the exception of New South Wales and Queensland, will be printed in this office. It is intended to transfer Mr. Cooke, who has been in charge of the stamp printing in Adelaide, to take charge of this branch, and it is hoped that a considerable saving in expenditure will result."

It remains to be seen to what extent this change will affect philatelists. It is almost certain that the machinery and plant in the Adelaide office which belongs to the Federal Government will be transferred to Mel-

bourne, and it may be taken for granted that not only will Mr. Cooke endeavour to assimilate the manner of printing the stamps, but will also strive to establish new methods. A glance at the differences in style, colours, and perforations between the South Australians and those of the other three States which have been for some time printed in the Melbourne (State) Printing Office will show the possibilities of the new departure. Something is bound to happen. Moral:—Those collectors who have not completed their sets of the current stamps of South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and West Australia, should do so without further delay.

—*Australian Philatelist, November, 08.*

## Falkland Islands: Postmarks.

The postmarks of the Falkland Islands are not particularly varied, and present no difficulties to the collector. They may, with advantage, be divided into three groups, viz.:

- (a) The circular cancellations.
- (b) The "cork" cancellations.
- (c) The "FI" postmark.

—*The West End Philatelist, Jan., 09.*

## Falkland Islands: Circular Cancellations.

The circular marks consist of two concentric circles, containing "FALKLAND" at the top, and "ISLANDS" at the base, between the rings, with the date in the centre. In the first type the rings were about 3½ mm. apart, in another they were 5 mm. apart, in a third type the lines were also 5 mm. apart, and there are dots at each side, dividing the two words in the name, and in the type now in use the rings are 6 mm. apart, and there are small Maltese crosses between the words. In the first three types the date in the centre always occupies two lines, and has the year in full, viz., "JAN 22—1897." In the current type the year is contracted to two figures, and a code-letter, indicating time of posting, is inserted above the date, i.e., "c—6 FE—01" The first three types were probably in use concurrently. These circular marks were used almost exclusively on letters until the advent of the King's head stamps, and at the present time, I believe, they are used on all postal packets.—*Ibid.*

## Falkland Islands: Cork Cancellation.

A postmark frequently met with on the stamps of the Queen's head type consists of a number of irregularly shaped dots (varying from four to about fifteen), sometimes arranged in circular form. This style of obliteration was almost invariably used on parcels, and I term them "cork" cancellations, owing to the fact that the Rev. H. H. Hill tells me the cancelling stamp in these cases consisted of a cork nicked across in any pattern that seemed suitable to the stamper. This probably accounts for the infinite variety found in this group of postmarks, for, corks being cheap, there was no need for economy and, apparently, fresh cancellers were made at very frequent intervals.—*Ibid.*

## Falkland Islands: "FI" Cancellation.

The last group consists of the letters "FI" (Falkland Islands) with lines at the sides and three thick lines above and below, the whole being in the form of an upright oval. This mark seems to have been but little used and was probably, as Mr. Hill suggests, used at the West Falkland sub-office during Mr. Hurst's term of office there.—*Ibid.*

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Supplement to Whitfield King's Catalogue.

With this number of *The Postage Stamp* will be included a four page supplement to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's recently issued Catalogue. Should the inset be missing from any reader's copy it will be supplied by W. K. & Co. free on receipt of post card.

### British Crete Issues.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. call attention to a singular oversight, *vis.*, that the stamps issued by the British for use in the British sphere of administration, *i.e.*, in the Province of Candia while it was in their occupation, should be included in the British Colonial section of catalogues and albums.

They remind us that of the first issued stamps, 20 paradises, mauve, only 3000 were issued, and that most of these were used. They are fortunate in having in stock "a number of fine copies, unused, but obliterated obliquely with the word 'HERAKLEION' in Greek characters." These they offer at 25s. each.

### British Crete, 1898: 20 paradises, mauve.

If, as stated, there were only 3000 copies of this stamp issued, and it is priced by Gibbons in Part II Foreign Countries at 40s. unused and 30s. used, what will it be worth if transferred, as it should be, to Part I British Colonies?

### Caymans still Advancing.

Caymans maintain their popular position, and no amount of abuse of little eccentricities in the past administration concerning the issue of provisionals seems to effect their popularity.

Their market values are steadily advancing. The latest evidence in this direction is furnished in the supplement to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's catalogue just issued. In this supplement the publishers make the following advances in prices in their catalogue quotations in their new catalogue only published a few weeks ago. I prefer Gibbons 1908 prices:—

1905-6. Multiple C.A.	Gibbons, 1908.		W. K. & Co. Cat., 1909.		Revised.	
	Unsd.	Used.	Unsd.	Used.	Unsd.	Used.
1s. violet & green	1/4	—	3/-	4/-	5/-	6/-
5s. red & green	6/6	—	10/-	12/6	20/-	—
1d. on 1d., red ...	—	—	2/6	3/6	3/6	3/6

### Papuans also Advancing.

Further notable revisions by W. K. & Co. are increases in the price of several Papuans. Of the first issue of British New Guinea not overprinted, the 4d. has been advanced from 9d. to 2s. 6d., and the 2s. 6d. from 75s. to 80s. The 20s. in the catalogue was an error which was subsequently corrected to 75s., and it has now been raised to 80s. The 6d. of the large surcharge, unused, has been raised from 2s. to 3s. 6d., but the 1d. of the small surcharge, unused, has been dropped from 5s. to 4s.

Scott's catalogue for 1909 just received, prices the 2s. 6d. uncharged at 40s. They were no doubt immediately cleared out of any they had at that price.

### Grenada King's Head Multiples Rising.

Grenada King's head multiple C.A.'s shilling values are also advanced in the supplement referred to as follows:—

1906, King's head mult. CA.	Cat. 1909.		Revised.	
	Unsd.	Used.	Unsd.	Used.
1s. green and yellow	1/9	2/-	1/9	2/-
2s. „ blue ...	3/-	3/6	4/-	4/6
5s. „ rose ...	7/6	8/-	12/6	12/6
10s. „ mauve	15/-	16/-	20/-	22/6

These revisions are of course due to the fact that these King's heads have been superseded.

### Congo Free State now obsolete.

Since W. K. & Co. issued their catalogue, the Congo Free State issues have been superseded by the overprinting of the last issue with the words "CONGO BELGE."

As a result the uncharged stamps have been started gently in the upward direction.

### Scott's Catalogue for 1909.

My friend Mr. W. T. Wilson of Birmingham, as the sole agent for Great Britain, sends me a copy of the 1909 edition of the Scott Catalogue.

It is a very compact catalogue of the world's issues in one handy volume. The price is 2s. 6d., post free 3s. 10d.

### On Buying and Selling.

The Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India* offers some advice on buying and selling stamps. He says:—

"Avoid like the plague stamps that are boomed, they are sure to come down badly. This applies equally to stamps subjected to a general boom like Mafeking and to those boomed by a particular holder like the Somaliland officials. A good many people have had to accept about a third of what they gave for both these sets. You may take it as certain that a dealer does not put money into advertisements for philanthropic reasons and that he knows a good deal more about the value of stamps than you do. If you are lucky enough to get a chance of buying fashionable stamps at an unfashionable price, take it by all means, but get quit of them at once before the boom dies or the fashion changes. Quick ripening means quick decay."

### Quick Ripening means Quick Decay.

This is a very catchy phrase. It has a deceptively wise look about it. It invites you to accept it as an unquestionable dictum.

But is it as wise as it looks? These sweeping generalisations generally want a lot of qualifying, and this phrase is no exception.

For instance, no stamps in the whole range of the catalogue have ripened so quickly as King's heads single CA, but there is no sign of decay.

We shall all probably agree that if the "ripening" has been an artificial process, due to interested booming rather than to any merit in the stamps affected, decay must set in directly the booming ceases, and this is presumably what Mr. Crofton means.

### Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Mr. Fredk. R. Ginn offers a grand range of bargains in Nevis.

Mr. W. T. Wilson prices a tempting lot of the varieties of the French Sower type.

Mr. George O. Ginn has many bargains in his list, notably a set of Ionians, cat. at 16s. for 8s. 6d., Southern Nigeria, Victoria, &c.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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## How some Readers help us.

We appreciate most highly the generous help that so many of our kind readers render us in the work of increasing our circulation. And we quote as a sample with many thanks, the following from E. H., a lady reader:

"I thought perhaps you would like to know how I have circulated your interesting paper, *The Postage Stamp*. I was living in High Barnet when the first number came out and being rather keen on stamp collecting, was very glad to get such a weekly paper. I have many friends abroad who are also collectors, so I at once sent four numbers of the first you published to four of my friends, with the result that I now send to one of these friends who is living in Amani, German East Africa (Port Tanganyika) three weekly numbers by every mail, and he forwards on two of them to friends further up the country, who are also collectors. From this friend I have such praise for your paper, and he is sending the whole of the numbers to me to have them bound as soon as the 3rd Vol. is complete. He is also frequently sending to London for stamps to the different firms who advertise with you. This gentleman while living in England in 1904 made a design of the Union Jack with used postage stamps one penny King's head and 15c. blue (French) in commemoration of the Anglo-French agreement at that time, and forwarded it to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for his acceptance on May 24th, 1904, and from whom he had (through H.R.H.'s Private Secretary) a nice letter of thanks. I am proud to say that before leaving England two years later, he made a replica for me, I have had the pleasure of lending this (it is framed) to an exhibition held near Uxbridge, with of course a copy of H.R.H.'s letter, it was much admired and very interesting.

I give you these details to let you know to what an ardent stamp collector your little Journal goes, and gives pleasure to many thousands of miles away.

I have asked this friend if he will some time write you a letter from Amani, about stamp collecting in the Colony, and he has promised he will. Of other three numbers I sent one to Russia (Crimea), one to Wein (Austria) and one to Leisnig (Germany).

So I think you will agree with me, that I have tried and succeeded in well circulating the welcome little paper, and with every good wish for a still greater sale, I am, &c."

## Proposed Chiswick Philatelic Society.

Mr. Cyril J. Phillips, of 37, Flanders Road, Chiswick, writes:—

"Having been asked by many residents in the above district to form a society, I shall be glad to hear from ladies and gentlemen who are interested, when they will receive an invitation to attend an informal meeting."

## Congratulations.

Mr. William J. Hodges, Cardiff, kindly writes:—"Am glad to see *The Postage Stamp* growing steadily out of the 'new issue' stage, and I must say it improves week by week."

Mr. Horace E. Coulson, Lecturer on advanced Mechanical Construction, writes 19.1.09:—"I have had your valuable paper and read it with great interest from No. 1 to the present."

## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Thursday, 5 o'clock p.m.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.

F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.

Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.

W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.

James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

## Answers to Correspondents.

Lieut. R. H. H. (Cruiser Squadron). I am greatly indebted to you for your notes on countries visited. They are most interesting.

H. E. C. (Fulham). I am much surprised at your complaint about the party referred to, and have personally written there for an explanation. If readers will write our Advert. Manager when anything goes wrong, he will make enquires at once, for we are most anxious to avoid the insertion of questionable advertisements. Thanks for your kind suggestion about newsagents. I am sending them sample copies and hand-bills.

# Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

"GIBBONS' STAMP WEEKLY," wanted No. 27, Vol. II., state price.—Lance Worthington, Portland Mills, Leek.

## 10/- worth of Stamps

We are giving away the greatest bargain in stamps ever offered to collectors. Read carefully, 75 Foreign and Colonial Stamps, all different, including: Egypt O.H.S.S. scarce, fine set U.S.A. warships, German 80p, Philippines, Trinidad obsolete, Cuba, Chinese Imperial, Newfoundland royal portraits now obsolete, British East Africa & Uganda, Ceylon, Costa Rica 20c head very scarce, India, Natal King, Hong Kong, Queensland, New South Wales, U.S.A. 8c, Mexico Eagle, Somalicoast, Grand Set of 4 Guatemala P.C. Issue, and many other Stamps too numerous to mention.

## Price 2d. Postage 1d.

We include our Illustrated Art Price List with every packet sent out, and we are also giving away to our customers catalogues full illustrated and giving the value of every stamp issued. Do not fail to get the above at once. The new issue of the *Regal Albums* is now ready, prospectus free.

**KING BROTHERS, Limited,**  
Stamp Importers, BILSTON.

100 STOCK BOOKS, separate Countries Value £20,000, ready for approval.—Calif, Seaford.

GREAT BRITAIN. Specialist's Collection mostly used, 1 block strip 6 mint, block 8 used, 2d. blue 1840 about 50 copies, embossed issue 60 copies, many uncatalogued varieties, &c. Price £160.—Thackral, 5, Shaftesbury Avenue, Roundhay, Leeds.

AUSTRALIANS, modern, all values used, Officials, &c., cheap.—Perry Knight, Pool, Leeds.

(i) HAYTI, 1904, 1c. to 50c. unused 1/- Approval Sheets.—Wilson Creighton, 402, St. Ann's Road, Harringay.

CAPES. Specialist's collection, 104 Triangulars (Four wood blocks including pairs) nearly 200 later issues. Many unused and nearly every stamp fine condition. Price £100.—Thackral, 5, Shaftesbury Avenue, Roundhay, Leeds.

STAMPS for Sale at bargain prices, apply for sheets.—Mark Rooke, 25, Curzon Road, Muswell Hill.

APPROVAL SHEETS, Foreign and Colonial, References required.—K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

CEYLON. Specialist's collection of pence issues only, 135 stamps, practically every one in fine condition. Price £85.—Thackral, 5, Shaftesbury Avenue, Roundhay, Leeds.

"STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL" for 1909, 1/2 post free.—Chas. Nissen & Co., 7, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 19. Vol. 3.  
Whole Number 71.

6 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Philatelic Question Time.



FOLLOWING up my comments on page 135 on a proposal to have a question time in philatelic societies when members might have the privilege of putting questions to be answered by specialists who might be present, Major Evans thinks the unfortunate expert "should at least have the privilege of a Cabinet Minister, and be given previous notice."

He suggests that "Questions might be submitted and circulated at one meeting and answered at the next, or it might be announced in the programme that Mr. X., who specialises in the stamps of Timbuctoo, will be happy (?) to see other collectors interested in that country at the next meeting, and to reply to their conundrums."

Evidently Major Evans does not think well of the Herts member's suggestion, and probably most specialists will fight shy of what may be converted into an attempt to get valuable information on the cheap.

The specialist is generally ready and glad to help the genuine collector, but he abominates the mere cadger. Still, I see no reason why "Questions" should not be given a trial, for the plan I have suggested would give the specialist the opportunity of answering the question or passing it on as he pleased.

**New Hebrides: Condominium.**

The 3d. and 4d. values chronicled by the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* from "a full set" received, seems to have been a mistake on the part of the P.J.G.B. Such values have not been received or issued, and the full set remains as chronicled by *The Postage Stamp* on page 190.

**No New Hebrides to be had.**

It is curious that there are no New Hebrides to be had. Mr. Peckitt has sold out, and no one else, up to date, seems to have received a supply. It is all the more

curious from the fact that all knew long since of the projected issue.

**The New G.P.O. in London.**

When it is finished in about eighteen months' time the General Post Office extension will be one of the wonders of London. It is being constructed of ferro-concrete on the Hennebique plan, on the site of old Christ's Hospital, facing Newgate Street. The building has over fifteen acres of flooring, and is without a single joint anywhere, simply of Thames ballast, Portland cement, and thin steel rods, none more than 2½ in. in diameter, and many only 3-16 of an inch in thickness. The whole of this stupendous building is, in short, a monolith, or one great casting. Its walls and floors are ridiculously thin, and are yet stronger than the 10ft. or 15ft. masonry walls of mediæval structures. The new Post Office will consist of two blocks, the bigger a sorting office for thousands of sorters, and a public office, which will replace the historic house now used in Aldersgate Street.

**New Editor of "The Philatelic Record."**

The new editor of *The Philatelic Record* is to be Mr. L. W. Fulcher, the Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society, a philatelist of wide knowledge, who formerly edited Morley's *Philatelic Journal* in the interests of collectors of Fiscals.

The new office of the *Record* is to be at 174, Fleet Street, London, E.C. The price is to be the same as before, i.e., 4d., but post free the price is to be 6d. I am curious to see what the journal is to contain to render it liable to a postal charge of 2d. per number.

**Room for the "Record."**

Now that the *Monthly Journal* is lost to us the *Record* has an excellent chance to take its place as a high class philatelic monthly.

We are all agreed that it was a huge mistake to unseat Major Evans and discontinue a journal of which we were all proud. A Box and Cox arrangement on *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* is a poor compensation.

**The Native States for Ever.**

However, all undaunted, the gallant Major continues his philatelic tour through the Native States of India. He has now reached Poonch.

One grudges this devotion of our most cultured phila-

telist to what an irreverent admirer may be permitted to describe as a side track.

If he had been turned on to work the South American boom what a time we should have had. Any way, he is better employed in his favourite native states than he would have been (were he capable of it) in whitewashing Salvador, Nicaragua & Co.

#### Salvador, Nicaragua & Co.

Talking about Salvador, Nicaragua & Co., I note that these Central American philatelic blood suckers monopolise a considerable portion of Part II. of the new Gibbons for 1909, just to hand. The actual record is as follows:—

Nicaragua	-	-	15	pages.
Salvador	-	-	19	"
Honduras	-	-	3	"
Total				- 37 "

When Salvador Power goes amok on Honduras, those three pages will soon run into 30.

#### Possible Catalogue Extensions.

If you want to see what is possible in the line of philatelic extensions turn to Guadeloupe. Eleven closely printed columns of statistics must satisfy the most exacting specialist.

As a specialist I fervently pray that none of my favourite countries may be so unfortunate as to be guadelouped.

#### Over Specialisation.

I am by no means alone in holding, and holding strongly, that this excessive straining of specialism in a catalogue intended more or less for general use is a huge mistake. It is positively nauseating.

Every year some country is being "opened out" and rendered unapproachable, till the long-suffering philatelist who sticks to his Gibbons, sighs for a catalogue that will be a little more merciful in the days to come.

#### Motor Hogs and Crazy Specialists.

What the Motor Hog is to the ordinary high road, the Crazy Specialist is to our philatelic thoroughfares. He rides rough shod over our most treasured ideas; he bestrews our highways and byways with the blinding dust of his microscopic varieties, and there seems to be no hope of redress except in a healthy and strenuous protest.

There can be but one end to all this over specialisation, and that end assuredly will be the depopularisation of one country after another.

Then, when the sales of those country's stamps have been reduced to a minimum by the neglect which is thus being generated, we shall return to saner days.

#### Increasing popularity of other Catalogues.

Meanwhile other catalogues, simpler in construction, are coming rapidly to the front. The sales of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's. catalogue this year have surprised the publishers and compelled them to go to press with a second edition months in advance of their arrangements.

If the extreme specialist is in the ascendant in numbers as well as in influence our Gibbons is on the right track, but if, as I imagine, the extreme specialists may be limited to a few score of collectors then Gibbons must be seriously imperilling the popularity of their splendid catalogue.

#### A Freak Stamp Illustration.

Gibbons' *Stamp Weekly*, 30.1.09., produces what may be termed a freak illustration of the new Russian series. Some varnish lines à la Austria persisted in showing with the result that the block is crossed with black lines as if strongly cancelled with heavy bars in pen and ink.

#### The New Russians.

The first of the new Russian set are to hand. They are very indifferent as stamp designs. Too crowded with elaborate attempts to get a quart into a pint pot style of designing. They compare very badly with the pretty distinctive designs of previous series.

#### Perkins Bacon Prints of Greece.

Perkins Bacon & Co. seem to be coming to the front again in the production of stamps. The latest news is that they have been printing some of the recent Grecian stamps of the Olympic series—that we all thought were done by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.

They add the information that the 1901 series, hitherto believed to have been produced by lithography was printed from steel plates engraved in *taille-douce*, with the exception of the 2, 3, and 5 drachmai, which were lithographed and bronzed in metal in the usual way for labels. The plates were made by them from original dies produced by another firm. The contract, with the dies was handed over to them for execution. At that time some of the dies were strengthened, and some later, as they were not, in their opinion, good enough to work from.

The A M stamps were also produced by them. The five values of these they state were all printed from plate in *taille-douce* on paper watermarked as for the ordinary issue, and not lithographed on unwatermarked paper, as stated.

They add:—"The designs for all issues of stamps for Greece engraved and printed by us have been, we understand, produced in Paris, and we are only responsible for the engraving and printing."

#### New Hebrides.

I quote the following from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*:—"In the December number of *Le Journal des Philatélistes* is given a reproduction of a curious combination of stamps on one envelope. This was posted in the New Hebrides on 30th October, 1908, and bears two 5 centime stamps of New Caledonia side by side with a Fiji 2½d. King's Head, CA single watermark, surcharged "NEW HEBRIDES CONDOMINIUM," the whole an interesting example of a mixed postage consequent upon the dual government of the islands, and the journal under review gives its customary particulars of the circumstances which render such an arrangement possible. The position has given rise to a series of issues from various sources, but it is stated that the present vagaries will be ended either by the cessation of these islands to England in exchange for territory in Sierra Leone or by the creation of stamps for common use."

The concluding information may be regarded as a bit of imagination. We are not at all likely to relinquish our share in the management of the New Hebrides after the troubles we have had there; our Australian friends will see to that.

#### The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

#### Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## St. Vincent

The West Indian Colony of St. Vincent was a great favourite in the old days of what was known as the West Indian boom, when that group was all the fashion and of course, in company with its neighbours, it suffered considerably when the "slump" of reaction from abnormally high prices set in.

But it is with the later issues that we are concerned just now; the King's heads had not put in an appearance when evil days befell the stamps of St. Vincent, and, as a consequence, they are affected by other causes, but it is not at all unlikely that the reviving hope of better times for West Indians may have told in favour of even these later issues, for the King's heads of St. Vincent are among the favourite single C.A.'s.

An interloping Arms design has ousted King's heads from the latest issues of low values, and the question arises how far this Arms type will prevail over the King's heads. The recent announcement in the *Colonial Office Journal* that "St. Vincent has ordered a supply of the 2s. and 5s. postage and revenue stamps to be printed from the Universal King's head keyplate in the colours allocated to their values in the list given in our last issue" seems to indicate an intention to keep the King's head type for the high values, it may be that the pence values will be reserved for the Arms type and the King's head for the shilling values. King's head specialists will naturally regret the change, but they will console themselves with the knowledge that the Arms type does not, at present, seem likely to oust the King's heads altogether, as at one time it was anticipated that it would.

There is, of course, the further prospect of several changes should the colony adopt the new colour scheme as it probably will do. So that, even when a collector confines himself to these King's Head issues he will find much to occupy his attention and many demands upon his purse.

**1902.** Nine values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. in profile to left within a curved octagonal frame, with "Postage" on the left and "& Revenue" on the right, and the name in a straight tablet at the top and a large tablet of value at the bottom of the design. In the 2d., 1s. and 5s. the tablet of value is unshaded; in all the other values it is shaded with horizontal lines. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single and perforated 14. The framework of the pence values was printed in purple and of the shilling values in green, the name and value in such case being of different colours.



Wmk. Crown C.A. single. Perf. 14.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
½d.	purple, name and value green ...	0 3	0 3
1d.	" " " " carmine ...	0 4	0 3
2d.	" " " " black ...	0 3	—
2½d.	" " " " blue ...	0 8	0 9
3d.	" " " " olive ...	0 8	0 8
6d.	" " " " brown ...	2 6	—
1s.	green, name and value carmine	10 0	—
2s.	" " " " violet ...	2 8	—
5s.	" " " " blue ...	6 6	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

St. Vincent was late in adopting the King's head type and, as a consequence, its issues do not show such an advance in prices as some other colonies, but there are one or two values which are distinctly on the up grade; the 1s. after being left unpriced by Gibbons in 1905 and 1906 was priced in 1908 at 10s., the 3d. and 6d. are also promising stamps.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 3
1d.	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 4
2d.	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
2½d.	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 8
3d.	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 8
6d.	0 8	0 8	1 6	2 6
1s.	1 4	—	—	10 0
2s.	2 8	2 8	2 8	2 8
5s.	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6

**1904-6.** Five values. Design: as in the preceding issue, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. multiple. These values have been coming out at odd times as the single C.A. stock was exhausted. The ½d., 1d. and 2½d. have since been superseded by the Arms type. For the benefit of those who endeavour to make separate issues of the ordinary and chalky papers I follow the Gibbons method of indicating ordinary by an "O" and chalky by a "C."

Wmk. Crown C.A. multiple. Perf. 14.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
½d.	purple, name and value green (1905) OC	0 1	—
1d.	" " " " carmine OC ...	0 2	—
2½d.	" " " " blue (1906) C ...	0 4	—
6d.	" " " " brown (1905) C	0 8	—
1s.	green " " " " carmine OC ...	1 4	—

The 2s. and 5s. will no doubt be added to this multiple set, and then the 1s. may be expected later on in the colours necessitated by the new colour scheme, i.e., in black on green paper.

To be continued.

# Cayman Islands Scandal

*Official Correspondence Published by Direction of the Governor of Jamaica—Amazing Methods of some Stamp Collectors—Alleged Felonious Proposal by Brewster C Kenyon—Secretary of State said to be satisfied with the explanation—Charges against Jamaica Officials—The Governor replies to "The Postage Stamp"*

MR. ASTLEY CLERK, of Jamaica, very kindly sends us the following Official Correspondence which we quote *in extenso* from the columns of the *Gleaner*, a Jamaica newspaper, of January 2nd and 7th, 1909:—

PURSUANT to the direction of the Governor, publicity is given to very interesting correspondence on the subject of the Cayman Islands stamp affair, fully dealt with in the *Gleaner* some time ago.

On June 11, 1907, the Hon Geo. S. S. Hirst, Commissioner of the Cayman Islands, wrote to the Colonial Secretary:

"I have the honour to report that a large foreign order has reduced my stock of ½d. (half penny) stamps to 17 (seventeen) sheets, which at the ordinary rate of sales will not last me eight weeks.

"I am therefore forwarding 40 sheets of penny stamps of which I have a good stock, with a request that they may be surcharged ½d. and return to me as soon as possible.

"I shall in the course of a few months, if sales continue as they are at present be getting short of other denominations when I will submit the question of a new issue of all denominations to His Excellency."

## The Reply Sent.

On July 26, 1907, the Colonial Secretary replied, stating:

"I have to transmit herewith a copy of Secretary of State's Circular despatch of the 18th August, 1893, on the subject of surcharging postage stamps and to request you to be so good in future, as to refuse to supply the speculative demands of dealers until you have got a new stock. Copies of the Secretary of State's circulars of the 27th September, 1896, and 19th September, 1905 are also enclosed for your information and guidance.

"As the surcharge in this case may be regarded as necessary for the convenience of the public, the Superintendent of the Government Printing Office has been instructed to surcharge the stamps as requested; and I am to request that you will not sell any of these surcharged stamps except across the counter.

"In conclusion I am to add that the Governor is not prepared, without substantial reason, to authorize a new issue of stamps and to request you to report on this question as soon as possible. I am to say that if a fresh supply of halfpenny or other stamps is required, a requisition should be sent forward in due time to enable them to be obtained from the Crown Agents before the stock in hand is exhausted."

## Comments on Protest.

On April 30th, 1908, the Commission wrote thus to the Colonial Secretary:

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 6th, 1908, with enclosure from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich.

"2. I observe this firm, resident in the eastern part of England, commence their letter with the assertion that the recent issues of surcharged stamps were 'un-

necessary'—I am assuming the issues referred to are the 'halfpenny' on 1d., the ½d. on 5s., and the 1d. on 5s., as they do not mention the actual 'provisional stamps' to which they refer.

"With reference to the 'halfpenny' on 1d., my letter No. 143 of July 11th, 1907, clearly shows that this issue was not more than necessary.

"With reference to the surcharges ½d. on 5s. and 1d. on 5s. At the time their surcharges were made I had for the supply of the whole Dependency one sheet of halfpenny stamps and not a single penny stamp. Both stamps were on order but had not arrived. The previous order would have been sufficient for two years had not stamp dealers bought in large quantities and the law requiring so many legal documents to be stamped been passed. It is worthy of note in this respect that on one occasion I had to have some 5s. stamps surcharged 1d. in order that legal receipts might be given by parties receiving money from the Government.

"The number of sheets surcharged: (a) ½d. on 5s. was fifteen, on the following date, November 22nd, 1907. (b) 1d on 5s. was fifteen on the following date, November 22nd, 1907, and three sheets on December 9th, 1907.

"3. With reference to the remark 'local speculation therein,' again I feel entitled to wonder from whence and how did this firm in England gain the information authorising them to make the statement. They certainly make it without any support whatsoever, I knew nothing of 'local speculation' until I was informed this very firm, Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, England, were making enquiries for their surcharges. By the people here these surcharges were treated in just the same way as ordinary stamps were treated, and it was not until the stamp dealers themselves put the idea into the minds of the people that any 'local speculation' took place. Again I respectfully submit that the people here are as much entitled to speculate in the stamps of the Cayman Islands as Whitfield King & Co., are in England. Through the action of this firm and others 'local speculation' will now not only continue but develop, to the great advantage of the Caymanians but to the great disadvantage of stamp dealers.

"4. Referring to the application of the firm for His Excellency's enquiry into the matter. I attach a letter from the postmistress on the matter. In their great desire to make things look as black as possible against us, it is worthy of note that the letter sent by them on February 20th, 1908, had not even been received at this post office when they wrote their letter, viz., March 10th, 1908.

"Replies to the first three are long overdue.' Here again these people make an assertion without supporting it in any way. A reply to their letter of December 10th, 1907, might have been a few days overdue, but even that I doubt. The other two were not even due on March 10th, 1908. And if these were not even due the remainder certainly were not.

"5. In what way to reply to the scandalous assump-



tion contained in the remainder of the sentence in this letter I hardly know, viz.: 'and it is our opinion that the stamps are being kept back in order to create a scarcity and so enhance their market value to collectors, thus encouraging speculation on the part of the officials in the Cayman Islands.' I think in view of what I have said in previous sections, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. should be called upon for the names of the officials they refer to in their charge. It is an easy matter to 'assume,' but I think they will find it a very difficult matter to prove that assumption on any person employed in the service of the Government of this Dependency.

"6. Referring to the last sentence of the letter in which this firm ask for so much protection and assistance from His Excellency, I can only say that this firm has always received at the hands of the postmistress the same consideration as other firms have received. This firm always send money by cheque, which I instructed the postmistress not to receive as cheques on English banks are useless to us here, besides they are not 'cash.' Though Miss Parsons, the postmistress received after my giving her these instructions, cheques from the firm, she held herself responsible for the cash in order to oblige them. A few weeks ago I again informed her that no cheques unless first approved by me would be accepted at all, and as a result of this warning Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have during the past month had returned to them some £74 worth of cheques with a request that cash not cheques must accompany their orders. No other merchant or even private collector I am informed ever sends cheques, so if Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. find they cannot supply their customers with all the Cayman Island stamps they require, it is entirely their own fault, because they were warned, nearly a year ago.

"7. It appears easy to see that Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. feel aggrieved that they have not had the whole of the business in the Cayman surcharges and so vent the matter by means of assumptions wholly unfounded, and accusations against the characters of officials they know nothing whatsoever about.

"8. I would respectfully request that this matter be pushed to the end, as the accusations made by this firm against the honour, honesty and probity of the officials of this Government is not only very painful to me and my subordinates, but must remain a reproach to us for some time unless this firm are called upon to substantiate and prove the charges they make."

#### An Amazing Letter.

On October 15th, 1908, the Commissioner, in forwarding to the Colonial Secretary a letter found by the postmaster at Georgetown (G. C.) on taking over duty there, wrote as follows:—

"I respectfully submit that the letter marked B should if possible be further enquired into as it appears to me little less than a gross attempt on the part of a stamp dealer, which fraternity appears so anxious to have nothing but honest transactions, to induce an official of this Government to commit a felony.

"The writer of the letter lives in the United States of America and therefore there might be some difficulty in dealing with him.

"Fortunately Miss Parsons and the present postmaster are above such transactions, but had this inducement fallen into the hands of less conscientious officials considerable harm would have resulted.

#### The Incriminating Letter.

Long Beach, California,  
August 28th, 1908.

Miss Gwendolyn Parsons,  
George Town, Cayman Is.

Dear Madam,—As a collector of postage stamps for

nearly forty years I am naturally interested in the stamps of your island and as I also speculate some in provisional issues, beg leave to make you the following proposition and give you my word as a man that all correspondence on the subject will be strictly confidential. My proposition is—to purchase of you £10 worth of 1d. stamps which on receipt by myself I will have surcharged "Half-penny" in a certain type and return same to you,—you to officially record the issue of the £10 worth as ½d. stamps just on sale the day of receipt by you, and register me a letter of that date bearing some of the stamps in prepayment of postage. At the time I return the surcharged stamps to you I will enclose another £10 for your trouble in the transaction. I trust you will receive this in the spirit in which I wrote it, as a strictly legitimate proposition, and I believe, as I have said, that the whole matter will be considered entirely between ourselves.

Very truly yours,

BREWSTER C. KENYON.

P.S.—If accepted on what office shall I draw P. O. order, or would you prefer the money in some other form? I regret that I have no other return postage than the 3d. Jamaican.

B. C. K.

#### The Action Taken Here.

On November 9th, 1908, the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Commissioner:—

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a letter from Brewster C. Kenyon of the Puritan Oil Mining Company of California to the postmistress at Grand Cayman making suggestions for surcharging certain Cayman Island stamps.

"In reply I am to inform you that a copy of your letter and its enclosures has been sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as an illustration of the methods of action of the class of persons who have been complaining that they cannot get surcharged stamps from the Postal Authorities at Grand Cayman. I am to say, however, that his Excellency fears that no profit would result from any attempt to take legal action against the writer of the letter to Miss Parsons."

#### Letters to the Postmistress.

From Harry E. Huber, 5913, Rippey Street, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. "My dear Miss Parsons, please would it not be possible for you to make a provisional 2½d. stamp out of the 4d. brown and blue, of the 'Postage' issue, which I am sending you, by surcharging it in the same manner as was done with those on February 12th? I'm just about frantic to get one of these stamps, and as an extraordinary favour please will you not grant it? There being so few issued makes it impossible for me to get a copy anywhere and for that reason I beg you to please do me this great favour if it is at all in your power."

From Floyd Reid, Renville, Minnesota, August 28rd, 1908. "Madam, I would like to have you send me from 5 to 10 sets of any new issues of stamps from your part of the country and I will give you five per cent. commission on same. I was very much interested in the account of the Provisionals in Markets Trades Circular. I would gladly buy any old issues if you should have them."

From J. W. Scott Co., 36, John Street, New York, September 28th, 1908: "Dear Madam . . . . . Now we want you to do the right thing by us. Let us have a limited number of these stamps at a fair price . . . . ."

Extract from "private" letter from Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, September 29th, 1908: "We assume from this you are expecting another lot of the farthing stamps, and that you will send us the 4,800 which we asked for on August 4th, if not, kindly let us know and

we will order other values instead of them, but we should like to point out to you that your refusal to supply these to dealers will only lead to increased local speculation, as the dealers will get them somehow, even if they have to pay agents in the Cayman Islands a commission to buy them."

From W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, September 9th, 1908: "I am astonished that you return the 5 dollar notes. You know I am particularly anxious to receive my supplies of stamps, and I have always given you a free hand with my money, moreover, you have had similar notes on other occasions and always taken them at the current rate of exchange, and I am really at a loss to understand why you alter your procedure. You are quite in error in imagining that I would not accept the amount you refer to as their equivalent; I gave you no reason to suppose this, and you should have changed them at the exchange at which they were worth to you, just the same as if they were tendered by a local person over the office counter."

#### Colonial Office Satisfied.

On November 6th, the Earl of Crews, Secretary of State for the Colonies, wrote to the Governor of Jamaica:

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 802 of the 80th June last, transmitting copies of correspondence with the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands, with regard to certain complaints respecting recent issues of stamps in that Dependency.

"2. A letter has now been addressed Messrs. Whitfield King & Company, which I have reason to believe effectually disposed of their representations.

"3. I am of opinion that Mr. Hirst has successfully replied to the allegations made by the dealers, and I approve of your communicating with him in the sense proposed in the second paragraph of your despatch."

#### Correspondence with Mr. Astley Clerk.

On Aug. 22nd, 1908 Mr. Clerk wrote to the Governor: "Your Excellency is, I understand, leaving for the Cayman Islands to-morrow. Permit me to call your attention to the 'Cayman Islands Stamp Swindle,' as the matter is termed by the Philatelic Press of the world, with the hope that your Excellency will cause some searching enquiry to be made while you are on the spot. My only reason for troubling your Excellency is because the Cayman Islands are a dependency of ours, and this now world-renowned 'scandal' and 'swindle' has brought Jamaica and her officials into most uneuiviable prominence—Your Excellency and Postmaster-General Lucie-Smith being charged with aiding and abetting this most notorious matter.

"In Tuesday's *Gleaner* a good many of these charges will appear in the meantime, and as your Excellency leaves to-morrow, I send herewith a copy of *The Postage Stamp*, and on page 205 you will find that the Jamaica Post Office authorities are censured. Why should our officials be blamed and our island gain a bad name, especially in connection with a matter that does not concern her own post office? If the Cayman Islands are ordered to use Jamaica stamps, as they did in the past, would the scandal not cease?"

Extract from *The Postage Stamp*, August 1st, 1908, page 205, referred to above:

"Of all the absolutely unnecessary postage stamps that have been issued, the farthing stamp just received from the Cayman Islands is probably the most absurd of all. The object of the issue is suspicious from start to finish. In fact, the postal administration of the Cayman Islands by the Jamaica Postal Authorities should form the object of a most searching official enquiry at the earliest moment, for the whole business reeks of official scandal.

"It is quite time that the alert young man who is credited with running the Cayman business for the Jamaica Post Office was brought to book, and that this disgraceful prostitution of Colonial Government was ended once for all. Every day that it is allowed to continue adds to the discredit of the Colonial Office which permits it.

"Of course the whole postal arrangements of the Cayman Islands are run solely for the purpose of catering for dealers and collectors of stamps, and affording certain Jamaica postal officials free scope for private speculation. Until a certain young man in the Jamaica Post Office developed abnormal speculative instincts, the Cayman Islands were amply provided for by the ordinary issues of Jamaica, for the needs of a population equal to a small village of a civilized country made no great demands for postage stamps."

On Tuesday, August 25th, 1908, we published in the *Gleaner*, under the heading "Postal Scandal—Grave Charges against Jamaica Officials—Cayman Islands affairs—Colonial Office called upon for investigation," a good many extracts from certain of the English Philatelic Press, containing some of the charges against Jamaica and her officials, mentioned in Mr. Clerk's letter.

#### The Governor's Reply.

On August the 27th, the acting assistant Colonial Secretary wrote to Mr. Clerk.

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd inst., on the subject of the Cayman Islands Stamps, and to inform you that the Governor proposed giving attention to this matter during his visit to the Cayman Islands."

On September 3, the following further letter was sent to Mr. Clerk:

"In continuation of the letter from this office, dated the 27th ulto., on the subject of the Cayman Islands stamps, I am directed by the Governor to say that he had already enquired into the foundation of the attacks that have been made on the Government of the Cayman Islands in connection with the recent stamp issues, and that he made further enquiries on his recent visit to Grand Cayman. The facts, his Excellency finds, are perfectly simple. The Government of the Dependency having procured what previous experiences indicated as a fully sufficient supply of stamps, had their supply in certain denominations suddenly exhausted by unprecedented demands from professional speculators in stamps, and thereupon, in order to supply stamps to the public made certain issues of surcharged stamps.

These again have attracted the demands of professional stamp buyers who have been disappointed at not being able to obtain specimens of them. It is not true, as stated in the quotation made from *The Postage Stamp* that any such provisional issue was made when there were stamps of the required value in stock, and his Excellency has not been able to discover the slightest ground or excuse for any imputation of dishonesty or personal interest in connection with these issues against the Cayman Islands Postal authorities. The Jamaica Post Office had nothing whatever to do with them and the attacks on that office, I am to say, are a product of the same ignorance and evil imagination that have given rise to the rest of these excited tirades.

"2. His Excellency cannot but regret that in the communication addressed (as he understands) by you to the *Gleaner*, you should have assumed, without investigation, that the abusive attacks that have appeared in the English newspapers quoted were justifiable, and should have added gratuitous attacks of your own on the Government and inhabitants of the Cayman Islands, and on Miss Parsons, an innocent and honourable young lady, who has gone beyond the requirements of her official

duty in the courtesy and willingness with which she has attended to the numerous applications made to her by post.

"3. I return herewith the journal entitled *The Postage Stamp* which was forwarded by you.

#### Mr. Clerk's Explanation.

On October 1st Mr. Clerk wrote the following:—"Your Excellency,—I beg to acknowledge your communication dated September 3rd, 1908, with information concerning the Cayman Island Stamps.

"2. Would your Excellency cause to be given me a list of the different stamps issued for the Cayman Island since they have ceased to use our Jamaica stamps:—

"(a) Ordinary stamps.

"(b) Surcharged stamps.

showing the number of sheets printed and overprinted, and the number of stamps on each sheet?

"3. In regard to paragraph 2 of your letter, I am positive that Your Excellency would not willingly charge me wrongfully, and yet you wrong me in saying that I have assumed that abusive attacks that have appeared in the English newspapers quoted were justifiable—if Your Excellency will again refer to my letter of August 23rd, 1908 as well as the original portions of the article in the *Gleaner* of August 25th, 1908, you will find that the one object of both letter and article was the defence of Jamaica's good name and the integrity of her officialdom. As far as Cayman is concerned she can surcharge a different stamp each day and thereby earn herself the most approbrious name possible, but when she manages to escape the reward of her misdeeds and Jamaica and her officials are denounced as the culprit, as a son of this island I think it is time to protest, and I do protest and call upon Your Excellency to protect our good name by putting an end, once and for all, to the opportunities which occasion such 'scandals.'

"4. My reason for not replying earlier to Your Excellency's communication of the 3rd September is that I was seeking certain information which I have now obtained. This information I may yet forward to you, for although I do not desire to cast any direct reflection on the reputation of any one yet the good name of Jamaica and the official is more importance to me."

#### The Governor's Reply.

On October 10th, the acting assistant Colonial Secretary wrote:

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 1st instant, further on the subject of the Cayman Islands Stamps, and in reply to say that His Excellency regrets that he is unable to give you the information asked for.

"2. With reference to Paragraph 3 of your letter, I am to say that His Excellency regrets that the observations you make in this letter appear to him to justify and confirm the comments made in the letter from this office, No. 9081, 10390, dated the 3rd of September last on your attitude in associating yourself with unwarrantable imputations against the postal authorities of the Cayman Islands whom you now quite unjustifiably accuse of misdeeds."

#### A Further Letter.

Lucas, Oct. 30th, 1908.

H. E. Sir Sydney Olivier, C.M.G., Governor of Jamaica.

Your Excellency's letter dated Oct. 10th was forwarded to me here a few days ago. In this letter and that of the 3rd September, 08 (No. 9081—10390), Your Excellency most ably defends the postal authorities of the Cayman Islands and in the letter denies the assertions made by the Philatelic Press that the Jamaica Post Office had anything to do with the Cayman Islands Stamp issues—in doing this does Your Excellency

not narrow down to a fine point the question "who is supplying the material that has given rise to the serious and scandalous charges made against our officialdom?" The Jamaica Post Office (and I do hope this department as the victim of this vile charge) and the Cayman Islands must, Your Excellency says, be held blameless—which department then of Jamaica officialdom is to be blamed as the culprit in this matter? Do the Crown Agents have any hand in the providing stamps for our dependencies.

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

ASTLEY CLERK.

#### Governor's Last Letter.

12th November, 1908.

Sir,—I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th ultimo, further on the subject of the Cayman Islands stamps.

2. In reply I am to say that as, after careful enquiry, the results of which the Governor has reported to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. His Excellency is satisfied that there is no justification whatever for any serious or scandalous charges against officials either of the Cayman Islands or of Jamaica in regard to the issues of stamps, he apprehends that "the material that has given rise" to such charges, lies in the imagination of the persons who have made them.

3. With reference to the question made by you in the 3rd paragraph of your letter under acknowledgement, I am to say that the Crown Agents for the Colonies supervise the execution of orders given by Colonial Governments for the printing of stamps in England.

I have, etc.

ROBT. JOHNSTONE,  
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Astley Clerk, Esq.,  
Lucas P.O.

#### The Inquiry Farce.

Of course the Inquiry has been a shameless farce. It has developed into abusing the dealers for creating a situation which engendered local speculation, when, as shown by the correspondence itself, the dealers merely asked for supplies in the ordinary way. The shuffling excuse about cheques should be compared with the return of hitherto accepted dollar notes sent by Mr. Peckitt. In fact the whole business is clearly a defence of local speculation and its official protection from dealers' competition by adopting all manner of shady excuses for not supplying dealers.

#### More Definite Charges Wanted.

The charges which have been made have been wanting in definiteness. To outwit the local officials who were bent on protecting local speculators, more definite and irrefutable proofs should have been forthcoming.

It will be noted that in the whitewashing of the Jamaica Postal Officials, no reference whatever is even attempted to the very serious and definite charge made by Mr. Ewen that a letter with money was deliberately waylaid and shamelessly delayed at the Jamaica Post Office, inferentially to prevent supplies being sent to Mr. Ewen.

#### Further Action.

We trust the matter will not be allowed to rest where it is. There was an unfortunate change at the Colonial Office just as the charges were being investigated here. If Mr. Winston Churchill had not been shifted from the Colonial Office our Cayman Island friends would have found matters a little more difficult. But the Earl of Crewe has evidently not bothered himself to look into the question; too small a matter for his lordship probably.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 218).

**Libertas.**—This word, meaning "liberty," is shown upon many of the stamps of San Marino.

**Life Insurance Department.**—The inscription shown on the special stamps of New Zealand issued in connection with the department dealing with life insurance, which is dealt with by the Government.

**Light and Liberty.**—The motto shown under the coat-of-arms on the stamps issued by the Imperial British East Africa Company in 1890-91.

**Light in Darkness.**—The motto shown under the coat-of-arms on the stamps of British Central Africa issued in 1895 and 1896.

**Lima.**—The Capital of Peru and of the department of the same name, having a population of over 120,000. The name is a corruption of Rimac and the town was founded by Pizzara in 1535. It was almost entirely destroyed by an earthquake in 1746. The name of this town is shown on the Peruvian stamps issued in 1871 and 1873.

**Line-engraving.**—Stamps printed from plates engraved in *taille-douce*, technically known as copper-plate printing, are termed line-engravings. This was the first method employed in the production of postage stamps, the first  $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d. stamps of Great Britain being so engraved as well as most of the earliest types of Colonial stamps. The procedure adopted is as follows:—First of all a drawing is prepared of the proposed design, generally on a greatly enlarged scale, and after this has been approved by the proper authorities a copy of it, the exact size the postage stamp will be when printed, is engraved in reverse on a flat slab of softened steel by a skilled engraver. This is carefully hardened and is then technically known as the "matrix" die and from this a large number of identical impressions can be taken. In making the plate, an impression is taken from the matrix die on to a roller of softened steel and this after an hardening process is applied to a plate of softened steel (or copper) as many times as necessary till the requisite number of facsimiles to complete a sheet is obtained. The plate is then usually hardened before the process of printing commences. The word "softened" in connection with the steel die, &c., is used in a comparative sense only, and is meant to emphasise the difference between the metal in a state to be "worked" upon and in its finished condition to be worked with or from. On the finished plate the stamps are exact reproductions of the original die, the lines of the design being cut into the plate that appear in relief when printed. Printing ink is rubbed into these lines and the plate is then carefully cleaned of all superfluous ink. The paper used is slightly dampened and this is applied to the plate under considerable pressure so that it is forced into the hollows of the plate and thus takes up the ink. On the stamps produced by this process the ridges of ink can be plainly seen under a glass, and in many cases they can be plainly felt with the finger tip.

When the above process is employed the stamps on a sheet are, naturally all alike. But in the early forties this method of reduplication was not generally known, or the proper tools were not available, for many stamps were engraved direct on to a copper plate and no "matrix" die was employed. In such cases each stamp is bound to

differ slightly from its fellows on the sheet. The New South Wales "Sydney Views," and the "Post Paid" Mauritius stamps were engraved in this manner.

**Lithography.**—A printing process often employed for stamp-production. In lithography, instead of steel or copper plates, thin slabs of a special variety of fine-grained limestone are used. First of all after the face of the slab has been made perfectly smooth, one of two things happens,—either the design is drawn upon the stone, or it is drawn or printed upon paper for transfer to a stone in a special kind of ink. The stone is then wetted and printing ink is applied with a roller as in typography. The printing ink does not affect the wet surface of the stone but only adheres to the lines drawn or impressed in the special ink and from this it is transferred to the paper in exactly the same way as printing from ordinary type. The early stamps of India, 1878 issue of Nevis, and early high value Queensland, are a few British Colonial stamps that have been produced by this process. Most of the early stamps of the South American republics were lithographed and the method is largely used at the present time in the Republic of Columbia.

**Livingston.**—A small town in the State of Alabama, U.S.A., at which special 5c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861 to facilitate the prepayment of the postal charges. They had been in use only a short while when they were superseded by the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States.

**Livonia.**—(See "WENDEN.")

**L.L.—I.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used on the correspondence relating to the Legislative Library during the period 1868-74. They were replaced in 1874 by the general issue of official stamps with the "O.S" surcharge.

**II.**—These two letters, in the form of a monogram, are the watermark shown in the early postage stamps of Belgium.

**Llanes in Asturias.**—A sea port on the northern coast of Spain having a population of over 18,000. During the time the Provisional Government was in power, after the revolution in Madrid in September, 1868, the two stamps used for postage in the district around this port were surcharged "Habilitado por la Junta Revolucionaria" by order of the Provisional Revolutionary Assembly.

**Local.** Probably few philatelic terms are less capable of a simple and explicit definition than that heading this paragraph. In one sense of the word all stamps are locals inasmuch as they are only available for use in the country which issues them; again stamps only available for inland postage such as the "ESCUCLAS" stamps of Venezuela are, strictly speaking, locals; or, again, stamps issued by countries which do not belong to the Postal Union might be called locals. And yet none of these are considered locals by the majority of collectors. The following is perhaps the best definition:—A local is a stamp issued under official or private auspices but having its franking power limited to a particular district. As instances of government locals we may cite the "Rural" issues of Russia and of private locals the so-called College stamps of our own country (See also "PRIVATE LOCALS.")

# New Issues and Old

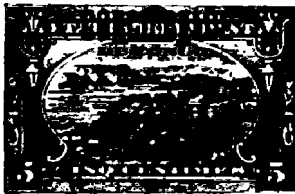
The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tanbridge Wells  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 154).—We gather from a Continental contemporary that the numbers printed of the recent provisional stamps were as follows:—



½ pia on lg. green	...	15,000
½ .. ½g. red	...	15,000
1 .. 1g. blue	...	15,000
2 .. 2g. brown	...	15,000
4 .. 4g. claret	...	6,000
8 .. 8g. lilac	...	6,000
16 .. 16g. grey black	...	6,000

**Congo.**—(Vol. III. p. 214).—We understand that there are two distinct varieties of the surcharge "CONGO BELGE" on the current stamps of Congo, listed in full on page 214. The first supply of stamps had the overprint applied by means of a handstamp, but the process was so tedious and the result so unsatisfactory it was soon



resolved to resort to printing from type. The handstruck and printed surcharges may distinguished by the following differing points:—

*Handstruck.*

- (1) The letters of the overprint are not quite sharp and the impression does not show on the back of the stamps.
- (2) The letters "o" in "CONGO" are almost square in appearance.
- (3) The length of the surcharge varies from 16½ to 17½ mm. and the letters are slightly under 4 mm. in height.

*Printed.*

- (1) The impression of the overprint is sharp and distinct, and it distinctly shows on the back of the stamps.
- (2) The letters "o" in "CONGO" are oval in shape.
- (3) The surcharge measures are exact 17 mm., and the letters are exactly 3½ mm. high.

**German Empire.**—(Vol. II. p. 57).—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly records the 50 pf. of the current type, watermarked lozenges, but on paper quite white instead of buff as hitherto. The complete set of stamps of the Germania type on watermarked paper is thus as follows:—

*Wmk. Lozenges. Perf. 14.*

		s.	d.
2 pf. grey	...	0	1
3 pf. brown	...	0	1
5 pf. green	...	0	1
10 pf. carmine	...	0	2
20 pf. ultramarine	...	0	4
25 pf. black and orange on yellow	...	0	4
30 pf. black and orange on buff	...	0	5
40 pf. black and carmine	...	0	6
50 pf. black and lilac on buff	...	0	8
50 pf. black and lilac	...	0	8
80 pf. black and carmine on rose...	...	1	0

**Hong Kong.**—(Vol. III. p. 116).—We learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that after April 30th next all obsolete issues will be demonetized and so cease to be available for postage.

**New Hebrides.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—In addition to the values we recorded on page 190 on the authority of Mr. Peckitt, we note the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* mentions the 8d. and 4d. values of Fiji as having



received the "NEW HEBRIDES—CONDOMINIUM" overprint. We believe, however, this is incorrect for our other contemporaries are unanimous in omitting these values. The overprint appears to have been applied by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and the stamps must have been prepared some time ago for supplies of the 1s. on multiple paper have been despatched to Fiji whereas all the 1s. New Hebrides stamps have the single Crown C.A. watermark. [Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write to us "Referring to our letter of 20th inst. Messrs. Pemberton & Co. write us that the chronicling of the 8d. and 4d. values of the New Hebrides was entirely a mistake."—ED. P.S.]

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 215).—Recent issues of this Colony have become somewhat more complicated than ever since the advent of the two new comb machines, gauging 14 × 13½ and 14 × 15 respectively. The *Australian Philatelist* now chronicles the 1d. perf. 14 × 14½, evidently by another comb machine, so it seems the troubles of the specialist in New Zealand are to be further aggravated.

*Wmk. Single-lined "N.Z." and Star.*

*Perf. 14 × 14½*

*1d. carmine.*

**Queensland.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—The 1s. of the current type on the Crown A. paper has at last been issued making the set to date as follows:—

*Wmk. Crown and Single-lined "A." Perf. 12.*

	s.	d.
4d. deep green	0	1
1d. vermilion	0	2
2d. ultramarine	0	3
3d. pale brown	0	5
4d. yellow	0	6
6d. pale green	0	8
1s. mauve	—	—
2s. greenish-blue	2	6

*Wmk. Crown and Single-lined "A." Perf. 12½, 13.*

2s. 6d. vermilion	3	3
5s. rose	6	3
10s. deep brown	12	6
£1 bluish-green	24	0

**Russia.**—Mr. W. H. Pockitt sends us the 8 kop. of the promised new series, which we illustrate.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* has received the 7 kop. of the series, and in chronicling it says: "We have received a supply of the new 7 kopeck stamps, which are of quite a new design. We do not know the size of the sheets, but the stamps are printed in panes of 25, with white margins between the panes. The whole sheet is prepared before printing the stamps by coating it on the surface with thin lines of white varnish; the lines run obliquely in both directions, intersecting so as to form a number of lozenge-shaped figures. We referred to the use of varnish lines on the new stamps in our issue of March 7, 1908. A very curious thing occurred with regard to the varnish bars when we were having the illustration made by a photographic process. Although the bars are nearly invisible on the stamps and are certainly below the blue ink used for printing the stamps, yet they appear as blank spaces on the illustration. This phenomenon is probably due to the action of salts of barium, or quinine, contained in the varnish. The rays emanating from such salts would penetrate the blue ink, and would affect the plate, just as would rays of light."

We cannot detect any varnish lines on our copy of the 2 kop., but it is on very thin paper. The stamps are printed in sheets of 100 stamps divided into four panes, each five rows of five.



*No wmk. Perf. 14, 14½.*

	s.	d.
2 kop. pale blue	0	1
7 kop. dull blue	0	3

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 215).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us that the 3c. in the same re-drawn design as the 2c. illustrated below has appeared.



*New design. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 11½.*

	s.	d.
2c. olive	0	1
3c. violet	0	1
5c. green	0	1

**Tasmania.**—(Vol. III. p. 155).—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the 4d. value on Crown "A." paper has been issued with the 11 perforation. The complete list of values with this perforation is now as follows:—

*Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.*

	s.	d.
4d. green	—	—
1d. rose red	0	2
2d. violet	0	3
3d. deep brown	—	—
4d. buff	—	—
6d. rose red	—	—
8d. purple brown	1	0
10s. mauve and brown	—	—

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 203).—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. has shown us another value—10c.—in the same design as the 5c. illustrated below, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* adds the 13c. and 15c. :—



*Value expressed in words.*

	s.	d.
1c. green	0	1
2c. carmine	0	2



*Value shown in numerals.*

3c. violet	0	3
4c. brown	0	3
5c. blue	0	4
6c. orange	0	5
8c. olive green	0	6
10c. yellow	0	7
13c. sea green	0	9
15c. light blue	0	10

**NOTE.**

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Auction Prices Rising.

A few days since I dropped in at Glendining's and found them quite jubilant at their previous sale, lots had gone remarkably well, so well indeed that they felt more than hopeful that stamps were going to be among the first things to profit by the turn of the tide in the recovery from the long drawn out period of trade depression.

A large number of lots of fine Trausvaals was snapped up at very satisfactory prices, and some nice lots of Chilians were covered several times over by American bids ranging so high that English bidders, including Gibbons, stood no chance.

## A fine Tasmanian Collection sold.

Mr. Peckitt advertises in this number of *The Postage Stamp* a very fine collection of the stamps of Tasmania which he has just purchased. It is particularly rich in the early issues, especially the 1d. and 4d. of the first type, including blocks of unused and used and strips and even reconstructed plates. The scarce star and no watermark issues are also a fine lot. Of the 1d. pelure paper there is a block of 8 and a strip of 4 used, whilst of unused there is a strip and a block of 4. Passing over the middle issues which are fine, one comes to a very interesting stamp in the error of the "halfpenny" on 1d. in a complete pane.

## Sale of Mr. Robert Reid's Collection.

I greatly regret to learn that Mr. Robert Reid, a well-known member of the Royal Philatelic Society, has felt compelled by the state of his health to sell his grand general collection of unused.

Mr. Reid has therefore placed his stamps in the hands of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper to sell by auction.

The first portion, which will consist of the European stamps other than those of Great Britain, will be sold on February 18th and 19th, followed by those of the British Colonies in Asia and Africa on March 5th and 6th.

Among the many fine things in this European section we mention just a few, e.g. —

Hungary. All the values of the lithographed issues in several shades. 25 kr. in a block of four.

German States. All States complete, besides single specimens of the greatest rarities; blocks of four of many of the early stamps of Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, Hamburg, Prussia, Saxony, Thurn and Taxis; a block of eight of 1862 1 kr., black-brown, of Wurtemberg, etc.

Tuscany. 1851, 2 soldi, brick-red on azure. 1852, 60 crazie, brick-red on azure. 1853, 9 crazie, lilac-grey. 1860, 8 lire, yellow.

Naples.  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, Arms.  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, Cross (two shades). Russian Levant. 1865 (2 k.), brown and blue. (20 k.), blue and red.

Spain. The collection contains a great rarity, the 2 reales of 1851, blue error of colour.

Sweden. The first issue on thin and thick paper, and the error 20/30 öre.

Switzerland. All the Cantonal issues, with the exception of the 4 rappen Zurich with horizontal lines.

Belgium, France, Portugal, Austria, Greece, Turkey, are also nearly complete in every respect.

## The Koch Auction in Paris.

The *London Philatelist* says: "A further portion of Herr Koch's collection, consisting of the German stamps, was disposed of last month by auction in Paris, and fully

maintained the high level of prices previously attained. The total sum realised has been nearly £16,000, of which one half was produced by the German stamps, in which the Koch collection was especially strong. Some of the prices realised seem to have been beyond the true value, owing to the very keen competition of amateurs, and the dealers are lamenting that they were so largely out-bidden! In any case the sale has been a great success and reflects much credit upon Messrs. Gilbert & Köhler who have taken great pains in the preparation of amply illustrated and correctly described catalogues.

"The two most important lots were undoubtedly the well-known unused blocks of six of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ , 1, 2, and 3 gr. of the 1860 issue of Oldenburg (£244), and a pair of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  ng., Saxony, error of colour (£220). The 9 kr. green, error of Baden, also attained the very high price of £198, and a block of twelve of the 1 kr., black, of Bavaria, with a *1ste bêche* specimen, realised £80. Throughout the German States there were fine 'pieces,' notably in used pairs and strips and on the entire original, which seem to have realised prices beyond the dreams of the maker of catalogues!"

## Auction Summary.

Ventom, Bull & Cooper. 11.12.08.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, mint, strip of three	2	10	0
Ditto, 1d., red, plate No. 225, mint, pair	2	2	0
Ditto, 1841, 2d., blue, imperf., mint, block of six	3	3	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., white dots, imperf., mint, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, 1878, Maltese Cross, 10s., grey-green, strip of three, perfs. clipped at bottom	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, £1, brown-lilac, pairs, £3 17s. 6d. and	4	17	6
Ditto, 1883, Anchor, £1, brown-lilac	4	0	0
Ditto, £5, orange	4	17	6
Sierra Leone, 1897, 2½d. on 3d., lilac and green, twice surcharged*	3	7	6
British Guiana, 1899, 2c. on 10c. and 2c. on 15c., both with inverted surcharges*	4	15	0
Grenada, 1883, provisional, "POSTAGE" overprinted diagonally on half 1d., orange, a superb unused vertical corner pair, representing four unsevered halves*	16	10	0
Virgin Islands, 4d., brown, a horizontal strip of three, with bottom margin, centre stamp is the "FOURPENNY" error	3	4	0

7.1.09.

Switzerland, Zurich, 4r., horizontal lines, type 2	12	12	0
Ceylon, CA, 24c., purple-brown*	3	7	6
British East Africa, 1891, MS. sur., 1 anna "AB" on 4a. brown, penmarked and postmarked	3	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1880, CC, 3d., lilac rose, block of four	7	5	0
Orange River Colony, 1890 provl., 1d. on 3d., ultramarine, an entire sheet of 240, containing the different types*	3	12	6
Southern Nigeria, King, single CA. £1*	2	10	0
Transvaal, 1885, ½d. on 3d., mauve, an entire sheet of sixty, including the "PRNNY," and inverted "N" varieties, and one row perf. 11½ x 12*	2	4	0
British Honduras, 1888, provisional, 2c. on 1d., rose, with inverted surcharge, mint	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2c. on 1d., rose, twice surcharged*	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, error of surcharge, 5c. on 1s., grey*	10	0	0
Grenada, 4d. on 2c., orange, upright "d"*	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d., blue-green, pair*	7	15	0
New South Wales, 1885, 20s., violet and carmine	4	15	0

\* Signifies unused.

## Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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### Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

#### Now Ready.

#### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

#### Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

### Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.

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W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.

James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

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In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 20. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 72)

13 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### Special Lincoln Memorial Stamp.



I AM indebted to Mr. Benedict Prieth, one of the proprietors of the *New Jersey Freie Zeitung*, of Newark, N.J., for an early copy of the following telegram from his Washington correspondent:—  
 "Washington, Jan. 20th.—To commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Postmaster-General Meyer to-day announced that 100,000,000 new 2c.

postage stamps would be issued on or before Feb. 12th next. The new issue was provided for by joint resolution of Congress.

"The design comprises the portrait of Lincoln in an ellipse, the only decoration being a spray of laurel leaves and the inscription "U.S. Postage" in a straight line at the top of the stamp, with the numerals "1809—Feb. 12—1909" at the bottom. The colour design will be red, as with the present 2c. stamps. The profile was taken from a copy in the Corcoran Art Gallery in this city of Saint-Gaudens's statue of Lincoln, on Lakeside Drive, in Chicago."

### The Philatelic Students' Fellowship.

The Philatelic Students' Fellowship is a new combination of stamp collectors which was founded last May.

Its objects are stated to be the collective study of postage stamps and the endeavour to solve some of the many difficult problems which confront the keen philatelist.

Its membership, I learn, is strictly limited, "as it is felt that small meetings will do more to further the cause of scientific philately." The meetings are held monthly at the houses of members, who are all resident in South London, and, as there are no officials, the host of the evening takes the chair. A sort of family gathering.

### The First Fellowship Publication.

The first printed result of the first six months' labours of this little philatelic family party is before me in the shape of "The Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship."

In a dainty, royal 8vo. booklet of 20 pages with deckled edges, enclosed in brown paper covers, are very thoughtful articles on the several specialities of the members of the little coterie, illustrated with engravings in half-tone printed separately on plate paper.

My copy is numbered 18, and a note tells me that it is "printed for private circulation." As a favoured individual I wish the Fellowship long life and much philatelic success, for I can heartily subscribe to their dictum that small meetings do most work when you can get the workers together.

### Great Britain 1d., Cancelled May 5th, 1840.

The Rev. G. C. B. Madden, Armitage Bridge Vicarage, Huddersfield, writes to me as follows:—

"I have received from a friend what I consider is a philatelic curiosity, viz.: a copy of the black 1d. posted on May 5th, 1840. The stamp is as new, and is on a letter in which the writer says: 'To make you stare I send you a Queen's Head, the day before it is in Penny circulation. To-morrow it will be obliterated by a Post Office Stamp. What a pity that they should make Queen Victoria gummy like an old woman, without teeth, as I am.' It was written from Brompton Place."

### Commemoratives: an Apologist.

Mr. Chas. S. Jewell, Eastbourne, writes: "I notice that Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle was somewhat bitter over the proposed Argentine Commemoratives for 1910. Now surely anything is better than the new issue, and surely they can celebrate the Centenary of their liberty (which is more important than the Gas Works Issue of Uruguay). Even Canada has done so. Besides it is not a mere pot-boiler (or we should be inundated with them as in the case of Paraguay), for at present the Republic is in an extremely prosperous condition."

This is all argument from a wrong basis. Because one or two otherwise respectable countries, and some prosperous ones, have gone into the Commemorative business, why not any or all, given a decent sympathetic excuse?

If our friend looks through his catalogue he will see that the said Argentine Republic is rather given to commemorating. They have commemorated the discovery of America, and the completion of a dock, and next we shall have the commemoration of the erection of lavatories.

If every historical event in a country's past is to be commemorated, where are we to draw the line of philatelic submission and absorption?

#### Rhodesia v. British South Africa.

Mr. Whitfield King has been chortling over the criticisms on his recently issued catalogue in reference to his shifting British South African stamps to the new heading of "Rhodesia." The wicked man has known all along of a coming change to be made which will justify his alteration. In fact he has only taken time by the forelock.

#### A Forthcoming New Rhodesia Issue.

He tells me that he was informed some time ago that a new issue of postage stamps was under consideration, that they would bear the word "Rhodesia," and that there would be no denomination above £2.

I am not surprised, for I knew that in the days of the late Secretary, Mr. Jones, a new series was under consideration, because of some error in the heraldry of the design.

#### Fifty Percenters as Selling Stamps.

The *Philatelic Adviser* makes a strong point on the question of stamps hawked about at fifty per cent. Of course there are many genuine fifty per cent. bargains, but the regular fifty percenters stamps are those referred to, and the *Adviser* says, and says truly, "a collection made solely or principally of stamps that are offered at large discounts is certain to be a poor seller if at any time the owner wishes to realise. The desirable stamps, in fact, those stamps that sell a collection, will be absent."

#### Cayman Islands Scandal.

I am not surprised at the result of the Inquiry into the Cayman Islands Scandal. Folks here who hold incriminating letters should not have hesitated to produce them in support of their charges. I know of at least one letter from a near relative of a Cayman official indicating a sharing out of the surcharges.

But with the exception of Mr. Ewen's serious charge of waylaying a letter of his, the charges have been too general. They should have been definite, as they could have been. No attempt, so far as I know, has been made to refute Mr. Ewen's inconvenient charge against the Jamaica Post Office.

The Governor may yet have unpleasant facts laid before him, and be compelled to admit that he has been very lax in his so-called inquiry.

#### Miss Gwendolyn Parsons.

Mr. W. Ward, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, says:—"The ex-postmistress has been complaining to a correspondent about those dealers and publications which attacked "her" on account of the provisional issues, and assured her correspondent that she had always tried to do her best. She was a true friend to all stamp collectors—so she said." And I cannot help thinking that she has been made the scapegoat in this matter. I know personally of collectors, and at least one dealer, who have had supplies of the provisionals at face from Miss Parsons, without demur, or suggestion of any kind in the shape of commission.

#### Mr. Brewster C. Kenyon.

I wonder what my American friends will say about this

individual. He is well known to us as a collector and as the author of a brochure on the stamps of Hawaii. That such a man should make the infamous proposal that he is said to have made that he should be allowed to do a little lot of surcharges on his own account for the Cayman Islands, is almost past belief.

And that he should give the word of a mason that the little transaction would be kept dark must be galling to that honourable body to which he professes to belong.

#### Abyssinians on the Up Grade.

Some time since I hinted that Abyssinians might be expected to come into a share of popularity on their joining the Postal Union.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips now tells us that there is already "a great demand for the various provisional issues of 1901 to 1907," that many are quite unobtainable, although he has been searching for them through his agents on the continent, and that some could not be purchased even at catalogue prices.

Evidently Abyssinians are going to have their day. Meanwhile, sad to relate, there is no list that even pretends to be correct or complete.

#### Papuan: Current Perfs.

My readers who go in for Papuan stamps should see that they get the two perfs., *i.e.* perf. 11 and perf. 12½, while they are current, for some of these are sure to be troublesome to get later on.

Up to date, of the permanent design, there are:—  
Perf. 11—½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.  
Perf. 12½—2d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d.

#### French Somali Coast: Centres Inverted.

The list of French Somali Coast stamps with centres inverted now includes no less than a dozen values. It will take a much more robust philatelic digestion than most of us possess to swallow this lot. The collector who can be persuaded to purchase such rubbish must have more money than wit. And yet I have not the slightest doubt that they will sell like hot cakes—at a price.

#### Transvaal, King's Head, 1d., Anchor Watermark.

From a copy shown at the Herts Society it is evident that at least a full sheet was printed of this curiosity, and, of course, that would be so, for the printing by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. of current Cape of Good Hope and Transvaal stamps are done in sheets of four panes of sixty stamps.

As so many copies have turned up in so many different places the indications are that they will be plentiful enough, for a rarity, by-and-bye.

Meanwhile, 50s. seems to be the price for a nice used copy, and a well known authority thinks even that price will drop.

I have not yet heard of the discovery of an unused copy.

#### For Sneerers at Fine Condition.

Apròpos of the cheap sneers of a certain journal at those who set great store by stamps in fine condition it may be noted that Mr. Charles J. Phillips in making up his stock book of South Australia says he has priced specimens below catalogue condition at half catalogue.

#### A Chance for the Ordinary Collector.

Of course the ordinary collector who is not so fastidious about his copies, and does not care to pay for fine condition, gets the advantage of buying good stamps at low prices, because it generally follows that if a stamp is worth a long price in fine condition, the price of a poor specimen runs to the other end of the scale.

Ergo, the fastidious specialist, who insists on fine condition, really cheapens the poor copy for the general collector.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## Grenada

Grenada is another fine West Indian Colony, with its early stamps running back into Perkins Bacon designs and engravings, and it is very much on all fours with St. Vincent in the adoption of a special design to supersede the low values. Its early issues are not so rich in varieties as those of St. Vincent, and perhaps on that account it may probably tempt the collector who specialises its King's head issues to some day work backwards into the earlier stamps.

**1902.** Ten values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. with profile to left within a curved octagonal frame, "Postage" on the left and "and Revenue" on the right; the name of the colony in a straight label on the top and a tablet of value at the foot of the design. The framework of the design in the pence values is printed in purple and the name and tablet of value in a separate colour; in the shilling values the framework is printed in green. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single, and perforated 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. single. Perf. 14.

Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple, name and value in green ...	0 2	0 1
1d. " " " " carmine ...	0 3	0 1
2d. " " " " brown ...	1 0	1 0
2½d. " " " " ultramarine ...	1 6	1 6
3d. " " " " orange ...	1 6	1 6
6d. " " " " green ...	1 6	1 6
1s. green " " " " orange ...	7 6	7 6
2s. " " " " ultramarine ...	7 6	—
5s. " " " " carmine ...	15 0	—
10s. " " " " magenta ...	20 0	20 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

All the values of this series are promising stamps from the investment point of view. The 1s. is very scarce, after being left unpriced in 1906, it was jumped up from 1s. 4d. in 1905 to 7s. 6d., but the 10s. is probably considerably underpriced at 20s. as it is to be found in very few stocks, indeed I regard it as the scarcest of the lot, for it is much more difficult to get than the 1s. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. I note price it at 30s., but I doubt if many copies can be had at that price. W. K. & Co. have also advanced the 5s. to 20s., and the 2s. to 10s., but they drop the 1s. to 5s., at which price those who want it should secure it in blocks of four.

In the new Gibbons I shall expect to find all these prices advanced, for Grenada is a coming country.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 2
1d.	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3
2d.	0 3	0 3	0 4	1 0
2½d.	0 4	0 4	0 6	1 6
3d.	0 5	0 5	0 9	1 6
6d.	0 8	0 8	1 3	1 6
1s.	1 4	1 4	—	7 6
2s.	2 8	2 8	5 0	7 6
5s.	6 6	6 6	12 6	15 0
10s.	12 6	12 6	15 0	20 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Used.

It will be noted that used copies have taken a long time to come on the market for pricing purposes, and that used are quite as good as unused.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	—	—	0 1	0 1
1d.	—	0 1	0 1	0 1
2d.	—	0 3	0 4	1 0
2½d.	—	—	—	1 6
3d.	—	—	—	1 6
6d.	—	—	—	1 6
1s.	—	—	—	7 6
2s.	—	—	—	—
5s.	—	—	—	—
10s.	—	—	—	20 0

**1904-6.** Ten values. Design: as in the preceding issue, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. multiple. Colours and values as before, and perforated 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. multiple. Perf. 14.

Unused. Used.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple, name and value in green (1905) O	—	0 8
1d. " " " " carmine (1904-5) O	—	0 6
2d. " " " " brown (1905) O	—	—
2½d. " " " " ultramarine (1905) O	—	—
3d. " " " " orange (1905, O C)	0 5	—
6d. " " " " green (1906) O	0 8	0 8
1s. green " " " " orange (1905) O	1 4	1 4
2s. " " " " ultramarine (1906) O C	2 8	—
5s. " " " " carmine (1906) O	6 6	—
10s. " " " " magenta (1906) O	12 6	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

The four lowest values were quickly superseded by the new ship design, the ½d., 2d. and 2½d. had a run of only a few months, for they were superseded in the same year, and it is no secret that stocks are exceedingly low of these values, all of which Gibbons left unpriced in their 1908 catalogue. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. in their 1909 catalogue price them as follows:—

	Unused.	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. purple and green ...	0 4	0 6
1d. " " " " carmine ...	0 9	1 0
2d. " " " " brown ...	1 3	1 6
2½d. " " " " blue ...	2 6	2 6

# Notes for Specialists

BY SPECIALISTS

## Stamps of the Transvaal

### The South African Outlook.

The practical settlement of the question of South African Union and the probable unification of the postage stamps into one issue common to all, naturally attracts special attention to South African issues.

Amongst all the issues of South Africa, there are none to compare in importance and interest with the grand range of the stamps of the Transvaal. When the end comes, and there is one issue common to all, then we shall know that the country cannot be further overloaded with modern issues of any sort.

### Transvaals for Specialising.

For specialising, there is no country, in my humble opinion, that at all even equals the Transvaal in interest and further scope for inquiry. Despite all that has been done, there is still work for years of study in unravelling the many unsettled philatelic problems that remain to be settled.

To help in the solution of open questions Mr. Yardley has done yeoman service in collecting and collating all the available evidence, and giving it to the world in the Royal Society's work on Africa, Vol. III.

The natural division of the stamps of the Transvaal into epochs adds materially to their interest and collectability. Those divisions fall into periods as follows:—

1. First Republic, 1869-1877.
2. First British Occupation, 1877-1882.
3. Second Republic, 1882-1900.
4. Second British Occupation, 1900.

Each period is crammed with stamps that appeal specially to the specialist

### Interesting Varieties.

The number of Varieties that have yet to be discussed and placed will yield material sufficient to engross the attention of even the most leisured specialist; and the probability is that, once fairly launched on the issues of the Transvaal, every other country will go by the board in comparison.

Here, for instance, is a sample. It will be noticed in the illustration annexed that one of the upper corner figures has been badly damaged. Instead of the usual figure "6," we have a thick diagonal bar. How far back in the use of this plate this injury dates we cannot at present say. We can only compare notes with each other's collections, and trace it back so far as known. At any time it may turn up in an earlier issue. Such are the questions that

add to the pleasures of research that are open to the specialist in Transvaals, many of which find no place in any catalogue, and are only known and appreciated by specialists.

### A Recent Sale of Transvaals.

Later on I hope to be able to lead off with a few notes which will start the would be specialist of Transvaals on the right and safe road.

Meanwhile, the annexed prices fetched at Glendings 26.1.09 will show that when a good lot is offered good prices are realised. The price paid for the imperf. copy of the 6d. ultramarine of July, 1870, will open the eyes of some people as to the continued popularity of rare Transvaals.

	£	s.	d.
1869, fine roulette, 1d., brown-lake, Gibbons 5b. brilliant mint copy ... ..	2	15	0
Ditto, 1s., yellow-green, Gibbons 12, very fine and scarce ... ..	1	7	0
Ditto, thicker paper, imperf., 1s., Gibbons 15, very lightly marked and a superb copy ... ..	2	14	0
1871, imperf., 3d., lilac, Gibbons 18, choice mint copy...	1	2	0
May, 1870, fine roulette, 1d., carmine, red, Gibbons 37, mint and scarce ... ..	2	12	0
July, 1870, 6d., ultramarine, imperf., should be Gibbons 38a, an uncatalogued but well-known variety, superb and with large margins ... ..	26	0	0
Sept., 1870, imperf., 1d., black, Gibbons 47, choice unused copy with gum, and with wide margins ... ..	0	19	0
Ditto, fine roulette, 1d., black, Gibbons 48, brilliant mint block of four ... ..	1	16	0
Ditto, 6d., blackish blue, Gibbons 50, brilliant mint copy of this rare stamp ... ..	5	0	0
Ditto, a fine used copy of the same stamp ... ..	1	12	0
Sept., 1874, perf. 12½, 1d., brick red, Gibbons 71, a superb copy ... ..	1	4	0
Ditto, 6d., blue, Gibbons 73, an exceptionally fine copy ... ..	1	1	0
1876, fine roulette, 1d., red, Gibbons 97, superb and practically without postmark ... ..	4	5	0
Ditto, 3d., lilac, Gibbons 99, a brilliant unused copy of this rare stamp ... ..	7	0	0
Ditto, 6d., blue, Gibbons 118, a very fine and bright unused copy of this rarity ... ..	15	10	0
1876-7, fine roulette, 6d., deep blue, Gibbons 125, a very good copy of this scarce variety ... ..	2	14	0
1877, fine roulette, 1d., bright red, Gibbons 155, an exceptionally fine copy of this very scarce stamp ... ..	2	8	0
Ditto, 6d., dull blue, Gibbons 162, superb mint copy, very scarce ... ..	2	4	0
Ditto, fine roulette, 1d., brick-red, Gibbons 174, choice unused copy, but very slight thinning ... ..	1	8	0
Aug., 1877, fine roulette, overprint inverted, 6d., Gibbons 183, variety with double roulette at bottom, mint except for slight thin spot ... ..	2	4	0
Oct., 1877, fine roulette, 6d., blue on blue, Gibbons 284, very fine and scarce ... ..	1	16	0
April, 1879, fine roulette, 3d., mauve on green, Gibbons 241, a nice copy of this rare stamp ... ..	5	0	0
1879, One Penny in black on 6d., Gibbons 284, an exceptionally fine copy, only just touched by postmark ... ..	1	8	0
Ditto, One Penny in red on 6d., Gibbons 291, has very small thin spot, otherwise fine and very scarce...	2	16	0
Ditto, One Penny in red on 6d., Gibbons 292, very fine and lightly marked, scarce ... ..	1	18	0
1893, 2½d. in black on 1s., green, Gibbons 386, fine on small piece, showing dated postmark, 5th Oct., 1896 ... ..	1	6	0

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.



# Cayman Islands Scandal



CAYMAN ISLANDS POST OFFICE, &C.

**L**AST week we published the official correspondence concerning what is known as the Cayman Islands Stamp Scandal, with the Governor's Report on the Inquiry which he has held.

It is not a very satisfying presentation of the questions at issue. It practically ignores some of the more serious charges, and those which are dealt with are brushed aside in such a manner as to suggest anything but an impartial inquiry by a responsible official.

The Inquiry has evidently been a mere official white-washing with no pretence whatever at an attempt to probe the matter seriously. It may be summed up thus:

*The Governor* :—Have you been juggling with your postal issues?

*Cayman Official* :—No, your Excellency, not me.

*The Governor* :—I thought not: It is those wicked Stamp Dealers and those abusive English papers, especially that wretched *Postage Stamp*.

*Cayman Official* :—That's it, your Excellency: Just look at this letter from a Mr. Brewster C. Kenyon. If we had not been a virtuous lot you can see what might have happened.

*Governor* :—Ah, yes, I see. Infamous! And that is a sample?

*Cayman Official* :—We have been obliged to refuse to supply such people.

*Governor* :—Quite right.

*Cayman Official* :—Instead, we sorted them up amongst our own local speculators. Gwendolyn's Papa had a nice little lot, and

*Governor* :—Hush! Hush! I must not listen to such confessions. I will report that after this most searching inquiry I find that these scandalous charges are utterly unfounded.

*Cayman Official* :—May I suggest to your Excellency that Whitfield King be hanged by the neck till he is dead.

## An Insolent Suggestion.

The Governor jumps at the letter from Brewster C. Kenyon and seriously forwards a copy of his infamous proposal to the Secretary of State for the Colonies "as an illustration of the methods of action of the class of persons who have been complaining that they cannot get surcharged stamps from the Postal Authorities at Grand Cayman," i.e., Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Mr. W. H.

Peckitt, and other English Dealers.

What can be said of the Governor of a British Colony who stoops to such a dishonourable suggestion?

## A Real Whopper.

The following finding of the Earl of Crewe is enough to make a pig laugh:—

"With regard to the stamps of the Cayman Islands, the Governor of Jamaica reports that early this year the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands made proposals for an internal post in the Islands at a reduced rate [though his lordship does not here mention, the rate of letter postage was fixed at a halfpenny], and that the farthing stamp was printed for the newspaper and post card postage. The Commissioner has so far refused to sell these stamps to dealers through the post, on the grounds that they are primarily intended for local use, and that owing to the cost of production outside sale is not profitable."

The Earl of Crewe must be profoundly ignorant as to the cost of the manufacture of stamps, and abnormally credulous, to swallow Mr. Commissioner Hirst's "whopper," which we have put in italics. Most people know that stamps cost only a few pence per thousand to produce, say these farthings cost even sixpence per 1,000 the profit would still be enormous.

Between Mr. Commissioner Hirst's capacity for "whoppers," and Lord Crewe's ignorance and gullibility, it is no wonder the so called Inquiry has turned out a regular farce.

## And Yet Another.

Mr. W. Ward writes:—"His lordship goes on to say that it is absolutely denied that [only] 1440 of the ½d. on 5s. stamps were printed, one half of which were sold to one person in Georgetown. This is an error, for we personally know that there never was an accusation about the selling of half of the ½d. on 5s. stamps to one person; what was said was that the 1d. on 4d. issue was practically divided between two persons, and the writer is prepared to back that out."

Could anything be more ridiculous than this precious Inquiry and the Reports to which it has given rise.

## Oliver, Hirst, Parsons and Crewe.

This marvellous combination of administrative and judicial talent is quite overpowering. Despite the notorious speculation which has been going on, Sir Sydney Oliver, C.M.G. declares his utter inability "to discover the slightest ground or excuse for any imputation of dishonesty or personal interest in connection with these issues against the Cayman Islands Postal Authorities:" Commissioner Hirst considers that "people here are as much entitled to speculate in the stamps of the Cayman Islands as Whitfield King & Co. are in England," and he thinks that speculation will "develop to the great advantage of the Caymanians, but to the great disadvantage of Stamp Dealers."

## "Dear Winston" an Irreparable loss.

It is no secret that Mr. Winston Churchill was personally inquiring into this Cayman Islands business when he was shifted to the Board of Trade and Lord Crewe made Colonial Secretary in his place.

In this instance "Dear Winston" has been an irreparable loss. It would have taken the local firm all their time to throw him off the scent.

# Subject of Condition

By Spy-Glass, in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain"

A SIGNIFICANT feature of the past year has been the absolute disregard of precedent, in the shape of catalogue and other quotations, which collectors and dealers have shown in buying scarce stamps when in exceptionally fine condition. This tendency has often been in evidence at auction sales in England. The present writer had, recently, to pay 26s. for a 1s. N.S.W. imperf., catalogued by Gibbons at 15s. This specimen was lightly, but clearly, cancelled, had large margins, splendid colour, sharp impression, and in fact the freshness of a stamp which has just been printed. That a stamp, such as this, with all the attributes of fine condition accentuated, should in these days of advanced philately, command double the catalogue quotations, is not surprising. It is now fully recognised that there is no catalogue price for exceptionally fine copies of early stamps. Any specimen with claims to being the finest copy in existence must naturally rise superior to the usual considerations. In fact, we must appraise not only the ordinary rarity of the stamp itself, but also the extraordinary rarity of its perfection.

A much more remarkable example than that I have just quoted, comes from New York, where, on December 9th last, a Newfoundland 6d. carmine-vermilion was sold for \$210, which is equivalent to £42 10s. This stamp is catalogued \$75 by Scott, and £7 by Gibbons. The condition of this specimen may be left to the imagination. It may be taken for granted that it had large margins and was in that glowing colour which is occasionally found in the stamps of this issue.

It is, however, in France that "prime" stamps are most highly appreciated, and frequent reference has been made in the *Ph. J. of G.B.* to the large prices obtained at the Hotel Drouot auctions in Paris.

A writer in *La Circulaire Philatèlique*, who signs himself La Sagittaire de Verdun, has an interesting article on this very subject in the January number of that journal. To point his remarks, this writer has drawn up

a list of twenty-seven British Colonial stamps sold at the Hotel Drouot during the past year. I am taking the liberty of publishing this list, which, as will be seen, shows, in parallel columns, the prices obtained at auction and the quotations of four well-known Continental catalogues, with another column shewing the average catalogue price for each stamp. To these columns I have added another, showing Gibbons quotations, translated into francs, so that they may be easily compared with the figures in the other columns. The lithographed Trinidads and the Sydney Views exist in so many varieties and condition that it is impossible to guess which stamps are alluded to. In these instances the prices in the table convey nothing, and the same may be said of the Cape woodblocks, any of which might have been very dear or very cheap at the prices for which they were sold.

It is a pity that the Galves catalogue was taken into account, as the quotations therein for British Colonials are much too low, but a comparison of the standard catalogue prices with the auction figures is sufficient to show the high appreciation in which fine specimens, especially of early issues, are held in France.

It should be explained that at all French auction sales the purchaser is bound by law to pay the auctioneers' commission of 10%, which amount is added to the total of his purchase. In the first column of the above table the 10% has been added to each item, thus exactly representing the amounts paid by the buyers.

To extract the essence from this table it is necessary to take the total auction price (=4743 francs) and the total of the average catalogue prices (=3719 francs) when we find that the difference is 1024 francs. Thus, for these twenty-seven stamps, collectors and dealers have paid about 25% more than catalogue prices.

The most exceptional price in the above list appears to be the £30 paid for the Mauritius 2d. of October, 1859, which it catalogued by Gibbons at £16, and it will be noticed that, generally speaking, the imperf. stamps fetch the highest relative prices.

	Auction.	CATALOGUES.				Average cat. price on Continent.	Gibbons.
		Official French.	Yvert. et Tellier's	Senf.	Galves (Madrid).		
Cape, 1d. woodblock, carmine	204	150	125	172	90	134	151
" 4d. " blue	143	100	90	74	68	83	88
*Gold Coast, 20s., green and red	388	250	300	308	225	271	302
Mauritius, 1859, 2d.	770	500	500	554	450	501	402
" 1d. red, Greek border	154	100	125	92	90	102	150
*St. Helena, 1868, 4d. carmine	37	40	35	43	33	38	42
Antigua, 1862, 6d., no wmk.	40	35	38	37	36	37	38
Canada, 1862, ½d. rose	23	18	18	20	16	18	19
" " 10d. blue	55	40	45	43	45	43	44
" 1857, 6d. violet, perforated	178	175	150	185	185	161	176
Brit. Colombia, 50c., perf. 12½	47	40	40	55	45	45	50
Brit. Guiana, 1851, 1c. black on red	219	175	160	185	185	164	176
" " " 4c. black on blue	264	225	200	246	180	218	226
" " " 1853, 1c. vermilion	73	75	60	74	54	66	94
" " " 4c. blue	33	30	30	27	45	23	31
Nova Scotia, 1851, 6d. dark green	62	40	45	74	45	51	75
*Newfoundland, 6½d. vermilion	330	350	300	344	360	339	352
" " 6d. orange	95	100	90	92	90	93	75
Trinidad, 1858, 1d. slate	99	60	60	92	63	69	—
" " 1d. blue-grey	114	75	75	92	90	83	—
New South Wales, 1d., Sydney, plate I.	75	70	60	74	36	60	—
" " " 1d., " " II.	89	60	60	74	54	62	—
" " " 2d., " " I.	105	45	50	49	45	47	—
" " " 3d. whip omitted	270	200	N.C.	N.C.	N.C.	200	—
Queensland, 6d. green, imperf.	128	110	100	98	90	100	100
Tasmania, 1863, 1d. blue	99	100	90	98	68	89	88
British Guiana, 1856, 4c. red	699	600	650	615	N.C.	622	628

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 226).

**L. Marques. Centenario de S. Antonio. MDCCCXCV.**—A surcharge applied to certain Mozambique stamps used in Lourenço Marques in 1895 in celebration of the Centenary of St. Anthony of Padua.

**L. McL.**—These letters appear in the form of a monogram on the well-known "Lady McLeod" local stamps of Trinidad (See "LADY McLEOD.")

**Local Tax.**—The inscription shown at the base of the 4 rappen stamps issued in Zurich in 1843. The word "taxe" means "tax" but in this case the two words are probably meant as "local postage to be paid."

**Lockport.**—A city in the State of New York, U.S.A., having a population of about 17,000. A special 5c. envelope was issued by the Postmaster of this town in 1846 to facilitate the prepayment of postage. These envelopes were suppressed in the following year when the Government issued adhesive postage stamps.

**Loja.**—A province in the Republic of Ecuador famous for its cinchona bark. During 1902-3 all the stamps used in this province were surcharged "LOJA FRANCA" before being issued to the public. This was done in consequence of the loss of a large quantity of stamps from the Government stores at Guayaquil during the course of a disastrous fire which nearly destroyed that city in July, 1902. It was thought probable that the stamps had been stolen, and orders were issued to the Governors of all the provinces to hand-stamp control marks on all the stocks in hand and so render the stolen stamps useless.

**Loja Franca.**—The control mark applied to all stamps used in the province of Loja, Ecuador, in 1902-3.

**Lombardo Venetia.**—The general title given to those Italian states which, at one time, formed part of the Austrian Empire. When stamps were first issued for Austria, a similar set, but with values in *centes* instead of *kreuser*, was issued for these states (See also "AUSTRIAN-ITALY.")

**London prints.**—This is self-explanatory and refers to stamps printed in London from plates made by a London firm in contradistinction to the stamps printed locally from the same plates. The 1d. stamp commemorative of Penny Universal Postage issued by New Zealand in 1901 will serve as an example. When the plates were despatched to the Colony a supply of stamps was forwarded at the same time, but all subsequent supplies were printed in the Colony itself.

**Lösen.**—This inscription, meaning "To pay," is shown upon the postage due stamps of Sweden.

**Los Rios.**—A province in the Republic of Ecuador in which all the stamps used in 1902-3 were hand-stamped with the word "RIOS" and "19" before being sold to the public for the same reason as explained under "Loja."

**Lotte.**—The value in which one of the stamps of Siam's first issue was expressed. A lotte is equal to half an att and 128 lotte formed a tical which, in 1863, was worth about 1/2. A lotte was, therefore, the equivalent of one-ninth of a 1d. in English money.

**Louisville.**—The largest city in the State of Kentucky, U.S.A., having a population well in excess of 200,000. It was founded in 1780 and was named in honour of Louis XVI of France. It is the largest manufacturer and exporter of tobacco in the world. In 1857 and 1858 special 1c. stamps were issued in this city by two semi-official posts for the defrayment of postage on letters delivered within the district served by this post office.

**Lourenço Marques.**—The Portuguese form of Lourenço Marques as shown upon the stamps of that Colony.

**Lourenço Marques.**—The most southerly of the three districts of Portuguese East Africa. The chief town, bearing the same name, is on the north-west coast of Delagoa Bay and was founded in 1544 as a Portuguese factory. It has a population of about 7,000 of whom half are whites. Postage stamps were first issued in 1894.

**Lozenge watermark.**—A watermark found in the 1856 stamps of Spain and in a supply of 2d. stamps issued in New Zealand in 1872. The design consists of a pattern of diamond-shaped spaces.

**L.T.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used during the period 1868-74 upon the correspondence of the department dealing with Land Titles. The general "OS" set issued in 1874 superseded these specially surcharged stamps.

**Lubeck.**—A State of the German Empire, situated on either side of the Trave, comprising the towns of Lubeck and Travemünde and five rural communities. It has an area of 115 square miles and a population of nearly 100,000. By its constitution, revised in 1875, the State is governed by a Senate composed of 14 life-members and a council of 120 citizens. It is represented in the Reichstag by one delegate. The free city of Lubeck is one of the three remaining Hanse towns. It was founded in 1140, ceded to the dukes of Saxony in 1158, and captured by the Danes in 1201. After their expulsion it was made a free imperial city (1226) and became the leader of the Hanseatic league in 1241. In 1810 it was annexed by France but regained its liberty in 1813 after the battle of Leipzig. In 1868 it joined the North German Confederation, and in 1870 became one of the states of the new empire. Postage stamps were issued on January, 1st, 1859, but on joining the North German Confederation Lubeck ceased issuing its own stamps.

**L'Union fait la Force.**—The motto shown under the "Arms" on some of the stamps of Belgium and Hayti, meaning "Union is Strength."

**Luxembourg.**—The spelling of Luxemburg as shown upon the stamps of the Grand Duchy.

**Lydenburg.**—The capital of the division of the same name in the Transvaal situated about 144 miles east-north-east of Pretoria. During the South African war provisionals were issued in this town (in September, 1900) owing to the impossibility of getting supplies from Pretoria.

*To be continued.*

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Ceylon.**—(Vol. II. p. 212.)—Mr. R. Hamilton has shown us a copy of the 5c. on 16c. of 1885 (S.G., No. 140) in which the "R" in "Revenue" differs slightly from that in the ordinary type. The right leg of the letter does not turn up at the base and the whole letter seems to be thinner than usual.

**Congo.**—(Vol. III. p. 227.)—We gather from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* that the numbers of the stamps that received the "CONGO BELGE" overprint are as follows:—



	Handstruck Surcharge.	Printed Surcharge.	Revised Prices for Printed Surcharges.	s. d.
5 c. ... ..	4,500	22,900	0 6	
10 c. ... ..	3,000	16,900	0 6	
15 c. ... ..	2,000	74,900	0 3	
25 c. ... ..	1,700	101,900	0 4	
40 c. ... ..	1,000	64,000	0 6	
50 c. ... ..	1,000	97,900	0 8	
1 fr. ... ..	1,000	72,900	1 3	
3½ fr. ... ..	100	22,400	4 0	
5 fr. ... ..	200	25,650	6 0	
10 fr. ... ..	175	19,300	10 0	

**Curacao.**—(Vol. II. p. 260.)—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, quoting from a Continental contemporary, says that a new design is ready for the values up to 50c. We are told that the chief fault of the present type is that the lettering of the inscription is too small, and the use of the word "Postzegel" is also objected to by our Dutch friends. Strictly speaking this word means any stamp issued in connection with the post, and it is proposed to substitute "Frankkeerzegels" which would refer to postage stamps only.

**Dutch Indies.**—(Vol. III. p. 178.)—We learn from the same source that the new design is also to be employed for the stamps up to 50c. of this Colony.

**French Somal Coast.**—The 75c. of the 1902 set with inverted centre is recorded by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* making the complete list of errors as follows:—

Error; centre inverted

4 c. blue and carmine
5 c. blue green and yellow green
15 c. orange and blue
20 c. dull lilac and green
25 c. blue and pale blue
30 c. red and black
40 c. brown and blue
50 c. green and pale red
75 c. orange and mauve
1 fr. orange-red and purple
2 fr. green and carmine
5 fr. orange and blue

**Hoi-Hao.**—A whole crop of errors of the 1903-4 issue is reported by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, viz:—the 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 (both colours), 30 and 50c. with the Chinese characters doubly surcharged; the 1c. with "HOI HAO" inverted and the Chinese hieroglyphics omitted; the 5c. and 10c. with inverted surcharge; the 10c. with the Chinese value above "HOI HAO"; and the 4c. with Chinese characters meaning 4c. and 2c. It looks as if someone had been carefully "nursing" these errors for their discovery to be made at this late date.

**Mauritius.**—(Vol. III. p. 214.)—We now learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 25c. recorded on that journal's authority on page 214 as having been issued with multiple watermark does not exist. Our revised list is therefore as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple Cr. C.A. Perf. 14.

	s. d.
1 c. black ... ..	0 1
2 c. lilac and violet ... ..	0 1
3 c. green and carmine on yellow ... ..	0 1
4 c. black and carmine on blue ... ..	0 2
6 c. lilac and carmine on red ... ..	0 2
15 c. black and blue on blue ... ..	0 6
50 c. green and deep green on yellow ... ..	1 0
1 r. black and carmine ... ..	1 9

**Packhoi.**—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records a number of hitherto unchronicled errors in the stamps of 1903-4, viz:—the 10c. with inverted surcharge; the 2, 20, 25 and 30c., with the Chinese characters surcharged twice; and the 1c. and 4c. with "PACKHOI" inverted and the Chinese characters omitted.

**Papua.**—(Vol. III. p. 129.)—The 2d. of the permanent type has now made its appearance perf. 11., so that the complete list of varieties issued to date is as follows:—



Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."  
Perf. 11.

	s. d.
1d. green and black ... ..	0 1
1d. carmine .. ..	0 2
2d. violet .. ..	—
2½d. blue .. ..	0 4
4d. brown .. ..	0 8
6d. myrtle-green and black ... ..	0 8
1½. orange .. ..	1 4



Perf. 12½.			
2d. violet and black	...	...	—
2½d. blue .. "	...	...	—
4d. brown .. "	...	0 6	—
6d. myrtle-green and black	...	...	—

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 228.)—There were, unfortunately, two discrepancies in our paragraph on page 228 regarding the new issue. First we stated that Mr. Peckitt had sent us the "3 kop" instead of "2 kop" and in our list the colour of this value was given as pale blue, but, as a matter of fact, it is green. This value has the varnish lines like the 7 kop. Our revised list is as follows:—



No wmk. Perf. 14, 16½.				a. d.
2 kop green	...	...	...	0 1
7 kop dull blue	...	...	...	0 3

## NOTE.

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

## From other Magazines

### Vitality of Stamp Collecting.

The last year of the first decade of the Twentieth Century has commenced and—nearly seventy years since the first postage stamp was created—finds Philately in the most flourishing of conditions. The decadence of stamp collecting, so often foretold by the croakers, has yet to come, but one wonders on what footing it will be when this century enters on its last decade! The Catalogue will by then probably consist of twenty volumes, and the vast majority of issues will possibly be left "unwept, unhonoured, and unsung." However, *après nous le déluge*, and it is most profitable and pleasurable to contemplate the present aspect of affairs.

The auctions have been of considerable importance, notably in Paris, where very large collections have recently been dispersed at astounding prices. Another large collection is to be sold in London during the next two months, while of minor sales there is no end. Several collections of considerable magnitude have also recently been acquired by the principal dealers and have been rapidly absorbed, the demand for really fine and scarce stamps being more than the supply.

The Philatelic Societies—more numerous than ever—are displaying laudable activity, and are one and all disseminating the scientific study and intellectual appreciation of stamp collecting. The special cult of philatelic literature has seen a marked development lately; not only are the leading Societies all forming large Libraries, but there are many collectors of books appertaining to stamps, and the value of Philatelic Literature has greatly increased. At the head of this branch is the Philatelic Literature Society, with a most able and scientifically written Journal.

It is somewhat curious that despite the general financial depression, Philately has preserved such an unbroken front, and it augurs well for its future that, despite the fall in almost all commercial securities, there has been none in our hobby. The New Year is therefore full of promise, which we confidently anticipate will be amply fulfilled in its closing days.—*Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., in the London Philatelist, Jan. 1909.*

### Damaged Stamps.

I have sent stamps to the following places to be exchanged, on the ground that they were badly centred, and of no use to me as a collector.

*St. Kitts.* Sent six 2s. 6d., and received six 2s. 6d. in exchange, as badly centred as those I sent out. Returned the six stamps and received a quantity of other values, well centred. Enclosed a small fee for the service, but it was declined.

*B. Somaliland.* Sent over 30s. worth, asking for same values, or the high values, in exchange. Returned with the remark that all stamps in the Treasury were as badly centred as those I sent out. Quite incorrect, for I never saw the high values badly centred.

*Fiji Islands.* Sent out fourteen 1s. stamps badly centred, and received back fourteen well centred.

*Gold Coast.* Sent out about 30s. worth, chiefly badly centred, but including a £1 stamp with corner torn off. Received back same values, well centred.

*O.R.C.* Sent out a number of badly centred stamps. Received them all back; refused to exchange.

*W. Australia, South Australia, New South Wales.* Sent parcels of stamps to these Colonies, and all were exchanged, but in one case (I forget which) 10% on the face value was charged.

*Northern Nigeria.* Sent out two 10s. stamps to be exchanged. Received back two well centred stamps of same value.

In each case I enclosed from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. as commission for the service. In most cases this was refused and stamps sent for the amount. I quite forget who charged me 10% for the exchanging, but believe it was the N.S.W. people.

By the way, the N.S.W. people have old stock in hand, for they sent me a 5s. stamp catalogued at 20s. and a 3d. stamp catalogued at 1s.—*H. A. Cresswell, in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, 20.1.09.*

### Malta: Early Posts.

In 1859, I find that the conveyance of the country mails was done by an omnibus company, at an annual

remuneration of less than £100; in addition there was a sum of £40 voted by Council for the mails between Malta and Gozo, St. Julians, Sliema, and Valletta.

Important local letters were seldom entrusted to the Island Post Office at all. Moreover, as though to accentuate the uncertainty of the local post, letters were not as a matter of course delivered at their addresses, but were left at the Police Stations to be called for, unless they were prepaid an extra halfpenny; whilst insufficiently prepaid and registered letters were not sent out for delivery at all (except to Gozo), but remained at the local Post Office until the addressee happened to go there in search of correspondence.

Contemporaneously with the Island Post Office there was a Crown establishment of the Post Office, which dealt with the correspondence for abroad, the revenue derived from the postage going into Imperial funds. The work was supervised by a Packet Agent. The earliest date of such appointment that I could find was 1817, when Mr. Robert Macnab was made Packet Agent.

—*Hobbons' Stamp Weekly.*

#### Collection of Exhibition Labels.

I once heard the opinion expressed that the collecting of gummed labels used for the advertising of exhibitions was quite as ridiculous and quite as useless as the cult of the hotel label, beloved of the tourist and the week-end mountaineer.

This was begging the question with a vengeance.

I, for one, do not admit for a moment that even the collecting of hotel labels is "ridiculous" or "useless," and consequently the comparison loses all force and point.

Quite a trade has grown up in these gems of advertising art, especially in European countries. There is at least one dealer in Germany who devotes himself exclusively to commemorative stamps and exhibition labels. A curious mixture, and yet the two lines have much in common when one comes to think about it, for just as exhibitions advertise by means of artistic labels, so nations advertise by means of their stamps. If one is to judge by the printed matter this dealer puts forth to advertise his business, he is doing quite a large trade in the special lines he cultivates.—*J. A. Anderson, in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 23.1.09.*

#### "Java," "Buiten Bezit" stamps.

It is very strange, to say the least of it, that an Agent was appointed for the sale of these stamps, who was able to supply them to dealers at *face value* without commission, and that this person has the sole right to sell the Official and Unpaid Letter Stamps in an unused condition.

—*Philatelic Adviser, 25.1.09.*

#### A National Collection.

As readers remember, the death of J. W. Paul, Philadelphia, was regretfully recorded some weeks ago; and now the information is at hand that he has bequeathed his magnificent collection to the Drexel Institute of Philadelphia. It is needless to say that the Paul collection when housed in the celebrated institution will serve the purpose of a national collection and will be an object lesson of the depth and dignity of philately. We have not learned as yet of the provisions that have been made for the care and display of the collection, but we feel certain that adequate notice has been taken of all of these details by Mr. Paul.—*Mekeel's Weekly, 2.1.09.*

#### A Clever Post Office Mouse.

The following copy of a Babu letter appeared in a recent issue of the *Daily Chronicle* :—

"The Sub-Postmaster reports that last evening a mouse came out from behind the office door, and after walking a little stammered and breathed its last in the presence of the Sub-Postmaster there. As these are the prognostics of plague, I beg you will kindly arrange to have the office disinfected at an early date."—*St. Martin's le Grand.*

#### Colour Perplexities.

I have been trying to arrange the order of the shades of the 2d. Victoria of 1863, but find that these shades and colours defy description. Shall we ever agree on the colour names? It is as often as not a case of—

One called the stamp *magenta*  
And some one else said *blue*;  
While other people called it  
By another name or two.

There's Smith who called it *bistre*  
And Jones declared it *green*;  
While Robinson's young sister  
Said she thought it was *rosine*.

—*E. W. W. in the Philatelic Adviser, 25.1.09.*

#### Universal Penny Postage.

How long have we to wait before universal penny postage is an accomplished fact? The 1d. postage to America is, of course, the beginning of this much desired end. The two great flags of the world should become even more united.

The Stars and Stripes of the western Land  
And the glorious flag of Home,  
Shall stand as a sign to the nations more  
Than the eagle shields of Rome.

Where'er we sail on the Seven Seas,  
Those flags salute the dawn;  
And never a soul shall say them nay,  
From the "Golden Gate" to the "Golden Horn."

Where'er we roam by sea or land,  
Those flags shall flaunt the breeze;  
From the Fair and Far Pacific Slope,  
To the Isles of the Northern Seas.

*E. W. W. in the Philatelic Adviser, 25.1.09.*

#### Philately in the Courts.

Philatelic London is all agog with lively expectations. Another big stamp action is down for decision at the Law Courts. Crowded houses are anticipated.

—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 23.1.09.*

#### The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

#### Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

#### Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, *s.c.*, 1½d.

#### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends—post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Natal, King's Head, 4d. Single CA.

Quite a flutter of excitement has been caused amongst philatelists in Natal by the unexpected re-appearance of the 4d. King's head with single watermark, which has been very scarce for some time, selling at 5s. each retail.

I have not heard how many have been found, but it would probably be an entire package from the Crown Agents, so the number was probably considerable.

Mr. Whitfield King tells me that he has just heard from Pietermaritzburg that these are already sold out, and that the multiple watermarks are on sale again. He adds that he only got a few of the single watermarks from a customer as a remittance for a small order, but he has no doubt they will be coming on the market very cheaply later on, and he advises collectors not to pay fancy prices. He thinks this single CA. should not be worth more than 1s. at the outside.

## Congo Stamps Overprinted "Congo Belge."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform me that the 5c. and 10c. stamps overprinted "Congo Belge" were sold out within a few weeks, and are now unobtainable. These stamps were quoted in W. K. & Co.'s recently issued catalogue supplement at 1d. and 2d. each, but the price is now advanced to 6d.

## Governments as Dealers in Used Stamps.

The Egyptian Government evidently intends to go in for stamp dealing in used as well as unused, and Mr. Frank Phillips thinks the Egyptian finances must, therefore, be in a bad way. Shades of Lord Cromer! I wish my finances were in as good a condition. Surpluses are the rule in Egypt now under British Administration, and Egyptian Unified Stock is on the top of the tide at 102-3.

However, the stamp dealing is another question, and if Governments take to scuffling about amongst returned and undelivered letters for saleable used postage stamps, we shall have some real howling in Philatelic Avenue.

## Egyptian and Sudan Stock for Sale.

The first Approval Books made up by the Egyptian Government consist of the following lots:—

### Lot 1. Egyptian Stamps.

1 and 5 mil. and 1 pins	-	-	187,500
2, 3 and 4 mil.	-	-	87,500
2 piastres	-	-	225,000
5	-	-	75,000
10	-	-	15,000

### Lot 2. Sudanese Stamps

5 mil.	-	-	2,000
1 piastres	-	-	5,000
2 piastres	-	-	3,000
5	-	-	3,000
10	-	-	3,000

## French Stamp Auctions.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips, who has been attending the sale of the famous Koch collection in Paris, chats most interestingly on French Stamp Auctions in his *Weekly*.

He writes:—

"In Paris the buyer has to pay a tax of 10 per cent.

above the price at which the stamps are knocked down under the hammer.

"The seller of the stamps has to pay a commission to the auctioneers that varies according to the amount and importance of the sale, and according also to the amount that is spent on advertisements, etc. In a big collection, like that of Mr. Koch, of Giessen, which has so far realized about £14,000 nett to the owner, the expenses work out at nearly 10 per cent. In a small collection they might be 12½ to 15 per cent.

"In Paris all auctions of every kind must be under Government supervision, and such objects as stamps, coins, pictures, furniture, bric-à-brac, etc., are all sold in the Hotel Drouot, Rue Drouot, Paris. In this building, of two floors, there are about twenty sale rooms, and on most afternoons sales are held in twelve to fifteen of these rooms.

"In Paris, in the stamp auctions, every lot is valued at catalogue price, or where there is no price quoted, at what the auctioneers estimate the catalogue value would be.

"This value is called out as each lot is put up, and the auctioneer then starts the lot at a franc above the highest bid but one of the commissions entrusted to him. For instance, suppose that on a particular lot he has received bids of 60, 70, 75 and 90 francs, he starts bidding at 76 francs so as to cancel all the lower bids.

"This, I believe, is similar to the practice followed in London, and is undoubtedly the fairest and only method that could be adopted."

## Attendance at French Auctions.

Mr. Phillips tells us that whereas at our auctions collectors generally buy through agents, in France collectors attend personally and do their own bidding. He says there were nearly a hundred present each day, and he "noticed, over and over again, that for extra fine things they pay little regard to catalogue price, but glared at each other, and seem to say, 'I'm hanged if I let you have it if I can help it.'"

## Attendance at London Auctions.

When the Stamp Auctions were first started in London, they were a regular rendezvous for collectors. Few of us missed an auction in those days, even if we only attended to watch the contests between Messrs. A. H. Wilson and C. J. Phillips, as dealers, against such collectors as Messrs. Tapling, Garth, Castle, Bacon, Vernon Roberts, &c. Many a lot was knocked down amidst much excitement and many cheers.

Now we have settled down to the humdrum of commissioned buyers, and collectors are mostly conspicuous by their absence.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

The auctioneers are now in full swing, prices improving and good collections being sold as will be noted from the announcements of the leading firms in our pages.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay this week offer to buy collections. Active firms have to replenish stocks and Bridger & Kay have recently purchased some very fine collections of specialists and others against competition, but they still want more. They also offer Fiji of 1879-1900, cat. at 16s. 3d. for 4s. 6d.

# Editor's Letter Box

**Publishing Offices:** 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

**Editorial Address:** ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

**Articles, Contributions and Correspondence,** should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. **Articles, etc., not accepted,** will be returned when postage is prepaid.

**Business Communications** should be addressed to the Manager, and **Advertisements** to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

**THE POSTAGE STAMP** may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.

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## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

### Now Ready.

#### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.

## Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.  
Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

# Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

WHAT OFFERS? "Gibbons' Weekly," "Postage Stamp," complete to date; unbound; mint; volumes or separately. H. Chapman, 1, Norfolk Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SIXTY DIFFERENT: picked stamps including Ceylon, Siam, etc., 1/- post free. Catalogued over 5/-.—Cheyne, St. Martins, Guernsey.

11 AUSTRIA, 1908, 6d.; Canada (Quebec) ½c.-7c., 1/6; 7 Nyassa, 1901, 6d.; 13 ditto, complete, 2/-; Missionary Mixture, 1lb., 1/6.—William Stamp Company, 120, Leadenhall Street, London.

GREAT BRITAIN. Army Official, King's Head, ½d. dark green, unused, 2d. each (postage extra).—Gill, 8, Cambridge Road, Thornaby.

250 COLONIALS, 1/- Approval.—P141 Second, Manor Park.

"THE BRITISH PHILATELIST," published monthly. Specimen copy free.—Nissen & Co., 7, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

GIVING up South, Central Americans, 40 volumes, special terms large buyers.—Calif, Seaford.

APPROVAL SHEETS, Foreign and Colonial, References required.—K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

1,000 MOUNTS to Approval Applicants.—Jackman, 15, Gayville Road, New Wandsworth, London.

YOUR STAMPS FADED!—Restore to their natural colour by using my Magic Renovator. Post free, 1/2.—Renovator, Ilkeston.

MEDIUM and rare Colonials, prices quarter to half catalogue. Approval, references.—Woodhouse, 64, Gough Street, Poplar.

BARNES' British Books. Specialize used English, a fascinating study and sound investment. References.—Barnes, 18, Ravelly Street, London, N.W.

FOREIGN and Colonial 66 to 80% under catalogue; Mulreadies; Approval.—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 21. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 73)

20 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### New Russian Portrait Issue.



THE *Daily Mail* announces that in connection with the tercentenary of the rule of the Romanoffs, the Russian Post Office will issue a series of new postage stamps bearing the effigies of various Russian monarchs, including Peter the Great, Catherine II., and the reigning Czar. The portraits are to be executed by the most famous artists of the day.

This news is a bit disconcerting, for we have only just begun to receive the first few values of a new series. But I trust this portrait series is not going to be an ephemeral issue of the made-for-collectors grade, for a permanent portrait Russian series would be a popular novelty, and would probably considerably stimulate the collection of Russian stamps.

But another commemorative issue of the Charity War Stamps kind of thing will only tend to depopularise a good country.

### A Commemorative Whitewasher.

A writer in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* treats us to a serious article on Commemorative Stamps as though they were really serious forms of postal issues. He trots out one issue after another as though they were epoch-making stamps instead of being mostly mere "fleecers." When stamp collectors take this hypocritical rubbish seriously it is no wonder they get imposed upon by every hard-up, bankrupt State.

### The South African Union.

The Constitution of the South African Union as agreed to by the Delegates has been published, and it now remains to be ratified by the separate Colonial legislatures and to be submitted to the Imperial Government.

It provides for the incorporation of the four Colonies of Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal, and Orange River Colony, but not for the inclusion of the Protectorates, Bechuanaland and Rhodesia. They may be included later on.

There is no specific mention of any alteration in the postal services, and it yet remains to be seen whether all will be provided for by a series common to all. Presumably it will be so, as the services are made a joint matter.

The name of the Orange River Colony is to be changed to Orange Free State Province, and the name of the combined Government will be simply "South Africa."

### The Post Office and the Budget.

The Post Office is showing up badly in the matter of the forthcoming Budget. There is so far a decrease in the Post Office contribution to the revenue of the year amounting to no less than £650,000. Some of this decrease will no doubt be due to the introduction of penny postage to the United States, but the greater part of it will probably be attributable to bad trade.

### Cayman Islands 1d. on 4d.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, in its new issue pages, says "this stamp is not purely a fiscal, as has been rumoured of late in the philatelic press; it is true that many were used for fiscal purposes, but quite a number of them also paid postage."

Will someone give us the facts about this particular provisional?

### Cayman Islands Scandal.

I am told that we have not yet heard the final word on this matter, and from what I hear I have hopes that the local nest of philatelic pirates will be cleared out in due time, and that even Mr. Commissioner Hirst's protection of the crew will have to be withdrawn. It is astounding that a British official should assert in an official report his intention to protect local speculators in the postal issues of a British Colony; not only so, but to even go the length of telling us that local speculation will develop, and, be it noted, to the disadvantage of the recognised stamp dealer.

But we have not done with Mr. Commissioner Hirst.

### The Microscopical Philatelist.

The *British Philatelist* is very sore that all sorts of "South African surcharges and overprints, in endless variety of type, misplaced letters, errors, &c.," should be catalogued, and such now well-known varieties of English stamps as the 1d. red, plate 77, with right-hand lower corner letter missing, should be left uncatalogued.



Whilst agreeing with Mr. Nissen on this particular point, I do not think he has much to complain of on the whole, for the microscopical philatelist has been working overtime on the issues of Great Britain, &c., for several years past.

### New Zealand: Surface Printed?

Messrs. Wilcox Smith & Co., of Dunedin, announce the 1d. current Universal Postage type overprinted "official," and *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* says that "many details show slight points of difference, due to the fact that the new stamp is *surface printed*, instead of *line engraved* as formerly.

Does this import that our New Zealand friends are giving up the tedious task of printing from steel plates in favour of surface printing?

### Encouraging Medals.

Our foreign friends seem to do much more for the encouragement of philately than we do from the philatelic society point of view.

The Société Lausannoise de Timbrologie award a medal every year for the best philatelic work of the year.

Last year it awarded a medal to Mr. L. L. R. Hausberg, for his work on the stamps of India, and this year to Mr. Chas. J. Phillips for his work on the stamps of Fiji.

The Berlin Philatelic Club awards medals for original work to aid the advancement of philately. These awards are known as the Lindenberg medals. So far the recipients in this country have been Major Evans, Mr. E. D. Bacon and Mr. M. P. Castle.

### Why not a Royal Society Medal.

On the same lines why should not our own Royal Philatelic Society award a medal for the best philatelic work of the year.

Possibly it is deterred from such a venture by the knowledge that probably every medal would fall to its own members, for the leading writers and specialists at home and abroad are members of the Royal.

Nevertheless, this objection should not be allowed to stand in the way, for a Royal Philatelic Society medal, especially if it were personally presented at a fixed meeting in each year by the Royal President, would be very highly valued.

### Best Philatelic Work Gratuitous.

Our best philatelic work has been gratuitous, and probably always will have to be done for sheer love of the hobby.

Just think what this means. Take the Royal Society's *magnum opus* on the stamps of the British Isles. It represents years of work, not a single hour of which has been paid for, if we except a few presentation copies. The same remark applies to the three fine volumes of the Society's work on the stamps of British Africa.

Hence, it is but just that our Royal Philatelic Society should find some way of more publicly recognising the self-sacrificing labours of our eminent philatelists.

It is not creditable to us that we should leave the recognition of our best work to our foreign brethren.

### The New "Philatelic Record."

The *Philatelic Record*, as I have already noted in these pages, has changed hands and the first number of the new régime is before me.

It is a gorgeous production, printed on hand-made paper, which may be philatelically described as horizontally laid with close lines, and vertical laid with wide lines, rough edges, and old style type, full page plate separately printed on plate paper, and two printings on the cover.

The size is also altered from royal 8vo. to super royal 8vo., which makes a finer and wider page.

Mr. Fulcher has evidently given free rein to his cultured taste in book production, but it will want a philatelic earthquake to get dealers or collectors to pay the piper for such an expensive tune.

In fact, the dear old *Record* must have fallen, not amongst thieves, but amongst millionaires

### Gibbons' Catalogue: British Colonies.

We have had Part II., the foreign section, of our Gibbons, and now we are duly informed that Part I., British Colonies, is in the press, but cannot be ready before March next.

Meanwhile, we must possess our souls in patience, and hope that it may have no unpleasant surprises for the sordid, nor too many excursions into the microscopical for the long suffering ranks of collecting.

### Abyssinia in Jeopardy.

Rumour told us a few days since that the Emperor, Menelik II., was dangerously ill, that the Empress was bitterly opposed to everything European, and that the Emperor's death would probably be followed by the breaking up of the Empire into its separate kingdoms.

But the latest report says rumour has lied to us.

Any way let us hope that Menelik II. will live to firmly establish the succession of his chosen heir, and that he will somehow checkmate the hostility of the Empress to the European progress of his country.

The entry of Abyssinia into the Postal Union has naturally sharpened our philatelic sympathies for the ancient land of Ethiopia.

### Local Speculator v. Stamp Dealers.

If our stamp dealers are wise they will take time by the forelock in dealing with the competition of local speculators. If they do not they will be at their mercy, for, be it noted, the said local speculators are now insisting on being treated locally as a specially favoured fraternity.

*The Postage Stamp* has been exposing the suspicious relations between local speculators and local postal officials in the Cayman Islands, and now we hear from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. that "an official letter to hand from Canes, Crete, states that owing to complaints made by local commission agents, the postal officials have

received orders not to supply any more stamps to stamp dealers, but only to sell them over the counter, this of course encouraging local speculation."

Thus we have supplies refused to stamp dealers in order to favour local speculators in the Cayman Islands and in Crete.

By determined action and persistent exposure we can spoil the game in any British Colony, but the boycott will have to be exercised to checkmate the local speculator in foreign issues.

#### Abolition of Postage Stamps.

If postage stamps were to be abolished, what should we stamp collectors do, and what would become of the Stamp Trade?

Here is a newspaper cutting which Mr. O. Thornton sends me from Birmingham, which is intended to do away with the necessity of stamping circulars with the "Paid" stamp:—

"The Australian Post Office is about to adopt, experimentally, a machine for franking letters and obviating the use of postage stamps. The machine, which is something like a cash register in appearance, costs £25, and must be bought by the person or firm desiring to use it, but is under the control of the Post Office. By the turn of a handle letters are automatically stamped by means of dies, and provision is made for the use of any denomination of stamp from ½d. to 1s. The machine records the total value of the stamps, and that amount is collected daily, weekly, or monthly by the postal authorities."

#### "Paid Stamps."

My correspondent who sends this paragraph thinks if this machine should prove successful our collectors of "Paid" stamps will rejoice.

That, I fancy will depend on the stamp applied by the machine. If it is of one uniform type and comes into general use it may do away with town varieties.

#### The Manchester Exhibition.

Our friends must not forget the Manchester Exhibition on the 18th, 19th, and 20th February, 1909. As this number of *The Postage Stamp* will be on sale on Wednesday, the day before the Exhibition, even this reminder at the last moment may be useful.

#### The Congress.

The Congress should be a great success, and I hope it will be only the first of many Congresses at which collectors and dealers may meet on common ground to discuss every year questions which affect all interests concerned.

The subjects chosen for this year's consideration are all well worth discussing.

The National Society or Federation, in my opinion, stands little chance unless it be taken up by some energetic leading Society like the Herts. The Royal Society is not at all likely to join in.

The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and the suppression of Speculative Issues are tough nuts to crack.

# Manchester Exhibition

*Hulme Town Hall, 18, 19 and 20 February, 1909*

**T**HE Manchester Exhibition will open on Thursday, February 18th, 1909, and will remain open on the 19th and 20th.

It will be held in the Hulme Town Hall, Stratford Road, Hulme, Manchester. The following programme will be useful to our readers:—

**Thursday, February 18th.** Opens 3.30 p.m., closes 10 p.m. Congress, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The formation of a National Society or Federation. Paper by Mr Percy C. Bishop.

**Friday, February 19th.** Opens 10.30 a.m., closes 10 p.m. Congress, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (1) The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide. (2) The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues.

**Saturday February 20th.** Opens 10.30 a.m., closes 10 p.m. Congress, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (1) The formation of a body, or committee, to take in hand the disposal of a deceased collector's stamps, etc., where the relatives have not the necessary knowledge. (2) The holding of an Annual Congress and its venue for 1910. 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. :—Suggestions received prior or during Congress.

#### What to see at the Exhibition.

**MAIN HALL.**—Collections of the postage stamps of Great Britain and British Colonies, both used and unused, will be shown.

**FOURTEEN** of the principal dealers will display the latest in albums, philatelic accessories, etc., together with an unequalled stock of stamps.

THE "ROSS" LADIES' BAND will perform each afternoon and evening.

**THE SMALL HALL.**—Collections of Foreign Countries and their Colonies.

**PHILATELIC CURIOSITIES**, pictures made of stamps, proofs, essays, forgeries, etc.

**POSTAL.**—On the ground floor will be found a working department of the Post Office.

**MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S STALL.**

**DINNERS, TEAS, AND REFRESHMENTS** at popular prices in the restaurant.

#### Banquet.

A **BANQUET** has been arranged for Friday evening, February 19th, in connection with the Exhibition and Congress, and tickets can be had from J. J. Darlow, Hon Congress Secretary, 9, Albert Square, Manchester, at 7s. 6d each.

#### Official Catalogue.

The Official Catalogue will be posted to those unable to attend the Exhibition, so as to bear the Exhibition postmark, to all sending a P.O. for 6d. to the Hon. Secretary, Exhibition Offices. Major E. B. Evans, R.A., has been good enough to write the preface to the catalogue, which will contain an interesting description of the exhibits, a list of exhibitors, donors to the funds, delegates to the Congress, prize winners in essay and album competitions, etc.

#### Admission Free.

Admission to the Exhibition will be free by ticket, which may be obtained from the Secretary of the Exhibition, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

# Single Issue Specialism

BY BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

## Tobago, 1883-94 Issue

In volume I. of *The Postage Stamp*, pages 307 and 331, Mr. Nankivell gave such excellent reasons as to the advantages of specialising in a single value for philatelists who have not the time to form a more ambitious collection, and as an interesting by-path for those who, as a rule, collect on general lines, that further remarks are hardly necessary. It is obvious that the same claims, both as regards advantages and interest, may be made in connection with specialising a single issue of stamps, and the collector who decides on this course might do worse than choose the 1883-94 issue of Tobago.

This set includes all the values current in 1894, viz. :—

½d. green,	first issued in	1886
1d. carmine	" "	1886
2½d. ultramarine	" "	1888
4d. grey	" "	1886
6d. orange-brown	" "	1886
1s. olive	" "	1894

At first sight these Tobago stamps seem to offer little scope for specialism and its accompanying study but, in philately, appearances are often very deceptive, and, when one notes the many philatelic problems offered by such apparently simple and straightforward stamps as the issues of the Falkland Islands, he would indeed be a bold philatelist who asserted that such and such a stamp or issue presented no problems or varieties worthy of study. Thus, unpromising as this 1883-94 issue of Tobago appears to the uninitiated, I shall endeavour to show that they provide many of those varieties that delight the heart of the specialist, and some of which are well worth looking for.

### Method of Manufacture.

All the postage stamps of Tobago were engraved and printed by the typographic process by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., Ltd. The design is the same for all, and, with the exception of the value at the base, the stamps, through all their various changes of colour and watermark, were printed from one plate. The plate consisted of 60 stamps arranged in ten horizontal rows of six, and above the 2nd and 5th stamps in the top row and below the corresponding stamps in the bottom row the plate number was engraved. In each case the plate number consists of an uncoloured figure "1" on a solid circle of colour with a ring around. This was the only head-plate used. There was a separate duty-plate for each value, which was printed at a second operation in a colour matching the main design as closely as possible.

### Various Printings.

How many printings there were altogether it is impossible to say, but as regards the particular varieties we are now considering there are at least three which can be easily distinguished. The first of these can be identified by the plate numbers, all four of which are defective. In the top left number there is a diagonal flaw on the solid colour running downwards from the top of the figure (left side), and there is an uncoloured dot after and level with the top of the figure; in the top right number a thin uncoloured line runs across the circle diagonally from top to bottom from right to left; in the left lower

number there is a large uncoloured flaw on the left and level with the centre of the figure extending almost to the base of the circle; and in the right lower number there is a similar flaw, only this commences nearer the top of the figure. I have found the ½d., 1d., 2½d. and 6d. in this printing. It evidently took place in 1886, when the ½d., 1d. and 6d. were first issued, a supply of 2½d. being printed at the same time.

The second printing has all the plate numbers quite normal, and in this I have only seen the 4d.

The third printing also has all four plate numbers normal, but on the fourth stamp in the top row there is a distinctive flaw.

### The Flaw.

The flaw, which, as stated above, occurs on the fourth stamp in the top row of the sheet, is a very prominent one. It consists of a fairly thick uncoloured line extending from the top of the "E" of "POSTAGE" to the right-hand border as plainly shown in the accompanying illustration.



This flaw was evidently caused by an accident to the plate, and though I believe specialists have been cognisant of the variety for years, it is an error unknown to most philatelists. The only occasion of which I can recollect any mention of it in print occurs in an article dealing with the stamps of Tobago in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Vol. XVII., page 297, written by Mr. F. F. Lamb. Mr. Lamb states that the flaw may be found in all five values of the 1883-94 issue. Personally I have only seen it on the ½d. and 1s. values of this set, and the 2½d. first issued in 1883, but of which several subsequent printings were made. It is, however, highly probable that it exists on the 1d., 4d. and 6d. denominations.

### Date of the Flaw.

It is difficult to state with certainty when the accident to the plate, which caused the flaw occurred, but it is evident that no attempt was ever made to repair it for all the sheets of the 1s. orange-brown, printed in 1896, show the flaw. It could not have occurred so early as 1886, as the flaw does not show on the sheets of the ½d., 1d., 2½d. and 6d. printed in that year, nor could it have happened later than 1894, for none of the sheets of the 1s. in olive or bistre are without the defect. The flaw is not shown on any of the surcharged stamps issued between 1889 and 1892, and some of the stamps used for overprinting must have been printed later than 1886. It is very probable that, if full particulars of the various supplies of stamps and dates of printing could be obtained, it would be found that the plate sustained the damage in 1884.



**Other Flaws.**

In addition to the flaw above described I have seen (in the 4d. value only) other flaws which may or may not be the distinguishing characteristics of certain printings. At any rate I have been unable to verify their "permanence" by examining more than one copy of each, so that their philatelic value is, at present, a moot point. The first of these has a large uncoloured flaw on the top left-hand corner of the first stamp in the top row; another, the fifth stamp in the bottom row, has a small circular flaw on the solid band of colour below the second "O" of "TOBAGO"; while the third, occurring on the sixth stamp in the lowest row, has a large smudge of colour between and partly obliterating the letters "ST" of "POSTAGE." Perhaps some specialist will be able to decide whether these varieties are found regularly throughout a certain printing or not.

**Varieties of Aligment.**

On all the stamps the value was, as I stated above, printed at a separate operation, and there was, of course, a separate duty-plate for each value. As a rule it will be found, I think, that duty-plates of this sort are so carefully made that the value on each stamp of the sheet is an exact fac-simile of all the others as regards the lettering, and that the alignment is perfect. In the case of these Tobago stamps, however, this is not so, for there are differences in the lettering and irregularities in the alignment that are difficult to account for unless the values were printed from ordinary printer's type or separate electrotypes. As regards the alignment it will be found in the 4d. that the word "HALFPENNY" on the sixth stamp in the fifth row is considerably higher than the others, on the 1d. the words "ONE PENNY" on the

sixth stamp in the first row, the fourth in the third row, etc., are higher, and so on.

**Errors in the Lettering.**

In addition to the irregularities in the alignment, there are errors in the words of value on some of the stamps that are well worth looking for. In the 1d. the first stamps on the third and fourth rows have a distinct large letter "O" in the word "ONE," which is very easy to identify. The 4d. provides two varieties - on the sixth stamp in the third row the "C" of "PENCE" is nearly closed, and on the sixth stamp in the bottom row the letters "CE" of "PENCE" are distinctly smaller and slightly malformed. On the 6d.—first stamp in bottom row—there is a minor variety with short "I" in "SIX," due to the lower portion of the letter having been cut away, while on the fifth stamp in the top row of the 1s. the letters "ING" of "SHILLING" curve downwards.

**Shades.**

The specialist in this issue of Tobago stamps might, with advantage, turn his attention to shades. In most of the values strong contrasts in the shape of light and dark colours may be found, and a nice range of shades can be made between these extremes. Then, as the value was printed in separately, it will be found that this does not always match the colour of the main portion of the design. Stamps with the value in a much paler or deeper tint than the design may be frequently met with, and in some cases the difference of shade is most marked.

In conclusion, I have to express my indebtedness to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., and Mr. D. Field, for allowing me to examine their stocks of these stamps and thus verify the positions of the various varieties on the sheets.

# Our Library Table

BY THE EDITOR

## Gibbons' Catalogue, 1909. Part II.

The publication of the Gibbons' Catalogue is always an event of the philatelic year. Its arrangement of new countries, its interpretation of market prices, and its increasing bulk, are all subjects of ever increasing interest.

The arrival of the first instalment of the 1909 edition revives our interest in the many questions each edition of the catalogue is expected to solve.

Comparing the new edition with the first edition of the present size, adopted only three years ago, we find the bulk increased by no less than 117 pages. The new edition totals up to 665 pages, and at this rate of increase, in another ten years, it will have doubled its present size, for the rate of increase seems to go on by leaps and bounds. A catalogue of 1,000 pages will be a formidable pocket full.

This 1909 edition is notable for the concentration of attention on the issues of some of the Central American States: Nicaragua, Salvador and Panama have all been either rewritten or revised or reprinted. Paraguay and Siam have also been carefully revised, whilst the lists of the stamps of Persia and Turkey are greatly improved.

**Advanced Prices.**

As to prices the stamps of Argentine, Buenos Ayres, Egypt, Sicily, Turkey, United States and Uruguay have been somewhat considerably advanced in price owing to the difficulty the publishers have had in replenishing stocks of these countries, for which their appears to be

an increasing demand. Europeans have again gone up mainly it appears in consequence of the great demand for these stamps from Continental collectors.

**Revision of Colour Names.**

The publishers promise in the near future to deal with the question of inconsistencies in colour names. Meanwhile they have effected sundry improvements in this edition. The inconsistencies which are acknowledged to exist are attributed to the fact that from time to time the lists have been rewritten or revised by different authorities.

**Editorial Notes.**

Many excellent notes have been added here and there for the information of collectors who will naturally welcome every extension in this direction.

**General Get Up.**

The general get up of this indispensable aid to collecting is as pleasing as ever; clear type, exquisitely printed on excellent paper makes the book a pleasure to those who consult it. Some of the illustrations are not quite so well done as they might be, but when the price and the size of the book, and the amount of information included in the 668 pages, are taken into account, it would be ungracious indeed to quibble over an indifferent illustration here and there, except that so much excellence begets a craving for perfection throughout.

# Dustbin Philately

By W. Ward in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly

**M**AKING my way to a part where there are a lot of shipping houses congregated, I soon discovered an ancient lady almost entirely covered by a large sack which was very dirty and filled almost to bursting point with old paper. She was bent over one of the familiar corrugated-iron office waste-bins at the edge of the pavement. Sidling up to the lady, I inquired, with as much ungrammar as I could think of at the moment, "Had much luck in finding any of them old foreign stamps this morning?" All I got in reply was a mutter, which I concluded was a command to wait until she had finished fishing in the bin. I meekly subsided to await her ladyship's pleasure. Some two or three pieces of torn packing paper, and sundry varied lengths of string, were conveyed, by a wonderful contortionist movement, to the sack on her back. Then several envelopes, bearing specimens of Continental stamps, had the latter torn from their corners. These were thrust into a smaller sort of patchwork-quilt handbag, slung from her waist. This bag already seemed full of what I presumed were stamps. My surmise, I afterwards found, was correct.

Finishing her task, she turned to me "weighed" me fully, seemed to ponder for a moment, and then asked "What's yer game?" Vouching my complete disconnection with the constabulary and civil legislation in general, as well as having no desire to chaff her, I hinted that it would be to her monetary advantage to initiate me into some of the secrets of her profession. I was viewed a little more favourably. "Yer not a ferret, and yer not being after taking a poor old woman's business from her?" Once more I professed good intentions, but informed her that I bought old stamps, and should not be adverse to adding a little further remuneration if she informed me as to some of her philatelic finds, and how she disposed of them. "So yer one of the gents as klects old furrin stamps? Yer wants ter know what I does wid 'em? Now I allays wondered what you fellers does wid 'em, and why yer should be so particular about 'em not being the very little bit torn. Not as I minds, as I gets sometimes more in a day for furrin stamps than I gets in two for old papper. Been long at the job? Aye, child and woman this nigh fifty year—that's a dealing in old papper, string, and other bits as I finds among the emptying and cleaning of offices. Course I never use ter think about old stamps a 'aving any vally. How did I find out the vally?—Well, sir, I don't mind if I does, as I 'aven't 'ad a bite sin' last nigh," in response to my offer to adjourn to a coffee tavern in the locality. Though I did this partly out of bribery, in order to further "grease the way" better, I had an eye to the streets rapidly filling with people—and how could I explain the situation should an acquaintance chance along?

My invitation to a meat pie, rather than a chunk of bread and margarine, with the mug of tea, brought forth the estimation "Ye're a toff, sir!"—though only after I had paid! I felt it was but my duty to replace the pie, which had now vanished. "As I were sayin', I didn't always think old furrin stamps had 'ad any vally, but one day 'bout twenty year ago, if I reckon right, a particular friend of mine—a cousin of me brother-in-law's wife to be kreet—a told me as she 'ad found out as a man in — street 'ad a shop where he sold naught else by furrin stamps, and that he had given her a tanner [6d.] for some she had took 'im.

"Course she worked another lay to me, else she wouldn't 'ave told me of 'im. At first I thought it was only a bit of 'er kid, and was a bit flummuxed at going into the shop wiv a 'andful of stamps I 'ad got. When I sees a 'ole lot of furrin stamps in the windy, I goes in, and arks the gent as was behind the counter, wever 'e bought old stamps, and 'anded my little lot to 'im. Arter going through 'em 'e sniffs, an' says they were very dirty, but he would give me a 'joey' [3d.] for 'em. What? Did I take? Well, I should think I did—why that's as much as I would get for 'arf a 'undred of wrappings [half hundredweight of large flat second-hand pieces of brown paper]. When 'e give me the three browns, 'e says if they 'ad been cleaner 'e would 'ave give me a tanner—'e said sixpence. 'You should keep them in paper or a bag,' 'e tells me, an' I 'ave done so ever since. Aye, I've taken 'undreds of old stamps to that gent—but the poor felly deed three year ago. 'E once give me as much as 'arf a quid [half a sovereign] for a lot I got out of some rubbitch, as was being cleared out of an old lawyer's office, as 'ad sold up, 'aving gone bust. Course I don't always get anything as much as that, but as I doesn't know the vally of stamps, I 'as ter take what they gives me. It sometimes a puzzles me why the man I now takes all my old stamps to will give me maybe two bob [2s.] for about twenty, and another day only a tanner for two 'undred. Course I know some is 'arder to get than others, but I can't understand 'em at all. What kind of places I gets the most stamps from? Well, them offices as buys these 'ere furrin eggs and bacon, then those that sell this 'ere fangled machinery to savage parts. I use ter save the English stamps, but no one would buy 'em. 'Ow much do I want for those I 'ave found this morning?—well, give me what yer can spare—there's about a 'undred. A tanner! I'll take a bob—well, go on, yer can 'ave 'em for niuepence an' they're dirt cheap." This was in reply to my offer of sixpence. The old lady was no novice in getting full and utmost value where she could. The result of my "bag" was exactly eighty-four stamps, consisting of forty-four French, Dutch, German, Swiss, and Belgian, eight Cuban, fourteen Javan, two U.S.A., two Nicaragua (both 50c., new surcharge), two Malta, three India with Persian postmarks, two Malay, two Straits Settlements (including a 30c.) and one each Russian and German China, Gibraltar, Dominican Republic, and Argentine (1 peso).

So it is evident that a good assortment of stamps can be picked up out of office sweepings. In these days of enlightenment, however, a great majority of the better and scarcer stamps of current issues are secured by the heads of the firms, their clerks, or last, but by no means least keen, the office boys.

## Manchester Exhibition.

### Our Advertisers' Stalls.

Mr. James Rhodes writes to inform us that he will have a fine stock on view at Stall No. 2.

Mr. Oswald Marsh will be found at Stall No. 5, where he will have a grand display of Great Britain and British Colonies.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 237).

**Luxemburg.**—An independent grand duchy of Europe at one time known as Lützelburg. It is situated between France, Belgium, Lorraine and Rhineland, and for commercial purposes is included in the German customs union. It has an area of 997 square miles and a population of about 240,000. The history of the State begins with the countship of Lützelburg, founded in the 10th century, and converted into a duchy in 1354. In 1444 Luxemburg was united with Burgundy, in 1555 with Spain (but at the same time accounted a state of the Empire), in 1659 in part with France, in 1713 again with the Empire, and in 1797 once more with France. In 1815 it was made a member of the German Confederation, though linked by personal union with the Crown of Holland. On the death of William III of the Netherlands in 1890, the grand-duchy descended to Adolphus, Duke of Nassau (1817-1905) who was succeeded as grand duke by his son William. Postage stamps were first issued in 1852.

**Lynchburg.**—A city in the State of Virginia, U.S.A., having a population of about 20,000. A special 5c. stamp was issued by the Postmaster in 1861 to facilitate the working of the local post office, and this remained in use until it was superseded by the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States.

**M.**—A surcharge shown on various South Australian stamps used during the period 1868-74, on correspondence connected with Military matters. In 1874, stamps surcharged "OS," for use in all the Government departments, superseded this special overprint.

**Macao.**—A seaport town on a peninsula of Hiangshan Island, off the coast of Kwang-tung, China, having a population of about 80,000. It has been a Portuguese possession since the 16th century, though Portuguese sovereignty was not recognised by China until 1887. Its trade was at one time considerable, but this has declined with the rise of Hong Kong. Postage stamps were first issued in March, 1884.

**Macao.**—The Portuguese rendering of Macao as shown upon the stamps for this territory.

**Maclure, Macdonald & Co.**—A London firm of printers and engravers, known to philatelic fame as the manufacturers of the 1869-1876 stamps of Sarawak.

**Macon.**—A city in the State of Georgia, U.S.A., having a population of about 24,000. In 1861, 2c. and 5c. stamps (the latter in several types and varieties) were issued by the Postmaster to facilitate the working of the local post office, prior to the introduction of the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States.

**Madagascar.**—A large island in the Indian Ocean, separated from the east coast of Africa by the Mozambique Channel. Its extreme length is 980 miles, its average breadth is 270 miles, its area is 227,750 square miles, and it has a population well in excess of 3½ millions. Extinct volcanoes are scattered over the island, the chief of these being Ankaratra (8,790ft.), which is the highest point in Madagascar. The most prominent of the native peoples are the Antaimarina or

Merina, known to Europeans as Hovas. They live on the plateau of Imerina, and, before the French occupation, their dominion extended over two-thirds of the island. A French Colonial station was planted, under the protection of Richelieu, in 1662, since when the island has been almost continually claimed by the French. Active steps were taken in 1885 to make their influence felt, and in 1894-95 a military expedition captured the capital and deposed the Queen, the island being declared a French possession in 1896. The first special stamps were issued by the French in 1889, and in 1896 a set inscribed "Madagascar et Dependances" was issued, this replacing the separate stamps for Diego-Suarez, Nosse-Bé, and Sainte Marie. In March, 1894, the British Vice-Consul at Antananarivo inaugurated a postal service, known first as the "British Consular Mail," and then as the "British Inland Mail." This was suppressed when the French took possession of the island. (See also "BRITISH CONSULAR MAIL" and "BRITISH INLAND MAIL.")

**Madagascar et Dependances.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps for use in Madagascar and its dependencies.

**Madeira.**—A group of Portuguese islands in the Atlantic, 390 miles west of Morocco, comprising Madeira, Porto Santo, Desertas, Bujio, and Selvagens, the two last being uninhabited. The total area of the group is 315 square miles, and the population of over 150,000 mostly resides on Madeira. It was colonized by the Portuguese in 15th century, and has been twice occupied by the British—in 1801 and 1807-14. Postage stamps were first issued in January, 1868.

**Madison.**—A city in the State of Wisconsin, U.S.A., having a population of over 20,000. In 1861, prior to the introduction of the general issue for the whole of the Confederate States, the Postmaster of this town issued a stamp of the facial value of 3c. Opinions differ as to whether this was a postage stamp in the usually accepted meaning of the term, or merely a label given as a receipt by the Postmaster for money paid for postage.

**Madrid.**—The capital of Spain. It stands on a bleak, treeless tableland, at a height of 2,140 feet. The history of the city begins with the Moors, by whom it was called Magerit. It was captured by Ramiro II, of Leon in 988, but was again lost. Ferdinand I., it is asserted, again took it temporarily in 1047. It became permanently a Christian city under Alfonso VI, of Castile in 1083. When Philip II made it the capital of the realm, in 1560, the city contained a population of 25,000, and then increased rapidly until its inhabitants now number over 540,000. In 1853 special 1c. and 3c. stamps were issued for use in the city of Madrid.

**Mafeking.**—A town in Bechuanaland, about 200 miles north of Kimberley. During the South African War it was ineffectually besieged by the Boers, from October 11th, 1899, until May 18th, 1900. During the siege the stamps used in the town were specially overprinted and the postal rates were raised.

To be continued.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**British Honduras.**—(Vol. III. p. 214.)—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records the "FIVE" on 3c. brown, of 1891, with the "FIVE" and bar doubly surcharged.

**China (Japanese).**—(Vol. II. p. 108.)—We gather from several of our contemporaries that the new 5 and 10 yen Japanese stamps bearing the portrait of the Empress Jingo have been overprinted with the usual native characters for use in the post offices maintained in China. This should effectually dispose of the rumour, so widely circulated early in 1908, that the surcharged stamps had been withdrawn. The complete list of Japanese stamps overprinted for these offices is as follows:—

### Ordinary types surcharged.

	s.	d.
5 yen slate ... ..	0	1
1/2 sen slate ... ..	0	0 1/2
1 " Venetian red ... ..	0	1
1 1/2 " pale ultramarine ... ..	0	4
1 1/2 " purple ... ..	0	3
2 " yellow-green ... ..	0	1
3 " dull marone ... ..	0	2
3 " rosine ... ..	0	2
4 " rosine ... ..	0	3
5 " orange ... ..	0	3
6 " marone ... ..	0	3
8 " olive green ... ..	0	4
10 " deep blue ... ..	0	4
15 " bright mauve ... ..	0	6
20 " orange-vermillion ... ..	0	8
25 " pale blue-green ... ..	1	0
50 " brown ... ..	2	0
1 yen carmine ... ..	4	0
5 " green ... ..	15	0
10 " deep lilac ... ..	30	0

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 214.)—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that they have received official information that the supply of 1 and 2 lepta stamps surcharged *ELLAS* in Greek characters is completely exhausted and that an order has been sent to Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. for a fresh supply. Whether these will be a new type is not stated, but in all probability they will be the same as before but with the overprinting done in London. Our correspondent adds, "Meanwhile some provisionals have been issued which are strictly forbidden to be sold except for postal use, but we have managed to get fifty of the 2 on 20 lepta from a private correspondent, who has charged us a pretty stiff price for them. These are Postage Due stamps overprinted for use as ordinary postage stamps, of which we send you a specimen. Our correspondent says that only ten sheets (1,000 stamps) of these provisionals were issued to the Candia Post Office where they were obtained. Our official information came from Canea but no stamps from that place! A further official letter to hand from Canea states that owing to complaints made by local commission agents, the postal officials have received orders not to supply any more stamps to stamp dealers, but only to sell them over the counter, thus of course encouraging local speculation, so that hereafter we shall have to pay a commission on all the stamps we import." Evidently the Cretans believe in "supporting home industries" for not only are they keeping the best of the provisionals to themselves, but they have also made a practice of removing all errors from the sheets before supplying foreigners, and now they intend to help local

commission agents to earn their livelihood! Truly an edifying state of affairs. The provisional sent us by our Ipswich friends consists of the 20 lepta Postage Due stamps with the "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint further surcharged with a figure "2" and Greek characters signifying "provisional."



Provisional, Postage due stamp surcharged as above.

	s.	d.
2 on 20 lepta red ... ..	2	6

**Elobey, Annobon and Corisco.**—(Vol. II. p. 21.)—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records three provisionals for this Spanish possession. The first of these is the 10c. of 1907 overprinted "HABILITADO—PARA—05 CTMS" in three lines in exactly the same manner as the similar provisional for Fernando Poo chronicled on page 9 of our last volume. The others are two of the large fiscal stamps surcharged "HABILITADO—PARA—COBBEROS—10 cen de peseta" for postal use in Spanish Guinea handstamped with an oval inscribed "ELOBEY, ANNOBON Y CORISCO."

### Provisionals.

	s.	d.
5c. on 10c. dull lilac ... ..	—	—

### Fiscal Stamps surcharged.

10c. on 25c. black ... ..	—	—
10c. on 1p. 25c. rose ... ..	—	—

**Eritrea.**—(Vol. II. p. 303.)—The pictorial set fore-shadowed on page 309 of our last volume does not appear to have materialised yet for the current Italian 5c. stamp is reported with the usual "Colonia Eritrea" overprint by a Continental contemporary.

### Italian Stamp of 1906-8 surcharged.

	s.	d.
5c green ... ..	0	2

**India.**—Two new high values have been added to the current set according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. These are of the facial value of 10 and 15 rupees and they are of exactly the same design as the 2, 3, and 5 rupees already current. A 25 rupees stamp is, we understand, also to be issued shortly. The list of values in this design is now as follows:—

### Wmk. Star. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
2r. yellow-brown and carmine ...	3	4
3r. green and brown ...	5	0
5r. violet and ultramarine ...	8	0
10r. pink and green ...	16	0
15r. brown and blue ...	24	0

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 215.)—Three errors in some of the recent provisionals are mentioned in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, viz. :—the 5c. on 2c. carmine with double surcharge, one slanting; the 5c. on 60c. pink with double

surcharge; and the 1 peso official stamp with the word "Habilitado" and bar twice printed.

**St. Pierre and Miquelon.**—(Vol. III. p. 155).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new pictorial design for this French Colony referred to on page 155. The central design of the values from 1c. to 20c. is the portrait of a fisherman, on the 25c. to 75c. stamps a seagull is shown, and on the franc values the centrepiece shows a fishing schooner. For the other details we refer readers to the illustrations of the highest value in each type shown below. All the stamps are printed in two colours and in the following list the second colour in each case is that of the centre, the value, and the "RF" monogram. The stamps were designed by G. J. Housez and his name is shown in microscopic capitals in the lower left hand corners of the designs for the centime stamps, while on the franc values his initials are shown at the base of the centrepiece. The complete list of values and colours is as follows:—



New design. No wmk. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	s.	d.
1c. orange and sepia ... ..	0	0½
2c. sepia and blue ... ..	0	1
4c. violet and sepia ... ..	0	1
5c. green and sage-green ... ..	0	1
10c. carmine and red ... ..	0	2
20c. brown and chocolate ... ..	0	4



25c. indigo and blue ... ..	0	4
30c. orange and chocolate ... ..	0	5
35c. green and chocolate ... ..	0	6
40c. chocolate and green ... ..	0	6
45c. violet and green... ..	0	7
50c. sepia and green ... ..	0	8
75c. brown and olive ... ..	1	0



1fr. green and blue ... ..	1	3
2fr. violet and brown ... ..	2	6
5fr. brown and green ... ..	6	0

**St. Vincent.**—(Vol. III. p. 215).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 6d. and 1s. stamps in the modified "Peace and Justice" type referred to on page 190. It will be noted, on comparing the two illustrations shown below, that the new design is a great improvement on the old one. The lower values will doubtless appear in this redrawn type in due course.



Old Design.



New Design.

Redrawn type. Multiple Cr. CA wmk. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
6d. lilac ... ..	0	8
1s. black on green paper ... ..	1	3

In *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* the 1s. orange-vermilion, with Crown CA watermark and undoubtedly imperforate is recorded.

**Turks Islands.**—The 1d. on 2½d. of 1889 is chronicled with double surcharge, and also with double surcharge one inverted, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. Both are evidently of the greatest degree of rarity.

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 228).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the new 1c. and 2c. stamps imperforate, for use in automatic machines.



Value expressed in words. Imperforate.

	s.	d.
1c. green ... ..	0	1
2c. carmine ... ..	0	2

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us the following interesting information:—"On the 12th inst. a new 2c. stamp is to be issued, bearing a portrait of President Lincoln, the date being the 100th anniversary of his birthday. A correspondent writes us that the members of Congress and the American people generally were very much put out when the Postmaster-General took Lincoln's portrait off the 4c. stamp, especially on account of Lincoln's centenary coming off this month. They made so much fuss about it that Congress took the matter up and ordered the Postmaster-General to get out a 2c. stamp with Lincoln's portrait on it; we suppose this is a permanent issue, and will replace the 2c. Washington stamp, although we have no definite information on the subject. Another correspondent informs us that the colour of the 10c. recently issued is to be changed, though no reason is stated."

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## Uruguay Diligencia Stamps, 1856.

The Diligencia stamps of Uruguay take their name from the old diligences or mail coaches, which up till quite recent times were the only means of transit in the interior of the Republic. These mail coaches were mainly used for carrying passengers and goods, but also undertook the conveyance of the mails, more or less, as a private venture.

I have seen it stated that in the years 1850-8, the revenue to be derived from the post office was every year sold by public auction, and the purchaser was left to work out his bargain in the best way he could for his own benefit.

It is certain that in the year 1856 the administration of posts was in the hands of the contractor for the mails, and it was to him that the Diligencia stamps were due and which, as before stated, were used for the interior service only, whilst for Buenos Ayres and other foreign parts the postage was paid in money and the mails carried by boat.

The date generally accepted for their issue is the 14th October, 1856, and I suppose, because there is a circular of the administration of posts of that date relative to the prepayment of correspondence, but which contains no mention of the use of postage stamps for the purpose.

There are three values;—

60c. blue ... for single letters.

80c. green ... „ double „

1 real, red ... „ triple „

All lithographed in colour on white wove paper without watermark.—*Thos. W. Hall, in the Philatelic Record, Jan., 09.*

## Simplified Collecting.

Once upon a time there were no stamp collectors. That was nearly seventy years ago. But within the following decade it is safe to say there must have been a few attracted by the novel bits of paper who desired to retain them as curios, and stamp collecting was begun. Then, in due course, about twenty years after the birth of the adhesive stamp, we find the dealers' advertisements beginning to appear. Now what were the prime features that led these early collectors and dealers to discriminate between their treasures? Simply these: The country of origin, the denomination, the design and the colour. And it is these four items that stand pre-eminent to-day, although almost lost sight of in the mass of detail and minutiae, even, which load down our catalogues and encumber our albums.

"Rank heresy!" I hear someone say. Maybe; but there are plenty of heretics and there are going to be more. It is always thus. Man cannot seem to rest content with elementary considerations; he must build a house of cards upon them, wing added to wing, story to story, tower to tower, until the whole mass comes tumbling down in a common ruin. That this would be the result of the development of modern philately, particularly along the so-called "dotty" lines, has been the fear of many who have the best interests of the pursuit at heart, and a true appreciation of its merits as a hobby. It is these who have raised the cry for the simplified catalogue and the simplified collection; who have voiced the protest against overloaded catalogues, against "bloated" collections, against the "microscopic" philately which is forcing a collector to be a millionaire, and turning away in despair and disgust the novice and the amateur, who might, if led in the right direction, prove future mainstays in the cause.

Let us consider a moment what has crept in since the early days to cause all this confusion of detail. In the first place *watermarks* which are invisible when the stamp is in its place in the album. Secondly, *perforation*, merely a convenience for separating the stamps by breaking the paper between; the early collectors often trimmed off the perforation to improve the appearance of the stamp, which to them was the main thing. Third, varieties in the *paper used*, mostly not apparent when the stamp is mounted in the collection. Fourthly, varieties of *type*, which may or may not be visible without a magnifier. Fifthly, varieties of *surcharge*, as much of a bugbear as the perforations. Sixth, and lastly, *shades*, which at least have the merit of lending variety to the appearance of the album page when they are well chosen. In scanning this list, pray tell me if there is anything that affects essentially the stamp itself which is of course none other than the impressed design, unless it be type varieties, and shades? And if one omits these as trivialities, has he not returned to the "first principles" already enumerated? They are the "big four" of philately, and furnish the true basis for the simple life in collecting.—*C. A. Howes in the American Philatelist.*

Chill: Current Issue, 12c. and 1 peso.

We have received a letter from a postal official at Valparaiso, dated 10.1.09, of which the following is a translation:—

"The new stamps of 12 cents and 1 peso have not yet been placed in circulation. I wrote to one of the chiefs of the post office of Santiago who on a previous occasion had supplied me with these stamps, but he replied that he had none, and that they did not wish to place them in circulation until the stock of the existing types is exhausted."

It would seem therefore that the new 12c. and 1 peso have both been issued, but probably only to meet stamp collectors' demands.

We have a sheet of the new 80c. which has the following inscription on the top margin:—"FOR 10-12-15-20-30 & 50 CENT—REPUBLICA DE CHILE" (engraved in black in two lines, evidently printed by the head plate), "80 Centavos No." in green (printed by the duty plate) and "3710" in red (added afterwards with a numbering machine).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, 13.2.09.*

## A Curious Russian Error.

The *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* mentions an error which has been recently discovered in the current Russian 7k. stamp.

It appears that in the plate from which the background was printed, one block was by mistake inserted upside-down. When afterwards the stamps were printed on this faulty background, a small white spot appeared between the Arms and the value, which would have been covered by the Crown if this had not been printed inverted. It is somewhat difficult to discover the error on used specimens, but it is quite plain on unused copies. The error is rare and only occurs once on a sheet of a hundred stamps, and only on those sheets which have the number 14 in the margin at the bottom left-hand side; the sheets also bear the year "06." However, the error seems to have been discovered very soon and the plate was corrected, as sheets are known with the plate number 14 which do not show this peculiarity.—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 6.2.09.*

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Cayman Islands: Distribution of Provisionals.

I quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 13.2.09, to show how the Cayman Provisionals, so urgently required for pressing local needs, were distributed:—"There were thus 3,960 5s. stamps over-printed. The Colonial Stamp Market purchased nearly half, two correspondents each sending us as many as 750. In one case our success was due to the fortunate accident that the resident to whom we cabled for the ½d. on 1d. provisional was away from the island at the time and returning just when the surcharged 5s. were issued bought them for us instead. He did not however fail to deduce from the fact that we had spent £7 7s. on the cablegram that we wanted the stamps badly, and eventually we had to pay him £150 for visiting the Post Office on our behalf. But this was nevertheless the cheapest of the lots we secured!"

## The Trade in New Issues.

Mr. Ewen seems to be down in the dumps. He says: "The demand for 'New Issues' is nothing like what it ought to be, for there are very few British Colonies which command a sale amongst collectors of 15,000 sets of a new issue of stamps; we should like to see 500,000 collectors throughout the world regularly keeping general collections up-to-date."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co, the pioneers of the New Issue business, on the other hand, say they have not been so busy for five or six years.

## Another Croak.

Another croak of Mr. Ewen's. Says he:—"It is hardly deniable, we think, that stamp collecting is not as popular as it was and most dealers and catalogue publishers have to report declining sales. The purchases made by a few individual collectors are perhaps larger than in the past, but collectors who spend from £10 to £100 per annum on stamps have greatly decreased in number."

Mr. Ewen seems to forget that not only this country, but the world generally, has for some years been passing through a period of almost unparalleled trade depression; in fact, 1908 is considered by many to have been the worst on record.

When this dominating fact is taken into account it must be recognised as little short of marvellous that stamp collecting has been so slightly affected.

## The Stability of Stamps.

As a matter of fact, stamp collecting and the stamp trade have an immensely strong backbone of stability in the large and ever-increasing number of wealthy collectors who are practically unaffected by the fluctuations of trade. Their buying goes on no matter how bad trade may be, and in many cases their purchases keep the pot boiling when otherwise the outlook would be very gloomy.

## The Popularity of Stamps.

The continued and increasing popularity of stamps is further attested by the fact that prices, which a few years ago were rapidly on the down grade, are now as rapidly on the up grade. Take the case of Europeans: a few years ago prices were reduced year after year. Now for two or three years prices have been advancing by leaps and bounds, and, despite the increased prices,

dealers declare that they are being cleared out, and do not know where they can replenish their stocks to sell at catalogue prices.

## The New Issue Trade.

The New Issue Trade in stamps is very much on a par with the discount trade in new books.

Until the booksellers started cutting each others throats a very good living could be got out of selling books, but when the discounter began to cut prices the trade went to the bad.

Much the same thing has happened in the New Issue Trade in stamps. Before prices were out with suicidal ferocity the trade in new issues was a real stand-by to most dealers, now new issues are obtained to oblige and to draw customers.

## Has the Collector Benefited?

The question is, has the collector really benefited by the cutting of prices in new issues? On the whole, I do not believe he has, for, as it does not pay the ordinary dealer to lay himself out for new issues, supplies are practically restricted to those who subscribe to a New Issue Service on conditions under which you can no longer buy just what you want and no more, but must take practically what the new issue dealer prescribes. So that when a collector reckons up what he has bought that he does not want, he finds he would be very much better off in the long run under the old conditions and even at the higher prices then prevalent.

## Senf's Prices for Portuguese Stamps.

Mr. C. George, of Lisbon, criticising in the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* Senf's catalogue prices for Portuguese stamps, points out that in some cases *used* stamps are priced at double the figure of *unused* specimens at a time when these stamps are still current, and can be obtained at the Post Office at face value!

## Transvaal King's Heads.

Transvaal King's Heads should be a good and safe investment at present rates, if the new South African Constitution goes through, for of all the King's Heads they are the most interesting.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt makes a special offer of these stamps in this number of *The Postage Stamp*.

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Mr. Field's special bargain this week is a fine lot of Tobago at tempting prices.

Mr. Rhodes offers a nice lot of desirable used stamps at low prices, including Chili, Canada, Mauritius, Transvaal, &c.; and in unused Lagos, Transvaal, Paraguay and the Natal ½d. single GA at 2s.

Messrs. Hamilton & Co. offer a fine 2s. packet at 6d., post free, a chance for our younger readers.

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series

## Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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### Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

#### Now Ready.

#### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

#### Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

### Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.

F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.

Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.

W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.

James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.

Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.

The Court Stamp Co., 10, Marriott's Court, Manchester.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of 3d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

I GREBE. Wanted first type, loose lots, collections, or duplicates, for cash.—G. Davis, Lee Lane, Horsforth, Leeds.

### STAMP EXCHANGE CLUBS.

LEEDS Philatelic Society Exchange Club (oldest in Provinces). Wanted sheets of good medium stamps for circulation, basis 50%, commission 5%, settlements average 3 months.—Manager, G. Davis, Lee Lane, Horsforth, Leeds.

THE RELIABLE EXCHANGE Club invites members, Philatelic Societies, and Philatelists, good reference, to join.—Particulars, J. Goddard, Stretton Road, Leicester.

### FREE—1000 Stamps

guaranteed unpicked, presented gratis to applicants for our Cheap Approval Selections intending to purchase. Please enclose 14d. postage.

Western Stamp Co., Notting Hill, W.

1d. CAYMAN free to applicants for approximately 4 val books of half-penny stamps.—Moss, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds.

WESTERN Australia, 3d. perf. 11, used, 2/-; 3d. ditto (Crown V), 15/-.—Collector, 1, Oakley Crescent, Chelsea.

### PERHAPS YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED

an advertisement in our columns. Perhaps it has not occurred to you to send your "Offers" along to THE POSTAGE STAMPS. The next time you want anything why not use our columns? For particulars and price see above.

## Pitman's New Commercial Dictionary

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 22. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 74)

27 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Spanish Post Office at Tetuan.



I AM indebted to Lient. R. H. Hilliard of H.M.S. Good Hope with the Cruiser Squadron, for the following interesting note on stamps issued by the Spanish Post Office at Tetuan, Morocco:—

"With reference to the stamps issued by the Spanish Post Office at Tetuan, I have received the following information which I believe is substantially correct:

"The Spanish P. O. at Tetuan formerly used ordinary Spanish postage stamps like the other Spanish Post Offices in Morocco, but on the special set of ½c., 5c., 10c. and 25c. surcharged "Correo Espanol Marraecos" being issued in 1903 these were used there. About June or July, 1908 the 5c. 10c. and 25c. of this set were surcharged TETUAN in sans capitals diagonally from left lower corner to right upper corner, apparently with a hand-stamp.

"I have seen the 25c. with this type of overprint post-marked July 16/08. On the same envelope with this 25c. is an ordinary 10c. Spanish stamp with a similar "Tetuan" surcharge in black. By the numbers at the back of these stamps one ought to be able to get at the number issued, but as I have only examined a few so far I can only give approximately the numbers and dates of issue.

"The handstamp surcharge has been applied in four different ways to the regular Spanish stamps, from left lower corner to right upper corner, (a) in black, (b) in violet, from left upper corner to right lower corner, (c) in violet, (d) in black.

"The following is a table giving the earliest and latest numbers and dates of the ones I have seen.

	a	b	c	d
5c.			A287358 (Oct. 08). A294195 (Jan. 09).	A294479 (Feb. 09).
10c.	A373767  A388786	A403396 (Nov. 1st) A403397 (Oct. 22)	A389013 (Oct. 12) A423217 (Dec. 21)	A441950 (Jan. 20, 09) A441972 (Jan. 31, 09)
25c.				

### The Social Philatelic Society.

Last week (p. 232) I had something to say about a new philatelic combination styling itself "The Philatelic Students' Fellowship," which has already given evidence of excellent work, and now I am asked to announce the formation of "The Social Philatelic Society."

Mr. Pearson sends me the following particulars of this new claimant to philatelic notice:—

"It may interest your readers to hear that 'The Social Philatelic Society' is being formed. The object of this Society being to meet at members' houses alternately for the exchange of duplicates and the general exchanges of philatelic knowledge.

"It is proposed to make the entrance fee 2s. 6d. for ladies and gentlemen, and the locality is the W. and S.W. districts of London, and it is hoped to draw a large number of applications from Chiswick, Hammersmith, Kew, Richmond, Putney, Barnes, &c.

"It is proposed to make this quite a Social Club, and not a dry-as-dust philatelic society, nor is it intended to have very long and learned papers on countries which do not appeal to general collectors. A preparatory meeting will be held on Saturday, February 27th, at 8 p.m., at the house of Mr. Cyril Phillips, 37, Flanders Road, Chiswick, and any stamp collectors who think they would like to join this Social Society are cordially invited to attend.

"The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Pearson, "Lynton," Lonsdale Road, Barnes, will be pleased to hear from anyone intending to be present at this first meeting."

That is a very nasty knock at the "dry-as-dust philatelic society," but we must have all sorts, for variety sweetens the philatelic life.

The "social" plan will be an excellent one for exchange and general conversation purposes, and may well be tried in those localities where there are not enough collectors to form a full society.

#### Halfpenny Post Puzzle.

Mr. Henniker Heaton has given notice of his intention to bring under notice in the House of Commons the existing regulations governing the halfpenny postage rate, and to ask that steps be taken forthwith to revise and simplify the definitions contained in them.

There are in the "Postal Guide," he says, more than two pages of definitions, and it is said that only two officials in the Post Office understand what can and what cannot be sent by the halfpenny post, and that on several points these authorities disagree.

Tens of thousands of British subjects are fined annually because their correspondents are unable to understand what is or is not meant by such phrases as "halfpenny matter" and "in the nature of a letter."

#### Earthquake Charity Stamps.

Mr. H. E. Coulson sends me the following cutting from the *London Evening News* :—

"Meeting under the presidency of the Italian Ambassador, an earthquake fund committee at Berlin has decided to make a special issue of 1½d. and 2½d. stamps.

"The proceeds of these, which will be sold all over the world, are to be given for the relief of children whose parents were killed by the earthquake.

"Separate stamps will be issued for each country, each bearing the face value in the local currency. Triangular in shape, like the old Cape stamps, they will bear the portraits of the King and Queen of Italy.

"They will not, of course, frank a letter, but will serve as receipts for charitable gifts."

I am glad to learn that the issue is not a postal one, though I fear as a consequence the sales will be comparatively small. The notable failure of some commemorative issues probably accounts for the non-postal issue of these earthquake charity stamps to which one naturally wishes a large sale.

#### The Tobago 1883-94 Flaws.

Mr. William Barnard writes :—"With reference to the article on the Tobago, 1883-94 issue (see *Postage Stamp*, Vol. III, p. 246), I have the 4d. and 6d. values with the "flaw" as illustrated. I have not as yet seen it in the one penny denomination."

#### Gibbons' Catalogue: Misplaced U.S. Illustrations.

Mr. A. Lawton Jones writes :—"Has our friend Cornelius noticed the slip in Part II. of Gibbons' Catalogue in the American, U.S. section where the details of the re-engraved series of 1861 of the 12c and 90c. are figured and transposed with the first issue?"

No, I had not noticed this little slip, my eagle eyed friend, but I see on referring to my copy that illustrations m and n should be e and f and vice versa. But alas these little slips will occur and in such a mass of matter it is a wonder there are not more slips to be spotted.

#### A New Dealer.

The said Mr. A. Lawton Jones, referred to in the preceding paragraph, who is a photographic artist, tells me that he is starting a small stamp business at his studios at 176, Upper Street, London, N., and I wish him success as a devotee to *The Postage Stamp* from the first number.

#### A Vest Pocket Philatelist.

The great Republic, the land of surprises, sends us something quite novel in the shape of a philatelic periodical for the vest pocket. It measures just 3½ inches by 2½ inches. It hails from Denver, Colorado.

In his introductory remarks the editor says :—"Do you think this little baby is worth 25 cents for 12 numbers? Don't you think it's better than candy, chewing gum, cigarettes, beer, or the many things your quarters go for and you don't seem to miss?"

Dr. H. A. Davis is the editor, and he gives a list of the Philatelic Societies, &c., of which he is a member, commencing with the Royal Philatelic Society, and ending with the Metropolitan Fiscal Association, sixteen in all. Verily, Dr. Davis must be a man of leisure.

#### High Class U.S. Journal Wanted.

What is badly wanted in the United States is a high-class monthly to fill the void left by the discontinuance of the *American Journal of Philately*.

There should be ample talent amongst the writers in the States to keep such a journal up to the mark, and it certainly would be a great help to the hobby.

#### Manchester Exhibition Exhibitors.

Here is a list of the principal Exhibitors at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition. It will be noted that, with two or three exceptions, the great Moguls are conspicuous by their absence, i.e. the Manchester Juniors have made their own show.

J. H. Abbott.	J. G. Horner.
Albert Leon Adutt.	W. H. Horrocks.
J. R. M. Albrecht.	H. Howell Jones.
M. Albrecht.	Sir Lees Knowles, Bart.
A. S. Allender.	W. H. Lawson.
Dr. F. J. Baildon.	W. Milroy.
P. S. Barton.	W. W. Munn.
W. Dorning Beckton.	J. C. North.
Humphrey Bennett.	Leicester A. B. Payne.
Joseph Brooks.	Bertram W. H. Poole.
S. O. Buckley.	F. Reichenheim.
C. H. Coote.	Geo. Robey.
R. Dalton.	W. Waite Sanderson.
D. S. Darkin.	P. V. Sansome.
J. J. Darlow.	J. H. M. Savage.
W. H. Earl.	W. Scott.
Dr. E. W. Floyd.	Alexander J. Sefi.
Major H. C. French,	H. A. Slade.
B. A. M. C.	V. Smith.
J. Stelfox Gee.	C. H. G. Sprankling.
G. F. H. Gibson.	Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
Thos. Harrop.	James N. Sutcliffe.
H. L. Hayman.	W. H. Tarrant.
J. W. Heath.	John H. Taylor.
E. Heginbottom, B.A.	J. H. Tite.
N. Haywood.	O. K. Trechmann.
J. S. Higgins, jun.	J. E. Williams.
Thos. H. Hinton.	Baron A. de Worms.

#### Papua: A New Variety.

Mr. H. Firth writes to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* as follows :—

"Allow me to call your attention to a real variety. Please look at one of your sheets of 2½d. New. Mr. S. Fearon-Brown, of Cockermonth, calls my attention to the 25th stamp on the sheet Pap ua. The distance between the 2nd p and u is *much wider*. I have looked at a sheet of 1d. and a sheet of 4d. (also ½d.) but this does *not* occur; only in the 2½d. value. Is this a new printing of 2½d., or how can it be explained?"

#### Sicilian Stamps left in a Train.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, lost a parcel of 1 grana stamps of Sicily, used and unused, and arranged in shades on a series of blank album leaves. The property was left in one of the suburban trains. Any information on the subject should be sent to Messrs. Gibbons at 391, Strand, London, W.C.

# Single Issue Specialism

BY BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

## United States, 2 cents of 1890-99

ONLY those who have tried it can have the faintest idea of the pleasure obtainable from a specialised collection consisting of the varieties of one stamp only. In Volume I. of *The Postage Stamp* (pages 307 and 381) Mr. E. J. Nankivell suggested two stamps very suitable for this form of specialism—the Bahamas 1d. of the first type and the current 1d. stamp of our own country—typical representative old and new issues. A really good specialised collection on these restricted lines is not so easily formed as one would imagine. On the contrary it is surprising how many varieties may be obtained of quite common stamps and how much still remains to be found out about them. Picking out the facts relating to their issue, puzzling out the causes that will account for many of the minor varieties, endeavouring to trace the actual dates of the issue of these varieties, as well as the search for really fine copies of the stamps, all combine in forming a most fascinating study.

### A Suitable Stamp.

Most stamps are suitable for this form of specialism some, naturally, more so than others and among the "more so's" the budding specialist can hardly choose a better subject than the 2c. United States stamp of the type first issued in 1890. It hardly appears a very promising subject but in this wicked world things rarely are what they seem and this stamp has possibilities as I will endeavour to show in the following notes.

This 2c. stamp, with slight modifications in the design so far as the upper corners are concerned and changes of shade and paper, remained in use for 12 years, for it was not until 1902 it was finally superseded by a new design, though on three occasions during its career it had to play second fiddle to commemorative stamps of the same facial value.

The varieties of this stamp may be divided into three main groups, viz. :—

- (1) 1890. Upper corners plain.
- (2) 1894. Triangles in upper corners.
- (3) 1895. Watermarked paper.

### The First Issue.

The stamp was first issued in 1890 the die being engraved and the stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co. The chief characteristic in the design of this issue lies in the upper corners, which are merely filled with horizontal lines of shading placed fairly close together. Evidently a good many plates were made during the four years this design was current, but how many and the dates they were respectively brought into use are points I must leave for the specialist to elucidate. The printing ink varied in colour from time to time resulting in various shades.

### Flaws.

On one or more of the plates used in the production of these stamps were several defects resulting in some interesting minor varieties in the figures of value—the "2's" having a square uncoloured "cap" affixed. Some exist with these caps on both figures, others on the left hand "2" only, and yet others with the cap only on the figure in the right hand lower corner. Our illustration shows the variety with caps on both figures.



It would be interesting to know how many plates had these defects, how many stamps on the plate were "capped" varieties, the position on the sheets of these varieties, and the dates the defective plates were put to press. I believe these flaws were not detected until 1891 though copies are known to have been used in October, 1892. Probably some specialist will be able to clear up some if not all the points on which information is at present lacking.

### Triangles in Upper Corners.

In 1894 the Government Bureau of Engraving and Printing undertook the production of all United States stamps and the immediate effect of this change of printers was a slight modification in the design of the 2c. stamp. The upper corners instead of being plain as before were embellished with double-lined triangles with a coloured dot attached to each side of the inner triangles. The first notification I find of this change is in the *Monthly Journal* for October, 1894, so we may presume the first 2c. plates made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were brought into use sometime about this date.

### Varieties of the Triangles.

There are three distinct varieties of the triangle ornaments and these, in the order of the illustrations shown in Gibbons' catalogue, are as follows :—

- (a) With thick lines of shading across the triangles.
- (b) With thin lines of shading across the triangles.
- (c) Without any shading in the space between the two triangles.

In what order these varieties appeared and how many plates of each were made are problems I must leave to the specialist. Possibly they appeared in the order a, c, b, for the first reference I can find to type (c) is in various journals issued in the early part of 1895 while type (b) does not appear to have been known until later. It is, of course, quite probable the plates of all three types were in concurrent use.

### The Watermarked Issue.

In 1895 it was decided to use watermarked paper in the production of the United States postage stamps and on May 2nd the first 2c. on this new paper made its appearance.

The watermark consists of the letters "U.S.P.S." (United States Postage Stamps) in large double-lined Roman capitals so arranged that one letter should fall to each stamp and also so that the letters appeared in order read anyway except diagonally. All three types of the triangles may be found on the watermarked paper varieties (a) and (b) being considerably rarer than (c).

**Plate Numbers.**

The practice of adding the number of each plate on the margins so that it shows on the printed sheets of stamps was, I believe, commenced in 1894 and I think I am correct in stating that plate number "1" was apportioned to the 2c. The plate number consisting of small coloured figures appears in the centre of each margin so there are four on each sheet. The plates are all numbered consecutively, irrespective of facial value, so that it does not follow that if one finds the 2c. numbered, say, "28" and "33" the other numbers between these figures also exist. It is quite possible plate numbers 29, 30, 31 and 32 were apportioned to other values. The numbering, presuming it commenced in 1894, has, I believe, run concurrently to the present day through the printings of both the American Bank Note Co. and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The specialist will find it a pleasant task to find out what particular plate numbers belong to the 2c. in its several varieties.

**Shades.**

Quite a diversity of shades may be found in all three issues of this stamp and the proper classification of these is a task that should prove of interest to the collector. Gibbons' gives carmine-lake, crimson and carmine for the 1890 issue; scarlet, carmine, pink, and scarlet for the 1894 set; and carmine, pink, rose-pink, and vermilion for the watermarked stamps, but the profusion of shade is so

rich that these names will, in most instances, be found to refer more to groups of colour than any particular tint.

**Varieties of Paper.**

Even the paper on which these stamps are printed varies considerably in texture and quality and the proper classification of these varieties is, I fancy, a task that has not yet been essayed. Some of the 1890 stamps are found on a thin paper, others on paper of medium texture and some of the 1894-5 issues are found on a fairly thick paper. A so-called double paper was also used to some extent. This was composed of two layers of thin paper, one watermarked and the other plain, affixed together. This paper was supposed to be an absolute safeguard against the wiles of the stamp-cleaner but it was found too expensive for general use. A sort of safety paper is said to have been used at one time but I have been unable to trace any evidence of this.

**Miscellaneous.**

In addition to the above there are many varieties in the gum such as the hard, or summer gum, and the soft, or winter gum, thin gum, thick gum, dull gum and shiny gum—all worthy of study. This stamp was also issued in booklet form and if our specialist still thirsts for more fields to conquer he will find interesting varieties in the case of the imperforate stamps from the edges of the sheets and those showing guide lines, &c.

# Methodical Collecting

BY JOHN McLEISH

*An Essay written for the Manchester Juniors' Competition*

**T**HERE is perhaps no more fascinating hobby than that of Stamp Collecting, and when the ardent Collector is once drawn into its alluring toils, it is not of his own free will that he surrenders it for some other attraction. So much so is this the case that when stamp collecting is taken up as a hobby it proves so all-absorbing that it in time becomes indispensable as a pleasure giving pursuit.

A large proportion of young collectors at the present day give more thought to the accumulating of stamps than to the value of stamps which come into their possession. It is at this stage, however, that something of the delight of true stamp collecting makes itself felt, and if the opportunity is seized at once, the typical school-boy's collection, will, with care and fore-sight, in all probability develop into one worthy of even a "Mogul."

When a young man finally decides on taking up stamp collecting in earnest, his first step should be to choose an album which he thinks is suitable to his taste. Supplements are added to popular albums when occasion demands, so that these are to be preferred to others, if a collection is to be kept up-to-date. A beginner's first difficulty is to give his album the appearance of containing *some* stamps, for nothing is so disheartening as turning over leaf after leaf with the appearance of not a single specimen. This can be obviated by purchasing as large a collection of stamps as possible, say, any number up to 2,000, according to the zeal of the collector. When these have been transferred to the album, the flame, which before had been dully flickering, will have been fanned to the semblance of a brightly burning fire, and the real work of stamp collecting will have been begun.

By joining a New Issue service all the latest issues can be had at a little over face value. The following may be quoted as an example of how profitable this procedure sometimes is. The "Cayman Provisionals," which were supplied to New Issue subscribers at about 10 or 15% over face value, can hardly be had now at five times their original worth.

With the acquisition of a substantial basis, and the certainty of getting each new issue when announced, the stamp collector should now turn his attention to the wares offered by every big stamp firm in their Price Lists and Approval Sheets. By the judicious purchase of sets and singles displayed therein, the collector gradually increases the value of his collection and soon emerges from the rank and file to find himself in a position of importance in the vast army of stamp collectors.

The pleasures derived from building up a collection of stamps in this orthodox manner are inconceivable, and if those people who wonder at the prices given for rare stamps would only start to collect, they would experience for themselves the fascination which this art holds for all who participate in its delights.

**Bargains in Stamps.**

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 249).

**Mafeking Besieged.**—The surcharge applied to the various Cape of Good Hope and Bechuanaland stamps used in Mafeking during the siege in 1899-1900.

**Magdalena.**—A department in the Republic of Colombia, having an area of 24,440 square miles and a population of over 100,000. Provisional type-set stamps were issued here in 1901.

**Magyar kir. posta.**—This inscription is shown upon all the postage stamps of Hungary issued since 1874, and means "Royal Hungarian Post."

**Magy. kir. hirlap belyec.**—This inscription is shown upon the journal tax stamps of Hungary.

**Mal Ct. Pre., 1902.**—This hand stamp was applied to all the then current stamps of Hayti in May, 1902, by order of the Provisional Government which was in power at that time. The two middle words are a contraction for "Gouvernement Provisoire."

**Maja, G. dc.**—The printer of the stamps of Naples. In 1860 he altered the value on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  grana plate to  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese substituting a "r" for the "o."

**Majunga.**—The chief port on the north-west coast of Madagascar, on the north side of the bay of Bombetoko, having a population of over 6,000. Provisional 15c. stamps were issued here on February 28th, 1895, all four varieties being exceedingly scarce.

**Maldiv Islands.**—A cluster of coral islands in the Indian Ocean, 500 miles to the south-west of Ceylon. None are more than 20 feet above sea level, and the climate is unhealthy in all. The inhabitants, who number over 30,000, are Mohammedans, and closely resemble the Sinhalese. Malé is the seat of government, and here the Sultan resides. The islands have always been tributary to Ceylon, and the Sultan acknowledges his allegiance by sending an annual embassy to Colombo. Postage stamps were first issued in 1906.

**Maldives.**—A surcharge upon the Ceylon stamps issued for use in the Maldiv Islands in 1906.

**Malta.**—An island in the Mediterranean Sea, 58 miles south of Sicily and about 180 from the African coast, having an area of 91 $\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. The Colony also includes the islands of Gozo and Comino and several islets, the area of the whole group being 117 square miles and the population over 205,000. The Maltese dialect, which is generally spoken, is of Semitic origin, and is held by some to be derived from the Carthaginian and Arabic tongues. The upper classes are mostly descendants of those who sought the protection of the Order of St. John, during the Middle Ages, from all parts of Southern Europe. Malta was colonized by the Phœnicians, and thereafter occupied in succession by Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, and Byzantine Greeks, as each nation secured the command of the Mediterranean Sea. It attained to a high degree of commercial prosperity, being especially noted in Roman times for its textile fabrics. It is said to have been converted to Christianity on the occasion of the shipwreck of St. Paul in 58 A.D. In the Dark Ages it was taken by the Moors, its commerce

was destroyed, and it was used mainly as a base for piratical expeditions. In 1090 it was again brought under Christian rule, being conquered by the Norman Count Roger of Sicily. For 440 years it followed the fortunes of that kingdom, but was in 1530 handed over to the Knights of St. John, who made of it a stronghold of Christianity. In 1565 it sustained the famous siege, when the last great effort of the Turks was successfully withstood by Grand Master La Vallette. The Knights expended large sums in fortifying the island, and carrying out many magnificent works, until they were expelled by Napoleon in 1798. The Maltese rose against the French garrison soon afterwards, and, with the assistance of some British and Neapolitan troops, compelled the French to capitulate in 1800. The islands were then ceded to Great Britain, the cession being confirmed by the Treaty of Paris of 1814. The Government is administered by a Governor, who is usually a distinguished General, assisted by an Executive Council consisting of 11 official members, and by a Legislative Council, called the Council of Government, which is composed of ten official and eight elected members. Postage stamps were first issued in January, 1861.

**Maltese Cross Wmk.**—This is a watermark shown in the 5/- stamps for Great Britain issued in 1867 and the 10/- and £1 stamps issued in 1878. The Maltese Cross was also the form adopted for the first postal cancellation of our own country, it forms part of the design of many stamps, and the stars in the upper corners of the first 1d. and 2d. British stamps are often called Maltese crosses. This latter is quite incorrect, however, for the Maltese Cross, which was the ensign of the Knights of Malta, is a cross of four limbs converging to a point in the centre, with two points to each limb.

**Manuscript Provisionals.**—These are stamps for temporary use manufactured by the simple expedient of surcharging them with the value required with ordinary pen and ink. The 1d. on 6d. stamps issued in Trinidad in 1882 will serve as an example.

**Map stamps.**—These are stamps upon which the whole or main portion of the design consists of a map. As an example we may refer to the well-known 2c. stamps issued in Canada in 1899 showing a map of the world on Mercator's projection.

**Marc, M. A.**—The Editor of the Luxemburg *Illustration* who suggested the design which was adopted for the 1882 issue for the Grand Duchy.

**Marginal Inscriptions.**—These are inscriptions shown on the margins of the sheets of some stamps and they are usually confined to the name and address of the printers or a statement as to the price of the labels separately, per row, pane or sheet.

**Marginal Varieties.**—(See "CONTRACT," "CONTROL," "CURRENT," "PLATE," "REFERENCE" and "SHEET" numbers, and "MARGINAL INSCRIPTIONS.")

**Marianen.**—The German equivalent for Marianne Islands as shown upon the stamps for that Colony.

*To be continued.*

# Collectors in Council

BY SIR CHARGE

## Subject: Congress Questions

**A** FEW nights since, with a copy of the Prospectus of the Manchester Exhibition before us, our little coterie had an informal and preliminary conversation on the subjects set down for discussion at the Conference.

### Proposed National Philatelic Society.

Mr. Charles Perf started the ball by declaring that the idea of a National Philatelic Society was a jolly one, and he hoped it would be taken up in earnest, for he held that a linking up of the various societies scattered about the country would act as a tonic, and keep them all well up to the mark.

Mr. Wide Roulette thought the success of any such scheme more than doubtful. In the first place it would have to be started by one of the largest and most popular societies, or there would be no confidence in it. The Royal, of course, could not be expected to take any active part in such a scheme. It is an exclusive body, and is likely to remain so. The Herts is the only society that could make a success of such a movement, and it is possible it may be tempted to go into it, for one or two of the leading members are credited with sundry ambitions to make the Herts something of the style and influence of the Dresden Society.

Mr. Tête Bêche could not recognise any particular reason why a National Society should be formed. He contended that there was no demand for it, and no evidence offered of any particular work that it could do to justify its existence. In his opinion those who attempted its formation would find that they had bitten off more than they could chew. Granted good reasons for its formation where was the material to come from to staff it. An energetic secretary would be wanted who would have to be paid and he would have to be a collector of some eminence to give confidence.

Mr. Charles Perf chaffed his friend Tête Bêche on being a pessimist, and told him to take a look at the other side of his dark clouds a little more frequently. In his opinion if the societies throughout the country could be got to agree upon enrolment in one society it would not be a far cry to agreement in graver questions affecting stamp collecting. Why, the dickens, should the whole stamp collecting world wait for the imprimatur, as it was called, of the Royal Philatelic Society rather than attempt to do things that needed doing for themselves.

"I'll tell you why, Charlie," said Tête Bêche, "Because no other society is, or is likely to be, such a powerful and influential body, and if, as we all admit, in many questions its voice must be waited for, what is the use of attempting things without it. Take for instance the question of a Catalogue for Collectors: this new society would of course tackle that most lightheartedly, but what value would it possess? what influence would it exert? Absolutely none. Your so-called National Philatelic Society will fizzle out

into small potatoes like the International Philatelic Union."

"Here, here, I say, hold hard, old chap," said Charlie, "or you will be courtmartialled by my friend Mr. Hinton as secretary of the said International Philatelic Union."

"Let him courtmartial," said Tête Bêche, "the National Philatelic is not likely to do much more to justify its title than the International Philatelic Union has done. It is I believe a very excellent society in its way, with a judicious mixture of dealers and collectors, but when do you hear of any International work that it does?"

"Well, let that pass," interposed Wide Roulette, "We are not discussing the International Philatelic Union, we are discussing the demand for a National Philatelic Society, and its chances of success, and I am inclined to think that if the right men grappled with the proposal and threw themselves into it something might be made of the idea. Why should not something be done after the style of the American Philatelic Society with a low subscription and a widespread membership. It need not necessarily be merely national; it might be a British Philatelic Society, and so embrace the Colonies."

I could not help saying that I liked that idea of Wide Roulette's immensely, for it seemed to me if a British Philatelic Society were formed on popular lines with influential English Collectors at the head of it, the Society might eventually be a power in restraining abuses in many colonies. "For instance," said I, "if there had been a branch of such a society in Jamaica the so-called Cayman Islands scandal would surely have been nipped in the bud. Further a British Philatelic Society embracing the leading collectors throughout the Colonies would be a power in the Empire in many ways." Then I suggested that we might pass on to the other questions. The next on the programme was the compilation of a Collectors' Catalogue and Guide.

### A Collectors' Catalogue and Guide.

"A tough nut to crack," said the ever forward Charles Perf. "Better refer that to the National Philatelic Society—when formed."

"And a pretty old mess they would probably make of it" retorted Tête Bêche. "A collectors' Catalogue and Guide would we are told, of course, include a guide to prices. Well, I don't mind undertaking the pricing of the stamps I want to buy, and I should not be averse from pricing those of some I want to sell. This pricing business is an unholy business, and the less collectors have to do with it the better. See what they say about some of the present catalogue prices, that they are simply buying prices. Besides how are you going to establish your prices? Will you command supplies to answer demands for stamps at your prices, if not what earthly use will your prices be?"

"We might set up a boycott against any other prices," suggested Charlie, "and we could stand out against paying any more. Nobody ever dreams of paying more than Gibbons' price for instance for any stamp."

"Your boycott would not be worth a bang, Charlie," said Tête Bêche, "for you would be only a small body of the world's collectors, and your refusal to buy would only drive the stamps into a better market. There must be a basis of supply for every price."

"But what about a Catalogue for Collectors unpriced?" said I.

"I am afraid that would need a more influential imprimatur than any National Society that is likely to be formed would be likely to give it. There are so many pros and cons as to what should and what should not be given catalogue rank, that controversy would be endless. Gibbons puts in and leaves out what he pleases, on the incontestable right of every trader to make his own price list and to put his own prices to his own goods."

"Then we are up against a dead wall," said I, "in this matter of a Collectors' Catalogue."

"Quite so," replied Wide Roulette emphatically, "and the only solution that I can see to this burning question is in handbooks by specialists. Such catalogues would depend for their acceptance upon the standing of the author-specialist, and there would be no questioning the authority of a leading specialist in the matter of cataloguing, apart from pricing. The Royal Society could give an acceptable imprimatur to any catalogue for which its Council accepted the responsibility, because, practically, it is a Society of Specialists. No Catalogue for Collectors would stand a chance of acceptance that did not have behind it the unquestionable guarantee of being the work of collectors of high reputation. It might be done by a National Society, and might be announced as being done by experienced collectors, but the first damaging criticism by a specialist would put an end to all confidence in it."

#### Suppression of Speculative Issues.

"We seem to be making mincemeat of all these matters," said I, somewhat disappointedly. "Can we see any solution to the next question, 'the suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues'?"

"I'm blown if we shall," said Charlie. "The other things are easy compared to this suppression of speculative issues. Why, man alive, if your powerful Royal Philatelic Society with the co-operation of the leading dealers had to give up the job what remains to be done?"

"And yet I am not so sure there is not a way out of the difficulty," said Wide Roulette. "They say there is an antidote to every poison, and I firmly believe we shall yet hit upon one for this speculative issue nuisance. I suggest that we should candidly recognise the fact that we can not effectually boycott these swindles, and that the next best thing will be to make an organised and determined effort to control them."

"To control them!" exclaimed Charlie, "How the Jerusalem do you propose to do that?"

"By getting the dealers to agree to take them out of the ordinary catalogue, and putting them into a separate catalogue as they have done post cards and envelopes."

"A rattling good idea," said Charlie. "Then those who are so fond of the rubbish could specialise in commemorative and speculative issues with a catalogue of their own and be fed on them till they bust."

"Any way," replied Wide Roulette, "we might segregate the fools without interfering with their folly. But it would not be all plain sailing. There are many difficulties to be got over, and the most difficult of all would be to arrive at an acceptable definition of what should constitute a commemorative or speculative issue, and that definition would have to provide for the judicious and effectual separation of speculatives from permanent issues."

"I fancy most of the leading dealers would be glad to co-operate in any such scheme," said Tête Bêche. "What many of them have said is that certain people who are not, and probably never will develop into serious collectors, buy these things like hot cakes, and while the fancy is on, they are not to be sneezed at as a source of revenue to many. If we can, therefore, by Wide Roulette's plan or any other, remove these undesirables from our regular catalogue and shift them into a separate catalogue, we may do all that is necessary without undue friction and without interfering with legitimate profits."

"And so say all of us," chimed in Charlie. "Next topic, please, Sir Charge."

#### Other Questions.

"All that is left," said I, "are the more or less non-controversial ones reserved for the last day of the Congress. (1) The formation of a body, or Committee, to take in hand the disposal of a deceased collector's stamps, &c., where the relatives have not the necessary knowledge. (2) The holding of an Annual Congress and its venue for 1910. This question of helping relatives of a deceased collector in the disposal of stamps left by him has been much discussed, all being agreed that our leading societies should do something in this direction for its members. The need, however, is not quite so pressing as it was now that a Public Trustee has been appointed, who may be trusted to have the best experience at his disposal in matters of this sort. Still the need will exist in the case of many private trusteeships, and I believe many of our societies have taken the matter into their consideration. The question of the holding of the next Annual Congress is I believe practically settled to be in London. It should be held under the joint auspices of the various societies and not as part of the proceedings of a Junior Society to give it full weight. The Juniors of Manchester have done well to invite delegates from the various Societies. They have indeed managed their Exhibition in a most business-like manner. There has been no undue advertising of one or two individuals. All seem to have shouldered the work in true Manchester business style. And I cannot help thinking that the successful inauguration of an Annual Philatelic Congress is quietly, unostentatiously, but effectually, an established fact, and that it is due mainly to the city which is the hub of the industrial activity of this country."

"Looking forward to the Congress of 1910, I hope we shall all work hard to make it a huge success, such a success that it will draw leading dealers and collectors from the Continent."

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 227).—We learn from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* that the "05" on ½g. green, and "20" on 1 g. blue of 1905 have been found with inverted surcharge.

**Argentine Republic.**—(Vol. III. p. 202).—Two more values—the 4c. and 30c.—in the new design, showing portrait of General San Martin, have been issued according to several of our contemporaries. The complete list of values issued to date is as follows:—

New Design. Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.				s. d.
2c. chocolate	...	...	...	0 1
4c. violet-brown	...	...	...	0 2
5c. dull carmine	...	...	...	0 2
12c. yellow	...	...	...	0 4
15c. yellow-green	...	...	...	0 5
30c. green	...	...	...	0 9

**Belgium.**—(Vol. II. p. 21).—A new value, 40c., is to be added to the current set before long. Designs have been submitted to the authorities, and directly one is approved it will not be long before the stamp is actually issued.

**Fernando Poo.**—(Vol. II. p. 260).—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records the 50c. surcharged on the 10c. brown of 1894, with the overprint in black instead of blue.

**Hyderabad.**—(Vol. III. p. 56).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the ½a. stamp of the "POSTAGE" type in green, and also specimens of the other varieties mentioned on page 56.

Inscribed "POSTAGE." Watermark of Arabic characters. Perf. 12½.				s. d.
½a. blue	...	...	...	0 2
½a. pale grey	...	...	...	0 1
½a. orange	...	...	...	0 2
½a. vermilion	...	...	...	0 2
½a. green	...	...	...	0 1
1a. carmine	...	...	...	0 2
2a. lilac	...	...	...	0 3

**Klantschou.**—(Vol. I. p. 107).—A correspondent informs us that the 20c. has been issued on the water-marked paper, making the list to date as follows:—

Wmk. Losenges. Perf. 14.				s. d.
1c. brown	...	...	...	0 1
2c. green	...	...	...	0 2
20c. black and carmine	...	...	...	—
40c. " " on rose	...	...	...	1 2
½ dol. carmine	...	...	...	1 6
1 " blue	...	...	...	2 9
1½ " violet-black	...	...	...	4 0
2½ " carmine and black	...	...	...	6 6

**Morocco Agencies.**—(Vol. I. p. 277) —We take the following from the *West End Philatelist*:—"There are one or two interesting points regarding the 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. British stamps surcharged for use in the Morocco Agencies which I do not think have yet been noted in print. All three values are surcharged 'MOROCCO AGENCIES' in two lines at the top, and '3 (6 or 12)

PESETAS' at the base, and the 2s. 6d. also exists with only the name surcharged. The 3 and 6 pes. were the first to appear, being issued in Jan., 1907, and in these it will be noted that the word 'AGENCIES' is distinctly longer than 'MOROCCO.' In May, 1907, the 12 pesetas was issued, and in this, as well as the 2s. 6d. without value in Spanish currency, issued at the same time, the words are exactly the same in length. In the 12 pes., too, the word 'PESETAS' is more than 1 mm. shorter than the same word in the 3p. and 6p. values."

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 227).—The 1d. stamp is reported in quite a new variety by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, viz., surface printed instead of line-engraved as formerly, and on unwatermarked paper. So far it has only been seen overprinted "OFFICIAL," but it will doubtless appear unsurcharged before long.

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 250).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us four values of the 1904 series, but in new colours, surcharged "1908" as mentioned on page 215. The 20c. similarly surcharged has also been issued.



Dated "1904" and surcharged "1908."

Dated "1904" and surcharged "1908."				s. d.
1c. emerald green	...	...	...	0 1
5c. ochre	...	...	...	0 1
10c. lilac brown	...	...	...	0 2
20c. orange	...	...	...	—
30c. carmine	...	...	...	0 4

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of a Continental journal, reports the 2, 5, 10 and 20 pesos values in two new colours each, making the complete list of the peso stamps as follows:—

No. Wmk Perf. 11½, 12.				s. d.
1p. carmine and black	...	...	...	1 0
1p. orange " "	...	...	...	1 0
1p. olive-black " "	...	...	...	1 0
2p. blue " "	...	...	...	2 0
2p. red " "	...	...	...	—
2p. orange " "	...	...	...	—
5p. red " "	...	...	...	4 6
5p. olive " "	...	...	...	—
5p. grey-blue " "	...	...	...	—
10p. orange-brown " "	...	...	...	9 0
10p. chocolate " "	...	...	...	—
10p. red-brown " "	...	...	...	—
10p. dark blue " "	...	...	...	—
20p. olive green " "	...	...	...	17 6
20p. bright yellow " "	...	...	...	—
20p. violet " "	...	...	...	—



**Roumania.**—(Vol. III. p. 105).—A 8 bani stamp in the new design has been issued according to several of our contemporaries. The complete list of values issued to date is as follows :—



No Wmk. Perf. 12½, 13½, or Compound.

	s.	d.
3 bani red-brown ... ..	0	1
5 .. green ... ..	0	1
10 .. carmine ... ..	0	2
15 .. violet ... ..	0	3
25 .. blue ... ..	0	4
40 .. deep green ... ..	0	6
50 .. orange ... ..	0	8
1 leu gray brown ... ..	1	3
2 lei red on red paper ... ..	2	6

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 239).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us the 1 kop. in the new design, making our list to date as follows :—



No Wmk. Perf. 14, 14½.

	s.	d.
1 kop orange ... ..	0	1
2 .. green ... ..	0	1
7 .. dull blue ... ..	0	3

We gather from the daily press that it is proposed to issue a new series of stamps in connection with the ter-centenary of the rule of the Romanoffs. We are told that these will bear the effigies of various Russian monarchs, including Peter the Great, Catherine II., and the

reigning Czar, and that the portraits will be executed by some of the most famous artists of the day.

**Spanish Guinea.**—(Vol. II. p. 22).—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* records the 10c. of the current type surcharged "HABILITADO - PARA - 05CTMS" in three lines in a similar manner to the corresponding value of Fernando Poo.

*Provisional Issue.*  
5c. on 10c. bistre.

**Sweden.**—(Vol. I. p. 277). It is rumoured that this country intends to change its currency to francs and centimes, in which event a new issue of stamps may be expected.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 228).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 12c. orange-brown in a "new design," but omits to give any details. We await further particulars before including it in our formal chronicle.

**Tasmania.**—(Vol. III. p. 228).—The ½d. value has now been issued with the 12½ perforation, making the complete list with this gage as follows :—

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 12½.

	s.	d.
½d. green ... ..	—	—
1d. rose ... ..	0	2
2d. violet ... ..	0	3
3d. brown ... ..	0	5
4d. buff ... ..	0	6
8d. purple-brown ... ..	1	0
9d. pale blue ... ..	1	0
1/- rose and green ... ..	—	—
10/- mauve and brown ... ..	12	6

**Tonga.**—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* reports the discovery of the 1d. of the type of 1892 in ultramarine—evidently an error of the ½d. on 1d. of 1893 without overprint.

**NOTE.**

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

**Argentine Republic: Current Series.**

According to the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatélica Argentina* (11.12.08) the postal union colours green, red and blue, are to be appropriated to the 3, 5 and 12c. values. The 5c. is already red but the 12c. although only just issued in yellow, will be changed to blue. The 8c. was announced recently as about to be issued in orange, but as stated above it has appeared in green. The 1c. was to have been issued in blue, but will now be printed in yellow, thus changing colours with the 12c. There will also be envelopes with 12c. blue stamps.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 13.2.09.

**The "White Cross Stamps" of Austria.**

From the reminiscences of an old collector, Mr. W. H. Faber, who, by the way, was the first to use thin paper, in 1861, to manufacture what are know to-day as stamp

mounts, we glean that he approached the Austrian Ministry for Commerce on the meaning of those coloured labels bearing white diagonal lines in the form of a cross, and received a reply on the 15th October, 1870, which runs as follows :—"The stamps in question were printed in sheets of 60, but, being arranged in 8 rows of 8, giving room for 64 stamps, the four remaining spaces were filled with the above mentioned white crosses which therefore occur on each sheet in the colours of their respective issues. They have no postal value whatever."—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 6.2.09.

**Bi-Lingual Stamps.**

Apropos of the Austrian stamps for use at Cretan post offices being surcharged in French, a Paris contemporary informs us that the provisional stamps are those issued at the jubilee with the head of Francis Joseph. The

denominations will not be in "kroner" and "heller," but in francs and centimes. It seems that Austria-Hungary is not the only country which has thus complimented the French people by adopting their language. The stamps of the Danish Antilles bear their values in francs and centimes, and so do, we believe, Russian stamps for the Levant. But stranger still is the fact, that Bavaria possesses and has used for over forty years a bi-lingual stamp, not for postal but telegraphic purposes. The value is thus expressed; "14 kreutzers, 50 centimes."—*The Globe (London)*.

#### Secret Marks.

At one time, the idea was very prevalent that stamp manufacturers were in the habit of introducing secret marks into the designs of stamps, as an extra precaution against, or a help in the detection of, forgeries, in the same way that small marks of a secret character are printed upon bank notes. We believe, however, in no case where some small dot, or other distinguishing mark has been discovered and promptly hailed as a "secret mark," has it been definitely proved that its insertion by the printers was due to any fear of fraudulent imitation. Where these marks were intentionally introduced they appear to be more of the nature of "distinguishing marks" than anything else, while other dots are due to accident, and were never intended as "SECRET" signs by the stamp printers.

Take the case of the 3d., 4d., 6d., and 9d. stamps of the 1862 issue for Great Britain. The 3d. is known with white dots at the extreme ends of the tablet containing "POSTAGE," and the other three values may be found with "hair lines" drawn across the exterior angles of all four corner letters. These are very generally known as "secret marks," but, we believe, there is nothing secret about them. They were introduced by the authorities to distinguish the stamps printed from certain plates, and their significance was thus exactly the same as the plate numbers introduced at a later date (1865).

#### New Zealand.

A mark of a similar character may be found in connection with the current 1d. stamps of New Zealand. A new plate was made in 1904, and in all the spaces between the stamps in the horizontal rows there is a small coloured dot. This was introduced to distinguish the stamps from this plate, so that it could be carefully noted how the plate wore, in comparison with those previously used.

#### United States.

The stamps of the United States furnish us with an example of what may be termed "private marks," introduced by one firm to distinguish its stamps from those printed by another firm. The stamps of the 1870-71 issue were engraved and printed by the National Bank Note Co., but in 1873 the contract was secured by the Continental Bank Note Co., and the stamps were produced by this firm. Evidently the original dies were used in the production of the new plates, but before using them, a tiny distinguishing mark was introduced in each case. No private marks have yet been found in the case of the 24c., 30c., and 90c. values.

#### Falkland Islands.

In other instances, so called "secret marks" will, upon investigation, resolve themselves into nothing more exciting than "guide dots." The stamps of the Falkland Islands are a case in point. Attached to the right-hand side of the secondary dies was a small dot, which, at the same time that the die was impressed on the plate, marked where the next impression was to be placed. In

most cases these dots were so adjusted that they were covered by part of the design of the next stamp on the right, but in the 4d. the dot appears in such a prominent position as to have given rise in some quarters that it was a secret mark.

#### British South Africa.

A similar instance in Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co.'s work may be found in the 1890-95 stamps of British South Africa. The dots on these stamps may be found in the centre of the tuft of the tail of the left support of the Arms. They are particularly distinct on the 2d. and 4d. stamps of 1891-94, and have frequently been "discovered" and described in the philatelic journals as secret marks. As a matter of fact, they are nothing more nor less than guide-dots, attached to the side of the die for the purpose of obtaining correct alignment in applying the impression to the plate in the manner explained in connection with the stamps of the Falkland Islands.

—*B. W. H. Poole in the West End Philatelist, Feb., 09.*

#### New Hebrides.

We quote as follows from the *Australian Philatelist* (11.1.09/cover):—"New Hebrides Condominium on Fiji King's Head stamps are very difficult to obtain in quantities. The supply of the 1s. value has been exhausted. The new stock may be either multiple watermark or the new colour." Our contemporary (11.1.09/52) also states:

We have received the series overprinted on New Caledonia stamps as announced in our November number. They came to hand from Port Vila on the 14th December. Several of our English contemporaries announce the issue of these stamps. This is owing to the fact that the stamps for all French colonies are procurable at the Postal Bureau in Paris.

We have been informed that both the British and French Resident Commissioners in the New Hebrides have decided to prohibit the sale of the new stamps in large quantities to dealers, the idea being to check trafficking in them.

We have been further informed that the omission of the word "Condominium" from the New Caledonia stamps was an error, and as soon as the present supply is exhausted it will be rectified.

We are also further informed that the overprint on the Fiji stamps was applied at the Government Printing Office in Fiji. The authorities there deserve every credit for the admirable manner in which they have executed the work.

It is certainly a feather in the cap of the Government Printing Office in Fiji that its work has been so generally admired and, in fact, attributed by most experts to Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

*Le Timbrophile de France* (10.2.09/5) says that the stamps are sold at a French face value of 5c., 10c., 20c., 25c., 50c., 60c. or 1f. 25 as the case may be, also that the designs for the new joint issue has been sent to Paris.

—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, 20.2.09.*

#### Stamps in Dundee.

The display of postage stamps in the Dundee Museum has proved an attraction alike to philatelists and the expert public. The stamps of British Africa, the property of Mr. G. Martin, President of the local Philatelic Society, have been withdrawn, giving place to those of Brazil, shown by the Secretary, Mr. G. H. Whitaker. These offer an interesting contrast to the modern super-sides, as Brazil was the first country after our own to adopt the adhesive form (in 1843), and the early designs are very crude.—*Dundee Evening Telegraph and Post.*

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## A London Stamp Bourse.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (20.2.09) says:—"Dealers and others are going to meet for a little bit of pleasant buying and selling and philatelic gossiping at No. 23, Aldgate, a cosy café well adapted for the purpose. The present intention is that the Exchange shall be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The City seems to me rather off the track, seeing that all the leading dealers are west of Temple Bar.

However, I am glad to see the idea started, for it seems to me that there is scope for something of the sort.

## India: 1867, 6s. 8p.

Some time ago Mr. E. W. Wetherell, when editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, called special attention to the low price put on the India 6s. 8p. of 1867, and stated what was a well-known fact, that fine mint copies were extremely scarce. At that time I doubt if the stamp trade of this country could have produced half a dozen copies. Then Messrs. Whitfield King & Co bought a large Indian collection which contained, I believe, the greater part of a sheet, and the only decent copies now on sale—and they are not plentiful now—probably came from this stock.

But present editor Crofton, in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, by way of further emphasising his differences with previous editors, now drops upon this stamp. He writes:—"The 6 annas 8 pies value was first issued in Bombay on the 29th April, 1867, 1,000 sheets having been received from Calcutta on that date. Only one other supply was received, namely, 1,572 sheets from England on the 3rd July, 1868. Nearly 1,716 sheets were destroyed on the 4th July, 1874, which, with the six sheets reserved, leaves a total consumption of 750 sheets. It has often been stated that this stamp in unused condition is underpriced in the catalogues. Personally we do not share this opinion, for the 18 reserved sheets, amounting to nearly 3,000 specimens, are believed to have all been placed on the home market, and those added to the normal importations by dealers while the stamps were current, must take a great deal of working off. The truth of the matter is that the stamp is much scarcer in India than it is at home, both in used condition, because it was employed almost entirely for home postage, and unused, because of the 3,000 remainders."

If the stamp is scarcer in India than it is here, it must be precious scarce.

## More Crofton Eccentricity.

Here is a further sample of the peculiar little eccentricity of the present editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*:—"There was a time when every British stamp collector who could pay £10 for a stamp bought, let us say, a 4d. Ceylon imperf. Now-a-days nearly everyone who can afford that sum is a specialist, and it is a good deal more than ten to one against his being a specialist in old Ceylons. In this connexion it would be interesting to take a census of the Royal Society itself. The result would probably reflect the position of the general philatelic public fairly accurately. We think it is the growth of specialism which has depreciated the stock rarity, and so long as fresh vistas of specialism open out, so long also will the stock rarity continue to depreciate until it reaches the usually lower level of the general collectors' purse.

Even among general collectors there is a problem whether their increase is as rapid as the increase of collectible varieties, and even if it is so, it becomes more and more difficult for a general collector to put £10 into a single stamp. If general collecting is to continue, it must of necessity exclude more and more of those stamps which can possibly be rejected on the score of being mere varieties. When, in the not far distant future, watermarks and perforations find no place in general collections, the market for the rarer Perkins Bacon Ceylons will suffer a further serious relapse."

Evidently Mr. Crofton gets his ideas from the moon or some other planet very distant from ours

## New Zealand firm starts in London.

New Zealand specialists will be glad to welcome the establishment of a New Zealand Supplying Co. in London, for of all current stamps those of New Zealand have been the most difficult to get at our leading London Dealers' establishments.

The New Zealand Stamp Co. of Auckland and Wellington have opened a London branch at 28, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., and they are getting out a Price List for English collectors which will be ready in a few days.

Within the last few years many of our most prominent specialists have taken to specialising in what are termed New Zealand Pictorials.

## Damaged or Repaired Stamps.

I am glad to note from the last issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India* that that journal is not, as some of its remarks led us to fear, an advocate of the inclusion of damaged, off-centre or repaired stamps.

In an interesting editorial it says:—

"We cannot ignore the fact that a great number of collectors prefer to fill a blank space with either a damaged or a repaired stamp, rather than wait until opportunity or wealth permits them to add a perfect specimen to their collection.

"Personally we have a great dislike to all stamps that have been tampered with in any respect, and would much rather collect, had we to choose between the two, a stamp that was minus a corner to one that was immaculate in all the glory of faked perforations or margins.

"The only weapon which is likely to be of any avail against the wiles of the stamp faker is knowledge, as without experience the collector is very apt to be victimized. To gain an intimate knowledge of all the world's stamps is an impossibility, the next best thing is to thoroughly study the stamps of one or more countries. By so doing the collector reduces the odds of being defrauded to a very remote chance, so remote indeed that the faking community would in all probability go out of business."

## Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay's special bargain this week is Ceylon King's Head Service, used, 2c., 3c., 5c., 15c., and 30c., catalogued at 19s. 6d. for 4s. 6d.

The same firm send us a copy of their gratis sheet, "B. & K. Items," full of offers of rare and interesting stamps at tempting prices. It is the first list I have seen which differentiates in the prices of multiple ordinary and multiple chalkies.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

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*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

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### Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

#### New Ready.

#### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

#### Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

### Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

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James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.  
Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.  
The Court Stamp Co., 10, Marriott's Court, Manchester.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

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Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

United States, New Lincoln, 2c.



I AM once more indebted to my journalistic confrere, Mr. Beuedict Prieth, of the *New Jersey Free Zeitung*, Newark, N. J., for a specimen of the Lincoln Commemorative 2c. stamp, which will be duly illustrated in the New Issue page.

It is a model of what a postage stamp should be, simple in design, with a fine portrait in profile to right of Lincoln. The colour is

what I should call a rich crimson lake. The plate No. of the copy sent me is 4982.

Mr. Prieth tells me that these Lincoln Stamps will temporarily (until sold out) take the place of the regular 2 cents stamps.

**Lake as a Stamp definition.**

Gibbons in their new Colour Dictionary has thrown over lake as a definition for a philatelic colour. It figured in the previous edition and is such a well known and easily recognised colour that I cannot understand why friend Warhurst has rejected it as a colour name. It just fits this new Lincoln stamp.

**Canal Zone Stamps.**

According to the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, of New York, specialists in Canal Zone stamps will have plenty to do in the future in the matter of minor varieties.

The latest announcement is that a new set has just been issued. "This new stamp," we are told "is similar to the one it supersedes but both plates are engraved in place of a lithographed head in an engraved frame as heretofore. Head of Jose de Obaldia in arched frame, inscription above 'Correos Republica de Panama' below value in two lines. Outside the frame is the imprint of the American Bank Note Co. The surcharge 'Canal Zone' is about as heretofore."

If the engraving is clearly different, it will not be difficult to separate the lithographed from the engraved heads,

but if the distinction is not marked by some difference in the engraving, my specialist friends will find something more to occupy their time. The ability to distinguish between lithography and engraving sometimes fails even the expert.

**The New U. S. Series.**

Our American friends do not seem to take kindly to the new series. Here is the latest grumble which is called forth by the issue of the dollar value.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* says:—"The new series has at length been completed by the issue of the dollar stamps but instead of the pink as at first announced is printed in a dirty black. Using this colour for a high value has long been a scandal as practically every child in the country is able to remove the cancellation marks at pleasure."

**Sending Suffragists by Post.**

The latest move of the Suffragists is to send some of their members by "Express Letter post" to Mr. Asquith.

Miss Elspeth McLennan and Miss Soloman were on the 23.2.09 taken to the Strand Post Office, London, by Miss Christabel Pankhurst and others. One lady carried in front of her a large placard, "To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, 10, Downing Street, S.W." The other had a placard announcing that a deputation from the Women's Social and Political Union would wait on Mr. Asquith at the House of Commons.

The two ladies were handed in at the post office, and 8d. each, the Express Letter Fee paid on them. A messenger boy was told off to deliver these interesting parcels.

On arriving at the Prime Minister's residence the police perplexedly allowed the boy to enter the house whilst the parcels were left on the doorstep. The parcels were refused, and had to return from whence they came.

Poor Mr. Asquith! He should have reposted the parcels to Jericho.

**Specialising a Single Issue.**

There can be no question that if a collector wishes to excel in any branch of collecting, his wise course must be the adoption of the concentration of specialism. The Manchester Exhibition furnished ample proof of this. ...

Here, for instance, is Mr. Ohas. J. Phillips' note on Mr. Buckley's exhibit:—"A specialised collection of the One Penny values from 1840 to the present day, the varieties being fully annotated. The penny values used in the State Departmental Offices and in the Colonies are also shown. This collection is really an object lesson of what a student's collection should be. It is beautifully and fully written up, and I heard Lord Crawford say on looking at it, 'Hello! this seems to be one of my pupils'"

All the same, I hope this Specialism of a Single Issue will not become too fashionable, and that it will be confined to popular favourites which were printed by the million.

There must be a score of such issues which afford unlimited scope for Single Issue Specialism, but the extension of the idea to scarce stamps should not be encouraged.

#### Our Cherished Secret Marks.

Mr. Poole has been dealing some hard knocks at our cherished secret marks varieties on stamps.

Several years ago secret marks were all the rage. They were discovered *ad lib.* in all directions, especially in Europeans. Some, no doubt, deserved the distinction, but we have been led on and on to see a secret mark in every dot and flaw.

Hence it is good to have a clue to some of the mysterious fraternity.

Mr. Poole opened out on this line of inquiry with Messrs. Bradbury & Wilkinson, and, after being quietly laughed at, was duly informed that those wonderful and perplexing dots on the tail of the left supporter of the arms, and which every new student of the stamps announces as a fresh discovery, are nothing more nor less than guides for the correct alignment of the stamps on the plate.

Similarly, the dots between some of the stamps of current New Zealand are guide dots, but they are valuable helps to the specialist in comparing printings.

#### Bavarian Stamps.

According to *Champion's Bulletin*, Paris, the Committee appointed to secure new designs for the stamps of Bavaria have had to confess their failure to better the present design, so it has been decided to make no other alteration than the economical one of printing the central arms in colour instead of embossing them, as now.

#### New Zealand Surface Printing.

The *Philatelic Adviser* has received from a correspondent the id. value of the current New Zealand series "typographed on coated paper," and remarks "Apparently the troublesome process of printing direct from plates in the case of those values of which immense quantities are required, is to be given up."

It would be interesting to have some further information on this point.

#### A Novel U.S. Proposal.

A Congressman of the Massachusetts proposes in a Bill to provide for a postal exchange, under which U.S. stamps may be used in England on mail matter for the United States, and English stamps in the United States on mail intended for England. The object is said to be "to facilitate exchange between the two countries and render it practicable to maintain a more satisfactory postal arrangement."

#### Progress of General Collecting.

I wonder how general collecting really progresses. *Even's Weekly Stamp News* has endeavoured to elicit the views of its readers on this point, but the result is dis-

appointing. One would scarcely expect a very helpful solution from a constituency mostly devoted to new issues.

It will probably be very difficult to get a really reliable opinion.

But I am inclined to think that not a few causes are making for the greater popularity of general collecting.

To begin with, the microscopic philatelist frightens many collectors and keeps them from venturing into such difficult work; then the terrific multiplication of minor varieties in our Gibbons is another very serious set back; the development of the floater setting the fashion in the accumulation of blocks of four; all these drawbacks tend to make many general collectors.

#### New form of General Collecting.

There are not wanting many indications that general collecting will split up into groups. That is to say, a general collector instead of taking everything, will in future devote himself to a group, but still on the lines of general collecting.

This result may be traced to the breaking up of the Gibbons' Imperial Album into a Sectional Album.

#### Sectional Collecting.

Probably this encouragement of sectional collecting will do more to promote an increase of the ranks of general collecting than anything that has been done for a great many years.

The general collector is a most desirable element. He is the middle class in philately, the real backbone of the hobby and of the trade, and I am often inclined to think that he really gets more real pleasure out of the pursuit than we toiling molling specialists do.

#### Filling up blanks.

Some may think it rather poor philately to be only filling up blanks in a printed album, but the busy man, the man of small means finds a quiet pleasure in having nothing to do but hinge the stamps in their places as they are obtained, and in watching the filling up of space after space as time and money permit, and who shall say that they do not get as much pleasure out of the hobby as any of us.

#### Manchester Exhibition.

I hear that the Manchester Exhibition was a great success, as an exhibition and as a congress.

One would have been surprised at any other result from a Manchester effort. Somehow Manchester men put a business back into what they take up that we rarely get in London; they combine enthusiasm and business ability.

#### Our "Mean" Penny Stamp.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., has given notice that he will ask the Postmaster-General on Monday next:

"Whether his attention has been called to the statement made by a well known philatelic authority that the British penny stamp is the meanest of all the stamps of the same value issued by the nations in the civilised world; that it has a made-in-Germany look; that the paper it is printed upon is cheap and poor; that the design of the stamp is not good, and the colour not satisfactory. Whether he intends to take steps without delay to give the public an improved penny stamp?"

If Mr. Henniker Heaton marshalls his evidence in favour of an improved series of designs for our own stamps as he did his facts for Universal Penny Postage, Mr. Buxton will have a lively time to look forward to.

But then Mr. Buxton is an ideal Postmaster-General from the philatelist's point of view, for has he not hobbled with us at our Exhibition, and promised us an invitation to an Exhibition of his own.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## Seychelles

THE stamps of Seychelles are great favourites with the moderate specialist. They are clean and straightforward, with a fair sprinkling of low priced provisionals.

The King's heads are attractive stamps, rich in their bicoloured printings, with three provisionals thrown in.

The single C.A. series was issued in 1903, and the change to the multiple C.A. watermark was made in 1906, and there is now, of course, the probability of further colour changes under the new colour scheme, so that even the King's head of Seychelles will make quite a neat little show of themselves.

**1903.** Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII. superseding that of the late Queen Victoria, but otherwise preserving the design unaltered. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CA. and perf. 14. The 3c., 6c. and 15c. were printed in single colours. All the others were printed in two colours, the name and value in one colour and the general design in another.



Wmk. Crown C.A. (single). Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2c. chestnut, name and value in green	0	1	—	—
3c. dull green	—	0	1	—
6c. carmine	—	0	8	—
12c. brown, name and value green	—	0	4	—
15c. ultramarine	—	0	6	—
18c. sage-green, name and value carmine	0	8	—	—
30c. violet	—	0	9	—
45c. brown	—	1	3	—
75c. yellow	—	2	0	—
1r. 50c. grey-black	—	5	0	—
2r. 25c. mauve	—	10	0	—

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

The single CA. series of this Colony does not show such an advance in price as other Colonies, as its issues were not so soon nor so suddenly superseded, and appearances indicate that prices will, at least for a time, even decline rather than advance, for we note that in Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s catalogue for 1906, the 75c. is quoted at 1s. 4d.; the 1r. 50c. at 2s. 6d., and the 2r. 25c. at 3s. 9d. In face of these prices Gibbons is hardly likely to keep the 2r. 25c. at 10s.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2c.	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
3c.	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
6c.	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 3
12c.	0 3	0 3	0 4	0 4
15c.	0 4	0 4	0 6	0 6
18c.	0 5	0 5	0 8	0 8
30c.	0 7	0 7	0 9	0 9
45c.	0 10	0 10	1 3	1 3
75c.	1 5	1 5	2 0	2 0
1r. 50c.	2 8	2 8	5 0	5 0
2r. 25c.	4 0	4 0	10 0	10 0

**1903. Provisional.** One value. Design: 3 cents on the King's head 15c., 3 cents on the 18c. King's head, and 3 cents on the 45 cents King's head. All locally surcharged in black in similar type to previous provisional "3 cents."

In order to outwit speculators notice was given by the post office that no one person would be permitted to purchase more than one sheet of 60 stamps. Those desirous of getting supplies were on the scene at an early hour, and gave money to different people to buy sheets for them, but many could not even get near the door of the post office, and it is said that, despite the restrictions of the postal officials, nearly all these provisionals got into the hands of one man who had a crowd of fifty negroes on the spot. As there were only 33,000 stamps surcharged, before the day was done the post office was once more out of stock of 3 cents stamps. Then another provisional was issued and the same game went on again.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.
	s. d.
3 cents on 15c. King's head	— 1 0
3 cents on 18c.	— 2 6
3 cents on 45c.	— 0 8

These stamps have been steadily increasing in price, not by leaps and bounds, but steadily, clearly indicating that the supplies are being exhausted.

**1906.** Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII as in the single C.A. issue of 1903, but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. Colours as in the 1903 series and Perf. 14.

Wmk.	Multiple Crown C.A.	Perf. 14.	Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
2c.	chestnut, name and value in green	-	0	1	-	-
3c.	dull green	-	0	1	-	-
6c.	carmine	-	0	2	-	-
12c.	brown, name and value green	-	0	3	-	-
15c.	ultramarine	-	0	4	-	-
18c.	sage green, name and value carmine	-	0	5	-	-
30c.	violet	„	dull green	0	7	-
45c.	brown	„	carmine	0	10	-
75c.	yellow	„	violet	1	5	-
1r.	75c. grey black	„	carmine	2	8	-
2r.	25c. mauve	„	green	4	0	-

## Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."

## Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series

# Historical Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

## No. 11.—Transvaal, 1877; the error "Transvral"

TO the wealthy specialist few countries offer so many attractions as the stamps of the Transvaal. They provide plenty of the variety which is the spice of specialism, any amount of scope for study, notwithstanding the many erudite articles that have been written about them, and there are several varieties of the greatest rarity whose acquirement is more a matter of much patient and untiring search than a lengthy purse. Among the *rara avis* probably the scarcest and certainly the best known is the error in the 1d. red on blue stamps of the First British Occupation with the word "Transvaal" wrongly spelt "Transvral," as shown in the accompanying illustration.

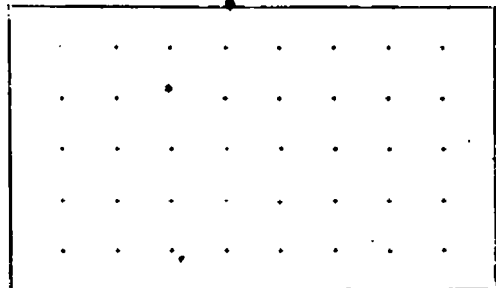


The first surcharge applied under British authority had the whole of the overprint in capital letters, but in September, 1877, a new type, having only the "T" of "Transvaal" a capital was brought into use. It was in the first printing from this new type that the error of spelling occurred, one stamp on the sheet showing a letter "r" instead of the first "a" in "Transvaal."

### Position of the Error.

This error is only found in the first printing of the "V.R.—Transvaal" surcharge and, as this printing consisted solely of the 1d. red on blue paper, it naturally follows that it is only on this 1d. stamp that the error exists. According to the Royal Philatelic Society's excellent handbook, "Africa, Part III," a delivery of 21,440 1d. stamps was made to the printers on September 28th, 1877. These stamps were all the 1d. red on blue paper, which was printed in sheets of eighty stamps, divided into two panes of forty each, the stamps in each pane being

arranged in five horizontal rows of eight. A whole sheet of eighty stamps was surcharged at a time and the error occurred on No. 11 on the right hand pane, i.e., the third stamp in the second horizontal row. In the following diagram the position of the error is indicated by an asterisk:—



Apparently all the sheets contained the error, which was, however, corrected before any of the 1d. on orange paper or other values were overprinted.

### Number of Errors.

It will be noted that as 21,440 stamps were overprinted there were 268 sheets of eighty stamps and, as the error occurred in each sheet, 268 copies of the error must have been printed. Judging by the present scarcity of the variety the majority of the 268 specimens have been lost or destroyed. The error is found on the imperforate and also with fine roulette, but how many of each variety were issued it is impossible to state as no official records were kept relating to this point. As regards existing specimens the variety with fine roulette seems to be much the scarcer of the two.

### Discovery of the Error.

The first notification I can find in the philatelic press relating to this error appears in the *Philatelic Record* for December, 1879, as follows:—"A correspondent has shown us the 1d. value, scarlet on blue, surcharged Transvral instead of Transvaal. We have never seen or heard of this error before." Apparently this particular specimen was the rouletted variety, for in the list of new



discoveries for 1879 in the following number of the journal it is listed as rouletted. When the first copy of the error, imperforate, was found I cannot say, but I note it was included in a list of varieties of Transvaal stamps published in the *Philatelic Record* in 1882 though it does not seem to have ever been noted in the formal new issue chronicle of that journal.

#### Its Market Value.

The Transvaal error is not a stamp that has appeared in the market very frequently and data as to price is not very plentiful. In Gibbons' current catalogue a used copy of the imperforate variety is priced at £90 and unused it is worth about £160.

At Mr. W. Hadlow's auction on November 8th, 1896, an unused copy sold for £25. In November, 1896, Messrs. Buhl & Co. sold the copy from the Pearce collection, which was described as "stained at the top and thinned at the back," for £27. A used copy with fine roulette from the Tamsen collection was sold by Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, on October 26th, 1899, for £29, and the

same firm disposed of an unused torn copy at their sale on January 18th, 1900, for only £11.

This exhausts all the records of public sales of this error I can trace.

In the article by Mr. Emil Tamsen on the stamps of the Transvaal, which appeared in the *Monthly Journal* in 1894, we are told of a mint block of six of the 1d. red or blue, one of which shows the error existing in the Official Stamp Collection in the Postmaster-General's Office at Pretoria. Whether the superb piece is still in Pretoria or whether it was looted during the war, and if so what became of it, I cannot say.

In the Taping Collection in the British Museum there are two horizontal pairs of the imperforate and a vertical pair of the rouletted variety all showing the error.

There was an unused copy in the Marks Collection purchased by Mr. D. Field in 1900 and, I believe, Mr. W.B. Warhurst possessed a mint pair, showing the error *setenant* with the normal variety, which he disposed of some years ago, but at what price has not been made public.

# Notes for Specialists

*Written by Specialists for Specialists*

## New Zealand Pictorials

### Natural Groupings.

A great many collectors run away with the idea that New Zealand Pictorials are full of difficulties, whereas as a matter of fact they are fairly plain sailing when properly understood, as may be seen by dividing them up into their natural groupings.

If we take the groups in their chronological order we shall see that each group has its own distinguishing characteristic, and that the difficulties, such as they are, may be reduced to very small proportions.

### 1898. Waterlows' London Prints.

*No watermark. Perf. 12 to 14, 14 to 15.* The first supplies were printed by Messrs. Waterlow in London, and were forwarded with the plates to New Zealand. This first printing is easily distinguished by the combination of no watermark and the small perfs peculiar to Waterlow stamps, mostly 14 to 15 and very rarely below 14.

### 1898. First Colonial Prints.

*No watermark. Perf. 11.* This series presents no difficulty. The combination of no watermark and perf. 11 distinguishes it. It is perhaps fortunate that the series was perforated with a machine gauging 11, for with the assistance of the skilled printers sent out with the plates to initiate the colonial printers into the art of printing from steel plates, much of these colonial prints could not easily be distinguished from the London work.

### 1900-1. Wmk. NZ and Star. Perf. 11.

*Watermark NZ and star. Perf. 11.* This series comprises only low values, ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d., and is distinguished by the combination of the NZ and star watermark and perf. 11. It will be noted that the first colonial series does not include any values below 2½d., for the very simple reason that the first supplies printed in the Colony were done subsequently, and only on watermarked paper. Hence, instead of forming part of

and completing the first colonial printing, they have to be placed in a separate series.

### 1901-2. ½d. and 1d. Various Papers and Perfs.

This series, comprising Gibbons Nos. 231 to 265, is the one stumbling block in New Zealand Pictorials.

(1) A printing by Waterlows, in London, of the 1d. Universal Postage type, distinguished as before by being on *unwatermarked paper* and small perfs.

(2) A colonial printing of the ½d. and 1d., on *very thick soft paper*, watermarked double-lined NZ and star.

(3) *Thin hard paper*, known as Bearsted Mills, watermarked double-lined NZ and star.

(4) Cowan paper, *thin paper and no watermark*.

(5) Cowan paper, *thin hard paper*, watermarked *single-lined N.Z. and star*.

I admit that these papers need study and are not easily separated by the tyro, but the specialist has little difficulty in distinguishing the varieties.

### 1902-7. Wmk. single-lined NZ and Star. Perf. 11.

*Wmk. single-lined N.Z. and star. Perf. 11.* This series presents no difficulty, for the combination of single NZ and star and perf. 11 is peculiar and sufficient for the list from 2½d. to 5s.

### 1903-7. Wmk. single-lined NZ and Star. Perf. 14.

This is simply a repetition of the 1902-7 series, but *perf. 14*.

### Other Specialist Varieties.

The advanced specialist, it is true, finds other varieties in new plates, distinguished by dots between the stamps or shades of colour. But for the general purposes of the ordinary specialist the general outline I have given will be found sufficient. When the collector gets to understand and appreciate the general run of the issues he will find no difficulty in extending his list to include many interesting minor varieties of paper, printing, gum, shade, and wear and tear of plates.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 259).

**Marianne Islands.**—A group of islands in the Pacific Ocean north of the Caroline Islands and east of the Philippines, often known as the Ladrões. It consists of ten volcanic islands of which only four (Agrigan, Anatahan, Alamagan and Pagan) are inhabited, and five coral islands, viz.:—Guam, Rota, Agnigan, Tinian and Saipan, all of which are inhabited except Agnigan. The total area of the group is about 250 square miles and the population is about 12,000 of which 10,000 belong to Guam. The islands were first discovered by Magellan in 1521 and named Ladrões (robbers) in allusion to the thieving propensities of their inhabitants. In 1688 the Spaniards took possession of them and in 1899 all except Guam were purchased by Germany, and are, administratively, part of the German New Guinea Protectorate. The seat of government is on the island of Saipan. Guam (with the only town, Agaña) was occupied by the United States during the Spanish-American war, and by the treaty of 1899 was retained by them. The first postage stamps for the German portion of the group were issued in 1900.

**Marino.**—One of the Districts of the Republic of Venezuela at which type-set provisional stamps were issued in 1908 during the progress of a revolution.

**Marian.**—A small town in the state of Virginia, U.S.A., at which 5c. and 10c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861, prior to the appearance of the general set for the whole of the Confederate States.

**Mark.**—The unit of value in Germany and some of the German states and also in Finland, prior to 1891. In Bergedorf, Hamburg, Lubeck and Heligoland (until 1875) the mark was divided into 16 schillings and was equal to about 1/0½ in English money; in Schleswig-Holstein it was also composed of 16 schillings and was worth barely 1/-; in Germany and its states and colonies and Heligoland (after 1875) the mark consists of 100 pfennig and is equal to 1/- in our currency; and in Finland the mark of 100 pennis had a value of about 10d.

**Maroc.**—The French rendering of Morocco as shown upon the stamps supplied to the French Post Offices established in that country.

**Marocco.**—The German equivalent of Morocco as surcharged upon the stamps intended for use in the German Post Offices in Morocco.

**Marruecos.**—The Spanish rendering of Morocco as surcharged upon the stamps of Spain used in the Post offices maintained in various towns in Morocco.

**Marschall-Inseln.**—The German equivalent for Marshall Islands as shown upon the stamps for that Colony.

**Marshall Islands.**—A group of islands in the Pacific Ocean between 5° and 15° north latitude and 165° and 173° east longitude. They are divided into two sections—Ratak in the east and Ralik in the west—each consisting of about a dozen islands. They belong to Germany and have a total area of 160 square miles. The inhabitants are Micronesians and number over 15,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1897.

**Martinique.** An island of the Carribean chain in the West Indies belonging to France. It has an area of

381 square miles and a population of well over 200,000. It is well wooded and mountainous, the highest point being Mont Pelée (4,426ft). It was first settled by the French in 1635. Fort de France, the political capital, is the headquarters of the French Navy in the West Indies. In May, 1902, an eruption of Mont Pelée destroyed the commercial capital, St. Pierre, the whole population of 26,000 perishing. Postage stamps were first issued in 1886.

**Martin's City Post.**—The inscription shown upon the stamps of Martin's Post issued in Charleston, U.S.A., in 1858.

**Martin's Post.**—A semi-official post established in Charleston, U.S.A., in 1858, for the purpose of delivering letters in the district served by the Government post office. The fee charged for this service was 2c. and a special stamp of this value was issued. The ordinary Government postal service ended with the arrival of the mail matter at Charleston and letters had to be called for or under certain circumstances, they would be delivered direct to the addressee by Martin's or some similar private post.

**Masini, G.**—The engraver of the dies of the stamps of Naples, who cleverly introduced one of the letters of his name in each of the designs so that the complete set from ½ gr. to 50 gr. gave his name in full—"G. MASINI."

**Matraire, Chevalier.**—An engraver, of Turin, who designed and manufactured the stamps for the Kingdom of Sardinia.

**Matrix.**—A term applied to the original die, especially in the case of a general die from which stamps of several different values but of identical design are produced. The term may also be equally correctly applied to the secondary or intermediate die, taken from the original, and applied as often as necessary to make the plate from which stamps can be printed. In this case the matrix die is, of course, a reversed impression of the original.

**Maturin.**—A state in the Republic of Venezuela which issued special type-set provisional stamps in 1908.

**Matz, M.**—A stationer, in Lubeck, from whom the peculiar, thin, fancy paper, upon which the 1859 stamps of Lubeck were printed, was procured.

**Maudesley & Co.**—A Liverpool firm of printers who lithographed the stamps used in connection with the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co. in 1853, and those for the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co. in 1857.

**Mauritania.**—This is an ancient name for a country in North Africa, stretching east from the Atlantic to Numidia. Under the Emperor Claudius it became a Roman province and later on it came under the dominion of the Vandals and the Arabs. This old name has been revived by our French neighbours for the vast tract of territory in North-West Africa on the right bank of the Senegal River. Apparently this region forms part of, or is the same as the old province of the same name. Postage stamps for Mauritania were first issued in 1906.

**Mauritania.**—The French rendering of Mauritania as shown upon the stamps of that colony.

**Mauritius.**—A British island in the Indian Ocean, 500 miles east of Madagascar, formerly known as Isle of France. It has an area of 705 square miles and a population of about 400,000 of whom nearly two-thirds are Hindus. The fauna formerly comprised large wingless birds, such as the dodo, and the aphanapteryx, and enormous tortoises. The climate is hot but, except in Port Louis and some of the low-lying districts, it is not unhealthy. The island is subject to cyclonic disturbances, and a hurricane in 1892 was particularly severe.

Mauritius was discovered about the year 1507 by the Portuguese and remained in their possession until 1598 though they never formed a settlement there. The Dutch visited it in 1598 and named it Mauritius in honour of the Stadtholder, Prince Maurice of Nassau. In 1644 they established a small colony on the shore, but in 1710 or 1712 they abandoned the island, and in 1715 it was taken possession of by the French and renamed Ile de France. Under the French it became a great centre of trade, but in 1789 the seat of French Government in the East was removed to it from Pondicherry, and it was taken by a British force in 1810, when the ancient name was restored. The European population is mainly of French origin, and the language is commonly spoken. Postage stamps were first issued on 21st September, 1847.

**Mayotte.**—One of the Comoro Islands which became a French possession in 1843. Postage stamps were first issued in 1892.

**M.B.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874 upon the correspondence of the Marine Board. These stamps were superseded in 1874 by the set (surcharged "O.S.") for general use in all the government departments.

**McCormick, J.**—The Postmaster of Baton Rouge, in the State of Louisiana, U.S.A., in 1861, and he is known to philatelic fame from the fact that he caused 2c., 5c., and 10c. stamps to be issued for the prepayment of postal charges. These stamps were superseded by the general stamps for the whole of the Confederate States. Like many of his contemporaries, who were, about the same period, also moved to issue their own local stamps, he thoughtfully had his name printed on all the Baton Rouge labels.

**McNish, W. D.**—In 1861, this gentleman was Postmaster of Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A., and, like his confrere of Baton Rouge, he anticipated the issue of the Confederate States' stamps by issuing some on his own initiative.

**Mecklenburg-Schwerin.**—A grand-duchy of the German Empire dating from 1701. It comprises an area of 5,135 square miles on the Baltic and has a population of about 650,000. Postage stamps were issued on July 1st, 1856 and on 1st Jan., 1868 these were suppressed, as the grand-duchy had joined the North German Confederation.

**Mecklenburg-Strelitz.**—Another German grand-duchy consisting of two detached parts which are divided by Mecklenburg-Schwerin. It has an area of 1,144 square miles and a population of well over 100,000. Postage stamps were issued in 1864 but the grand-duchy ceased to have separate stamps four years later when it joined the North German Confederation.

**Medellin.**—The chief town in the department of Antioquia, Colombia, having a population of about 55,000. In 1888 it issued a number of 2½c. and 5c. provisional stamps and in 1903-4 produced several stamps for local use. In 1903, too, a number of stamps for use in the Republic of Colombia generally were printed at Medellin.

*To be continued.*

## Formosa

*From "Griebert's Philatelic Notes"*

IN Kohl's "Briefmarken Handbuch" we find two issues of the Republic of Formosa, 1895, quoted. No doubt but few of our readers will have ever heard particulars of this issue, and we, therefore publish the following account which may prove of interest.

The reign of Liu, the Black-Flag Chief, dates back to the early days of June, 1895, when President Tang made his escape from Taipei, the northern capital, to avoid a conflict with the Japanese, who had landed on Formosa and were advancing on the capital to take possession of their newly-acquired dominions, which at the conclusion of the war between Japan and China had been ceded to them as a condition of peace.

Liu-Yong-Fu was elected to the Presidency of the "Republic," and it was agreed and announced that this step of forming an independent Government in no way indicated a lapse from allegiance to China. Stamps were issued bearing the characters on the top "Formosa Republic"; on the left "Stamp paper, or "Sitan," the phonetic rendering for stamp; on the right is the denomination; in the centre is the emblem of the late Republic—a tiger. One of the several methods adopted by the President Liu to raise money to support the so-called "Republic" was to force all Chinese in his territory to use the Republican Postal Service when carrying on communication between villages or with the mainland. Pro-

clamations were issued that postal agencies would be established in Amoy, Swatow, and Hong-kong for distribution of letters bearing the republican stamps.

Two issues of these took place, the first, impressed from a locally cut silver die, was on a thin tissue paper, imperforate. About 5,000 only of these were issued. The colours were, green, violet, and red. The die was then melted and attempts made to get a more perfect one stamped. Failing this a new die was obtained from Canton, and a new issue of stamps, impressed from the Canton die, made. These were also in three colours, blue, violet, and red, but were *all perforated*. The face-values of the different stamps were for both issues, 8, 5, and 10 cents, respectively. It should be noted that the legitimate manufacture of stamps ceased with the existence of the republic. Liu decreed that all Chinese letters posted through the local post offices should be stamped, and the bags were duly viséd to ensure this having been done.

In October, 1895 the Japanese closed in upon Liu and his soldiers from three directions, with the result that Takow fell an easy capture. General Liu with numbers of his officers escaped on the 19th, bound for the mainland. Anping and Tainanfu surrendered on the 21st, and the Republic of Formosa, which had had an existence since May 24th, was no more.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**New Hebrides.**—(Vol. III. p. 227).—We understand from the *Australian Philatelist* that the supply of 1s. stamps of Fiji overprinted "NEW HEBRIDES—CONDOMINIUM" has become exhausted. If a second supply is prepared they will probably be on the 1s. with multiple watermark or on the 1s. in colours according to the new official scheme.



From the same source we learn that the overprint was applied at the Government Printing Office in Fiji, and not by De La Rue as has been so generally supposed on account of the excellence of the printing.

It is probable that this provisional issue and also the New Caledonian stamps surcharged "NOUVELLES-HEBRIDES" will be replaced by a permanent set issued under the joint authority of the British and French Resident Commissioners. Indeed, it is already rumoured that a suitable design has been sent to Paris and that a joint issue has been ordered.

**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 262).—We take the following paragraph from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*:—"Our publishers have shown us a truly remarkable variety which evidences the economy practiced by the New Zealand authorities. It is a pair of the ½d. pictorial on watermarked Cowan paper, perf. 11 all round, but the two stamps were evidently printed at different times, as the shades are totally different! The stamps are joined together, as in the mixed perf. varieties, with a strip of paper at the back and perforated through the patch. We can only suppose the two sheets were torn or damaged in some way, before they were perforated, and that one entire sheet was made from them, by this method of patching. Both stamps in this pair are from the old plate.

"It seems that the old machine gauging 11 is now only used for cases requiring this sort of treatment, and, possibly, for sheets that have partly, or entirely, escaped perforation by the usual machines. All the mixed perf. varieties are stamps which have been perforated very much off centre by the original machine. Sheets thus defective are handed over to the man operating the 11 machine, who seems to be a sort of stamp doctor. The misplaced rows of perforation are then pasted over at the back with narrow strips of paper, and the single-line machine gauging 11 is then used in the requisite position."

From the same contemporary we learn that the 2d. value has been found with mixed perfs., making the list of varieties as follows:—

*Wmk. N.Z. and Star. Mixed perfs. (11 and 14).*

- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine
- 2d. purple
- 4d. brown and blue
- 2s. green
- 5s. vermilion

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 263).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the commemorative set referred to on page 263 is not to be issued until 1913! The authorities responsible for postal matters in Russia evidently like plenty of time to consider things.

We understand that the new stamps are printed in sheets of 100 divided into four panes of 25 stamps each (5 rows of 5). The perforating is done by a "harrow" machine. Other values will be issued shortly, and it is also likely that the designs of the rouble values will be altered.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 263).—We have now received the new 12c. stamp—mentioned on page 268—from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The design has been entirely redrawn, as will be seen on comparing the two illustrations shown below, and, while it can hardly be said to be an improvement, it is certainly no worse than the old design. The name "HELVETIA" is now at the top instead of at the base, and the numerals of value appear in the centre at the right-hand side. The background is supposed to represent the mountains of Switzerland, but what it really looks like it is impossible to say. In the right lower corner the letters "CL"—the initials of the designer, M. C. L'Epplattener—are shown. The watermark and perforation are the same as before. A 15c. in the same design has also been issued.



*New design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½, 12.*

	s	d.
12c. yellow-brown	...	0 3
15c. mauve	...	0 3

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 251).—Mr. John F. Seybold, of Syracuse, and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new 2c. Lincoln stamp issued on the 12th February, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birthday of this famous American. It will be noted that the portrait shows the head turned to the right instead of to the left as in the other newly issued stamps. The value is expressed in words and, as the date under the portrait is "1809—FEB 12—1909," it would appear that the stamp is not to be a permanent one.



Wmk. "USPS." Perf. 12.

	s. d.
2c. carmine ... ..	0 2

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 50c. of the permanent series in the design illustrated below, making the complete list with value expressed in figures as follows:—



Wmk. "USPS." Perf. 12.

	s. d.
3c. violet ... ..	0 3
4c. brown ... ..	0 3
5c. blue ... ..	0 4
6c. orange ... ..	0 5
8c. olive green ... ..	0 6
10c. yellow ... ..	0 7
13c. sea green ... ..	0 9
15c. light blue ... ..	0 10
50c. pale violet ... ..	2 6

**NOTE.**

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

British South Africa, 1s., thick paper.

Printed by Waterlow & Sons from the 1890 die on thick paper, perf. 15. £2, rose-red.

In February, 1905, this was first discovered by Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, and chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, February 18, 1905. Messrs. Ewen, however, believed that none remained anywhere unused, except those which they obtained. This, however, is not so, as a good many still remain on sale in N.E.R., and now all stamps are (on out-stations) in one account and can be bought at post offices, which was not formerly the case. It is, however, very doubtful whether this can be called a postage stamp.

The supply of this printing was sent to the Cape Town office of the B.S.A. Co. on January 22, 1897, and as I have already shown that, since April, 1897, no stamps of over £1 value have been issued in Southern Rhodesia for postal purposes, its use in Southern Rhodesia can have been for not more than a month. Unfortunately, there is no information obtainable as to the exact date when it was issued in Southern Rhodesia. In North-eastern Rhodesia the limit of postage is, as I have shown, £1 13s. 4d., so it has never been needed there, though it can be bought at rural post offices; in fact, in my capacity as acting postmaster, I sold one as recently as the current month (April, 1908). All the stock being in one account, if a customer wishes to buy a stamp he can do so. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* has chronicled postally used stamps of this issue; these may have passed through the post, but they were unnecessary and in excess of the postage rates. All these high-value stamps are, of course, generally used for fiscal purposes. Formerly they were obliterated with a cancelling stamp, but now they are perforated. This was necessary to stop the cleaning of fiscally used stamps, which was very common, especially, I believe, in Paris. If the cancellation was indistinct too, it was impossible for anyone but an expert to tell whether it was a postal or a fiscal cancellation. I have seen stamps of B.S.A. and B.C.A. in the stock books of some of our leading merchants in London and elsewhere in England fiscally cancelled, but classed and priced as postally cancelled stamps.—

F. H. Melland in the *London Philatelist*.

British South Africa Cancellations.

Postally cancelled stamps have a postal cancellation, almost invariably in black (though in a few newly opened

offices it has been for some time in violet), and, with one exception, always have the word "RHODESIA" and never "THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY." The one exception is that a few offices in N.E.R. had at one time (1900-1) a small sized, round cancelling stamp with "B.S.A.C." instead of the name of the office. Secondly, the postal cancelling stamps have always the date in the centre. Thirdly, they are when round—some are square—always smaller than the round Revenue cancelling stamps. The same remark as to size applies to the B.C.A. stamps, where the postal cancellations have a much smaller circumference than the fiscal cancellation stamps.

Thus, to sum up, if a stamp has a cancelling mark on it which contains the words "BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY" instead of the name of the post office, and "RHODESIA" (or "N.E. RHODESIA" or "N.W. RHODESIA"), or if it has not the date in the centre, or if the circumference is large, giving a diameter of about 34 mm., then it is a fiscally cancelled stamp.—

F. H. Melland in the *London Philatelist*.

Great Britain: Change to Surface Printing.

Mr. Nissen has recently acquired a copy of Westoby and Philbrick's "Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain" interleaved and annotated by Mr. Thomas E. Peacock, formerly Inspector of Stamping at Somerset House. From Peacock's notes Major Evans in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* makes the following extracts:—

On page 58 of the book the following paragraph occurs:—

"... At the close of the year 1879, the Government decided on adopting the typographic or surface mode of printing for the stamps in this section which was in use for the other values then current, and Messrs. De La Rue & Co. became the successful competitors for the new contract."

To this Mr. Peacock added a very interesting note:—

"The decision was really that of Sir Charles Herries, the then chairman. Our Department (the practical one) was not consulted upon the point; in fact, discussion of the relative merits of recess and surface printing was expressly put aside and only surface printers were invited to tender, with the exception of Bacon & Co., who, however, were only allowed to tender for surface printing. Upon this the decision was a foregone conclusion, as De La

Rue & Co. were unquestionably the best manufacturers or surface-printed stamps.

"Bacon & Co. sent in a tender for surface with the intention of preparing their plates by the indenting process of their recess plates.

"The accompanying illustrations," which had been removed before I saw the book, "are from indented surface plates.

"Artistically, of course, 'recess' is immeasurably superior to 'surface,' and in the hands of better business men than Bacon and Co. would probably never have been discarded.

"Bacon and Co. worked their beautiful process in the roughest conceivable manner. De La Rue their surface printing with the minutest mechanical accuracy and refinement, although they were very destitute of anything approaching to artistic feeling and taste."

"Philatelists will not," thinks Major Evans, "be inclined to endorse all Mr. Peacock's criticisms. The original black Penny stamp is universally acknowledged to be a model, both in design and execution, of what a stamp should be."

#### Original Gum.

The importance of original gum in determining the value of a mint stamp is a point that cannot be overlooked. Although gum may be defined as "the adhesive matter applied to the back of most postage stamps for the convenience of the public in affixing the labels to postal packets, etc.," it is necessary, from a philatelic point of view, that the gum should be that originally applied by the manufacturers. Various sorts of adhesive matter have been used at different times, varying from the thick, evil-tasting mucilage found on the old British stamps, to the tasteless substance used on most modern stamps. The gum on the early stamps of our own country was made from dextrine, or potato starch, and had to be applied to the sheets after the stamps were printed.

—*The West End Philatelist*, Feb., 09.

#### Present day Gum.

That most generally used nowadays is Senegal, Syriac, or Arabic, mixed with a little glycerine. It is thinly and evenly laid on by machinery, before the stamps are printed. The importance of gum is obvious, when it is considered that no unused stamp can be called mint unless it has all the gum with which it was originally issued. A study of gum is necessary in identifying the various printings of the stamps of some countries, and is often of the utmost value as a guide in distinguishing reprints from originals.

—*The West End Philatelist*, Feb., 09.

#### Crete: Issue of 1900.

Line-engraved stamps printed on white wove paper, without watermark, by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., London, consisting of nine values, perforated 14.

- 1 lepton, with Figure of Hermes, printed in red-brown
- 5 lepta., with design or head of Goddess Hera, green
- 10 " Portrait of Prince George of Greece, red
- 20 " Head of Goddess Hera, printed in rose
- 25 " Portrait of Prince George, painted in blue
- 50 " Figure of Hermes, printed in lilac
- 1 drachma, Representation of Talos, printed in violet
- 2 drachmae, King Minos of Knossos, printed in brown
- 5 " St. George and Dragon, green and black

#### Numbers Printed.

The numbers printed are given as follows:—500,000 of the 1 lepta, 5 lepta, 20 lepta; 1,000,000 each of the 10 lepta and 25 lepta; 300,000 of the 50 lepta and 50,000 each of the 1, 2 and 5 drachma values. In 1901

the 20 lepta was printed in orange and the 50 lepta in ultramarine.

The surcharges in red and black were made officially on account of a monetary necessity because the old Turkish monetary system operated in the Island until the date fixed for the adoption of the Latin union. This meant that the Turkish piastre which was worth 22 centimes or lepta only, and as the 25 lepta stamp was sold for 1 piastre, the 50 lepta for 2 piastres and so on, the foreign post offices operating in the Island found it necessary to apply the provisional surcharge to the 25 lepta stamp and the higher values, and reducing the face value of each of the stamps in question so as to make the postage tariff uniform. The lower values were sold at their face value.

The issues surcharged in red and black are given as follows, the red surcharge being the earliest:—

	red surcharge.	black surcharge.
25 lepta blue	100,000	100,000
50 " lilac	25,000	25,000
1 drachma dull violet	7,500	7,500
2 drachmae brown	5,000	5,000
5 " green and black	2,500	2,500

These surcharged issues were cancelled in 1903 by agreement with the various authorities controlling the foreign post offices in the Island, monetary unit of a franc being accepted generally for the arrangement of the tariffs.

The Cretan Government ordered only a small number of each stamp to be surcharged (pending the settlement of the postage tariff) not expecting that the stamps would be bought up by dealers and others within a few days. The post offices were literally besieged and in three days all the copies of the red surcharge was exhausted. Thus arose the necessity for a second surcharge in black.

In 1902 the 25 lepta value was reprinted with the provisional surcharge in Greek "πρωμηδρινον" in black but in larger Greek type than that previously used for the red and black surcharges of 1900. This overprint is found in a dark deep black, and also in a fairly light black tending to gray, this is no doubt caused by the inking rollers of the printing machine getting light of ink. In overprinting one of the stamps in the sheet the first Greek letter got printed upside down and is a printer's error.

—*From a Paper read before the Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society by W. M. Mackay, and printed in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 20.2.09

#### Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, *i.e.*, 1½d.

#### Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends—post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

Lagos: King's Head, Single CA., 10s.

A writer in a German contemporary having made an attack on the high catalogue price, £10 unused and £12 used for the Lagos King's Head, Single CA., 10s., and having asserted that the whole issue was bought up by speculators, the *Philatelic Adviser* states the actual facts concerning the stamps as follows:—

"They are these—that the stamp went quietly out of issue in company with its fellow value, the 2s. 6d., before it was even known that there was a change of watermark, which change of watermark had not even been noticed by the Lagos authorities until it was pointed out to them by collectors.

"That at the time it became known that there was but a limited printing of these stamps, practically the whole of them, with the exception of those which had done postal duty, had passed into the hands of collectors through the new issue services run by several dealers, the largest firms in London having between them not more than a couple of dozen specimens. The numbers printed were:—

2s. 6d. ... ..	1,440
5s. ... ..	1,680
10s. .... ..	720

and as the great majority sold to dealers at the time of issue were absorbed into collections and have remained there, it is not to be wondered at that for the few on the market such high prices are asked."

Kingston Relief Tete Beche.

It will be remembered that in the printing of the Kingston Relief Stamps issued by the Colony of Barbados there were six *tete beche* pairs, that they were found by one dealer, and that he sold them at £10 each.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay now offer a strip of four showing the variety for £3.

King Edward VII. Land Stamps.

This ridiculous issue for which the New Zealand Government was so much laughed at has not caught on amongst collectors, even as a curiosity. They were offered here for 12s. 6d. In the Colony they are said to have been hawked about at 3d each. The latest price in the London market seems to be 7s. 6d., Messrs. Bridger & Kay's quotation.

A Dealer on Auctions.

Messrs. Bright & Son, in their house organ, the *Philatelic Adviser*, say "We have frequently sold stamps in the London Auctions which have fetched higher prices than we had marked them at in our Stock Books, and which had been seen by hundreds of collectors at least. Moreover, dealers, who should know better, have paid us in the same manner higher prices for stamps than they have been listed at in our Wholesale Lists."

The Boom in Europeans.

The boom has set in for Europeans so unmistakably that catalogue prices which were considerably advanced in last year's catalogues, have been further advanced in

this year's, and dealers tell me they cannot now keep stock as they did in the lean years when everyone was selling.

My old friend W. P. Wilson has been shrewd enough to lay up for the boom a fine stock of Europeans for sets, and he now sends me a neat "Price List of the Postage Stamps of Europe in cheap sets, which he claims to be the most complete of its kind ever published in England." Some particulars are given in his advertisement in this number.

Chilli in Demand.

Messrs. Glendinning who sold a fine lot of Chilians at grabbing prices a few weeks since have another special lot in their sale of March 24th, 1909. There is a very fine horizontal strip of six of the first 5c. on blued paper, and a strip of three of the 10c. blued, the 5c. of 1885, Gibbons' No. 11, mint, a very scarce stamp unused, and a grand unused range of shades of the 1c.

Germany: 1900, Large Reichpost.

A complete and very spotless mint set of the rarity large lettering of Reichpost of the current issue of Germany is included in Glendinning's sale for 23rd and 24th March, 1909.

It will be remembered that only a few copies of these stamps got out before the lettering was corrected.

In Gibbons' catalogue they run up to £36.

Collection of Maltese Cancellations.

Just now some excellent articles are appearing in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* on the stamps of Malta. Indeed of late the stamps of this little colony have been receiving considerable attention.

But what a chance for Maltese specialists there is in Glendinning's sale of 23.9.09, when a valuable collection of Maltese Cancellations, numbering no less than 456 stamps will be offered in one lot.

I wish some one would trot out a similar collection of the cancellations of my favourite country.

Market Price of Inverteds.

Inverted stamps are amongst the great rarities, but in these days of large printings they are getting more common, except with good printers. The printer of a stamp makes all the difference in the world, for instance, Waterlows regard with horror any such slip getting out from their establishment, for of course they regard it as bad evidence of great carelessness on the part of their workmen. Hence the few Waterlows that have got out, such as Liberia and Congo, fetch high prices.

On the other hand no one believes that all the Nyassaland rubbish was the result of great carelessness.

The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Abena Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

### Now Ready.

#### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

## Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.  
Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.  
The Court Stamp Co., 10, Marriott's Court, Manchester.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION to THE POSTAGE STAMP would be an excellent gift to any friend who is interested in stamp collecting. If you will send a postal order to the publishers (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1 Amen Corner) they will see that your friend gets a copy regularly, post free. You will thus be saved all trouble yourself, and have the satisfaction of knowing that your friend is reminded of your remembrance every week of the year. If you prefer to send the copy of your first week's subscription yourself, the publishers will send this to you gratis.

	s.	d.
Yearly ... ..	6	6
Half-Yearly ... ..	3	3
Quarterly ....	1	8

TO SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London.

I enclose herewith postal order for ..... being ..... months' subscription (post free) to THE POSTAGE STAMP. Please send a copy weekly beginning with the issue dated..... to:—

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.



At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

MOROCCO AGENCIES. Blocks wanted with control numbers other than F6. Roskilly, Park Street, St. Albans.

BARGAINS! Tuscany 18a. (S.G.) used, 7/- (cat. 30/-) fine. Japan, 74 (pl. 3) 3/- (cat. 12/-); 124 mint 5/- (cat. 30/-). Bahamas, 2, 10/-, superb (cat. 60/-), and Argentina.—C. Jewell, Schoolfield, Rugby.

SUPERB copies of British and Colonial, one-third and one-fourth catalogue. References.—Roberts, Presburg Road, New Malden.

FIFTEEN WEST INDIAN, 15 African, Colombia, Montenegro, Ecuador, Philippines, Hayti, Newfoundland, Ceylon and 180 others different, 1/-—Craig, Clenstone, Blandford.



# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

### Italian Earthquake Stamps.



At the request of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London I gladly give publicity to the following circular:

"A series of stamps has been designed by Professor Doepler, under the auspices of a special Italian Committee in Berlin, and these are being offered for sale to raise money for an international collecting fund, which will

embrace the entire civilised world, and will be devoted to the relief of the children bereft of parents by the earthquake. The stamps for the United Kingdom will be printed in British currency, and will be issued in sets of ten different designs, and sold at 1s. 3d. per set. A single stamp bearing the portrait of the King and Queen of Italy will be sold for 2½d.

"Mr. D. Field, 4-5, The Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, has been officially appointed by the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London, sole distributor of these stamps for Great Britain, and to him all communications and applications should be addressed."

No words of mine are needed to commend such an object, and the objection of stamp collectors to such an issue is removed by the fact that they are not forced on their notice as postage stamps; they are in reality receipt labels for even small contributions in relief of sufferers from the terrible earthquake.

### Our "Mean" Penny Stamp.

As intimated in my notes last week Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., raised the question of the poverty-stricken character of our postage stamps, but he was relegated to the list of "Questions not answered orally," that is to say, the question and its reply were printed and issued with the Parliamentary papers of

the day. Here is the result which I quote from *The Times* Parliamentary report:—

"Mr. Henniker Heaton asked the Postmaster-General whether his attention had been called to the objections taken to the appearance and design of the British penny stamp, as compared with stamps of the same value issued by other nations, and to the fact that the paper it was printed on was cheap and poor; and whether he intended to take steps, without delay, to give the public an improved penny stamp.

Mr. Buxton.—Tastes differ. The penny stamp is printed on the same description of paper as the former issues with the Queen's head. There is no present intention of issuing a new penny stamp."

Mr. Buxton's reply is rather chirpy, but, judging by past experience, I don't fancy he has disposed altogether of Mr. Henniker Heaton and his advocacy of a more respectable design for our postage stamps.

### Exhibition in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The North of England Philatelic Society are going to hold an Exhibition of the World's Postage Stamps in the Academy of Arts, Blakett Street, Newcastle, on Friday and Saturday the 26th and 27th of this month. Many of the exhibitors at the Manchester Exhibition have signified their intention of competing for the three silver and twelve bronze offered for competition.

### The New Abyssinians.

There is an end of the surcharge at last, for Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform me the new permanent stamps were issued on January 28th, 1909.

There are three designs in the set. They have been printed in Paris and are of large size, somewhat resembling the Korean stamps of 1903.

As all stamps of the old type in stock, surcharged and unsurcharged, were to be burnt on the date of issue of the new stamps, the issues of the last few years should be good.

### Gibbons' Sectional Album.

Many of us are wondering how Gibbons' Sectional Imperial Album is going to pan out, and if

the firm will have the courage to go right through all the foreign countries with it.

The cost to publishers and collectors will be enormous. The British Colonial section should be a safe investment, but a wicked correspondent of mine suggests that the prospect of special sections of every minor variety of Nicaragua, Salvador and other unpopular countries must be appalling. But my friend here overlooks the fact that Salvador Power alone will want a Cunarder cargo of these sections.

Personally I have great faith in the ultimate success of the sectional album.

#### Sections already published.

Of the Sectional Imperial Album the following sections have already been published:—

Great Britain	-	85 pages.
West Indies	-	170 "
American Colonies	-	86 "
African Colonies	-	376 "
European Colonies	-	38 "
Asiatic Colonies	-	66 "
U.S. and Colonies	-	146 "

The largest individual section so far is Great Britain, 85 pages, Transvaal coming next with 66 pages.

But the Australian Colonies will flatten out all these records.

#### The Cost thereof to Collectors.

"What," says my friend, "will be the total cost to the collector who wishes to remain true to general collecting and to his Gibbons' Imperial Album? Reckon a 5s. binder for every 100 pages, or smaller section, and the leaves at an average of  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. each, and where are you? I guess some will have to sell out some Consols to pay up."

But how many out and out, whole hog, general collectors are there, my friend? The next one caught alive should be stuffed for our philatelic museum.

#### Rhodesia and Unification.

According to a *Times* telegram from Buluwayo, Mr. Coghlan, member of the Legislative Council of Rhodesia, who represented Rhodesia at the South African Closer Union Convention, speaking at a crowded meeting here to-day, said that he went to the Convention a Federationist and returned a Unificationist. He extolled the Constitution and declared that it was Rhodesia's inevitable destiny to enter the Union, but that it must first develop its resources and become a strong and prosperous State.

#### New Hebrides discovery.

Here's a nice kettle of fish for us in the New Hebrides Condominium issue, which we have been led to believe was plain, straightforward and done with. We are now told that instead of being all on multiple CA paper, some copies of the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. value have been discovered by Mr. Oswald Marsh on single CA paper.

#### Persia: Forgeries and Reprints.

The Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society devoted their February meeting to Forgeries and Reprints, and had a real treat in an album of forgeries and reprints of Persia from the now celebrated Stanley Gibbons' Collection, kindly sent for their inspection. I have never before seen such a comprehensive collection of the forgeries and reprints of one country,

and so exquisitely arranged, with exhaustive notes. The collection included a splendid array of full sheets of reprints of the first issue.

#### Lake as a Stamp Definition.

My good old friend Mr. Warhurst, compiler of Gibbons' colour dictionary, writes in reference to my note of last week as follows:—

"Dear Cornelius,—Please don't judge Gibbons as having 'thrown over lake' as a philatelic colour. In the first colour dictionary I could not find a lake or a crimson ink to please me, but there was a beautiful 'crimson lake' in the ink makers book which I put in as between the two colours. Their 'lake' only referred to the pigment from which they made their crimson colour. In the new edition to avoid using pigment names as much as possible, I omitted a lake in the types of colour, but the picture on title page is in a lake colour (p. 49.) though as there is no solid block of colour as in the others, it does not look dark enough for the colour name.

"There is no 'red' as such, but that was not throwing over the colour, and so with other well known colours. Whatever blame or faults there are in the book must be set down solely to me, as it was left absolutely to me to do as I pleased in the matter, and the firm did not see a single proof or copy of anything till my printers delivered first batch of books complete.

"The book is only intended to explain or illustrate certain colours that collectors are often in doubt about—not to limit colour names."

#### The Transval Error.

Mr. B. W. Warhurst writes to me in reference to the article in *Historical Rarities* on the Transval error:—

"As to the 'Transval' error somebody was a long time in reporting it to the press, for I received it about January, 1878 from Whitfield King as part of a dozen he sent me. A week or two after I asked for another dozen (at 3s. 6d. I think) from top left corner of sheet and got it, and in following weeks other dozens, till I had six copies in all. I put one on a sheet of duplicates I left now and then at Mrs. Fernley's, and Mr. de Ysasi had one at 1s. 6d., asking me later for another at 2s. 6d., rising to 5s., but I declined as I had only two uncut blocks left.

"One of those (reduced to a pair as you describe it) was shown by me at the I.P.U. exhibition at the Philatelic Society's rooms in Arundel St. in 1901, and an offer made to me afterwards induced me to ask £150 for the pair, as probably unique, and I accepted a small discount off that from a noted dealer.

"Your diagram agrees with the description in Part III of Africa book, but is to me a mystery, as I told Mr. Yardley after the publication of that colossal work. I do not know how the plate is made up, but that pair was in my album with a margin  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of an inch wide on left, which acted as a hinge, and in pulling it out for exhibit, it skinned and tore so that I had to cut it almost close—a fragment of that margin is still in the album. Mr. Yardley declares it cannot be, for from flaw marks on original stamp it must have been the third from left edge of sheet without a margin. At any rate there was a fair margin of profit, as also on a dozen 1d. with Queen's head which Stanley Gibbons sent me for 1s. 6d. on 1st Jan., 1879, now selling at 6s. each.

# Philatelic Congress, 1909

*Proposed National Philatelic Society—A Collectors' Catalogue—*

*Suppression of Commemorative and Unnecessary Issues—The Next Congress, 1910*

THE most successful and marked feature of the Philatelic Exhibition held at Manchester on the 18th, 19th and 20th February, 1909, was without doubt the Philatelic Congress, because it has been accepted as the inauguration of an Annual Philatelic Congress in this country.

## The First Meeting.

The first meeting of the Congress was held on Thursday, 18th February, 1909. Mr I. J. Bernstein as President of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, under whose auspices the Exhibition and Congress was held, after welcoming the delegates attending from the various Societies, invited Mr. W. Dorning Beckton to preside over the Congress.

Mr. Beckton in opening the proceedings expressed the belief that now the ice had been broken if the Congress is made an annual affair we shall find well known Societies whose names are respected throughout by all philatelists far and near congregating from year to year.

## Proposed National Association.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop introduced the question of a proposed National Association of Philatelists. Alternative suggestions, he said, had been made, the first for a British Philatelic Society, somewhat on the model of the American Philatelic Association, the other for a federation of Societies already in existence. His own preference was for an entirely new and independent Society, perhaps embodying certain essentials of federation, but he could not see how any scheme of federation could be devised which would be readily and smoothly workable, and at the same time equitable to all the interests involved. As to the constitution of government of the proposed Society, membership should be open to every philatelist of good repute, whether a collector, a dealer, or a speculator. There should be a large General Council elected from the committees of the various Philatelic Societies, but for general executive purposes a reasonable quorum would suffice. It might be found possible, and even desirable, to form branch societies in important centres, provided, of course, that these branches always maintained a fitting attitude of respect towards the parent Society. The Society must appoint an official journal from which it could exact a prompt and punctual service. As to the annual subscription, it might be possible to cut it as low as 2s. 6d., but it would scarcely be desirable. 5s. per annum probably would not be too high a figure for the average philatelist, but at the same time it must be remembered that there are many philatelists who are below the average, both in philatelic attainments and in the important matter of finance. He took 5s. to be the maximum subscription if the National Society was to make a wide and popular appeal, but at the same time he felt that every sixpence that could be knocked off that 5s. would make for the success of the movement. If a thousand members could be enrolled at 5s., he made bold to say that the same amount of effort and publicity would bring 1500 if the annual subscription were only 4s., or even as many as 2000 if it could be reduced to 3s. Then as to programme there would be various possible spheres of usefulness such as the circulation of exchange packets, the provision of literature, and so on. There should be an Annual meeting analogous to the Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Society to be held successively in the various

chief cities and towns of the Kingdom and to rank as the National Philatelic Congress of the year.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton then outlined the scheme for the establishment of a Philatelic Club in London, particulars of which have already been published in *The Postage Stamp*.

In the discussion which followed,

Mr. M. P. Castle could not see that the practical results that might be attained would be sufficient to warrant the formation of a National Society. The difficulties were too many in the way of the formation of such a Society, and the advantages to be gained were not in his opinion sufficient to enable them to recommend its formation. The activity and development of existing Societies were so satisfactory that we might very well be content to go on as we are for another period of time before advocating the formation of any other body which might possibly have a tendency to weaken the individual efforts of those Societies.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher was distinctly against the formation of any National Society, and Mr. Bishop had not made it quite clear what he meant by a National Society as apart from an Annual Congress. It seemed to him that the Annual Congress, which he was thoroughly in agreement with, will fulfil most of the functions which Mr. Bishop had put down to his National Society.

Mr. W. E. Lincoln believed the rivalry that existed amongst the various Societies was more effective in furthering the interests of the hobby than the work of a National Society would be.

Mr. E. Philpot Crowther, speaking for South Wales, said the members of his Society were heartily in favour of any form of federation which would not destroy the individuality of the Societies.

Mr. G. F. Gibson could not discover what were to be the functions of this National Society.

The Chairman confessed that as present arrangements were working very well he was too conservative to attempt to launch out in another direction, which must necessarily break up the existing order of things, unless he could see very clearly that the hobby was going to benefit thereby.

Mr. Bishop having replied to some of the critics, confessed himself in the happy minority of one.

## A Collectors' Catalogue.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher next introduced the very interesting but seemingly hopeless question of a Collectors' Catalogue. We quote his paper in extenso, from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, as follows:—

The subject which I am called upon to bring to your notice is the question of a Collectors' Catalogue. Now we have a great variety of catalogues with which the philatelic world is blessed or cursed it all depends upon the point of view—but the catalogue that I am going to speak about is a catalogue compiled for amateurs by amateurs. [Hear, hear.]

Now some of us are interested in this question from the point of view of the training of philatelists; others, on the other hand, are interested in it as a question of prices. As probably there will be a good deal of discussion of what you will perhaps consider a thorny question, I will read it as briefly as possible and confine my remarks to three heads. First of all I will consider as to the need

for a Collectors' Catalogue, secondly as to the style in which such a catalogue should be written, and thirdly, if possible, the practical realization of it in print.

The catalogue is an indispensable item in the equipment of the stamp collector. The beginner, after he has acquired the rudiments of Philately, must necessarily turn to it to learn what stamps exist and how to classify them in his album, and so on, through all grades of collecting, up to the specialist, who, in the course of his studies, has frequently occasion for reference to it. Now the ideal catalogue would, of course, be one in which you could always turn up any particular variety on which you wanted some information, and, turning aside from what we might term the primary requirements of pure philately, the catalogue should also serve the collector as a guide to the relative rarity of any particular variety which he may possess, or inform him of the current market value of any specimen he may desire. But these features, being variable and dependent upon many different kinds of causes, are such as, in my opinion, no catalogue could ever adequately determine. The collector of the present day is favoured with a variety of catalogues, and there seems to be a general consensus of opinion in the philatelic world that none of them fulfil satisfactorily the functions that are required of such a catalogue which the collector should possess as a reference book. The catalogues now in existence have many valuable features; they appear frequently in new editions, so that the subject-matter is kept well up to date, but with the sole exception of the French Catalogue Officiel they are all published by dealers, and are, in fact, price lists of what they have to sell. As a consequence there is a certain lack of proportion in the lists of stamps of different countries. The stamps of popular countries which are always in demand are very carefully listed with all the minor varieties, while those of neglected and unpopular countries are inadequately catalogued. Moreover, most of the catalogues are written mainly with a view to the requirements of the specialist, and no attempt is made to guide the beginner or the medium collector in forming a judgment as to the relative importance of numerous minor varieties which he finds therein recorded. We have indeed seen, during the last few years, the appearance of various simplified catalogues, but in my opinion these are a delusion and a snare from the point of view of the training of a philatelist. They may serve a useful purpose in interesting schoolboys in the pursuit of stamp collecting, but the collector who starts on these lines and perseveres will, I believe, with the fuller knowledge which comes to the industrious worker, in future years bitterly regret the rejection or disposal of a duplicate of many a variety. We must, however, recognise that there are and always will be different styles of collecting. Those who wish to go in for scientific specialism, as it is now termed, will always be few in number, because it demands serious work, and this is more than the average collector is willing to bestow on his hobby. Moreover, it is doubtful whether specialism can be successfully undertaken without a previous experience of general collecting. [Hear, hear.] To collect the stamps of the whole world, even on general lines, is now impossible. There will be no general collecting in the widest sense in the future. The best type of general collector will be he who limits his attention to a group of countries and collects these on intelligent lines with due regard to important varieties. For example, he will not debar all varieties and variations of perforation on the ground that he does not collect varieties of perforation, but he will collect or reject them according to their importance. For example, he may reject the perforation varieties of the recent issues of Austria, but he will have to pay due attention to the perforations of other varieties. [Hear, hear.] Other good types of general collectors—I am using the term in

the sense which I referred to—are those who limit themselves by date, either collecting all stamps issued before a certain date or all stamps issued after a certain date. In the latter category will come the new-issue collector. There are other collectors who devote their labours to some particular object—for example, those who collect the stamps showing the work of some prominent firm of stamp printers—and no doubt there are many other kinds of special collectors existing. I consider all these types are worthy of encouragement, and they should have the means, in the shape of a good reference catalogue, whereby they may inform themselves so as to collect intelligently.

Now I come to what I think is a very important point. It is very doubtful whether the dominating influence of the catalogue in stamp collecting is adequately realized. The domination occurs in two ways, first, you may say, from the collectors' point of view, and secondly, as regards the question of prices. Dealing with the first class which I have mentioned, every philatelist occasionally comes across a collector who collects no variety which is not recorded in the particular catalogue he works with, and there is reason to believe, I think, that this class of collector is a tolerably numerous one. Now I consider such an attitude is harmful to the best interests of philately, as it deprives the collector of this type of its truest delights, the exploration of untrodden fields; and it also tends, by reducing his hobby to a mere mechanical operation, to negative in general estimation the claim of philately to rank as an intellectual pursuit to which the devoted labours of half a century have elevated it. It may be said that collection on such lines is a reflection on the intellectual capacity of the collector. [Hear, here.] But it is probably due to a lack of confidence and a want of guidance. If he can be brought to realize that there are possibilities of exploratory work his outlook will be widened and his intellectual faculties will be aroused. I might mention that it is not only from the point of view of the collector; sometimes you get very curious results from the dealers' point of view. I think a recent experience of my own is somewhat curious. Lately I have had the good fortune to get a dealer to allow me to look through his stamps bearing a certain surcharge, of which those who do not collect by catalogue know there are ten types. In the leading catalogue there are only four types given. I was fortunate enough to find all the ten types I required amongst his stock, and it was very amusing to see him taking out the prices for the particular types which I required. He had to fit them all into these four. He saw by that catalogue that there must be four types, and consequently those ten types had to be fitted into those four, and I was only charged accordingly. Probably in this case it was not altogether to my benefit. [Laughter.]

Then the dominance of the catalogue as regards prices. As far as this country is concerned, I think I may be quite free in saying that prices are absolutely dominated by the catalogue of Stanley Gibbons. I do not think that people always realize that this is, in fact, the quotations of a certain firm for a certain variety and dependent upon what they have got in stock. It is not adequately realized that these prices are based upon trade requirements, and those people who will take the trouble to think this out will find that in many cases this is not always in accordance with what the true value of a stamp in the market really is. I might also call attention to the fact that, as all collectors well know, the sudden inclusion in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue of a variety which has not been recorded there before has a very remarkable effect upon the price of that variety in the market. Those are illustrations of what I consider the dominating influence of the catalogue on philately; and I think to a large extent this does a certain amount

of harm. So that speaking for myself I am quite prepared to support the adoption of the principle that it would be very desirable if we could really have a catalogue, a good reference catalogue, for collectors, compiled by collectors.

As to the question of pricing this catalogue, that is a very difficult matter to decide. I shall have something to say upon that later on. If the catalogue is going to be done by collectors, I should like to say a word or two upon the second of my three topics, namely, the question of the style in which the catalogue should be done. The catalogue, I think, should be drawn up as Mr. Castle, I think, has pretty frequently referred to. He thinks, and I am inclined to agree and I think many others will agree with him, that the last edition of Moens' Catalogue has been about the most successful style of catalogue that we have had. In that catalogue the prime varieties are put in large type, and minor varieties should appear in smaller type. Well, now, there would have to be some discussion as to what minor varieties should be listed, and that would be a very difficult subject; but apart from that, after it is decided what minor varieties must be listed, the catalogue should contain notes as to the reasons for which these varieties are recorded, and if there are any varieties which are known to collectors, I think there ought to be a good many notes and things, with regard to literature and so on, as to where the collector is to find further information about the smaller varieties which exist—where he is to find further information as to what they are and what they mean. [Hear, hear.]

Now we come to the question of the pricing of such a catalogue. As I say, very many people are interested in this question solely from the point of view of valuing or assigning a value to varieties of stamps. Now I might say absolutely that I think it is quite hopeless for any body of amateurs to attempt to price such a catalogue. I am very doubtful whether I can offer any suggestion on this point that is worth anything, but I think if it is to be done at all the nearest that an amateur body could go to it would be something on the lines of pricing all varieties, say, ranging in value from a penny to five shillings, by putting a letter A against those varieties; varieties, say, from five shillings to ten shillings, B, from ten shillings to £1, C, running up the alphabet in that way. By this means I think a catalogue collector would get an idea whether a particular variety as to which he wanted to know the value might be worth sixpence or £5; but as to fixing a price I think any attempt is quite hopeless; there are so many causes which produce a fluctuation of value that it is absolutely impossible for anyone who is not really in the market to know what value can be assigned to a given stamp. I think the work of compiling the catalogue would have to be undertaken by an editorial committee who would in turn have to invite the co-operation of specialists, and I am afraid the question of finance would be a very serious one, even if many willing workers offered their services gratuitously and the catalogue were designed on a modest scale. The editorial committee would have no light task. It might find some difficulty in coming to an agreement amongst its members as to the exact status of a minor variety. Then I say, as to the question of pricing, some method would have to be adopted to indicate the relative rarity. It should also be observed that the rarity of a stamp belonging to a popular country, or the value of a stamp belonging to a popular country, could not be correlative with the rarity of the stamp of an unpopular country.

These and many other questions which arise would have to be discussed and settled before the work could be taken in hand, and there is no doubt that many philatelists are interested in the question at the present time, and perhaps this Congress may arrive at a solution

of the difficulty. I quite think the catalogue would have to be on a very modest scale. We have an example before us of the catalogue for advanced collectors, Collin and Calman's Catalogue, which, with the plates, runs to 1,350 quarto pages. Anything on that scale I feel quite sure would be quite hopeless for any amateur body to attempt; but, on the other hand, and in conclusion, I may say that I think that if we can find any means by which a catalogue for collectors by collectors can be realized, the end is a very desirable one. But I cannot quite see at the present time how we can actually realize the said catalogue and see it in print.

Mr. Franz Reichenheim announced that the Philatelic Societies of Berlin, Hamburg, Dresden, Leipzig and Vienna had come to an agreement with Kohl's that their Catalogue which only gave the principal varieties of each country should be reissued with the co-operation of a number of collectors elected from the representatives of the different societies to fix the prices of the respective issues of the stamps, and suggested that if we could get our principal firms to agree in the same way it would certainly lead to a catalogue which would be recognised as a Standard Catalogue all over the British Empire.

Major Evans said he had been advocating for many years the preparation for possible publication of a classified catalogue which he thought was the thing that was required by collectors. A catalogue was wanted which would do for beginners and for the most advanced collector, giving a simplified list, to start with, of all the actual stamps,—say a Post Office list of the stamps—and then of the varieties.

M. I. J. Bernstein suggested that it might be a solution of the difficulty if the handbooks published by the various Societies indicated in some way the relative scarcity of stamps.

The Chairman after enumerating many of the difficulties in the way of producing a Collectors' Catalogue expressed the opinion that it could never be made a financial success.

Mr. Castle reverting to the agreement to revise and accept Kohl's Catalogue, believed that if they could induce the dealers to say that "although we recognize that the catalogues are published mainly for the sale of stamps by this house, still we are in a fiduciary position to the philatelic public, and our duty is, as far as possible, to remedy any possible palpable anomaly existing with regard to the price of stamps, and make our catalogues as far as possible a true reflex of what the values of the stamps are in the country in which this catalogue is published"—they would have amply vindicated the calling together of that Congress, and have done something which would remove some stones out of the path of philately at the present time.

Mr. Fulcher in replying said the discussion might be summed up in these words, "we should like to see such a thing, but it cannot be done."

#### Commemorative Issues.

A resolution by Mr. Percy Bishop to send a petition to the Postal Union at Berne, urging the discouragement of unnecessary and commemorative issues, was unanimously adopted, and a sub-committee appointed with that object.

#### The Next Congress.

Mr. F. Reichenheim proposed that the Congress should be held in future annually, and that on the invitation of the Herts Philatelic Society should be held next year in London, this being unanimously carried. The question of the posthumous disposal of collectors' stamps was then discussed, and votes of thanks accorded to the Chairman and Hon. Sec.

# Lincoln Postage Stamp

BY THE EDITOR



**W**HAT is happening to the supplies of the Lincoln Memorial Stamp. Our excellent friend Mr. Benedict Prieth writing from Newark, N.J., on February 19th, 1909, says, "There is a dearth of Lincoln Memorial Stamps here. One would think it a difficult

matter to corner 100,000,000 2c. stamps (face value \$2,000,000 - £500,000), but the fact remains that the post offices have none on hand, and I have not yet seen a single used copy, although we receive hundreds of letters daily. Why this should be so is a question to which I have not yet formed a satisfactory answer."

## Complaint of a Philatelist.

Here is a letter which was published in the *New York Times*:-

"To the Editor of *The New York Times*:—Some time ago it was announced in the newspapers that a two-cent postage stamp with Lincoln's head would be issued to commemorate his one hundredth birthday. Inquiry was made at the General Post Office in this city on Feb. 11 for these stamps, but none were to be had, and no information could be given as to the time of their issue.

"However on Saturday, the 13th, the stamps were on sale, and were all purchased at once presumably by speculators and dealers, as they are now exhibited by the latter.

"Inquiry on the 15th and to-day at the General Post Office shows that no more can be obtained, and no information regarding them will be given.

"Were these postage stamps issued in honour of Lincoln's memory or for the enrichment of those with inside information?

"New York, Feb. 17, 1909.

PHILATELIST."

## Brooklyn Postmaster's Reply.

In a subsequent letter our correspondent sends us the following cutting from the *New York Times* of a later date.

"Complaints, most of them from stamp collectors in Brooklyn, some of whom have written to *The Times*, have been made recently that the stamp clerks in the Brooklyn Post Office sold most of that office's allotment of Lincoln postage stamps on Feb. 11, when the Postmaster-General had prohibited their sale until Feb. 12, the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. It was declared that professional stamp collectors had got most of these special stamps and were selling them at advanced prices.

"Assistant Postmaster Newcomb, in charge of the Brooklyn Post Office, said yesterday that all this talk had sprung out of an erroneous story printed in a Brooklyn paper on Feb. 12. He declared that not a single Lincoln stamp was sold until Feb. 12, and that by his special order no person was allowed to buy more than twenty-five.

"John P. M. Thornton, Chief Clerk, who had charge of the stamps, said yesterday that he would take oath that not a single Lincoln stamp was sold until 6.30 a.m. on Feb. 12."

It seems incredible that even in the land of cornerers any attempt should be made to corner and hold up for a rise an issue of one hundred million 2c. stamps. There must surely be some other explanation of the scarcity of supplies.

Even if successfully cornered it would be very difficult to persuade the general body of dealers or collectors to pay much of a price for any stamp of such a large printing. The speculators will probably burn their fingers over this issue as they did over the Columbian issue.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 273).

**Medium Impression.**—A philatelic term used in connection with certain stamps, like the early Mauritius, produced from plates that show marked signs of deterioration as the process of printing progresses. The term is synonymous with "intermediate impression" and is purely comparative in relation to "early" and "worn" impressions.

**Mejico.**—The rendering of the name "Mexico" as shown upon the stamps of 1856-63 issued during the time of the first republic.

**Meinhold & Sons.**—A Dresden firm of printers and engravers who produced the four highest values of the 1851 issue for Saxony and all the values of the 1855 set.

**Melville, George.**—A printer of Georgetown, British Guiana, who set up and printed the local issue of October, 1862.

**Memphis.**—A city in the state of Tennessee, U.S.A., having a population of well over 100,000, at which special stamps were issued by the postmaster in 1861. These were superseded by the general stamps for the whole of the Confederate States. Here in 1862 a Confederate fleet was defeated by a Federal fleet under Davis.

**Merson, Olivier.**—The designer of the current 40c. to 5fr. stamps of France. His name, in tiny capital letters, is shown on the left hand end of the lower border of the design.

**Meshed.**—The capital of the province of Khorassan, Persia, having a population of over 60,000. It is a famous place for pilgrimages, the attraction being the tomb of Imam Riza, son of Ali, founder of Shiites, in a magnificent and richly adorned mosque. Special stamps were manufactured and issued here in March, 1902 owing to a shortage of the regular issue.

**Metallik.**—The value in which most of the Cretan stamps issued within the Russian Sphere of Administration were expressed. A metallik is the fourth part of a grosion, and its value in English currency is about  $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

**Mexico.**—A country in the southern part of the Continent of North America, with an extensive coast line to both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It has a total area of 767,000 square miles and a population rapidly approaching 14 millions. Of the total population 19% are of European race, 43% are half breeds, and 38% are pure Indians. The Spaniards discovered Yutacan and Mexico at the beginning of the 16th century. In 1521 Cortez completed the conquest of the Aztec kingdom, and Mexico continued to be a Spanish colony until 1822, when she asserted her independence from Spain and in 1824 a federal republic was established. In 1835 Texas gained her independence and Mexico sustained a further loss in the cession of Upper California and New Mexico to the United States in 1848. A European expeditionary force landed in 1862 to enforce satisfaction for wrongs and injustices done to foreigners, and in the following year the French troops entered the capital and proclaimed an empire under Maximilian of Austria. In 1867, however, they were compelled to evacuate the country, the empire was overthrown, and Maximilian was shot. The government is now a federal republic under a president who is elected for four years, but is ineligible for re-election. Postage stamps were first issued in 1856.

**Meyer, J. H.**—A printer of Brunswick, who printed the stamps of the 1853 issue for the Duchy of Brunswick.

**Michel, M.**—A mechanician, of Luxemburg, who was sent by the Government to Brussels to study the method by which the Belgian stamps were produced, and who afterwards prepared the moulds for making the paper and provided the presses upon which the first stamps for Luxemburg were printed.

**Milesima de Escudo.**—The value in which many of the stamps of Spain were expressed. The escudo consisted of 1000 milesimas de escudo, each of these being worth about one-fortieth of a ld. in English currency.

**Milesima de Peso.**—The value expressed on many of the stamps for the Spanish Colonies. A hundred milesimas de peso were only equal to 1d. in our money.

**Milesimo.**—The value in which some of the stamps of Uruguay are expressed. The milesimo is the thousandth

part of a peso and is roughly equal to a twentieth of 1d. in English currency.

**Military Frank stamps.**—These are certain stamps of France surcharged "FM" a few of which are supplied periodically to every soldier for use on his correspondence (See also "F. M.")

**Military Telegraphs.**—These are stamps, formed by printing the words "MILITARY TELEGRAPHS" upon the so-called "unappropriated dies" of our own country used in 1884 and 1885 by troops on active service in Egypt, Bechuanaland, and Suakim.

**Milit. Post Portomärke.**—The inscription shown upon the Postage Due stamps of Bosnia, meaning, literally "Military Post, penalty stamp." Owing to the occupation of Bosnia by Austrian troops the post is known as the Royal Military Post.

**Millbury.**—A small town in the State of Massachusetts, U.S.A., at which a special 5c. stamp was issued by the Postmaster in 1846 prior to the arrival of the regular series for the whole of the United States.

**Millieme.**—The value in which many of the stamps of Egypt and the Soudan are expressed. Ten milliemes are equal to a piastre and one millieme is equal to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in English money.

**Millimetre.**—The thousandth part of a metre in French measurement. Twenty millimetres is the space now adopted as the standard in measuring perforations, the number of holes counted in this space forming the gauge.

**Minor varieties.**—So far as philately is concerned the question as to what constitutes a minor variety is one that has never, and probably never will be, satisfactorily settled. It is all a matter of degree, for while it is a comparatively simple matter to define major varieties as those of primary importance and minor varieties as those of less philatelic interest and collectibility, it is impossible to draw up any rules as a guide to apportioning stamps definitely to either of these classes. If we suggest as a definition that "A minor variety is one that differs from the normal type in some small particular" it may do for general use, but the collector will find it is often a difficult matter to state authoritatively which particular stamp, when several varieties exist, represents the normal type.

*To be continued.*

## North of England Exhibition

**A**n exhibition will be held in the Academy of Arts, Blakett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 26th and 27th, 1909 under the patronage of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and promoted by the North of England Philatelic Society.

The Exhibition Secretaries are Chas. L. Bagnell, F.R.P.S.L., The Groves, Winton-on-Tyne; R. W. Wilkinson, 1, Evelyn Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

The following schedule of classes has been adopted:—

- Class 1. Great Britain. (Open.)
- .. 2. Best Exhibit any Country. (Members N.E.P.S.)
- .. 3. Best Colony in Asia or Africa, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 4. Best Colony in Australasia, not exceeding 250 stamps. (Open.)

- Class 5. United States of America, over 200 and under 500 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 6. Any European Country (excluding Great Britain) and not exceeding 300 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 7. Any Colony in West Indies, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 8. Any British North American Colony, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 9. Any Country, Rest of the World, not exceeding 300 stamps. (Open.)
- .. 10. King's Heads, any five Colonies, not exceeding 500 stamps in all. (Open.)
- .. 11. 25 Rare stamps. (Members N.E.P.S.)
- .. 12. Collection in Album the sole property of any Collector in Northumberland or Durham, under 16 years of age.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
 After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 262).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us two stamps of the new issue of different design. One—a  $\frac{1}{2}$  guerche—has what is evidently the Abyssinian coat-of-arms in the centre. On the left of this is "POSTES ETHIOPIENNES," and at the right Amharic characters representing the same thing. At the base, on a scroll, is " $\frac{1}{2}$  GUERCHE" and at the top, on a corresponding scroll, the value is shown in Amharic. The other stamp has a face value of 2 guerches and shows a portrait of the Emperor as a centre piece. Both stamps are of large size similar to the new issue for Martinique. At the base on the left is the name of the designer, M. Victor Marco, and on the right that of the engraver, M. E. Dete. We fancy these stamps are of French manufacture. They are printed on fairly thick paper and the perforation gauges 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

New Designs. Perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
 1g. pale green.  
 2g. deep blue.

**Crete.**—(Vol. III p. 250)—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly chronicles a number of new varieties of the recent "KAAAΣ" overprint, in addition to those given on page 214, so we revise our list to date as follows:—



Error. "Λ" instead of "A" in overprint.

	s. d.
1 lep. red-brown ... ..	2 6
2 lep. violet ... ..	2 6
5 lep. green ... ..	—
10 lep. carmine (Hermes) ... ..	—
<i>Error. "Σ" inverted so that word reads "EAAAΣ."</i>	
1 lep. red-brown ... ..	2 6
2 lep. violet ... ..	2 6
5 lep. green ... ..	—
10 lep. carmine (Prince George) ... ..	—
10 lep. " (Hermes) ... ..	—
25 lep. blue and black ... ..	—
50 lep. brown ... ..	—
<i>Error. Surcharge reads "EAAAΣ."</i>	
5 lep. green ... ..	—
10 lep. carmine (Prince George) ... ..	—
<i>Error. "E" of overprint omitted.</i>	
5 lep. green ... ..	—
10 lep. carmine (Prince George) ... ..	—
<i>Error. First "Λ" of overprint omitted.</i>	
5 lep. green ... ..	—
<i>Error. "A" of overprint omitted.</i>	
5 lep. green ... ..	—
<i>Error. Overprint reads "EAAAΣ."</i>	
10 lep. carmine (Prince George) ... ..	—
20 lep. blue-green ... ..	—
<i>Error. With "Σ" of overprint omitted.</i>	
5 lep. green ... ..	—
20 lep. blue-green ... ..	—

*Error. With inverted surcharge.*

1 lep. red-brown ... ..	—
2 lep. violet ... ..	—
5 lep. green ... ..	—
10 lep. carmine (Prince George) ... ..	—
50 lep. brown ... ..	—
1 dr. sepia and carmine ... ..	—

*Error. Double surcharge.*

25 lep. blue and black ... ..	—
2 dr. brown... ..	—

**Gold Coast.**—(Vol. III. p. 190).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the 6d. printed entirely in purple, instead of in purple and violet as before, in accordance with the new colour scheme.

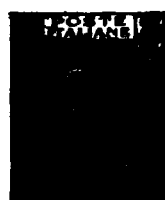
*Change of colour.*

Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. P.rf. 14.

	s. d.
6d. purple ... ..	0 8

**Honduras.**—(Vol. I. p. 188).—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly reports the discovery of the 1c. and 10c. of 1896 and the 2c of 1898 entirely imperforate.

**Levant. (Italian)**—(Vol. III. p. 92).—We learn from several of our contemporaries that the current 15c. Italian stamp has been surcharged "30 PARA 80" for use in these offices in the same type as shown in our illustration. The complete list of varieties in this type is now as follows:—



*Surcharged in Turin as above.*

	s. d.
10 para on 5c. green ... ..	0 1
20 " 10c. rose ... ..	0 2
30 " 15c. slate ... ..	0 3
40 " 25c. blue ... ..	0 4
80 " 50c. mauve ... ..	0 7

**Martinique.**—(Vol. III. p. 179).—Two more values—5c. and 10c. The list to date is therefore as follows:—

*No wmk. Perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  × 14.*

	s. d.
1c. brown and purple ... ..	0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2c. sage green and purple ... ..	0 1
4c. claret and purple ... ..	0 1
5c. green and purple ... ..	0 1
10c. carmine and purple ... ..	0 2

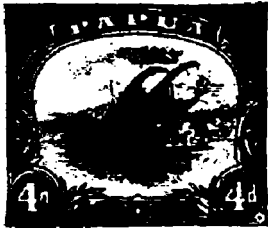


**New Zealand.**—(Vol. III. p. 274).—We learn from the *Philatelic Adviser* that the 1d. value, surface-printed instead of engraved, referred to on page 262, has now been issued. We are told the watermark is "N.Z." and star sideways, and the paper is chalk-surfaced.

*Typographed.*

*Wmk. "N.Z." and Star sideways. Perf. 14 x 15.*  
1d. carmine.

**Papua.**—(Vol. III. p. 238).—The 2s. 6d. in the permanent type (perf. 11), has now been issued, thus completing the set. The full list of varieties is as follows:—



*Wmk. Crown over double-lined "A."*  
*Perf. 11.*

	s. d.
1d. green and black ...	0 1
1d. carmine and black ...	0 2
2d. violet .. ..	—
2½d. blue .. ..	0 4
4d. brown .. ..	1 0
6d. myrtle-green and black ...	0 8
1s. orange and black ...	1 4
2s. 6d. brown and black ...	—

*Perf. 12½.*

2d. violet and black ...	0 3
2½d. blue .. ..	—
4d. brown .. ..	0 6
6d. myrtle green and black ...	—

**Surinam.**—(Vol. II. p. 273).—Mr. P. A. Roden, of Mauchester, has shown us a type-set 5c. provisional stamp which he received from Paramaribo. The frame consists of type ornaments and in the centre is "SURINAME—5—5 CENT" in three lines. We understand the stamps were printed by Mr. H. B. Heijde, of Paramaribo, in sheets of 100, the total number issued being 529 sheets or 52,900 stamps. The stamps were printed in 10 rows of 10, the left hand half of the sheet being *tête-bêche* to the right hand portion. They are in red and rouletted.

*Provisional Issue. Rouletted 13½.*  
5c. red.

**Switzerland.**—(Vol. III. p. 274).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a 10c. stamp in the type illustrated below. The list of values in this type is now as follows:—



*New Design. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½, 12.*

	s. d.
10c. scarlet ...	0 2
12c. yellow-brown ...	0 3
15c. mauve ...	0 3

**Turkey.**—(Vol. III. p. 216).—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* reports the discovery of the 20 par., of 1908 with overprint of Turkish characters, in vertical pairs, imperforate between.

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 275).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the \$1 stamp of the permanent series in the type illustrated below, making the complete list with values expressed in figures as follows:—



*Wmk. "U.S.P.S." Perf. 12.*

	s. d.
3c. violet ...	0 3
4c. brown ...	0 3
5c. blue ...	0 4
6c. orange ...	0 5
8c. olive green ...	0 6
10c. yellow ...	0 7
13c. sea green ...	0 9
15c. light blue ...	0 10
50c. pale violet ...	2 6
\$1 brown ...	5 0

**NOTE.**

*The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.*

*The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.*

*The Prices quoted are for unused.*

**Bargains in Stamps.**

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series.

**Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."**

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for the published price and postage, *i.e.*, 1½d.

# From other Magazines

## Our First Philatelic Congress.

The first Philatelic Congress ever held in this country is an accomplished fact. It can hardly be contended that the idea of having such a function is original, as we have been familiar therewith, both in Germany and America, for a number of years past. Many of us have, moreover, attended these meetings, and have derived due philatelic enjoyment or advantages therefrom, but with true insular conservatism it has never occurred to us that such an undertaking would be equally popular and successful in this country.

The inauguration of what will undoubtedly be a future annual feature of importance has been left to the initiative of almost the youngest Philatelic Society in Great Britain. The marked success that has attended the recent Congress at Manchester is therefore greatly to the credit of the Junior Philatelic Society of that city, which has by its energy and good organization established the

## Philatelic Congress in Great Britain.—

*The London Philatelist*, Feb., '09.

### Lindenberg Medal.

The Lindenberg Medal founded by the Berlin Philatelisten Klub on February 6th, 1905, to be given for important scientific investigation and literary capability on philatelic subjects, was awarded at the special session of the Klub, on January 23rd, to Mr. M. P. Castle of Brighton, and Herr Hans Kropf. of Prague. The previous holders of the medal are—

Theodor Haas	- -	Leipsic.
Dr. A. Legrand	- -	Neully, Paris.
E. D. Bacon	- -	London.
L. F. Hanciau	- -	Brussels.
Dr E. Diena	- -	Rome.
Major E. B. Evans	- -	London.

—*The London Philatelist*. Feb. 09.

# Correspondence

## A Collectors' Catalogue

HAVING read an account of a discussion of the above question at the Manchester Philatelic Congress, I gather that the opinions expressed were those of advanced collectors who have frequent opportunities of discussing stamps with their fellow collectors. May I offer the suggestions of a country collector who is without these manifold advantages, and who has to guide his collecting solely by a catalogue and a certain amount of philatelic literature?

I support heartily the idea of a Collectors' Catalogue and Guide. Although Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is practically indispensable for a serious collector, it is primarily a price-list of the goods the firm have to sell, and rightly so. But I consider that collectors want something more consistent from a philatelic point of view.

I suggest that a Catalogue might be arranged somewhat on the following lines, the various classes being distinguished by varieties of type, or letters, or numbers, or by setting back a little from the vertical line:—

**Class A.**—The stamps actually issued by the Post Office according to the decrees authorizing the issue, and specifying the design and colour. This to include surcharges altering the country of issue, and also the main divisions, imperforate and perforated.

**Class B.**—The major varieties of these stamps, including the leading watermarks and marked shades.

**Class C.**—The more important varieties of perforation, surcharges altering the value of a stamp, minor varieties of watermark, less marked shades.

**Class D.**—Varieties of paper, various errors in the stamp itself or in its surcharge, distinct alteration of dies.

**Class E.**—The smaller differences, such as altered letters or figures or dots, flaws, inverted watermarks, differences in spacing of a surcharge, or a dropped letter, &c., &c., unimportant varieties of perforation.

**Class F.**—Commemorative stamps (if included at all). The respective positions of some of these items would be a matter for discussion.

This rough scheme could not practically be carried out by any one committee, whilst even if this were achieved the result would lack authority. But if each country were taken in hand by some of the leading Societies in that country, assisted by specialists, the work could be carried through. In the first instance I should strictly limit the notes and exclude illustrations of stamps, in order to make the Catalogue less bulky and to effect a considerable saving in the cost of production.

Each country would then possess an accurately arranged list of its own stamps. These lists could either be issued separately or bound together in whatever way was found most suitable and most economical. I do not think this plan would entail too great an expense, as I think that much of the actual cataloguing would be done gratuitously. Then anyone collecting the stamps of such a country or countries would most probably work by this catalogue, and would feel that it had the authority of a definite body of experts behind it. Small supplements could be issued as required to keep it up to date. If success justified it fuller notes and illustrations could be added in future editions.

I must now allude to the question of pricing the stamps. I think this matter is much better left in the hands of the dealers as at present. They are in the business and have the actual stamps to sell at the prices they quote; they would not submit to prices fixed by collectors who are mostly buyers. Moreover, the prices fixed by any body of amateurs would be quite unreliable as there would not be the necessary supply of stamps behind these prices to back them up. Then the questions of condition of stamps, of popularity—varying in different countries, of cost of stamp to a dealer who may buy from a forced or from a reluctant seller, all arise. So let amateurs leave the pricing of stamps alone.

To conclude I am in favour of a catalogue issued by collectors for collectors—no prices being stated—on the lines I have suggested. I think this system would appeal to collectors all over the world, each section being specially popular in its own country. The catalogue would not be complete or perfect all at once, but it would be a beginning, and so we could find out the cost of production, the popularity, and the resulting sales. T. F. L.

# In the Stamp Market

BY O. REGINALD GUM

## Switzerland: 1907-8. 3c. Brown, Speculation.

The 3c. brown, crossbow stamp which has just gone out of use has led to harum scarum speculation.

A new Swiss paper (Zumsteins) tells a good story about a lawyer in Lausanne who made it known amongst the local philatelists that he was going to corner these stamps, so he hired a motor and chauffeur and made a tour of the Cantons of Vaud, Neuchâtel, and Geneva, visiting all the Post Offices to buy up their stock of 3c. stamps. After several days of adventure and privation in bitterly cold weather, he returned to Lausanne without beat of drum or blare of trumpet, bringing back a total of 27 stamps!

Somebody had been before him!

## Exploiting English Dealers.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell me that about a fortnight ago they received by the same post two letters from two different dealers residing in the same Swiss town, No. 1 offering to sell them the 3c. stamps at 35 francs per 100, and No. 2 offering to buy them at 6 francs per 100. A week later they received another letter from No. 1, who had in the meantime discovered a copy of W. K. & Co.'s January wholesale list, where the stamps are quoted at 3s. per 100, ordering 500 at that price, but of course he did not get them.

## Reason of the Speculation.

What is behind this wild speculation? The speculators must be tempted by something more than the effect of the stamp being obsolete.

Nobody seems to know exactly how many were printed: the number is variously estimated at from 500,000 to 2,000,000. In either case there does not seem to be much to justify the sudden rush for the stamp.

## Abyssinians Good for a Rise.

I hear that the new series has been received in Abyssinia, and supplies may be expected here in a few days.

All the old stock, surcharged and unsurcharged, was to be burnt when the new stamps were issued, the earlier issues of Abyssinia should be good for a rise.

## Sale of Miraband Collection.

According to the *London Philatelist* the remaining portions of this celebrated collection that have not been privately disposed of are to be submitted to auction in Paris by Messrs. Gilbert & Köhler.

The first sale, to be held on the 29th of this month, will consist of the stamps of France and Colonies, inclusive of no less than twelve specimens of the first issue of Réunion, and the stamps of Europe, in which the Italian issues are especially strong.

English colonials will follow later.

## Bright's New Catalogue.

In the *Philatelic Adviser*, 25.2.09, Messrs. Bright "as an example of the trend of prices in many countries," append "the prices given in the current catalogue for the 1859-68 issues of France, and the prices which will appear in the 8th edition."

Then follow a lot of stamps of the "Soldi" currency. Evidently that terrible printer has changed Austrian Italy into France.

## Rise in Austrains.

As the advanced prices which Messrs. Bright publish as those which will appear in their next catalogue are in many cases top prices in the new Gibbons' I append the comparisons:—

1858-9. Perforated 1s. Type I.	Bright. 7th Edition.		Bright. 8th Edition.		Gibbons. 1909 Edition.	
	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
2 soldi, yellow -	—	—	35 0	6 0	45 0	5 0
3 " black -	10 0	3 0	20 0	3 6	12 6	3 0
5 " red -	3 0	0 1	4 0	0 1½	4 0	0 2
10 " brown -	4 0	0 2	6 0	0 4	5 0	0 6
15 " blue -	8 0	0 3	20 0	0 5	12 6	0 6
<b>Type II</b>						
2 soldi, yellow -	4 0	1 0	10 0	2 0	6 0	1 3
3 " black -	18 0	1 6	18 0	3 0	25 0	2 0
3 " green -	7 6	1 6	7 6	3 0	7 6	1 6
5 " red -	1 3	0 1	1 9	0 1	1 6	0 1
10 " brown -	5 0	0 2	6 0	0 3	15 0	0 3
15 " blue -	6 0	0 2	12 0	0 3	8 0	0 4
<b>1861. Head to Right.</b>						
5 soldi, red -	20 0	0 1	20 0	0 3	20 0	0 1
10 " brown -	30 0	0 5	35 0	0 9	40 0	0 8
2 " yellow -	0 9	0 9	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 0
3 " green -	6 0	1 6	6 0	1 6	7 6	—
5 " rose -	10 0	0 1	10 0	0 1	12 0	—
10 " blue -	40 0	0 4	50 0	0 6	50 0	0 6
15 " brown -	15 0	0 8	25 0	1 3	20 0	1 6

## A New Hebrides Rarity.

Mr. Oswald Marsh writes to me as follows:—

"In a large consignment of New Hebrides ½d. stamps which I received by the last mail I found a few copies of the ½d. with single C.A. watermark, also a few printed on the first print Fiji ½d. multiple with name and value in bright green, the remainder of the consignment being all on current Fiji ½d. All the other values are as previously chronicled."

## What to put to Stock.

Shrewd dealers salt down as they call it stock of common stamps that in their opinion are likely to be in demand later on

A writer in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* says:—"From a dealer's point of view there seems to be wisdom in keeping something of everything; one never knows what sort of stamp will be inquired for next. At present I am putting aside all used pairs and blocks of stamps, no matter how common, as I find there is a growing demand for such, also the price for pairs is much higher in proportion than for single copies. An advertiser in a contemporary is offering £5 for a block of six penny blacks. I have also seen the following quotations in a Continental journal: 2d blue, no lines, 3s. 9d.; pair, 9s.; strip of three, 35s. A strip of three is thus worth nine times the price of a single copy. A London correspondent has a used block of 40 current 5c. Ceylon; where is the arithmetic to calculate the value of an item like this?"

## Our Advertisers Offers.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay announce the purchase of a fine Colonial collection from which they list a few gems at low prices.

Mr. Oswald Marsh, who has found a few copies of the ½d New Hebrides on single C.A. paper, invites correspondence, when he will no doubt tell you what he has to tempt you.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1. AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1. Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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### Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

#### New Ready.

No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

### Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of 4d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

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In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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## Gossip of the Week

BY CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Effect of New Issues.



VERY few sane philatelists now-a-days deny the life giving effect which new issues have upon the stability of the hobby. When all is said that can be trotted out against the floods of unnecessary provisionals, commemoratives, and show labels, there remains a solid balance of genuine issues to the good. And that solid balance is a recruiting

strength for the hobby of almost incalculable value. If the trade depended solely upon old issues fifty per cent. of the dealers would have to put up their shutters. It would be the natural result of many deaths and no births.

The New U.S. Issue.

The new U.S. issue is a case in point. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* (New York) says:—"The new issue of U.S. stamps has given new life to American collectors. All the old time amateurs are hunting up albums stowed away years ago and not a few have determined to improve the collection of their boyhood—replacing defective stamps, adding missing values and putting in the new set."

U.S. as a Collectible Country.

Our American friend goes on to say, "The stamps of our own country are now sufficiently numerous to make a volume by themselves and if it be determined to collect only unused specimens the task is not an easy one. There are quite a number of U.S. which are exceedingly hard to get, although the catalogue price is very moderate, the usual reply to orders is 'not in stock at present.' Collectors will do well to fill up their albums when they have a chance. Very

many stamps priced under a dollar should be marked at from two to three dollars, and as soon as prices are doubled there will be a rush to buy and they will be more difficult to obtain than they are at the present time. A set of fine unused U.S. postage stamps is about as good property as a man can own."

Nevertheless, there is no disguising the fact that the prostitution of the Postal Service to the issue of such swindling rubbish as series after series of pettifoggling local show labels, has done much to undermine the popularity of the stamps of the United States.

The Catalogue Question.

Mr. Franz Reichenheim explained at the Manchester Congress that the leading Philatelic Societies on the continent had agreed with Kohl to recognise his Catalogue as the standard after, as I understand, certain revisions had been mutually agreed.

Mr. Reichenheim now thinks such an arrangement possible with the publishers of our English catalogues.

But I am afraid the fates will be against him. Gibbons holds a most unique and strong position with their Catalogue, and to allow any outside firms to have a finger in the pie would, I feel sure, seriously interfere with their established practice of making their catalogue primarily an independent price list of their own goods.

Cayman Island 1d. on 4d. a Fiscal.

The status of their 1d. on 4d. has been questioned several times despite the statement on its first appearance that it was made solely for fiscal purposes.

Mr. Frank Chalmers sends a copy of the following letter from the Postmistress of Grand Cayman, dated 19th May, 1908:—"We have been out of 4d. and 1d. stamps for some time. There was a surcharge but it was used only for fiscal purposes. None were allowed to pass through the post. They were 1d. on the new 4d., of course badly done again. We have no 1d. stamps to put on our letters, so have just to mark 'paid' on the corner of the envelope."

Some one says a postally used copy has been seen.

That proves little, for all sorts of things sometimes escape through the post.

Clearly according to reliable evidence up to date the 1d. on 4d. is a fiscal, and has no right to a place in any catalogue of postage stamps.

#### The Flashlight Photograph.

There should be some form of penal servitude for the infliction of a flashlight photograph upon the unwary. I have rarely seen one that does not turn an ordinary body into a perfect guy.

Poor Mr. Reichenheim in the Manchester Exhibition Photograph looks like an impression from a very much worn plate, and Major Evans presents the appearance of a retouch.

#### Cayman Islands: Latest Notice.

With the view of restricting speculation in the postal issues of the Cayman Islands to the local gang the following official notice has been issued:—

#### "POST OFFICE NOTICE.

"On and after February 1st next all Postage Stamps issued by the Government of the Cayman Islands will only be supplied to applicants for cash over the counter.

"By order,  
"W. Graham McCausland,  
"Postmaster

"January 2nd, 1909."

#### The Future of Philately.

Mr. Ewen keeps pegging away on the "Future of Philately." He is endeavouring to arrive at a forecast by canvassing the predilections of readers of his excellent *Weekly Stamp News*. But the results are very mixed.

#### Moderate Specialism.

Here is one very sensible note from a correspondent who hails from Hertford:—"I think that moderate specialism limited to Britain and Colonies will be the most popular form of stamp collecting in the future. I think that such collection should include all distinctive types of watermarks, perforations, shades, etc., but not the multitude of almost imperceptible varieties which burden the hobby at present."

#### An Opinion of 40 years ago.

Another correspondent sends Mr. Ewen the following extract from a letter published in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* in 1866, from a clever lady collector who signed herself "Fentonia," and who was a prolific philatelic writer of those days:—"I cannot allow 'Sentinel' to challenge enthusiastic and scientific students of postage stamps without having a shot or two at his remarks. . . . If he prefers selecting his stamps by their faces only, by all means let him do so. We of the French school prefer and think it both useful and advisable to inspect their backs, their edges and their hue, before we can feel satisfied to classify them properly. There is as much difference between our mode of pursuing our investigations and his as there is between a botanist and a horticulturist. We are the botanists of philately; we go deeply into the matter, we study the peculiarities of stamps, their history, their date, their formation and their usual term of existence, whether annuals like the Spanish and Granadines or perennials like the English and Russians. He and his supporters are, on the other

hand, the horticulturists of philately. So that the stamps look pretty and form a nice row in the album, no matter the date when introduced nor how brought to perfection, no matter whether serrated or smooth—these are trivial varieties. But was Linnæus more frivolous than Paxton? . . . Botanic philately, if I may be allowed the term, may suit one mind; horticultural philately may suit another. Let each cultivate that which best suits his taste."

#### Mr. Ewen's Comment.

Commenting on this letter of Fentonia's Mr. Ewen writes:—"It is difficult to believe that that was written nearly 50 years ago; but Fentonia is quite correct. Thousands of people take pleasure in cultivating gardens without feeling obliged to study botany. Why therefore should not stamp collectors be left in peace to follow their hobby without being compelled to study the science of Philately, if science it be? So far as stamp collecting is concerned, the situation has only become serious since all the catalogues hitherto accepted as popular guides have gone over to the scientific side; it is as if the trade were trying to force everyone who grew a few flowers in a garden to become an advanced botanist. But the majority of people will always prefer to admire a flower than to dissect it, and the sooner the minority stops butting its head against a brick wall, so much the better for both the botanists and horticulturists of Philately."

#### After the Uproar is Over.

After the uproar is over, after the new issue dealer has button-holed you on up-to-date collecting, after the classic old issue devotee has assured you that new issues are all rot, and speculation, and the microscopist has strained your eyesight to its uttermost limit, we shall all sit down contented and happy to pursue our own likes and dislikes regardless of all the beating of the tom toms for this fad and that.

#### The Broad Domain of Philately.

For the charm of our hobby is its broad domain, its grand, almost perplexing, freedom of choice.

You may collect any country or group of countries that you please, you may restrict your expenditure to such stamps as you can beg, borrow or steal, or you may collect only inverted centres, or first issues, or penny packets, or commemoratives, or postage dues.

And no one can say you nay.

One dealer may endeavour to persuade you that this or that issue is the thing for investment, another that nothing licks original gum, but you are still as free as the air to go your own road and follow your own sweet will.

#### Listen to Your Mentors.

We who profess to be your disinterested mentors have each of us our own fads, our own likes and dislikes, and these cannot fail to colour our opinions, and even our very disinterested advice.

The real collector will ponder it all, and assimilate all that is worth assimilating. He will study his stamps and go his own road.

But the multitude will continue to be led by the nose, they are the weathercocks of philately who can be twisted and turned by the passing breeze of the hour. They can always be formed up into a procession to hand up their coppers for the latest popular novelty.

# King's Heads to Date

BY THE EDITOR

## St. Lucia

**S**T. LUCIA is one of the Windward Islands, which comprise Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. These islands are all under one Governor, though each has its own administrator and its separate institutions.

Philatelically the group is one of the most interesting in the West Indies.

For nearly a quarter of a century the stamps engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. served the postal needs of the islands, and the first issues, as in the case of the first stamps of Barbados and Trinidad, the values were differentiated by colour only.

Comparatively little has been written about the Stamps of St. Lucia. They have been overshadowed by the neighbouring and more popular issues of Grenada and St. Vincent. And yet the Colony has much to recommend it to those who cannot afford to go in for the much greater number of varieties and high priced stamps included in the sister islands.

For the moment, however, we are concerned only with the King's head issues. Some day we will turn back to the old issues, and gather up their history for the benefit of our readers.

The King's heads of St. Lucia are few and fairly low priced. There are no values above 5s., so that the most modest collector need not be deterred from specialising in the King's heads of St. Lucia. They have gone through all the changes that mark other King's head stamps. They began with a single C.A. series, then passed through the multiple stage, one colour for Postal Union values, and later on no doubt will submit to further changes in conforming to the new colour scheme.

**1902-3.** Five values. Design: the head of King Edward VII. in profile to left within a curved octagonal frame, with name of Colony in the upper label, tablet of value at the foot, "Postage" on the left, "and Revenue" on the right. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked with Crown C.A. (single) and perforated 14.

*Wmk. Crown C.A. (Single) Perf 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. purple and green	-	0 6	0 6	
1d. " carmine	-	0 8	0 6	
2½d. " ultramarine	-	3 0	3 0	
3d. " yellow	-	1 6	1 8	
1s. green and black	-	8 0	8 0	

**Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.**

There is not much to say as to the range of prices, for St. Lucia's are not amongst the King's head which ran scarce on single C.A. paper. Nevertheless it will be noted that the 2½d. has run up to 8s., a price that scarcely seems to be justified seeing that Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. offer it in their 1909 catalogue at 1s.

	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 1	0 2	—	0 6
1d.	0 2	0 3	—	0 8
2½d.	0 4	—	1 3	3 0
3d.	0 5	0 9	1 0	1 6
1s.	1 4	1 4	2 6	3 0

**1904-5.** Seven values. Design: as before, but printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown C.A. multiple. Two values, the 6d. and 5s., are additions to the King's head series, which were not included in the single C.A. set Perforated 14.

*Wmk. Crown CA (Multiple). Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. purple and green	-	0 2	0 2	
1d. " carmine	-	0 8	0 2	
2½d. " ultramarine	-	0 6	—	
3d. " yellow	-	0 5	—	
6d. " violet	-	0 8	—	
1s. green and black	-	1 4	—	
5s. " carmine	-	6 6	—	

**1907.** Three values. Design: as before, but colours changed to conform more closely to the Postal Union regulations; the ½d was changed from purple and green to all green, the 1d. from purple and carmine to all carmine, and the 2½d. from purple and ultramarine to all ultramarine. Printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. multiple and perforated 14.

*Colours Changed.*

*Wmk. Crown C.A. (Multiple). Perf. 14.*

	s.	d.
½d. green	-	—
1d. carmine	-	—
2½d. blue	-	—

It is curious that neither Gibbons' 1908 edition nor Whitfield King & Co.'s 1909 catalogue price these stamps, which were issued in 1907, and duly sent out freely in New Issue Services.

**Note.**

*For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number of "The Postage Stamp."*

**The Postage Stamp Binding Covers.**

Handsome dark blue covers in buckram, gilt lettered side and back, may be had from our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London. Price 1s. 6d.

# The Philatelic Congress

*The Manchester Congress, 1909, and its results—The London Congress, 1910*

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

**W**E may now look back and review the work of the Manchester Congress, and in doing so one cannot help feeling that, however lacking the proceedings may have been in definite results, we have the one solid fact upon which we may congratulate ourselves, the fact that an Annual Philatelic Congress is now an assured arrangement.

Great credit is due to our Manchester friends for the practical manner in which they have reduced theory to practice.

## The Programme.

Much allowance has to be made for the subjects offered for discussion and the manner in which they were presented. A National Society, a Catalogue for Collectors, and a Philatelic Encyclopædia, were all foredoomed to failure from the first, and the somewhat crude manner in which these subjects were introduced was not calculated to make converts.

## Proposed National Society.

The proposal for a National Society was handicapped by the success of the Congress itself, by its gathering of delegates from the various Philatelic Societies throughout the country, and by the very obvious and promising and sufficient relationship thus established between them, a relationship free from the risks of friction and marked by the greater strength that must result from the free combination of separate societies.

## The Catalogue for Collectors.

The Catalogue for Collectors by Collectors, a consummation devoutly to be desired, but removed by many obstacles from the region of practical politics, needed a more enthusiastic advocate than Mr. Fulcher, and a more practical presentation of some definite scheme for carrying out the work. The discussion of an abstract proposition is generally fraught with disappointment, and the suggestion of a Catalogue for Collectors as a theme for a passing discussion was no exception.

## The Philatelic Encyclopædia.

The Philatelic Encyclopædia proposed by Mr. Palethorpe was evidently a great deal more than the Manchester Congress could digest. The happy-go-lucky way in which Mr. Palethorpe recommended it as a feasible and workable proposal was evidently born of sweetest innocence of the herculean work involved. To undertake and carry through such a scheme would need an experienced staff of trained literary workers, it would require years to complete it, and the probable result would be just enough sales to pay for the binding, and no more.

## The Final Result.

The final result must not be measured by the adoption of this or that proposal, but by the unmistakable inauguration of the Annual Philatelic Congress of the future. We have rejoiced over the success of the Annual Philatelic Gatherings of our confreres on the Continent,

but the pessimists of the metropolis have always shaken their wise and unprogressive heads over the possibility of establishing similar gatherings in this country. You cannot do it, they have always said, the Germans meet to drink lager and amoke and incidentally talk stamps. You could not get our fellows to drink lager by the bucketful and talk stamps.

## The London Congress, 1910.

Well, we are at last going to try the Congress minus the lager, and we are going to make a huge success of the movement, and, what is more, one or two of the pessimists are booked for a big share in the work that has to be done and they may be relied on to work as never men worked before. For the Congress of 1910 the right men have undertaken the getting up of the show. With Reichenheim, Hayman, Slade & Co. as principal stokers we may reckon on a full programme from early morn till dewy eve.

## The Programme for 1910.

Knowing something of these enthusiastic workers and their resourcefulness, I have no hesitation in prognosticating for the Congress of 1910 an overshadowing success, a success that will accomplish great things in the advancement of our hobby and the popularisation of its pursuit.

Ever practical and business-like Manchester has done exceedingly well, no one can rob it of the credit of making an Annual Philatelic Congress possible. But London can and will, on its larger platform, ensure for philately an even greater success. Under its auspices the Great Moguls may be reckoned upon to foregather from all parts, at home and abroad, and a comprehensive programme of the best philatelic talent of the metropolis may be reckoned upon as assured. No one who counts in philately and who can possibly attend will be absent from such a gathering. Unfortunately some of our best philatelists are poor public speakers, but for all that the occasion will no doubt draw them out.

## A Year's Preparation.

We have a clear year before us in which to perfect our arrangements, and, even so, it is not too early to begin. A strong Committee should be elected forthwith and get to work, a skeleton provisional programme should be drawn up as soon as possible and arrangements made for the more important papers to be read, for busy men should be given plenty of time for the preparation of their papers. We do not want any crude or hasty work.

## A Three Days' Congress.

Manchester had practically a three days' Congress, but the Exhibition naturally monopolised much of the time. In the London Congress we shall presumably have at least three clear days devoted entirely to the reading of papers and discussions thereon, philatelic fêtes, garden parties and banquets.



# Philatelic Encyclopædia

*A Paper read at the Manchester Congress, 1909, by Mr. A. Palethorpe*

CALL this paper, "Wanted an Encyclopædia of Philatelic Literature." The writer of this paper has been in correspondence for some considerable time with an experienced and well-known philatelic litterateur, and from time to time has urged upon his correspondent the need and the importance, as it seems to him, of something being done to meet the want which is felt by many earnest philatelists of some means of reference to standard works, handbooks, magazines, etc., dealing with such philatelic subjects as possess the greatest interest for them.

At the suggestion of his correspondent, the writer has reduced his notes and ventures to submit the following considerations to those who may be interested in the subject.

The present being an age of specialism, this want necessarily becomes more and more emphasized as time goes on. In the nature of things no one author possesses a monopoly of knowledge—if I may so express it—on a given subject, and although he has had much to tell and has added to the common stock of information by patient and careful research, there is still more with which he does not deal. Some authors have adopted the plan, at the end of their articles and handbooks, of giving a bibliography relating to their subjects. This plan is an excellent one—as far as it goes—but does it go far enough? I think that it does not, because in most cases the student not only does not possess the books and magazines to which the bibliography refers him, they are not even available, or for that matter accessible to him.

This state of things obviously requires some alteration. The wish to be thoroughly informed on one's subject is undoubtedly general amongst philatelists, and whilst it has been estimated by a well-informed philatelic weekly journal that probably there are not more than a couple of hundred serious collectors of philatelic literature in the world, it is, I believe not to be disputed that never in the history of Philately has research been so highly developed, nor has it ever been carried on by so large and increasing a number of earnest philatelists as is the case at the present time.

This much being admitted, it follows that something should be done to make the means of reference to the best philatelic authorities much easier than it is, and to encourage original research and general literary work as much as possible.

The remarkable growth which has been witnessed of late years in the interest taken in the literary side of Philately, the desire for more knowledge on the part of philatelists, the increasing number of publications which are being successfully issued year by year, are abundant evidence of its increasing importance.

The writer has been privileged to see several of the largest philatelic libraries of Europe and to become acquainted with their owners. Amongst these was the famous collection which was formerly the property of the late Amtarichter Heinrich Fraenkel, of Berlin, and although there is nothing new in the statement that when it was disposed of to the Earl of Crawford, one of the distinguished patrons of this Exhibition and Congress, and sent to England, it required no less than thirty-nine large cases for its transmission, it will nevertheless be seen how great, how vast, is the field which is covered by the literature of Philately; and even this huge library was very incomplete in many directions.

Cannot something be done to reduce the area of this vast field by bringing it more within the reach of students and making it easier to cover, whilst retaining all that is best and most useful in it? I am convinced that something can be done.

The largest and the most important libraries are owned by private individuals, and these, for the most part, are of course not available for the use of students.

There are others, again, which belong to the principal Philatelic Societies, and although they are undoubtedly valuable and desirable possessions, their usefulness is of a limited order.

They are not accessible except to the few who are on the spot.

Probably the number of students living at a distance and who are members of a society which possesses a good library—and who use the library—is not great. Usually, it may be said, the necessity for reference to some authority on the part of the student is an immediate necessity, and if he had to wait for days, or, it may be, for weeks, for the information which that authority can supply, he naturally enough loses his interest in the matter, and it is in this sense that works of reference which are in the societies' libraries are not accessible because they are not handy, quite apart from the fact that the number of such libraries is by no means large. Something can be done, I am convinced, to meet the students' wants.

Much has been talked of and written on the subject of a Philatelic Index, but that, in my opinion, touches only the fringe of the subject; it is but the beginning of things, and it must be admitted that so far, at least, "the mountain has brought forth a mouse."

A Philatelic Index undoubtedly has its use, and I would not for one moment say anything in disparagement of the work which has been done in that direction, but there is the same objection to it as to the bibliographical references already mentioned, even were it complete, and it is a mere dry list, insufficient for our purpose and not filling the want which has been usefully called into being.

The fact, however, of a Philatelic Index being undertaken both in Great Britain and America serves to bring into prominence the need of the means of reference to standard works, which means the proposed work would supply.

I do not think that it is at all necessary to elaborate the case in favour of the publication of what I have for the present called an Encyclopædia of Philatelic Literature. To bring out such a work in large volumes at a high price and at irregular and long intervals would, I fear, hardly suit our purpose. If, however, it were issued by a society or by a well-known and enterprising publisher in, say, fortnightly parts, at a popular price, it would serve its purpose well and would be sure of a hearty welcome. Another way of issuing it which, in my opinion, would ensure its success, would be in the form of handbooks, also at a popular price.

I will now endeavour to outline what I think should be the scope of the undertaking.

Each country and each subject should be given a part, or a handbook—or more—to itself, and the writings of all the authorities on their particular subjects should be consulted, and the cream of the information thus obtained given in a compact, condensed form, which could be seen at a glance. The names of all authorities should

be stated, and upon matters which are the subject of controversy the student would thus have the benefit of the conclusions of the various authorities.

Dealing with the matter of countries, information relating to their History, Geography, Heraldry, etc., should be included; also their Postal System and its History, the Issues of Stamps, their Designs, descriptions of Proofs and Essays, Paper, Watermarks, Perforations, Reprints and Forgeries; and on specific subjects, such as the manufacture of Paper, Engraving and Printing, Perforating, etc., much technical information could be given.

It may be desirable to say here, that in dealing with the history of a country this subject should be "boiled down" so as to include such of the outstanding facts as would suffice to occupy a few pages, this and similar subjects of course being sub-ordinate to the main purpose of the work; and with regard to forgeries, probably minute descriptions of genuine stamps only, that have been forged, would be all that would be necessary.

These are the outlines then, capable, doubtless, of being filled in more completely at the proper moment. Whether it would be possible to thoroughly consult German and French authorities for the purposes of the Encyclopædia which the writer has ventured to suggest, it should not be difficult to say. So much good and painstaking work, however, has been done in both the German and French languages—and a not inconsiderable part of it translated

into English—that if it were brought within the scope of the proposed Encyclopædia it would undoubtedly be a material gain, and greatly increase its usefulness and both enlarge and increase its circulation.

The present, it seems to me, would be an excellent time at which to commence the work. Most of what has already been written could be overtaken, if I may so express it, with comparative ease.

The rate of publication of standard works, handbooks, magazines, etc., however, increasing as it does every year by leaps and bounds, the longer the Encyclopædia is delayed the less easy will the work become. I may be told that it presents difficulties: my answer to that is that they are such as can be got over with comparative ease if the work is undertaken without delay, and that it is wanted does not admit of any doubt.

#### Discussion.

In the discussion which followed the proposal was declared to be impracticable. It was contended that, however desirable it might be, it would be such an expense that it would never pay, and Mr. Lane Joynt failed to see who would undertake such an enormous task. It would want nearly all the experts on the whole of the subjects to voluntarily do the work. Mr. Duerst pointed out that something of the sort was attempted in Germany and had to be abandoned.

## Correspondence

### The Catalogue Question

DEAR SIR,—Now that Mr. Ewen in his excellent journal has raised the question "What will be the future of stamp collecting?" As an old collector I should like to say a few words on same.

As one knows, every year the stamp catalogues are made more complicated, and considerably more bulky and burdensome with the addition of wretched trifling varieties of perforation, paper, shades, etc. (many of which are not priced). You have only to shew one of the current catalogues to a non-collector and he will look upon philately as absurd, and probably say all philatelists should have their heads examined without delay!

It is foolish to catalogue, for example, six sets of stamps pricing each stamp separately, perforated say 9, 9½, 9½ × 10, 10½, 10½ × 11, especially when they are all as common or as rare as one another, and it is still more foolish of collectors to buy them. Again, to catalogue all such trifling varieties of surcharge such as the Zanzibar overprinted on India and yet not the various broken type in the English Official stamps is inconsistent.

The only remedy for this is for collectors to issue a standard catalogue for themselves. Two or three delegates from every philatelic society in Britain could meet together after having collected the opinions and suggestions of their fellow members, and then decide what should or should not be listed, and also what varieties not to be found in any catalogue, should be included. I am sure it would pay to publish the catalogue, and the stamps would be priced according to their actual rarity, not according to the stock held by the dealer. The value of many stamps would have to be considerably increased, for example, many of the early European unused. I don't think the idea impracticable, for such things have been done before. Only a few years ago every catalogue included Russian and Chinese Locals (many of which were marked at big prices and undoubtedly scarce), now such stamps go begging; whole specialised

collections are practically given away at the auctions. Likewise cut cards, envelopes and wrappers had to go. Surely it is better to collect such things rather than absurd varieties of shades (often caused by a little too much sunlight or immersion in water), silly varieties of perforation, and microscopic differences in paper and design.

I will give an example of how the catalogue could be simplified and uninteresting varieties weeded out. Turn up Gibbons' British Colonial Catalogue, pages 192, 193. Here we find the New Zealand issue of 1882-97 of ten designs divided into no less than seven sets—58 stamps in all! There is very little difference between the prices quoted for the sets perf. 12 × 11½, 11, 10, 10 × 11. Probably if one obtained a thousand specimens of each of the ten stamps he would be able to pick out complete sets of all the perfs. given and perhaps several others hitherto unknown. Then taking the shades, why chronicle "pale ultramarine" and "ultramarine" especially when the stamps are of the same value?

All that need be catalogued is this:—

		1882-87. Wmk. N.Z. and Star.		Perf. 10, 11, 11½, 12, 12½ and compound.	
No. of Stamp.	No. of Design.			Unused.	Used.
				s. d.	s. d.
...	...	½d. black	-	0 1	0 1
...	...	½d. rose	-	0 2	0 1
...	...	2d. lilac	-	0 4	0 1
...	...	2½d. ultramarine	-	1 0	0 1
...	...	(shade) blue	-	0 9	0 1
...	...	3d. yellow	-	2 0	0 2
...	...	(shade) orange	-	1 9	0 2
...	...	4d. blue-green	-	1 3	0 2
...	...	5d. olive-grey	-	2 0	0 2
...	...	6d. sepia	-	2 0	0 2
...	...	8d. dark blue	-	1 9	0 6
...	...	1s. brown-red	-	2 6	0 2

I have priced them at something like their average value. This of course would need careful revision.

That is all. I should add a note of a fact that is never mentioned in any catalogue that certain stamps in this series are found with advertisements on the back. This is puzzling to beginners who are sometimes led to think the stamp is part of the advertisement and not the advertisement part of the stamp. Scott catalogues the 1d. imperf. horizontally and the 2d. imperf. vertically, but there is no finality to such varieties and they might well be left out.

I feel sure that you will agree with me that such a change would make stamp collecting more interesting

and would be more beneficial to all concerned. Have you ever thought what collecting will be like in say twenty years' time? If the present system of cataloguing every trifling variety as well as the never-ending stream of new issues, with still more trifling varieties, the yearly catalogues will have to be a series of books as big as the Encyclopædia Britannica, collecting will become more and more difficult, and many will give up their collections in despair causing a slump in the stamp market.

I should very much like to hear what you and your readers have to say about it.—I am, yours faithfully,  
VICTOR F. JAMES.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 285).

**Mint.**—This is a term which philatelists have borrowed from collectors of coins. Just as a coin in mint state is one in the same perfect condition as in which it was issued from the mint, so a stamp in mint state is one retaining all the freshness and perfection with which it was endowed at the time it left the manufacturers.

**Mixed perfs.**—This is a combination of perforations found, I believe, only in the case of modern New Zealand stamps. The term "mixed" is applied to stamps from sheets which were either defectively or incompletely perforated and were then patched on the backs with strips of paper and re-perforated by a machine of another gauge in those parts where the original perforation was imperfect.

**Missionary stamps.**—This is the name by which the rare first issue for the Hawaiian Islands is generally known and it is often applied to the first stamps of Uganda which were manufactured with the aid of an ordinary typewriter by a missionary.

**Mn.**—A contraction for "mon" or "moon" as shewn upon the stamps forming the first issue for Corea.

**Mobile.**—A city in the State of Alabama, U.S.A., having a population of about 40,000. In 1861 the Postmaster issued special 2c. and 5c. stamps to facilitate the working of the local post office, and these remained in use until they were superseded by the general stamps for the whole of the Confederate States.

**Mocambique.**—The Portuguese form of Mozambique as shown upon the stamps of that colony.

**Modena.**—An Italian province having an area of 1,002 square miles and a population of well over 800,000. Its chief town, bearing the same name, is exceptionally rich in churches, palaces, and public buildings. In the year 183 B.C. it became a Roman colony under the name of Mutina, and during the civil war it sustained a siege of four months against Marcus Antonius, 43 B.C. After being devastated by the Huns under Atilla, 452 A.D., it fell into a state of decay after the conquest of the Longobards, and only recovered some of its former importance under the Courtiers Matilda. In the cathedral is preserved the *secchia rapita* or "stolen bucket," which led to a war between Modena and Bologna in 1325. In 1860 the town was plundered by the Hungarian partisans of Pope Innocent VI; and in 1810 it was seized by Pope Julius II. In 1799 the Austrians sustained a defeat by the French under its walls. Postage stamps were first issued on June 1st, 1862. In 1860 they were superseded

by the stamps of Sardinia and in 1862 by those issued for the Kingdom of Italy.

**Modonesi.**—The Italian rendering of Modena as shown upon the 1859 stamps of that province.

**Mohell.**—A small island in the Indian Ocean, having a population of about 6,000, which belongs to France. It issued its own set of postage stamps in 1906.

**Moire.**—A French word meaning "watered" and generally used in connection with textile fabrics having a finish corresponding to "watered silk." Philatelically it is applied to stamps having a moire pattern on the back, as an extra precaution against forgery, as in the case of the 1872 issue for Mexico.

**Moldavia.**—One of the Danubian Principalities now forming part of the Kingdom of Roumania. It issued postage stamps on July 15th, 1858 (See ROUMANIA.)

**Moldo Wallachia.**—The first stamps issued by the united Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia appeared on 25th June, 1862 and the central design consisted of the united Moldo-Wallachia arms. For this reason they are known to collectors as the stamps of Moldo-Wallachia, though at this time the union of the provinces was acknowledged by the Porte under the name of Roumania (See "ROUMANIA.")

**Mon.**—The value in which the first stamps of Corea and Japan were expressed. The mon was a round cast-iron coin of very small value, 100 of them being equal to a tenpo which had a nominal value of only  $\frac{1}{4}$ d in English currency.

**Monaco.**—A rocky peninsula and strip of coast on the Mediterranean between France and Italy. It has an area of only eight square miles but is an independent principality. It is chiefly known to fame on account of the gambling establishment at Monte Carlo. Monaco, the capital, and Condomine are the only other places of any importance. The resident population is about 16,000 and the annual number of visitors exceeds 1½ millions. Originally a possession of the house of Grimaldi, of Genoa, Monaco came under Spanish rule in 1450 and in 1641 was taken under the protection of France. In 1798 France annexed it but by the Treaty of Paris (1814) it was restored to the Grimaldis, and placed under the protection of Sardinia. In 1860 it again passed under French protection. Postage stamps were first issued in 1835.

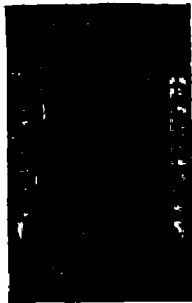
To be continued.

# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.** (Vol. III. 296).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have now shown us the remaining values of the new set referred to on page 286, and we are thus able to illustrate all three designs. There are three values in the "Arms" type,— $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ , and 1 guerche,—while in the portrait type described last week there is also a 2 guerches stamp. The 8 and 16 guerches show a full-face portrait of the Emperor in what we presume is the correct Court dress for this region. Our readers will be able to study the inscriptions themselves from the accompanying illustrations. The names of the designer and engraver appear in the lower corners, at the left and right respectively, as on the other types. The complete list of values is as follows:—



No Wmk. Perf. 11½.

½g. pale green ... ..  
½g. rose ... ..

from a single original matrix, any such differences arising from faulty printing and stereotyping." Our contemporary further adds that "the perforation is as described on p. 51, last year,"—a statement which is doubtless perfectly accurate, but not particularly helpful.

New Design. Perf. —?

1 abasi ultramarine.

**Argentine Republic.** (Vol. III. p. 262). We learn from Smith's *Monthly Circular* that the 3c. in the new design, bearing portrait of General San Martin, has been issued, and that the colour of the 12c. is pale orange brown and not yellow. The complete list of values issued to date is as follows:—

New Design. Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.

	a.	d.
2c. chocolate ... ..	0	1
3c. green ... ..	—	—
4c. violet-brown ... ..	—	—
5c. dull carmine ... ..	0	2
12c. pale orange-brown ... ..	—	—
15c. yellow-green ... ..	0	5
30c. green ... ..	—	—

**China Expeditionary Force.**—We understand from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the current 1 anna Indian stamp, inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE," has been surcharged "C.E.F." for the use of the British troops stationed in Tientsin.

Inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE."

1 anna carmine.

**Federated Malay States.** (Vol. III. p. 38).—The 3c. and 8c. in the Postal Union colours of red and blue respectively have now been issued, according to the *Monthly Circular*. It will be remembered that supplies of these stamps were despatched from London about nine months ago. The complete list of values with multiple watermark is now as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	a.	d.
1c. green and black ... ..	0	4
1c. green ... ..	0	1
3c. brown and black ... ..	0	3
3c. brown ... ..	0	2
3c. carmine... ..	0	2
4c. carmine and black ... ..	0	2
5c. carmine and green on yellow ... ..	0	3

Queen's Portrait.

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
3d. olive green ... ..	0	5
4d. orange-brown ... ..	0	6
6d. orange ... ..	0	8
1s. brown ... ..	1	3
2s. red-brown ... ..	—	—

**Levant (Italian).** (Vol. III. p. 286).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us a specimen of the new 30 paras on 15c., slate, mentioned on page 286, and inform us that, so far, it has only been placed on sale at the Italian Post Office in Janina. We omitted to state that the surcharge is in violet. We find the type of the overprint is not precisely like that on the other values, for the "P" has no serifs, and the letters "ará" are a little smaller.

Violet Surcharge.

	s.	d.
30 paras on 15c. ... ..	0	3

**New Hebrides Condominium.** (Vol. III. p. 274).—Mr Oswald Marsh has shown us the ½d. stamp of Fiji with single "CA" watermark surcharged as in the accompanying illustration. Our correspondent tells us that out of a large supply of this value he only found a few with single watermark. Mr. Marsh also points out that this value with multiple watermark exists in two shades, grey-green and green, printed with doubly fugitive ink, and green, printed with singly fugitive ink. The list of values now known is as follows:—



King's Head Stamps of Fiji surcharged as above.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

- ½d. green.
- 2d. purple and orange.
- 2½d. purple and blue on blue.
- 5d. purple and green.
- 6d. purple and carmine.
- 1s. green and carmine.

Wmk. Multiple Cr. CA. Perf. 14.

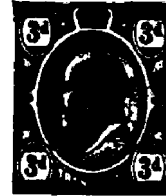
- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine.

**New Zealand.** (Vol. III. p. 287).—A correspondent informs *Even's Weekly Stamp News* that he has a block of four of the current 1½d stamps entirely imperforate.

**Tetuan.** (Vol. III. p. 180).—On page 180 we listed, with a good deal of reserve, and on the authority of a contemporary, three Spanish stamps surcharged "Tetuan." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. wrote to Tangier to elicit any information possible as to the bonafides of this issue, and received the following letter from their agent:—"In reply to your enquiry re the enclosed Spanish stamp overprinted 'TETUAN,' I am informed by the Head Postmaster of the Spanish Post Offices in Morocco that it is not a genuine surcharge, that whoever made it did so for a caprice, that he (the Head Postmaster) is in charge of all the genuine postage stamps used in the Spanish Post Offices in Morocco, and that he has given no consent for any other surcharge than those in current use, and further that no report of running

short of stamps and having to surcharge others has been made to him." This should effectually dispose of this rubbish.

**Transvaal.** (Vol. III. p. 203).—According to the *Monthly Circular* "the long expected 2½d. in single colour has made its appearance," so the complete list of values known with multiple watermark is now as follows. This chronicle is probably based on specimens received at Berné prepared for use, but not yet issued, as none seem to have reached dealers in this country.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d. green and black ... ..	0	2
½d. green ... ..	0	1
1d. scarlet and black ... ..	—	—
1d. carmine... ..	0	2
2d. purple and black ... ..	0	3
2½d. ultramarine and black ... ..	0	5
2½d. ultramarine ... ..	—	—
3d. sage green and black ... ..	0	5
4d. chocolate " " ... ..	0	6
6d. orange " " ... ..	0	8
1s. red-brown " " ... ..	1	3
2s. yellow " " ... ..	2	6
5s. black and mauve on yellow... ..	—	—
10s. purple and black on red ... ..	12	0
£1 violet and green ... ..	23	6

NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their New Issue Service, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

Bargains in Stamps.

If you want real bargains in Postage Stamps read the advertisement pages of *The Postage Stamp* every week. Every week there is something new, and many special bargains. If you miss a week you may miss the very stamp you want to complete a series

Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

# From other Magazines

## Protecting Stamps in Hot Countries

Messrs. De La Rue send out their stamps to tropical countries in hermetically sealed tin-lined cases, and a case is not opened until it is required. There are unopened cases in Bombay, where for several months in the year the climate is as bad for stamps as anywhere in the Malay States, and some of these cases were sent out as much as four years ago. Each case contains sealed packets of 500 sheets each, which also are not opened till wanted, and which are capable of excluding damp for at least a year or so. Except the head post office at Singapore there is probably no place in the Malay States which indents for more than one packet at a time, and Singapore itself can only have an opened stock of any one value varying from 500 sheets to nil, or an average of 250 sheets. Whether there were surcharges or not, it is difficult to see how the postal business could go on with a smaller open stock than this. Of the little-used values there would only be one packet open at a time throughout the whole of the States, and if surcharges were resorted to, the packet would have to be opened just the same. Moreover, the simple expedient of a *sigri* or small charcoal brazier, kept in the store room, would obviate the necessity of interleaving the "millions of stamps in the post office." The truth is more likely to be that just the daily issue, which is kept in the drawer under the counter, has to be interleaved. — *The Philatelic Journal of India*, Jan., '09.

## The New Russian Stamps.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 15.

Russia is gradually putting on sale a new issue of postage stamps of the highly artistic design which has always characterised Russian stamps. A stupid story has been circulating in certain papers that the new issue will bear the heads of various wearers of the Imperial Crown, including the present Emperor!

Such a use of the Imperial head is utterly inconceivable in Russia. Postage stamps are made to be defaced, and usually in a very rough and ready manner. No Russian would dream of subjecting the effigy of the Czar to such usage as this. Even on the coins, hallowed by immemorial usage of the great nations of antiquity, Russia does not use the Imperial head except on the pure gold and pure silver coins; the base-silver and the copper coins bear the Russian Eagle only, and the Russian word for "head" in "heads or tails" is always "eagle."

The new stamp issues, of which several values are already on the market, are generally on a lighter ground than the old issues, but the colours are the same. The design is mainly heraldic and ornamental scroll work, a ribbon at the top bearing the inscription "Postage Stamp," and another at the bottom the value in words, with the figure indicating value dividing the words and standing out conveniently plain.

The stamp edging of the new issue has peculiar mark-

Stanley Gibbons, Nos. 110 to 123. I give it on the authority of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, of Crete, that they are entirely bogus, and had apparently been printed to "raise the wind." I learn that they are the speculation of a dealer in Athens, where they were hawked round the principal hotels, frequented by British visitors. Envelopes have been seen bearing these stamps, apparently postmarked in Athens and Crete, but the Crete cancellation stamp was a bogus one, and the postmark at the back of the envelopes was done by some obliging clerk in one of the Post Offices in Athens.

Why any firm of postage stamp dealers include them in their catalogue is beyond comprehension. — *W. M. Mackay, in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 6.3.09.

## United States: Inverted Centres.

The well-known German writer, Herr Theodore Haas, has been publishing (in the *Ill. Brief. Journal*) a very complete list of stamps that are known with inverted centres.

In writing about the United States 1869 issue, I think Mr. Haas makes a small mistake which it is best to point out. Mr. Haas states that "the rarity of these errors is explained by the fact that there was one stamp with the error in each sheet, and that besides when the error was discovered the Government did not accept any more sheets with them."

These stamps are bicoloured, and are printed by two operations. The errors were caused by one portion of the stamp in one colour being printed correctly, and the other portion in a different colour being printed inverted. Some twenty years ago I saw a used block of four of the 24 cents, which had been found in Liverpool; all four stamps had the centre inverted, and this unique block is now in a well-known American collection.

In the case of the 15c., 24c., and 30c. stamps, whole sheets of each were printed and issued without the error having been discovered, and most of the specimens known are used, unused being amongst the greatest rarities in U.S. stamps —

*Chas. J. Phillips in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 13.3.09.

## Manchester Congress, 1909.

We are voicing the feelings of many Londoners who journeyed to Manchester when we say that, not only were all the arrangements admirable, but also that the welcome extended to philatelists by many who had, in some cases, only known them hitherto, was cordial and whole-hearted. There is, after all, much charm in the social side of a hobby, for the making of new friendships and the cementing of old ones cannot but help to solidify the bond of union between brother philatelists. Many people were recognised at once by their photographs, and the cordial and informal self-introductions that ensued were a pleasurable feature of the Manchester reunion.

# the Stamp Market

## REGINALD GUM

### Value of Stamps.

ways contended that one of the strongest arguments in favour of stamp collecting as a desirable and profitable investment is the undoubted value of stamps. *Metropolitan Philatelist* (New York) puts it very simply: "Knowledge is always valuable, and we should be able to double your money in five years." "Take your stamps to the following test: Take your stamps and see what percentage you can sell them for. Then enquire of a real estate agent how much he can sell your house for inside five years; and finally take a collection of stamps valued at one or two countries that has cost you £100 if scattered over the world, double that amount and see what the results are. You will do better with stamps than on your real estate or diamonds. If you bought stamps with judgment with an eye to the future, you should be able to double your money in five years. Uncancelled U. S. are the best investment."

Persons who have lost heavily on our investments in stamps during this long period of depression greatly regret that we had not put it all into one concern that was regarded as a first-class investment for which I paid £3 5s are now almost at half-a-crown. I know of no stamps that have sold so badly as that.

### Indonesian Condominium.

The indications that the set of the New Hebrides stamps overprinted on Fiji may be run up to high prices so far only three dealers announce the receipt of the set, and Mr. Ewen, though supplying his New Hebrides subscribers at the ordinary rate, notifies other dealers that they must purchase other stamps as well as the set of New Hebrides. Only the most favoured dealers get the full set including the 1s. value. He gets no further supplies of the 1s. "this stamp is to be worth 30s. to 40s."

### Anglo.

The Congo Provisional stamps overprinted on the Independent State stamps ought to be worth more, for some of them may turn out to be scarce. They are offered at 2s. 6d. for the unused set of 40, 50c. and 1fr.

### Swiss.

Printing and changing about of the design in the stamps may also lead to a scarcity of some values and should be watched and secured at new issue rates, but there will be no need to pay fine prices for any, for in any stamp printings must have been large of all the low values that we have as yet only had low values.

### Australian.

Australians are mostly conspicuous by their absence in our London market. They are too full of their own hour to hour and are consequently shelved more for their own profit.

In consequence, in the sweet-by-and-by, when they are catalogued and have therefore to be collected, they will have to pay the piper for an expensive tune. That Gibbons have priced the Tasmanian 6d. stamp perf. 11 at 5s. This set now stands —

### Wink. Crown A. Perf. 11.

	Unused.	Us d.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose red	0 8	0 1
2d. mauve	1 0	0 2
3d. deep brown	0 9	0 6
4d. buff	—	—
6d. lake	5 0	—
8d. purple brown	—	—

These old prices will probably not be maintained in the new catalogue. Indeed I suspect that the new Gibbons Part I. will have some eye openers in regard to some recently scarce Australians.

It is not a bad tip to go to a little trouble to secure supplies of good stamps that our London dealers, even the new issue dealers, are so obviously neglecting.

There are good Australian firms that will gladly see to your needs in this matter.

### The Stamp Trade Protection Association.

The Stamp Trade Protection Association publishes its balance sheet for 1908 as follows:—

#### Profit and Loss Account.

October 31st, 1908	£ s. d.	October 31st, 1908.	£ s. d.
General expenses, inquiry fees, etc.	11 2 3	Balance brought forward from 1907 Account	64 0 6
Postages, fares, etc.	11 14 6	Subscriptions	45 10 6
Salaries	50 0 0	Commissions	31 2 9
Balance carried forward	68 17 0		
	<u>£141 13 9</u>		<u>£141 13 9</u>

#### Balance Sheet.

##### November 1st, 1907, to October 31st, 1908.

October 31st, 1908.	£ s. d.	October 31st, 1908.	£ s. d.
Balance brought forward from Profit and Loss Account	68 17 0	Cash in hand and at Bank	128 4 7
Special Purposes Fund	57 11 10	Inquiry forms in hand	4 0 0
LIABILITIES	10 13 3	ASSETS	4 17 6
	<u>£137 2 1</u>		<u>£137 2 1</u>

### Iceland Provisionals.

Gibbons announce that they have bought a large parcel of the provisional issues of 1902-3 overprinted "1 GILDI" including a number of rare errors and varieties not previously in stock, and that they have thus been enabled to make a considerable number of reductions in prices owing to the reasonable rates at which they have made this purchase.

### Our Advertisers' Offers this Week.

Mr. Peckitt offers a fine lot of the stamps of St. Lucia one of a promising West Indian group.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's. advert. includes a special lot of Newfoundland much below catalogue, and the rare first issue of Crete

Mr. Field's special offer this week is a scarce variety of Labuan at a low price.

Mr. Oswald Marsh makes a feature of New Hebrides in sets and blocks of which he has been fortunate enough to get a supply.

Mr. Houtzamer offers cheap lots of Grenada and Hong Kong.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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## Standard Album: New Edition.

I hear from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., that they have almost ready for publication an entirely new edition of their popular Standard Album, and that they expect to be able to supply bound volumes, and also hinged leaves, in two or three weeks time.

The work, I understand, has been entirely re-arranged. The entire British Empire including separate spaces for single and multiple watermarks, and everything right up-to-date including even the complete set of current Natal inscribed "Postage" only, into 250 pages. Such a compact album will be a treasure to the general collector of Great Britain and Colonies.

## Nankivell's Philatelic Handbooks.

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

## New Ready.

### No. 1. Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 9 o'clock p.m.

## Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

## Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

## "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.  
Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.  
The Court Stamp Co., 10, Marriott's Court, Manchester.

## Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. *We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in THE POSTAGE STAMP.* Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

## Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

## Collections Artistically Arranged.

In response to many inquirers I am willing to undertake the mounting and re-arranging of a few collections in the same style as I mount my own Specialised Collections. These are artistically arranged, with chronological notes, numbers printed, &c. For terms write, The Editor, *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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No. 26. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 78)

27 MARCH, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Death of Mr. Edward J. Nankivell

It is with feelings of the deepest grief I have to record the sudden death of my dear friend and co-worker, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, which took place at his home in Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday morning, March 18th.

Always a hard-worker, Mr. Nankivell literally died in harness, for so late as Wednesday evening he was busy planning out this number of *The Postage Stamp*. The sad news, therefore, came as a painful shock to his wide circle of friends and his host of admirers, and I am sure every reader joins me in extending the deepest expressions of sympathy to his widow and family in their irreparable loss.

### The Man.

Mr. Nankivell was born on the north coast of Cornwall in 1848, and was thus just 61 at the time of his demise.

In the *Captain* for February, 1906, appears an excellent description of his personality which I cannot do better than reproduce:—"Picture to yourself a spare man of medium height, whose keen eyes, steely grey, hold your attention, willy nilly, iron-grey hair brushed upwards from a high forehead, strong eyebrows with a humorous twist to them, and a heavy moustache that hides the mouth, yet cannot conceal its genial lines. As he talks his face lights up with interest, and as terse remark or pithy anecdote (he is a *raconteur* of rare memory and skill) fall from his lips the puckered lines of humour about the eyes wrinkle and un wrinkle with lively animation."

### Early Days of Collecting.

He first started to collect about 1866, and from that time never ceased to take an active interest in the hobby he loved so well. I cannot do better than quote his own words as to how he became a collector.

"When I was a boy, on the north coast of Cornwall," he says, "boys coming home for the holidays from the distant Colleges brought stamps with them, and by many a boyish 'swop' my interest in stamps was aroused. I very soon found plenty of openings for making a collection, for I had relations in Chili, South Africa, Australia,

and other places abroad. I also questioned the local postman as to who received foreign letters in the neighbourhood, and I went and called upon the ladies and gentlemen. I did not mind who they were, but very civilly and courteously asked them if they would allow me to have the stamps off their letters. Many of them were surprised at the knowledge I displayed of the letters they received, but they generally gave me what I wanted, and I thus added materially to my collection. From this point the interest grew upon me until, almost imperceptibly, it became one of the leading occupations of my leisure, till finally it ceased almost to be an occupation of my leisure, and became a matter of engrossing study."

### As a Specialist.

He may be said to have started his philatelic career in 1881, when he joined the Royal Philatelic Society (then without its regal prefix) on the invitation of Mr. E. D. Bacon. At one of the first meetings at which he attended he was introduced to Mr. T. K. Tapling. Though Mr. Nankivell had sold his general collection some little time previously, he had sufficient foresight to retain all his Transvaals, of which he had some hundreds. Mr. Tapling was an enthusiastic specialist in Transvaals, and at once advised Mr. Nankivell to study up the country and specialise in it. At the next meeting he brought a sample book of his gatherings, in which Mr. Tapling recognised several wide roulettes that were not in his collection. He pointed out many wide roulettes, but in those days Mr. Nankivell did not know a wide roulette from a perforation, but was immediately converted into a Transvaal specialist, and from that day he never ceased to study Transvaals, and it is not too much to say that our present knowledge of these interesting stamps is largely due to his own personal study. Such an enthusiast did he become that the name of Nankivell was practically synonymous with Transvaals, and he succeeded in making a collection famed far and wide for its completeness, the exquisite condition of almost every stamp in it, and the neat and artistic manner in which it was arranged. This collection he disposed of to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in 1903, and with the proceeds he



THE LATE EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

*By kind permission of "The Captain."*

built himself the charming house shown in the accompanying illustration, for the loan of which I am indebted to Messrs. George Newnes, Ltd., the proprietors of the *Captain*.

But it must not be thought that Mr. Nankivell's claims as a philatelist rested solely on this one collection. He always kept a good general collection, with voluminous notes for reference purposes, and specialised in many countries, such as Sudan, Egypt, China, Gambia, &c.

#### As a Journalist.

In former days Mr. Nankivell was a distinguished journalist, and his stories of Fleet Street, when in reminiscent mood, were a delight to those privileged to hear them.

He came to London in 1871, and was for many years on the editorial staff of the Central News Telegraphic Agency. Subsequently he was invited to join the

1896, he undertook the editorship of the *Philatelic Record* and retained it for three years, assuming control again soon afterwards as one of a syndicate which purchased the paper from Messrs. T. Buhl & Co. A limited company was registered and he was once again in the editorial chair until his retirement in 1901. For some time he acted as Assistant Editor to the *London Philatelist*, and for years he contributed a monthly "English Letter" to the *American Journal of Philately*, which, it is no exaggeration to say, was the most popular feature of that journal.

To the *Monthly Journal* he was a frequent contributor and in January, 1905, he launched *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. On his retirement from the editorship of that paper he started *The Postage Stamp* as an independent weekly. This was successful from the first, for the name of Nankivell was bound to attract a large philatelic following, and of this, his last venture, he always spoke



By kind permission of "The Captain."

editorial staff of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, then under the editorship of Mr. John Morley, and was a colleague of Mr. W. T. Stead, Sir (then Mr.) Alfred Milner, and Mr. E. T. Cook. For several years he filled the position of City editor to that paper.

#### As a Philatelic Writer.

In the philatelic world no name was more famed or carried more weight than that of Edward J. Nankivell. He was a prolific scribe, his writings possessing a charming vivacity and succinctness, mellowed by expressions of opinion as sound as they were forceful. As a leader writer or for short newsy paragraphs and articles he was unequalled, and no one has done more for the popularising of our hobby far and wide.

On the resignation of Mr. W. A. S. Westoby in January,

in the most enthusiastic terms. Gone, alas! is the master-hand and mind that supplied us with our weekly feast, but may this little craft, founded on such broad and sane principles, long continue to carry on the good work so ably started by our departed friend.

To periodicals not entirely devoted to philately Mr. Nankivell appealed to an immense public. His work in connection with that excellent boys' paper, *The Captain*, is well known, and latterly he has also contributed a weekly page of philatelic notes to *Hobbies*.

#### As a Phonographer.

Journalism and philately would have sufficed for most men, but not so with Mr. Nankivell. He had yet another string to his bow. For years he was recognised as one of the chief experts on shorthand combining a

neatness of form with a speed rarely excelled by the fastest writers. Indeed his shorthand was so flawless that it was his proud boast that his notes could be read by anyone acquainted with Pitman's system. He edited and owned a successful monthly magazine, the *Reporters' Magazine*, which had reached its 28th volume!

#### His Enthusiasm.

His enthusiasm for philately was infectious. He was a genuine collector and always had the best interests of our hobby at heart. A man of strong opinions where all that appertained to philately was concerned he was untiring in his efforts to persuade collectors to eschew commemorative and speculative issues which he considered deleterious

to the best interests of stamp collecting.

As a friend and colleague he was "one of the best"—always helpful and optimistic, a cheery companion, and untiring in his efforts to render any service in his power. It is with the deepest sorrow I indite these notes to the memory of my friend, but no words of mine can do justice to the indomitable energy and skill that has made the name of Nankivell one never to be forgotten in philatelic circles.

The photograph, which together with the view of Mr. Nankivell's home and of him enjoying a game of croquet in his garden, has been kindly loaned by *The Captain*, was taken two years ago and is an excellent likeness.

BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.



By kind permission of "The Captain."

## Stamp Journals—Their Rise and Fall.

By Charles A. Nast, in *Mekeel's News and Trade Circular*, U.S.A.

**A**S an index to the changing tone of the stamp market in this country, nothing can excel the study of stamp publications. Their number, their appearances, and their suspensions furnish an invaluable guide to the moods of collectors, and the strength of hold the hobby has on men. It might with reason be argued that, as the population of a country increases, and the number of collectors grow, so the number of stamp papers published in the interest of the

pursuit should increase *pro rata*. But this is not the present case, nor has it been the rule. There probably are more collectors in the world at the present moment than have been at any time heretofore, and yet at the beginning of 1907 there were fewer papers published, devoted to philately, than at any time in the past thirty years.

I use the date 1907 advisedly, since that year is a turning point. Stamp literature had touched the lowest

level, and the uprise began with January of that year. It all goes to show that it is not the number of philatelists which mark the growth of stamp journalism, but rather the enthusiasm which marks the collecting world and which in turn is reflected in the appearance of new journals.

That we are on the threshold of a new era in philately, a revival in business, and a return of the old-time spirit and enthusiasm is amply evidenced by the wave of journalistic ventures now spreading over the land. In the last year scarcely a month went by which did not herald the coming of a new periodical, and the number of excellent journals recently launched both here and abroad is very encouraging. For this year we are promised others. It is a healthy sign. To think that the United States of America, with its eighty millions of inhabitants and its vast army of collectors, estimated by some at 150,000, could or should be satisfied with two weeklies and four monthlies, which was all we had left us on January 1st, 1907, is preposterous.

Old timers often think back to the days of '87 and the cloud of publications which was then showered upon us as the very zenith of stamp popularity. And so it was, so far as enthusiasm went, since these were the days of study, of surprises and discoveries in United States stamps. It is no longer so, since the field has been worked bare and is exhausted. But as a matter of fact the year 1897 saw more stamp papers than any other. In this year when the drop came, we had 152 stamp publications current in the United States and Canada. From that time on there was a steady, deadly falling out of line until 1907, when a mere handful remained.

My readers will observe I am partial to the figure seven. This mystic "7" plays an important part in these periods of depression and prosperity. By dividing the years since our first postage stamp was issued in 1847, into decades, we find that each cycle of ten years has been an epoch-making period in philately. Around each date ending in seven, stamp literature has been either at high tide or at its lowest ebb. Each decade has at its ending either witnessed the beginning of a lapse in interest and incentive, or it marked the beginning of a revival. No one will deny that so far as enthusiasm went, and as it was reflected in the stamp literature of the time, 1887 was one of the greatest years philately has ever experienced. There was a slight downward move for a few years, but things grew gradually better, prices climbed slowly but surely, and though we had the panic of '93, it did not retard the onward, upward march.

Not till the end of 1896, when the great daily, the *Stamp Item*, suspended, did discerning eyes perceive the slump that began with awful effect in '97. Slowly but

surely other publications dropped out, till the few that were left could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Many things conspired to the decimation in the journalistic ranks, but interest and enthusiasm waned till we reached our next mystic number, 1907. In this year *Redfield's Stamp Weekly* was projected, and its appearance was a sure forerunner of returning enthusiasm. Since then, one after another, new publications have appeared, and as we write we are promised a revival of the greatest of them all, the *Philatelic Journal of America*. Others are promised us. We hope they will all materialize, because closely allied to stamp collecting is its literature. The last is the barometer of the former. One is no longer compatible without the other. Why will not collectors, and especially dealers, comprehend this fact in its fullest sense? The smallest of these monthlies is produced at much sacrifice of time and money. Such a thing as making money for the publisher, except in a few cases, is an utter impossibility. Enthusiasm and love of stamps is the lever behind each venture. If dealers think they cannot advertise in all of them, at least they could subscribe to every stamp publication, regarding such expense as an advertisement. With a thousand dealers, great and small, in this land of ours, subscribing to all the journals in the United States and Canada, it would place stamp journalism absolutely on a sound basis.

It is estimated that four or five dollars would pay for subscriptions to every paper published in North America; and what is this outlay compared to the returns which must ultimately come from a well printed, well edited journalistic propaganda? And to the collector who spends \$5 per month or \$50 per month for stamps, let me say that if he wants to keep his holdings on a sound basis, with every prospect of a rise, there is no better way than to support stamp papers, thereby making new collectors and keeping up the interest in stamp collecting. There is a form of meanness in the collector who will spend five or ten dollars for a stamp without the quiver of an eyelid, and then refuse twenty-five cents for some annual subscription to a paper, which I cannot fathom.

If there were no stamp papers what would stamps be worth? Not much I venture. The more journals there are, the better fixed is the price of your stamps, and the greater the promise of a sure increase in value. Therefore we think the number of papers launched last year, and the number promised shortly, augurs well for the coming season of activity in the stamp trade. The best way to improve the character of stamp publications, and to raise the hobby in the estimation of all, is by a liberal support of the philatelic press.

## Incidents at the Manchester Exposition

By W. Ward in "Gibbons' Stamp Weekly"

I GUESS I just got there. I stood in Piccadilly and wondered whether I was in Manchester or London. The Infirmary and Queen's Statue were Manchester, but surely the faces hid from the Capital. "Follow the crowds" read the northern White City posters, and I did.

The Hulme Town Hall seemed as far up the Stretford Road as either the multitude of electric cars or people desired to go. I entered, having been thoughtful enough

to provide myself with a ticket of admission—free, gratis, and for nothing—like a lunch counter across the "Pond."

Up the wide staircase and into the chief hall I soon found myself. Owing to the crowds I had to bide my time before I could possibly inspect what afterwards I found to be a really magnificent lot of exhibits. Round and about the hall were the dealers' stalls. And I'll swear I saw more smiling tradesmen in three minutes than I have seen in a lifetime. It was not an ordinary "Yes-what-

can-I-show-you-sir, thank-you-madam-may-I-send-an-approval-selection-a-thousand-mounts" sort of smile. They were the smiles *that won't come off*—at least until Manchester of 1909 is forgotten—and that will be a long time hence.

Taking off my topcoat and hat on account of the warmth, I was immediately besieged by visitors who imagined that I *must* be an official, daring to be semi-dressed. A thousand voices queried, "Where's the Prince of Wales's Mauritius stamp?" I might mention that the cottonopolis is a great newspaper centre and can quite equal the Capital. On the opening day one or more enterprising journals came out with the information that the Prince of Wales was exhibiting his £1,450 stamp. Of course that was solely Mancunian journalism. Even triangular Capes were mild in comparison with the stamps of Mauritius. One lady sidled up to a committeeman and said, "I have a twopenny, blue, Mauritius—what is it worth?" The questioner was an old bird at the game and had heard the tale before (and behind). "Let me have a look at it?" he replied. Guess you're correct, reader. It was an 1868 CC—and not half a "fly" copy at that.

Of course the stewards took great care of the exhibits and had their eyes "all over." One official noticed a gentleman studying very carefully the Great Britain exhibits for fully ten minutes, and then draw from an envelope a stamp or stamps. Looking first at his own and then at the exhibit, he seemed unsatisfied at the result. The "watchdog" ever on the "scent," slid along, and asked, "Got something similar, sir?" "No, I do not think it is quite the same," replied the rather puzzled guest. And one doesn't wonder. He had been carefully examining a case of penny blacks—and the stamps he had in his hands were a pair of ditto. To hear a sober philatelist emit a prolonged whistle is something to enquire into. The reverend gentleman—for the visitor was of the cloth—had a pair of "V.R." Officials—one rather poor at a corner—but still a pair. "Put those in your pocket, take them home and take care of them," whispered the steward. He was an honest man, and we hope he may be rewarded. (This incident is truly an actual happening at Manchester—W.W.) Another similar but differently ending story in regard to English is of interest in comparison. A youth showed about twenty id. "Venetian" reds, eight halfpenny (small) red, two threepenny, and one each twopence-halfpenny and fourpenny, 1880, to a "buyer" during the course of the Exhibition, asking what they were worth and if he cared to purchase them. "I cannot make you an offer—what do you require?" asked the wily buyer. "Three-and-six," half-hesitatingly, ventured the owner. "Oh, no, I could not give that—they are no good for postage!" Would there have been a Spaniard there to essay "Embustero." He got the lot for a florin. (A £1,000 cheque, countersigned R.D., will be paid to the reader pointing out any sort of a moral here).

Philanthropy, as well as Philately, was one of the features of the Exhibition. Everything was given away—bar exhibits. Messrs. Gibbons eclipsed all by presenting quite new copies of the 1908, Part II., of their Catalogue. It was a draw. Those readers who have ever seen carrion crows in the Far East waiting for a dying horse to finally expire, before commencing the banquet, will readily appreciate the waiting of small boys round Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' twin stall at the Manchester Exhibition.

News has been known to travel faster than the telegraph in that land of mysterious mysteries—India—by some unaccountable means. But I am open to wager that "greased lightning" was a "blamed fool" to the quickness that the information of Messrs. Gibbons' philatelic philanthropy got over the Exhibit—nay—all Lancashire

—if the number of budding citizens was any criterion.

To save the razing to the ground of the double stall, one of the philanthropists chucked, aimed, and threw a volume into the midst of the surging, seething mass of besieging little boyhood. It saved the day—but eye-witnesses wondered whether it was "a wise mother that knows her husband's child."

Though the skeleton was picked, the odour remained, and for many hours afterwards several, perhaps future prospective philatelists, had quite a loving and keen interest in the name, aim, and house of 891.

One very enterprising and business-like gentleman, earlier on, asked for a Catalogue, and being offered one, said, "Oh, you just gave me Part II. a few minutes ago. I want Part I." (The Manchester Exhibition Committee are considering the presentation of a diploma).

Certainly the Model Post Office so kindly "loaned" by Mr. Sydney Buxton, our "with-the-times" Postmaster-General, was one of the greatest draws of the whole show, both to the public and philatelic visitors. The postal authorities laughed at more than one clerk being required on Thursday morning. Gradually the smile wore away; they had five busily working by tea time, and they all did overtime that night as well as the remaining two nights. Those clerks came along to Hulme Town Hall with cynical views, but went away sober and wiser, one even saying to the writer, "I was never so surprised in my life—and I have worked since a boy in the Post Office—and stamp collecting seems one of the most instructive and interesting hobbies there possibly can be." That's the way—and I'll bet that man becomes a philatelist. To show the hardness of the work, one of the sorters showed me the palm of his right hand on Saturday evening. It was quite bare of skin over a space larger than a crown piece and, bleeding, presented a very nasty wound. It was caused through the continual friction of the knob of the obliterating-stamp. To cap all, this jovial sorter said, "I don't mind; they've all got good, clear impressions." And the man meant it. Those men worked hard, not because they had to, but because they entered into the spirit prevailing.

Of course there were the humours connected with the working of this provisional postal office. Many people wanted obliterations placed upon all sorts of articles "just to carry away as mementoes of the great fête." Though one or two may have been favoured, the officials were obliged to refuse. Others wanted post cards and envelopes, already prepaid with postage, cancelled and then handed back to them. This also had to be refused on account of official regulations, which forbid a Post Office servant, upon pain of imprisonment and dismissal, to allow a packet out of his care, but which must be properly delivered to the addressee.

Many were enthusiastic to a high-pitched degree. One gentleman went so far as to address an envelope to himself, and frank with a complete set of British stamps from a half-penny to ten shillings. He tossed a sovereign as to whether he should also affix a £1 stamp, but he lost—or won. His little effort to secure a unique entire with stamps obliterated by the special cancellation cost him £1 2s. 2½d. Certainly he possesses the only 5s. and 10s. stamps in the world so cancelled—for the postmark will not be used again, the letters and figures being dispersed from the cancelling stamp upon its return to the General Post Office at Manchester. One visitor went so far as to offer £5 for the obliterator as it stood, but did not offer to provide for the postal clerk's remaining days.

Many funny packets passed through the hands of the Exhibition sorters during those three days. Letters franked with a dozen halfpenny stamps placed separately at intervals over the cover, so that each stamp would receive a postmark, were common events. One gentleman

had placed a half-cent Quebec stamp upon a post card; but his was not the only peculiar unorthodox label handed to the clerks or posted in the letter box.

Stewards' badges were franked on the back thereof, and cancelled. The height of originality was attained by a well-known member of the Manchester Philatelic Society, who affixed a penny and halfpenny stamp respectively at either side of his collar, which he addressed to himself, mailed, and finally replaced round his neck. Needless to say, he was the "star turn" of Saturday evening, and an object of interest to young boys, old boys, other boys and likewise ladies. (Just upon going to press, we hear that his wife will not believe him that it was the *G-o-y* of the evening alone that caused it).

Very few registered letters were mailed, so that those who mean to have examples of the first official Philatelic Postmark in all its forms will find the Registered Receipts rare.

We believe the amount of mail matter passed through the Exhibition Post Office during the two and half days

(for the office did not open until 8.30 on the first day) was upwards of thirteen thousand pieces of matter—though it must have been very much more—our information being officially ventured at about six o'clock on the Saturday.

The Congress was a success, but we are uncertain about the issue of a "Collectors' Catalogue." If they "do and dare of"—peace to their ashes and plenty of asbestos,

Those that were convinced that the Exhibition would be a success, were surprised at the greater success than the success, that they expected would be a success, was—to put the matter into a Hibernian nutshell.

Everybody was satisfied—dealers were satisfied, exhibitors were satisfied, visitors were satisfied—nay, one is not satisfied. The writer bemoans the limit of space allotted for this article, and is sorry he cannot give further incidents of note for the benefit of those unlucky—almost wretched—people who could not attend the Manchester Exhibition.

# Philatelic Dictionary

BY B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 297).

**Mong Tseu.**—The modern rendering of Mongtzé as shown upon the stamps at present in use in this French consular office.

**Mongtze.**—A town on the left bank of the Red River in the south-east of the province of Yün-nan, China. It has a population of about 12,000 and was first opened to European trade in 1886. For some years France has maintained a consular post office in this town, and since 1903 stamps of Indo-China, suitably surcharged, have been used here.

**Monrovia.**—The capital of Liberia, having a population of about 5,000. It is one of the five towns of the Republic having its own special registration stamps.

**Montserrat.**—One of the Leeward Islands in the British West Indies situated about 34 miles north-west of Guadeloupe. It is 11 miles long and 7 miles broad and has an area of 37 square miles. It has a population of over 13,000. The island was discovered by Columbus in 1498 and was colonized by the British in 1632. It was held by the French in 1664-8 and again in 1782-4, when it was finally assigned to Great Britain. The island is famous for its lime-trees. Postage stamps were first issued in September, 1876.

**Monster.**—The Dutch word for "specimen" found surcharged upon some of the stamps of the now defunct South African Republic.

**Montarsolo, M.**—A typefounder of Rome who made the casts from which the printing plates used in the production of the 1867 stamps of the Roman States were formed.

**Montenegro.**—An independent Slav principality on the Adriatic between Dalmatia, Herzegovina, and Albania, its name meaning "Black Mountain." It has an area of 3486 square miles and a population diminished by emigration to about 225,000. It has always claimed to be independent and was recognized to be so by the Treaty of Berlin. The Montenegrins are Servians of purest blood

and all but about 27,000 are Greek Orthodox in religion. In the 14th century Montenegro was a dependency of Serbia. It became a refuge for the fugitive Servians during the Turkish domination. From 1788 to 1896 the Montenegrins co-operated in all the Russo-Turkish wars and in 1878 their independence was acknowledged. The government is in the hands of a prince who is assisted by a council of state. A representative parliament was established in November, 1905. Postage stamps were first issued in May, 1874.

**Montevideo.**—The capital of the republic of Uruguay and one of the best built cities in South America, having a population of about 270,000. Until 1814 Montevideo was in the possession of the Spaniards and fourteen years after the termination of Spanish rule it became the capital of the republic. The name of this city appears on the 1857, 1859, and 1860 issues for Uruguay.

**Moody, J. A.**—The postmaster of Victoria, Texas, U.S.A. in 1861. He authorized the issue of special 5c. and 10c. stamps on which his name appears—pending the issue of the general set for the whole of the United States.

**Moon.**—The spelling sometimes adopted for "mon"—the value in which the early stamps of Corea and Japan were expressed.

**Moquegua.**—The capital of the department of the same name in the republic of Peru having a population of over 5,000. It has suffered severely from earthquakes especially in 1715 and 1868. In 1881 a special overprint was applied to all the stamps used in this town.

**Morazan.**—A former President of the republic of Salvador whose name is shown in the upper left corner of the design adopted for the 3c. of 1887 and 1c. of 1889 for this republic. Morazan was President of the Federation of the Five Republics, which had a very short existence.

**Morocco.**—The largest of the Barbary States situated in the north-west of Africa and having an area of 314,000

square miles. Its population has been variously estimated at from 4½ to 8 millions. The Empire, which is an absolute monarchy, consists of the kingdom of Morocco and Fez and the territories of Sûs, Drâ, Wadi Tafilet, Tuat, and others, which are again sub-divided into 38 districts, each under the superintendence of a "Kaid." The semi-independent tribes are ruled by their own chiefs, and scarcely acknowledge the authority of the Sultan. Morocco issues no stamps of its own but the governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, and Spain maintain post offices at the principal towns and issue special stamps in connection therewith.

**Morocco Agencies.**—A surcharge applied to various Gibraltar stamps, prior to 1907, and since then to those of Great Britain for use in the British Consular Offices maintained in Morocco.

**Mouchon, Eugene.**—A French engraver who has designed and engraved all the French stamps of the denominations from 10c. to 35c. inclusive, issued since 1900, and who also engraved the stamps of the "Peace and Commerce" type.

**Mount Athos.**—A mountain in Turkey-in-Europe, rising to a height of 6,382 feet, and noted for its monastery. In 1880 the stamps used in this district were overprinted with a triangular control mark in blue.

**Mounts.**—Small pieces of gummed, tough, but thin, paper, now almost universally used for hinging stamps correctly into place in an album or other book intended for their reception.

**Mozambique.**—The northern portion of Portuguese East Africa, having an area of about 100,000 square miles. Its chief town is of the same name, and has a population of about 6,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1877.

**Mozambique Company.**—A company leasing a portion of the territory of Mozambique, which, among other privileges, exercises the right of issuing its own postage stamps. The first of these appeared in 1892.

**M. Q. E.**—An abbreviation for Martinique surcharged upon the 20c. French Colonial stamps of the "Commerce" type to make provisionals for the exclusive use of this colony.

**M. R.**—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874 upon the correspondence emanating from the official department of the Manager of Railways. These stamps were superseded in 1874 by the general issue (surcharged "O S") for the use of all the Government departments.

**M. R. G.**—Another South Australian official surcharge of the period 1868-74, used upon the correspondence of the department entrusted with the care of the Main Roads, Gambierton.

**Mulready Envelopes.**—The first 1d. and 2d. postal envelopes issued in this country. They were designed by Wm. Mulready, the well-known artist, and from this fact received the name by which they are now generally known.

**Mulready, Wm.**—A well-known Irish artist, born at Ennis, Co. Clare, in 1786. His earliest exhibited works were landscapes, but in 1807-8 his first important subject pictures appeared, and in 1815 he was elected as A. R. A. In the following year he received full Academical honours, just before his famous *Fight Interrupted* was shown. After 1827 his work showed masterly execution, splendour of colouring, delicate technique, and perfection of drawing, and fine examples of his work of this later period may now be seen in the South Kensington Museum. He designed the first 1d. and 2d. postage envelopes issued by Rowland Hill in 1840.

**Multa.**—This word, meaning literally "fine," is shown upon the postage due stamps of Costa Rica, Chili (1898 issue), &c., and means that the stamps represent a fine payable on the delivery of a postal packet owing to the fact that postage was insufficiently prepaid.

**Multada.**—The past participle of the verb *multar* (Spanish), to mulct or fine, as shown upon the postage due stamps of Chili used prior to 1898.

**Multiple Watermark.**—A watermark in which a certain device is shown repeated so closely in the paper that portions of several designs show on one stamp. Thus in the new multiple Crown CA watermark, first introduced in 1904, portions of several crowns and the letters "CA" are shown on stamps of ordinary size. The object of this sort of watermark is to do away with the necessity of keeping a large stock of different papers in stock to fit stamps of various sizes, for paper with multiple watermark may be used indiscriminately for large or small stamps.

**Municipal Service Stamps.**—Since July 1st, 1875, the Post Office of Wurtemberg has supplied stamps of a special design to the various municipalities for use on their official correspondence. At first the postage was fixed at 5pf. for letters and 10pf. for parcels, irrespective of weight. In 1897 the rates were readjusted, making 3pf. stamps a necessity, and in 1900 a further revision resulted in 2pf. and 25pf. stamps being issued.

**Murcia.**—A maritime province in the south-east of Spain, part of a former Moorish Kingdom. It was taken by the Moors in 713, and came under Castile in 1240. The kingdom was divided between Castile and Aragon in 1305. It has an area of 4,478 square miles and a population of about 600,000. During the reign of the provisional government—after the revolution of 1868 in Madrid—all the stamps used in the province were overprinted "HPN" in an oval by order of the Provisional Revolutionary Assembly.

**Nabha.**—A feudatory state in the Punjab, India, having an area of 936 square miles and a population of about 300,000. Postage stamps were first issued in 1865.

**Naples.**—An Italian province, bordered on the south and west by the sea. It has an area of 355 square miles and a population of well over a million. The southern half is mountainous (Mount Vesuvius), and the rest consists of fertile plains. The town of the same name, which is the capital of the province, has an ancient history. It was founded very early by Cumæans, under the name of Parthenope. In 326 B.C. the town was taken by the Romans and became a favourite summer resort and watering place, and the scene of the quinquennial games. Virgil was buried at Naples in 19 B.C., and in 64 A.D. the Emperor Nero made his first appearance as an actor here. It was taken by Theodorich the Great in 493, and again by Belisaurus in 536. Seven years later Totila recaptured it, while in 553 it had to surrender to Narses. After having been incorporated with the Eastern Empire, it became a duchy in 572, and in 1139 it was made the capital of the kingdom of Naples. The French took it in 1601, and the Spaniards two years later. It was captured by the Austrians in 1707, submitted to Don Carlos in 1734, and became the capital of the French Parthenopean republic in 1799. Joseph Bonaparte resided here from 1806 to 1808, when he was succeeded by Joachim Murat, while Ferdinand IV. re-entered the city as King in 1815. In 1858, during the reign of Ferdinand II., postage stamps were issued, these being superseded three years later by the general issue for the Neapolitan Provinces.

*To be continued.*



# New Issues and Old

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells  
After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

**Abyssinia.**—(Vol. III. p. 298).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us that, "we are officially informed that one pane of 25 of each of the following received the overprint inverted":—



*Surcharge, in type illustrated, inverted.*

- ½ pia. on 1g. green
- ½ pia. on 1g. rose
- 1 pia. on 1g. blue

**Argentine Republic.**—(Vol. III. p. 298).—The 10c. in the new design, showing portrait of General San Martin, has been issued according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* making the list to date as follows:—

New design.	Wmk.	Sur.	Perf.	13.	13½.	s.	d.
2c. chocolate	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
3c. green	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4c. violet-brown	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5c. dull carmine	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
10c. slate-green	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12c. pale orange-brown	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
15c. yellow-green	...	...	...	...	...	0	5
30c. dull claret	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

**British South Africa.**—(Vol. III. p. 8).—There have been rumours for some time that the official designation of the territory of Rhodesia, administered by the British South Africa Company, would shortly be shown on the stamps instead of the name of the Company as at present. We now learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that all the current stamps will probably be surcharged "RHODESIA" and that they are likely to be issued some time this month.

**Canal Zone.**—(Vol. III. p. 104).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* lists a new 10c. stamp of Panama surcharged "CANAL-ZONE" for use in this territory. The centre-piece consists of a portrait of José de Obaldia. Above this "REPUBLICA DE PANAMA" is curved, and at the top is "CORREOS." Columns of ornamental foliage are shown at the sides and at the base of these are numerals of value, while at the base the value is shown in words, viz:—"DIEZ CENTESIMOS DE BALBOA."

*New design. Surcharged "CANAL ZONE."*  
10c. violet and black

**Canton.**—Some more errors of the 1908-4 issue are chronicled in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, viz:—the 5c. and 10c. with inverted surcharge; the 1c. and 4c. with Chinese characters omitted and "CANTON" inverted; and the 10c. with the Chinese value above "CANTON."

**Crete.**—(Vol. III. p. 286).—On page 280 we described a provisional stamp formed by surcharging one of the postage due stamps as shown in the accompanying illustration.



Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. now inform us that they have obtained a complete sheet of this variety and they find there is an error which occurs twice on each sheet—the second letter in the Greek word "Prosorinon" signifying "provisional," being a "D" (Delta). This error occurs on the third stamp on the third and eighth rows, which shows that the stamps were surcharged in blocks of 50, so that each sheet of 100 would have to go under the printing press twice.

Our Ipswich friends have now shown us three new provisional stamps the 1c. postage due and 1c. fiscal stamp both being surcharged "Ellas—Prosorinon" in Greek characters, and the 20c. postage due stamp being similarly surcharged and in addition being overprinted with a large "2." This latter is quite different from the stamp illustrated above. In all three the Greek letters for "ΕΑΑΑ" are in much larger type than that hitherto employed, while "Prosorinon" is in small thin sans-serif capitals. According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the 20 lepta orange of the ordinary set has been surcharged 5 l. but before formally chronicling this, we await further particulars as to the type of surcharge.

*Provisionals.*

*Postage due stamps surcharged "Ellas—prosorinon" in Greek letters.*

	s.	d.
1 lepton red	...	—
2 on 20 lepta red	...	2 6
<i>Fiscal stamp similarly surcharged</i>		
1 lepton olive yellow	...	—

**Levant (Italian).**—(Vol. III. p. 299).—During the last twelve months new issue chroniclers have been kept pretty busy trying to keep pace with the flood of surcharged stamps issued for use in the Italian post offices maintained in the Levant, but the worst has yet to be told. According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* each of eight different post offices is to be provided with a set of stamps for its own particular use—the current stamps of Italy being overprinted with the name of the office desired as well as with value in Turkish currency. This means 56 new stamps "at one fell swoop." Truly our Italian friends are out-Seebeckising the most Seebeckized of South American Republics!

*Contemporary stamps of Italy surcharged "Constantinopoli," "Durazzo," "Gerusalemme," "Janina," "Salonico," "Scutari d'Albania," "Smirne," or "Valona," and new values.*

	s.	d.
10 para. on 5c. green	...	0 1
20 " 10c. rose	...	0 2
30 " 15c. grey	...	0 3
1 pia. on 25c. blue	...	0 4
2 " 50c. violet	...	0 8
4 " 1 l. brown and green	...	1 3
20 " 5 l. rose and blue	...	5 6

The surcharge is in violet on the 15c. stamp, and in black on all the other values. The journal referred to above states that "the Italian Postmaster at Constantinople informs us that he has strict instructions not to sell this new issue unless purchasers take an equal quantity of the old issue at the same time!"

**Panama.**—(Vol. II. p. 284).—The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* chronicles a new 2½c. stamp—one of a new series like the 10c. listed above for Canal Zone. This new stamp is engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co., whose imprint appears at the base of the design. In the centre the Arms of the Republic are shown, these being on a larger scale than in the corresponding value of 1906. Curved above the centrepiece, in two lines, is "REPUBLICA—DE PANAMA," and above this is "CORREOS." Numerals of value appear in ornamental tablets at the sides, and the value is shown in words at the base, thus:—"DOS Y MEDIO — CENTESIMOS — DE BALBOA."

*New design.*  
2½c. red

**Paraguay.**—(Vol. III. p. 262).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 1 peso official stamp in yet another colour—slate and black—surcharged as shown in the accompanying illustration for use as a postage stamp.



*Official stamps surcharged "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO" in three lines.*

	s.	d.
1c. on 1 peso carmine and black	...	1 0
1c. on 1 peso lake and black	...	—
1c. on 1 peso orange brown and black...	...	—
1c. on 1 peso slate and black	...	—

Of the first named and last 41,000 and 45,000 respectively are said to have been issued.

**Persia.**—(Vol. III. p. 80).—The 2ch. grey, of 1904, surcharged "PL—TEHEBAN," is known with the overprint in violet, purple, black, violet blue, and blue according to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*! Probably there is not much to choose between them so far as their philatelic worthlessness is concerned.

**Roumania.**—(Vol. III. p. 263).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the 1 ban stamp of the new set. The design of this, and also of the 3 bani mentioned on page 263, is different from that of the other values, the head being larger and the ornamentation plainer. The complete list of values is now as follows:—



*No wmk. Perf. 11½, 13½, or compound.*

	s.	d.
1 ban black	...	0 1
3 bani red-brown	...	0 1
5 " green	...	0 1
10 " carmine	...	0 2
15 " violet	...	0 3
25 " blue	...	0 4
40 " deep green	...	0 6
50 " orange	...	0 8
1 lei. grey-brown	...	—
3 lei. red on red paper	...	—

**Russia.**—(Vol. III. p. 274).—Another value—4 kopecs—very similar in design to those already chronicled, but with numerals of value at each side, is said to have been issued.



*No. wmk. Perf. 14½ x 14½.*

	s.	d.
1 kop. orange	...	0 1
2 " green	...	0 1
4 " carmine	...	0 2
7 " blue	...	0 3

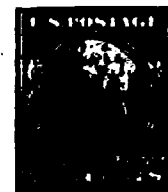
**Straits Settlements.**—(Vol. III. p. 191).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports that specimen copies of the current 5c. value in orange, instead of lilac, have been seen, so the stamp will probably be issued before long.

**United States.**—(Vol. III. p. 287).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us the 2c. Lincoln and the new 3c., 4c., and 5c. imperforate. The complete list of values in this condition is now as follows:—



*Wmk. U.S.P.S. Imperforate.*

	s.	d.
1c. green (Franklin)...	...	0 1
2c. carmine (Washington)	...	0 2
3c. violet	...	0 3
4c. brown	...	0 4
5c. blue	...	0 5



*Wmk. U.S.P.S. Imperforate.*

2c. carmine (Lincoln)	...	0 6
-----------------------	-----	-----

#### NOTE.

The Prices affixed are those at which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. will supply any of the stamps chronicled that may be in stock.

The stamps are supplied at lower rates to subscribers to their *New Issue Service*, particulars of which can be had on application to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich.

The Prices quoted are for unused.

# From other Magazines

## Paraguay Provisionals.

Still the scandalous manufacture of provisionals goes merrily on. Every mail brings news of something fresh. The latest is a crop of stamps overprinted "1908," but though thus disfigured they were only issued early this year. Our agent says there is great difficulty in getting stamps in any large quantity, but the small supplies are probably intentional, and doubtless for the benefit of speculators in the "inner ring." It is quite time the postal authorities recognised the necessity for some stability as regards the supply and permanent character of the stamps; but so long as there is a sale for provisionals, so long will this wretched overprinting business continue, especially when the low rate of exchange means the expenditure of very little money for a great many stamps. Unfortunately, as these stamps do proper postal duty, we are obliged to chronicle them.

—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 18.3.09.

## Egyptian Official Stamps.

Monsieur Alphonse Pleimes, of Birket-el-Sab, has sent me an interesting extract from *Le Bulletin Postal Egyptian*, of which the following is a translation:—

"Concerning the franking of articles sent through the post on the service of the State.

"On and after January 1, 1909, the regulations relative to the franking of letters and other articles sent on the State's Service (i.e. those regulations contained in No. 3 of *Le Bulletin Postal*, dated January 29, 1907), will be modified as follows:—

"1. Ordinary correspondence of all kinds is to be franked with a special stamp, which will be, until further notice, the old stamp inscribed 'SERVICE DE L'ETAT.'

"2. Each article despatched, no matter what it be, nor what its weight, is to be franked with one stamp only.

"3. Insured packets and parcels on which the rate has up to the present been paid in cash are to be franked with the stamps 'O.H.H.S.' which are now current; stamps to be equal in value to the rate payable.

"4. The same 'O.H.H.S.' stamps are to be used to pay the rate for registration within the confines of the State, and to frank articles going abroad. It is therefore intended that registered letters be provided with two kinds of stamps; i.e. 'O.H.H.S.' stamps in payment of the registration fee, and stamps inscribed 'SERVICE DE L'ETAT' to frank the letter.

"5. The rates for money orders, etc., are still to be paid in cash."

One result of these new regulations is that of the stamps overprinted "O.H.H.S." only two values are now used, i.e. the 5 millèmes for the inland registration fee, and the 1 piastre for abroad. The 1, 2, and 3 millèmes and the 5 piastres ought certainly to appreciate in value.

—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 18.3.09.

## A New Confederate Local?

As a rule envelopes that are submitted for inspection by readers who are hopeful that the covers are worthy of classification in provisional envelopes, palpably are nothing but the regulation "Paid" covers that were in use before and after the introduction of stamps; the impressions were applied by the postmasters when the letters were handed in for mailing. Confederate envelopes of this kind are numerous and at times collectors are unable to understand why their envelopes are rejected as provisionals, while others that seem almost like them are accepted for cataloguing. We have received from a collector in Savannah, Georgia, a cover that is the exception to the rule. It seems to have strongest claims for

acceptance as a Confederate local envelope. Not alone has it the "Paid 5" impressed in ink of deeper black than the postmark, "Savannah, Ga., (Sept.) 10, 1861. Paid," but there is an additional marking in the upper right hand corner, in the shape of a type ornament, making an impression about 8 by 12 millimeters approximately. This also is in the deep black ink of the "Paid 5" and from all external appearances, the envelope is a provisional. The fact that the postmark registers "Paid" would seem to show that the "Paid 5" was superfluous as a mere record of pre-payment. The corner ornament is further evidence of a desire to make the envelope distinctive and to control its use for a specified purpose. A newspaper reference to this Savannah envelope, contemporaneous with the time of its use would prove its authenticity beyond question; or the evidence of a reputable old inhabitant would have its weight.

The Confederate postmaster-general "left it to postmasters and persons paying postage to arrange between themselves the manner in which these notes may be used." The notes referred to were Confederate treasury notes which were receivable in payment for postage, but for which it could not reasonably be asked that postmasters furnish change, particularly as change was at a premium. Under these conditions the Confederate postmasters of different cities issued stamps and stamped envelopes, which were sold in quantity over the counter and used at the option of the purchaser.

—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, 6.3.09.

## An Interesting Collection.

The collection of Korean stamps exhibited by Mr. C. A. Howes embraced practically everything that has been issued from the former "Hermit Kingdom." The first attempt to start a postal system was engineered by the Japanese and took place in December, 1894. Unfortunately there was too much politics mixed up with it and a riot occurred on the day of its inauguration, which resulted in the expulsion of the Japanese, the destruction of the new post office and the end of the postal service. One of the stamps that survived the ordeal is in the collection, rather the worse for the experience.

After the Japan-China war in 1894, the Japanese again instituted a postal system, this time with more success, as it has grown and flourished to the present day. The first stamps used were lithographed in Washington, with quaint designs and inscriptions. In 1897 the King of Chōson or Korea assumed the title of Emperor and re-named the peninsula "Tai Han." Many of the old stamps had the new title printed or written on them, and are here shown all classified.

In 1900 Korea entered the Postal Union, and a very handsome set was issued, made by Japanese lithographers at the Korean Mint in Seoul. A large commemorative stamp was also produced to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Emperor's accession, so it will be seen that the erstwhile Hermit nation is now quite up to date.

But the Russo-Japanese war put an end to Korea's independence, and since July, 1905, the Japanese have been in full control and only Japanese stamps have been used.

The Korean stamps are mounted with explanatory notes for a full understanding of their varieties, and their designs are explained as well as all inscriptions translated. The collection was exhibited at the London Exhibition of 1906 and won a bronze medal there, which was shown with the collection.

—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, 6.3.09.

# Editor's Letter Box

*Publishing Offices:* 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

*Editorial Address:* ED. J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

*Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

*Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.*

*THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 1d.*

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### Our Advertisers' Offers this week.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. offer the Natal 4d. King's Head stamp with single CA. watermark at 1/- as a special bargain. This corroborates our remarks on page 241 regarding a find of these stamps at the Pietermaritzburg Post Office.

Messrs. Harmer Rooke & Co. have asked us to mention that, in addition to their ordinary auctions, they now hold special sales of postage stamps every Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m., for the special benefit of philatelists who are unable to attend sales on other days.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay make a special offer of two useful British Guiana provisionals at a tempting price.

Mr. Oswald Marsh advertises some of the exceedingly scarce Board of Trade and Office of Works punctured official stamps.

### Answers to Correspondents.

R. S. R. K. (Rugby). Many thanks for your correction which you will see we have made this week.

Dr. S. J. O. (Philadelphia). Your useful suggestion shall be put before our publishers. Thanks for the cutting which we hope to make use of.

H. E. C. (Fulham). We appreciate your kindness in so frequently sending cuttings. Some we shall refer to next week.

J. M. (Loughborough). Yes, several of our dealers have had supplies of the New Hebrides stamps. See advertisements in our

columns at various times by W. H. Peckitt, O. Marsh, and Ewen's, Ltd. Thanks for the useful cutting. Our printer will send you the handbills asked for.

L. T. (Newport, Mon.) The distribution of the Lincoln stamps seems to have been somewhat arbitrary, or else some postmasters did not trouble to place it on sale on Feb. 12th—the actual date of the centenary celebration. Since our article appeared, however, we have seen several copies used on the date of issue. Your queries shall be replied to next week.

### Our Publishing Day and Advertisers.

In order to meet the requirements of the publishing trade our publishers now distribute copies to the Newsagents on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays as before. This compels us to go to press on Saturday morning. Hence it is absolutely necessary for our printers to have all advertisements at latest on Friday morning; consequently, copy must be in the Advertisement Manager's hands not later than Wednesday, 5 o'clock p.m.

### Advertisers' Proofs.

We are anxious to consult our Advertisers' convenience to the greatest possible extent, but where proofs have to be supplied and returned our printers must have the "copy" by Thursday morning at the latest, as we now have to print off a portion of our issue on Saturday morning.

### Examination of Stamps.

So many of our readers have asked us to undertake the examination and identification of their stamps that we have made arrangements to accede to their wishes.

We shall be pleased to express an opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any stamps submitted to us, or identify them according to any catalogue at a charge of 6d. per stamp. All fees must be paid in advance with sufficient added to pay for return postage and registration.

Stamps upon which an opinion is desired should be mounted on a separate sheet from the letter accompanying them and addressed to "The Expert, c/o The Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

### "The Postage Stamp" on Sale.

*The Postage Stamp* is now kept on sale and may be had every week at the following dealers' establishments:—

Bright & Son, 164, Strand, W.C.  
F. C. Ginn, 143, Strand, London, W.C.  
Lewis May & Co., 15, King William Street, Strand, W.C.  
W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, London, W.C.  
James Rhodes, 62, Market Street, Manchester.  
Cheap Stamp Co., 12, Malvern Road, Kilburn, N.W.  
The Court Stamp Co., 10, Marriott's Court, Manchester.

### Our Handbills.

We are still sending out hundreds of our handbills with specimen page to kind friends who are doing their best to help us to a big circulation. We want every reader to see to it that all his stamp friends take in *THE POSTAGE*

*STAMP*. Shall we send you post free a dozen or two, or fifty, or a hundred, handbills to hand to friends and enclose in letters to collector friends? If so, write Baldwin's, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

### Our Binding Covers.

In navy blue buckram, gilt lettered side and back, for binding any volume of *The Postage Stamp*, price 1s. 6d., from Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

Our friends will note that we have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants, at the nominal charge of ½d. per word. Many collectors even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column Collectors' Wants will catch the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch such advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### A Testimonial.

A reader, who wishes us to withhold his name and address, writes as follows:—"For many months I have been endeavouring to get 'Morocco Agencies' complete central numbers, and have tried unsuccessfully many of our leading dealers. A small advertisement in *The Postage Stamp* brought me in two days the desired stamps. Comment is not needed.

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION to *THE POSTAGE STAMP* would be an excellent gift to any friend who is interested in stamp collecting. If you will send a postal order to the publishers (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1 Amen Corner) they will see that your friend gets a copy regularly, post free. You will thus be saved all trouble yourself, and have the satisfaction of knowing that your friend is reminded of your remembrance every week of the year. If you prefer to send the copy of your first week's subscription yourself, the publishers will send this to you gratis.

	s.	d.
Yearly ...	8	6
Half-Yearly ...	4	3
Quarterly ...	1	8

TO SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London.

I enclose herewith postal order for ..... being.....months' subscription (post free) to *THE POSTAGE STAMP*. Please send a copy weekly beginning with the issue dated..... to—

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 1. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 53)

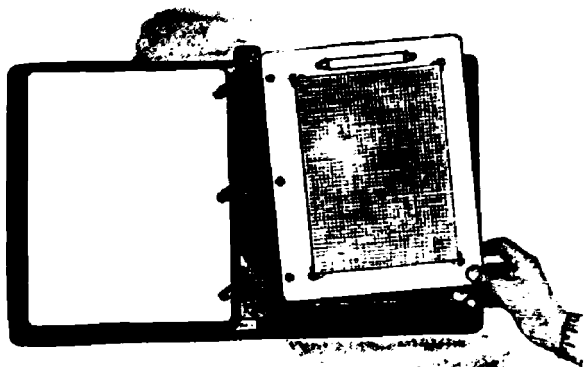
3 OCTOBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

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Are adapted to every variety of collecting, and although only recently introduced to a few collectors, have already been pronounced by the most fastidious and experienced to be the

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They secure Absolute Protection against injury by friction.  
 Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.  
 They fall flat at every opening.  
 The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.  
 They are bound only in best morocco with round corners.  
 They are made in three sizes at moderate prices.  
 Fresh leaves may be had at lower rates than usually charged  
 Every leaf has a quadrillé background with chaste border in neutral grey.

#### PRICE LIST OF COMPLETE ALBUMS.

*Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra.*

Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Without		With	
			Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.	Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.
10	7 x 5 1/2 inches	50 leaves	10/6 each	No. 15	12/6 each.	
20	10 x 7 1/2	50	18/-	" 25	17/6	"
30	12 x 9 1/2	60	28/-	" 35	27/6	"

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		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1872-9.	6d. pale rose ...	1	5	0	0	11	6						
1882-7.	1d. blue ...	0	3	6	0	3	6						
	1d. rose ...	0	0	8	0	0	8						
	6d. yellow ...	3	3	0	—	—	—						
	1s. grey ...	2	18	0	1	16	0						
1888.	3c. on 3d. ...	0	11	6	—	—	—						
	10c. on 4d. ...	0	2	6	0	2	6						
	20c. on 6d. ...	0	2	3	—	—	—						
	50c. on 1s. ...	2	8	0	—	—	—						
1891.	6c. in black on 10c., surcharge inverted ...										5	8	0
1891-9.	1 dollar, green and red ...	0	5	10	—	—	—						
	2 dollars, green and blue ...	0	11	3	—	—	—						
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Oct. 8th and 9th. — A Fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

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The following are some of the chief Rarities:—

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 10d. on 9d., yellow, wmk. Crown and S.A., an exceptionally fine specimen, and other rarities.

And others too numerous to mention.

Catalogues are now ready.

Valuations made if required.

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**The Postage Stamp.**

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Per inch (3 cols. to page) ... 0 5 0

Rates for special positions will be forwarded on application to the Advertisement Manager.

**THIS WEEK'S BARGAINS.**

- Br. Guiana, single C.A., 60c. penmarked 1 6
- " " 48c., 1900 " 1 0
- " " 96c., " 0 8
- Colombia 1886-9, 5p. brn. mint (S.G. 25/-) 7 6
- " " 5p. blk. (S.G. 40/-) 7 6
- Cucuta, 1906, provis'., set of 15 (cat. 18/-) 5 0
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- B. S. Africa, 1896, 3 shillings (cat. 4/-) 1 3
- E.A. & Uganda, King, C.C., 1r. penmkd. 0 9
- " " 2r. " 1 6
- " " 5r. " 4 0
- Venezuela, 1b. black (error 1901) mint 0 6
- Egypt, O.H.H.S., 1, 2, 3, 5m., 1p. mint (c. 10/-) 1 6
- Persia 1903, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 30c., fine used, set 4 0
- " 1899, surch., 1c. to 50k. mint set of 15 (S.G. 20/6) ... 10 0
- Ecuador, 1890, 1c. to 5s. mint set of 8 (S.G. 27/6) ... 5 6
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- uencensland, 1868, star, 1/- red-violet, unused, v. rare ... £6
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- " " 1891, 4d. brown ... 1 0
- Gwallior, Ser. K. 3 pies, grey ... 0 1½
- India, Q. 2rs. 4d., 3rs. 1/-, 5rs. 3/-, set used 3 9
- " " K., 2rs. 3d., per 12, used ... 3 0
- " " 1900, H.M.S., 4, 1, 2as., set ... 1 3
- Tobago, 1880, 1/- ochre ... 2 6
- Trinidad, 1894, 5/- marone ... 7 6
- Victoria, 1887, 2/- apple-green ... 4 0
- B. GORDON JONES, 374, Camden Road, N.

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Or Set of 4 for 25/0

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Section	Pages	Price s. d.
2. ANTIGUA ...	4	0 3
3. BAHAMAS ...	8	0 4
4. BARBADOS ...	12	0 6
5. BERMUDA ...	6	0 4
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS ...	4	0 3
7. DOMINICA ...	10	0 6
8. GRENADA ...	12	0 6
9. JAMAICA ...	12	0 6
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS ...	6	0 4
11. MONTERRAT ...	4	0 3
12. NEVIS ...	10	0 6
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER ...	10	0 6
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS ...	4	0 3
15. ST. LUCIA ...	12	0 6
16. ST. VINCENT ...	8	0 4
17. TOBAGO ...	6	0 4
18. TRINIDAD ...	22	1 0
19. TURKS ISLANDS ...	8	0 4
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27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ...	4	0 3
28. BRITISH GUIANA ...	22	1 0
29. HONDURAS ...	8	0 4
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37. EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA ...	6	0 4
38. GAMBIA ...	6	0 4
39. GOLD COAST ...	6	0 4
40. GRIQUALAND WEST ...	10	0 6
41. LAGOS ...	8	0 4
42. MADAGASCAR ...	22	1 0
43. MAURITIUS ...	24	1 0
44. NATAL ...	20	0 10
45. NEW SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC ...	22	1 0
46. NIGER COAST ...	8	0 4
47. NORTHERN NIGERIA ...	4	0 3
48. ORANGE RIVER COLONY ...	26	1 2
49. ST. HELENA ...	8	0 4
50. SEYCHELLES ...	8	0 4
51. SIERRA LEONE ...	10	0 6
52. SOUTHERN NIGERIA ...	4	0 3
53. STELLALAND ...	4	0 4
54. SUDAN ...	14	0 8
55. SWAZIELAND ...	4	0 3

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

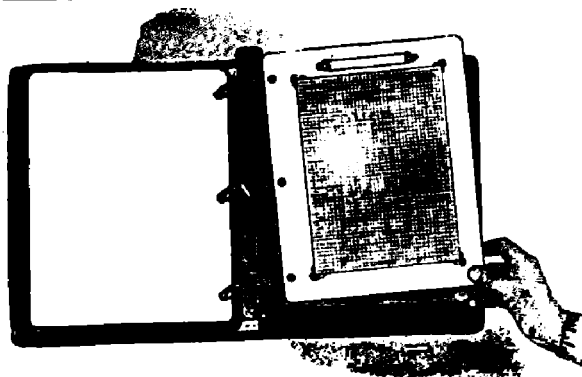
No. 2. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 54)

10 OCTOBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

## WALKER'S LOOSE-LEAF POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS

Are adapted to every variety of collecting, and although only recently introduced to a few collectors, have already been pronounced by the most fastidious and experienced to be the **ALBUMS OF THE FUTURE**



They secure Absolute Protection against injury by friction.  
 Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.  
 They fall flat at every opening.  
 The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.  
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### PRICE LIST OF COMPLETE ALBUMS.

Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra.  
 Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Without Protecting Sheets		With Protecting Sheets	
			Retail Price.	No.	Retail Price.	No.
10	7 x 5 1/2 inches	50 leaves	10/6 each	15	12/6 each	
20	10 x 7 1/2	50	18/-	25	17/6	
30	12 x 9 1/2	60	28/-	35	27/6	

May be obtained of all Stationers and Stamp Dealers.

**JOHN WALKER & CO., LTD.**  
 Farrington House, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

Readers will greatly help by mentioning "The Postage Stamp" when replying to any of these Advertisements.

## Bridger & Kay

71, FLEET STREET,  
 — LONDON, E.C. —

**FREE—1908-9 COLONIAL PRICE LIST,  
 NOW READY.**

If you are a serious collector you cannot be without this List, as it is the best guide to the actual market value of British Colonial Stamps. Prices given are those we can sell at, and the Stamps are in stock.

## Special Bargains

To readers of "The Postage Stamp."

Only supplied at these Special Prices for two weeks from date of issue, allowance of time made for Collectors abroad.

### ALL SUPERB COPIES.

- BOLIVAR, 1880, 20c. green, error of color, (cat. £8), s. d. unused ... .. 17 6
- BR. SOMALILAND, Service, King's Head, 1s., 1s. and 2s. (cat. 15/-), mint ... .. 4 0
- EGYPT, 1872-5, 1 plas., red, the bêche pair (cat. 25/-), mint ... .. 9 6
- PAPUA, 1907, small over print, 2/6 brown, mint... .. 8 6
- TRANSVAAL, 1887, £5 green, used, a really good stamp ... .. 6 6

We have a Fine Stock of Rare Stamps:—e.g. Br. Central Africa, £25 no wmk., postally used, £18; Br. Colombia, 5c. imperf., used, £12; Br. South Africa, 1891, set of 4 provisionals, mint, 90/-; ditto in blocks of four, £18; Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., very fine, £11; 8d., superb, on part of original, £15; Gold Coast, 20/- green and red, mint, £9 9s.; Zululand, postal fiscals, 1/-, 5/-, 9/-, £1, £5 & £20, complete mint set, £60, &c., &c.

### STOCK BOOKS OF COUNTRIES.

We have practically all books made up. Numerous testimonials as to quality, selection, and arrangement of these books. Write for your favourite country. £10,000 worth of Colonials for selection.

**WANT LISTS.**—We can fill them with better results than most other dealers. All lists are filed, so that those not supplied at once are nearly always received within two or three weeks. Try us with a difficult list.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
LITERARY, FINE ART, AND  
**PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS,**  
47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,  
MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson beg to announce that the dates of their Sales for next season have been fixed as follows:—1908—Sept. 29 & 30; Oct. 13 & 14, 27 & 28; Nov. 10 & 11, 24 & 25; Dec. 8 & 9. 1909—Jan. 5 & 6, 19 & 20; Feb. 2 & 3, 16 & 17; Mar. 2 & 3, 16 & 17, 30 & 31; Apr. 27 & 28; May 11 & 12, 25 & 26; June 8 & 9.

OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine stamps having been obtained during past seasons. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

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From the Commonest up to the Greatest Rarities, moderately priced throughout,

**Of All Countries of the World.**

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We offer this month the following fine UNUSED copies of Virgin Islands at BARGAIN PRICES:—

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1867/68, 4d. lake red	5 6		
.. 1/- rose carmine	3 6		
.. do. double-lined frame	56 0		

We are always desirous of purchasing really good Collections, either general or specialized, single rare stamps, large parcels of mixed stamps, entire dealers' stocks, for ready cash.

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Telegrams: "Griebert, London." Telephone: Gerrard 4486.

## PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HOLD BY

**MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**  
(Who originated them in this Country)

At the Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, W.C.  
(Close to the Temple Station on the District Railway).

Oct. 8th and 9th.—A Fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

Oct. 22nd and 23rd.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper have received instructions to sell on the above dates, the

**Very Fine Collection of British Colonials,**  
Formed by E. W. Wetherell, Esq.

The following are some of the chief Rarities:—

MAURITIUS, Post paid, 1d. and 2d., earliest state; reconstructed plate of 1d. (three strips of 4); Small Fillet, 2d. blue, block, pair and singles; Greek Border, 1d. red, two pairs; 2d. blue, three pairs; Large Fillet, 2d. blue, on entire, with other values; Britannia Issue, 4d. black and green, two unused and 2 used; 1/- deep green, perforated, two pairs and four singles.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, a fine lot of Triangulars, including two 1d. Woodblocks and a pair and two single 4d. Woodblocks.

INDIA, 1st issue, 1s. red, with serrated perf., on piece.

Ceylon, a superb lot of the early peace issues, including the following, imperforate: 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/-.

NEW SOUTH WALES, a very fine lot, including 43 Sydney Views, 8d. laureated, "no leaves" variety, &c.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 10d. on 9d., yellow, wmk. Crown and S.A., an exceptionally fine specimen, and other rarities.

And others too numerous to mention.

**Catalogues are now ready.**

Valuations made if required.

Advances made on Collections pending realization if desired.

Contact of all Sales from Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER  
(Philatelic Department), 35, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.

Tele. Address: Ventom, London. Tel. No. 3392 Central. Est. 1761.



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143, Strand, London, Eng.

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## SPECIAL OFFERS.

N.B.—All fine copies. Guaranteed genuine.

	Unused	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
1855. On blue, 6d. claret...	—	14 0
1857. Imperf., 1d. blue ...	25 0	2 0
" " 2d. green (shades) ...	10 0	2 0
" " 5d. chestnut... ..	37 6	8 6
" " 6d. brown (shades) ...	—	9 0
" " 10d. orange ...	60 0	18 0
" " 1s. lilac... ..	—	9 0
" " 1s. 9d. green ...	80 0	50 0
" " On bluish, 1d. lilac ...	—	30 0
" " On white, 1d. ...	12 6	15 0
1861. Star Wmk. perf., 1d. blue	20 0	2 0
" " 2d. green ...	25 0	10 0
" " 4d. rose-red... ..	35 0	20 0
" " 6d. brown ...	—	13 6
" " 6d. bistre ...	—	13 6
" " 8d. brown ...	130 0	65 0
" " 8d. yellow brown ...	—	80 0
" " 9d. bistre ...	—	12 6
" " 10d. orange ver. ...	35 0	7 6
" " 1s. lilac (shades) ...	12 0	3 9
" " 2s. blue... ..	42 0	30 0
1863-67. Wmk. C.C. 1d. lilac ...	3 0	3 0
" " 1d. mauve ...	3 0	3 0
" " 1d. blue... ..	3 0	0 8
" " 2d. green ...	7 0	3 0
" " 2d. emerald... ..	45 0	20 0
" " 2d. yellow ...	7 0	2 6
" " 2d. maize ...	8 6	3 0
" " 4d. rose ...	6 6	3 9
" " 5d. purple brown ...	60 0	25 0
" " 5d. green ...	12 0	3 9
" " 5d. bronze ...	14 0	4 6
" " 6d. brown ...	7 6	1 6
" " 6d. chocolate ...	6 6	5 0
" " 8d. red brown ...	10 0	4 6
" " 9d. bistre ...	24 0	4 0
" " 9d. deep brown ...	9 0	3 9

## BARGAINS IN CLASSIC OLD ISSUES

New South Wales  
Set of 3 Sydney Views—2/4, fine copies.  
" " Cape of Good Hope, 2/8, extra fine copies.

Triangular, Set of 4 values—2/8, fine copies.

## NORTHERN NIGERIA

King's Head, single C.A., mint copies.

	Gibbons' Price.	My Price.
1d. purple and green ...	4d.	2d. only
1d. .. carmine... ..	4d.	3d. ..
2d. .. yellow ...	9d.	5d. ..
2 1/2d. .. blue ...	9d.	5d. ..
5d. .. chestnut... ..	1/3	9d. ..
6d. .. violet ...	3/0	1/6 ..
1/0 green and black ...	5/0	2/6 ..
2/6 .. blue ...	12/6	7/6 ..
1/0 .. brown ...	20/0	12/6 ..

## TRINIDAD.

1896. 5d. mauve, Gibbons' 107. This variety has always been very scarce. Can now supply perfect mint copies at the bargain price of 2/- each. (Gibbons' price is 4/- 1/1)

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King's Head, single C.A., wmk., 2 1/2d. blue. Mint Copy of this rare Stamp, 6d. only. Block of 4, 1/8

All post free for cash with order. Every Stamp guaranteed genuine and in perfect condition.

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FREDK. R. GINN, STAMP EXPERT & DEALER,  
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The Queen's and High Cliffe Hotel, Cliftonville, Margate.  
PHILATELISTS will find this an ideal Hotel for a holiday and often meet many other Collectors. Grand situation in own private grounds. Over 100 sunny Bedrooms looking over the sea. Lecture and Recreation Room. Private Orchestra. Complete installation of Electric Baths, etc. Renowned Cuisine and Choice Wines. Electric Light and Lift. Hair-dressing Saloon. Dark Room. Library and Reading Room, principal Philatelic Papers taken. Tennis and Croquet Lawns. Billiards. Adjoining sands and sea bathing. Near three Golf Links. Inclusive terms from 10/6 per day.  
Tariff from the Managing Director, A. LEON ADUTT, F.R.P.S.L.

## The Postage Stamp.

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2 1/2 on 4d., mint ... ..	£5.	Block	£20
1d. on 5/- ... ..	15/-	"	£3
1/- on grn., Single C.A., mint	2/6	"	10/-
10/- " " " used	12/6	"	50/-
1/- " " " used	3/-	"	12/-
10/- " " " used	15/-	"	12/-
1d. rose, rare shade, mint	3d.	"	1/-

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5c. on 18c., S.G. 252, cat. 7/6, a really scarce stamp, mint, 3/9.

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to all purchasers of the "Somalland Packet" who ask to see Approval Sheets. The packet contains British Somalland, Set of Cape of Good Hope (including the 3d. value), Nyassa (Giraffe), Grand Set of India (obsolete, current & H.M.S.), Japan (Wedding Stamp), Canada (Jubilee), and many other countries, 110 different Foreign postage stamps, price 3d., postage 1d. extra, and purchasers of this packet who ask to see Approval Sheets receive free a Set of Greece (Olympic Games Issue). You will find Splendid Selections on my Approval Sheets, I allow 50% Discount off all Purchases. Grand variety, low prices, good condition, selections of all countries. Write to-day for Sheets.  
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## Three-Cornered Cape of Good Hope.

FINE COPIES.

1d. red ... ..	5/0	6d. lilac ... ..	9/0
4d. blue ... ..	1/9	1/0 green ... ..	10/6

Or Set of 4 for 25/0

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1d. black ... Good Copy, 5d. Fine Copy, 6d. (The first stamp ever issued).

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 3. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 55)

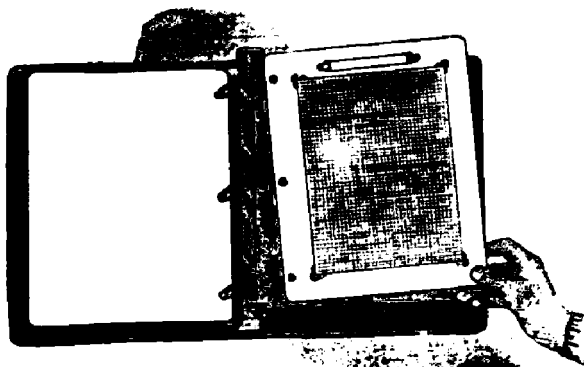
17 OCTOBER, 1908.

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 Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.

They fall flat at every opening.  
 The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.  
 They are bound only in best morocco with round corners.  
 They are made in three sizes at moderate prices.  
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 Every leaf has a quadrillé background with chaste border in neutral grey.

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Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra.

Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

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			Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.	Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.
10	7 x 5 1/2 inches	50 leaves	10/6	each	15	12/6 each.
20	10 x 7 1/2	50	18/-	"	25	17/6 "
30	12 x 9 1/2	60	28/-	"	35	27/6 "

May be obtained of all Stationers and Stamp Dealers.

**JOHN WALKER & CO., LTD.**  
 Farringdon House, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

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For Readers of "The Postage Stamp."

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1908, King's Head, 1/- green and black on green paper, with Single Watermark.

Price 2/0 post free.

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Send to us for a selection of the Countries you are interested in and you will be surprised and pleased.

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We hold Fine Stocks of **every Country**, especially Great Britain.

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Tariff from the Managing Director, A. LEON ADUTT, P.R.P.S.L.

**The Postage Stamp.**

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Per inch (3 cols. to page) ... 0 5 0  
Rates for special positions will be forwarded on application to the Advertisement Manager.

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Antigua, CC, ord, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 6. 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/- ... 15/0  
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K.R.F., inverted, 3 varieties 4/0  
Br. Cent. Africa, King, CA, 1, 2, 4, 6, 1/- blocks ... 12/0  
Br. Somaliland, Queen's, at top, 1/2 to 1r, complete ... 7/6  
King, CA, 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a Official set ... 5/0  
Ceylon, King, CA, complete set ... 45/0  
Cyprus, King, CA, 30p, 1/2, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 45p ... 60/0  
Dominica, CC, ord, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 6. 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/- ... 16/0  
E.A. & Uganda, King, CA, 1/2 to 8a CC, ord, 1, 3 and 4r ... 15/0  
chalky, 1/2 to 8a, 2 1/2a, mult. 3/6  
Egypt, O.H.H.S., 1m to 5pi, set 2/6, blocks ... 10/0  
Nabha Service, King, 1/2 to 1r. ... 10/0  
N. Nigeria, King, CA, 1/2 to 2/6 ... 10/0  
Papua, Type II, 1/2 to 2/6, complete ... 15/0  
S. Nigeria, King, CA, 1/2 to 1r ... 66  
mult, ord, 1/2 to 1r ... 50/0  
Straits, CA, 1c to 1/2 ... 21/0  
on Labuan, 4c to 1r ... 7/0  
Sudan, 1897, strips of 6, 1m, 2m, 3m, 2 shades each ... 9/0  
in panes of 60, 6 panes ... 90/0  
Army service, 1m to 2pi ... 17/6

Ask for specimen of 'Appleton's Weekly.'

**T. C. APPLETON, Ben Rhydding.**

Gambia, 1898, set 1d to 1/-, mint (cat 14/-), 7/-; Northern Nigeria, Queen, set 1d to 1/- mint, (cat 32/4), 16/-; Niger Coast, 1d to 1/-, mint, 4/6; South Australia, 1887-95, perf 1 1/2-12, 5/- used, superb, 4/-; 10/-; 7/6; 15/-; 15/-; 20/-; 12/6; Turks Islands, 1d on 6d (S.G. No. 17), unused, 10/-; 1d on 1/- (S.G. No. 17), unused, 6/-; Gambia, 1/- green, CC, used, superb, 27/6; Transvaal, 45 green, V.R.I., mint "specimen," 18/-; Hong Kong, 20c on 30c green, used (S.G. No. 60) value, double surcharged, 18/-; Great Britain, 5/- plate 1, mint, 37/6; 1/- red and green, Queen. Govt parcels, mint, 17/6; Nevis, 4d, blue, wmk CA, mint, 15/-; Southern Nigeria, 5/-, Queen, mint, 12/-; 10/-, Queen, mint, 17/6; Orange River Colony, 5/- thick V, mint, 6/6; St. Vincent, 5/- lake, mint, 6/6; South Australia, 8d on 9d, mint, 10/-; Victoria, 3d grey green (S.G. No 205a, cat 6/-), mint, 1/8; Virgin Islands, 1/2 yellow, mint, 6/6; Cayman Islands, 1/- single C.A. on green, mint, 2/6. Selections of Great Britain and British Colonies sent on approval. Separate books and sheets of each Colony. What may I send you? Collections purchased.  
OSWALD MARSH, Belvedere Rd, Norwood, S.E.

**FREE.** Five unused Venezuela. We will give each earnest, responsible collector sending 1d. for return postage, this grand unused set of Venezuela, issue 1880, portrait of Bolivar, 10c. vermilion, 1pc. rose, 25c. orange, 50c. brown, 1. Bolivar, green. One of the most striking sets issued. Genuine adhesive postage stamps. The usual price for this set is 4/- 500 best Stamp Mounts 1d.—The Empire Stamp Co., Thornton Heath Surrey.

**FOREIGN STAMPS FREE.**

To all responsible Collectors sending 1d. postage (abroad 4d.) and mentioning gift No. 568, we will give free 50 different Colonial Stamps, containing 2 obsolete Canadians, Ceylon, Hyderabad, Travancore, Trinidad, 2 Victorias, 4 N.S. Wales, Natal, King's Head, 2 rare S. Australia U.S. 4 New Zealand, Transvaal obsolete, also King's Head, Cape, including Table Bay Type, Jamaica, two different of the Lisadovey Falls issue, Tasmania, view of Hobart, and a fine set of 10 different India. Only 1 packet to each applicant.

**Monthly "PHILATELIC ADVISER,"**

24pp.; Sub. 2/- per annum.  
Special Line in Cheap Packets—200 all different 1/- 300 2/-, 500 3/6, 1000 12/6

**BRIGHT & SON, 164, STRAND, W.C.**

**Three-Cornered Cape of Good Hope.**

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*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 4. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 56)

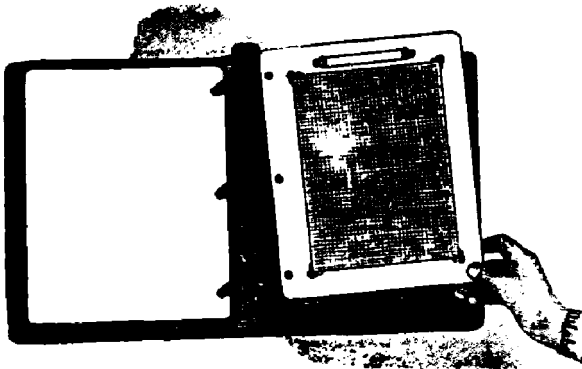
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EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

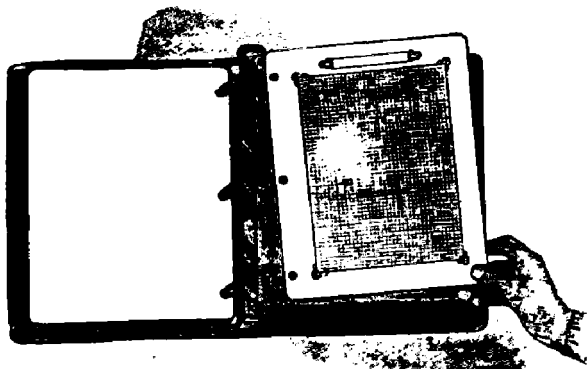
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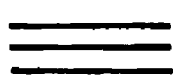
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 6. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 58)

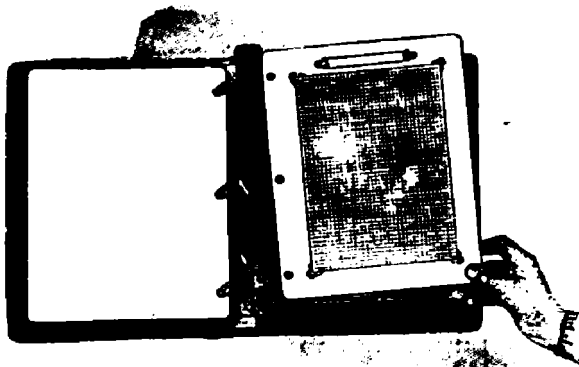
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" " 1d. blue... ..	3 0	0 8
" " 2d. green ...	7 0	3 0
" " 2d. emerald... ..	45 0	20 0
" " 2d. yellow green ...	—	60 0
" " 2d. yellow ...	7 0	2 6
" " 2d. maize ...	8 6	3 0
" " 4d. rose ...	6 6	3 9
" " 5d. purple brown ...	60 0	25 0
" " 5d. green ...	12 0	3 9
" " 5d. bronze ...	14 0	4 6
" " 5d. myrtle ...	10 0	15 0
" " 6d. brown ...	7 6	1 6
" " 6d. chocolate ...	6 6	5 0
" " 8d. red brown ...	10 0	4 6
" " 9d. bistre ...	24 0	4 0
" " 9d. deep brown ...	9 0	3 9

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Catalogue Price My Price.

1901. Queen, 1d. green, mint	0 3	0 2
" " 1d. carmine	0 4	0 2
" " 2d. red brown	1 0	0 8
" " 4d. green	2 0	1 3
" " 6d. purple	2 6	1 6
" " 1/0 black	4 0	2 9
1902. King, Single C.A.		
1d. black and green	2 0	1 3
1d. " carmine	0 6	0 4
2d. " brown	1 0	0 8
2 1/2d. " blue	4 0	2 6
4d. " green	1 0	0 8
6d. " mauve	2 6	2 0
1/0 green and black	6 0	4 6
2/6 black and brown	13 6	9 6
10/0 purple on yellow	15 0	11 6

### ST. VINCENT.

1902. King, Single C.A.		
1d. lilac and green, mint	0 3	0 2
1d. " carmine	—	0 6
2d. " black	—	0 3
2 1/2d. " blue	—	0 6
3d. " olive	0 8	0 6
6d. " brown	2 6	1 6
1/- green and carmine	10 0	6 6
2/- " purple	—	2 4

### BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.

1895, no wmk., 1d. black, mint	2 0	1 0
1903. King's, single C.A.		
1d. carmine ...	0 3	0 2
2d. purple ...	0 6	0 4
4d. black ...	0 6	0 5
6d. buff ...	1 6	1 0
1/0 blue ...	2 0	1 6

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1d. on 2 1/2d. lilac & blue, mint	1 6	0 9
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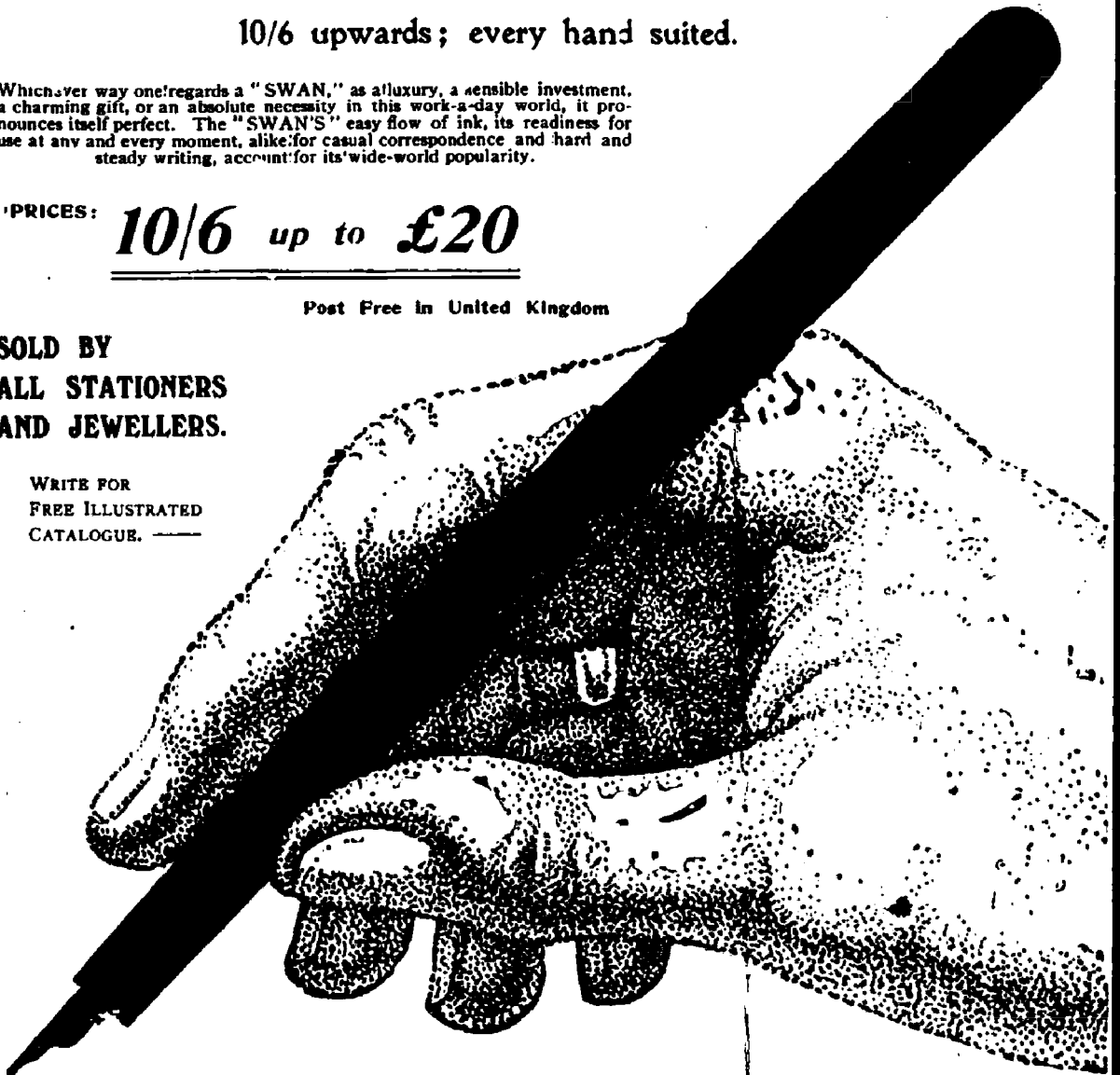
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EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 7. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 59)

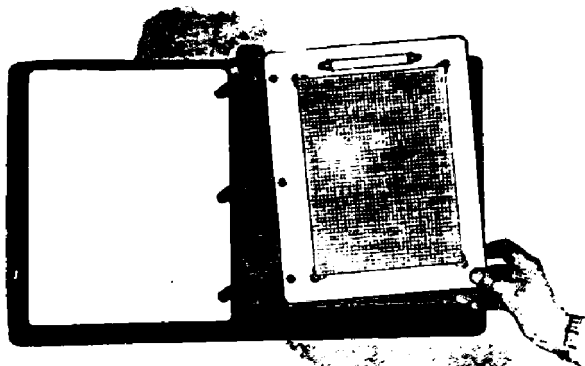
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Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

**BRITISH AND COLONIAL and King's Head Stamp Exchanges (combined).** Few vacancies for enthusiasts. There is good business doing.—Secretary, "Lynton," Lonsdale Road, Barnes.

**APPROVAL** Sheets. Stamps from 1d. each. K. Foster, 25, Grenville Place, Brighton.

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**FOREIGN & Colonial**, 66 to 80% under Catalogue, Mulreadies, Approval—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

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**SETS 100** to select from 1d. each. Approval Selections at low prices. Speciality South Africans.—Jaques, 54, Antill Road, Tottenham.

# The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

## UNEQUALLED AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

THE POSTAGE STAMP was started nearly twelve months ago to meet the long felt necessity for an independent weekly journal absolutely free from the control of any Dealer but friendly and open to all without favour.

And it is now recognised as having most successfully met that demand. Its advertising pages have been, and will remain open to all Advertisers.

The same independent spirit has been maintained in its literary pages.

THE POSTAGE STAMP in fact combines the publication of the highest class of useful and scientific articles with bright, varied and newsy pages. It forms a storehouse and reference library of all that is worth preserving in the philatelic literature of the day.

It aims at the popularization of all that is best in the fascinating pastime of Stamp Collecting and the promotion of the best and most permanent interests of Collector and Dealer alike

And no effort is spared to win for it such a large and influential circulation as must command the advertising support of Stamp Dealers all over the philatelic world. Its sales have from the first been most satisfactory to all concerned.

## Our Programme.

### Gossip of the Week.

Free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

### Historical Rarities.

Their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

### Collectors In Council.

A free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

### Notable Stamps.

Occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

### My Favourite Country.

Giving the interesting why and wherefore of their choice, by eminent specialists.

### How to Collect.

A helpful series of articles for the young collector, taking him by easy stages from the most elementary to the most advanced forms of collecting, by Edward J. Nankivell.

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Independent comments on the trend of catalogue, auction and market prices, by an independent writer.

### New Issues and Discoveries.

Written up to date and fully illustrated.

## Advertisement Rates.

### Displayed Advertisements.

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In three column measure:—5s. per inch, displayed matter, or 12 words 1s. and 1d. for each additional word.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

We have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants at the nominal charge of 4d. per word. Many collectors, even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others, resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column, Collectors' Wants will meet the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch these advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### Last Day for Advertisements.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock p.m. THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue. All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

### Remittances.

Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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### Mr. W. H. Peckitt, London, says:

"My advertisements in *The Postage Stamp* have brought me better results than any other paper I have tried."

### Mr. D. Field, London, writes:

"You will be glad to learn that my Advertisements in *The Postage Stamp* have proved most satisfactory, and I have much pleasure in renewing my contract with you."

### Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich,

After having sold several complete vols. of their Standard Albums with hinged leaves in Paragon covers, through their advertisement in *The Postage Stamp* forthwith doubled their advertising space.

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"After hunting high and low, looking through all the leading dealers' stock books, etc., and at last abandoning the hope of getting certain blocks that I wanted, I tried your new column for 'Collectors' Wants and Exchanges,' and in a post or two I got a splendid selection, and have enriched my collection to the envy of my fellow specialists."

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And obtainable from all Booksellers, Newsagents and Bookstalls.



# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 8. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 60)

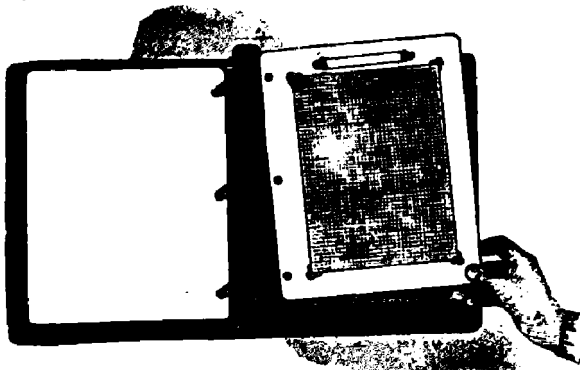
21 NOVEMBER, 1908.

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They secure Absolute Protection against injury by friction.  
Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.

They fall flat at every opening.  
The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.  
They are bound only in best Morocco with round corners.  
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Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Without		With	
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10	7 x 5½ inches	50 leaves	10/6 each	No. 15	12/6	each.
20	10 x 7½	50	18/-	25	17/6	
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These Stamps are seldom offered below Catalogue rates and are a  
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OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

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Selections of Stamps of any country or colony sent on approval at liberal discounts. Magnificent stock to select from. No rubbish, and every stamp guaranteed genuine in every way.

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" " 10 " " " " " " "	"	"	0 10
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" " 1899, Map stamp, set of 3 colours ...	"	"	0 5

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2d. " black	"	0 3
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" " 1/- ...	"	7 6
" " 1d. on 2½d., No. 17 ...	"	15 0
" " 1893, 1d. ...	"	1 0
" " 1d. ...	"	1 0
" " 2d. ...	"	4 6
" " 2½d. ...	"	0 9
" " 5d. both cols. ...	"	4 0
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" " 2½d. ...	"	1 0
" " 5d. ...	"	1 0
" " 1/- black ...	"	2 0
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" " 1/- black ...	"	2 0
" " 2/6 ...	"	5 0
" " 10/- ...	"	13 0
Maldives, 5 cents, used postally	"	1 4

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**The Postage Stamp.**

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2/6 lilac, Queen's Head	...	3d.
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**FREE.** Five unused Venezuela. We will give each earnest, responsible collector sending 1d. for return postage, this grand unused set of Venezuela, issue 1880, portrait of Bolivar, 10c. vermilion, 10c. rose, 25c. orange, 50c. brown, 1. Bolivar, green. One of the most striking sets issued. Genuine adhesive postage stamps. The usual price for this set is 4/- 500 best Stamp Mounts 1d.—The Empire Stamp Co., Thornton Heath, Surrey.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors*

No. 9. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 61)

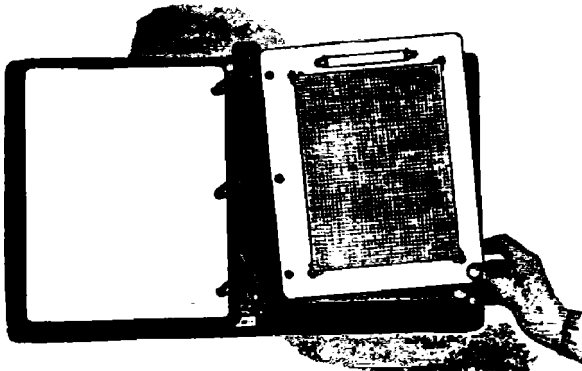
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Are adapted to every variety of collecting, and although only recently introduced to a few collectors, have already been pronounced by the most fastidious and experienced to be the

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10	7 x 5½ inches	50 leaves	...	10/6 each	No. 15	12/6 each.
20	10 x 7½	...	...	18/-	...	25 17/6
30	12 x 9½	...	...	28/-	...	35 27/6

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This handbook gives a complete history of the interesting stamps of this Colony. It consists of 48 large pages and is fully illustrated.

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Having had the Finest Collection of these stamps extant. In addition to my ordinary stock, I can offer an unrivalled range of these fine stamps.

Among those now in stock are:—

- 1853. 1d. proof in black.
- „ 1d. unused and used, including pairs and blocks.
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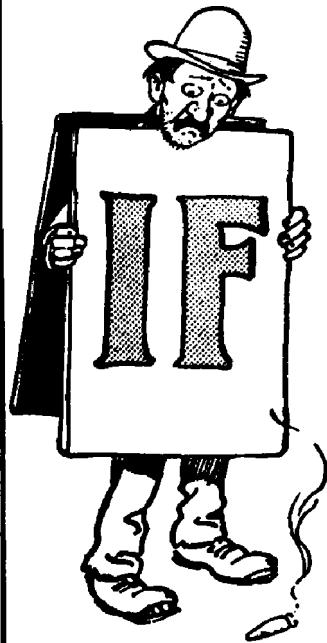
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(Whole Number 62)

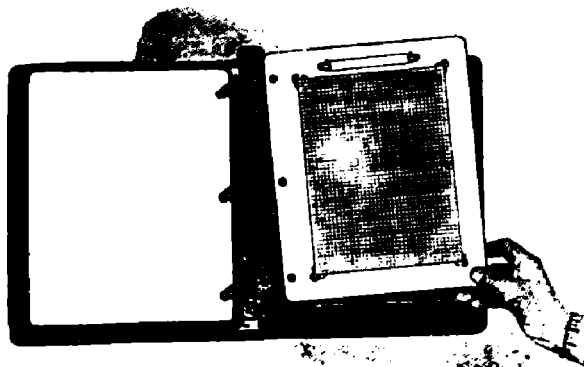
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 11. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 63)

12 DECEMBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

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- \* *Means mint.*
- \* Bolivia, 1897, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c., 1 bol (cat. 6/-) ... 3 0
  - \* Ditto, ditto, including 2 bol ... 7 6
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  - \* Ditto, ditto, used (cat. 3/3) ... 1 6
  - \* Brit. North Borneo, 1886-7, 1, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10c (cat 5/9) ... 3 0
  - \* Brit. South Africa, 1891, 1d, 2d, & 4d on 6d, 8d on 1/- (cat. 19s/-) 95 0
  - \* Brunel, 1906, surcharged, 2c on 3c, 4c on 12c, 8c, 10c on 16c ... 2 0
  - \* China, 1904, Postage Due, 1, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10c (cat. 4s/6) ... 20 0
  - \* Ditto (French), 1907-8, 2c on 5c, 4c on 10c, 6c on 15c, 8c on 20c, 10c on 25c, 20c on 50c ... 1 9
  - \* Ditto (German), 1905-7, 1, 2, 4, 10, 20, 40c ... 2 3
  - \* Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1, 1, 1s, 2dol 14 6
  - \* Ditto (Japan), 1900-6, 1, 1s, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50s, 1 yen (cat. 25/1) ... 12 6
  - \* Ditto (Russian), 1899-1907, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 14, 20, 35, 50kop, 1r 8 6
  - \* Cayman Is., 1905, 1d, 1d, 2d, 6d, 1/- 7 0
  - \* Ditto, 1905, 1d, 2d, 6d, 1/-, used 10 0
  - \* Crete, 1899, S.G. Nos. 31 to 48 inclusive, without control mark. (cat. £6 15s 0d) ... 80 0
  - Fed. Malay States, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20, 50c, single CA ... 1 9
  - \* Ditto, ditto, 1, 2, 5 dollars, postally used, "CC" ... 10 0
  - \* Germany, 1900, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 80pf, 1m lake, 2m, 3m, 5m, rare type (cat. 40/-) ... 17 6
  - \* Gibraltar, 1905, 20c, 1, 2pes, (cat. 4/-) ... 2 0
  - \* Gold Coast, 1901, 1d on 2d, 1d on 6d (cat. 3/-) ... 1 6
  - \* Ditto, ditto, ditto, used ... 1 6
  - \* Great Britain, 1895-6, Army Telegraphs, 1d, 1d, 2d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- (cat. £5) ... 32 6
  - \* Ditto, ditto, high values, £1 & £5 75 0
  - \* Ditto, 1901, "VRI-AT," 1d., 3d, 6d, 1/-, 5/- (cat. 13/-) ... 7 6
  - \* Do, do, high values, 10/-, £1 & £4 65 0
  - \* Iceland, sur. "Iglidi" set of 19 (cat. over 40/-) ... 20 0

- Italy, 1903, postage due, 50l yel., a. d. 100 lire blue (cat. 32/6) ... 10 0
- \* Johore, 1894, 3c on 4c, 5c, 6c, and 1dol (cat. 6/3) ... 3 0
- \* Leeward Is., 1d, on 4d, 6d, 7d (c 3/9) 1 9
- \* Montenegro, 1896 Jubilee issue, complete set of 12 (cat. 10/6) ... 5 0
- \* Nyassa, 1901 errors with inverted centre, 10, 150, 300reis (cat. £9) 65 0
- \* Roumania, 1891, Jubilee, 1s, 3, 5, 10, 15 (cat. 8/-) ... 4 0
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  - \* 40c orange and black (cat. 40/-) 10 0
  - \* 75c brown and black (cat. 15/-) 5 0
  - \* 1fr orange and black (cat. 60/-) 15 0
  - \* 2fr green and black (cat. 8/-) ... 3 6
  - \* 5fr buff and black (cat. 30/-) ... 8 0
  - \* Heligoland, 1879, 5m (cat. 15/-) ... 7 0
  - \* Hong Kong, 1890, 20c, S.G. No. 56 (cat. 3/6) ... 2 0
  - \* Do., 50c, S.G. No. 57 (cat. 5/-) ... 2 6
  - \* Leeward Is., 2d Jubilee (cat. 2/-) 1 0
  - \* Malta, 1/- King single CA. (cat. 3/-) 1 6
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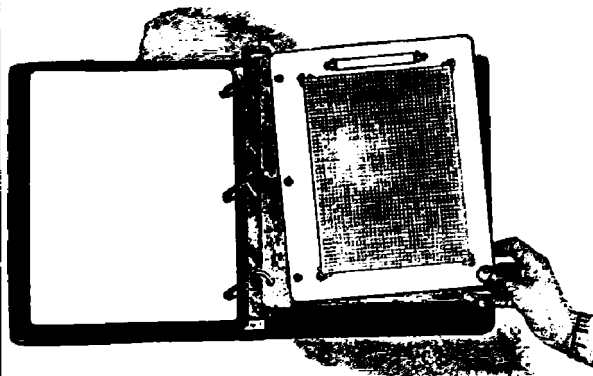
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111	1 4	177	2 0
121	1 8	184	1 4
122	2 0	190	1 4
130	2 6	195	2 0
134	2 6	198	2 0
137	2 6	199	2 0
138	2 6	201	1 4
140	1 4	205	2 0
146	2 0	207	2 6
147	2 0	209	2 6
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Contains 30 different used and unused Hayti stamps including the old Palm Tree issues, the scarce large issue of 1898 with portrait of President Simon Sam, the 1900 issue complete, the 1887 issue President Solomon surcharged DEUX CENT, Provisional and Surcharged issues, the 1904 issue with General Nord Alexis and many other good issues. We also give FREE TO EACH PURCHASER a grand set of SIX IMPERF. ISSUE OF 1904 catalogued by Gibbons at 10/- the set.

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1893-1898. 2, 3, 5, 7c Palm Tree issue unused ...	Price 2/1	1904. Centenary issue 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c unused ...	Price 8/1
1893-1898. 1, 2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 20c Palm Tree issue unused ...	Price 6d	1904. Centenary issue 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c used ...	Price 9d
1898. 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, 50c and 1 gourde	Price 3/-	1904. Centenary issue 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c unused ...	Price 1/4
1898. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10c unused ...	Price 8d	1904. Centenary issue surcharged Poste paye, 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c used ...	Price 1/8
1898. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10c used ...	Price 9/1	1904. Centenary issue surcharged Poste paye, 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c used ...	Price 9/1
1898. Two high values 50c and 1 gourde unused ...	Price 1/9	1904. Centenary issue surcharged Poste paye, 5, 7, 10, 20, 50c unused ...	Price 8/1
1898. Two high values 50c and 1 gourde used ...	Price 2/-		
1902. Previous issue surcharged 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10c used ...	Price 1/4		
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The popularity of German Colonials nearly equals that of the British Colonials. The handsome designs, the brilliant colours and knowledge that the stamps have never been sold under face value or postmarked to order has caused them to obtain a well deserved popularity. A collection of German Colonials is more saleable and brings a larger proportion of catalogue value than one of any other country. We have obtained a small quantity in exchange for other stamps which enables us to offer them at a price which no other dealers can compete with.

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Contains 30 different used German Colonials, including Kiauschau Battleship issue 3, 5, 10 pf. and 1 cent, German Levant piastre issue, German Morocco old type Latin surcharge 5, 10, 25 centimos and the German surcharge 3, 5, 10 centimos, German China surcharge 3, 5, 20 pf, German East Africa Battleship issue 2) and 7) haller, German South West Africa Battleship issue 3, 10, 20 pf, Cameroons Battleship issue, German New Guinea, Tago Battleship issue, Samoa 3 and 5 pf, Marianne Islands and Marshall Islands.

**Price 2/- Postage 1d extra.**

### SETS OF GERMAN COLONIALS, UNUSED.

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**Price 6d. Postage 1d. extra.** NOTE.—The set of Canada Quebec is alone worth price of packet.

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ALWAYS USEFUL.  
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SURE OF APPRECIATION.

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THIS Stylo is designed to occupy the smallest possible space in pocket or purse, and yet when open for use to form a long handle, making a convenient and serviceable ink pencil.  
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Plain Vulcanite, Black, Mottled or Tan.

**3/6**

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Cap covered in Silver, plain or engine turned.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 12. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 64)

19 DECEMBER, 1908.

Price 1d.

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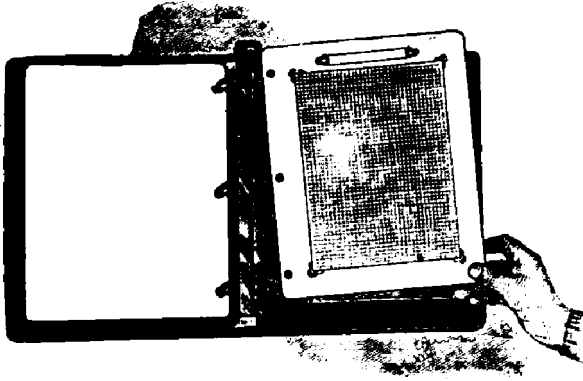
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" 1d lilac ...	0 5	0 6
" 2d green and carmine ...	0 8	0 6
" 2d purple on blue ...	0 6	0 5
" 5d lilac and blue ...	1 3	1 0
" 1/- green ...	7 6	6 0
1893-4, all provisionals at about half Gibbons' prices.		
1893, 1d red ...	1 0	1 0
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" 2d lilac ...	0 9	0 9
" 5d lilac, 2 shades ...	4 0	3 9
" 1/- black ...	4 6	3 9
1894, no wmk., 1d green ...	0 2	0 1
" 1d red ...	0 8	0 6
" 2d lilac ...	1 0	1 3
" 2d blue, 2 shades ...	1 0	1 0
" 5d lilac ...	1 0	0 9
" 1/- black ...	1 9	2 0
1897-8, wmk. CH, 1d green ...	0 1	0 1
" 1d red ...	0 2	0 1
" 2d lilac ...	0 4	0 3
" 2d blue ...	0 4	0 3
" 5d lilac ...	0 9	1 0
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" 1/- black ...	1 9	2 0
" 2/6 bistre ...	4 6	—
" 10/- violet, shades ...	13 6	—

### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

1853, blue paper, 1d brick red, shades	70 0	8 0
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" 4d blue ...	17 6	1 6
" 4d light blue ...	17 6	3 0
" 6d lilac ...	55 0	8 6
" 6d slate lilac ...	80 0	16 0
" 1/- yel. green ...	120 0	12 6
" 1/- deep ...	70 0	15 0
1861, wood blocks, 1d brick red	—	from 85 0
" 1d scarlet ...	—	80 0
" 4d blue ...	—	45 0
" 4d pale blue ...	—	55 0
" 4d deep blue ...	—	135 0
1863, De la Rue, 1d carmine ...	20 0	12 6
" 1d brown red ...	24 0	8 6
" 4d blue, shad. ...	22 6	3 6
" 6d bright mve ...	32 6	15 0
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1d plate 11 ...	2 0	1d plate 164 ...	4 6
1d " 12 ...	3 0	1d " 169 ...	4 0
1d " 20 ...	20 0	1d " 170 ...	2 0
1d " 89 ...	2 6	1d " 171 ...	1 0
1d " 96 ...	2 0	1d " 173 ...	4 0
1d " 109 ...	6 0	1d " 174 ...	2 0
1d " 111 ...	1 4	1d " 176 ...	2 6
1d " 121 ...	1 8	1d " 177 ...	2 0
1d " 122 ...	2 0	1d " 184 ...	1 4
1d " 130 ...	2 6	1d " 190 ...	1 4
1d " 134 ...	2 6	1d " 195 ...	2 0
1d " 137 ...	2 6	1d " 198 ...	2 0
1d " 138 ...	2 6	1d " 199 ...	2 0
1d " 140 ...	1 4	1d " 201 ...	1 4
1d " 146 ...	2 0	1d " 205 ...	2 0
1d " 147 ...	2 0	1d " 207 ...	2 6
1d " 149 ...	4 0	1d " 209 ...	2 6
1d " 150 ...	2 0	1d " 213 ...	4 0
1d " 152 ...	4 0	1d " 220 ...	3 0
1d " 154 ...	4 0	1d " 221 ...	3 4
1d " 158 ...	2 6	1d " 222 ...	3 6
1d " 162 ...	2 0	1d " 224 ...	9 0
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THIS Stylo is designed to occupy the smallest possible space in pocket or purse, and yet when open for use to form a long handle, making a convenient and serviceable ink pencil.  
Fitted with gold spring needle, which ensures smooth writing. Always ready for use—cannot leak—writes just like a pencil, but in ink.

EXTENDS from 2½ inches closed to 4½ inches in length open.



Plain Vulcanite, Black,  
Mottled or Tan,

**3/6**

Post Free, 3/7



Cap covered in Silver,  
plain or engine turned,

**9/6**

Pos Free.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 13. Vol 3.  
 (Whole Number 651)

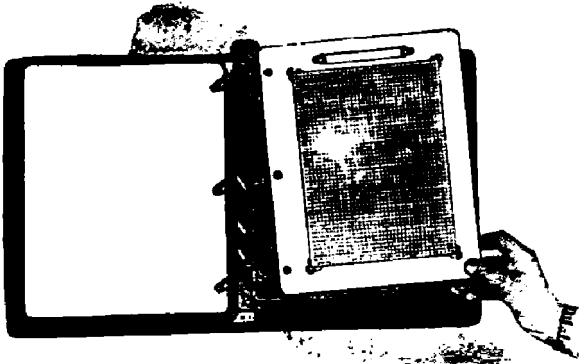
26 DECEMBER, 1908.

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 Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.

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 The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.  
 They are bound only in best morocco with round corners.  
 They are made in three sizes at moderate prices.  
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 Every leaf has a quadrillé background with chaste border in neutral grey.

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Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra.

Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

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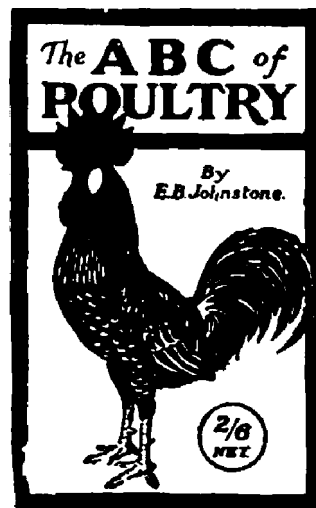
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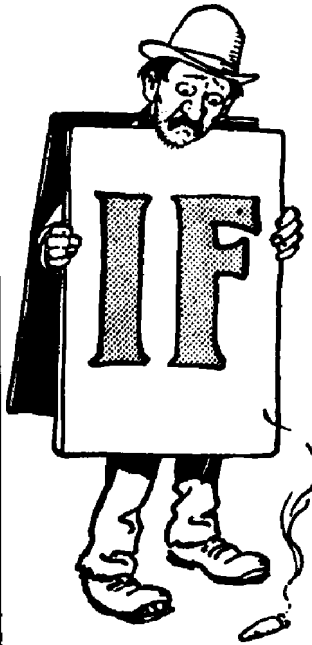
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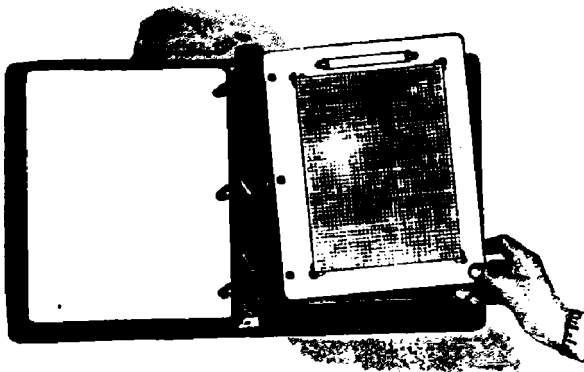
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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

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#### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

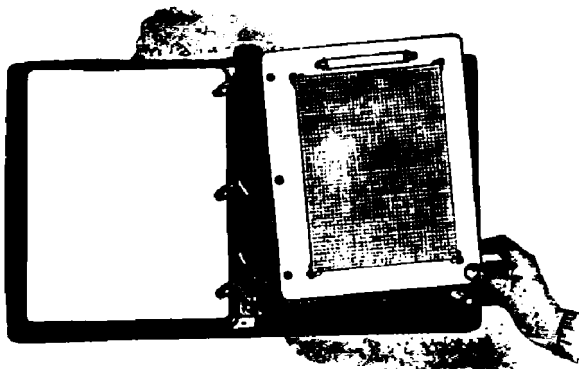
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 (Whole Number 67)

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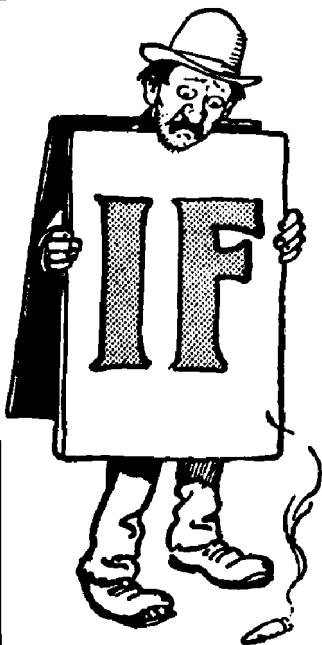
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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 16. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 68)

16 JANUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

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(S.G. 37, cat. 7/6), mint, for ... .. **3/3**

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Write for our price list which contains 40 packets similar to above of all countries, at low rates, to clear surplus stock.

**BRIDGER & KAY, 71, Fleet Street, London, E.C.**

PHILATELIC AUCTION SALES.

## GLENDINING & Co., Ltd.

Fine Art, Numismatic,  
and Philatelic Auctioneers,

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7, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.  
(Adjoining Oxford Circus Railway Station).

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., make a speciality of the sale of Postage Stamps by Auction, and will be pleased to send catalogues on application.

Owners desiring to realize their collections to the best possible advantage should make early arrangement with the Auctioneers in order to secure advantageous dates of sale, which are frequently engaged several sales in advance.

Collections whilst in the custody of the Auctioneers are insured against loss by Fire, Burglary, etc.

Liberal Advances pending realization can be arranged. Sales by private treaty.

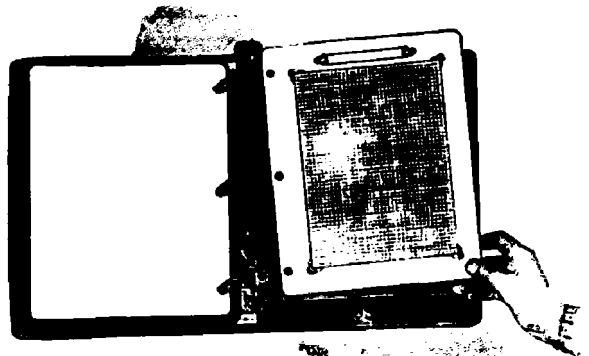
Expert Valuations for Probate and other purposes on strictly moderate terms.

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## WALKER'S LOOSE-LEAF POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS

Are adapted to every variety of collecting, and although only recently introduced to a few collectors, have already been pronounced by the most fastidious and experienced to be the

### ALBUMS OF THE FUTURE



They secure Absolute Protection against injury by friction.

Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.

They fall flat at every opening.

The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality.

They are bound only in best morocco with round corners.

They are made in three sizes at moderate prices.

Fresh leaves may be had at lower rates than usually charged

Every leaf has a quadrillé background with chaste border in neutral grey.

### PRICE LIST OF COMPLETE ALBUMS.

Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra.

Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Protecting Sheets	
			Without Retail Price.	With Protecting Sheets Retail Price.
10 ...	7 x 5½ inches	50 leaves	10/6 each	No. 15 13/6 each.
20 ...	10 x 7½ "	50 "	18/- "	" 25 17/6 "
30 ...	12 x 9½ "	60 "	28/- "	" 35 27/6 "

May be obtained of all Stationers and Stamp Dealers.

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Farrington House, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

Readers will greatly help by mentioning "The Postage Stamp" when replying to any of these Advertisements.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
 LITERARY, FINE ART, AND  
**PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS,**  
 47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson beg to announce that the dates of their Sales for next season have been fixed as follows:—1909—  
 Jan. 5 & 6, 19 & 20; Feb. 2 & 3, 16 & 17; Mar. 2 & 3, 16 & 17, 30 & 31;  
 Apr. 27 & 28; May 11 & 12, 25 & 26; June 8 & 9.

○ WING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine stamps having been obtained during past seasons. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

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**Simmons' Ideal** 

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**Rapid Business Handwriting**  
 In Eight Lessons.

These lessons have been specially prepared by probably the finest penman in this, or any other country, a poor writer himself he set to work to improve his handwriting, and with perseverance has made himself second to none in this most important but sadly neglected art. He corrects all exercises himself, and criticises and suggests in such a way that the pupil makes rapid progress.

**FEEES.**

Fee for the Course of Eight Lessons ... .. 10/6  
 Fee for the "Short Course" in Figures, three lessons 5/-

N.B.—The above prices include correction of all work sent in by the student and criticisms and advice respecting same.

Complete Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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**PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS**

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready in a few days and will be

**No. 1.**

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The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.



# FREDK. R. GINN,

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Silver Medal, London Exhibition, 1887.  
Established 1880.  
The house for genuine bargains. Watch this advertisement each month, it will repay you. Compare my prices before purchasing elsewhere.  
Bargains for every grade of Collector.

## Two GREAT Purchases.

I.—Highly Specialized Collection of NIGER COAST and OIL RIVERS.

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Both Collections are rich in shades and fine copies in Singles, Pairs and Blocks.

Selections on Approval with pleasure.

## Special Bargains

FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

### NIGER COAST & OIL RIVERS.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1892, 1d red ... ..	0 6	0 5
" 1d lilac ... ..	0 5	0 6
" 2d green and carmine ... ..	0 8	0 6
" 2d purple on blue ... ..	0 6	0 5
" 5d lilac and blue ... ..	1 3	1 0
" 1/- green ... ..	7 6	6 0

1893-4, all provisionals at about half Gibbons' prices.

1893, 1d red ... ..	1 0	1 0
" 1d blue, 2 shades... ..	1 0	1 0
" 2d green ... ..	4 6	4 6
" 2d lilac ... ..	0 9	0 9
" 5d lilac, 2 shades... ..	4 0	3 9
" 1/- black ... ..	4 6	3 9
1894, no wmk., 1d green ... ..	0 2	0 1
" 1d red ... ..	0 8	0 6
" 2d lilac ... ..	1 0	1 3
" 2d blue, 2 shades ... ..	1 0	1 0
" 5d lilac ... ..	1 0	0 9
" 1/- black ... ..	1 9	2 0
1897-8, wmk. CA, 1d green ... ..	0 1	0 1
" 1d red ... ..	0 2	0 1
" 2d lilac ... ..	0 4	0 3
" 2d blue ... ..	0 4	0 3
" 5d lilac ... ..	0 9	1 0
" 6d, yellow brown ... ..	1 0	1 6
" 1/- black... ..	1 9	2 0
" 2/6 bistre ... ..	4 6	—
" 10/- violet, shades ... ..	13 6	—

### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

1853, blue paper, 1d brick red, shades	70 0	8 0
" 4d blue ... ..	60 0	3 6
1855-8, white pap., 1d brick red	30 0	6 0
" 1d rose red ... ..	15 0	5 0
" 4d blue ... ..	17 6	1 6
" 4d light blue ... ..	17 6	3 0
" 6d lilac ... ..	55 0	8 6
" 6d slate lilac ... ..	80 0	16 0
" 1/- yel. green ... ..	120 0	12 6
" 1/- deep ... ..	70 0	15 0
1861, wood blocks, 1d brick red	—	from 85 0
" 1d scarlet ... ..	—	80 0
" 4d blue ... ..	—	45 0
" 4d pale blue ... ..	—	55 0
" 4d deep blue ... ..	—	135 0
1863, De la Rue, 1d carmine... ..	20 0	12 6
" 1d brown red ... ..	24 0	8 6
" 4d blue, shad. ... ..	22 6	3 6
" 6d bright mve ... ..	32 6	15 0
" 1/- emerald... ..	80 0	24 0
" 1/- pale ... ..	95 0	—

All post free for cash with order. Every Stamp guaranteed genuine and in perfect condition.

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FREDK. R. GINN, STAMP EXPERT & DEALER,  
143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

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Tariff from the Managing Director, A. LEON ADUTT, P.R.P.S.L.

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A large stock of ENGLISH used and unused always on hand. These are my speciality and my prices are very moderate. Nearly everything in stock.

Separate books and sheets of each BRITISH COLONY can also be sent (used and unused). These contain many scarce varieties, proofs, etc., as well as a grand range of the ordinary stamps.

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P. BELVEDERE ROAD,  
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We offer the following in one lot or we would split to suit clients.

### CAYMAN ISLANDS.

Pane of 60 of the rare 1/- Single CA, chalky Block of 4 " 10/-  
Block of 4, superb. of the 2 1/2d. on 4d.  
Pane of 60 1/2d. brn. Pane of 60 1/2d. pale shade.

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Sheet Ent're, 1d., Type II.

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All mint superb.

Bargain, only £20 the lot.

T. C. APPLETON, Ben-Rhydding, Eng.

My "World-Renowned" Approval Selections, containing large variety to select from, and allowing liberal discount, will be sent to all responsible collectors. Loose stamps and collections purchased.  
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10 Rare Brazil, including high values, sent responsible collectors sending penny postage.  
500 Best Mounts, 1d.  
EMPIRE STAMP Co., Thornton Heath.

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To all purchasers of packet No. 689, containing 50 Unused Stamps, price 1/- post free, including Venezuela, 4 Costa Rica (portraits), Rare old Spale 1862 4 quartes imperf., Baden Official, Colombia 2c. & 5c. obsolete, Argentine obsolete, Guatemala bird, Cuba 1875, 1877 and 1879 issues, Servia 5 and 10 paras (assassinated King), Colombia, imperf. issues, 20 paras octagonal Thessaly, Philippines several rare stamps including 3 surcharges and the 5c blue, 10c lake, 10c brn., 124 8c grn., 124 8c or., & 25c blue (cat 6d.) of the baby head issue, and a fine set of 7 of the 1880 issue (this set alone is usually sold for 1/-), Austria new Jubilee issue, and a fine set of 11 different Porto Rico.

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# The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

## UNEQUALLED AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

THE POSTAGE STAMP was started nearly twelve months ago to meet the long felt necessity for an independent weekly journal absolutely free from the control of any Dealer but friendly and open to all without favour.

And it is now recognised as having most successfully met that demand. Its advertising pages have been, and will remain open to all Advertisers.

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It aims at the popularization of all that is best in the fascinating pastime of Stamp Collecting and the promotion of the best and most permanent interests of Collector and Dealer alike.

And no effort is spared to win for it such a large and influential circulation as must command the advertising support of Stamp Dealers all over the philatelic world. Its sales have from the first been most satisfactory to all concerned.

### Our Programme.

#### Gossip of the Week.

Free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

#### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

#### Historical Rarities.

Their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

#### Collectors in Council.

A free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

#### Notable Stamps.

Occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

#### My Favourite Country.

Giving the interesting why and wherefore of their choice, by eminent specialists.

#### How to Collect.

A helpful series of articles for the young collector, taking him by easy stages from the most elementary to the most advanced forms of collecting, by Edward J. Nankivell.

#### The Stamp Market.

Independent comments on the trend of catalogue, auction and market prices, by an independent writer.

#### New Issues and Discoveries.

Written up to date and fully illustrated.

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We have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants at the nominal charge of 1d. per word. Many collectors, even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others, resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column, Collectors' Wants will meet the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch these advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

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Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock p.m. THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue. All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

#### Remittances.

Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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#### Mr. D. Field, London, writes:

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Published by SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

And obtainable from all Booksellers, Newsagents and Bookstalls.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 17. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 69)

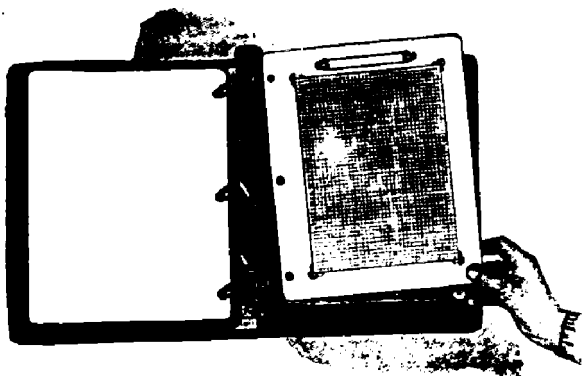
23 JANUARY, 1909.

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Containing Leaves with quadrillé background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Without		With	
			Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.	Protecting Sheets	Retail Price.
10	7 x 5 1/2 inches	50 leaves	10/6	each	15	12/6
20	10 x 7 1/2	50	18/-	"	25	17/6
30	12 x 9 1/2	60	26/-	"	35	27/6

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Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

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# Anne of

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"	6d. do. ...	15	0
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"	1d. do. ...	2	0
"	2½d. do. ...	8	9
"	4d. do. ...	1	0
"	6d. do. ...	7	6
"	1sh. do. ...	7	6
1882.	½d. on half 1d. (black) ...	6	3
"	do. (red) ...	1	6
1883.	do. (black) ...	7	6
1883-84.	½d. olive yellow, CA ...	1	6
"	2½d. red brown, CA ...	2	6
*1886.	½d. on 6d. ...	1	9
"	1d. on 1sh. ...	1	0
"	1d. lilac, CA ...	1	0
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*1887.	2½d. blue ...	0	8
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8d orange, used (cat. 5/-) ...	2	6	0
10d brown, used (cat. 7/6) ...	3	0	0
5/- rose, plates 1 or 2, used, each ...	3	0	0
4d plate 17, wmk. garter, used (cat. 10/-) ...	4	0	0
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1889, £1 green, used 7/6, mint ...	24	0	0
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Send for a selection on approval.

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LONDON, S.E.

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British New Guinea, entire sheet of the 1d. wmk. wide rosettes; Papua, Type II., entire sheet of the 1d. and 2d. with all errors. Above 8 Mint Sheets, Bargain, 21/-

### TRANSVAAL.

The rare 2½d. bi-col., mult., ord. paper, m nt, 1.-; block, fine, 4/-

### SUDAN, 1897, on Egypt.

1, 2, 3m, 2 shades each, in strips of 6 showing setting, 6 strips only, 9/- mint; 5m carmine ditto, mint, 4.-; 1, 2, 3m, 2 shades each, we have one set in panes of 60, bargain, only 86.-

Selections of any country or class of stamps sent on receipt of reference. We deal in Postage, Locals, Fiscals, also Envelopes, etc. Careful attention given to all enquiries.

**T. C. Appleton, Ben Rhydding.**

## STAMPS FREE.

10 Rare Brazil, including high values, sent responsible collectors sending penny postage. 500 Best Mounts, 1d.

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## 10/- worth of Stamps

We are giving away the greatest bargain in stamps ever offered to collectors. Read carefully. 75 Foreign and Colonial Stamps, all different, including: Egypt O.H.H.S. scarce, fine set U.S.A. warships. German 80p, Philippines, Trinidad obsolete, Cuba, Chinese Imperial, Newfoundland royal portraits now obsolete, British East Africa & Uganda, Ceylon, Costa Rica 20c head very scarce, India, Natal King, Hong Kong, Queensland, New South Wales, U.S.A. 8c, Mexico Eagle, Somalicoast. Grand Set of 4 Guatemala P.C. Issue, and many other Stamps too numerous to mention.

### Price 2d. Postage 1d.

We include our Illustrated Art Price List with every packet sent out, and we are also giving away to our customers catalogues full illustrated and giving the value of every stamp issued. Do not fail to get the above at once. The new issue of the Regal Albums is now ready, prospectus free.

**KING BROS., STAMP DEALERS,**  
IMPORTERS, BILSTON.

## 20 DIFFERENT ASIATIC STAMPS FREE

Including Travancore, Dutch Indies, India (various), 2 China, 2 scarce Persians, Ceylon (King), Deccan (Indian State), Philippines, 1906 (Head of Rizal), and the scarce 2½c of 1880 issue, etc

Mention Gift 690, send 1d. for postage. Only one packet to each applicant. "A B C" Catalogue of the World's Stamps, 7th ed., 750pp., 1/8. post free.

**BRIGHT & SON, 184, STRAND, W.C.**

## Have You Tried Us ?

Approval sheets, containing large assortments to select from, sent to reliable collectors. References required. Prices low and condition a speciality. Write for selection of your pet country to H. E. HAWORTH & CO., LTD., 45 Aldgate High Street, London, E.C. Telephone No. 10361 Central.

### SUPERB SELECTIONS.

See our Small Approval Books. No fancy prices for ultra-possible varieties, but half Gibbons' or less. If you wish to enrich your collection in appearance and value, write for selection, stating ref.—CUTHBERTSON & Co., 26, Exchange Street East, Liverpool.

My "World-Renowned" Approval Selections, containing large variety to select from, and allowing liberal discount, will be sent to all responsible collectors. Loose stamps and collections purchased.  
**J. W. SPOWART, 87, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.**

### PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

NEW ISSUES, wholesale and retail; see *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P.32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

U.S.A. 50 different Stamps, 6d. 5,000 Hinges, 5d. Postage extra.—Lewthwaith, Stationer, Egremont, Cumberland.

**RELIABLE STAMP CLUB.** Few Vacancies. First Packet February. Rules: J. Goddard, Stretton Road, Leicester.

**VANDIEMENS,** Papua, Brunei, Id. P141, Second, Manor Park.

**BARNES' BRITISH BOOKS** for moderate specialists. Used English Bargains. Example: 10d. brown, 2/6. References.—Barnes, 18, Raveley Street, London, N.W.

**BRAZILIAN** Stamps at half catalogue, used and unused.—Mrs. Burkett, 90, Calderon Road, Leytonstone, London.

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**PACKET** unused Stamps free to Approval applicants.—Druitt, 47, Orfell Road, Bow, London.

**APPROVAL SHEETS,** good discount allowed.—Butler & Co., 3, Varna Road, Birmingham.

**HAVE** you tried Daly's Stamp Shop, 335, Euston Road, London, N.W.?

**FOREIGN** and Colonial 66 to 80 under catalogue; Mulreadies; Approval.—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

**EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS!** Wholesale quantity Colonials, uncommon, unused (worth 10/-), only 2/9 Approvals.—Importer, 28, Lansdowne, Hackney, London.

"**STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL**" for 1909, 1/2 post free. Chas. Nissen & Co., 7, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

**PROFITABLE** Stamp Business for Sale, £750. Stock worth double. Harry Hawley, 96, Fargate, Sheffield.

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**6d. in 1/- DISCOUNT,** Large variety, good specimens, reasonable prices. Stamps bought, Mention Postage: Stamp J. W. SPOWART, 87, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

**PUNCTUATION AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSION:** Its Theory and Practice. (Pitman). A complete Manual, by A. E. LOVELL, M.A., Director of Education for the City and County Borough of Chester. An interesting and helpful manual of the subject, that will greatly impress the intelligent student and be much appreciated by all who value clearness and thoroughness in writing. Price 1s. 6d.

## Collectors' Wants and Exchanges

At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

**BRITISH NEW GUINEA,** Papua wanted; must be cheap. S. Fearon-Brown, Station Street, Cockermouth.

**AUSTRIA:** wanted extra fine used copies of Nos. 39, 56, 57, 58, 65, 66, 71, 72, 73, 74 (S.G. cat.). Dr. Fearnhead, Lytham.

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10/6 upwards: every hand suited.

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Brentano's, 37, Ave de l'Opera, Paris; and at New York and Chicago.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

No. 18. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 70)

30 JANUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

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All in mint condition.

<b>BR. E. AFRICA &amp; UGANDA.</b>		15/-
Set 1a to 8a, complete	...	...
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Fine Art, Numismatic,  
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Messrs. GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., make a speciality of the sale of Postage Stamps by Auction, and will be pleased to send catalogues on application.

Owners desiring to realize their collections to the best possible advantage should make early arrangement with the Auctioneers in order to secure advantageous dates of sale, which are frequently engaged several sales in advance.

Collections whilst in the custody of the Auctioneers are insured against loss by Fire, Burglary, etc.

Liberal Advances pending realization can be arranged. Sales by private treaty.

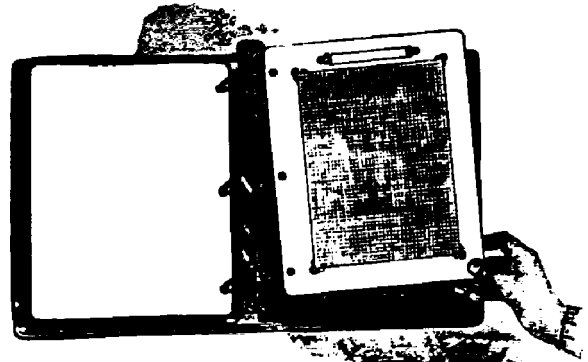
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Are adapted to every variety of collecting, and although only recently introduced to a few collectors, have already been pronounced by the most fastidious and experienced to be the

## ALBUMS OF THE FUTURE



They secure Absolute Protection against injury by friction. Any Single leaf may be lifted out without disturbing the others.

They fall flat at every opening. The leaves are made of specially manufactured paper of best quality. They are bound only in best morocco with round corners. They are made in three sizes at moderate prices. Fresh leaves may be had at lower rates than usually charged. Every leaf has a quadrille background with chaste border in neutral grey.

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Half-bound, best Morocco, Round Corners, Gilt Extra. Containing Leaves with quadrille background and border in neutral grey.

No.	Size of Leaf.	Capacity.	Without Protecting Sheets		With Protecting Sheets	
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10	7 x 5 1/2 inches	50 leaves	10/6 each	15	12/6 each.	15
20	10 x 7 1/2	50 "	18/- "	25	17/6 "	25
30	12 x 9 1/2	60 "	25/- "	35	27/6 "	35

May be obtained of all Stationers and Stamp Dealers.

**JOHN WALKER & CO., LTD.**  
Farrington House, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

Readers will greatly help by mentioning "The Postage Stamp" when replying to any of these Advertisements.

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Commemorated by a Limited Special Issue

*1908 5, 10, 20 pa & 1 pi, set of 4	s. d.
	- 1 6
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Bulgaria, 1893, 5st green perf. 1½ (cat. 1/-)	- 0 6
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\*Cayman Islands, ½d. will be included gratis with every Order from this advertisement.

**FRANCE, 1907, Mint Unused.** Highly interesting varieties of the pretty "Sower" design.

*Block of four 10 c. with millesime 7, right lower stamp is variety Sower with beer glass "semeuse au boc"	- 5 3
*Block of four 10 c. left lower stamp is variety Sower with candle "semeuse au flambeau"	- 4 8
*10 c. variety imperforate	- 7 0

*Gold Coast 1908, new design 1d	- 0 ½
Holland, 17½ c. mauve, 1906, scarce value	- 0 2
Unpaid 7½ c. blue Type I.	- 0 2
*New Zealand Insurance 1905-26, 1d. blue, compound perf. 11 x 14, rare	- 5 3
*Norway 1908, Charity Stamp (Prince Olaf)	- 0 1

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Ask to see them on Approval!

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Were first published on November 19th, 1908, and were sold out by the middle of January.

They are now again on sale, brought right up to date, including all stamps known to be issued up to January 13th, with a list of Corrections of Prices to date.

**Price 1/6 post free.**  
Interleaved Edition, bound in cloth g't, 3/6.

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The leaves are printed on one side of the paper only; within the space provided for each stamp is the description, miniature illustration and catalogue number.

The leaves are linen hinged, the only system that enables the leaves to lie perfectly flat when the book is open. The entire British Empire, leaves only, for 21/- only. All the rest of the World complete for 30/-

Spring-back binders to hold these leaves are supplied at 5/6 each.

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**The Acme & Paragon Albums**

with blank quadrilled leaves in spring back binders are the best and cheapest on the market. Write for specimen leaves and booklet with full description and prices.

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LITERARY, FINE ART, AND  
**PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS,**  
47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,

MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson beg to announce that the dates of their Sales for next season have been fixed as follows:—1909—Jan. 5 & 6, 19 & 20; Feb. 2 & 3, 16 & 17; Mar. 2 & 3, 16 & 17, 30 & 31; Apr. 27 & 28; May 11 & 12, 25 & 26; June 5 & 9.

**O**WING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine stamps having been obtained during past seasons. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

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Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

## NANKIVELL'S

## PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers. The first will be ready Jan. 30th, and will be

**No. 1.**

### Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

The size will be foolscap 8vo., and the price 4s., post free 4s.6d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

# FREDK. R. GINN,

143, Strand, London, Eng.

Silver Medal, London Exhibition, 1887.  
Established 1880.

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Bargains for every grade of Collector.

### SPECIALITY—

Filling want lists at special reasonable prices. Suberb specimens only sent. Correspondence from reliable collectors solicited. Write at once.

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I.—Highly Specialized Collection of NIGER COAST and OIL RIVERS.

II.—Magnificent Collection of Cape of Good Hope Triangular Issues, used and unused.

III.—A Superb and Complete Collection of the beautiful stamps of NEVIS. Used and unused, singles, pairs and sheets.

The three Collections are rich in shades and fine copies in Singles, Pairs and Blocks. Selections on Approval with pleasure.

## Special Bargains

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Unused. Used.  
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1861. Perf. 13.					
On greyish 1d rose (shades)	4	6	10	0	
"    4d rose    "	30	0	27	6	
"    6d. grey    "	27	6	18	0	
"    1/- green	37	6	24	0	
1867. Perf. 15.					
Engraved 1d red (shades)	5	0	10	0	
"    4d orange    "	25	0	12	6	
"    1/- blue green	60	0	12	0	
"    1/- yellow green	—		36	0	
1878. Perf. 15.					
Litho 1d red (shades) ...	3	9	6	0	
"    4d orange    "	85	0	12	0	
"    6d grey    "	80	0	75	0	
"    1/- pale green ...	15	0	35	0	
"    1/- deep green ...	27	6	40	0	
1878. Perf. 11½.					
1d bright red	8	6	25	0	
1879. Wmk. C.C. 1d lilac ...	6	0	7	0	
"    2½d red brown	25	0	20	0	
1882. Wmk. C.A. 1d lilac ...	8	6	6	0	
"    "    2½d red brown	12	6	10	0	
"    "    4d blue    "	15	0	7	6	
1883. Provisionals.					
On half 1d lilac, ¼d in purple	—		12	6	
"    ¼d in black	—		15	0	
1883. Wmk. C.A. ¼d green...	0	4	2	0	
"    "    1d carmine	0	6	0	6	
"    "    2½d blue ...	1	0	2	6	
"    "    4d grey    "	2	0	1	6	
"    "    6d green ...	80	0	70	0	
"    "    6d chestnut	5	0	10	0	
"    "    1/- lilac ...	18	0	—		

All post free for cash with order. Every Stamp guaranteed genuine and in perfect condition.

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FREDK. R. GINN, STAMP EXPERT & DEALER,  
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## The Postage Stamp.

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Per inch (3 cols. to page) ... 0 5 0

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¼d. brown, mint or used, 1½d each, 1/- per dozen. ¼d. brown, mint pane of 60, 5/- Postage extra.

### Indian Native States.

Just purchased a nice collection of single copies of all States, also includes a few block selections on approval.

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A complete set of the rare 10d. blue compound envelopes in stock. Particulars sent to anyone interested.

### Colonials.

Approval selections sent on approval on receipt of references.

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P. BELVEDERE ROAD,

Norwood, London, S.E.

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Bargain	156 different Foreign and Colonial Stamps, including Philippines, 1906, 2c grn. and 4c red, Colombia 1890, the rare 2c rose, unused (cat. 4d), Hyderabad scarce 1 and 2as, and a rare unused Venezuela 1 boliv. 1900 issue (cat. 1/3), and many other good stamps. Only 1 packet to each applicant.	Only
Packet		4d.
No.		post
691.		free.

Special Bargain.—1000 different varieties, 12,6, all in splendid condition. Grand value. BRIGHT & SON, 104, Strand, London, W.C.

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## SPECIAL OFFERS.

Straits Settlements on Labuan.—4c on 12c, 4c on 16c, 4c on 18c, 8 cents and 10 cents, all mint (cat. 4/5). My price 2/- Southern Nigeria.—2½d, Single CA. mint. (cat. 4/7). My price 1/4

Leeward Islands.—Set of 3 Provisionals, 1d on 4d, 1d on 6d, 1d on 7d, fine postally used (cat 4/6). 2/8 only.

Bargain Set of Triangular Capes.—1d, 4d, 6d, 1/- (cat. 37/6). 17/10 only.

Ionian Islands.—Complete set of 3 (cat. 18/6). Bargain, 8/6

Hong Kong.—Fine used set of 9, Single CA, 1c, 2c, 4c, 5c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 50c (cat. 3/8). My price 1/8

Great Britain.—10/- Queen, 2/-; 10/- King, 2/-

Victoria.—1854, 2d lithographed (cat. 3/-). My price 1/6 1858, 6d blue, Queen on throne (cat. 3/-). My price 1/4 (A beautiful stamp, only a few at this special price). 1901, 5/- carmine and blue (cat. 3/6). My price 1/8

Ceylon.—1r 50, Multiple, 2/- 2r 25, Multiple, 3/3

Hundreds of other bargains in stock. Selections sent on approval. Every stamp guaranteed. Write or call.

## GEORGE C. GINN,

The City Dealer and Expert,

60, Bishopsgate Within, London, E.C. Established 1882.

### STAMPS FREE.

10 Rare Brazil, including high values, sent responsible collectors sending penny postage. 500 Best Mounts, 1d.

EMPIRE STAMP Co., Thornton Heath.

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HAVE you tried Daly's Stamp Shop, 335, Euston Road, London, N.W.?

BARNES' BRITISH BOOKS for moderate specialists. Used English Bargains. Example: 9d. spray, 2/- References.—Barnes, 18, Raveley Street, London, N.W.

BRITISH COLONIAL, 150 all different, mostly obsolete, 2/6.—Ellis, 55, Thurlow Park Road, Dulwich.

YOUR STAMPS FADED?—Restore to their natural colour by using my Magic Renovator. Post free, 1/2.—Renovator, Ilkerton.

# The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

## UNEQUALLED AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

THE POSTAGE STAMP was started nearly twelve months ago to meet the long felt necessity for an independent weekly journal absolutely free from the control of any Dealer but friendly and open to all without favour.

And it is now recognised as having most successfully met that demand. Its advertising pages have been, and will remain open to all Advertisers.

The same independent spirit has been maintained in its literary pages.

THE POSTAGE STAMP in fact combines the publication of the highest class of useful and scientific articles with bright, varied and newsy pages. It forms a storehouse and reference library of all that is worth preserving in the philatelic literature of the day.

It aims at the popularization of all that is best in the fascinating pastime of Stamp Collecting and the promotion of the best and most permanent interests of Collector and Dealer alike.

And no effort is spared to win for it such a large and influential circulation as must command the advertising support of Stamp Dealers all over the philatelic world. Its sales have from the first been most satisfactory to all concerned.

## Our Programme.

### Gossip of the Week.

Free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

### Historical Rarities,

Their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

### Collectors in Council,

A free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

### Notable Stamps.

Occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

### My Favourite Country,

Giving the interesting why and wherefore of their choice, by eminent specialists.

### How to Collect.

A helpful series of articles for the young collector, taking him by easy stages from the most elementary to the most advanced forms of collecting, by Edward J. Nankivell.

### The Stamp Market.

Independent comments on the trend of catalogue, auction and market prices, by an independent writer.

### New Issues and Discoveries.

Written up to date and fully illustrated.

## Advertisement Rates.

### Displayed Advertisements.

Whole Page, £8; Half-page, £3; Quarter-page, £1 10s. 0d.

### Small Prepaid Advertisements.

In three column measure:—6s. per inch, displayed matter, or 12 words 1s. and 1d. for each additional word.

### Collectors' Wants and Exchanges.

We have opened a column for collectors to advertise their wants at the nominal charge of 1/4d. per word. Many collectors, even in London have not time to hunt about for stamps, whilst others, resident in the country, have not the opportunity.

By using this column, Collectors' Wants will meet the eye of all who are likely to be able to supply the stamps needed, for dealers watch these advertisements very closely, and collectors who want to dispose of duplicates will not fail to note the opportunity for exchange or sale.

Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

### Last Day for Advertisements.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock p.m. THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue. All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

### Remittances.

Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

## What our Advertisers say.

### Mr. W. H. Peckitt, London, says:

"My advertisements in *The Postage Stamp* have brought me better results than any other paper I have tried."

### Mr. D. Field, London, writes:

"You will be glad to learn that my Advertisements in *The Postage Stamp* have proved most satisfactory, and I have much pleasure in renewing my contract with you."

### Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich,

After having sold several complete vols. of their Standard Albums with hinged leaves in Paragon covers, through their advertisement in *The Postage Stamp* forthwith doubled their advertising space.

### Mr. James Rhodes, Manchester,

A regular weekly Advertiser, referring to even his summer advertising, says:—"The *Postage Stamp* has brought in good orders of late."

### A Well-known Collector writes:

"After hunting high and low, looking through all the leading dealers' stock books, etc., and at last abandoning the hope of getting certain blocks that I wanted, I tried your new column for 'Collectors' Wants and Exchanges,' and in a post or two I got a splendid selection, and have enriched my collection to the envy of my fellow specialists."

Published by SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

And obtainable from all Booksellers, Newsagents and Bookstalls.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 19. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 71)

6 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

Held by

**Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(Who originated them in this Country).

At the LOUDOUN HOTEL, Surrey Street, Strand, W.C.  
 (Close to the Temple Station on the District Railway).

**FEBRUARY 4th & 5th.**—By order of the Executors and others. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper have received instructions to sell on the above dates. A Fine Collection of British, Foreign, and Colonial Postage Stamps, including many scarce varieties.

**FEBRUARY 10th & 11th.**—Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper have received instructions from Robert Reid, Esq., to sell on the above dates the First Portion of his Superb General Collection of UNUSED British, Foreign, and Colonial Postage Stamps, comprising the *European Section* (without Great Britain).

*Valuations made if required.*

*Advances made on Collections pending realization if desired.*

Catalogues of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,  
 (Philatelic Department), 36, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.  
 Tel. Address: Ventom, London. Tel. No. 392 Central. Est. 1761.

**Simmons' Ideal Rapid Business Handwriting  
 in Eight Lessons for 10/6.**

## PENMANSHIP

Is one of the easiest of acquirements, and yet how rare an accomplishment—the reason being that the Art of Penmanship is really never taught seriously, or by a qualified teacher. A pupil desiring to take up the study of French and Shorthand would never dream of taking lessons from one who was unacquainted with them, and qualified and skilful teachers of these subjects are known by the score. But this is not the case with Penmanship.

To meet this undoubted need I have secured the services of one of the finest exponents of Penmanship in this country, who has prepared a special course of Rapid Penmanship in Eight Lessons, and a special "Short Course" of Figures Penmanship. In all branches of commercial life the rapid and efficient making of figures plays a very important part.

Most subjects are extremely difficult to teach by Correspondence, but, to acquire a good and rapid style of Handwriting, a Correspondence Course is the only way, as the Art of Penmanship is to be acquired by practice only.

### FEEB.

Fee for the Course of Eight Lessons ... .. 10/6

Fee for the "Short Course" in Figures, three lessons 8/-

N.B.—The above prices include correction of all work sent in by the student and criticism and advice respecting same.

Complete Satisfaction Guaranteed.

J. H. SIMMONS, 2, Bobaby Road, London, E.E.

Readers will greatly help by mentioning "The Postage Stamp" when replying to any of these Advertisements.

## Special Bargain

For Readers of "The Postage Stamp."

## FRENCH SOMALI COAST,

1908, 2 francs, green and black with inverted centre  
 (cat. 8/-)

**Price 2/- post free.**

NOTE—This stamp is catalogued at 8/- in Gibbons' latest Catalogue, and at a quarter of this price—really, only a trifle over face value—it is an undoubted bargain.

IMPORTANT. JUST PUBLISHED.

## THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF HONG KONG

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

• Price 6d. Post Free 7d.

Published by

**D. FIELD**

"NOTED FOR BARGAINS."

4 & 5, THE ROYAL ARCADE, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W

PHILATELIC AUCTION SALES.

## GLENDINING & Co., Ltd.

Fine Art, Numismatic,  
 and Philatelic Auctioneers,

### THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Railway Station).

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., make a speciality of the sale of Postage Stamps by Auction, and will be pleased to send catalogues on application.

Owners desiring to realize their collections to the best possible advantage should make early arrangement with the Auctioneers in order to secure advantageous dates of sale, which are frequently engaged several sales in advance.

Collections whilst in the custody of the Auctioneers are insured against loss by Fire, Burglary, etc.

Liberal Advances pending realization can be arranged.

• Sales by private treaty.

Expert Valuations for Probate and other purposes on strictly moderate terms.

GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., 7, Argyll Street, Regent Street, W.

## —RECENT PURCHASE.—

A MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF THE

# Stamps of Tasmania.

This contains, among other superb pieces, the following:—

1853. 1d. blue and 4d. orange, unused, in mint state, block and singles.
1853. 4d. orange on laid paper. Used, in magnificent condition, shades, etc., and reconstructed plates.
1855. Star watermark, 1d., 2d., 4d. Unused and Used, in fine condition.
- 1856-7. No watermark. Unused and Used, 1d. used in strips and pairs.

1857-70. A fine range of shades, in mint condition, and used.

1864-70. All varieties of perforation, many in pairs, etc.

1864-80. A Grand lot of all varieties, including the 1d. error watermark "2"

1870-79. All varieties, many in large blocks, etc., etc.

1889-91. Provisionals, errors both of the ½d. (in complete pane and single) and of the 2½d.

*Recent Issues.* All varieties, including the V & Crown, and A & Crown, Perf. 11., and compound perforation.

The above collection, or selections therefrom, will be sent on Approval if desired.

**RARE STAMPS & COLLECTIONS PURCHASED. New Issue Supply a Speciality. Explanatory Circular post free. Bargain List Post Free.**

## W. H. PECKITT, 47, Strand, London, W.C.

Telephone—3204 Gerrard.

Telegrams and Cables—"Peckitt, London."

## NANKIVELL'S PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS

It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

These articles cover the general history of each country and its various postal issues. They also include catalogue fluctuation of prices over a period of ten years, thus enabling the collector to see at a glance the relative rarity, and the investment value, of every stamp.

A bibliography of works of reference and articles in philatelic journals dealing with the country is added for those who may wish to extend their researches.

The articles are designed to be useful alike to the specialist and the general collector.

We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

**NOW READY.**

No. 1.

Jamaica & Cayman Islands.

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.

## 60,000 COPIES SOLD

IN AMERICA OF

# Anne of Green Gables

NOW READY. **6s.**

Published by PITMAN'S.

MARK TWAIN says:

"She is the dearest, most moving, and delightful child since the immortal Alice."



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Per inch (3 cols. to page) ... 0 5 0  
Rates for special positions will be forwarded on application to the Advertisement Manager.

**Just Purchased.**

A Very Fine Collection of

**EUROPEANS**

Strong in shades & minor varieties, both used and unused.

Please send me your Want Lists.  
Prices Very Moderate.

**W. HOUTZAMER, 368, Strand**  
LONDON, W.C.

**Cayman Islands.**

1d. brown, mint or used, 14d each, 1/- per dozen. 1d. brown, mint pane of 60, 5/- Postage extra.

**Indian Native States.**

Just purchased a nice collection of single copies of all States, also includes a few block selections on approval.

**Great Britain.**

A complete set of the rare 10d. blue compound envelopes in stock. Particulars sent to anyone interested.

**Colonials.**

Approval selections sent on approval on receipt of references.

**OSWALD MARSH,**  
P. BELVEDERE ROAD,  
Norwood, London, S.E.

N.B.—Have you seen a copy of my *Weekly Circular for British Specialists?* Specimen copy post free.

**20 AFRIKAN STAMPS Free**

Including O.R. Colony (King), Transvaal, & rarities, various issues, including scarce E.R.I., 3 Tunis, all obsolete, B.S. Africa Co., Natal (King & Queen's Heads), Cape of Good Hope, 3 Egypt, etc. Mention gift 692, send 1d. for postage, only 1 packet to each applicant. "ABC" Catalogue of the World's Stamps, 7th edition, 750 p.p., 1 9 post free.

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1896 Issue.

1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40 and 60 lepta.  
The set of eight (catalogued 3/7).

**PRICE 1/4 Post Free.**

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**SPECIAL OFFERS.**

Straits Settlements on Labuan.—4c on 12c, 4c on 16c, 4c on 18c, 8 cents and 10 cents, all mint (cat. 4/5). My price 2-

Southern Nigeria.—21d, Single CA, mint, (cat. 4/-). My price 1/4

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Hong Kong.—Fine used set of 9, Single C.A. 1c, 2c, 4c, 5c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 50c (cat. 3 8). My price 1 8

Great Britain.—10/- Queen. 2.-; 10-King, 2-

Victoria.—1854, 2d lithographed (cat. 3/-). My price 1 8 1858, 6d blue, Queen on throne (cat. 3/-). My price 1 4 (*A beautiful stamp, only a few at this special price*). 1901, 5 - carmine and blue (cat. 3/6). My price 1 8

Ceylon.—1r 50, Multiple, 2/- 2r 25, Multiple, 3 8

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The City Dealer and Expert,  
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Established 1882.

**Special Investment Bargains.**

British New Guinea, entire sheet of the 1d. wmk. wide rosettes; Papua, Type II., entire sheet of the 1d. and 2d. with all errors.

Above 3 Mint Sheets, Bargain, 21/- TRANSVAAL.

The rare 21d. bi-col., mult., ord. paper, mint 1/-; block, fine, 4/- SUDAN, 1897, on Egypt.

1, 2, 3m, 2 shades each, in strips of 6 showing setting, 6 strips only, 9/- mint; 5m. carmine ditto, mint 4/-; 1, 2, 3m, 2 shades each, we have one set in panes of 60, bargain, only 85/-

Selections of any country or class of stamps sent on receipt of reference. We deal in Postage, Locals, Fiscals, also Envelopes, etc. Careful attention given to all enquiries.

**T. C. Appleton, Ben Rhydding.**

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Approval sheets, containing large assortments to select from, sent to reliable collectors. References required. Prices low and condition a speciality. Write for selection of your pet country to H. E. HAWORTH & CO., LTD., 45 Aldgate High Street, London, E.C. Telephone No. 10361 Central.

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See our Small Approval Books. No fancy prices for ultra-possible varieties, but half Gibbons' or less. If you wish to enrich your collection in appearance and value, write for selection, stating ref. —CUTHBERTSON & Co., 26, Exchange Street East, Liverpool.

U. S. A. 50 different Stamps, 6d. 5,000 Hinges, 5d. Postage extra.—Lewthwaith, Stationer, Egremont, Cumberland.

**STAMPS FREE.**

10 Rare Brazil, including high values, sent responsible collectors sending penny postage. 500 Best Mounts, 1d.

**EMPIRE STAMP Co., Thornton Heath.**

**PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.**

Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

NEW ISSUES, wholesale and retail; see *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

**VANDIEMENS, Papua, Brunei, 1d. P141, Second, Manor Park.**

FOREIGN and Colonial 66 to 80 under catalogue; Mulreadies; Approval.—Rev. G. Bell, Lisburn, Ireland.

**EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS!**

Wholesale quantity Colonials, uncommon, unused (worth 10/-), only 2 9 Approvals. —Importer, 23, Lansdowne, Hackney, London.

YOUR STAMPS FADED?—Restore to their natural colour by using my Magic Renovator. Post free, 1/2.—Renovator, Ilkeston.

AUSTRALIANS, modern, all values used. Officials, &c., cheap.—Perry Knight, Pool, Leeds.

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1,000 MOUNTS to Approval Applicants —Jackman, 15, Gayville Road, New Wandsworth, London.

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WANTED. SICILY (Romba) used and unused, singles and blocks, also used on originals.—R. Dalwigk, Bellevue, Claremont Rd., Tunbridge Wells.

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EVERY PEN A PLEASURE.

10/6 upwards; every hand suited.

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99, Cheapside, E.C.; 5a, Regent Street, W.; 8, Exchange Street, Manchester; 10, Rue Neuve, Brussels;  
Brentano's, 87, Ave de l'Opera, Paris; and at New York and Chicago.

# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 20. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 72)

13 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

## Are you on our Free Mailing List?

To keep up to date, send us your name and address, and you will receive all our lists free when published.

"B. & K. ITEMS." No. 2 Now Ready.

Sent free on application. Latest King's Head quotations, etc.

### WANTED.

Old Colonials, Old Europeans, King's Head, Single CA's. Also a large general or specialist's collection. If you have had an offer, submit it to us before accepting. We have lately purchased some very fine collections of specialists, and others, against competition.

#### This Week's Special Offer.

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THE ARGYLL GALLERY,  
 7, ARGYLL STREET, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.  
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 (Philatelic Department), 25, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.  
 Tel. Address: Ventom, London. Tel. No. 3392 Central. Est. 1761

### Simmons' Ideal Rapid Business Handwriting In Eight Lessons for 10/6.

## PENMANSHIP

Is one of the easiest of acquirements, and yet how rare an accomplishment—the reason being that the Art of Penmanship is really never taught seriously, or by a qualified teacher. A pupil desiring to take up the study of French and Shorthand would never dream of taking lessons from one who was unacquainted with them, and qualified and skilful teachers of these subjects are known by the score. But this is not the case with Penmanship.

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J. H. SIMMONS, 2, Rokeby Road, London, S.E.

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**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
 LITERARY, FINE ART, AND  
**PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS,**  
 47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson beg to announce that the dates of their Sales for next season have been fixed as follows:—1909—  
 Jan. 5 & 6, 19 & 20; Feb. 2 & 3, 16 & 17; Mar. 2 & 3, 16 & 17, 30 & 31;  
 Apr. 27 & 28; May 11 & 12, 25 & 26; June 8 & 9.

OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine stamps having been obtained during past seasons. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

**NANKIVELL'S**  
**PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS**

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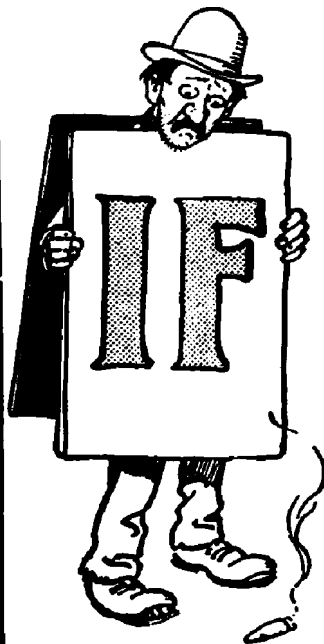
We have, therefore, decided to issue a handbook from time to time as opportunity offers.

**NOW READY.**

**No. 1.**

**Jamaica & Cayman Islands.**

Foolscap 8vo., price 4d., post free 4½d., from our Printer, Mr. Baldwin, Grosvenor Printing Works, Tunbridge Wells.



**NOT A GIFT BOOK.**

**IF you buy "IF"  
 you will want to keep it.**

By the Authors of  
**"WISDOM WHILE YOU WAIT."**

and **GEORGE MORROW,**

Collaborators in "HUSTLED HISTORY."

**BUY  
 IT  
 NOW.**

**IF** you have a  
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**1/-**  
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 Topical.**

**GET ONE, or GET OUT.**

**THE PRACTICAL WISDOM OF THE BIBLE.**

Edited with and introduction by **J. ST. LOB STRACHEY.**

In demy 16mo, cloth gilt, gilt top, 2/6 net; leather, 3/6 net.

"No one, after reading the elegant and carefully produced volume, can doubt that Mr. Strachey has done a good work in a thoroughly good manner."—*Standard.*

London: Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1, Amen Corner, E.C.

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 INNER  
 LIFE  
 OF  
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 NAVY.**

Being an account of the Inner Social Life led by our Naval Seamen on board Ships of War, together with a detailed account of the systems of victualling and uniform in vogue during the latter part of the nineteenth and the opening years of the twentieth century.

BY

**LIONEL YEXLEY**

Editor of *The Fleet.*

In demy 8vo, cloth gilt-gilt top.

With Illustrations,  
 10/- net.

**LONDON: PASSED  
 AND PASSING.**  
 A Pictorial Record of Destroyed and Threatened Buildings.  
 By **HANSLIP FLETCHER.**  
 In demy 4to, cloth gilt, 21/- net.

# FREDK. R. GINN,

143, Strand, London, Eng.

Silver Medal, London Exhibition, 1897.  
Established 1880.  
The house for genuine bargains. Watch this advertisement each month, it will repay you. Compare my prices before purchasing elsewhere.  
Bargains for every grade of Collector.

### SPECIALITY—

Filling want lists at special reasonable prices. Suberb specimens only sent. Correspondence from reliable collectors solicited. Write at once.

### Three GREAT Purchases.

I.—Highly Specialized Collection of NIGER COAST and OIL RIVERS.

II.—Magnificent Collection of Cape of Good Hope Triangular Issues, used and unused.

III.—A Superb and Complete Collection of the beautiful stamps of NEVIS. Used and unused, singles, pairs and sheets.

The three Collections are rich in shades and fine copies in Singles, Pairs and Blocks. Selections on Approval with pleasure.

## Special Bargains

FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

# NEVIS.

These beautiful stamps are now as low in price as it is possible for them to be. They have always been great favourites and are bound to see a very great appreciation in value in the near future. The quotations below are for fine copies.

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1861. Perf. 13.						
On greyish 1d rose (shades)	4	6	10	0		
"   4d rose   "	30	0	27	6		
"   6d. grey   "	27	6	18	0		
"   1/- green	37	6	24	0		
1867. Perf. 15.						
Engraved 1d red (shades)	5	0	10	0		
"   4d orange   "	25	0	12	6		
"   1/- blue green	60	0	12	0		
"   1/- yellow green	—		36	0		
1878. Perf. 15.						
Litho 1d red (shades)	3	9	6	0		
"   4d orange   "	85	0	12	0		
"   6d grey   "	80	0	75	0		
"   1/- pale green	15	0	35	0		
"   1/- deep green	27	6	40	0		
1878. Perf. 11 1/2.						
1d bright red	8	6	25	0		
1879. Wmk. C.C.						
1d lilac	6	0	7	0		
"   2d red brown	25	0	20	0		
1882. Wmk. C.A.						
1d lilac	8	6	6	0		
"   2d red brown	12	6	10	0		
"   4d blue	15	0	7	6		
1883. Provisionals.						
On half 1d lilac,						
1d in purple	—		12	6		
1d in black	—		15	0		
1883. Wmk. C.A.						
1d green...	0	4	2	0		
"   1d carmine	0	6	0	6		
"   2d blue	1	0	2	6		
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NEW ISSUES, wholesale and retail; see Ewen's Weekly Stamp News. Specimen copy free.—Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., P32, Palace Square, Norwood, London, S.E.

BARGAIN! Collection Colonials, unused, uncommon, 1/6. Approval Selections. Rare Stamps from 1d. each.—"Stamps," 26, Lansdowne, Hackney, London.

# The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

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### Our Programme.

#### Gossip of the Week.

Free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

#### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

#### Historical Rarities.

Their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

#### Collectors in Council.

A free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

#### Notable Stamps.

Occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
**EDWARD J. NANKIVELL**

*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
all Classes of Stamp Collectors*

No. 21. Vol. 3.  
(Whole Number 73)

20 FEBRUARY, 1909.

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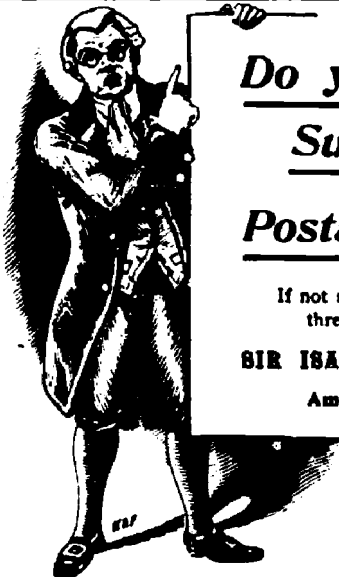
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"	4d.	...	...	8d.	2d.	"	3d.	...	...	5d.	1d.
"	6d.	...	...	10d.	2d.	"	4d.	...	...	5d.	1d.
"	1/0	...	...	3/0	1/9	"	6d.	...	...	8d.	2d.
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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 22. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 74)

27 FEBRUARY, 1909.

Price 1d.

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It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

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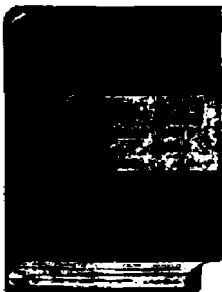
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An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

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Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 23. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 75)

6 MARCH, 1909.

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	8c.	...	0	6		36c. on 45c.	...	4	6	1902.	2c. on 4c.	...	1	6	
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	16c.	...	1	4		15c.	...	0	4		30c. on 75c., narrow "O"	...	4	0	
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	12c. on 16c.	...	1	6		36c.	...	6	0		Etc., etc.				
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It has frequently been suggested to us that we should reprint in cheap and convenient handbook form some at least of the more important special articles by Edward J. Nankivell which deal with popular countries.

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EDITED BY  
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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(Whole Number 78)

13 MARCH, 1909.

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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
 all Classes of Stamp Collectors*  
 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 25. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 77)

20 MARCH, 1909.

Price 1d.

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**FEEs.**

Fee for the Course of Eight Lessons ... .. 10/6  
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N.B.—The above prices include correction of all work sent in by the student and criticisms and advice respecting same.  
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# The POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY  
*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for  
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 EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 26. Vol. 3.  
 (Whole Number 78)

27 MARCH, 1909.

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**APPROVAL SHEETS,** Foreign and Colonial, References required.—K. Foster, 35, Grenville Place, Brighton.

**SUPERB** copies of British and Colonial, one-third and one-fourth catalogue. References.—Roberts, Presburg Road, New Malden.

**SELECTIONS** on approval. State group or country.—Albert H. Harris, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

**BRITISH NEW GUINEA** and **PAPUA** wanted, mint 1d., 2d., and 3d.; all printings and overprints especially wanted. Send with lowest prices to Charles Bagnall, The Groves, Winlaton-on-Tyne.

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**50 DIFFERENT** King's Colonials, 9d. Album free to purchasers.—Harvey, 74, Aldworth Road, Stratford, London.

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At the request of several Collectors we have decided to open a column for Collectors' Wants and Exchanges. The charge will be one half-penny per word, minimum 6d., and all Advertisements must be prepaid and must be addressed to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, "THE POSTAGE STAMP," Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Amen Corner, London.

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# The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all Classes of Stamp Collectors.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Author of "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," &c.

## UNEQUALLED AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

THE POSTAGE STAMP was started nearly twelve months ago to meet the long felt necessity for an independent weekly journal absolutely free from the control of any Dealer but friendly and open to all without favour.

And it is now recognised as having most successfully met that demand. Its advertising pages have been, and will remain open to all Advertisers.

The same independent spirit has been maintained in its literary pages.

THE POSTAGE STAMP in fact combines the publication of the highest class of useful and scientific articles with bright, varied and newsy pages. It forms a storehouse and reference library of all that is worth preserving in the philatelic literature of the day.

It aims at the popularization of all that is best in the fascinating pastime of Stamp Collecting and the promotion of the best and most permanent interests of Collector and Dealer alike.

And no effort is spared to win for it such a large and influential circulation as must command the advertising support of Stamp Dealers all over the philatelic world. Its sales have from the first been most satisfactory to all concerned.

### Our Programme.

#### Gossip of the Week.

Free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

#### Special Countries

Written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care is devoted to these useful tables. A bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country is added for those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising.

#### Historical Rarities,

Their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

#### Collectors in Council,

A free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

#### Notable Stamps.

Occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

#### My Favourite Country,

Giving the interesting why and wherefore of their choice, by eminent specialists.

#### How to Collect.

A helpful series of articles for the young collector, taking him by easy stages from the most elementary to the most advanced forms of collecting, by Edward J. Nankivell.

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Advertisements of stamps for sale are not admitted to this column.

#### Last Day for Advertisements.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock p.m. THURSDAY for insertion in the following week's issue. All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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