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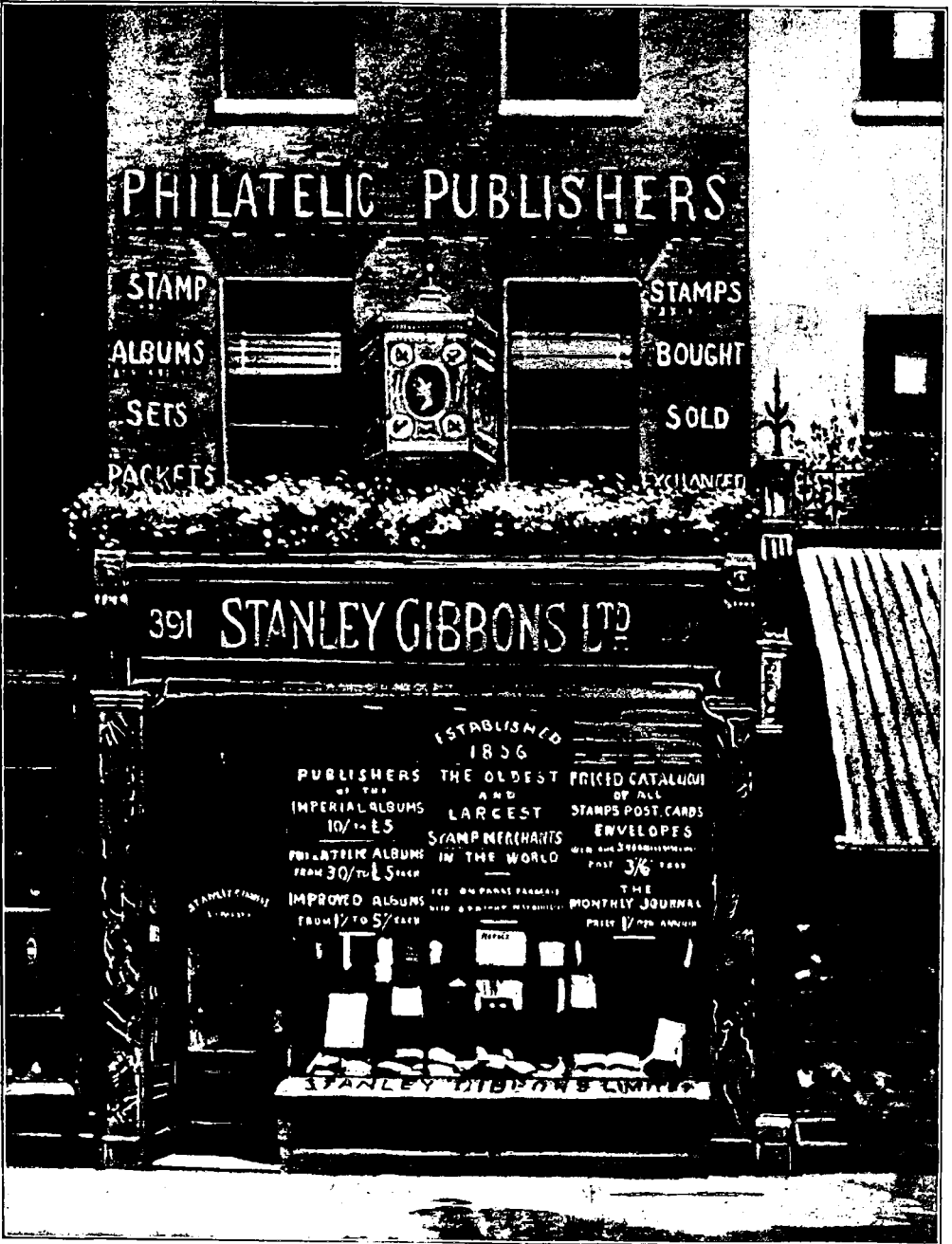
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THE plate of the Strand Shop Front of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co., issued with this number, is to be substituted as frontispiece for that issued with the number for July, 1893.

Bradford 2197

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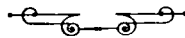


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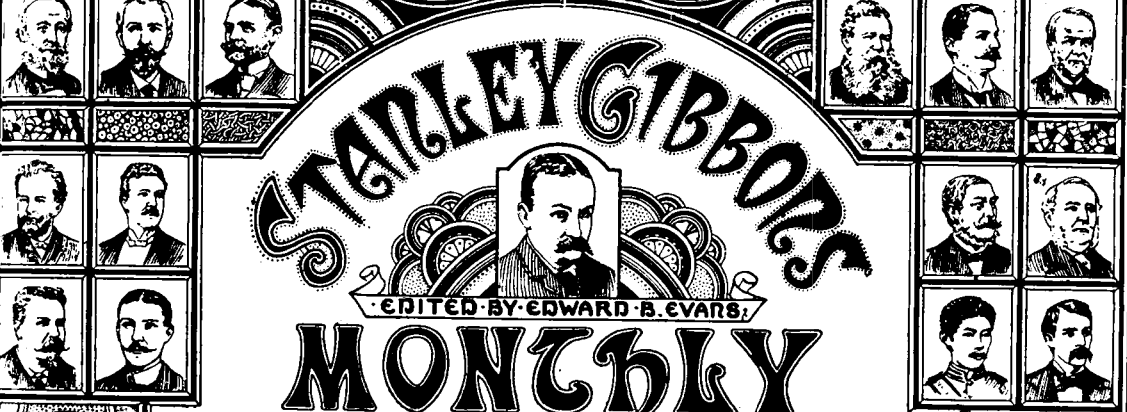
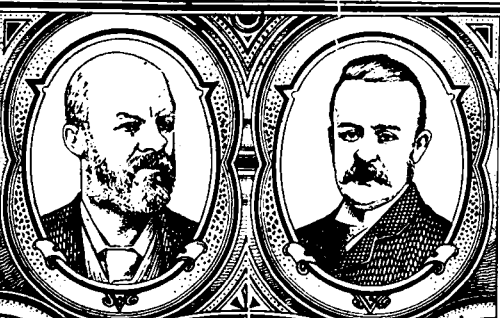
MONTHLY **J**OURNAL

VOL. IV.

JULY, 1893, TO JUNE, 1894.



LONDON.
STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,
391, STRAND.

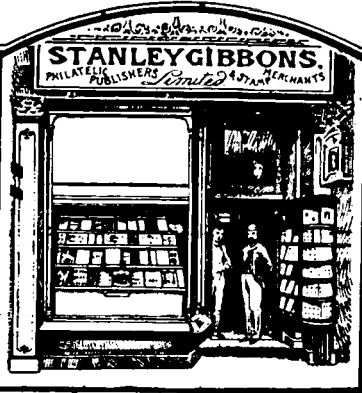
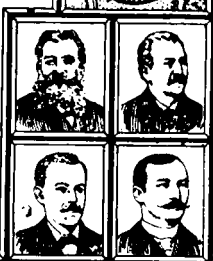


STANLEY GIBBONS
 EDITED BY EDWARD B. EVARS,
MONTHLY JOURNAL

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No. 8.—The Five Shilling Packet of Obsolete Stamps contains 100 varieties, including, amongst others, Argentine, set of 4 Finland, Granada Confederation, Cashmere, provisional Ceylon, Hungary first issue 25 kr., Chira, Brazil fig. issue, Great Britain 1d., black, Mexico, Bavaria, Uruguay,

Transvaal, old Egyptian, old Swiss, Turkey, provisional Orange Free State, Peru, Tunis, Denmark (five r. b. s. and others, all obsolete), Spain, Porto Rico, Canada, Chili, old Tasmania, old Japan, 15 and 25 sen., India, Telegraph, Siam, Oldenburg, Brazil, Sarawak, and others rare. This packet contains no stamps of the present issue, and is well worth 10/. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 9.—The Five Shilling Packet of Foreign Stamps contains 200 varieties (used and unused), including Guatemala, Cape of Good Hope, Ottoman Empire, set of 4 Spain official (4, 1, and 4 onzas, and 1 libra), Belgium, India On H.M.S., Sardinia, Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Spain, U.S. Post Office, Russia, Swiss, British Guiana, Swan River, Sweden, Bulgaria, Denmark, South Australia, Mexico, Malta, Tasmania, U.S., Holland, Greece, Italy, Victoria, Chili, Queensland, set of 3 Gibraltar, Porto Rico, Greece 1 l., perf., Argentine ½ cent., Nicaragua, set of 9 Swiss, British Honduras, Sirmoor, &c. All different. Post-free, 5/2.

No. 10.—The Ten Shilling Packet of Used and Unused Stamps contains 100 varieties, all rare and different, including Nepal, Guatemala, New Zealand, Nowanuggar, obsolete Cyprus, Salvador, Ecuador, Java, Philippine Islands, Nevis, Hayti, Tolma 5 c., Azores, Uruguay, Italy, Jheend, Finland, surcharged British Honduras, old Victoria, Newfoundland, Mexico, British Bechuanaand, British Guiana, unpaid Greece, Deccan, Danish envelope, Nicaragua, Zululand, set of 7 Egypt, rare New Granada, New South Wales O. S., 6 scarce Spanish, Serbia, Honolulu, Ottoman Empire, Ceylon envelope, Porto Rico, provisional Chili, Bermuda, Bamra, Bhopal, Philippine Isles (Infant King), and others scarce. This packet is highly recommended as being well worth 20/; and if the stamps were bought separately, it would come to over that amount. Post-free, 10/1.

No. 11.—The Guinea Packet of Rare Used and Unused Stamps contains 200 varieties, including provisional Trinidad, Persia, obsolete Japan, Official Mexico, Porto Rico, Antioquia, Ecuador, provisional Ceylon, South African Republic, Java, provisional 1881 British Guiana, New Caledonia, Swazieland, Madeira, Bhopal, surcharged Peru, Sierra Leone, Spanish, Levant, rare Granada Confederation, Gibraltar, Cuba, Argentine Republic, Egypt, Soruth, Peru envelope, Greece unpaid, Guatemala, Faridkot, set of 3 Chili, Sarinam, Honolulu, Brazil 1850 and other obsolete issues, Bulgaria: St. Thomas, rare Moldo-Wallachia, Fiji Isles, obsolete Newfoundland, Deccan envelope, Japan newsband, Honduras, British South Africa, British Honduras, set of 4 Nicaragua, set of 3 Philippine (Infant King), Argentine ½ cent., and others equally rare. Some of the stamps in this packet are worth from 1/6 to 2/6 each. Post-free, 21/.

THE ONLY PACKETS ISSUED THAT ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER.

NOW READY, 1/- EACH, POST-FREE, I/1, NOS. I., II., III., AND IV. OF

THE IMPERIAL



PACKETS OF

Rare Used and Unused Foreign Postage Stamps.

Each contains Twenty Varieties, all Warranted Genuine.

No. 30 contains Wadhwan, Azores, provisional Macao, Japan, 2 sen., Cuba, Cyprus (obsolete), Brazil, Sierra Leone, Philippine, provisional Ceylon, Hungary (1875), Roumania, Bavaria 50 pf., India surcharged H.M.S., and other good stamps.

No. 31 contains Hayti, Portuguese Indies, Egypt (1879), Ecuador, Bechuanaand, surcharged Martinique, China, Granada Confederation, New South Wales O.S., Nowanuggar, official Italy, Cape of Good Hope, and other good stamps.

No. 32 contains Nicaragua, Zululand, Turkey, New Brazil, Dutch Indies, Bhopal, Swan River, Sweden (unpaid), Bulgaria, Faridkot, Swiss (unpaid), Greece, Jamaica 4d., and other good stamps.

No. 33 contains Curacao, provisional Mauritius, surcharged Peru, Monaco, Transvaal, India service 2 annas, Straits Settlements, official Sweden, Sandwich Isles, provisional South Australia, Chili, and other good stamps.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

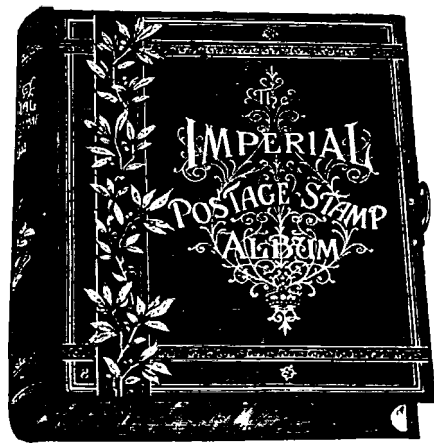
Now Ready.—The SIXTH EDITION of the

IMPERIAL POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

HAVE the pleasure to announce the publication of a **New Edition** of this, the most favourite and celebrated Album of the day. All the leading features, to which must be attributed the very great success of this work, are retained, and a number of most important improvements introduced, so as to be thoroughly in consonance with recent ideas and researches.

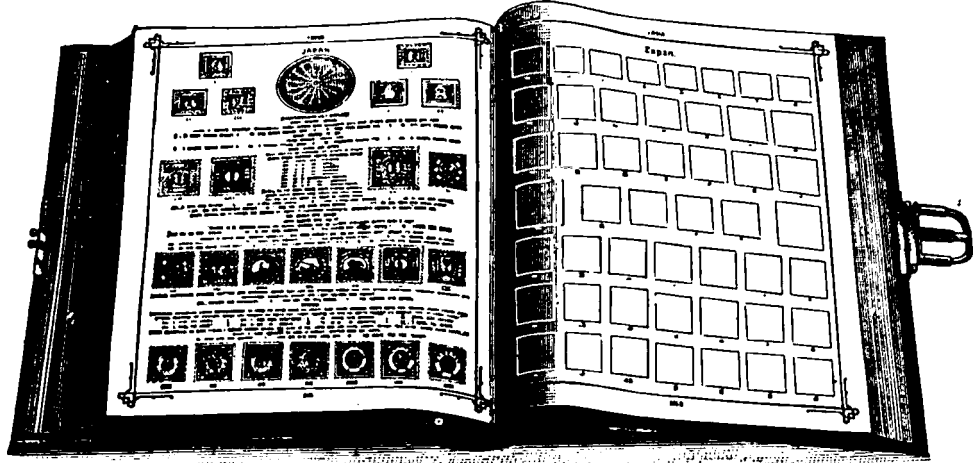
The **New Imperial Album** is based on the Eighth edition of the Price Catalogue, and all varieties of perforation, paper, and watermark provided there, are given in the New Album. The size of the pages is enlarged to 9 x 12 inches, so as to provide increased accommodation for the numerous new



issues. In order to ensure the most perfect accuracy the Album has been revised by Major E. B. EVANS. The numbers that have hitherto been placed in the centre of each space are now inserted *below*, for greater convenience of reference.

To meet the wishes of many, a **Cheap Edition**, printed on a paper far superior to that of any contemporary album, is now for the first time offered to the public. No further Supplements to the previous editions of the Imperial Album will be published.

Supplements to this New Edition, and corresponding to the enlarged size, will be issued as required, but at longer intervals than hitherto.



PRICES OF THE NEW IMPERIAL ALBUMS (SIXTH EDITION),

Securely Packed, and Post-free to Great Britain.

- No. 5.—Medium 4to, on extra stout paper, strongly bound in embossed cloth, gilt lettering, sprinkled edges. *Marone colour only.* The one volume complete, 10/- Post-free, 11/6
- No. 6.—Medium 4to, on superior stout paper, superior embossed cloth, ornamental gilt lettering and border. *Marone colour only.* The two volumes, 15/- Post-free, 16/6
- No. 7.—Medium 4to, on superior stout paper, handsomely bound, with gilt lettering and ornaments, bevelled boards, burnished edges. *Dark Green colour.* The two volumes, 20/- Post-free, 21/6
- No. 8.—Medium 4to, on superior quality paper, handsomely bound, extra gilt, bevelled boards, gilt edges, and patent expanding clasp. *Dark Green colour.* The two volumes, 30/- Post-free, 31/6
- No. 9.—Medium 4to, on superior quality paper, handsomely bound in morocco relief, gilt edges, two patent expanding clasps. *Indigo-blue colour.* The two volumes, 50/- Post-free, 51/6
- No. 10.—Medium 4to, on superior quality paper, magnificently bound in plain padded Russian leather, with single gold line round bevel, gilt edges, two patent expanding locks. *Indigo-blue colour.* The two volumes, £5. Post-free, £5 2s. 6d.
- No. 11.—Medium 4to, on superior quality paper, *extra strongly bound* in half morocco, lettered on back, but sides plain, gilt edges, no locks or clasps. The two volumes, £2 2/- Post-free £2 4s. 0d.

RARITIES.

The following is a short list of a few RARE Stamps at present on hand, and which are not priced in the Catalogue.

	£	s.	d.
GREAT BRITAIN, 1d., red-brown, with Areher's roulette, unused	7	10	0
" " 1d., rose-red, pair of plate 146, imperf., commonly called "The Cardiff Penny"	7	10	0
" " 1d. black, V.R., large margins, full gum and in brilliant condition	10	10	0
AUSTRIA, newspaper stamp (50 kr.), red (not rose), guaranteed by Pemberton, Wilson & Co., used	16	0	0
BRUNSWICK, 1st issue, 3 silb.-gr. vermilion, unused, with full pink gum	14	0	0
FRANCE, 1 fr., orange-vermilion, good colour but no margins, and slight crack on right side, used	4	10	0
" 1873, 15 centimes (error), brown on rose, used	3	0	0
OLDENBURG, 1853, $\frac{1}{3}$ silb.-gr., horizontal strip of three, large margins, lightly cancelled	6	0	0
" 1859, $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., green, unused, no margin	4	15	0
" " " unused, full gum and large margins	8	0	0
" " " used, and large even margins	8	0	0
" " " used, enormous margins all round and light circular postmark, the most superb we have seen	10	0	0
" 1861, $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., orange, used, cut close	3	15	0
" " " large margins, used	4	10	0
MOLDAVIA, 1858, circular, 27 paras, used	20	0	0
" " " " much finer	26	0	0
" " " 54 paras, used	7	15	0
" " " " finer, large margins	9	10	0
" " " 81 paras, superb with large margins all round	70	0	0
" " " 108 paras, used	19	10	0
THE LEVANT, 1870, Provisionals (10 paras), blue and brown, unused	5	10	0
" " " (20 paras), red and blue, unused	6	5	0
RUSSIAN LOCALS—Alatyr, 1 kop., black, unused	10	0	0
" Bouzoulouk, 3 kop., red and green, used, with large figure 3, and wide network	8	0	0
" Cherson, large size, 10 kop., black and rose	4	0	0
" Kotelnitch, 3 kop., black on orange	2	0	0
" " -3 kop., large size, bluish grey (one of the rarest of these locals)	28	0	0
SPAIN, 1852, 2 reales, very fine, unused	10	10	0
" " " " used	7	10	0
" 1853 " " unused	6	10	0
" " " used, heavy provisional	3	17	6
SWITZERLAND—Geneva, 10 cents, fine, used	20	0	0
" " " new, but margin cut into on right	17	10	0
" " 5 c., apple-green, large eagle, a superb block of 20 stamps, being the two rows at the top of the sheet, with full inscriptions at top in margin in five lines—a unique thing	72	0	0
" Zurich, 4 rp., unused	15	0	0
TUSCANY, 3 lire, pale yellow, and margin cut on one side, used	14	0	0
" another, ochre-yellow, finer	18	0	0
AFGHANISTAN, 1868, no value, violet	16	0	0
" 1872 (dated 1289), 6 sh., purple	15	0	0
CEYLON, imperf., 4d., rose, 175/-, 185/-, and	9	10	0
" " 8d., brown, slightly mended on right but large margins, showing traces of next stamps on two sides	8	15	0
" " 8d., brown, very fine	10	5	0
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, "Habilitado Por La Nacion"—			
1854, 1 rl., fte. blue, unused	9	0	0
1863, 1 rl., dark violet, unsevered pair, used	11	0	0
" 2 rls., blue, unused	5	0	0

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH.)

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

JULY 31, 1893.

No. 37.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.*

EDITORIAL.

To celebrate their removal into new and more convenient premises, a matter of no small importance to a firm that had carried on business at the same address for some eighteen years, and of no little difficulty when the vast stock accumulated during that period is taken into consideration, our publishers determined upon issuing an especially large—and, we hope, especially interesting—number of the magazine. Our fourth volume therefore commences well, and we hope, with the assistance of the able contributors who have helped us in the past, and of others who have promised us their aid in the future, to make this and succeeding volumes no less useful to collectors of all classes than we venture to think the preceding ones have been.

On the present occasion we would draw attention to some of the more interesting and exceptional items in the Table of Contents of our present number; the old records of the firm and the memory of its founder have been ransacked for particulars of the rise and progress of the business, which began in schoolboy transactions in such intervals of leisure as were permitted by work in a flourishing chemist's shop, and ended—but indeed it has not ended yet, and is not likely to do so, still it ended, to some extent, as far as its founder was concerned—by his retiring with a sum of £25,000, besides, we believe, savings to a substantial amount, and all made out of Postage Stamps!

In order that our readers, from whom we wish to have no secrets, may know exactly how it is done, an accomplished inquisitor has put both

the past and present heads of the firm upon the rack, and elicited much valuable information upon the subjects of *How to Start in the Stamp Business*, and *How to Carry On*; and the results of his catechising will, we are sure, be found both interesting and instructive. But the reader must not go away with the idea that the golden rule is to purchase a sack or two of triangular Cape stamps, containing a good proportion of the *wood-blocks* and a fair number of the *errors*; that is a very good way to commence, but it was not by mere good luck of this kind that Mr. Gibbons built up his fortune. He had opportunities of making a good many profitable purchases, no doubt, but, for the most part, these opportunities came to him because he was on the look-out for them, and because he soon became known as a large purchaser for ready-money.

Mr. Gibbons did not start in life with the proverbial half-a-crown in his pocket, neither does he profess to have been turned out into the gutter at an early age to earn his living. He was brought up to a good business, and, had he chosen to keep to it, he would doubtless have done well in it; but he seems to have seen as a boy that there was money in stamps, and, as time went on, that there was more money in stamps than in drugs, and it was not by mere luck, but by energy, intelligence, and sheer hard work that he built up a truly gigantic business out of very small beginnings.

Of the present head of the business it does not become us to say much in these pages, even in the present age of self-advertisement, when the old proverb has been transformed into "self-praise is every recommendation." A period had arrived when the stamp trade must be carried on upon somewhat different lines. Mr. Gibbons himself would confess that stamp-dealing is a very different thing now from what it used to be, and the last few years have necessitated very considerable changes. It was no longer possible for a large business like that of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co.

to be carried on in the old grooves; at least, if the firm was to remain at the head of the trade. Mr. Gibbons did not feel equal to making the thorough change in his methods which the altered circumstances appeared to require; he began to feel that he was growing old—we believe that he has been growing younger every year since he retired. The hour had come, and the man—as is so frequently the case—was not wanting. Mr. Phillips, while stepping nimbly into Mr. Gibbons' shoes, determined to wear them with a difference. Feeling his way with due care, he made up his mind to launch out more actively than his predecessor had done. This magazine, which is now issued at a merely nominal price, is but one of the many evidences of his enterprise.

The great additions in the way of minor varieties made to the last two editions of the Price Catalogue, and to the recent edition of the Imperial Album, are due to his initiative. A series of handbooks, the first of their kind in the English language, has been projected, and the appearance of the first volume is duly announced elsewhere. And the final results, so far—for there is no finality about Mr. Phillips—are to be seen in the fine and excellently arranged premises in the Strand, depicted in the illustrations which adorn this number of the *Monthly Journal*.

* * *

We publish on another page a letter from Mr. W. T. Willett, relating some of the experiences of himself and Mr. Castle in the Far West. We are glad to see that the former appears to be none the worse for his travels, and for the serious illness which unfortunately interrupted them for a time; and we have no doubt that on their return to England, where they are expected to arrive early next month, they will be able to give as favourable an account of philatelic hospitality in Chicago as of their reception in San Francisco.

Mekel's Weekly Stamp News, for June 22, gives a most amusing narrative of the impression made upon Californian collectors by the two travellers, the Vice-President of the Philatelic Society, London, naturally attracting most attention. The following is his description, as he appeared to the local philatelic reporter:

“Mr. Castle is somewhere in the neighbourhood of 45 years, and displays all the characteristics of the Londoner, as depicted in the novels of the day. He is affable to friends, distant to strangers, courteous to the gentler sex, deliberate in all he does and says, strongly loyal to English institutions, and has the national predilection for B. S. (brandy and soda), though it must not be understood that he ever indulges to excess.”

It is something to be assured that the novels of the day are so accurate; but, as a matter of fact,

Mr. Castle hails from London-by-the-Sea, though the manners and customs of the Little Village are not unknown to him.

We regret to find, however, that the honoured guest made a most unkind return for the hospitality lavished upon him by the genial San Franciscans:

“An amusing and somewhat dramatic incident occurred during the evening, for which Mr. Luff was responsible. Much to Mr. Castle's surprise he exhibited a *6d.*, brown, of the 1872 issue of New Zealand, which, he claimed, was unwatermarked. He explained that he had immersed it in water and other fluids which have a strong tendency to bring out any latent watermark, but had failed to discover even a sign of any. Mr. Castle courteously asked permission to manipulate the stamp for the purpose of confirming or confounding Mr. Luff's claim. Permission was readily granted, the stamp was quickly dropped into a glass of water, and when completely saturated was withdrawn. One glance was sufficient. It brought from Mr. Castle, in the typical English drawl, but in exultant tones, the exclamation, ‘There, don't you see the star watermark? a mile square!’ And sure enough there it was, and for the rest of the evening Mr. Luff's genial countenance was overshadowed by a more or less mournful expression.”

This really was cruel—to damp the stamp as well as the hopes of its owner, and pour cold water upon the proceedings both literally and metaphorically! We have seen the same experiment tried with a supposed *unwatermarked 6d.* of Great Britain with precisely similar results; but it is not kind, and we presume that in the old Californian days *shooting* would have resulted, and someone would have been perforated, or rouletted perhaps. The pursuit of philately has a wonderfully soothing and civilizing influence upon any community. It ought to be taught in the Board Schools, and made a compulsory subject in all competitive examinations.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Argentine Republic.—Our publishers have found among their stock of 2 c. letter cards of 1888 some curious varieties of perforation, which show plainly that the four sides of the card are perforated separately, before it is folded. There are two varieties of these cards, which we described in May, 1891. The stamp on the first shows the top of the head almost touching the oval frame; we find specimens of this with *no perforation at the right side*, and with *double perforation at the right side*. On the other there is a space of fully 1 mm. above the top of the head; we find this *imperf.* at the top.

Bamra.—We have received the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna upon a fresh shade of paper, a very much darker *rose* than hitherto. The type has been reset for this printing, as we find by comparing the specimen with our entire blocks; but as we have only seen a single copy we cannot say whether there are any errors this time.

Mr. Seymour Summers has very kindly sent us some notes upon the Bamra stamps, from which we learn that the article which we have hitherto termed a Scroll is the Crest or Totem of the State, and is intended to represent an elephant's trunk twisted round a tusk! It would be well to write this underneath in future issues if the artist is not more successful. *Adhesive.* $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black on magenta.

Belgium.—*The Postal Card* describes a minor variety of the 5 c. card of 1879, having the apostrophe between the "L" and the word "ADRESSE" omitted, and also the "J" of "ZIJDE" the same size as the other letters.

A correspondent sends us specimens of minor varieties of two of the current adhesives, which he tells us always occur in certain positions on the sheets. One is the 2 c., in which the right-hand stamp of the last row but one shows the lowest leaves of the Wreath at each side with only a very light shadow, instead of the dark solid one. The other is the new Sunday stamp, in which the forty-fourth stamp on the third pane of fifty shows only the upper part of the "A" of "PAS," like a small inverted "V." The other values of this interesting series are to be issued, our informant states, as follows: The 2 c., 20 c., and 25 c. on the 1st August; the 1 c. and 5 c. on the 1st September; the 50 c. and 1 fr. on the 1st October; and the 35 c. and 2 fr. on the 1st November. A kind of "linked sweetness, long drawn out," as the poet says.

Adhesives. 2 c., chocolate; variety.
10 c., orange-red "

Benin.—*La Revue Philatlique* chronicles the 25 c. letter card, of the general colonial issue, surcharged with the name of this colony, in *black*.

Letter Card. 25 c., black on rose.

Bermuda.—The same authority reports that the 2d. and 1s. stamps have at last appeared, unsurcharged, in the colours of those values as issued for Gibraltar.

Adhesives. 2d., violet-brown; wmk. Crown & CA; perf. 14,
1s., brown "

Bhor.—Two correspondents have very kindly sent us some further information as to the inscriptions upon the stamps of this state. The transcription of the characters upon the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 1 a. is *stā(mḥ) pa(nṭ) sa(chiwa) ki(mat)*, and upon the higher values *sri* or *shri* *pant sachiwa ki(mat)*, followed by the value in each case (the letters in brackets are not given upon the stamps, but are understood). *Pant Sachiwa*, or *Pant Sachiew* is the name of a district, the chief holding the title of Jagirdar of Bhor and Pant Sachiew, the latter bearing somewhat the same relation to Bhor as Jummo to Cashmere. About the word *Sri*, or *Srimant*, our informants are not quite agreed; one says that it is a word commonly found upon native stamps, seals, and coins, and is an invocation of a deity; the other that it is a title, derived from *Sri*, meaning *prosperity*.

Neither of our correspondents explains why the word *Stā(mḥ)* upon two of the values is replaced *Sri* upon the others. May we suggest that if *Sri* means *prosperity*, it may also be used to mean *revenue*, and thus indicate fiscal stamps? The word *ki mat* means *price*.

Bolivia.—*The American Journal of Philately* announces the receipt of a 5 c. stamp, of the 11 Stars type, but *lithographed* and in the colour of the current issue of that value. *Adhesive.* 5 c., light blue; perf. 11.

Brazil.—We have received a wrapper of smooth buff paper, bearing a stamp of the same type as that upon the current envelopes. The upper end is gummed, and cut triangular like the pointed flap of an envelope. We have also the 100 reis envelope, in a distinct *rose*, quite different to the former *pale red* tint.

Envelope. 100 reis, rose on white wove; 134 x 109 mm.
Wrapper. 20 reis, pale green on buff; 136 x 360 mm.

British Bechuanaland.—Our publishers have found amongst their stock specimens of the Registration Envelopes of Great Britain, as adapted to the use of this colony, with a double surcharge of the word "FOUR," one partly overlapping the other. The change of value is evidently indicated by an overprint applied locally; on the

specimen of size G the superfluous impression of the bars, which should have fallen on the word "TWO," is struck over the "LA" of "BECHUANALAND," while on the copy of size K both impressions of the bars are very faint.

Reg. Env. 4d., in black, on 2d.; blue; sizes G and K, varieties.

British Guiana.—*La Carte Postale* describes two varieties of the surcharge upon the provisional 2 c. cards. In the first type the word "CENTS" is 4 mm. above the double bar, and 2 mm. below the figure "2," and the latter measures 5 mm. in height; in the second the word is 2 mm. above the double bar and 3 mm. below the figure, which is only 4 mm. high. The single cards appear to be only found with the first type of the surcharge.

British South Africa.—*The London Philatelist* chronicles the 4/- stamp of this Company without the surcharge B. C. A. *Adhesive.* 4s., slate and red.

Bulgaria.—*Der Philatelist* describes two Letter Cards recently issued here; a stamp of the type of the current adhesives is impressed in the right upper corner, there are two words of heading in Russian, and four lines for the address.

Letter Cards. 5 st., green on grey.
15 st., orange-yellow on yellow.

Canada.—We are indebted to Mr. D. A. King for copies of the 1 cent post card of ordinary size, in the same colour as the large card. We presume the double cards will in time be printed also in this tint, which will certainly be an improvement upon the *greenish-grey* hitherto employed.

Post Card. 1 c., grey on buff; 127 x 77 mm.

Cape of Good Hope.—*The Ill. Brief. Journal* chronicles a reply paid card similar to the current $\frac{1}{2}$ single card.

Post Card. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. + $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green on white.



Cape Verde.—*Le Timbre-Poste* describes a 2½ reis stamp of the accompanying, not unpleasing, design, which is probably that selected for this value for all the Portuguese Colonies. It is perhaps worthy of note that it bears no inscription confining its use to printed matter, or even indicating that it is a postage stamp.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown; perf. 12.

Ceylon.—*La Revue Philatlique* chronicles the registration envelope with the value altered to 10 c. upon the die; the type, we gather, remains as before.

Reg. Env. 10 c., rose; size F.

Chili.—We give an illustration of the *Officially Sealed* label, which we chronicled last month, and which *Le Timbre-Poste* has now received in *black*. The same journal describes the 5 c., type of the first issue, on *laid* paper, to which we also alluded in our last number, as showing a Coat of Arms watermarked in the paper—no doubt a manufacturer's mark. The impressions are said to show signs of wear of the plate, and our contemporary looks upon them as sheets found at the printing office. Is it possible that they are reprints?



La Gazette Timbrologique chronicles a 5 pesos adhesive, "of the current type," we presume of the same type as the 1 peso.

Adhesive. 5 pesos, vermilion.
Officially Sealed Stamp. No value, black.

Colombia.—A correspondent points out to us that there appears to be an error in the description of the genuine type of Granada Confederation, 1861, on page 239 of the new edition of *Album Words*. The second "O" of "CORREOS" is *not* close to the angle of the inner frame, the line of this inner frame if produced would barely touch the "O" even in heavily printed copies, and the side line would pass quite clear of it. The greater part of the design is identically the same in all the values; the word "CENTAVOS" is the same in the "2 1/2," the "10," and the "20," the numerals alone

having been altered; in the "5" the word of value is entirely redrawn, and of course in the "UN PESO." In the case of the "5" and the "20" evident traces of the removal from the matrix of the value "2½" can be seen, while the "UN PESO" seems to have been printed from the same actual stone as the lowest value, traces of the "2½," varying in different specimens, being almost always to be found, and the words "UN PESO" differing considerably in position, in reference to the surrounding portions of the design.

Confederate States.—Our publishers send us a block of 20 cents stamps, the upper row of which shows a partly double impression, which is not very easy to account for. On the forehead of Washington the figures "20" are plainly to be seen, and the face is partly obscured by other portions of the upper part of the design of the stamp; the lower half of the complete stamp is quite clear of any second impression, so that it would seem that only the impression of the top of a row of stamps was accidentally printed upon a clean sheet of paper, or upon a sheet of stamps.

Congo.—Mons. Van Riet assures us that the 25 fr. and 50 fr. stamps, which we chronicled last month on the authority of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, are not known at the office of the Congo Postal Department at Brussels, where he was informed officially that these stamps do not exist.

Curacao.—We are indebted to a collector here for most kindly sending us specimens of all the current cards, and thus enabling us to finally correct our descriptions of them. All the new cards have the stamp of the numeral type; none have been issued with the head of the young Queen of Holland, and we believe that all the adhesives of values lower than 10 c. will remain of the numeral type. The cards are as follows:

Post Cards. 2½ c., green on green.
2½ + 2½ c. " "
5 c., rose on rose."
5 + 5 c. " "
7½ c., blue on blue.
7½ + 7½ c. " "

The 5 c., brown on blue, and 7½ c., carmine on rose, which we chronicled in January on the authority of *Le Timbre-Poste*, do not, we believe, exist.

Messrs. Alfred Smith and Co. point out to us that the 5 + 5 c. of this series is not a novelty, having been chronicled nearly three years ago. It has since been reported on buff, which we find to be incorrect.

Cyprus.—*la Gazette Timbrologique* describes the ½ piastre card in a new colour.

Post Card. ½ piast., brown on buff.

Decan.—A correspondent sends us some very distinct shades of the current ½ a., varying from a kind of orange-brown to brick-red, which can hardly be included in the red-brown of the Catalogue.

Adhesives. ½ a., orange-brown.
½ a., brick-red.

Ecuador.—We are informed that the two lines, at each side of the Sun in the Arms of this State, are not intended to represent a rainbow, as we had ignorantly supposed, but indicate the equator! We have crossed the line on more than one occasion, and have seen Neptune and his train come on board, but we never saw the equator so plainly as it is shown here!

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain adds the stamp from the 2 c. Wrapper to the list of abnormal varieties employed as adhesives. The famine seems to be lasting a long time; is there no corn in Egypt—or in Seebeckia?

Adhesive. 2 c., orange on blue; *Wrapper Stamp.*

Fiji.—We give an illustration of the design of the new stamps, which, it is stated, will shortly be re-drawn in such a manner as to render the name somewhat more visible.

French Congo.—*The Philatelic Journal of America* describes a Parcel Post stamp of the same design as the one which we chronicled in October last, but on green paper; the specimen which we saw was on a kind of greenish-blue or bluish-green, probably similar to that seen by our contemporary.

From the same source we learn that a copy of this label is shown at Chicago, in the Postal Exhibit from French Congo,



and with it a specimen of a French 10 c. fiscal stamp, surcharged "Congo Français—COLIS POSTAUX"; we may take this as evidence that both are fiscal, not postage, stamps, indicating probably a fixed duty on postal parcels, collected through the Post-office. M. Moens gives the type-set label in his Fiscal Catalogue, but had apparently not met with the surcharged stamp, which is stated to have preceded it.

Gambia.—The following letter, which we copy from *The Postal Card*, is of interest as showing the date of issue of the provisional cards of last year:—

"POST-OFFICE, GAMBIA, 29th April, 1893.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter dated 4th February, 1893. I have the honour to inform you that the surcharge of 1d. on the single and reply post cards of this colony was effected by means of a handstamp on the 20th of August, 1892. On that date 120 of the former and 114 of the latter cards were put in use; since then cards were surcharged according to public requirements.

"The authority for the alteration was dated the 12th August, 1892. I regret not being authorized to furnish a copy of the order, without permission of the Governor. I am also not in a position to inform you with regard to the value of the cards in England.

"New cards at 1d. were received in the colony on the 13th inst., but have not yet been issued to this office.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"(Signed) A. NICOL, Postmaster.

"TO G. H. WATSON, ESQ."

Germany.—The *Ill. Brief. Zeitung* describes a variety of the *Pneumatic Post* envelope of 1876, having on the flap a rosace of the same pattern as that upon the ordinary envelopes of the German Empire. The specimen seen was used on the 24th April, 1877.

Gibraltar.—Our publishers send us a copy of the 2d. Registration Envelope, size G, with a double impression of the surcharge "20—CENTIMOS." The type of the overprint is that with the wide numerals, shown in Type 1083 in the catalogue.

Reg. Env. 20 c., in black, on 2d., vermilion; size G; variety.

Great Britain.—*The Philatelic Record* reports the Letter Card upon bluer and stouter material than before.

Mr. H. Clark, Secretary of the Philatelic Exchange Society, has kindly shown us a very curious post card, the only portions of the impression that show any colour being the word "THE" and the right hand side of the stamp. The rest of the stamp and the inscriptions can be seen impressed upon the card, but without colour; and we can only suppose that either the plate was not inked in those parts, or there was a bit of thin paper, of irregular shape, between the plate and the card. The specimen was found, we are told, in a packet with ordinary copies, and it is certainly remarkable that such a very defective impression should have been allowed to pass into circulation. It appears, from the quality of the card, to be one of those printed to order at Somerset House. The same correspondent sends us a specimen of the 1d. envelope, small size, with the stamp very deeply coloured inside. This, we think, is not an uncommon variety; it is the result of carelessness, in letting the die fall upon the pad without inserting an envelope between them, the pad thus gets inked, and the next envelope put in receives the colour on both sides.

Greece.—Mons. Socolis kindly sends us a specimen of the 10 lepta inland card, printed at Athens. The impression is in a dull blue, very different to the ultramarine of the earlier printing; it is on deep buff card of a poor quality, and the copy before us is very badly centred, showing a large margin on the left and at the top, a small one below, and hardly any on the right.

Post Card. 10 lepta, dull blue on deep buff; 137 × 80 mm.

Der Philatelist states that there is a watermark, consisting of a Greek inscription, in the card upon which these are printed, but we find no trace of it in the specimen sent us.

At the last moment we have received some varieties of perforation of the current 1 l. and 2 l., which seem worthy of notice; we have vertical and horizontal pairs of each value, perf. 11½ all round, but imperf. between the two stamps, showing one line of horizontal or vertical perforations omitted.

Guatemala.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles the current 5 c. in the same colour as the 1 c. Is this an error or a chemical? Adhesive. 5 c., blue.

Heligoland.—The *Postwertzeichen-Kunde* warns its readers against specimens of the 5 marks stamp, *perf.* 1½, which are stated to be unperforated remainders with unofficial (*i.e.*, fraudulent) perforations!

Hongkong.—We have received a specimen of an Officially Sealed label issued here; it is of the usual oblong shape, and the design consists mainly of inscriptions within a frame of type-set ornaments, printed in brown upon a blue groundwork of a fancy pattern. In the centre, in a small square, are the Royal Arms, above are the words "GENERAL POST OFFICE" in an arch, and below is a similarly curved inscription in Chinese characters; between these, and divided by the Arms, are "HONG—KONG" "OFFICIALLY—SEALED," the last two words between double parallel lines.

Officially Sealed Label. No value, brown and blue; *perf.* 12.

India.—Mr. Floyd Turner kindly sends us a specimen of the current 8 annas in rose, the authenticity of which we queried last month. The copy before us has part of a cover still adhering to it, and shows no sign whatever of having been tampered with, so we presume that this is an official alteration in the colour.

On another page we give a cutting from *The Times of India*, kindly sent us by Mr. Seymour Summers, showing the object of the private surcharges, or obliterations, which are commonly applied to the British Indian stamps, and which have sometimes puzzled collectors. Similar surcharges applied by Government Departments appear to us to stand in exactly the same position as these private marks; the "Service" and "On H.M.S." surcharges are different, as they are intended to limit the employment of the stamps so overprinted to Official correspondence. Some of the other surcharges, such as "Court Fees," convert the Postage stamps into Fiscals. A curious variety of one of these has been described to us, on which the word "Service" was crossed out and "Court Fees," in two lines, printed above it.

That the private marks may not be wholly devoid of philatelic interest was proved to us not long back, when a collector well acquainted with Indian stamps—both from a practical and from a philatelic standpoint—showed us that the stamp represented by illustration 52, in the London Society's book, bore evidence of falsity upon its face, as, while showing a curious variety of "On H.M.S." it was obliterated with the mark of a business firm well known to him, which could not possibly be the case with a Service stamp!

The Stamp News describes a specimen of the 4 a. of 1854, which appears to be rouletted.

Adhesive. 4 a., blue and red; rouletted. (?)

We are informed by a collector in India that when the Postal Union rate was first reduced to 2½ annas, a circular was published saying that pending the issue of the 1½ anna cards converted to 1 a., the ½ a. cards would be allowed to pass for 1 a. with the addition of a 9 pies adhesive. The curious part of the matter is that, on 1 a. cards being issued, the privilege of using the ½ a. cards in this manner was withdrawn, whereas we should have supposed that the ½ a. cards were always available for use as 1 a. or 1½ a., with the addition of the necessary adhesives. Under the circumstances, specimens that have been thus employed seem to be of some interest as curiosities, but they could hardly be chronicled an issue.

Jeypore.—Another correspondent in India very kindly sends us the following letter, received by him in answer to an enquiry about the surcharged stamps catalogued as employed in this State:—

"JEYPORE, 13th April, 1893.

"DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, I beg to inform you that some time ago the Engineering Department of the Jeypore State was using the Imperial stamps overprinted with the words 'Raj Service' by means of a rubber stamp, just as merchants print their rubber stamps over the postage labels on their letters.

"There are no special Raj Service stamps in the Jeypore State.

"Yours truly,

"(Signed, name illegible),

Supdt. of Post-offices,

"Upper Rajputana Divn."

This confirms what has been already published upon the subject, and it seems open to question whether the stamps thus surcharged are of any special interest to collectors.

Jhind.—In reference to what we said in April, as to supplies of the Native issues having been printed since they ceased to be used for postage, the same correspondent informs us that, on writing for a full set of the stamps, he was only able to obtain the following:

1882. 4 a. and 8 a., imperf.

1885. 1 a., 2 a., 4 a., and 8 a., perf.

We may hope, therefore, that the stock is simply being sold out "for revenue," and that the stamps are not being reprinted.

Since writing the above we are sorry to say that we have received from Mr. W. Brown sheets of the ½ a. of the type of 1882, which have been sent to him as a *New Issue*. There seems to be no doubt that these native-made stamps are no longer used for postage, so that if these have been issued at all they must be fiscals; but the fact that this value is now received in blue, rather leads us to suppose that they have been printed to supply the demand for the ½ a., blue, of the earlier type. The stone shows evident signs of wear, the stamp at the left top corner of the sheet, and the one immediately below it have been touched up a little; with these exceptions, we find the same 25 varieties of type, shown, as before, in two blocks, side by side, and the whole sheet of 50 surrounded by a frame of a single line. There are no marginal inscriptions, and the impression is on thin yellowish wove paper.

Reprints (?). ½ a., blue (type of 1882); imperf. and perf. 12.

Lagos.—*Le Timbre-Poste* notes two varieties of the overprint upon the cards which we described last month, showing the "L" 2½ mm. and 1½ mm. distant from the figure respectively. *The Stamp News* gives an illustration of the stamp on this card as that of a 1d. on ½d. adhesive. Does such a variety exist? It does not seem a very likely one.



Macao.—Our illustration represents the surcharged stamp described in our last number, which—the stamp, not the number—excited so much interest among the colonial officials.

Mauritius.—Mr. Floyd Turner sends us a variety, error if you like to call it so, of the "TWO CENTS" on 4 c. of 1891. The surcharge is quite above the lower label, instead of being upon it, and is so struck that the letter "T" of "TWO" is absent altogether. WO!

Adhesives. 2 c., in black, on 4 c., carmine; variety. 1 c., violet; *znuk*. Crown & CA; *perf.* 14.

Der Philatelist announces the 1 c., permanent issue, of the same design as the current 2 c.

Mexico.—*The Philatelic Journal of America* publishes a warning in reference to old issues of this country. Reprints of the 4 reales and 8 reales (and probably other values also) of the first type are stated to be coming from Mexico in quantities, got up to represent the issues of 1856, 1861, 1862, and 1867, all with fraudulent surcharges and cancellations.

Monaco.—Various of our contemporaries announce the 10 c. single card in brown on blue-green, like the double card; it has only recently been chronicled in black on buff. Do both exist? *Le Timbre-Poste* states that the wrappers are now printed without the lines separating them on the sheet.

Wrappers. 1 c., bronze on buff; variety.

2 c., violet

Post Card. 10 c., brown on blue-green.

Montenegro.—*La Revue Philatlique* chronicles three envelopes for this Principality, with stamp of the type of the adhesives in the right upper corner. The lowest value is on thin cream wove paper, the two others on white laid.

Envelopes. 5 nov., red on cream; 158×127 mm.

7 " violet on white "

10 " blue on white "

Nandgaon.—The correspondent whom we have already quoted in reference to Jeypore and Jhind has further obtained us information as to some surcharged stamps of this state, copies of which he also very kindly sent us. They are the two values of the first issue, overprinted in violet-black ink with the letters "M.B.D.," with a small ornament above

and below, enclosed in a transverse oval. These letters, he was informed by the Diwan of Nandgaon, stand for "Mahant Bolram Dass," probably the name of the Rajah; but whether this surcharge limited the use of the stamps bearing it to official correspondence, or not, is not stated. It has not been struck upon the second issue, and all the specimens that our correspondent had seen of the first issue showed the surcharge upside-down.

New Caledonia.—*La Revue Philatélique* has received the 1 fr. of the French type, imperf., surcharged "N. C. E.—10," in the type shown in our March number. There appears to be always a small stock of these imperf. stamps on hand, only 150 copies are said to have been disgured on this occasion.

Adhesive. 10 c., in blue, on 1 fr., bronze-green; imperf.

New Zealand.—With reference to the 3d. wmkd. with the words "NEW ZEALAND" across the row of twelve stamps, the announcement of which we copied from *The American Journal of Philately* into our last number, *The Philatelic Journal of America* states that these words exist in the sheets with the N. Z. and Star watermark. Possibly the stamps referred to were a row from one of these sheets, in which the impression came upon the margin or between the panes of watermarks; it seems improbable that a watermark should be arranged to fit only eleven stamps in a row of twelve.

We have received the 1d. adhesive, on the usual N. Z. and Star paper, with a new variety of perforation, which we understand was applied to a few sheets only.

Adhesive. 1d., rose; perf. 10 x 13.

Nossi-Bé.—*La Revue Philatélique* reports the discovery of the 20 c. of the Colonial type surcharged with the name in lower case, with initial capitals only; we may therefore hope to find the surcharge in capitals upon the 10 c. and 15 c.—which will be more and more capital, and add greatly to the interest!

Adhesive. 20 c., red on green; surcharged Nossi-Bé in deep blue.



Nowanuggur.—This State has, we trust finally, abandoned the type-set labels which have given the student of minor varieties so much trouble in the past, and has issued, we understand, a set of three values of the accompanying design. We have only seen the 1 *dokra* (or *dokdo*, which we believe to be the more correct transcription) at present, but our publishers send us this both perf. 12 and *imperf. 12*, the latter specimens being, we gather, *proofs*, or *unfinished* stamps, not intended for issue. We find no gum upon either class.

Adhesive. 1 *dokdo*, black.

A learned correspondent most kindly sends us a transcription and translation of the characters upon this stamp, as follows: Above the Arms, "Sasthāna Nawanager" = *Government of Nowanuggur*; below "Halar post stamp" = *Postage Stamp of Halar*, Halar being the District of which Nowanuggur is the capital; on the label at the bottom "ek" = *one* "dokdo," which appears to be the word that has hitherto been translated *dokra*.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—We have received the Registration Envelopes surcharged for use here, and find that all three sizes, F, G, and H³, have the £50 Insurance Regulation, and "FEE PAID" printed below the "R." We learn from *The Philatelic Record* that the title of this territory is changed to "Niger Coast Protectorate," which will no doubt necessitate fresh issues.

Palmira.—This is stated to be a town in the province of Cauca (a locality which does not altogether inspire us with confidence), which is reported by a correspondent of *La Revue Philatélique* to have issued two type-set stamps. The designs consist of the inscriptions "Correo Municipal—5" (or "10") "centavos—PALMIRA," in three lines, separated by small ornaments, and enclosed in a frame of a different pattern for each value. We chronicle them with some reserve, not doubting their existence, but their character.

Local Stamps. 5 c., black on yellowish; imperf.
10 c. " " "

Paraguay.—*The Philatelic Record* states that the error in the inscription on the recently issued 1 c. stamp, on which the word denoting the value was given in the plural, has been corrected. *Adhesive.* 1 centavo, grey.

Philippine Islands.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* announces the following novelties, of the current type:

Adhesives. 1 c. de peso, violet-brown.
2½ " olive.
5 " brown-violet.

La Revue Philatélique reports that the 2 reales, blue, DERECHOS JUDICIAL stamp, surcharged "HABILITADO—PA. CORREOS—DE DOS RLES," exists (only?) with a double overprint, the stamps having been first surcharged "HABILITADO—PA. U. POSTAL—8 CMOS," in pale red. The last described being found ineffective, it is supposed that the stamps thus overprinted were subsequently utilized by impressing the 2 reales surcharge upon them in carmine. We gather that this is not an addition to the list, but only a further description of a stamp which is already known, but which is not found with the single surcharge in either form.

Portugal.—Two correspondents kindly send us information as to the stamps perforated with a Star, about which we enquired last month. The Star forms the obliteration of the stamps employed upon telegrams in a similar manner to the round hole in the Spanish stamps, but it seems doubtful whether the postmark, which is frequently found upon these Portuguese stamps, is a further obliteration, or is merely added later to render the stamps more saleable. One of our informants tells us that some years ago the Government gave authority to the "Postal and Telegraph Clerks' Association" to sell the stamps found upon the old telegrams for the benefit of their Society, and that in order that the local prices for used stamps might not be unduly affected, these have usually been sold, through an agent, to foreign dealers and in small quantities. Doubtless the market will be more or less flooded with them in time.

Puttiala.—A correspondent informs us that he has recently found a copy of the 2 annas stamp, surcharged "SERVICE—PUTTIALA—STATE," in red.

Service Stamp. 2 a., red and blue; error STATE.

Queensland.—*The London Philatelist* describes a 1½d. + 1½d. post card, which we presume differs in some particular from the one which we chronicled in Feb., 1892, but we are unable to gather from the description what the difference is.

Roumania.—The editor of *The Philatelic Record* vouches for the existence of the wrapper on yellowish white paper. We presume that there are two distinct varieties.

The Stamp News describes a provisional post card as follows: "Left upper corner, arms; right upper corner, stamp for 5 bani; between, 'CARTA POSTALA'; below, three lines of green dots, the first having the letter 'D' at the beginning, and the third the word 'la,' then a line, and below another line of dots." Whether "stamp for 5 bani" means that there is a 5 bani stamp in the right upper corner, or that there is a place for a 5 bani adhesive, we are unable to say, but we should rather suppose the latter, as the issue is said to be a *provisional* one. *The American Journal of Philately* gives an illustration of a card, which appears to correspond with this description, but it has a stamp of the numeral type in the right upper corner, and there is nothing to indicate a want of such *permanence* as cards usually possess.

Post Card. 5 bani, green on greyish.

Russia.—*The Postal Card* describes the current 5 kopecs letter card with the line of perforations rounded at the corners. We should suppose this to be the variety chronicled by *Le Timbre-Poste* having the perforations meeting, and not crossing, or are there three varieties?

Russian Locals.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:—

Belebi.—A new type has been adopted here, having what we may presume to be the Arms in the centre. What the savage animal, with its tail in the air, may be we cannot guess.

Adhesive. 2 kopecs, blue; perf. 112.

Bouzonloup.—Our next illustration shows the stamp which we chronicled last month. The design, we find, is a modification of that of the issue of 1892, not of 1883.



Charkoff.—The design so long in use here appears with some further alterations; the inscription on the oval band is in white on colour, while the figures in the corners are in colour on white. The present issue is stated to be of the *Postage Due* order.

Postage Due Stamp. 5 kopecs, ultramarine and gold; *perf.* 11½.



Yelctz.—The adaptable type, as employed in two other districts, has been introduced here.

Adhesive. 5 kopecs, carmine; *perf.* 13½.

Kadnikoff.—The design in use here has undergone some slight modifications, as shown in the accompanying illustration.

Adhesive. 3 kopecs, green and red; *perf.* 11½.



Koungour.—An entirely new type is brought into use here. The Arms figure upon a species of hatchment, which should indicate that someone is dead; perhaps it is the Bear, but more probably the Elephant, whose trunk has been cut off and turned upside down, so that his brains appear to be tumbling out at the large end of it!

Adhesives. 1 kopec, orange.
2 kopecs, green.

Novorjeto.—There is excellent news from here. The stamps have ceased to exist. Letters are delivered free! There is a special display of fireworks going on at the Crystal Palace as we write these lines, which we feel is highly appropriate to the occasion. However, it would be bad for philately if this example were universally followed—we do not mean letting off fireworks, but abandoning the use of stamps.

Sarapoul.—For every district that gives up the use of stamps several fresh ones commence it. The one now under consideration first figured on our list in May last, and already changes the colour of its issue.

Adhesive. 2 kopecs, brown; *perf.* 13½.

Solikamsk.—The 2 kopecs, yellow, chronicled in April, 1892, has suffered a similar fate to that which befel the 4 kopecs, red, as related last month.

Adhesive. 2 kopecs, ultramarine.

St. Thomas and Prince.—*The Revue Philatèlique* announces the issue of a 2½ re-stamp of the same type as that chronicled for Cape Verd.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown; *perf.* 13½.

St. Vincent.—We are sorry to find, from a letter forwarded to us by Messrs. Cameron and Co, that the postmaster of this colony is seriously annoyed at our jesting remarks upon the recent surcharges. But we were not the originators of the scandalous tale as to the 5d on 4d. having been issued "to raise £100 to repair the Post-

office." We copied this, as we stated at the time, from an American magazine, and we have since published the postmaster's denial of its truth. We are very happy to be able to add that the 2½d. on the 4d. Revenue stamps, which were prepared in case a supply of 2½d., did not arrive before the stock ran out, have not been issued, and are all to be burnt.

We have received wrappers of two values, with stamp of the usual type, and the five-lined instruction.

Wrappers. ½d., green on buff. | 1d., carmine on buff.

Sandwich Islands.—*The London Philatelist* adds the following to the list of stamps showing the variety of surcharge without a stop after "GOVT":

Adhesives. 1 c., blue; variety.
5 c., ultramarine "
25 c., purple "

We have received the post cards in the new shades which we chronicled some time back; the 1 c. and 1+1 c. are on a much deeper buff card than before, and the 2+2 c. is in pale blue instead of deep blue. The double cards also are not rouletted along the fold, as was previously the case, but are partly cut through, so deeply in some cases that the cards separate when folded; however, this is an inconvenience only to the few people who want to use them! We are glad to hear that it has not been thought necessary to spoil these handsome cards with a surcharge.

Seychelles.—We have received from Mr. Homewood a specimen of the 12 c. on 16 c. which we chronicled last month, and we gather from *Le Timbre-Poste* that a fresh printing of the surcharge 3 c. on 4 c. has taken place, showing varieties, in the way of misplaced letters, which were not found upon the first sheets received.

Shanghai.—In addition to the varieties which we described last month, *Le Timbre-Poste* announces a 1 c. stamp, formed by perforating the 2 c. down the centre and surcharging each half "1 Ct.," in blue. *The Metropolitan Philatelist* reports the provisional 1 c. envelope in "manilla." We presume buff is meant.

La Revue Philatèlique adds two more sizes of the white envelopes, but these varieties are not of any special importance, as doubtless any envelopes were employed that could be obtained on the spot. The same journal mentions wrappers and envelopes handstamped with the words "PAID" or "TO PAY," the latter accompanied by a note of the amount payable in MS., but we agree with our contemporary in considering these of no philatelic interest.

The Stamp News tells us that the "Postage Due" surcharge on the 2 c., green, is struck in blue. And we have ourselves received a 1 c. card, consisting of the subscriber's card, with the words "ISSUED TO SUBSCRIBERS ONLY" cancelled by a red bar, and "ONE CENT" printed at each end of this in the same colour. The copy before us is postmarked "MY 15, 93." *Le Timbre-Poste* describes this as on white; our copy is on buff.

The Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung describes and illustrates three varieties of 2 cents adhesives, of entirely new designs—one intended for an ordinary stamp for prepayment of postage, another for issue in celebration of one of these Jubilees that have become such a nuisance of late, and the last a *Postage Due* stamp. All three are inscribed at the top "LOCAL POST," and are further lettered "SHANGHAI MUNICIPALITY" in some conspicuous position. The first bears in the centre three shields, with their points meeting, surrounded by the motto "OMNIA JUNCTA IN UNO," which either may refer to the very complicated coats of arms depicted upon the shields, or should perhaps be translated, "All stuck together"—a fate which frequently happens to stamps in hot, damp climates. The second shows a young lady performing on the *unicycle*, as sometimes exhibited by acrobat cyclists on the music-hall stage. This can hardly be Columbus, but it may be emblematic of the Shanghai Local Postman of the future. The dates "1843" and "1893" appear in the upper spandrels of this design, so we presume something connected with Shanghai happened at the earlier date. The third has simply the value "2 cts" in the centre, with the words "POSTAGE DUE" on an arched label above it. We should add that all have Chinese inscriptions, which correspond, no doubt, with those in English.

Since writing the above we have seen specimens of the ½ c. and 1 c. of the ordinary series, which, we are informed, were issued on June 5th; the words "LOCAL POST" at the top, the value at the bottom, and the corresponding numerals

at the sides, with a column of Chinese characters above and below them, are in *black*, the rest of the design in colour. The copies before us are on the watermarked paper, and are perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$. Our German contemporary gives the colour of the 2 c., but according to an extract sent us from a local paper, that and the higher values were to be ready about the middle of November—their colours to be 5 c., *blue*; 10 c., *green*; 15 c., *yellow*; and 20 c., *brown*; with corresponding *Postage Due* stamps of the design with value in the centre.

- Adhesives.* 1 c., in *blue*, on half of 2 c., brown.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., black and orange-red; *new type*.
 1 c., black and brown "
 2 c., black and pale red "
 2 c., black and rose; *jubilee stamp*.
Envelopes. 1 c., black on *white*; 120×82 mm. and
 159×102 mm.
 1 c., black on *manilla* (*buff*); 145×96 mm.
Post Card. 1 c., red and lilac on *white*; 123×76 mm.
 1 c., " " *white*.
Postage Due Stamp. 2 c., black and orange-yellow.

South Australia.—The *Stamp News* describes a specimen of the 9d. perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally and rouletted vertically. This value has not, so far as we can find, been chronicled with this compound perforation.

We have also received the current 3d. in a new shade of *green*, much deeper than before; in fact, the tint of the earlier impressions has very little *green* in it, and might almost come under the comprehensive head of *bistre*. We learn from some newspaper cuttings sent us at the same time that there is to be a post card with stamp of a new design, as well as the 2½d. and 5d. stamps of which we gave a description a short time back. The stamp upon the card bears the Queen's head in the centre, with a mail steamer and a lighthouse in the lower corners, the inscriptions on the card being upon a scroll. The colours had not been decided upon when our correspondent wrote, at the end of April.

- Adhesives.* 9d., grey-lilac; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and rouletted.
 3d., dull green; perf. 10.

Surinam.—We are informed that the colour of the 12½ c. adhesive is *purple*, and that the announcement of this value in *grey-green* was incorrect.

Switzerland.—Mons. de Reuterskiold very kindly sends us a specimen of the post card which we mentioned last month as about to be issued. The stamp, of the current oval type, is impressed in *rose*, in the left upper corner, and surrounded by a fancy frame inscribed above "JUBILAUMS-POSTKARTE," and at the left side "ZUM ANDENKEN AN DIE EINFÜHRUNG DER BRIEFMARKEN IN DER SCHWEIZ 1843." Below the stamp is a representation of a Diligence, with five horses, coming down a mountain road, and across the upper part of the card is a vignette showing a lake, with mountains (Mont Blanc?) on one side, and a railroad running along the edge of a precipice on the other. Below this are three lines for the address; and in the left lower corner "25 vi 93—36,000 Gültigkeit bis 31 xii 93," all in one line. The last inscription is in the same colour as the stamp, the rest of the impression is in *blue-black*.

- Post Card.* 5 c., rose and blue-black on *yellow-buff*; 141×89 mm.

Our correspondent tells us that there was a great run upon these cards, thousands of persons waiting to buy tickets all Sunday and Monday, and by 12 noon on Tuesday the whole stock was sold out. The plates were publicly destroyed at the Exhibition on the 28th June, and the cards were changing hands at high prices!

We gather from official notices, published in *Le Timbre-Poste*, that this card is entirely a private affair of the Zurich Philatelic Exhibition. The Swiss postal department merely printed the stamp and the notice of the date, number, &c., of the impression, the Exhibition Committee supplying the cards with the vignettes, &c., described above. Under these circumstances, this variety appears to be of the same nature as the private post cards formerly used in Great Britain, with the embossed ½d. stamp, which was impressed by the Government as in the present case, and was the only official portion of the card. As a further proof that this is the case, we find that the authorities, in notifying their permission for the use of these cards within the Republic, drew attention to the fact that, under the rules of the Postal Union, vignettes are only permitted to be printed upon the communication side of post cards, and that therefore it was possible that foreign countries might refuse to recognise them.

Tasmania.—A correspondent points out to us that the 1d. now has the jubilee line round the panes; we have an

idea that we have seen this before, but we cannot find that it has been chronicled.

Tonga.—The *Philatelic Record* states that the letters "G. F. B.," on the official stamps, stand for *Government Foreign Branch*; the words do not appear especially appropriate, and it would seem more probable that the inscription would be in Tongan than in English.

Transvaal.—We have received the current 2d. stamp, surcharged "Halve—Penny" in two lines, between two horizontal bars as in the case of the provisionals of a few months back. The overprint is in dull red on the specimens we have received, but *D.r Philatelist* states that it exists also in *black*. *Adhesives.* ½d., in red, on 2d., *bistre*.
 ½d., in black, on 2d., *bistre*.

Turks Islands.—A correspondent in this colony informs us that, owing to a dearth of ½d. stamps, 600 of the current 4d. have been surcharged "½d." in large type, with a bar obliterating the original value. The postmaster, our informant states, was directed to use these solely for postal purposes, so we presume that they were affixed in the Post-office and none sold to the outside public. The issue, if such it can be called, appears to have taken place about the beginning of June. *Adhesive.* ½d., in black, on 4d., grey.

United States.—A correspondent sends us a specimen of the 2 c. Columbian, the paper of which is tinted a kind of orange or salmon, similar to that of some Argentine stamps which we described twelve months ago. We have no doubt that these are *unofficial* varieties—not to use a harsher term—and are produced either by some chemical treatment, which causes one of the ingredients of the impression to spread through the paper, or to simple dipping in dye. The specimen before us has evidently been well soaked in something, which has taken all the size out of the paper. We should be inclined to term these curiosities "*Judsons*."

L'Ami des Timbres reports the issue at the Chicago Exhibition of the large-sized cards, adorned with illustrations of the Exhibition Buildings and the inevitable Columbus. These adornments are printed on the reverse side of the cards, and are plainly of an unofficial nature, as far as the postal department is concerned.

We have no wish to unduly increase the difficulties of the collector of U. S. envelopes, whose lines are quite hard enough already, but *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* points out that there are at least two types of the watermark, and we find this to be the case. They differ very distinctly, in the pattern both of the collar which Columbus wears round his neck, and of the grin which he wears upon his genial countenance. The figures "9," in the date "1892," differ also, and we have even found a specimen in which that figure is entirely absent!

Our publishers have shown us a block of the current 2 c., ordinary issue, *imperf*, and an entire sheet is said to have issued in this condition.

- Adhesive.* 2 c., carmine; *imperf*.

Venezuela.—We give an illustration of the type of the new series of fiscal and inland postage stamps which we described last month, and of which *Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles the 1 bolivar.

We have since received an entire set of somewhat similar design, but with the head turned to the right, the oval enclosed in a rectangular frame, and the value repeated in figures in the lower corners. These are inscribed "CORREOS" above, instead of "INSTRUCCION," and are, no doubt, for Postal Union use: they were to be issued on the 5th inst. The impression and perforation are as previously described.

- Adhesives.* 1 bolivar, violet; *Instruccion*.
 5 centavos, red-brown; *Correos*.
 10 " blue "
 25 " red-violet "
 50 " dull lilac "
 1 bolivar, green "



Western Australia.—A correspondent kindly sends us the ½d. card on *white* instead of *salmon*, which, he tells us, has been recently issued. It now very closely resembles our own first issue in *brown* on *white*.

- Post Card.* ½d., red-brown on *white*; 122×75 mm.

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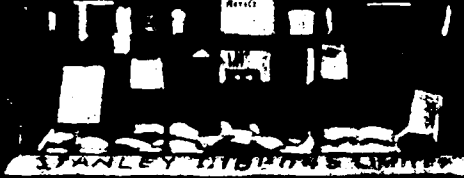
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THE STRAND SHOP FRONT.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED;

OR, FORTY YEARS OF PHILATELY.

THE founder of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, came into being in the self-same year that witnessed the introduction of Penny Postage. Whether that circumstance affected the very youthful Gibbons had perhaps better be left to those learned in the true interpretation of what the ordinary individual terms coincidences. This important philatelic event, *i.e.* the birth of the infant Gibbons, took place at Plymouth in the year 1840. No reliable record of his active participation in the work of encouraging and helping in the collection of postage stamps, however, goes further back than 1853. What philatelic work was done between the years 1840 and 1853 history sayeth not. Those years were probably given up to meditation, preparation, and anticipation. In 1853, however, young Gibbons became possessed of a pocket-book, in which he displayed to his wondering school fellows a collection of such postage stamps as were then to be had. It was a novelty, and it was to many a mysterious novelty. It was examined in season and out of season with awe and respect. Sly glances were taken at the treasures it contained even during school hours, and it is to be feared that young Gibbons must have been in those days a sad "obstructionist" to the pursuit of the more legitimate studies that were supposed to be the real business in hand.

Great events and businesses are often said to have curiously small beginnings; and stamp dealing, unquestionably, had its genesis in swopping at school. Young Gibbons was early addicted to the practice of swopping, and from swopping with him it was an easy stage to dealing, in schoolboy fashion.

Later on we find Mr. Gibbons first apprentice, and then assistant, to his father, Mr. Wm. Gibbons, a pharmaceutical chemist, and it is probably owing to the fact of his being engaged in his father's business that he was enabled to devote so much time to stamps, without interfering with his regular duties. This state of affairs continued for some nine years; that is to say, from 1858 to 1867. During this period the business, continually growing, was conducted at a considerable disadvantage, for naturally the main attention had to be given to pharmacy, in which occupation there was practically no "off time" that could be devoted uninterruptedly to the stamps. However, the future stamp merchant, having an unshaken and unshakable faith in the stamp business, made the most of such opportunities as he had, and fostered the stamp trade to the utmost. The shop was a double-fronted one, and a desk immediately on the left on entering was appropriated for the purposes of the new and special business. Here Mr. Gibbons received and attended to all applications respecting "philately," and the applications were considerable even then, for interest was just being awakened in the new-fashioned hobby. The pharmaceutical business was, however, of much too high a class to admit of the exhibition of such playthings as old postage stamps in the shop window, and this circumstance, probably more than any other, shaped Mr. Gibbons's after methods of stamp dealing. His business developed into one conducted through the medium of the post. It drifted into a business carried on by correspondence, and he never attempted to divert it into a more personal channel. And this, too, despite the fact that he was trained as an assistant in a shop. However, the stamp business prospered to such an extent as to need an office all to itself, and this was provided in a room on the second floor of the same premises, and communicating by speaking tube with his desk on the ground floor. In this office he employed one, and eventually three, clerks.

Notwithstanding the fact that business was confined as far as possible to postal communications, there were many calls during this period from collectors who made the journey to Plymouth for the purpose. Some of the callers of that day have become historical; others, well known at that time, are now lost sight of and forgotten. Among the names that live in the philatelic memory were the late Victoriano Ysasi, Mount Brown, W. Young, J. J. II. Stockhall (Young and Stockhall amalgamated, and will be remembered as having carried on one of the largest stamp businesses of their day), Dr. Gray, Dr. Viner, and Mr. Philbrick. Some of these gentlemen had the run of a

special and now historical purchase which Mr. Gibbons made from two sailors of a couple of large sacks full of triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps, a large proportion being wood blocks, with many of the errors. The Cape errors they got for the astoundingly low price of 2s. 6d. each. The errors are now worth as many pounds as Mr. Gibbons asked pence then.

Even in those early days Mr. Gibbons was constantly receiving direct importations of unused colonial stamps in return for remittances made to various Post-offices.

In 1867, consequent on the death of his father, he succeeded to the pharmaceutical chemist's business, which he carried on with the aid of a manager for about four years. But the bent of his inclination was, and had been for a long time, towards philately, so that in 1872 he disposed of the pharmaceutical business to advantage, and commenced devoting his time exclusively to stamps. Many were the evil prognostications meted out to him by his medical and other friends on his taking this step. He was calmly told he was abandoning a certainty for an uncertainty, accompanied by other forebodings of an equally unpleasant nature, but notwithstanding all this he persevered in his new line.

It requires no great stretch of the imagination to understand the amazement which must have been occasioned amongst his friends at his taking such a step. To give up an established and high-class pharmaceutical business to attend solely to the collection and sale of what then was generally regarded as a mere school boy craze for old postage stamps for the sake of the bit of passing novelty there was about them, must have been thought a piece of inexplicable folly. The wonder is that some near relative did not intervene with a medical examination of his cranium, and a suggestion that at least a temporary and close retirement from the scene of action might restore his stray wits in due time to a more healthy condition. But friends and relatives confined themselves to shaking their wise heads and prophesying the inevitable workhouse. The said workhouse is now represented by a charming villa on the banks of the Thames, elegantly furnished—not out of the parish rates, but out of old postage stamps.

The chemist's shop having been disposed of, Mr. Gibbons retired with his new love to a private house in Lockyer Street, Plymouth, one of the best parts of the town, and of a very similar style to that of Gower Street. For three years he successfully carried on and enlarged the stamp business in Lockyer Street.

It was here he had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with Major Evans, the present Editor of this Journal, and then a lieutenant in the Royal Artillery stationed at Bovisand, near Plymouth. On several occasions also he had the gratification of receiving visits in this distant West of England town from Herr P. von Ferrary, who had then not long commenced to collect. Here also was it Mr. Gibbons first commenced the publishing part of his business. The well-known Improved Postage Stamp Album was the first to appear, in a form small relatively compared with the present edition. Then followed the "V.R. Album," which was only the precursor of the Imperial—a book which has probably been more successful, and is more generally recognised throughout the world than any other, as the best work of its class ever issued.

Stanley Gibbons' Price Catalogue, which has been from the first the general collector's indispensable book of reference, the one book that more than any other has been the guide, counsellor, and friend of the beginner, begun in busy Treville Street, was continued and improved in the quiet of Lockyer Street. As a pamphlet of some forty pages it was published complete every month to meet the constant demand.

From Lockyer Street a move was made in 1874 to London. This was a virtual necessity consequent on the great increase in the business in all its branches. Then it was the depreciators of philately felt their dismal forebodings had come true, for the bills on the walls announcing the sale by auction of furniture and fittings seemed to verify their predictions.

Established at Clapham, in a private house in the Chase

for nearly two years, the business still prospered, and after that a move was made to premises more centrally situated in Gower Street, where at the time the accommodation seemed adequate for the purpose. But with greater facilities the business grew into proportions never originally contemplated, or even dreamt of, monopolising room after room, and threatening seriously the occupation of the entire house. During his long tenancy at Gower Street Mr. Gibbons accumulated an enormous, indeed the largest, stock of postage stamps, envelopes, post cards, and hands ever brought together under one roof. So great indeed was the collection that, feeling he had toiled long enough and hard enough to have earned a right to repose, he determined to turn the business into a Limited Liability Company, the success of which, under the skilful management of Mr. C. J. Phillips, has since been far beyond expectation.

Probably no dealer has had so many collections pass through his hands as Mr. E. S. Gibbons, including many justly celebrated and historical ones, and it has been his expressed opinion for many years that the value of those that are carefully made must gradually but surely go on from year to year constantly increasing, a prognostication that has of late been indeed amply fulfilled.

Of Mr. Phillips's management and development of the business that fell into his hands little need be said. It has been written from month to month in the pages of this journal. Strange to say, he was first drawn into the trammels of philately by a present which he received from his father of a guinea packet of mixed postage stamps, bought from Mr. Stanley Gibbons. That packet may be said to have constituted the first link in the chain of circumstances which eventually resulted in the young Birmingham collector drifting along the same stream, and finally succeeding the original owner of the packet in his extensive and far-reaching business. Mr. Gibbons excited the surprise of his friends in his abandonment of an established business for that of stamp dealing, but Mr. Phillips must have simply astounded all his non-philatelic friends when he announced that he was about to sink £25,000 in the purchase of a stamp dealers' business. Even many well-informed philatelists opened their eyes widely at the revelation that a stamp business had been sold for such an astonishing amount, and not a few shook their heads over the matter as though poor Mr. Phillips had in rash haste backed a rank and roaring outsider to win the Derby. But he was in reality only backing his own reserve of energy and knowledge. He knew that the easy-going founder and proprietor of the concern which he was about to take over—lock, stock, and barrel—had done a safe business on the principle of small profits and quick returns, and that in his desire for quick returns he sold exceptionally valuable stamps at the price for ordinary issues. He made it a rule of three sum. If E. S. G. has made his pile in his "take-them-as-they-come" style, how much risk is there for C. J. P., plus his philatelic knowledge, as applied to the more advanced collecting of to-day? Answer: *Nil*. And, of course, he made the "plunge," as many termed it. He has opened out the quiet, reserved business of his predecessor into a bustling, busy life. He has, after a brief but highly-satisfactory experiment, abandoned the retirement of the private house for imposing business premises with a commanding shop in the very heart of one of the great main thoroughfares of the Metropolis. It is, no doubt, a serious undertaking; a heavy responsibility. But in the opinion of Mr. Phillips the outlook of philately justifies the course he has taken.

The importation and sale of postage stamps have developed during recent years into a serious, far-reaching business, with its ramifications of agents for purchase, sale, and exchange in the chief cities of every stamp-issuing country. Customers abound in every centre of civilized life. Rare stamps are daily getting rarer, and the list is ever and ever increasing. The gems fetch fabulous prices, and whilst scientific knowledge is daily increasing, it is still the possession of the few, and probably will long remain so. Hence the dealer with scientific knowledge, will, like the mining expert, find the hidden gold in many an unsuspected quarter. Mr. Phillips has spread a wider net than his predecessor ever cared to trouble about, and is equally confident of the final result—that he will, after perhaps two or three decades of bustle and struggle, also be able to retire, and join the patriarch Gibbons in a reminiscent stroll along the banks of his favourite Thames.

INTERVIEWS WITH MR. E. STANLEY GIBBONS AND MR. CHAS. J. PHILLIPS. BY OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.

I BUTTON-HOLED Mr. Gibbons as he was jauntily parading the Strand in holiday attire. We turned back, and making our way up to the private sanctum at the new business premises, we were soon buried in what the autobiographer of the day would term "Recollections of Forty Years." As the more formal history of the firm will be given elsewhere in this special number, I have been instructed to confine myself to our interesting conversation; and a more interesting philatelic conversation I have not had for many a day, nor a more interesting and easy subject to interview since I said "Good-bye" to poor old Barnum at the Hotel Métropole. As a purveyor of public amusement Barnum was *facile princeps* in his line, and, as an industrious and ever-obliging coadjutor in promoting the establishment and enjoyment of a most popular recreative hobby, Mr. Gibbons has been *facile princeps* in his line. Both seemed to me to possess the same remarkably sanguine temperament—a temperament that takes the world as it finds it, and makes the most of its pleasures and the least of its alloy of care and trouble. Both were as buoyant of spirit as ever they could have been in their school-days. Barnum was a most agreeable and candid conversationalist. His eighty years sat lightly on his shoulders, and you never felt in speaking to him that his life stretched away back into the beginning of the century. So with Mr. Gibbons. There were the same buoyant spirits, the same evident content with life. But Barnum, with his eighty years of age, was still in harness, though he talked of retiring in favour of a bright little lad who was the pride of the old man's soul; whilst Mr. Gibbons, in the prime of life, has thrown up the sponge and retired from fortune-making to enjoy the abounding pleasure of a suburban villa on the banks of the Thames, where, with Mrs. Gibbons, he gives himself up to the rollicksome entertainment of his numerous friends. Long ago Mr. Gibbons made what our American friends term his "pile," and he seized the first opportunity of severing the tie that bound him hand and foot to an active business life, for while he was in business he worked as hard as a slave. He never seemed to cultivate the modern art of being simply a directing head surrounded by workers.

"My business was always carried on by correspondence," said he.

"And why did you never open a shop, as Mr. Phillips has now done with so much success?" I asked.

"Because," said he, "I could not be bothered with it. You know how people will talk if you give them a chance. I could get through twenty letters while I was seeing one person."

"That would be an argument against the shop?"

"I know it; but then I was not fitted for the shop style of business. My rule was to stick to my correspondence, and see no one."

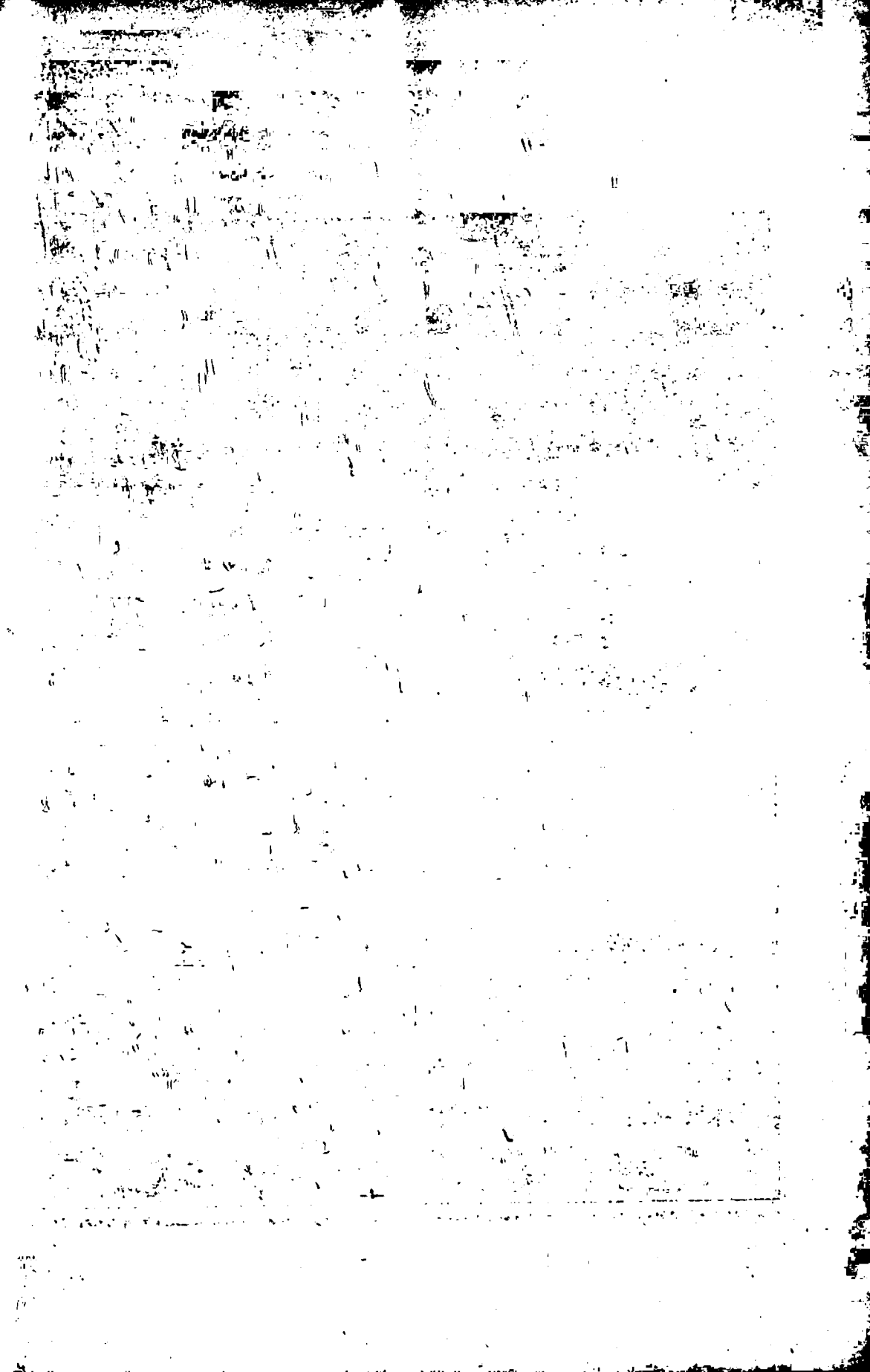
HERR VON FERRARY COLD SHOULDERED.

"You must have been a sort of business recluse. Surely you were not allowed to enjoy such a quiet time as you indicate? There must have been lots of collectors anxious to have a chat with such a repository of philatelic lore?"

"Yes, there were many callers, despite my known determination to do business by letter only; and I have no doubt I have turned away many good customers. Business literally showered in on me, and I had so much of it to attend to that I could afford to be independent, and perhaps I was a bit too offish. People came from far and near to do business with me. While I was at Plymouth, Herr P. von Ferrary came down to see me. I did not then know who he was, and consequently gave him the cold shoulder."



MR. PHILLIPS'S PRIVATE ROOM.





THE BASEMENT STOREROOM.

"The dickens, you did?"

"Yes; but he has since been one of my best customers."

"Now what was the biggest collection you bought in your Plymouth days, Mr. Gibbons?"

"I gave £100 for Mr. Erskine Beveridge's collection. It was magnificent, and included some superb Confederate locals, especially Knoxville, Petersburg, and Nashville, used, very fine."

"And what did it pan out?"

"I should think on that collection I realised £500 or £600."

"For a single stamp what was the highest price in your Plymouth days?"

"Roughly speaking I should not think I ever made more than £6 for a single stamp while at Plymouth."

"And that?"

"I cannot call to mind just now any stamp sold at £6, but I remember having several 13 c. Hawaii, first issue, for which I got about £5 each."

"You had some of the Cape errors, what did you get for them?"

"Yes, I had a great quantity, but I only charged from 2s. 6d. to 4s. each for them."

"Got any left at that figure?"

"You had better ask Mr. Phillips."

"Had you any of the errors in pairs?"

"I have no doubt I passed a great many errors, because I never thought of looking for them attached to the 1d. They would have been sold by me at 8s. to 10s. a dozen. I had the wood blocks, especially fine dark blue shades, in strips of eight."

"Were you not in the habit in those days of cutting everything up into single stamps?"

"Yes, unless they were sold wholesale to dealers. Customers in those days never asked for pairs."

SACKS OF TRIANGULAR CAPES.

"You seem to have had a goodly stock of triangular Capes?"

"Stock! One day a couple of sailors came in, each carrying a sack as large as he could manage. Both sacks were full of triangular Capes. We dragged the sacks into the dining-room behind the chemist's shop where I then carried on the stamp business, and emptied both sacks on to a large dining-room table. They heaped up into a formidable pile, and littered the floor in all directions. Quite one half of that lot consisted of wood blocks."

"Wood blocks! What for the lot?"

"I gave the sailors £5 for the two sacks."

"Were such sacks plentiful in those days?"

"No; not very."

"Had you any sacks of early British Guianas?"

"No; I never got any sacks of British Guianas; but I had from 500 to 600 of the type-set 1862 provisionals."

"Did you sell them at a shilling each?"

"Not quite so bad as that. I got from 15s. to 25s. each for them. I see they are now worth an average price of £9 each. A great many were on the original envelopes."

"Of course you floated them off?"

"Always!"

"Any more scoops?"

"Ysasi sold me a very fine lot of Spanish and Philippines, which I considered a momentous transaction at the time, as it involved an outlay of over £100. There were a great many 1854 and 1855 Philippines and the early rare Spanish, which he had obtained through some Spanish dealer."

THE MOVE TO LONDON.

"When you first moved to London it was not to Gower Street, was it?"

"No, to Clapham. There I had a sort of suburban villa, but the neighbourhood was so very aristocratic that anything like a house of business was looked upon with marked disfavour, and I migrated to Gower Street."

"And all this time you were never tempted to open a shop where you could spread your net in the open?"

"No, never. I had a rooted horror of having my attention distracted from my correspondence, and wasted by personal visits."

"Then you don't believe in the enterprise of your successor?"

"My dear fellow, that's a horse of quite another colour.

Different people have their different ways of doing business. I was rather circumscribed perhaps in my ideas. I wanted to attend to everything myself. When it comes to employing other competent people to devote their attention to seeing callers, then it is another matter."

"Well, you started next at Gower Street?"

"My first important transaction there was the purchase of Major Evans' collection. We had a most notable assemblage of philatelists when the collection was purchased and put on view."

"On view?"

"Yes; I broke through my rule now and then, and especially on this occasion. We had Mr. Tapling, the two Caillebottes, Mr. Philbrick, Mr. Ysasi, Mr. Burnet, and Mr. Ferrary looking over the collection, which was a general one, but specially rich in Mauritius and Transvaal. About that time I purchased from Mr. C. G. Wyatt a very remarkable parcel of early British Guianas, including a great many of the oblong, but the majority of the parcel consisted of circulars. There were no two cents, the existence of that value being then unknown. I remember particularly that there were over 30 of the yellow, about 15 of the green, and not less than 700 of the blue. A large number of the blue were very bad specimens, being torn at the edges. I sold the damaged at from 5s. to 10s. each."

"And the good copies?"

"Well, the blue never made more than 20s. each. I see they are now worth about £14."

"When did you commence the publication of your catalogue?"

"While at Plymouth. I turned it out as a monthly pamphlet of about 40 pages, getting through about 1000 a month. Even in those early days it was looked upon as one of the best catalogues going. Others were published, but they were unpretentious affairs."

"You never published a journal in those days?"

"No, I always fought shy of publishing a journal; but I turned out several albums, notably the 'Imperial Album,' which is still a general favourite. I did all the literary work myself. In fact the whole of the philatelic literature sent out by me was my own unaided work."

"Had you no employés at all?"

"Oh yes, several; but they were kept busy making up sheets and packets."

"What was the best part of your business?"

"Approval sheets of rare stamps."

"And did you do much in packets?"

"Yes, quite a considerable trade."

COLLECTING: THEN AND NOW.

"What difference do you find in the collecting of your early days and now?"

"The marked difference is that the philatelist of to-day is a searcher after minor varieties. In my early days a collector was content with one copy of the penny Sydney view, instead of a hundred shades and slight varieties in the plate."

"You have been in the stamp business for forty years. In that forty years has stamp collecting fluctuated much? has it shown any signs of dying out altogether?"

"At one time there was a great fright amongst collectors, and the panic showed itself in a considerable diminution in our cash returns for one year—the year 1878—and there was an idea with some people that the mania, as it was called, was coming to an end. But in the following year things brightened up, and our returns improved. The depression was only temporary, and I cannot assign any reason for it."

"Since then have you known any falling off of interest?"

"None whatever. The business has been steadily increasing and increasing."

"And you see no signs of its dying out?"

"Certainly not. The emphatic and steady increase in the prices of good stamps is the reply to all croakers."

"How did you manage the accumulation of general stock in the early days?"

"My brother, who was an officer in the navy, helped me considerably in purchasing when abroad. He visited the *Fiji Times Express* office, and cleared the place of their postal issues, sending them home direct to me. But, unfortunately, a re-issue very soon made its appearance. I sold that lot at double face value. My brother also visited Vera

Cruz, and bought a quantity of Mexican stamps. He also visited Havannah, and purchased the entire stock of the $\frac{1}{2}$ real, 1862, at face value. But one of his most curious experiences was a visit he paid to the Post-office at St. Lucia, where, through his official connections, he was permitted to see the stock of the postage stamps of 1859—the 1d., 4d., and 6d.—in the State Treasury. But although they were out of issue the authorities would not part with a single specimen. He has often made my lips water by describing those stacks of early issues done up in bands of paper."

"And what became of that stock?"

"I can't say. None of it has ever come on the philatelic market."

"They are yet to come?"

"Perhaps so."

"You have, I suppose, often cleared out Government stocks?"

"Yes, I have made many purchases of stocks. The sale of most of them was occasioned by a change of currency, necessitating an entirely new issue, not only of stamps, but also of post cards and envelopes. I particularly remember my purchases of remainders of Cyprus and Mauritius."

A TON OF CYPRUS STAMPS!

"In the case of Cyprus, the stock left was the surcharged English series, and was indeed an enormous one, weighing over a ton! Included in this, to make it such a weight, was of course a vast quantity of post cards and other postal stationery. But the remarkable part of the transaction remains to be told. The purchase was made direct from H.M.'s Chief Commissioner in the island. The sum required being duly paid, a delivery of the goods was expected in due course. Instead of this, however, on their arrival in England from Larnaca, naturally they had to be passed by H.M. Customs. This, however, they refused to do, for they could not understand the arrival in the United Kingdom of such a mass of unused English stamps. Of course, unused British stamps are never demonetised, being always worth their expressed face value and available for postage. Consequently the officials were suspicious, and the Custom-house authorities therefore communicated with the Post-office, who in their turn consulted with the Colonial office and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and it was only after great delay, and much correspondence with the Colonial office, that I succeeded in obtaining possession of the consignment."

"That was a good stroke of business in the end?"

"Very good; but it was not all beer and skittles buying Government remainders in those days."

"There were some disappointments, eh?"

"There were, particularly with the Mauritius purchase; for, unknown to me, every stamp of the entire lot—a very large one, numbering a great many millions—had, prior to despatch, been carefully overprinted with the word 'cancelled.' This, of course, greatly reduced their value to collectors; but I made no objection, for even under these adverse circumstances the purchase was a most valuable one. These cancelled specimens are no doubt familiar to every collector, and many have been the queries addressed to us as to their origin."

A SEEBECKIAN PROPOSAL.

"You have never cast sheep's eyes at any little territory, à la Seebeck, I suppose?"

"Not at all. But I once had a curious invitation from an eminent English firm of stamp engravers and contractors to assist them in surmounting a difficulty caused by the issue of the well-known Seebeck postal series. As you know, these issues are made under extremely beneficial arrangements to the funds of the various South American Post-offices that thought fit to accept them; in fact, it is stated in some cases, the whole supply of postal stationery, including adhesives, are supplied *gratis* on certain conditions very profitable to the contractor, but most disadvantageous to stamp collectors in general. One of the larger American States received a like invitation, but before accepting communicated with the English firm who had hitherto so ably supplied their needs. They in turn consulted me, so as to ascertain if I felt disposed to entertain an arrangement somewhat similar to that proposed by the Seebeck Bank Note Company. That was, however, hardly to my taste, and I am now thankful to be able to say that I declined the offer."

INTERVIEW WITH MR. PHILLIPS.

I next cornered Mr. Charles J. Phillips—by appointment. He was just closing up the day's correspondence at 5.30 p.m. In a few minutes letters and assistants disappeared together, and left us to our *tête-à-tête*. As in Mr. Gibbons's case, I harked back to the Philatelic genesis of the man.

"You have not been so long in this line of business as Mr. Gibbons?" I asked.

"Oh dear, no," was the reply; "not by a long way. I did not make a start till 1883. Mr. Gibbons was then a leading dealer. Indeed, I was started in collecting when a lad by a Christmas present from my father of Stanley Gibbons's well-known Guinea Packet (No. 11)."

"And does that historical packet survive?"

"Oh, yes; here you are, No. 11, one guinea. I sell hundreds every year. Will you have one? Capital value for the money."

"Well, if it's all the same, and you have one of the original packets left, I will take one."

"I dare say you would, now. Why the packet I got contained a red Sydney and other equally good stamps."

"But I shouldn't find any Sydneys in this modern guinea packet?"

"Not unless we made a great mistake. Still, you might take it and see."

"Not just at present, thank you. Now, let us go back to 1883, the year you started as a dealer. You didn't start with a shop?"

"Not exactly. I began in a quiet way. At that time I was a clerk with Messrs. Bayfield, chartered accountants, in Birmingham."

"What tempted you to go into the business?"

"Getting married."

"Getting married! How could that have started you in the stamp business?"

"I wanted more money than I had to buy furniture."

"Well, that's not unusual."

"I sold my collection to raise the wind."

"Ah, I see; and having tasted of the profitable results of that necessary bit of dealing you thirsted for more."

"That is so."

"Did the collection furnish the nest?"

"Yes; I think the house was furnished out of it. I sold my collection to Mr. Henry Buckley, a well-known Birmingham philatelist, whose collection I some years after bought back, and got many old friends in it. Some time after Mr. Buckley, who was chairman of the Birmingham Assay Office, offered me a good position in that establishment. As that appointment left me more time for the stamp business than I had in the chartered accountants' office, I accepted it. It was not till 1889 that I went entirely into the stamp business, giving up all other business for it."

"And how did it turn out? The regulation struggle for some years; then an encouraging return; then fame and fortune?"

"Not at all. It was a success from the start. You see, I had practically been feeling my way for some six years, and therefore knew what I was doing. I had, in fact, a fairly good connection."

"You must, nevertheless, have made some lucky hit to be able to crow so loudly from the start. What put you on your feet?"

"One of the greatest helps I had in the formation of a stock was the purchase for £650 of a superb collection formed by the late Mr. Stewart, of Ayrshire. It was offered for sale by private contract by a firm of London booksellers in St. James's-street. I ran up to London to inspect it, and soon saw that it was a great bargain at the price at which it could be had—£650. I had not sufficient money with me, but I was determined to secure the collection, so I telegraphed to Birmingham to a friend to come up at once with the money. I stood guard over that collection, and never once allowed it out of my sight till my friend arrived in the course of a few hours with the needful, and I concluded the purchase. While I was doing sentry duty, Baron de Worms and other well-known collectors, including a well-known English earl, came in and tried to purchase the collection, but I was 'the man in possession,' and while I sat on it there was no seeing it."

"That turned out well?"



INSIDE THE SHOP.



THE MAIN OFFICE.

"Very well. I cleared nearly £2000 profit out of it, and even at that figure I have ever since regretted the things that were practically given away. A great many of the rare stamps that formed that collection have never since been met with in my experience, and I have bought scores of big collections since then."

"What were those gems?"

"The best of the collection consisted of envelopes. The late Mr. Tapling told me that the series of old United States envelopes were the finest he had ever seen. The series included nearly 40 of the ruled Reays; a unique set of the Centennial envelopes, numbered in Horner 412 to 417. These are now in the collection of a well-known English amateur, and have been traced back as being the original set exhibited by the American Government in the Centennial Exhibition of 1876."

"And the other gems?"

"The old German envelopes were almost, if not quite, complete; such rarities being there unused as the Prussian octagons, large and small size, complete; one shilling Mauritius, and many other extremely rare stamps in the most perfect condition. Among other good collections that I handled in Birmingham was that of the unused Australian stamps belonging to Mr. David Hill of Melbourne. That collection was brought home by Mr. Edmund Shorthouse, who secured it at a nominal price. There were, if I remember aright, close on thirty unused Sydney Views in the most brilliant condition; also the very rare Victoria twopenny of the first issue, with fine background and fine border."

"What induced you to come to London?"

"I got the chance of purchasing the well-known business of Mr. Stanley Gibbons. I made the plunge and bought it. Consequently I moved to London, and threw the two businesses together."

"And you have not regretted the plunge?"

"Not at all. Not once."

"Now for a few of those tit-bits that tickle the palate of the general public. Tell me what is the highest price you have ever paid for a single stamp?"

"£176, for one of the Confederate States."

"And for a collection?"

"For a collection I have paid as much as £4,000. The owner, however, made it a stipulation that his name should not be mentioned."

"Turning to the other side of the account, may I ask, What is the largest sum you have ever got for a single stamp?"

"I have had £150 several times, once for a Peru, once for a Western Australia, and in several cases this amount has been exceeded for various stamps which it is not a business policy to particularise. But I may say that the highest sum I have ever received for a single stamp was £280."

"And that was —?"

"A trade secret, which I do not wish to make public."

"A stamp a trade secret? How can that be?"

"Well, you know you collectors keep little discoveries up your sleeve as long as you can, and now and then a dealer makes a discovery which is not known to you collectors, and so long as the discovery is kept quiet a good investment may be made. I believe that many discoveries have yet to be made affecting some of our rarest stamps, and he who makes the discovery will not fail to profit by it. Others must wait for the information till it is ripe for publication."

"You have been in the stamp business ten years. Now what is your experience in the matter of the mania, as some call it, dying out?"

"Nil!"

"Then you believe in its permanence?"

"Certainly."

"And prices: will they continue to advance?"

"Undoubtedly. The class of collectors has become so high in social rank and wealth that the rare stamps will, I am absolutely convinced, continue to very largely increase in value. The demand for standard rarities even now is at least six times the supply. The cause of this to a great extent is, no doubt, due to the stability which is now afforded to a collector by the stamp auctions. Men have therefore, as a natural consequence, much more faith in their hobby as an investment than formerly. The number of young collectors is also vastly on the increase. Again, a large number of collectors have been created lately by the demand for the United States Columbian stamps. Many

people who have received a set of these stamps have been so pleased with them that they have made them the basis of a collection, and become general collectors."

"Some wealthy collectors, I suppose, spend quite a fortune on their hobby?"

"Yes; one well-known collector has spent over £40,000 with our firm during the last twenty years."

"That is £2000 a year?"

"During recent years his account has averaged nearer £3000 than £2000 per year. Another collector spent close on £4000 with us last year, and it is not an uncommon thing for a man to buy from £100 to £200 worth of stamps at a time from our books. In this connection one very curious incident occurs to me. A short time ago a Portuguese gentleman came in, and after some trouble we found he wanted stamps. We offered him a collection to select from, and he began picking out the rarities, upon which, as he was a stranger to us, we asked him if he would pay cash, as ours was a ready money business. For answer he undid a wallet from around his waist, and flinging it on the table said, 'That contains £1000 in English gold. I came to London to spend that much in stamps.'

"And what became of that wallet?"

"The greater part of the contents he left with us, evidently well pleased with the exchange he got in rare stamps, which he selected with the knowledge of an expert collector."

"You are, I believe, an exhibitor at the World's Fair at Chicago?"

"Yes; we have a fine case in the exhibition. It stands in the British section of the Liberal Arts Gallery, exactly facing the exhibit of the South Kensington Museum. It includes a representative selection of our publications, some remarkably fine re-constructed plates of 'laureated' New South Wales stamps, showing rare minor varieties which occur in the engraving; an artistic design in the shape of radiating circles made up of one of the first issued stamps of every country in the world, from the English 1d. black of 1840, followed by the Brazil and Swiss of 1843, and the United States of 1845, to the latest issues of the past year; a large selection of valuable stamps on the original envelopes. Amongst these particular gems the soul of the American collector will at once covetously notice some exceptionally fine examples of the adhesives issued by the various local postmasters in the United States prior to the Government issues. The gem of the series is a very fine set of the Honour's City Post of Charleston."

"A few things to tempt the patriotic American collector, eh?"

"Exactly; but the most curious part of the exhibit, from the American point of view, will be an extensive collection of what are known as the 'Patriotic Envelopes.' These envelopes are adorned, or disfigured, as the onlooker pleases, with reminders of the feelings that swayed the breasts of the active partizans in the great civil war of America. Some are ornamented with corner pictures that are most enjoyably comic; others are satirical; others cynical; others aggressively personal, and a few pathetic, but all have in their miniature pictures distinct and easily recognized features bearing on some well-known phase in the progress of the bitter strife that divided families as well as States."

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE full-page illustrations of our new premises which accompany this number are all from the brush of Mr. D. T. White, a well-known exhibitor at the Royal Academy. They comprise the following sketches, specially made for this Journal by Mr. White:

SETS AND PACKETS ROOM.
THE CORRESPONDENCE ROOM.
THE STRAND SHOP FRONT.
INSIDE THE SHOP.
THE BASEMENT STOREROOM.
MR. PHILLIPS' PRIVATE ROOM.
THE MAIN OFFICE.

A WALK ROUND THE NEW PREMISES.

OF all the busy thoroughfares of the great metropolis the Strand is probably one of the very busiest. It is one of the main arteries of London. It is in the direct line from the City to the fashionable West-end. It is, in fact, a combination of the business of the City and the gaiety of the West-end. Its great business houses are noted the wide world over, but it is a moot point whether the Strand is not more given up to the pleasure seeker than to the seeker after wealth. As the shopkeeper is putting up his shutters, the rank and fashion of the West-end in their luxurious carriages take possession of the roadway *en route* to the theatres that hang out their gay illuminations and their tempting programmes on either side of the broad and roomy Strand.

In this busy thoroughfare is now located the old-established Foreign Postage Stamp business of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. After forty years of semi-retirement, pursuing the even and modest tenour of its way, and confining its operations to the sole medium of friendly correspondence, it has at last begun to elbow its way openly in the crowded marketplace of the world. It has at last taken its place side by side with the more serious businesses that minister to man's wants and man's pleasures. And in doing so it has emphasised the fact that modern life, with all its concentration upon what the American calls the "almighty dollar," is yet quite as intent, as earnest, and as determined to encourage and to preserve the many hobbies that serve as healthful recreations for the toiler.

As an experiment a small shop was first opened at the Charing Cross end of the Strand, and that prospered so much beyond all anticipation that Mr. Phillips determined to avail himself of the first opportunity that offered of taking a whole house, so that when No. 391 was "to let" he secured it with all possible despatch, and at great expense it has been specially adapted and fitted up for the stamp business. It consists of basement, ground-floor, and three floors above.

Basement.—The basement has been arranged as an immense store-room for Albums and Catalogues. The floor has been solidly concreted, and also the walls. Hot water-pipes run the whole length, to further ensure a dry atmosphere and exclude all risk of damp affecting the books. At one end a carpenter's bench has been fitted up for making packing-cases and boxes, as required from day to day, for goods which have to be despatched to all parts of the world. The whole basement, 44 feet in length, is excellently lighted, partly from the street, partly by a glass roofing, and partly by the electric light.

The Shop.—The shop is handsomely decorated with solid mahogany fittings, and lighted with electric lights. The shop window allows of a most tempting display of albums, catalogues, and sheets of stamps, and is protected from the sun by a large blind that hangs over the pavement. Over the entrance is a very fine, specially made lamp with three panels. In the centre panel is a coloured glass reproduction of the current English 4d. stamp, on the western panel is a similar reproduction of a Persian stamp with the familiar portrait of the Shah, and the eastern panel is filled in with a beautifully executed copy of the bi-coloured 90 cents United States of 1869, with fine portrait of Lincoln.

Entering the shop one cannot fail to be struck with the substantial comfort of the place, with its roomy accommodation for customers, and its fine counter. On the left is a massive show-case, 10 feet long and 8 feet high, with plate glass doors, filled in with representative sets of stamps artistically arranged by one of the assistants. At the end and behind the counter are similar show-cases, crowded with the publications of the firm. Down the centre of the floor runs a fine broad mahogany counter, over which are suspended eight electric lights, any one of which may be drawn down to the counter by a customer for the closer examination of a stamp. The counter is 22 feet long, and is always well stocked with books of new issues, collections for sale, and books of complete sample sets for selection. A speciality is made of choice all-round collections made up or purchased. Chief amongst the collections on show is one comprising close on 26,000 stamps, each stamp plainly priced, and totalling up to £6,280. This GRAND MODEL COLLECTION is mounted in the two-volume edition of the Imperial Album. It is always open to the inspection of any advanced collector who may visit London. It consists of the finest

picked copies out of the entire stock, unused where possible. Blanks occasioned by the sale of stamps from the collection are filled in from week to week, so that the collection may be kept as intact as can be. In addition to all ordinary stamps, there are 100 blank pages added to each volume, arranged to contain selections of blocks, pairs, errors, shades, &c. Among the rarities in this book at the time the shop was opened were such gems as the Roumanian, first issue, comprising one of the most superb 81 para ever shewn. The other values of the "circular" are represented by two or three copies of each value; the first issue Reunions, one unused; Cape errors; 3 lire Tuscany; and superb specimens of all the Oldenburg. British Guianas include two of the circulars, several oblong stamps of 1856, including a fine copy of the 4 cents, blue, on surfaced paper; a fine lot of native Mauritius, including a couple of fillets. In Natal most of the issues are complete, including good specimens of the rare embossed 9d. and 1s., also a 3d. of the next issue watermarked Star, imperforate—a good stamp that can very seldom be found. British Columbia, fine imperforate specimens of the 2½d., first issue, and complete sets perf. 14 and perf. 12½. Buenos Ayres comprise a fine lot of the ship issue, including two of the 5 pesos, yellow, and one of the red, and a number of the lower values. In Canada there is a twelve pence, and two specimens of the 6d. perf. The Republic of Colombia is shown complete, including most superb specimens of the rare issues, notably the 50 cents, red, error of 1863, of which there is a beautifully postmarked specimen. Antioquia is complete in the first issues. In New Brunswick and Nova Scotia there are six of the one shilling on one page, including an unused one of each, and on the next page are five of the rare 1s. Newfoundland in various shades, including two with superb margins all round. United States is strongly represented, and the sets include a grand specimen of the 15 cents with inverted centre. Australia is nearly complete, including numerous errors in the Sydney views and laureated of New South Wales. In Queensland there is a grand specimen of the 1s. imperforate, with wide margins all round, the only one we have seen in such an undoubted condition. Western Australians are, of course, a most choice lot, this being a country for which the firm is specially noted. In Great Britain there is a magnificent V.R. on very white paper with large margins; Switzerland comprises two double Genevas, four Zurich's unused, the 4 c. Vaud, and a tempting lot of the other locals. Aighans, Ceylons, Philippines, &c., are all grand pages; but lack of space forbids our going further into the details of this magnificent model collection, which no doubt all advanced collectors who can conveniently call will duly examine for themselves. Those who do so will find that we have given only a meagre and somewhat indiscriminate indication of the gems to be found within the covers of the two portly volumes daily open to their inspection.

The stock books, for inspection and selection, always to be found on the public counter, are arranged alphabetically, used and unused in separate books. Special books are filled with rare stamps on the entire envelopes for those who prefer them when they are to be had in this condition, and

THE NEW ISSUES

are mounted in a separate book as they come in, a row of each stamp being mounted for selection.

The Strong Room.—In the passage that leads from the shop into the general work room or main office, is the strong room, built of fire-proof brick on a solid brickwork pier as a foundation extending down to the basement. This strong room is shelved for the accommodation of the more valuable stock, and is protected by a massive door made by Hobbs, Hart, and Co. It is lighted for inspection by a movable suspension electric incandescent light, hung on the outside.

The Packers' Bench.—Alongside the strong-room is the packers' bench, where the parcels, made up in compliance with the orders received, are securely packed for posting.

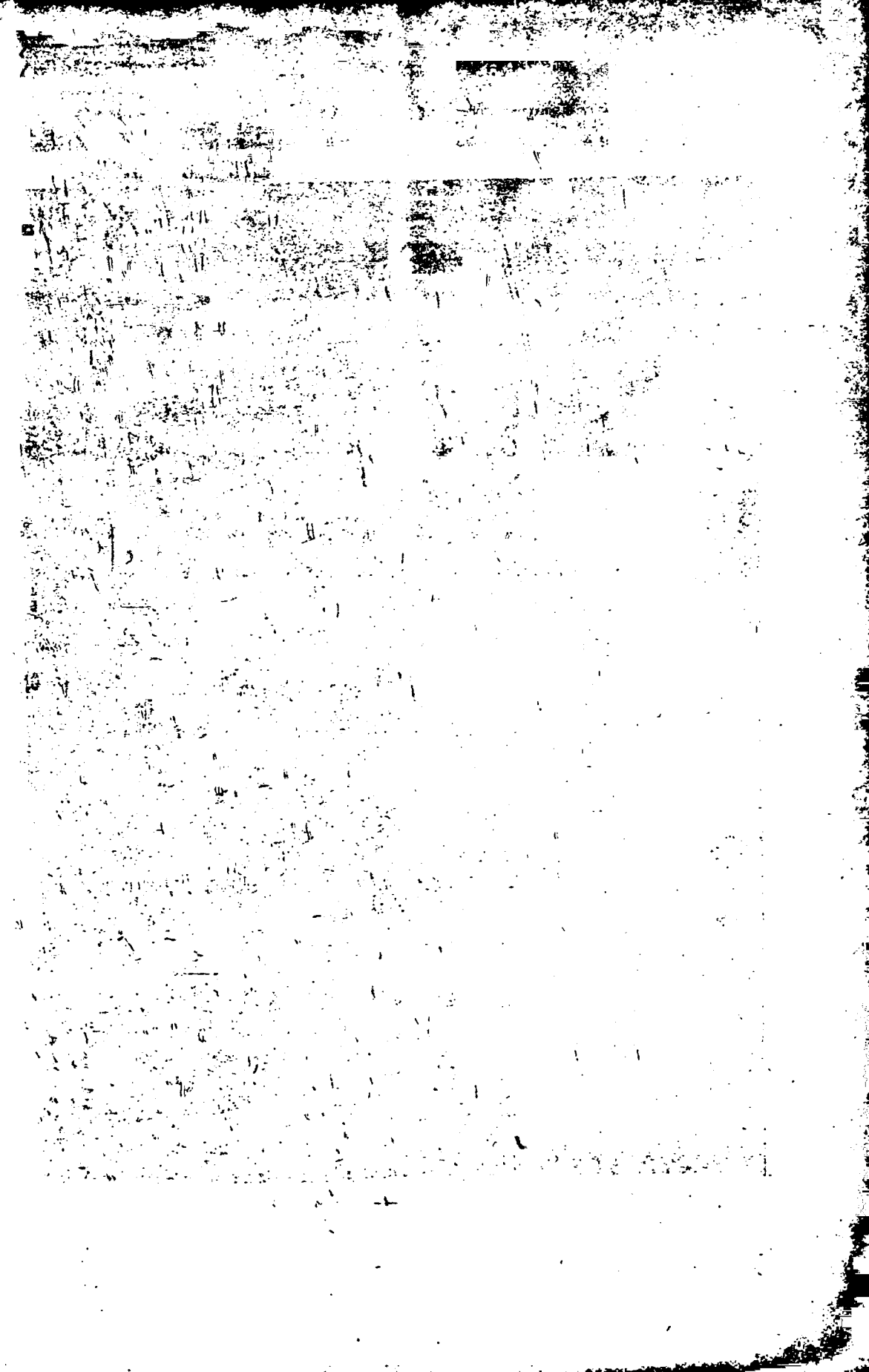
The Passage.—The passage-way from the packers' bench to the main office is filled in with cupboards and shelves, not an available inch of room being wasted, and here are stored an immense stock of

POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

Ever since post cards were introduced in 1870 the firm of Stanley Gibbons have imported them freely, and consequently



THE CORRESPONDENCE ROOM.





SETS AND PACKETS ROOM.

they hold one of the largest and best stocks, if not the most extensive of any dealer in the world. Importing, as they did, the early issues at face value, and holding them till the demand came, Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are now in a position to supply other dealers wholesale with such things as nearly all the varieties of the rare early Hongkongs, the provisional Ceylon, and most of the old German post cards. The total value of their stock of post cards, which is now being checked over in the stocktaking, is expected to exceed £4,000.

As regards envelopes, not near so much attention was paid to this branch in the early years of the firm; still, many fine lots may be seen here in the wholesale department. Among other things worth notice are many of the pence Ceylon envelopes; a fine selection of the old canvas-lined envelopes of Mauritius; also fine assortments of the old German States, especially Saxony and Mecklenburg Schwerin.

The Main Office, by far the finest room in the whole building, is roofed and lighted by a fine glass dome and side window. The room, which attains a height of 24 ft. 6 in. to the top of the dome, is excellently ventilated, and is one of the finest workshops to be found in the Strand. All round the wall space is utilised for cupboards and shelves. The cupboards contain over 700 drawers crammed full with stock. The arrangement of the stock in this room is a study in office organization. First and foremost there is a long series of drawers about two inches deep; each drawer is sub-divided into 100 divisions, and almost every drawer is filled with stock. These drawers consist entirely of used stamps, arranged in exact order to correspond with the Price Catalogue, so that orders received by post from various countries based on the Price Catalogue may be filled with the greatest despatch by the assistants. Opposite this there is another long stack of drawers containing the unused adhesive stamps, but all these are kept in large envelopes. The entire stock of used and unused stamps closely approaches 40 millions. Facing this counter there is a stack of 350 drawers entirely devoted to the wholesale trade.

In one corner Mr. C. J. Phillips has his raised desk, from which he can overlook the entire ground floor. Here he attends to his daily increasing mass of correspondence. In this room all the orders received by post are made up, and then handed out to the packers' counter to be securely packed, sealed, and despatched.

Torn or damaged stamps are put aside in a separate box, and auctioned from time to time in parcels labelled "damaged stamps." Among these damaged stamps good things are frequently found so slightly damaged that a little mending renders them saleable as "mended," and for good prices; but Stanley Gibbons make it a rule to do no mending themselves, as they covet a reputation for selling only stamps in fine condition. Wholesale parcels are sold unsorted, that is to say, they are sold in the mixed condition in which they are received, so that any dealer buying parcels from the firm shares with them the chances of finding good things in odd lots. Many good finds have thus been made.

The "Philatelic" and better bound albums are stored on tiers of shelves in the room, as the morocco and expensive leather bindings require the greatest care and a freely-ventilated room for storage. Here, too, may be found for reference a very fine collection of forgeries, which has been in process of accumulation from the earliest days of the firm as a protective book of reference. It might well be labelled "Photographs of well-known criminals." Relegated to the next shelf is a collection of reprints, which some day, and the sooner the better, will probably be labelled "Impostors"; for the firm, at a considerable sacrifice, is doing its utmost to discourage the sale of reprints as being injurious to the true interests of Philately.

Mr. Phillips's Room.—Mr. Phillips occupies the front room of the first floor, which has been fitted up in the most elaborate style, the decorations comprising a choice velvety wall paper, cornice picked out in colours and gold, Axminster carpet, and walnut fittings and furniture. But the philatelist will be chiefly taken with the historical engravings illustrative of postal work, and a splendid library of rare books connected with philately.

THE ENGRAVINGS.—Many of the engravings, of which Mr. Phillips is justly somewhat proud, are worthy of enumeration. They are as follows:

1. Sheet of 240 Cyprus id., first issue.
2. Photograph of the main room of the Philatelic Exhibition of 1890.

3. A curious engraving of an old English village Post-office.
4. The site of the General Post-office, 1815.
5. Large coloured print of the General Post-office, with Royal mail, by Pollard.

6. Departure of the Royal mail coaches. Second view, coloured, of the Post-office, dated 1859.

7. The present Post-office before the upper floors were added.

8. Side view of the General Post-office, with St. Paul's in the distance.

9. View of the crypt on the site of the late college of St. Martin's-le-Grand, discovered in clearing the site for the new Post-office.

10. General Post-office, letter carriers' room arranged for despatch of newspapers.

11. A sorting office. Old coloured print, date 1800. Postmen in long red coats and blue breeches.

12. View of the Inland Revenue Office when it was in the General Post-office—now in Somerset House.

13. A collection of portraits of Postmasters-General, including a signed artist's proof of Rowland Hill when he was Postmaster-General, and also a previous portrait when he was Secretary to the Postmaster-General; Viscount Lowther, Lord Melbourne, Earl Canning, Duke of Argyll.

14. One frame containing an original letter from Rowland Hill, dated from Bruce Castle, Tottenham, April 4th, 1832, flanked on either side by a view of Bruce Castle, Rowland Hill's residence at Tottenham, and also an early print of the same residence, date about 1750. The castle has been opened recently as a recreation ground and public library and reading rooms.

15. Framed photographs of philatelic celebrities, the position of honour being given to Mr. Castle taken in the group and as the guest of the Philatelic Society of Bombay during his recent visit to India.

16. A large photograph of the members of the Committee of the French Philatelic Exhibition of 1892.

17. Original impression of Leech's Caricature of the Mulready envelope, showing the Lion with one eye tied up, and having the characteristic signature of Leech—a leech in a bottle.

This room is specially reserved for the best customers of the firm, as a quiet corner for the examination of the stock-books of any particular country.

The Library.—In one corner of the room is a substantial walnut bookcase, well stocked with the best of the old philatelic periodicals and other philatelic works of reference. They comprise sets of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, *Philatelic Record*, *Philatelist*, *Timbre-Poste*, a number of rare works and blue-books relating to the first introduction of penny postage in 1840, including the bulky Reports of the Commissioners on Postage from 1837 to 1840, Sir Henry Cole's copy of the Post Circular, complete with original essays bound in, an exceedingly rare work, the Reports of the Postmaster-General up to 1892 complete, and a large number of rare pamphlets, catalogues, &c.

The Journal Room.—The back room of the second floor is devoted to the despatch of the monthly issues of the *Monthly Journal*. Two immense elaborately indexed and arranged ledger-like books contain the names and addresses, and keep the clerks continuously employed from month to month. The demand for unused English postage stamps in this department is of a very wholesale character.

Shorthand Correspondence Room.—The front room of the second floor is the office of the corresponding clerks, of whom there are three, capable of dealing expeditiously with French, German, Italian, and Spanish. The desk room allows of accommodation for five shorthand clerks.

Packets and Sets.—In the upper regions, that is to say, on the top floor in a pleasantly lighted room running from front to back, are made up the numerous packets and sets that tickle the philatelic palate of the beginner. The nimble fingers of several young girls are busy all day long, from week's end to week's end, keeping up the supply of these specialities of the firm.

Stock Books for Advanced Collectors.—During the last two years the firm have made a speciality of arranging books of separate countries, each book arranged with notes by a specialist. At the present time no less than 63 countries have been thus scientifically arranged, including

the whole of the West Indies, Australia, and many of the more difficult countries, such as Transvaal, Shanghai, Afghanistan, Cashmere, &c. The firm has been greatly helped in this special work by the able assistance of such well-known philatelists as Major Evans, Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Mr. Gilbert Lockyer, Mr. W. E. Jeff, Lieutenant Napier, and other scientific collectors, who have special knowledge of the countries they have arranged.

These books are sent out on approval to well-known customers, and are an invaluable help to advanced collectors, enabling them to complete their collections from shades and varieties in profusion, as whole pages are frequently filled with shades, or other minor varieties of the same stamp. A number of these books have been used by the Philatelic Society of London in compiling their lists, and in many cases new varieties have been found in them which were hitherto unknown. At the time of stock-taking the market values of forty-two of these books totalled up to £13,000, or an average of over £300 per book. The most valuable book by far is that of New South Wales, this volume containing complete reconstructed sheets of all the Sydney views and most of the laureated heads.

General Arrangements.—The building throughout is lighted by the electric light, over 80 lights having been installed by Messrs. B. Verity and Sons. The rooms on the ground floor and basement are heated by means of hot water. The whole of the fittings have been done in the best and most substantial style by Mr. J. T. Bassano, of 6, Orange Street, Red Lion Square, Holborn, to whom the firm are much indebted for the great amount of detail and personal supervision he gave to the fitting up of 391, Strand during over three months.

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE FIRM.

THERE is probably no branch of the many-sided business of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, that has done more to popularise the firm than the numerous excellent publications with which it has, from time to time, enriched the literature of Philately. In this direction it has done much to add to the permanence of the hobby of Stamp Collecting. Some Philatelists take a pleasure in the mere business of accumulating and arranging the various issues which are credited to each country; others, more advanced and more scientific, study their stamps, their history, and their every variety, make notes of their observations, and tabulate their conclusions. Those conclusions in good time assume the importance of book form, and eventually all sorts and conditions of Philatelists reap the benefit of the industry of the scientific worker, through the medium of such philatelic publishers as the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. The labour of the beginner is considerably simplified, and even the work of the scientific collector and student is materially advanced, by the aid of such publications as its Catalogue, its Albums, and its Hand-books.

THE CATALOGUE.

First and foremost should be placed the *Catalogue*, which is accepted by the best judges as giving the correct market prices, and even regulating those market prices, more than any other publication extant. At the present time it can boast of a circulation of no less than twelve thousand copies per annum. The *Catalogue* is now edited by Major Evans, but was originally started, and for about 25 years entirely collated and edited, by Mr. E. S. Gibbons himself. It first of all appeared as a few small sheets published once a month, but has now grown to be a book of 186 pages, with a supplement containing 166 pages of illustrations of 3498 varying types of postage stamps. With the aid of the illustrated supplement the veriest tyro at collecting could scarcely fail to localise the country of issue of even the most perplexing postal curiosity. Formerly the *Catalogue* paid little attention to minor varieties. But the last edition, in recognition of the rapid advance of scientific collecting, is replete with those valuable distinctions of perforation, roulette, watermark, and paper that separate the rarities from the commoner stamps. In this laborious work the editor has been assisted by well-known specialists. The price of the complete *Catalogue* is 3/6, but it may be had bound in various styles, and also interleaved.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM.

The *Imperial Album* comes next in importance as a leading publication of the firm. This work also owes its existence to the literary workmanship and ingenuity of Mr. E. S. Gibbons, who commenced its issue when in Plymouth. It was not, however, the first album turned out by the fertile founder of the firm in his Plymouth days. It had as a predecessor what was for some years a popular book known as the *V.R. Album*. The publication of the *V.R.* ceased about twenty-four years ago, when the *Imperial* was brought out, and took its place as a one volume album. It was brought up to date by the issue every two years of supplements for new issues. The present edition, making the sixth, is conducted entirely as a separate publication, and on a different basis. Space has been provided for all the numerous varieties of watermark and perforation as given in the latest edition of the catalogue, so that a collector wishing to fill gaps in his *Imperial Album* can see at once by looking at the number of the square in the album and at the same number in the catalogue what is the price of the particular stamp he needs. Lists of wants can also be made out from the numbers in the *Imperial Album*, thus effecting a great saving of time, compared with the old plan of writing a description of every stamp that was wanted. The price of the album ranges from 10s. for the edition in a single volume to £5 for one in two volumes magnificently bound in plain padded Russian leather. The size of the pages of this new edition is enlarged to 9x12 inches, so as to provide increased accommodation for the numerous new issues. In order to ensure the most perfect accuracy the whole work has been entirely revised by Major Evans.

THE PHILATELIC ALBUM.

We next come to the *Philatelic Album*, which is the album used by nearly all advanced collectors. This album, which is guarded by a special patent, has the leaves arranged on a plan that admits of each leaf being removed, replaced, or re-arranged with the greatest ease. Each leaf has a double-lined joint, which allows of the book being opened flat. A neat narrow border embellishes each page, and the inner portion of the page so enclosed is covered with a semi-visible lined network of *quadrille* lines, designed to assist in the correct and regular arrangement of the stamps to be mounted. To our knowledge several Government collections are now arranged in these albums, and it is not an uncommon thing to find a collector with six to twelve of these books in use. The price ranges according to the binding, from 30s. to 50s.

A superior album is now in preparation which will be sold at £5. It may be described as having been designed and arranged almost regardless of cost to meet the imperative demand of the more fastidious and wealthy class of collectors who are nervous about the effect of the friction of the ordinary album leaves upon their stamps. And seeing the enormously increased price which collectors have now to pay for the superb specimens that some insist on having, it is not to be wondered at that they should also insist upon every conceivable precaution against wear and tear in mounting their gems into albums.

Each page of the new album will have a sunken centre, the raised margins of which will serve to protect the specimens from rubbing against the opposite leaf. A detailed announcement of this album will be made in due course when the book is ready for the market. In defence of the fastidious stamp collector, it may be noted that the coin collector designs his coin cabinet with a raised velvet protection for each coin. And it is a moot point whether the race in value as between rare stamps and rare coins is not rapidly growing in favour of the rare postage stamp. There are some rare postage stamps that suffer materially from rubbing, notably rare British Guianas, several of which would, if not most carefully handled, quickly lose in value, by the injury sustained, considerably more than the most costly album yet proposed would involve in the matter of expenditure.

THE IMPROVED SERIES OF POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS.

This series includes the plain oblong albums, of which twelve editions have now been issued. This old-time favourite of the medium collector still holds its own. The price ranges from 1s. 6d. to 5s. each. The countries are geographically arranged under continents, and post cards have separate spaces devoted for their reception, arranged so as to be equally adaptable for stamps if preferred.

A CHEAP IS. ALBUM.

In 1891 it was decided to issue a 1s. album to compete with the cheapest albums in the German market. The success of this album has far exceeded all expectations, the demand having been exceedingly large. The book has in fact already run through four editions, or a total number of 25,000 copies. A new edition, just published, has nearly 20 extra pages added, and all the geographical and historical notes brought fully up to date. At the top of each page there is the name of the country, and a mass of valuable information, including date when stamps were issued, population, area, reigning sovereign, capital, &c. Spaces of proper sizes are provided for all stamps, and the book is bound in a superior manner in gilt cloth. The album contains a pocket to hold duplicate stamps, and fifty stamps are presented *gratis* with each album. There is also an illustrated frontispiece of the rarest stamps.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

When the business of the firm of Stanley Gibbons was formed into a limited company Mr. Gibbons held half a share in *The Philatelic Record*, in conjunction with the late firm of Pemberton, Wilson, and Co.; and Mr. Charles J. Phillips published, in Birmingham, a journal of his own, entitled *the Stamp Advertiser and Auction Record*. After some deliberation it was decided to drop entirely these two journals and issue an entirely new one, containing the best points of both papers. The *Monthly Journal* was first issued at a subscription price of 4s. per annum, but after about eighteen months it was thought desirable to reduce it to the nominal rate of one shilling per annum, in order to bring it within the reach of even the smallest collector, and this policy has already resulted in quadrupling the circulation, which is rapidly increasing every month, till now the publishers believe themselves justified in claiming for it the largest circulation of any philatelic journal published in the English language.

A BOOK ON FORGERIES.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have recently published a new and greatly-enlarged edition of the Rev. R. B. Earée's book entitled *Album Weeds; or, How to Detect Forged Stamps*. This latest edition is dedicated by permission to a member of the Royal Family. His Royal Highness the Duke of York was kind enough to allow the book to be dedicated to him, and to accept a copy.

OTHER STANDARD WORKS.

Amongst other standard works published or sold by the firm are the *Philatelic Handbook*, by Major Evans, a work of some 400 pages, profusely illustrated; *Colonial Stamps*, by Mr. Gilbert Lockyer; *Westoby's Catalogue of British Stamps*; *The Stamps of the United States*, by Mr. John K. Tiffany; and the superb works of the Philatelic Society of London, of some of which they alone are able to supply copies.

HANDBOOKS FOR SPECIALISTS BY SPECIALISTS.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have just published the first of an entirely new series of Philatelic Handbooks, which may be comprehensively termed "Handbooks for Specialists by Specialists." In introducing No. 1 (Portuguese India), the publishers in their preface write:

"We are confident that we are supplying a long-felt want, and that the step we are taking is far in advance of anything hitherto attempted in stamp catalogues, whether priced or otherwise. It is the opinion of all observant philatelists that the future of stamp collecting lies more and more every year in the direction of what is called 'specialism.' Complaints have from time to time reached us that the general catalogues published do not enter sufficiently into detail, especially in the case of the more difficult and intricate countries, and that collectors desirous of specialising in order to secure what is to them a more or less inadequate catalogue of the stamps of their particular country, are obliged to purchase an expensive and unwieldy volume, of which only two or three pages are of any use for their purpose, and which they very often have to supplement with a whole library of philatelic literature. Our object is to save them the expenditure of so much time, trouble, and expense, and to supply all they require in a cheap and handy form. The present volume, inaugurating the series, is by Mr. Gilbert Harrison and Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N., and has already appeared in serial form in the pages of the *Monthly Journal*. 'The Transvaal,' by Mr.

Edward J. Nankivell, to whom we are mainly indebted for the idea of these handbooks; 'Indian States,' by Major E. B. Evans, late R.A.; 'Shanghai,' by Mr. W. B. Thornhill; 'South Australia,' by Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N., and Mr. Gordon Smith, are already in preparation, and will shortly appear. We have also made arrangements for others with philatelists who are the acknowledged authorities on the stamps of the countries on which they have undertaken to write. The scope of these publications extends to postal adhesives only; envelopes, wrappers, post cards, and with certain exceptions, postal fiscals, are for the present excluded. After some hesitation we have decided to price only those varieties which we have in stock in certain quantities; but our readers must not conclude that those left unpriced are necessarily of exceptional rarity or value, nor even that we are unable to supply them. The prices quoted will in certain instances be found to rule somewhat higher than those in our general *Catalogue and Price List*; but it must be borne in mind that the prices in the handbooks are for specimens perfect in every respect, and it is a fact well known to advanced philatelists that such specimens always command higher prices than those given in the ordinary priced catalogues."

Such is the "send off" of the most important series of Philatelic Handbooks ever yet attempted by any firm. Of solitary books for specialists there have been a few. But a systematic, complete, and exhaustive series, such as is here foreshadowed, is attempted for the first time in the history of stamp collecting. That they will give an immense impetus to advanced collecting cannot be doubted for a moment. They will tend to clear up doubts and difficulties in all directions, and render the laborious task of the scientific collector infinitely more pleasant and agreeable. The price of the Handbooks has been fixed at 4/6 per vol.

SETS AND PACKETS.

Sets and packets may be termed short cuts to the business of stamp collecting. The collector who wishes to start one of his boys or girls in stamp collecting buys him a packet of stamps, and this, when exhausted in duly arranged form in the first album, is supplemented from time to time, on birthdays or holidays or other special occasions, with sets. Some sets there are, and even some packets, that tempt older collectors. The specialist who now and then starts on a fresh country lays the foundations of his new love in the shape of complete sets of all the ordinary issues, and then commences his hunt for the rarities that are represented by many a gap. Sets and packets have always been a "special line" (as the "selling off" people phrase it) of the firm of Stanley Gibbons. They have from the first paid special attention to it. Their sets and packets have been well known for thirty years, and have been highly appreciated, for they have all been made up of good value. Damaged stock has never been worked off in this convenient way, as is the practice of some people. Each packet is put together in the hope that its contents will lead the satisfied purchaser to try yet another and another, and even to recommend his friends to a similar investment. And, as a matter of fact, the bulk of the sale done by the firm in packets may be said to be largely due to the satisfaction which each packet affords to the purchaser; for a good packet, like any other good article, becomes in the end its own best advertisement.

Sets are the speciality of the medium collector, and it is surprising how much more rapidly a general collection grows in importance by the judicious purchase of sets than by the haphazard and more general method of picking up a few additions to half a dozen countries here, and a few there, for other countries. Stray additions are spread over a large area, but sets remain together and give an idea of completeness that well repays the collector. They are in reality the finger-posts to completeness.

In the new prospectus issued for the coming season there will be found a list of nearly five hundred new sets entirely revised and brought up to date. A special point in this part of the business has been the endeavour to construct sets that no other dealer has for sale, and the firm have been very successful in this department owing to their enormous stock. This list is sent post free on application. The sets range in price from a few pence to 70s.

Of the packets there is a rich variety ranging in price from 6d. to £4 each. At present about 60 different packets are tabulated in the price list; that they are highly appreciated is attested by the fact that the annual sale exceeds 30,000 packets.

REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA,

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

INTRODUCTION.

THESE most interesting stamps appear to have been neglected by the majority of cataloguers. Even in the lists of the Philatelic Society, London, the varieties of the roulettes and perforations are sadly deficient, while M. Moens, in his last catalogue, has omitted most of the varieties of perforation. During the last few years I have paid special attention to these stamps, and have accumulated a large collection, a part of which was shown at the Paris Philatelic Exhibition some twelve months ago.

For many years the dates of issue of the early stamps were not known, and even the order of the several issues was uncertain. Mr. E. D. Bacon, in an interesting series of articles in *The London Philatelist*, gives much valuable information upon this point, but is unable to fix the date of issue of the first 2d., 6d., and 1s.

I have made enquiries upon this subject, and the following is an extract from a letter I have received from A. J. Williams, Esq., the private secretary to the Postmaster-General of Western Australia.

"I give the following statistics as to our first issues which you may take as reliable.

"In 1853 the Western Australia Government decided to prepay letters by means of postage stamps, and the stamp ordinance of 1854 was accordingly passed, and a supply of stamps ordered from England. When the stamps arrived, in February, 1854, it was found that they consisted of only the 1d., black, and consequently a 2d., chocolate, 4d., blue, 6d., bronze, and 1s., brown, had to be lithographed in this Colony. The size of the stones was about 2 ft. x 15 inches, and each of the stones contained 240 impressions, viz., 20 x 12, the sheets thus consisting of 240 each.

"The Act came into force on the 1st August, 1854, when the following issues were made :

1d., black.
4d., blue.
1s., brown.

The 2d., chocolate, and 6d., bronze, were issued later. I have been unable at present to find out the exact dates ; they are later than I thought, and were either at the end of 1857, or early in 1858."

This letter fixes the date of issue of the 1s., brown, and bears out Mr. Bacon's theories (see *L. P.*, vol. i., p. 294); but I have not yet received information as to the exact date of issue of the 2d. and 6d., and so, until further evidence is obtained, I shall take 1857, as mentioned in Mr. Williams' letter, as the date of issue of these two values.

About the rouletted stamps I have not been able to obtain any official information, and can only give a list of those that have come under my notice. In preparing the following lists, I have included all the varieties I have had in my own possession, and that exist in the collection of Mr. M. P. Castle, who kindly lent me his book of

Western Australia. I have also included a few varieties given in *Oceania* that I have not yet met with.

REFERENCE LIST.

ISSUE I. *August 1st, 1854.*

Thinnish white paper, generally tinted *yellow-brown* by the action of the gum. Wmk. a Swan, varying slightly in size. *Imperforate.*

1d., black, grey-black.
4d., blue, deep blue, light blue, slate-blue, blue-black.
1s., deep red-brown, pale red-brown, yellowish brown, bistre.

Variety.—4d., blue. Frame inverted.

The same issue. Perforated variously.

1d., black. *Rouletted* 8, 9½, 10, 11½, 12, 12½, 13, 13½.
4d., blue " 9, 10, 12, 14.
1s., brown " 8 to 9, 9, 12½, 13, 14, and 12 x 14.
4d., blue. *Pin Perf.* 14, 17, and about 19.
4d., blue. *Rouletted* horizontally, and *imperforate* vertically. (Moens.)

Notes.—Of the 1d., black, I have one specimen rouletted about 8 at top and bottom, and with a kind of large pin perforation at the sides, but I look upon this as a doubtful variety. In this value those rouletted 12 are by far the commonest. I have two unsevered pairs of this gauge on the original paper. The 4d., blue, rouletted 12, I possess dated "G. P. O. 1864" (month illegible), and another specimen "PERTH JA. 26. 1866."

The 1d., black, was printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co, from a steel plate engraved by Mr. W. Humphrys. The 4d. and 1s. were lithographed in the colony, the central portions of the designs being obtained by taking transfers from the 1d. plate. For full details of this method see Mr. Bacon's article in *The London Philatelist*, vol. i. p. 295.

ISSUE II. *About 1857.*

Paper and wmk. as in the last issue. *Imperforate.*
2d., brown to almost black, on *Indian-red, red, chocolate-red, and orange* paper.
6d., golden-bronze, red-bronze, blackish brown, grey-black.

Variety.—2d. (shades) printed on both sides.

The same issue, perforated variously.

2d., *rouletted* 9, 13, 14, 12 x 14, 13 x 14.
6d. " 9, 12, 13, 14, 12 x 13.
2d., *pin perforated* about 19.
6d. " " 19.

Notes.—The variety of the 2d. printed on both sides is not very scarce, as out of a total of 85 of these stamps in my possession I find 27 of them with the double impression.

The inscription in the bottom label of the 2d. varies considerably ; on some specimens I find the words "TWO PENCE" are 16 mm. long, in others only 15¼ mm., the most noticeable difference being in the "c" and "e" of pence, which are sometimes quite close together, and at others with over a millimetre of space between them.

I have met with one specimen of the double-printed 2d., rouletted, but not sufficiently clear to be measured.

ISSUE III. *About July, 1860.*

Printed in the Colony, from steel plates sent out by Perkins, Bacon, and Co., on whitish medium paper, often discoloured by the gum. Watermark a Swan. Imperforate.

- 2d., orange-vermilion, pale orange, deep orange.
- 4d., very deep to pale blue.
- 6d., sap-green to yellowish green.

Variety.—2d. on very thin, almost pelure paper.

The same issue, rouletted.

- 2d., *rouletted* 7½, 8½, 9½, 10, 10½, 11, 11½, 12, 12½, 13, 13½.
- 6d. " 9½, 11½, 12, 12½, 12 × 14.

Notes.—The 4d., blue, has not been met with rouletted. This stamp is very scarce *used*. I have only met with four copies in all. One is cancelled with the words "Registered Dec.," the rest illegible; another with "G.P.O." in a circle surrounded with lines. The postmarks on the others are altogether illegible.

The 2d. is by far the commonest of the rouletted W.A.; but although I have measured a considerable number, I have not seen this value with a compound roulette which is to be found on most of the other values.

Among minor varieties of the 2d. I have one unused specimen with double roulette at bottom, and another of the same value *roul.* 12½ top and bottom, and apparently *imperf.* at the sides, both sides showing a wide margin without a trace of a roulette.

ISSUE IV. *1861.*

Printed by Perkins, Bacon, & Co. on whitish paper, varying considerably in substance. Watermark a Swan; perforation varying greatly.

- 1d., deep rose, lake, carmine, pale red.
- 2d., deep blue, blue, pale blue.
- 4d., vermilion.
- 6d., purple-brown (deep to very pale).
- 6d., purple-brown on *blued paper*.
- 1s., deep green, bright green, pale green.

The following varieties of perforation have come under my notice:

- 1d., *perforated* 14, 15½, 13½ × 14, 14½ × 15, 14½ × 16, 15 × 15½, 15½ × 16.
- 2d. " 14, 15, 15½, 16, 14 × 15½, 14½ × 15, 14½ × 15½, 15 × 15½, 15 × 16, 15½ × 16.
- 4d. " 14, 15½, 13½ × 14, 14½ × 15.
- 6d. " 14, 15, 15½, 13½ × 16, 14 × 15½, 14½ × 15, 14½ × 15½, 14½ × 16, 15 × 15½, 15 × 16, 15½ × 16.
- 6d., on *blued paper*, *perforated* 14, 15 to 15½, 14½ × 16.
- 1s., *perforated* 14½, 15, 15½, 16, 14½ × 15, 14½ × 16, 15 × 15½, 15 × 16.

Varieties. Imperforate. The 1d., 2d., and 6d. are known *imperf.* and unused. The 1d. and 2d. are also known *imperf.* and used. A very fine used *imperf.* 2d., with good margin all round, was found in a small collection purchased by our publishers last year.

Varieties, with control mark on back.

The 1d. and 2d. are met with occasionally with a Crown and their respective values printed upon the back in *red*.

Notes.—Moens gives the 1s., deep green, wmk. a Swan, and *perf.* 12½. I have never seen or heard of this, and doubt its existence.

The 1d., *bistre*, given by the same authority, is believed to be a proof.

The paper of this issue (except the 4d.) varies very considerably. I have the 1d. and 2d. on *very* thick paper, like that of the next issue, and the 1d. on a very thin, semi-transparent paper; possibly sets could be made of both thick and thin paper, except in the case of the 4d., in which value I find hardly any perceptible variation.

As regards the 6d. on *blued paper*, it is almost impossible to measure the perforations in 19 out of 20 stamps. In the "Tipling collection" there is a horizontal pair gauging 15 between the stamps, but the top and bottom perforations cannot be measured.

(To be continued.)

THE STAMPS OF SHANGHAI.

By W. B. THORNHILL.

(Continued from page 233, vol. iii.)

THE second issue of Shanghai, and all the following up to date, do not present the same difficulties as Issue I., though the host of provisionals, with their surcharges, normal and reversed, etc. etc., make it difficult to produce a comprehensive and, at the same time, a clear reference list.

For purposes of reference, irrespective of chronological order, I have given after each issue the various provisional surcharges, etc., that occur on that issue, and where possible their date of emission, so that if anyone wishes to arrange his stamps absolutely chronologically he can do so in some sort.

Most of my dates are taken from M. Moens' catalogue, and all are from extant works, so that I cannot hold myself responsible for accuracy on that head, having been unable to obtain any official information whatever.

The Shanghai L.P.O. appears to be doing a "roaring trade," judging by the frequency of new emissions, and its apparent incompetence to make the supply equal to the demand. I wish I could think that legitimate postal requirements brought forth the innumerable surcharges we know of. It is to be hoped that this crop of wild "stamps" will soon have been sown and reaped, and that the postal authorities in Shanghai will shortly settle down and give the public a perennial postage stamp instead of a semi-annual, which is sure to be hybridised sooner or later.

I have, through the kindness of an official in the Foreign Office, just received a translation of the various Chinese characters to be found on the Shanghai stamps, and am glad to find that my translation of the characters on Issue I. was correct,

except that I have not quite accurately produced the equivalent sound in English.

It will be noticed that in the "cents" issue, and some of the following, the Chinese characters, though the same, appear different.

One rather curious error I have discovered in the 9 candareens of February, 1876. The character which should read *fun* does not, nor is it, so far as I can at present learn, any real Chinese character; written slightly but perceptibly differently it would signify *lea* or *strength*, which is meaningless here. The character is not, I learn, unlike a common abbreviation of *ch'ien*, but as that means *mace* it would hardly fit in with the stamp in question; in any case the character as written is not as it should be, "分", to express "candareens."

The four corner characters of Issue I. mean (literally) "Upper Sea Labour Board," or "Shanghai Municipal Council." The other three right-hand characters are *Shu, Hsin, Kuan*, and not *Shee, Shin, Kwan*, and mean "Writing Letter Office," not "Book Letter Company." This transcription is that of Sir T. Wade, and represents the sounds of the official or Peking language, though it would not exactly represent the sounds in the Shanghai dialect.

The scheme of values, my informant adds, is as follows:

- 10 *li* or *wen* (cash) = 1 Candareen.
 10 *fèn* (candareens) = 1 Mace.
 10 *ch'ien* (mace) = 1 Tael or ounce (Chinese *liang*).

None of the terms *Cash, Candareen, Mace*, or *Tael* are Chinese.

Cents are more usually the hundredth part of a dollar; but in Peking, and often in Shanghai book-keeping, "*cents*" stands for *Tael Cents* or *Candareens*.

Theoretically 1000 *cash* = 1 *Tael*. In practice this number varies with the price of silver, but is usually between 1200 and 1300.

The characters in Issue I., which I translated *fun, ts'ien, tuh, urh, pah*, should be *fèn, ch'ien, liu, erh, pa* respectively.

The second and following issues were, I believe, all designed and printed by Messrs. Nissen and Parker, London.

ISSUE II.

1866 { March 5th (Maury's Magazine).
 { June (Moens, Evans, Pemberton).

Four values, printed on thickish white wove paper.
 Perforated 12.

45. 2 cents, rose (shades).
 46. 4 cents, bright lilac, grey lilac (shades).
 47. 8 cents, dark and pale blue (shades).
 48. 16 cents, grass-green (shades).

Variety.

49. 8 cents, blue, *misprinted* 3 cents (Moens).



Remarks.—It will be noticed that each of the above values is in a different framework, though the centre design is the same. I have proofs on card of the 8 and 16 cents printed in red-brown, chocolate-brown, and orange. Specimens of all values are to be found imperforate, but can be only called "unfinished" stamps, as I understand they were never issued in this condition.

The Chinese characters of this issue differ in appearance from those of Issue I., but mean and really are the same; that is, those in the four corners read *Shang, Hai, Kung, Fu*—"Upper Sea Labour Board," or "Shanghai Municipal Council." The three at the right-hand side, *Shu, Hsin, Kuan*—"Writing Letter Office," or "Post-office." And those at the left side:

- 2 cents, *Yin liang fèn* = silver two candareens.
 4 cents, *Yin ssu fèn* = silver four candareens.
 8 cents, *Yin pa fèn* = silver eight candareens.
 16 cents, *Yin Ich'ien liu fèn* = silver one mace six candareens.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on the "cents" issue of 1866, with approximate dates of issue:

Dark and light blue surcharge, reading from left bottom to right top corner.

50. 1 cand. on 2 cents, rose (shades), Oct., 1873 (Moens).
 51. 1 " " 4 " lilac (shades), Jan., 1873 "
 52. 1 " " 4 " grey (shades), " " "
 53. 1 " " 8 " blue (shades), Oct., 1873 "
 54. 1 " " 16 " green (shades), " " "
 55. 3 cands. " 2 " rose (shades), Jan., 1875 "
 56. 3 " " 16 " green (shades), " " "

Black surcharge, reading from left bottom to right top corner.

57. 1 cand. on 4 cents, lilac, (?) from 1873-5.

Red surcharge, reading from left bottom to right top corner.

58. 1 cand. on 4 cents, grey-lilac, Oct., 1873 (Moens).
 59. 1 " " 8 " blue " " "
 60. 1 " " 16 " green " " "

Varieties.

61. 1 cand. on 3 cents, blue; *blue* surcharge on the variety misprinted "3" for "8."
 62. 1 " " 4 " lilac; *black* surcharge, no stop after "CAND."
 63. 1 " " 4 " " (shades); *blue* surcharge reversed, reading from right top to left bottom corner, upside down, and frequently showing no numeral 1.

Remarks.—Most of the values of this issue, surcharged and unsurcharged, may be found with the background to the dragon almost white, probably from worn dies. The *black* surcharge is always found on one shade of *lilac*, but several shades of surcharge, from almost *black* to *light blue*, are to be found on all shades of the 4 cents.

The translations of the surcharges are—

- 1 cand. — *Yin 1 fèn*, silver, one candareen.
 3 cands.—*Yin san fèn*, silver, three candareens.

The middle character is the accountant's form of 1 or *san*, written thus to prevent alteration of the figure.



ISSUE III.

December, 1866 (Moens).

December, 1869 (Pemberton).

Four values, printed on thickish white wove paper.
 Perforated 15.

64. 1 candareen, dark and light brown (shades).
 65. 3 candareens, ochre-yellow, yellow.
 66. 6 " greyish green (shades).
 67. 12 " pale olive-brown (shades).

Varieties.

68. "I CAND" reading "I CANDS," usually styled the error "CANDS," but it is really only a flaw, the eye of love cannot make the blot an "s."
 69. 3 CANDS., greyish green (Moens, Evans). This is described as an error in sheet of 6 candareens. I have not come across it, but I have a note that an error 6 candareens, yellow, exists. Do both exist?

Remarks.—The currency returns from cents to candareens, and the translations of the Chinese characters for all values have been already given.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on Issue III., with approximate date of issue.

Blue surcharge.

70. 1 cand. on 6 cand., greyish green, Jan., 1875 (Moens).
 71. 1 " " 12 " pale ochre-brown " "
 72. 3 " " 12 " " " "

Red surcharge.

73. 1 cand. on 6 cand., greyish green (*Philatelic Record*, vol. i., page 87).
 74. 1 " " 12 " pale ochre-brown.

Remarks.—In the *Philatelic Record*, vol. i., page 87, "1 cand. in blue on 3 cand., rose," is mentioned "surcharged on issue of 1869" (?76). This must have slipped out of its place in the list, and should have come under "surcharged on issue of 1876." The previous translations of Chinese characters will answer for this issue.

ISSUE IV.

1872.

One value, printed on thick white wove paper. Perf. 15.

75. 2 cents, rose.

NOTE.—This stamp is identical with the 2 cents of 1865, except for the perforation.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on issue of 1872, with dates of issue, &c.

76. 1 cand., in blue, on 2 cents, rose, 1873 (Evans).
 77. 3 " " " " { Jan., 1875* (Evans).
 " " " " { Mch., 1877 (Moens).

ISSUE V.

July, 1875 (Evans).

Two values, thickish wove paper, tinted. Perf. 15.

78. 1 cand., yellow on pale yellow.
 79. 3 cand., carmine on pink.

Variety.

80. 1 cand., yellow on pale yellow; perforated 12.

Provisional, 1877 (Evans).

81. 1 cand., in blue, on 3 cand., carmine on pink.

Vide *Philatelic Record*, vol. i., page 87.

Remarks.—The 1 cand. is printed in sheets of 5 rows of 5. I presume the 3 cand. is printed in the same manner, but I have only seen a whole sheet of the former.

ISSUE VI.

February, 1876 (Evans).

Five values, printed on thickish white wove paper. Perf. 15.

82. 1 cand., yellow.
 83. 3 cand., rose-carmine.
 84. 6 " deep green.
 85. 9 " pale blue.
 86. 12 " bistre.

* We can find no record of any 3 cand. provisionals except those of Jan., 1875, and as the 2 cents, perf. 15, had been issued at that date, it is reasonable to suppose that the two varieties (perf. 12 and perf. 15) were surcharged at the same time.—Ed.

Variety.

87. 3 cand., rose-carmine, reading "I PO" for "LPO."

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on stamps of Issue VI., with dates where known.

Blue surcharge.

88. 1 cand. on 3 cand., rose-carmine; 1877 (Evans).
 89. 1 " " 6 " green " "
 90. 1 " " 9 " greyish blue " "
 91. 1 " " 12 " bistre " "

Red surcharge.

92. 1 cand. on 12 cand., bistre; 1877 (Evans).

Remarks.—The surcharge reads from left bottom to right top corner. I have not come across any inverted surcharges on Issue VI., though they probably exist. Major Evans thinks that all the above and before-mentioned surcharges were prior to June, 1877, when the denomination of the currency was changed.

Note the character for "fên" in the 9 candareens.

ISSUE VII.

1877.

One value, printed on thick wove paper, slightly tinted; perf. 12½ (roughly).

93. 1 cand., carmine (shades, probably due to exposure).

Remarks.—*Pemberton's Handbook* says that only 170 of this issue were printed in Shanghai on an emergency; if that is so, it would account for the exceeding rarity of this stamp. It is beautifully engraved, and the colour stands out much more than in any other stamps of this type. Evans chronicles this stamp as "Error(?)"* but with that I can hardly agree, as up to this no stamp has been printed with this coloured pigment, or so finely. If an error, it must be an error for something else—query, what? It will be noticed that the paper is almost glazed.

ISSUE VIII.

1877 { April 14 (Moens).
 { June (Pemberton, Evans).

Five values, printed on white wove paper. Perforated 15.

94. 20 cash, lilac, grey-lilac (shades).
 95. 20 " blue, grey-blue, lilac-blue.
 96. 40 " rose.
 97. 60 " bright green.
 98. 80 " blue, light and dark (shades).
 99. 100 " light brown.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on Issue VIII., reading from left to right, *erh shih wen*, etc.

Blue surcharge.

100. 20 cash on 40 cash, rose, July, 1879 (Moens).
 101. 60 " 80 " blue (shades) " "
 102. 60 " 100 " light brown " "

Remarks.—This issue is printed in sheets or panes (I have not ascertained which) of 50 stamps, 5 rows of 10. The lilac-blue and blue shades are only due to exposure. I have seen a sheet half one colour and half the other, lilac-blue evidently turning blue, and not vice versa. The Chinese characters are as before, with the exception of those on the left, which read:

- 20 cash, *erh shih wen* or two ten cash.
 40 " *ssu* " four "
 60 " *liu* " six "
 80 " *pa* " eight "
 100 " *yiti jai wen* or one hundred cash.

* This stamp was supposed to be an error, in the colour of the 3 cand. It seems impossible that it can have been printed in Shanghai, for the plates are presumably in London. If plates were on the spot, the surcharged provisionals would never be required. It is more probable from the description that the 1 cand., carmine, was a proof, or colour trial, some copies of which may, or may not, have been issued for use. Mons. Moens omits it from his catalogue altogether.—Ed.

(To be continued.)

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE MULREADY ENVELOPES.

BY THE EDITOR.

WHEN I endeavoured some two and a half years ago to write a description and history of the Mulready Covers and Envelopes there was one point which I, following the example of higher authorities who had gone before me, did not attempt to deal with; I allude to the arrangement of the numbers upon the blocks from which the covers and envelopes were printed. It was known that the way in which the blocks were placed together to print the sheets was more or less irregular, as far as these numbers were concerned; it was evident that, owing to the short time during which the Mulreadies were in circulation, the numbers—unlike the plate numbers of the adhesives—could not be said to mark periods in the history of the issue, and they were therefore held to be of little interest. It must be confessed that such philatelic interest as they do possess is rather on a par with that of the letters in the corners of our adhesives than with that of the plate numbers; still, if we did not know well the arrangement of those letters, we should consider them worth studying; and, at a time when every little detail of a new issue is carefully gone into, I think that no matter connected with the earliest, and perhaps the most curious, of all stamped envelopes should be left entirely without notice.

With this idea I commenced some months back to compile a list of all the numbers I could see or hear of, and, thanks to the assistance of a large number of kind correspondents, I have made a fairly long list; not a complete one I am sure, but still sufficient to form a basis for investigation; and I hope that I may yet obtain notes of more numbers to be added to it.

One peculiarity struck me at the outset. The Covers and Envelopes are distinguished by letters, a Roman capital (A) on the One Penny Covers, an italic capital (*A*) on the One Penny Envelopes, a small Roman letter (a) on the Two Pence Covers, a small italic letter (*a*) on the Two Pence Envelopes. This being so it was only natural to suppose that there were four distinct series of numbers; and as I soon found that both high and low numbers existed upon the One Penny Covers, I came to the conclusion that either this was the case, or the numbers were assigned to the different natures and values without any special order or arrangement.

Further examination, however, showed me that neither of my suppositions was correct. There is only one series of numbers, and these are used upon a certain system, though not a particularly intelligible one. The object also of using different natures of letters is not very clear; the blocks which fitted in with the regulations, &c., to be impressed upon the Covers, may have differed somewhat in shape from those which were enclosed within a lozenge-shaped frame for the envelopes; but, if so, the shape would have distinguished them more easily than the letter, and, if not, there

was no reason for distinguishing them at all; and, in the case of the two values, the inscriptions would have been sufficient. But supposing that the blocks differed as well as the values, it would have seemed more reasonable to number them all in separate series, as the values might have been inserted before the letters and numbers, while the two latter would certainly have been inserted together.

However, the fact remains that there is only one series of numbers, and that the first letter of the alphabet, in its various forms, was the only one employed. Had No. 999 been reached, doubtless the second letter would have come into use, and so on; but unforeseen circumstances brought the issue to an untimely end. The numbers in this series, as far as my lists go at present, were distributed as follows:—

1 to 78	appear upon	1d. Covers.
90 to 105	„	2d. „
132 to 194	„	1d. Envelopes.
195 to 210	„	2d. „
220 to 255	„	1d. Covers.

I have heard of a Penny Cover, the number of which may be either 252 or 262; but 255 I am quite certain of. The highest number I have heard of is 275, upon a block prepared for a Penny Envelope, but the only impression reported is a proof upon plate paper.

It is curious to note that the Penny Covers were evidently in far greater demand than the Penny Envelopes, which I presume was not the case with those issued afterwards with the embossed stamp; for the embossed Covers or Letter-sheets were not in very general use. The fact that *used* Covers are much more common than *used* Envelopes is easily accounted for, the former having been largely employed as Letter-sheets, and consequently preserved; that they were also more largely sold is probably due to their being supplied cut out, ready for use, while it was announced that the Envelopes were only sold in sheets. Entertaining persons also printed advertisements upon the inside of the Covers, and sold them at reduced rates. The same could have been done with the sheets bearing an embossed stamp, but the demand for stamped Covers or Letter-sheets seems to have ceased at an early date, and that for stamped Envelopes has always been very limited.

The brief summary of my list of numbers given above, shows that there are gaps between some of the portions of it which relate to different articles; a more detailed list, which I shall give later on, will show that there are numerous gaps within those portions. Some of these gaps are no doubt due to the incompleteness of the list, and may in time be filled up; others point, I think, to the fact that certain blocks were never used. Probably some were found defective, and were put aside; but, admitting this to be the case, there is still great difficulty in understanding upon what principle the numbers were assigned.

It must be remembered that the sheets, both of Covers and Envelopes, consisted of twelve copies. One would suppose, therefore, that the numbers would run in even dozens, but the only portions of

my list which actually join show that this was not the case. I find a 1d. Envelope numbered 194, and a 2d. Envelope numbered 195. The last number of any part of the series should divide by twelve, but 194 does not do so; and the only conclusion that I can come to is that one matrix alone was made from the engraved block, or that only one matrix was used at a time, with value, &c., changed as required, and that the casts from this were carefully examined during the process of the manufacture of the series, and any defective ones replaced by those with higher numbers.

The lowest number that I find upon a 2d. Cover is 90. It is of course possible that seven dozen blocks of the 1d. value were made, and then the value altered; but, if so, what became of the 2d. blocks 85 to 89? You may say that it is equally curious that we should not find copies of them if they were 1d. blocks; but I consider it quite possible that we may yet do so. Between 78 and 90 is a large gap. It is very unlikely that all these were 2d., and were defective; for we must assume that the last block of the 1d. was fit for use, unless it was discovered to be unfit after the casting of 2d. blocks had commenced. The discovery of a sheet of 1d. Covers, containing numbers below 90 and above 210, would show whether such a thing was likely to be the case; but in the absence of this it seems more probable that a certain number—perhaps six complete sets of 1d. blocks—were made up before casting the 2d., and that the latter began with 90, or perhaps a little earlier, as there may have been one or two defective blocks to commence with.

Of the Twopenny Covers I have no doubt that I have met with all the numbers that were ever in circulation, and I may say the same about the Envelopes of the same value. Sheets of the Penny value are unfortunately extremely scarce, but sheets of the higher value are not so very uncommon. Of each nature of this value I have only been able to hear of *twelve* different numbers, and each set of twelve, of course, forms a sheet. It may be noticed that the numbers range, in each case, over sixteen places, which may indicate either that there were four defective blocks in the sixteen, or, more probably, that the blocks were not taken in regular order to make up the plates. I have found that this was the case with the 1d. Covers, as I shall show later. No doubt two or three dozen 2d. blocks were made (we might suppose six dozen 1d., and three dozen 2d.), but if a second dozen was put to press the whole edition printed from it must have been destroyed.

For the Envelopes there were probably not so many blocks made; even if we assume that there were only two dozen blocks of the 2d. Covers, the 1d. Envelopes would only have a range of about 80 numbers. On the other hand, as the casting proceeded there were probably fewer defective blocks, and the 2d. Envelopes, of which I think we must assume there were two dozen blocks, have a range of only 25 numbers at most. What the second lot of numbers of 1d. Covers may have run to it is difficult to guess, as a very large stock was destroyed when the issue ceased, and this

must have comprised a considerable proportion of the later printings. We know, however, that 275 was prepared as a 1d. Envelope block.

The following is a full list of numbers, with some details as to arrangement where known. Those given in *italics* I have not met with:—

COVERS.—ONE PENNY.

- A. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,
 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30,
 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40,
 41, 42, 43, 4, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50,
 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60,
 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70,
 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78.

It will be seen that out of 78 numbers, I have heard of the existence of 45 only; and of these I am only able to chronicle the arrangement of one entire sheet, on which they occur thus:—

57. 64. 63. 34.
 50. 67. 65. 66.
 54. 69. 68. 35.

These range from 34 to 69, and there are several intermediate numbers which are not on this sheet, but which nevertheless exist, showing that the perfect blocks were not taken consecutively for making up the plates.

Value uncertain.

- 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89. ^{79, 80.}

TWO PENCE.

- a. 90,
 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100,
 101, 102, 103, 104, 105.

Of the twelve known numbers I have the arrangement, as follows:—

92. 90. 97. 104.
 94. 103. 96. 105.
 95. 98. 99. 91.

COVERS, TWO PENCE or Envelopes, ONE PENNY.

- 106, 107, 108, 109, 110,
 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120,
 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130,
 131.

ENVELOPES.—ONE PENNY.

- A. 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140,
 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150,
 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160,
 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170,
 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180,
 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190,
 191, 192, 193, 194.

Of these I only know of one vertical pair—¹⁴⁸. I have also met with 159, 166, and 170, each showing the threads running through the middle of the design, evidently from the sheet being misplaced; these, I believe, were all found together, and I have no doubt that they formed part of a row upon the same sheet.

TWO PENCE.

a. 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200,
201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210.

The arrangement of this sheet is as follows :

196.	200.	199.	195.
203.	202.	201.	198.
210.	197.	209.	208.

ENVELOPES, TWO PENCE or COVERS, ONE PENNY.
211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219.

COVERS, ONE PENNY.

A. 220,
221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230,
231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240,
241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250,
251, 252, 253, 254, 255.

Whether any blocks above 255 were in use I cannot at present say, but no doubt as many as 275 were made, though probably no impressions from a block with that number ever came into use.

Finally I have to express my thanks to all who so kindly sent me notes of their Mulready numbers, and to add that I shall be most grateful for any further information, either as to numbers or arrangement.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 234, vol. iii.)

FRANCO SCRISOKEI. Upon stamps of Roumania. (Omitted on page 217, vol. iii.)

FRIM.ERKE. With value only, on the first issue of Norway.

G. P. E. = Guadeloupe (surcharged upon the French Colonial stamps).

Grille or Grid. A pattern of small square dots, usually arranged in a square or rectangle, but in some instances covering the whole stamp, embossed upon some of the issues of the United States, and of Peru. The object of it is stated to be, to break up the fibre of the paper to a certain extent, and thus allow the obliterating ink to penetrate into it, and render the cleaning of the stamps impossible.

GUYANE or GUY. FRANC. (Guyane Française) = French Guiana (surcharged upon the French Colonial stamps).

HAWAII = Sandwich Islands.

HALFPENNY. On the Wrapper stamp of Great Britain and on the Wrapper and Post Card stamp of South Australia.

HELVETIA = Switzerland.

H. H. NAWAB SHAH JAHAN BEGAM. On the stamps of Bhopal, being the titles of the Ruler of that State.

H. I. & U. S. = Hawaiian Islands and United States. Upon some of the earliest stamps of the Sandwich Islands.

HONOLULU. Upon some of the Sandwich Islands stamps.

Horse with rider, and the value only. Upon the Letter Sheets of Italy.

H. R. Z. G. L. = Herzoglich (Ducal). On the stamps of the Duchy of Holstein.

Imperforate. Not perforated between the rows of stamps, that is to say, not provided with any means for enabling the stamps to be separated from one another without tearing or cutting (see also under *Perforated*).

"Imper. Reg. Posta Austr." (Imperial and Royal Austrian Post) on the 1833 issue of the Austrian stamps for Foreign Post Offices in the Levant, &c.

IMPUESTO DE GUERRA. On the *War Tax* stamps of Spain.

Indian Inscriptions. There are many varieties of stamps whose designs consist almost entirely of inscriptions in Oriental characters, or the inscriptions upon which are in these characters alone, without any European lettering by which they could be identified. They are not all of them the stamps of Indian Native States, but, as the majority of them are such, this seems to be the most convenient heading for them. The accompanying pages of illustrations show the types of all of these, arranged according to the following list :

Nos.	1 to 16	.	.	.	Afghanistan.
	17	.	.	.	Alwar.
	18, 19, 20	.	.	.	Bhor.
	21	.	.	.	Bokhara.
	22 to 36	.	.	.	Cashmere.
	37, 38	.	.	.	Deccan or Hyderabad.
	39 to 43	.	.	.	Faridkot.
	44	.	.	.	Holkar.
	45 to 54	.	.	.	Japan.
	55, 56	.	.	.	Jhalawar.
	57	.	.	.	Nandgaon.
	58, 59	.	.	.	Nepal.
	60	.	.	.	Nowanugger.
	61 to 65	.	.	.	Persia.
	66 to 71	.	.	.	Poonch.
	72 to 76	.	.	.	Rajppeepla.
	77, 78, 79	.	.	.	Siam.
	80, 81	.	.	.	Soruth.
	82 to 86	.	.	.	Turkey.

Indian Stamps Surcharged. The stamps of British India surcharged with the names of various Native States are used in those States only, and are catalogued under their names. There are, however, two forms of surcharge found upon these stamps which do not give the names of the places where the stamps bearing them were employed :

A Crown and the Value in CENTS. The Indian stamps with this surcharge formed the first special issue for the Straits Settlements.

"RAJ" Service' or "'RAJ" SERVICE' in two lines in each case. Stamps thus surcharged were used in Jeypore.

INDIA PORT. = Portuguese Indies.

INLAND. On the 3 cents stamp of Liberia.

IONIKON KPATOS. On the stamps of the Ionian Islands.

ISLAND = Iceland.

Jubilee Line. The coloured line which surrounds the sheets, or panes, of the current stamps of Great Britain, and of many of the British Colonies, is known by this name, sheets showing it having been first issued in 1887, the Jubilee year of the Queen's reign.

KASSA GLOWNA POZZTOWA. On the stamps of the Local Envelopes for Warsaw (Poland).

K. C. (or C ПБСКА) ПОШТА. On the stamps of Servia.

K. G. L. POST. FRM. With value in *skillings* "s.", on the stamps of Denmark.

With value in "CENTS," on the stamps of St. Thomas (Danish West Indies).

K. K. POST STEMPSEL. On the stamps of Austria.

"Kais. Königl. Oesterr. Post." KAIS. KOENIGL. OESTERR. (or OESTRR.) POST. On the stamps of Austria.

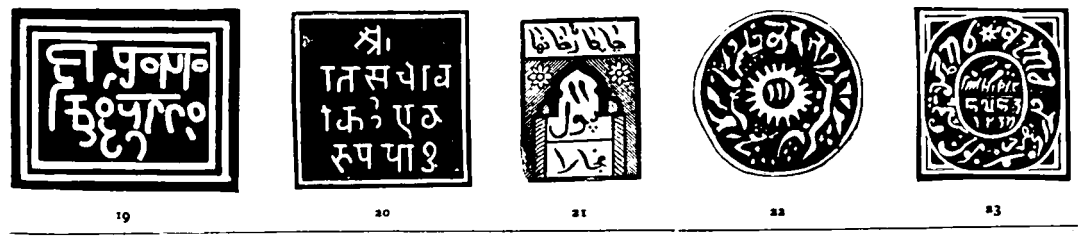
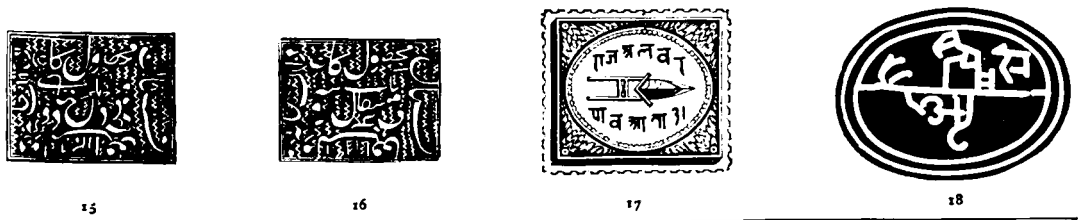
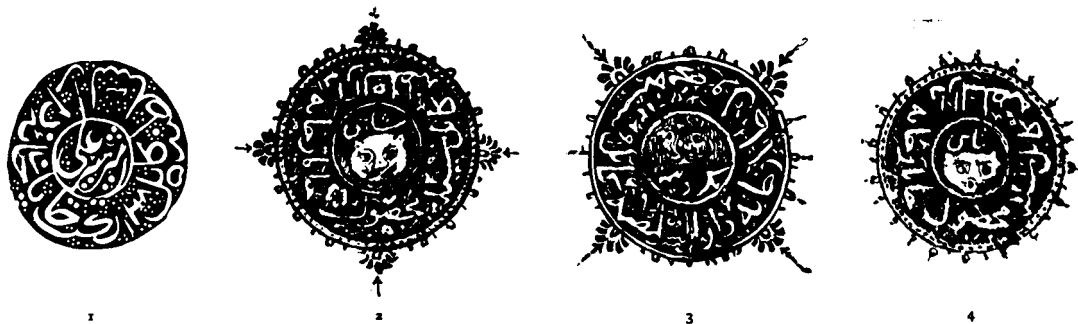
K. K. POST ZEITUNGS STAMPEL (STEMPEL or ST.EMPEL. On the Austrian Newspaper stamps.

"Kais. Kön. Zeitungs Stämpel." On the Austrian Newspaper Tax stamps.

Knife. Meaning the shape of an envelope—the shape that is, of the paper before it is folded. It is the technical term for the cutters of the machine by which the envelope-blanks are cut out, and is used in philately principally to denote the varieties of shape of the United States envelope, where the same size shows several varieties in the cutting of the flaps.

KOP. KOH. = kopecs. With numerals and no other inscription. On the early stamps of Finland.

KR., kr., or KREUZER. With numerals, and no other inscriptions, except words denoting numbers. On the





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30



31



32



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34



35



36



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44



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46



47



48



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50



51



52



53



54



55



56



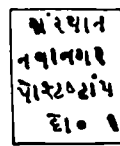
57



58



59



60



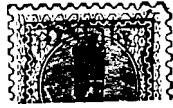
61



62



63



64



65



66



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68



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70



71



72



73



74



75



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78



79



80



81



82



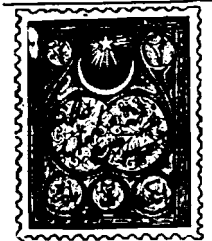
83



84



85



86

stamps of Austria, and on the two types shown in the following illustrations :



Baden.



Hungary.

K. WURT. or K. W. = Kingdom of Wurtemberg.

Laid. Paper watermarked with horizontal lines close together, the paper when held up to the light showing alternate lines of thick and thin (or opaque and semi-transparent) substance.

LAND POST. On certain stamps of Baden, used for Unpaid Letters, and, it is said also, for inland packet postage.

LIMA. On some of the early stamps of Peru.

Lion. Rampant and Crowned ; with inscriptions in Russian. On the stamps of Bulgaria.

Lion. Passant, regardant ; holding a Sword in the right fore paw, and with the Sun behind it. On the stamps of Persia.

L. McL. In a monogram. On a stamp used in Trinidad for prepayment of postage on letters conveyed by a private steamer—the "Lady McLeod."

LÖSEN. On the Unpaid Letter stamps of Sweden.

L'UNION FAIT LA FORCE. The motto of Belgium. Distinguishes the Unpaid Letter stamps of that country.

MAGYAR (OR MAGY.). On the stamps of Hungary.

Manilla paper. Paper made of Manilla fibre. A strong, light paper, of coarse texture, used for envelopes and wrappers ; it is found in various colours, and the term should not be employed to indicate paper of any particular tint. It is commonly found smooth on one side and rough on the other.

MAP. The design of some of the stamps of the State of Panama consists of a map of the isthmus and surrounding parts. These stamps are inscribed "COLOMBIA" at the top, and the name "PANAMA" is in microscopic letters on the map.

MARK (EN MARK). On the *one mark* stamp of Finland.

MAROC or MARAKECH = Morocco.

MAZAGAN À MAROC, OR MAZAGAN MARAKECH. On local stamps of Morocco.

MEJICO = Mexico.

Mercury. Head of Mercury, without any inscriptions, or with "½ kr." below. On the Newspaper stamps of Austria.

Millimètre (mm.). The thousandth part of a *metre*, French measure. A *metre* = 39 $\frac{37}{100}$ inches. Roughly speaking, an inch equals about 25 mm., or, more accurately, a foot equals very nearly 305 mm. In measuring perforations the number of holes in a space of 20 mm. is counted.

MODONESI (PROVINCIE) = Provinces of Modena.

M. Q. E. = Martinique (surcharged upon the French Colonial stamps).

NANDGAM = Nandgaon.

NAPOLETANA = Neapolitan. On the stamps of Naples.

Native inscriptions. See *Indian inscriptions.*

Native paper. This term is applied to a peculiar paper, very tough, and usually uneven in texture, made apparently from refuse silk, or some such material. It is, as a rule, gray or yellowish in colour. The stamps of Cashmere, down to 1876, were all printed on this paper, and some later impressions are also found upon it, though none of the current types (Nos. 29 to 35 in the pages of illustrations). The earlier issues of Japan, and the later printings of Nepal, are upon *Native paper*, and the Nepal post card is an

interesting example of the same material in perhaps its roughest form.

N. C. E. = New Caledonia (surcharged upon the French Colonial stamps).

NEDERLAND = Holland.

NED. INDIE = Dutch Indies.

NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK OR NORD-DEUTSCHE-POST. On the stamps of the North German Confederation. It should be noted that a stamp with this inscription is also lettered "STADTPOST BRIEF HAMBURG," and comes under the issues of that city.

NORGE = Norway.

N. S. B. = Nossi-Bé (surcharged upon the French Colonial stamps).

N. S. W. = New South Wales. These initials are the only indication of the name upon the *Postage Due* stamps of this colony.

Numerals. See *Figures.*

N. Z. = New Zealand. Upon the *Government Life Insurance Department* stamps of this Colony.

Obliteration. Any mark employed for cancelling stamps and rendering them unfit for further use. In most places a special mark is used for this purpose, distinct from the date stamp of the office. But any stamps that have been defaced (such as the old stocks of Cuban and Spanish stamps, cancelled with crossed lines and horizontal bars) may be said to be *obliterated*, which does not necessarily imply that they have been used. (See also *Postmark.*)

Obsolete. Strictly speaking, this term should only be applied to stamps that have actually been withdrawn from circulation, and which can no longer be used for postage ; but it is very often used simply to mean old issues, no longer on sale at the Post-office. Thus none of the postage stamps of Great Britain are really *obsolete*, as all of them, from the *black 1d.* and the *Mulready Envelopes* downwards can still be used ; and the same is the case with many of the stamps of the British Colonies. But in some other countries, when a new issue takes place the previous one is called in, a certain time being allowed during which both series may be employed, or the old stamps exchanged for the new ones, after which the former cease to be available for postage, and are *obsolete* in the true sense of the word.

OESTERR. '(OESTERREICH) = Austria.

ON PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE BUSINESS, FREE. On some official stamps of New Zealand.

Oriental inscriptions. See *Indian inscriptions.*

ORTS-POST. On some of the early stamps of Switzerland.

OTTOMAN (EMP.) = Turkey.

P (with Crescent and Star) in an oval. Surcharged upon stamps of the Straits Settlements for use in Perak.

PACCHI POSTALI. On the *Parcel Post* stamps of Italy.

Pane. The large sheets in which stamps are usually printed are frequently not entirely covered with stamps, but the latter are divided into two or more blocks, separated from one another by narrow spaces. Each of these blocks is called a *pane*, the entire sheet resembling to some extent a window, in which the glass is represented by the stamps, and the framework by the margins of the sheets and the spaces between the blocks, or *panes*, of stamps. These *panes* are not separately printed, but the plates are purposely constructed to print whole sheets divided in this manner.

For instance, our current 3d. and 1d. stamps are printed in sheets of 240, divided into two *panes*, placed one above the other, and each containing 120 stamps in ten horizontal rows of twelve. Between the *panes* is a space equal to a row of stamps, and the paper here is unwatermarked, a row of the Crown watermarks being omitted across the centre of the sheet—or rather the Crowns are arranged in *panes* also, to correspond with the stamps on the plates. Most of the Colonial stamps are likewise printed in sheets of 240, divided into four *panes*, each containing sixty stamps, in ten horizontal rows of six. These have a narrow blank space vertically in the centre of the sheet, and a wider one—the height of a stamp—across it, this horizontal space being watermarked with the words "CROWN COLONIES" in the sheets of stamps with the Crown and "CC," and "CROWN AGENTS" in

those with the Crown and "CA"; the watermarks for the stamps being in this case also arranged in *panes*.



PARA. The first issue of Egypt and the current issue of Turkey have all their inscriptions in Arabic, except the word "PARA" or "PIASTRE" ("PE" on the Egyptians) indicating the values. The designs of the Egyptian stamps are formed of geometrical patterns, consisting of intertwined circles, stars, &c.; the Turkish stamps have a kind of trophy of Arms, &c., in the middle surrounding the signature of the Sultan.

Patte. French for the flap of an envelope. The upper or loose flap is the one most generally alluded to. The word is also sometimes used (incorrectly) to mean the ornament upon the flap.

Pelure. A very thin, tough paper, semi-transparent, and usually greyish in tint.

PEN., with its equivalent in Russian type, "ПЕН." Contraction for PENNIA or PENNI. On some of the stamps of Finland.

Percé. Applied in French to any species of perforation in which holes, or slits, are pricked, or cut, without any part of the paper being removed. Usually accompanied by some description of the nature of the holes or slits found in the particular nature of perforation alluded to:—*Percé en lignes* = Pierced or punctured with lines or straight slits = rouletted. *Percé en points* = Pin perforated. (See also p. 30, vol. iii., of this Magazine.)

Perforated. Applied to stamps in a general sense, to indicate that they have been submitted to some process for enabling them to be easily separated one from another, the process consisting of punching or pricking holes, or cutting slits of some kind, between the rows of stamps. In its particular sense the word implies the system in which the holes are *punched*, small pieces of the paper being cut out, as in the case of the stamps of Great Britain and many others. Where it is considered necessary still further to particularize this nature of perforation, the stamps are said to be *machine perforated*. The corresponding French expression is *pinqué*. Thus stamps to which no process for this purpose has been applied are termed *unperforated* (unperf.), or *imperforate* (imperf.); those which have holes punched in the paper are said to be *machine perforated*, or simply *perforated* (perf.), followed by a number indicating the number of holes in a length of twenty millimètres; and those to which some other process has been applied are said to be *rouletted*, *pin perforated*, &c., according to the nature of the system that has been employed. (See also p. 30, vol. iii., of this Magazine.)

(To be continued.)

THE POST CARDS OF JHIND.

(Continued from page 194, vol. iii.)

NATIVE ISSUES.

WE now come to the second issue, which has a stamp of hexagonal shape in the right upper corner, and inscriptions in three lines. The first and second lines are interrupted in the centre by the Arms of the State, or of the Maharajah, with a figure of Brahma (?) as a Crest, and two Lions *rampant*, one bearing a staff with two pennons, and the other bearing a sword or club, as supporters. The inscriptions are partly in Urdu and partly in English. The former portion is plainly the same as the inscription upon the earlier cards, and the latter is a free translation of it. To the left of the Arms are the words "JEEND STATE"; to the left of these are the characters forming the left-hand group of the first line upon the first issue. To the right of the Arms are the words "POST CARD," and to the right of these is the right-hand group of characters from the first issue. The second line of inscription is the same as the second line of



Urdu before described, the Arms coming between the left-hand and the central groups of characters, the latter being in this case joined to the right-hand group. The third line runs:—"THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE." The English words in the first line are in large Roman capitals; the third line is in smaller block capitals. The stamp also on this card has the value expressed in English as well as in Hindostani. There is no frame.

The impression, as in the first issue, is lithographed, and upon a similar material, but the colour of the ink varies from a blue to a yellow shade of green.

The first mention that we find of this issue is in *Le Timbre-Poste* for August, 1884, where the colour of the impression is given as *yellow-green*. In the following January the same authority announced that the new cards existed in six varieties of type; and in the second supplement (1886) to M. Moens' Catalogue, 6th Edition, they are given as in *yellow-green* and *blue-green*, and still in six varieties. As far as we are aware, no further varieties were described until Mr. Watson published his Catalogue (the part containing Jhind appeared in June, 1891), when we, personally, first heard of *nine* types, and were thus led to look for others than the six which we already possessed.

To the best of our recollection, it was some time in 1889 that we obtained from M. Moens a set of the six varieties catalogued by him. In view of the fact that we have now found a very much larger number, we cannot be quite positive that these are the six varieties that he originally chronicled; but it is probable that such was the case, as M. Moens is not likely to have overlooked the fact of later supplies (if any) received by him differing from the earlier ones. For this reason we have placed those six at the head of our list. The order in which we place the others is an arbitrary one. We have no means of knowing at what dates the different varieties were printed, or, indeed, whether they were printed at different dates. We found specimens of all but one variety amongst our publishers' stock, and the great majority were also represented in the stock of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.; so that it is possible that all were printed at about the same time, and that it was a mere accident that the six varieties we have alluded to were the first to be noted by M. Moens. We must, however, explain that we did not find the varieties mixed indiscriminately; wherever we examined original packets of 100 cards, we found them either composed entirely of not more than three varieties, or the greater part of the packet consisted of three varieties, and there were a few others evidently put in to make up the number. And careful examination of the edges of specimens found in the same packet has proved that almost all the varieties were printed in *threes*, one above another, thus

a
b
c

while the fact that we find some specimens of the same variety with a clean-cut edge on the right, and others with a similar edge on the left, and that the uppermost of a group of three does not always have the top edge clean cut, and the lowermost does not always have the bottom edge clean cut, convinces us that these cards were printed in groups of not more than three varieties, but that the three varieties were repeated at least four times upon the sheets, or that the sheets were cut up into four parts, each of which formed three cards. We should add that we have not been able to find a single unsevered pair of these cards, which were plainly made up on the spot into packets of 100, with a strip of native paper round them; and that (after printing) the sheets, or blocks of three, seem to have been folded—three or four together—and then roughly cut with a knife, giving the cards in many cases very irregular edges, which have been of great service in identifying their relative positions.

The points of difference between the varieties in this issue are even less easy to describe than those in the first issue. Mr. Watson adopted the lengths of the lines of the inscriptions as his basis, but unfortunately these are by no means a safe guide. We have found copies of what is evidently the same variety, in which the lengths of the lines differ fully 2 mm., and we have come to the conclusion that the inscriptions, the stamp, and the Arms in the centre are the same upon all, and that any differences in these are due either to defective printing, or to touching up of some of the transfers.

The differences in the lengths of the lines we put down to stretching or shrinking either of the card—or rather cartridge paper—employed, or of the transfer paper. The former would account for differences in the size of the same variety, and the latter for the different sizes of different varieties. It is possible also that the same variety may have been transferred more than once, though we think it probable that the portion of the design in which the prominent difference exists was added by hand upon the stone after the rest of the design had been transferred to it.

The detail to which we allude is the Star, or Flower, between the upper part of the Arms and the word "POST." This exists in a number of distinctly different forms, not always easy to describe, but quite recognisable; and the fact that this one detail varies so much while the rest of the impression shows so little variation is sufficient proof, in our opinion, that this constitutes the only real point of difference between the varieties, while we have further evidence of the fact that this formed no part of the matrix design of the card in the existence of a variety with no Star, or Flower, at all, the space before "POST" being left blank!

It is difficult to understand what the object or advantage of making this ornament variable can be. It is possible that the words "POST CARD" occupying a shorter space than the words "JEEND STATE," the Star may have been added to make up the difference; but then, why was it not drawn or engraved upon the original stone or plate with the rest of the design? The only suggestion that we can make is, that the design may have been engraved upon wood, and that the space between the Arms and "POST" may have been cut away, the engraver not noticing that there was no corresponding space at the other side, or not thinking that it mattered, and that higher authority may have thought it necessary to fill up the space in some way. But we must confess that the variety in which the space is shown blank does not appear to us much more lopsided than those with the Star.

We have called this ornament a Star or Flower; it is quite as much like the one as the other, and in most of its varieties it is more like a Catherine wheel than either, the rays or petals being curved one over the other; however, Star is the shortest, so we will stick to that. We arrange the varieties as follows, lettering them all in one series, but dividing them so as to indicate the more prominent variations:

I. With *eight-rayed* Star, the top rays curved to the right, and the bottom to the left. There are 15 minor varieties of this, and although the Stars are easily distinguishable by comparison, it is not possible to describe them all; consequently we have endeavoured to find spots and defects in the transfers by which they may be further recognised.

a. There are two dots, vertically one above the other, $8\frac{1}{2}$ and $19\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below the space after the word "BE," and a third dot $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below the "A" of "ADDRESS."

b. The lowermost ray of the Star is almost triangular in shape, with its lowest side horizontal, and its right side vertical.

c. At the lower right of the Star are two rays partly joined together. There is a dot 9 mm. below the first "s" of "ADDRESS." There is usually a blotch in the "o" of "ON."

These three are, as a rule, in a *yellowish* shade of *green*.

d. The word "WRITTEN" appears to have been touched up and all the letters lengthened; the "EN" are conspicuously taller in this variety than in any of the others—they are usually shorter than the other letters in the word.

e. The letters "TEN" probably failed to transfer properly. The "T" is very short, and the "EN" are more irregular than usual; the centre limb of the "E" is very thick, and the upper and lower show traces of double printing.

f. The top ray of the Star is thin, having a hardly perceptible knob to it, and is nearly vertical.

g. These three are in *bluish green*, and probably form, with the three former, the *yellow-green* and *blue-green* varieties first chronicled by M. Moens. The arms are usually much blurred in *d*, *e*, and *f*, the word "JEEND" on the scroll being frequently illegible.

We can find no spots or peculiarities that can be relied upon in the next three, and the Stars are very difficult to describe.

g. There is a space between the uppermost ray and the next on its right, which is closely followed by the third, with a space again between that and the fourth. Some copies show a blotch about 28 mm. below the stop after "SIDE."

h. The Star is nearer to the Arms than to "POST," the right-hand ray sticks out horizontally, and the knob at the end of it is cut off square.

i. The upper ray on the right of the Star has a very large knob to it, and the whole Star has a crowded appearance. Two spots may generally be found in the right lower corner of the card, about 51 and 53 mm. below the level of the line of instruction.

The spaces between *g* and *h*, and *h* and *i*, on the sheet, are smaller than usual, with the result that most copies of *i* are much above the average height, 95 mm. or more instead of about 92 mm. It was probably for this reason that one whole packet we examined was composed entirely of *g* and *h*.

j. The top of the "A" of "STATE" is blurred and appears to be broken off (it usually has a sharp point). There is a dot 39 mm. below the "R," and another 40 mm. below the second "S" of "ADDRESS." Many impressions also show a dot 6 mm. above the second "T" of "STATE," and, if the margin is large enough, another dot 5 mm. higher up.

k. The end of the lowest ray of the Star is on a level with and almost touches the ear of the Lion.

l. There is a small spot 19 mm. below the level of the line of instruction, and slightly to the left of the lowest corner of the stamp.

m. There is a dot 7 mm. below the "E" of "ADDRESS," also a kind of shadow of a Star near the lower margin, about the centre, as if something had been blotted there.

n. There is a blotch to the left of the top of the "J" of "JEEND."

o. There is a similar blotch between the tops of the "N" and "D" of "JEEND."

II. With *eight-rayed* Star, the top rays curved to the left, and the bottom to the right.

p. The two uppermost rays are joined. There is a dot 20 mm. below the "L" of "ONLY."

r. This may be distinguished from *p* by the above description. It is the only other variety with a similar Star.

III. *g.* With *six-rayed* Star, the rays curved as in *p* and *r*. This is the only variety with six-rayed Star.

These three *g* were printed together thus. We find two

sets of impressions, one very clear and distinct, all the rays of the Stars starting from the central dots with fine lines; and the other very heavily printed, with the centres of the Stars showing as solid blots. The Star in the heavy impressions of *g* resembles the paper windmills of our childhood, only with six sails instead of four! There are marked differences also in the lengths of the lines in different impressions, and this we think accounts for Mr. Watson's varieties G and J, as we can only find one variety with the six-rayed Star.

IV. With *five-rayed* Star.

s. The rays in this type are so mixed up as to be hardly distinguishable, but we believe there are five. The Star appears to be composed of three or four trefoils.

t. The five rays are quite distinct, and stick out straight like the spokes of a wheel; the uppermost is nearly vertical.

u. Similar to the last, but the lowermost ray is nearly vertical.

The last six cards

<i>p</i>	<i>s</i>
<i>q</i>	<i>t</i>
<i>r</i>	<i>u</i>

are usually in a very *yellow* shade of *green*. We gather, however, from the fact that among Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.'s stock are a large number of the one triplet and none of the other, that the six were not upon the same sheet.

V. *v.* With no Star.

We have little doubt that these were printed in threes, like the foregoing. It seems possible to distinguish two varieties by the presence and absence of some small blemishes.

VI. *w.* With seven-rayed Star, the upper rays curved to the left, the lower to the right. These rays are more like the legs in the Arms of the Isle of Man, or of Sicily, but there are seven instead of three!

We have placed this variety last, partly because it was the last that we found, but principally because it forms an exception to the triplet rule. We examined two packets composed almost entirely of this variety, and from the very crooked position of many of the impressions with reference to clean-cut edges of the cards, we are inclined to believe that they were printed singly. We have before us two copies, one with a clean-cut edge at the top, and the other with a clean-cut edge below, both of them showing a dot in exactly the same position, above the stamp and to the right of it.

We should add that dots existed upon some of the sheets, indicating where they should be divided; thus we usually find dots in the lower corners of *a* and *b*; these are well above the level of the impression of *b* and *c* respectively, but may occasionally be found in the upper corners of these latter. Similar dots exist in the next triplet, but they are so placed as to be as often found in the upper corners of *e* and *f* as in the lower corners of *d* and *e*. On the third set we find a dot in the left lower corner of *g*, and a large one in the corresponding corner of *h*; these again are well above the cards below them; there are very faint dots at the right corners also. In the left lower corner of *j*, or left upper corner of *k*, we find a dot, which appears to be the only one of its kind upon that sheet. On the next we only find a very minute dot, in the right lower corner of *m*. There are conspicuous dots in the lower corners of *p* and *q*, but in some impressions the dot in the left lower corner of *q* does not appear. On the last triplet there are three dots, vertically one above the other, at the right-hand side, between the pairs of cards; they are usually found two in the right lower corners of *s* and *t*, and one in the right upper of *t* and *u*. We have found none of these dots upon *v*, and only the one already described upon some copies of *w*.

We have gone into these minute details, as they may be useful for further identification of the varieties, our list of which is very possibly not complete.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE.

SOME of the most interesting talk of the town just now is non-philatelic; and naturally so, for our talk in the long, bright days of sunny June and July is of holidays, and not of stamps and albums. But it strikes me that there is an idea in the holiday direction, put forth by that restless soul the quondam editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, that might be made to bear fruit in a philatelic direction. Mr. Stead, in the June number of his *Review of Reviews*, proposes to turn the modern tourist into a pilgrim; that is to say, instead of wandering about guideless, ignorant, and aimless, the tourist shall be catered for by those who would take him on tour through historic districts, and explain in an interesting manner the associations of the present with the past. Lord Wolseley would be invited to "personally conduct" the modern pilgrims over Pevensey Beach, and describe to them the landing of the Normans, and the heroic struggle of his gallant predecessor, Harold Hardrada, and so on.

Now, then, on these lines who will get up a Philatelic Pilgrimage, and take us over the great manufactories of postal stationery? I will guarantee the supply of pilgrims to follow a Philatelic Stead over the historic establishments of Perkins, Bacon, & Co., De la Rue & Co., Waterlow & Sons, &c. And what an interesting pilgrimage might be made to the States, with Mr. Seebeck to explain the ins and outs of the Seebecking processes; the manager of the American Bank Note Co. of New York to show the Columbian plates, describe their engraving processes, and send the pilgrims away rejoicing with souvenir proofs on Indian paper, and so on. Indeed, the Philatelic Pilgrimage, plus the souvenir proofs distributed at each stopping-place, would put the collection of souvenir sand on Pevensey Beach completely into the shade. Consequently, I have a firm faith in the supply of pilgrims. Now, then, who will be the Philatelic Stead to organise the business?

The developments of latter-day Philately supply a never-ending theme. One dealer tells me that several of his customers collect everything in pairs, that others collect even in blocks of four and six, and that a few are going in for complete sheets. Fortunately for the modest general collector of single varieties, stamps are now produced in such wholesale quantities that the collection of even complete sheets need create no unnecessary alarm as to a possible scarcity. Now and then the voracious collector of sheets may scoop up one of a few such errors as an inverted surcharge, but he can scarcely corner any stamp which has been legitimately issued and designed to supply postal needs.

Yet how glad we should be to unearth some philatelic hermit who had stored away in his retreat unsevered sheets of the early issues of New South Wales, Victoria, British Guiana, Transvaal, and a few other countries, in which the production of unsevered sheets would settle many a vexed and unsolved problem. There can be no question that all methods of collecting adopted by advanced collectors of the present day have as their basis thoroughness in the matter of completion. An issue that lacks a shade, or a perforation, or a watermark, or a known variety of paper or printing, is to that extent regarded as incomplete.

Germany, we are told, is swarming with Philatelic clubs, numbering the respectable total of 400. Nearly every little town of the Fatherland, it is said, has at least one Stamp Club; whilst Berlin—a town only a quarter the size of London—can boast of as many as six clubs. Ergo, this sad backwardness of London having been discovered and ruthlessly exposed, parties have set to work to put matters right, —or wrong, as the result must be left to prove.

One party—for there are two Richards in the field—thinks what is wanted to meet the suddenly crying need of London is a Stamp Exchange open to dealers galore, and collectors —perhaps, yes. The said dealers to meet periodically to buy, sell, and exchange, and to pay a guinea a year for the advantage of periodically renewing each other's acquaintance. Other privileges are mostly limited to the pleasure of being "expelled without notice" in case you display any weakness for "home manufactures" in the shape of ready-made surcharges, roulettes, perforations, &c.

The other party desires to be of a more affectionate and sociable disposition. It aspires to offer "a home, so to speak," to its members "at least once a week." The other nights of the week the members will, presumably, be left to spend in the Casual Ward. However, it is a step in the right direction to provide for dealers and collectors, who are down on their luck, "a home, so to speak, at least once a week." I intend to send in my donation as soon as I can dispose of my strip of ten Brattleboros, on original envelope; and I trust that sufficient funds will be forthcoming to enable the committee to open their doors, like those of Dr. Barnardo's institution, every night in the week.

What about the London Philatelic Society's Exhibition of the Stamps of the West Indies and British Guiana, which is fixed to be held about the middle or end of next October? It seems to me it will be a case of getting a quart into a pint pot, for the exhibition of the members' collections of the stamps of India and Ceylon filled the larger of the two fine rooms of the Society at Effingham House; and if two countries fill one room how many rooms will be required for the countries comprised in the Society's West Indian volume? And I happen to know that collections within the range of membership are particularly rich in West Indian, so that the show is certain to be the talk of the town in October.

The Irish people are not, after all, to have the control of their Post-office revenue and expenditure. It looked at one time as if we were destined to have an Irish postage stamp, but the Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* so scared the Government with his inquisitiveness in the matter that Mr. Gladstone felt that the only course open to him was to recast the financial proposals of the Government, and remove the Post-office from the region of Philatelic controversy.

Newspaper reporters are very observant people. If they were not they would not have included the lamp over the entrance to the establishment of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, as a special illumination for the occasion of the rejoicings over the marriage of H.R.H. the Duke of York. The lamp, which is a very fine one, has three panels. On the

side facing the Strand is a beautiful enlarged reproduction in coloured glass of the 4d. English stamp; on the western side is a Persian stamp with portrait of the Shah, and on the eastern panel a fine copy of the 90 c. United States of 1869 with portrait of Lincoln. The portrait of Her Majesty on the English stamp in the centre panel seemed quite in keeping with the eventful occasion, but rumour has it that the Shah and friend Abe were regarded as quite unnecessary.

I am told that the lamp has attracted attention in another quarter. A mysterious little man has been noted walking up and down, stopping every now and again to stare at that lamp, then scratching his head, and resuming his meditative perambulation. It is hard to account for the little man's perplexity over that lamp. I wonder, now, if it is an infringement of Palmer's Act; or whether the mysterious party was looking for a grill on the United States, or an inverted watermark on the 4d.?

Reverting to the Royal marriage, I am told that the members of the Philatelic Society sent the Duke of York, who is their Honorary Vice-President, a very fine lot of postage stamps, neatly mounted in a specially-bound morocco album. The collection was the result of an appeal to the members of the Society for a wedding present for the Duke, the suggestion being that each member should give from his best duplicates some stamp that might be an acceptable addition to H.R.H.'s own collection. It was of course taken up heartily, but the necessarily short notice must have excluded many members from contributing. Herr Von Ferrary was one of the contributors.

The auctions are over at last for the season. Never before in the recollection of the oldest philatelic inhabitant has there been such a run of auctions of postage stamps. There have been auctions north, east, south, and west. They have spread over the habitable globe. Even the phlegmatic Dutch have had their auctions in their own peculiar way. And Londoners have been at it morning, noon, and night. But now all is quiet. English auctioneers have gone a-fishing, and Americans are flocking over here in the recess thus obtained to secure a few good things for their next season. Who shall say what is the net result of the auctions? One thing, and one thing only, seems to be absolutely certain—they have created a new industry, or, shall I say, a new being, to wit, the stamp auctioneer.

Now we want an auction analysis. There is plenty of material and plenty of occupation for an exceptionally industrious individual, who might term himself an auction analyzer, a someone who will give us, after the style of the Stock Exchange man, the highest and lowest and average price of every notable stamp sold during the past season.

The market, always more or less flat in July, is this year no exception to the rule; indeed it would be void of activity but for an influx of collectors and dealers from the States, and floods of surcharges and new issues from various parts of the world. Sandwiches are still in active demand, especially those with the dot omitted. The American visitors have created quite a run on the Canadian *peuce* issues. The Transvaal mines are turning out a plentiful supply of surcharges, of which the "inverteds" want buyers. Shanghai new issues promise to be a plentiful crop; not so the older issues. I am told that one or two men who have been "hammered" in the philatelic market are about again under various *nous de plume*. The "dark horse" of the market is the Belgian "Sunday label." "Will he stay?" is the question. The irreverent ones say, "No!"

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

500 *New Sets of Stamps*.—We would draw special attention to our very full list of new Sets for the season of 1893-94. A portion of this list was given in the last number of the *Journal*, and a further portion will be found in our advertisement pages in this number. These sets are worthy of attention, as they have been carefully selected to suit present-day requirements. For the beginner and medium collector there will be found among them a quantity of

sets of interesting countries, each containing from 15 to 50 stamps of a country, and forming a fair start for anyone. Special attention, however, has been given to forming *cheap* sets of a better class of stamps, especially those of the English colonies, and a most superior selection is now placed before our clients, and one that we feel sure no other firm of stamp merchants can compete with, either for quality or price.

* * *

The Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbooks.—For some months past we have been making arrangements to publish a series of Handbooks—each one to be written by a specialist—on the more difficult countries, and we are now able to offer the first of the series, viz., "Portuguese India." In introducing this book we cannot do better than to quote a few remarks from the preface:

"Complaints have from time to time reached us that the general catalogues published do not enter sufficiently into detail, especially in the case of the more difficult and intricate countries, and that collectors desirous of specialising, in order to secure what is to them a more or less inadequate catalogue of the stamps of their particular country, are obliged to purchase an expensive and unwieldy volume, of which only a few pages are of use for their purpose, and which they very often have to supplement with a whole library of philatelic literature."

The present volume is written by Mr. Gilbert Harrison and Lieutenant F. H. Napier, R.N., and the greater part of it has already been published in the pages of the *Monthly Journal*, but a number of discoveries and corrections have been made since the articles appeared. The following additional Handbooks are also in preparation: *The Transvaal*, by Mr. Edward Nankivell; *Indian States*, by Major E. B. Evans; *Shanghai*, by Mr. W. B. Thornhill; *South Australia*, by Lieut. F. H. Napier and Mr. Gordon Smith, &c. &c.; and these will be issued in due course.

We have decided to price those varieties that we have in stock at the time of publication, but many of those to which prices are not attached are being continually purchased, and can often be supplied.

The prices quoted will be found to rule somewhat higher than those of our general catalogue, but it must be borne in mind that the prices in the Handbooks are for specimens perfect in every respect, as to colour, gum, perforation, and being well-centred, &c.

The price of *Portuguese India* is 4s. 6d., or if bound in cloth, 6s. (see advts.)

* * *

The Journal Competition. £100 Rewards.—Since we offered Ten Prizes, (first £50) amounting in all to the large sum of £100, to those who secure before December 31st, 1893, the greatest number of New Subscribers to the *Journal*, the idea has been taken up by a vast number of persons, and we are now able to see that the competition for the First Prize will be exceedingly close; no one, so far, stands away ahead of his fellow-competitors, but many are close together at the head of the list, with nearly the same number of entries. There is a splendid chance during the next five months for an energetic person to secure the £50, by persuading his friends to pay the merely nominal subscription of 1s. per annum for the leading stamp journal. This one number alone is fully worth the price asked for twelve numbers, and can be shown with great advantage by competitors to persuade their friends to subscribe. For full terms of this competition see back page of this number.

* * *

Rogers' American Philatelic Blue Book.—The long expected has come at last—promised for January, but

not received until June. However, on looking over it carefully, we fully understand that the delay has been caused by the immense amount of work in compiling and arranging the lists. In his introduction Mr. Rogers states that he sent out 7000 circulars, with blanks to be filled up by answering the following questions :

- Name and Address.
- Business.
- A Member of what Societies.
- References.
- Speciality.
- No. of Varieties in Collection.
- Approval Sheets.
- Sample Copies.
- To Exchange.
- Auction Catalogues.
- If Dealer or Collector.

If wanted

(On receiving the book, we immediately looked up the names of six of our leading customers in the States, and found one given, the other five being conspicuous by their absence. We find that advanced collectors objected to the inquisitorial questions, and would not allow their names to go in ; but except for these omissions the book is a most creditable one, and will be of considerable use for reference. We congratulate Mr. Rogers on his methods of arrangement of a difficult subject ; they leave nothing to be desired, the cross references being very simple and easily mastered. Finally, the book may be had from Mr. A. R. Rogers, 75, Maiden Lane, New York, price one dollar.

* * *

The Stamp Exhibit at the World's Fair.—Every attempt had been made to show as complete an exhibit of the United States and Confederate States stamps as possible, and but for an unfortunate incident this branch of the exhibit would have been matchless. This exhibit was to be compiled from the collections of Mr. H. E. Deats and three of the leading New Yorkers, but one of the rare locals was wanting—the “Alexandria,” and Mr. Tiffany was asked to lend his copy to make the show complete. This he refused to do ! And his action so disgusted the other exhibitors of the United States and Confederate stamps, that all, with the exception of Mr. Deats, withdrew their contributions. The action of Mr. Tiffany, who is the President of the American Philatelic Association, is much to be deplored. If the President will not lend even one of his stamps for this special exhibit, how can others be expected to do so ? It is believed that this action will lose Mr. Tiffany many votes at the coming convention in Chicago, and may even cost him his position as President of the Association.

* * *

The Postage Stamps, etc., of Sweden, by Sven Lindhé (published by S. A. Wood), is a small pamphlet of 28 pages, price 1s. 6d., and contains some interesting notes, among which we see the following :

“In 1871 the whole series of the skilling-banco stamps were officially reprinted, the 4 and 8 having exactly the same colours as the originals. The 3, 6, and 24 were printed in lighter colours. The 3 skilling-banco reprint is considerably clearer, both in print and colour. The 6 skilling-banco is *red-lilac*, and the 24 skilling-banco is *clear red*. These stamps were reprinted for purposes of exchange with foreign P.O.'s, and Swedish collectors consider them as valuable as the originals, as they might still be used for postage in Sweden.

“A second reprint was made in 1885 on thinner paper, and perforated 14 (originals are perf. 15). Not a single specimen of these reprints was sold, therefore no collector possesses them.”

The following history of the rare error is exceptionally interesting :

“The cause of this error was as follows: One of the dies in the block of 100 having been damaged, it had to be removed and replaced by a new one. On account of the great hurry in which this had to be done, an old die was used as a substitute. This, however, was a 30 öre one, wherefore the 30 in the middle was cut out and 20 put in its place. By mistake the trettio (thirty) at the bottom of circle remained unchanged, and this is the explanation of why the stamp has two different values, or 20 in the middle and trettio (thirty) at bottom. The printing of 6000 sheets, each containing one error, took place on the 15th of December, 1879, and in January of the next year 1583 sheets were sent out to different Post-offices all over the kingdom. However, shortly afterwards the mistake was discovered, and circulars immediately sent out to all Post-offices demanding the return of all sheets having this error. As a great many had already been sold, only 613 were returned, and 970 used for postage. The error was the fourth stamp on the fourth row to the left from the top. All errors returned to the Postmaster-General were burned.”

* * *

Another Brattleboro.—The J. W. Scott Co. held a sale of the collection of Mr. R. A. Britton on May 16th last. The chief lot was a very fine specimen of the Brattleboro, 5c., black on buff, used, and on the original letter. This was sold for \$360.00, say £72. This is a similar stamp to that which a certain small dealer claimed to have sold for £250 ! Query. Where is that happy (!) purchaser ?

* * *

“PHILATELY.

“A NOTABLE EXHIBIT OF POSTAGE STAMPS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

“Now that the World's Fair at Chicago includes an exhibition of the postage stamps of the world, special interest will attach to all exhibits bearing upon stamp collecting ; or, as it is termed by the devotees, Philately. Not the least of the many exhibits that will make glad the heart of the philatelist is the very handsome case in which the leading English firm of Stamp Merchants has tastefully arranged a few of the numberless treasures long hoarded in their safes.

“Messrs. Stanley Gibbons (Limited) occupy a quite unique position in matters appertaining to stamp collecting. Amongst English firms they by common consent take the lead in the mother country and in its colonies. Their catalogue, published annually, practically determines the price of all quotable stamps for the next twelve months amongst English-speaking collectors. Their excellent publications have the immense advantage of being edited by Major Evans, whose reputation as one of the very best philatelists of the day may be said to be international ; while the interests of the firm are ably looked after by the energetic managing director, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, who is *facile princeps* in the profession, and never allows a good thing to escape him.

“But to return to the exhibit, which is in the British section of the Liberal Arts Gallery, exactly facing the exhibit of the South Kensington Museum. It is contained in a large upright case standing 8ft. 6in. high and 5ft. deep.

“In the bottom panels is the noted 1866 issue of the United States, which includes the well-known bi coloured stamps of rapidly-increasing rarity—the stamps representing objects of interest in the history of America, such as “The Declaration of Independence,” “The Landing of Columbus,” etc.

“The most interesting feature of the upper panels is an extensive collection of what are known as the “Patriotic Envelopes.” These envelopes are adorned, or disfigured, as the onlooker pleases, with reminders of the feelings that swayed the breasts of the active partizan in the great Civil War of America. Some are ornamented with corner pictures that are most enjoyably comic ; others are satirical ; others cynical ; others aggressively personal, and a few pathetic ; but all have in their miniature pictures distinct and easily-recognized features bearing on some well-known phase in the progress of the bitter strife that divided families as well as States.

“In another similar panel are some remarkably fine reconstructed plates of “laureated” New South Wales stamps, showing rare minor varieties which occur in the engraving. What is known amongst stamp collectors as the “reconstructed” plate we may perhaps, with advantage explain to the uninitiated and unaffiliated as an attempt on the part of the advanced and wealthy collector to put back in complete sheet form, and in their original order, the various stamps that made up the sheet in its pristine, unsevered condition. The sheets so attempted are mostly those in which each stamp, by reason of separate engraving, or other cause, possessed some distinctive peculiarity of its own, and claimed its own particular position on the sheet. Hence the reconstructed plate may be termed the high-water mark of stamp collecting.

“Another artistic oesign in the shape of radiating circles is made up of one of the first issued stamps of every country in the world, from the English 1d. black of 1840, followed by the Brazil and Swiss of 1843, and the United States of 1845, to the latest issues of the past year.

"The rest of the case is taken up with an extensive exhibit of the most popular albums of the firm, of which we may particularize the "Imperial" and the "Philatelic," the latter being the model album for advanced collectors. There is the original sketch by H. Furniss, the well-known artist, for the cover of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, most deservedly popular of all stamp journals. The sketch comprises no fewer than fifty portraits of the most eminent philatelists of the day, including amongst others their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of York, the Prince of Siam, the Comte de Ferrary, the prince of stamp collectors, whose collection is said to be valued by experts at over a quarter of a million sterling; and the late T. K. Tapping, who bequeathed his valuable collection to the British Museum."

The above most interesting review is from *The Galignani Messenger* of July 14, 1893, published at 224, Rue de Rivoli, Paris. This paper, which has an enormous circulation among visitors to the Continent, has been reviewing the chief exhibits at Chicago's World's Fair, and we are highly pleased with the extended notice they give our firm.

* * *

"*A Big Bankruptcy*.—We have just received information of the failure of a large Swiss dealer, M. Adrien Champion, of Geneva. The liabilities are said to amount to nearly £12,000, and the assets are not yet known. It is probable that over-buying is the cause of this smash, as we know that M. Champion has quite recently been purchasing heavily. English dealers are involved to the extent of about £500."—From *The Stamp Collector's Monthly*, June, 1893.

* * *

North American Visitors.—During the past two weeks quite a number of philatelists from across "the pond" have been inspecting our new premises, and many of them have made extensive purchases. The first to arrive was Mr. C. T. Harbeck, followed by Mr. W. Thorne; then came Mr. R. F. Albrecht, and the following day Mr. Alexander van den Heuvel, who we believe manages the Scott Stamp and Coin Company's branch in Broadway.

Canada also sent us Mr. T. S. Clark, of Belleville, and Mr. Chapman, of Montreal; the latter gentleman informs us that our esteemed friend, Mr. L. Gibb, of Montreal (formerly of London), will be here in a few weeks—he will be heartily welcomed by his old confrères of the Philatelic Society.

* * *

"*A Great Postage Stamp Swindle* was tried here, and the verdicts have now been given. The subjects of the matter are very cool and successful frauds by three clerks; viz., Ernst Antholz (19), his brother, Carl Ludwig Antholz (18), and Andreas Schmitt (18). They got from great foreign firms valuable stamps under false pretences, and never paid for them. Other firms sent them deposits for stamps ordered, which however were never sent to these firms. By means of forged dies they imitated old unused Bremen, Hamburg, Lübeck, and Alsace-Lorraine stamps, also the Hong-kong Jubilee stamp. They surcharged common, cheap Hong-kong stamps exactly like the 1891 Jubilee stamp (by forging the surcharge), till the buyers found that too many stamps were in the market. How cleverly the young scapegraces managed this can be seen by the fact that firms who bought the stamps had them carefully examined by experts, who did not detect the swindle. Many a happy owner of rare stamps may have such forged copies, and have paid much for them. Besides this, Ernst Antholz had the rare idea to ask the millionaire Cornelius Vanderbilt, who was in Vienna on a visit, to send him a gift of \$100, saying (in a letter) that he was a father of nineteen children, and sixty-six years of age; but Vanderbilt had already left, the letter was returned by the post, and got into the hands of the police. Ernst Antholz was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment, Carl Antholz got four months, and Schmitt one year."—From *The Frankfurter Zeitung*.

THE DE COPPET AUCTION SALE.

IN May last we made some rather severe remarks upon the report by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company of this sale in their journal. We print their reply to this, which is based entirely upon a letter from Mr. W. W. Blest, a prominent English collector, and member of the London Philatelic Society.

We first print the whole of the article from the *American Journal of Philately* for June (published by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company).

"THE DE COPPET AUCTION SALE.

"In the April number of this journal we gave an account of this important auction, and launched into some criticism of the methods adopted in the conduct of the sale. Every collector present at any of the sessions of the auction knows that our strictures were fully justified, and that we served only as the mouthpiece for their opinions. We debated for some time the question whether we should pass the matter in silence or no, but we concluded that, in justice to the many persons who hold auctions on this side of the water, it was imperative that collectors living outside of New York be informed of the light in which the reprehensible methods were considered.

"The *Monthly Journal*, in defence of the agents of its publishers, have seen fit to accuse us of petty motives in stating what we did, and we must make some reply to their unjust remarks. We insert herewith a letter that we have just received from a well-known English collector who figured as a bidder at the sale, and who relates his experiences.

"WATERBURY, KENT, ENGLAND,

"19th June, 1893.

"To the Editor of the "*American Journal of Philately*."

"SIR,—I see by Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* of May that your comments on the management of the sale of the de Coppet collection in your issue of April, to the effect "that the catalogue was marred by a number of rank frauds, and also a general tendency to exaggerate the condition of the stamps," are attributed to petty and trade jealousy. The inclusion of frauds is defended on the ground that probably no £5000 collection is without one or two doubtful stamps, and an explanation is given apparently, judging by what follows, in the word of Mr. Albrecht, that "Mr. de Coppet authorized Mr. Albrecht to buy in these lots for his account, and this was done in all really doubtful cases." I would it were so, and I should not have hard things to say of either of these gentlemen.

"In New York, where an exceedingly reliable and exhaustive catalogue is now publishing, every lot could easily have been verified, but I am sorry from my own experience to think that the excision of doubtful stamps was the last thing contemplated by the compilers of this delusive catalogue. My bids were solicited by Mr. Albrecht, and he received them. On April 5, when in London, I was informed by one of the largest dealers that he had been wired by Mr. Albrecht that his bid for the 2 cent circular Guiana was no good, as he (another English dealer) had sent a bid of so much. Here was a breach of confidence.

"Mr. Albrecht was employed by Mr. de Coppet, and yet solicited bids from the public, and then divulged them to other interested parties. Who would have sent Mr. Albrecht bids knowing this sort of thing was going on behind the scenes?

"Seventeen lots in all were sent me—of these one unused was skinned at the back, but in the catalogue was described as beautiful, two were falsely described, and of course should not have been bought for me, one I did not commission for, one was a reprint, and two had forged perforations.

"Mr. Albrecht, your readers may notice, advertises himself as a stamp expert; but he will have to prove himself much more expert than he advertises himself to be succeeds in getting the money for these three last lots out of my pocket. Perhaps his friend Mr. de Coppet will return Mr. Albrecht the many obligations he must owe him over this sale.

"So much for Mr. de Coppet's solicitude for his good name, and so much for Mr. Albrecht's mode of buying on

commission. Below I give extracts from the catalogue of these three lots, and my comments thereon.

"I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
"W. W. BLEST.

"Lot 371.—B. Guiana 1 cent 1853, 1 cent (value 12½ mm. long), pale vermilion, unused, a beautiful stamp.

This is the ordinary reprint on thin paper, worth perhaps three shillings; but they managed to work it up to \$12 for me.

Lot 530a.—Canada 6d., on laid paper, perf. 12. Perforation on one side trimmed, otherwise very fine specimen of this very rare stamp. Purchased of Pemberton, Wilson, & Co.

This is a very silly forgery, as the perforations looked as if they had been torn out with a pin; but they screwed the price up to \$31.

Lot 533.—3d. Canada, perf. 14, used, perforations clipped in one corner. This perforation is very scarce.

Yes, I should hope so; the forger had not even taken the trouble to get the sides parallel. This choice thing was bought for me at \$4 50.

"Mr. Blest has shown clearly that every word that we have spoken was the absolute truth, and that collectors were worked for all that was in it. The very man who made colossal efforts to obtain bids for the sale was the agent of Mr. de Coppet in protecting his goods, and not being connected with the company whose name appeared in the catalogue, collectors supposed themselves safe in entrusting their bids to him.

"The whole affair was so self-evident that some of our best known collectors left the auction room in disgust, and cancelled all bids that they had made."

Next we print a letter from Mr. Blest, containing an unqualified apology to Mr. R. F. Albrecht.

"BROOMSCROFT, WATERINGBURY.
"July 19th, 1893.

"To the Editor of the 'Monthly Journal.'

"SIR,—I am sending the enclosed letter to the *American Journal of Philately*, and wish it to appear also in yours.

"I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
"W. W. BLEST."

"WATERINGBURY, KENT, ENGLAND.
"July 19th, 1893.

"To the Editor of the 'American Journal of Philately.'

"SIR,—You published in your June number some severe strictures of mine on the conduct of Mr. R. F. Albrecht in connection with the de Coppet sale.

"Yesterday I met Mr. Albrecht in London, and he gave me an explanation of his part in this memorable sale; and I write after hearing this to withdraw my charge of breach of faith or connivance with Mr. de Coppet, and to tender him through the channel in which I made the charge an unqualified apology.

"Mr. Albrecht did not receive two different bids from England for the 2 c. Guiana, but heard another commission agent let out the amount of his English customer's limit, and he, as a man of business, wired for fresh instructions.

"The only thing to which Mr. Albrecht pleaded guilty was his trusting to Mr. de Coppet's descriptions of the lots without examining them in every case himself. To do this, he explained, was simply impossible with his numerous commissions and the limited time at his disposal.

"I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
"W. W. BLEST."

Now, in defence of Mr. R. F. Albrecht, whom we have always found to be a most honourable and straightforward man in every respect, we should like to give a few further details.

Mr. Blest was under the opinion that Mr. Albrecht had our commission on the 2 c. round British Guiana, and ALSO a higher commission of another English dealer, and cabled us to that effect. But this was not so. Another person (whose name we can give if necessary) had a bid of £195 on this stamp, and he let this out. Mr. Albrecht then, as a business man,

wired us that we must go higher if we wished to secure it. It was not until the actual morning of the sale that Mr. Hunter placed his commission in Mr. Albrecht's hands, and, as is well known, Mr. Albrecht then bought the stamp for Mr. Hunter.

Mr. Albrecht has had an opportunity of meeting Mr. Blest in London, and, after going fully into the matter, the latter gentleman sees that he was in the wrong, and hence the letter we publish above. After the affair came to such a happy conclusion, Mr. Blest invited Mr. R. F. Albrecht to dine with him, and to thus cement what we trust will be a long friendship.

Now another point. Mr. Blest draws attention to two Canada stamps:

The 6d., on laid paper, perf. 12,
The 3d., wove paper, perf. 14,

both of which, he states, bear forged perforations.

The question now is, *Why* did Mr. de Coppet offer these two stamps? and *why* did Albrecht buy them?

The answer is very simple, and is contained in a paragraph we quote in full from a letter to us, dated June 6th last, from Mr. F. de Coppet.

"I would add that so far there have been but two claims made on all the stamps sold. Mr. Blest claims, I am told, that the perforations on two Canadian stamps he bought are forged. One of these stamps was purchased of Mr. A. H. Wilson years ago, and the other came from the *Scott Stamp and Coin Company*. So much for rank forgeries! There were one or two questionable surcharges, but I called the attention of the purchasers to them, and they decided to accept them as they were.

Yours very truly,
"(Signed) F. DE COPPET."

By this we see that Mr. Albrecht was fully justified in bidding on stamps, one from such a firm as Pemberton, Wilson, & Co., and the other from the Scott Stamp and Coin Company themselves.

There are many other points, but our space is limited. One more, however, we must mention.

The United States of Colombia, 1863, error 50 c., red, in colour of 20 c., condemned by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company as a *forgery*. This stamp was bought at the auction by Mr. W. Thorne for \$99, and is absolutely genuine. It has been examined by the London Philatelic Society, and pronounced genuine. The stamp has been traced back, and it came from the celebrated collection of Mr. Burnett, who was for some years editor of *The Philatelic Record*, and whose opinion, backed by the London Society and Pemberton, Wilson, & Co., will carry ten times the weight of the opinion of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.

THE DEFAACEMENT OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

(From *The Times of India*, June 30, 1893.)

THE Corporation next considered a memorandum by the Director-General of the Post-offices of India on the subject of the discontinuance of the practice of defacing postage labels by means of rubber stamps, or by writing or marks, and requesting the Corporation to favour him with an expression of their views on the subject. In the course of the memorandum it is stated that for many years past the public in this country have been allowed to deface postage labels on letters or other articles before they are posted, by marking them with a pen or writing upon them, and at one time this practice may be said to have been encouraged by the Post-office. This has led by a natural extension to the use of rubber stamps by certain sections of the public for the same purpose, and in some cases to the printing of names or initial letters upon postage labels. The former practice has been hitherto recognised by the Post-office, but the use of printing has always been discountenanced whenever a reference on the subject has been made to the

Director-General, as tending to render it more difficult for postal officials to maintain a proper check against the employment of previously-used labels for paying postage. This use of rubber stamps has largely increased of late, and the practical results of the action on the part of the public in defacing postage labels has been made the subject of a special inquiry. Hundreds of covers with the postage labels defaced by means of rubber stamps have been collected from all parts of the country, and an examination of these covers and the reports on the case have shown conclusively that the present practice of using rubber stamps constitutes a very serious interference with the work of the Post-office. The effect has been to induce neglect of an important check against frauds on postal revenue. Within the last year several cases have been discovered in which the fraudulent employment of previously-used postage labels had been attempted under cover of the impressions of rubber stamps, and there is reason to believe that other cases of a similar kind have escaped notice. It has also to be said that postal inquiries are frequently defeated because postmarks are found to be absolutely undecipherable owing to the existence of these rubber stamp impressions. It seems quite clear, therefore, that the use of rubber stamps for the purpose of defacing postage labels cannot be allowed to continue.

Mr. Javerilal Umiashunker Yajnik proposed, "That the figures quoted by the Director-General show that the practice of defacing postage labels is very wide-spread, and will no doubt increase, but the Corporation, while admitting that the custom interferes to a certain extent with the work of the Post-office, see no valid reason why it should be altogether prohibited. The drawing of a line in ink across the stamp and envelope or wrapper may be permitted, and all other means of defacement prohibited. The cancelling of the stamp does no doubt afford protection against petty pilfering, and so long as the revenues of the Post-office are not affected the public may be permitted to continue what is a practice of long standing. That the Deputy Director-General be informed accordingly." In the course of his remarks Mr. Javerilal said that the reason why the public defaced postage labels on letters or other articles was one of self-protection. As business men it was, he believed, within the experience of every member that the postage stamps, adhesive though they were, did not stick. It was therefore found necessary, in order that the stamps might not be tampered with, either by sepoys who carried the letters or by the Postal Department, that the stamps should be obliterated. To diminish frauds he thought the best course the Post-office authorities could adopt would be to issue one anna and two anna embossed covers or wrappers, which would largely dispense with the use of adhesive stamps.

Mr. B. A. Kur seconded the motion.

Rai Bahadur Luchmon Singh moved as an amendment, "That in reply to letter No. 1641, dated the 4th May, 1893, the Deputy Director-General of the Post-offices of India be informed that, in view of the serious interference with the work of the Postal Department, which is very clearly set forth in the memo. of the Director-General, the Corporation see no valid reason why the practice of defacing postage labels should not be prohibited."

Dr. Modi seconded the amendment.

Mr. Roughton said it was the experience of every business man that the drawing of a couple of lines through the stamp was a practice of infinite use, and he observed that there was a sort of tentative reference to it in the letter. With respect to the inferior quality of the gum put on the stamps supplied to the Indian public, Mr. Roughton said he remembered some years ago that that circumstance was stated to be due to the supply of gum in the Egyptian forests having failed. He did not know whether such a thing would occur again, but it was possible that it might, and it was known to most of them that when the gum was inferior the practice of drawing the lines through the stamps was especially useful. It was not only a precaution against the petty pilfering that took place amongst one's own peons, but of others employed in the Post-offices. Frequently when claims had been made on him for extra postage, even in respect of letters for England, he had been able to show the marks on the envelopes, and conclusively prove to the postal authorities that when the letter left his office it was properly stamped, and he had ultimately recovered the extra postage from the Post-office. It was a custom which

was ingrained in every person who posted letters, and he thought that a practice which had proved itself so useful should not be lightly thrown over.

Mr. Kabrajee concurred in what had been said by the previous speaker. The practice of marking stamps was at one time encouraged by the Post-office authorities, and, if he remembered rightly, something akin to a notification was sent out by them to the public, advising the latter to follow it in order to secure themselves from the petty pilfering of peons and such-like persons. Therefore, he was surprised at the Director-General now taking objection to that harmless practice, and he thought that the Corporation would be acting wisely to tell the authorities that the system as far as it went was a very useful and convenient one.

On being put to the vote the amendment was rejected, and the original motion was afterwards carried by a large majority.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies would kindly send us a short account of each meeting before the 18th of each month, we shall be pleased to insert it in this Journal.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President :

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G., &c.

Hon. Vice-President :

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President :

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season 1892-93 was held at the Society's rooms, Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 12th May, 1893, at 7.30 p.m. The members present consisted of the President (Lord Kingston), Major Evans and Messrs. D. Garth, C. N. Biggs, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, J. C. Potter, R. Meyer, Hastings E. Wright, Wm. Harrison, T. Maycock, A. B. Creeke, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, A. W. Chambers, and J. A. Tilleard.

The chair having been taken by the President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence.—The Secretary reported that at the meeting last week for the revision of the Reference Lists, being the first meeting after the announcement of the betrothal of H. R. H. the Duke of York, a telegram had been sent offering the loyal and sincere congratulations of the members to H. R. H. as Vice-President of the Society, and that H. R. H. had been graciously pleased to telegraph in reply expressing his thanks to the Society. The Secretary also reported the receipt from Dr. Brendicke of a copy of his work on the Envelopes of the German States, and the receipt from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of a copy of their newly-issued catalogue, both of which were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. A letter from the private secretary of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, expressing the regret of H. R. H. at being unable, owing to his official duties at Devonport, to preside at the annual dinner of the Society, was also read. In regard to this subject the Secretary explained the reasons which had necessitated the postponement of the dinner, and it was arranged that the Sub-Committee should confer with the Committee with a view to fixing a date later in the year. Major Evans produced for inspection, on behalf of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, an original cover, with half of a 4 annas (black) stamp of India, used as a 2 annas stamp in the Straits Settlements in 1859. The same Company also sent an obliterated specimen of the 2d. Mauritius (watermark Crown and C.C.), in perforate, a fine used copy of which stamp having also been previously shown by Mr. Hastings Wright.

Statutes.—Mr. Creeke, in pursuance of notice given moved, "That the Society's statutes be considered, and such alterations made therein, or additions made thereto as may be thought desirable, especially with regard to article 3 and 13, and in reference to Special Committees." A long

discussion ensued, in the course of which various suggestions for alteration of the statutes were made. The Secretary explained that it was proposed to revise the statutes prior to the necessary reprinting, and it was ultimately arranged that Mr. Creeke should give specific notice of some of his proposed alterations, for consideration at the next meeting, leaving the others to be dealt with on the general revision.

Papers.—The Secretary read a paper by Mr. Broderip on "The Stamps of Heligoland," and on the motion of the Assistant-Secretary, seconded by Mr. Pearce, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Broderip for his interesting contribution, which it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist*. Owing to the late hour, Mr. Creeke consented to read his paper on "Philatelic Heraldry" at the meeting of the Society in the ensuing week for the settlement of the Reference Lists.

New Members.—The following new members were elected at this meeting, viz., Col. Chermisde, R.E., proposed by the President, and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary; Mr. Isaac van Alphen, Postmaster-General of Pretoria, proposed by Mr. Nankivell, and seconded by Major Evans; Mr. F. E. Horton, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary; Baron Carl Merck, proposed by Mr. Marsden, and seconded by Mr. Gilbert Harrison; and Mr. W. T. Spink, of Calcutta, proposed by Mr. C. F. Larmour, and seconded by the Secretary.

THE seventeenth meeting of the season, being the Annual General Meeting, was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 26th May, at 7.30 p.m. The Earl of Kingston occupied the chair, and the following members were also present, viz., Major Evans, and Messrs. D. Garth, E. D. Bacon, C. N. Biggs, Hastings E. Wright, R. Meyer, R. Ehrenbach, L. S. Wells, J. C. Potter, Gordon Smith, W. Silk, T. Wickham Jones, T. Maycock, A. A. Davis, E. A. Elliott, A. B. Creeke, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, A. W. Chambers, and J. A. Tilleard.

Secretary's Report.—After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary read his report on the year's work of the Society, in which he referred to the principal causes which had rendered the year a memorable one in the annals of the Society, including the election of nearly 100 new members since the close of last season. On the motion of Mr. Tilleard, seconded by Mr. T. Wickham Jones, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Garth for his services, and for his report, which was directed to be entered on the minutes.

Accounts.—The Auditors presented the annual balance-sheet and accounts, duly audited, and Mr. Chambers submitted the report of the Auditors on the financial transactions of the year, which were of much greater extent than in previous years, owing to the business connected with the publication of the *London Philatelist*. The Treasurer was congratulated on the efficiency with which his duties had been performed, and, on the motion of Lord Kingston, seconded by Mr. Ehrenbach, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Treasurer and the Auditors for their services.

Statutes.—The question of the revision of the Society's statutes occupied the attention of members for a considerable period. In pursuance of notice given, various resolutions standing in the names of Mr. Creeke, Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Pearce were discussed. The principal alteration agreed upon was: That the Committee should for the future be designated the Council, the number of its members being increased to twelve instead of nine as heretofore, the Chairman of the Council for the time being to have a casting vote in case of equality. The Council is also to have the power to nominate Committees from amongst its members, to carry out the work heretofore devolving upon sub-Committees specially nominated by the Society for the purpose. After a protracted discussion, in the course of which various minor alterations and modifications were dealt with, it was resolved that the Council should consider, and report to the Society on any further revision of the statutes which should be thought desirable or necessary.

Officers for the Ensuing Year.—After passing a vote of thanks to the retiring Committee, the meeting proceeded to the consideration of the constitution of the Council for the year 1893-94, and the following members were elected to

serve, viz., Lord Kingston (President), M. P. Castle (Vice-President), D. Garth (Secretary), J. A. Tilleard (Assistant-Secretary), C. N. Biggs (Treasurer), T. Maycock (Librarian), E. D. Bacon, A. W. Chambers, E. B. Evans, T. Wickham Jones, E. J. Nankivell, and R. Pearce.

Election of Members.—Mr. Hubert F. Lowe, proposed by Mr. Hughes-Hughes, and seconded by the Secretary; and Mr. John S. Chappelow, proposed by Mr. E. W. Reeves, and seconded by the Secretary, were duly elected members of the Society.

Stamps of New Zealand.—During the evening Mr. Nankivell produced for inspection of the members present a sheet of the current 1d. stamps of New Zealand (sent by Stanley Gibbons, Limited), showing a new departure on the part of the postal authorities of that Colony, the whole of the back of the stamps being occupied with advertisements of various descriptions.

Papers Read.—During the season there have been fifteen meetings of the Society as a Committee for settling the Reference Lists of the Society. Considerable progress has been made with the lists of the British Colonies in South Africa, which have been nearly completed. At the last meeting Mr. Creeke read an interesting paper on "Philatelic Heraldry," giving full explanations, with illustrations, of the various technical terms employed in heraldry, and a correct heraldic description of many of the arms depicted in the stamps of various countries. At the same meeting Mr. Nankivell, as a preliminary to the study of the stamps of "The Transvaal," read a paper on the stamps of that country, illustrated by his fine collection. Cordial votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Creeke and Mr. Nankivell for their papers.—From "The London Philatelist," the *Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London*.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

AT the eighth ordinary meeting, held at Church Gate Street Fort, there were present E. S. Gubbay, Esq., Vice-President (Chairman); A. Clement Trapp, Esq.; K. Ramchundra, Esq., Hon. Treasurer; R. H. Frost, Esq.; Dr. J. Pacco; D. Mahadevrao, Esq.; and J. Seymour Summers, Hon. Sec. Minutes of previous ordinary meeting were read and confirmed.

The following members were unavoidably absent from the meeting: J. Rebeiro, A. Hayim, H. W. Graham, J. C. Gardiner, G. D'Bildt, J. Douglas, P. De Cruz, E. Bode, A. J. Agabeg, H. Grant Macpherson, and A. Tygouras.

Resignation accepted—J. M. Moses, Esq.

Elected Ordinary Members—T. M. Mullen, Esq., Bombay Port Trust; and J. Viegas, Esq., Assistant Hongkong-Shanghai Bank; both proposed by Dr. J. Pacco, and seconded by K. Ramchundra, Esq., Hon. Treasurer.

Elected Honorary Member—E. Stanley Gibbons, Esq., of the London Philatelic Society, proposed by E. S. Gubbay, Esq., and seconded by A. Clement Trapp, Esq.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS, Hon. Sec.

June 6th, 1893.

PHILATELIC PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

LIST OF FORGERIES RECENTLY DISCOVERED.

SAMOA.—First issue, reprint postmarked Apia, December 7th and 10th.

JAPAN.—45 sen, red, on thin native paper; a very dangerous forgery.

GWALIOR.—Second type surcharge; probably the whole issue exists.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—First type, 2d., orange, with forged perforations.

NEW ZEALAND.—1d., on blue paper.

JHIND.—Forged curved surcharge; probably all values exist.

BOLIVIA.—Gibbons' types, 101 to 111. The whole of this issue has been most conclusively proved to be entirely bogus.

TRINIDAD.—4d., green; value altered to £1 in blue.

NOVA SCOTIA.—1s., the cold violet shade; facsimile obliterated by penmark. A very dangerous counterfeit.

FREDK. R. GINN, Hon. Secretary.

REPORTS OF AUCTION SALES.

If stamp auctioneers will kindly send us priced catalogues of their sales, we shall be happy to notice them under this heading.

THE auctions clashed again, to some extent, last month, both Messrs. Cheveley and Co. and Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper having selected June 21st and following days for their sales. We cannot but think that it would be better both for auctioneers and their clients if some arrangement could be made to prevent the sales falling upon the same day, as the stamp auctions are not so numerous as to occupy every day of the week. However, doubtless these gentlemen know their own business best, and would prefer our sticking to ours. The following are some of the most interesting lots, with the prices obtained for them :

Messrs. Cheveley and Co.'s 44th Sale.

Lot		£	s.	d.
13	Austria, Mercury, rose; used, fine	7	10	0
34	Bergedorf, ½ sch., black on lilac; unused, fine	1	10	0
35	Bergedorf, 3 sch., black on pink; unused	1	10	0
53	Naples, ½ l., blue, Arms; very fine	13	15	0
67	Moldavia, 27 paras; splendid specimen	17	0	0
68	— 54 paras; very fine	7	10	0
69	— 108 paras; unused, fine	17	10	0
76	Saxony, 3 pf., red; fine, small margins	3	17	6
79	Spain, 1851, 2 rls., red; fine	15	10	0
81	— 1852, 2 rls., red; unused, good	7	15	0
90	— Madrid, 3 ctos.; unused, very fine	7	0	0
96	Tuscany, 60 crazie; good specimen	5	10	0
97	— 2 soldi; good specimen	3	12	6
98	— 3 lire; very fine	18	0	0
133	Afghanistan, 1289, 6 shahi; unused, fine	8	0	0
137	— 1292, sunar, black; used	7	10	0
223	Labuan, 12 c., carmine, C A sideways; unused, fine	5	5	0
226	— 6 c., in red, on 16 c., blue	12	0	0
308	Natal, 1st issue, 1s., buff; fine, on letter	7	0	0
315	— 1st issue, 1s., buff, and 3d.; used together	10	10	0
316	— 1st issue, 1s., buff; 3 copies together on letter	11	10	0
337	— 1st issue, half of 6d. used as 3d.	10	10	0
454	B. Guiana, 1860, first type, 2 c. perf. 12½, 12 c. perf. 12; both unused	5	0	0
507	Colombia, 1863, 50 c., red; error	19	0	0
622	Hawaii, 1st issue, 5 c., blue; unused, mended	36	0	0
623	— 1st issue, 13 c., blue; used, mended.	28	10	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper's 30th Sale.

Lot		£	s.	d.
2	Great Britain, 10d., oct.; unused, very fine	2	2	0
4	— 4d., wmk. small Garter; unused, very fine	10	15	0
20	— 5s., rose, plate 2; unused, very fine	1	1	0
21	— 5s., rose on bluish, wmk. Anchor, plate 4; unused, fine	2	0	0
22	— 10s., grey, wmk. Cross; unused, very fine	3	0	0
23	— £1, purple-brown; unused, very fine	4	6	0
41	Cyprus, 1st issue, 6d. and 1s.; unused	1	2	0
62	Lubeck, 2½ sch., brown; error, unused	1	9	0
104	France, 1876, 15 c., brown on rose (error), with 10 c.; unused	3	0	0
106	French Colonies, 1873-77, 2 c., brown, 4c., grey; fine	1	7	0
107	French Colonies, 1877-78, 25 c., black on red; imperf., used	0	16	0
109	Tunis, 1st issue, 5 fr.; used, very fine	0	16	0
122	Luxemburg, 37½ c., brown; very fine	0	15	0
148	Spain, Madrid, 1 cto., bronze; unused, fine	1	8	0
150	— Madrid, 3 ctos., bronze; unused, fine	5	10	0
164	— 1879, 40 c., drab; imperf., used	1	1	0
174	Basle, 2½ rap.; fine	3	3	0

Lot		£	s.	d.
177	Winterthur, 2½ rap.; fine	1	14	0
178	Switzerland, Poste Locale, 5 c., black and red	1	14	0
273	Port. Indies, 2nd issue, 300 reis; used	2	10	0
274	— 2nd issue, 10, 20, 40, 100 reis; used	3	0	0
277	— 1½ on 20 r., black and red; 5 on 10 r., red and black (2 var.); 5 on 15 r., black and rose; used	3	10	0
321	Gold Coast, 1st issue, 1d., 4d., 6d., perf. 12½; unused	1	0	0
360	Transvaal, 6d., blue, 1s., green, with red surcharge	1	12	0
362	— 1875, 3d., violet, wide roulette.	0	16	0
367	British Columbia, 5 c., imperf.; fine	10	0	0
383	New Brunswick, ½ of 1s. and ½ of 3d., used as 7½d.	6	10	0
386	Newfoundland, 6½., carmine-red; fine	2	0	0
387	— 6d., carmine-red; unused, fine	2	17	6
390	— 1s., orange-red; slightly torn	5	10	0
396	Nova Scotia, 1s., no margin	5	15	0
413	United States, Agriculture, set; unused	1	15	0
415	— State, 2 dollars; unused	1	12	0
417	— Justice, set; fine	4	4	0
418	— Navy, set; 3 c., 6 c., 15 c., 30 c., unused	2	0	0
422	Bahamas, 1d., imperf.; pair, unused	3	5	0
446	British Guiana, 1862, 4 c., pearl in fan border; unused, and signed, very fine	10	0	0
456	Nevis, 1s., yellow-green on laid; used, fine	32	0	0
483	Trinidad, lithographed, fine impression, 1d., blue	2	17	6
489	— lithographed, fine impression, 1d., deep blue	3	7	6
548	Mexico, 1864, 3 c., brown, Gothic surcharge; unused, very fine	3	10	0
566	New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., lake, with clouds; unused, very fine	4	7	6
581	— Laureated, 1d., carmine on blue; unused, very fine	2	12	6
582	— Laureated, 1d., carmine, pair, one having no leaves to right of south	1	7	0
606	New Zealand, 1d., vermillion, on pelure, imperf.; unused	1	15	0
613	— 2d., blue, thick paper, perf.; unused	6	0	0
674	South Australia, 9d., violet, surcharged O.S.; in black	1	0	0
675	— surcharged in red— — 6d., rouletted, L.T., M.B. — 1s., rouletted, P.S., R.V. — 4d., perf., L.L., S.G.	1	8	0
676	— surcharged in black— — 2d., rouletted, B.G., S.T., N.T. — 6d., rouletted, P.S. — 1d., perf., P.S. — 2d., perf., T., P., S., A.O., P.S., R.G., S.M. — 1s., perf., C.S.	1	18	0
681	Tasmania, 1d., brown-red, no wmk., unused	1	4	0
684	— 2d., green, wmk. star, pin perf.	0	15	0
693	Victoria, 2s., green, rouletted, fine	1	10	0

CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILATELY IN 'FRISCO.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

DEAR SIR,—After a lapse of several months, we once more have the pleasure of meeting fellow-philatelists and of seeing things philatelic. Soon after our arrival we met Mr. John N. Luff, Secretary of the Pacific Philatelic Society, with whom we chatted for a while, and then proceeded to call on Messrs. Sellschopp and Gesveret, the principal dealers in the town. The former gentleman has a fine private collection of the German States, and Mr. Gesveret one of the British Colonies. The firm publish a magazine entitled *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, philatelic for some incomprehensible reason being spelt with an F.

In the evening Mr. Luff introduced us to one or two of

the leading collectors, who very kindly showed us their collections. Mr. Luff has a good general collection, but specialises the United States, of which country he possesses a magnificent lot; it consists mainly of unused, and excels in fine shades. I noticed several distinct varieties in some of the lower values of the Columbus series. Mr. Gardner, president of the Society, goes in only for general collecting; while Mr. Cooper has an evident leaning towards Australians, of which he has a fine assortment, notably in New Zealand. Both this gentleman and Mr. Luff have good collections of the Leeward Islands; indeed, the British West Indies seem very popular over here, and show a considerable rise in value. A dealer informed me that he paid \$12 for the Nevis 6d., green, and sold it soon after for \$15. We also saw a very fine used copy of the 12d. Canada, the property of Mr. Welsh, and heard of a collector who possesses five copies!

The Society very kindly invited us to a dinner, at which twelve members and ourselves sat down. I enclose a copy of the most amusing *menu*, specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Luff. An excellent repast was provided, which I think I may say was done justice to. We spent a very lively evening aided by a flood of amusing stories. Subsequently a meeting was held, and after a somewhat rapid suspension of one rule and alteration of another we had the honour of being elected honorary members. The gathering soon afterwards broke up, and we have to thank the Pacific Philatelic Society for a most enjoyable entertainment.

Our wanderings next led us into Southern California, where the postal arrangements in the mining districts are most primitive. A box is fastened to a tree, and bears the name of the place, such as "Fish Camp," or "Grub Gulch." The driver of the Stage pulls up and inserts any letters there may be, sooner or later to be fetched by their owner. It is curious to see the well-known name of Wells, Fargo, & Co. still advertised to carry letters and parcels by express. Their charges are somewhat higher than those of the Government; but, judging from the number of their offices, they must be extensively patronised.

The scenery and climate are delightful and our philatelic friends have been most kind. It is with much regret we leave, *en route* for the World's Fair at Chicago.

Yours faithfully,

W. T. WILLETT.

PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO,
June 26th, 1893.

We are very glad to find that our friend Mr. Willett has thoroughly recovered from his illness, and was able to enjoy the hospitalities of San Francisco. The *menu* to which he alludes is a most artistic one, showing when folded the appearance of an ancient letter tied round with ribbon; but it was secured by a 2c. stamp across the folded ends, and thus franked through the post, or at least duly postmarked.

On one side it is inscribed, "For y^e hand^e of y^e Moste Worshyppfulle Mr. —, Atte y^e Signe of y^e Maison Tortoni, In y^e Goodlie Cittie of San Francisco, Situate in y^e Pleasaunt Province of California

THESE:—"

On the other side, "Postmanne, Ride haste, post-haste, with speede, for thy lyffe, for thy lyffe, for thy lyffe." While inside is a most enticing programme:

The Pacific Philatelic Society.

"We all have our hobbies."

MENU.

A list of current issues, with notes.

LITTLE NECK CLAMS.

From Seychelles, on original covers.

SOUP.

TOMATO AU RIZ.

Full plates, distinct watermarks.

HORS D'ŒUVRES.

SIRIMP SALAD.

Mixed lot, all in good condition.

OLIVES.
Odd Shades.

ANCHOIS.
Cut to shape.

FISH.

BASS RAYÉE AU VIN BLANC.

SAUTERNE. Close ribbed, showing outer lines.

ENTRÉES.

SWEETBREADS EN CAISSE.

BORDEAUX. Trimmed and neatly mounted.

CHICKEN SAUTÉ À LA MARENGO.

Just out, only a few issued.

VEGETABLES.

PETITS POIS. CHOUFLEUR AU GRATIN.

California locals, removed from wrappers.

ROAST.

SELLE D'AGNEAU.

CHAMPAGNE. Rouletted with short cuts.

DESSERT.

ICE CREAM.

Latest from Iceland.

STRAWBERRIES.

Picked specimens.

FRUITS ASSORTIS.

A general collection.

GATEAUX.

Minor varieties.

FROMAGE.

Various types.

CAFÉ NOIR.

Turkish, surcharged for local use.

Dinner to

Mr. M. P. Castle.

Mr. W. T. Willett.

Dr. E. H. Gonin.

MAISON TORTONI,

Wednesday, June 14th, 1893.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. T.—We note the varieties of ½ a. Deccan. The South 4 a., black on *blue wove*, is a reprint, or rather an official imitation of the old type, as is also the 1 a. on the same paper.

M. A. R.—The French word for watermark is *filigranne*; some writers use the word *filigrane*, but the former appears to be the more correct. We had not noticed the small characters on the Greek stamps, about which you ask, and we cannot find them upon the few specimens we have by us. If you will kindly send us copies showing them, we will endeavour to find out their meaning.

G. B.—We cannot find that your previous notes on the New South Wales stamps ever reached us. The 7½d. and 12½d. surcharged "O. S." should certainly be in the Catalogue, we do not know how they came to be omitted. The 9d. and 10d. are possibly in the wrong li-t. We will look into the matter.

R. F. G.—The stamp you mention, surcharged "to cts.," without the letters "U. P. U." is *bogus*.

M. G. J.—We are much obliged for your letter; but if you will look again at what we said about the Nandgaon stamps in April, you will see that the inscriptions we referred to were those at the top, bottom, and sides of the *sheets*, not of the *stamps*. If you can give us correct translations of any of these we shall be very grateful for them. The round Holkar stamps are generally believed to have been issued for postage, as provisionals, but we have no positive information about them.

D. J. G.—No. 711 is inscribed "GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)"—"POST CARD." No. 713 has "GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND"—"GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE." And 714, "POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND"—"(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE)." We do not know of any book giving the values of the English plate numbers, used and unused, but partially priced lists have been published from time to time in some of the magazines.

Special Bargains and New Issues

FOR AUGUST.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

			s. d.
100 reis, envelope, red	BRAZIL.		0 6
	GREECE.		
	<i>Unpaid Letter Stamps.</i>		
100 lepta, green and black			1 6
200 " " "			3 0
	MACAO.		
2½ reis on 10 reis, black on green, <i>used</i>			0 9
	MEXICO.		
Green official stamp (<i>No value</i>)			0 6
	NOWANUGUR.		
Black, perforated			0 2
	OIL RIVERS.		
	<i>Registered Envelopes.</i>		
2d., black and blue, small			0 9
2d. " " large			1 0
	ST. VINCENT.		
½d., green on buff, wrappers			0 1
1d., carmine " "			0 2
	SANDWICH ISLES.		
	<i>Post Cards, new colours.</i>		
1 cent, red on buff			0 2
1+1 cent, violet on buff			0 3
2+2 cents, blue on white			0 4
	SARAWAK.		
5 cents, green and purple			0 6
10 cents, mauve and green			0 10
	TASMANIA.		
6d., olive-black and purple			0 9
1/-, green and rose			1 6
2/6, blue and brown			3 6
	TRANSVAAL.		
"Halve Penny," in red on 2d. olive			0 3
	TURKEY.		
No. 72. 1 piastre on half of 2 piastres (type 3136) on letter			15 0
No. 73. 1 piastre " " (type 3137) " "			12 0
No. 78. 1 piastre, in black, on half of 2 piastres (type 3138) on letter			15 0
	RUSSIAN LOCALS.		
	<i>1893 issue.</i>		
Belozersk, 2 kop., blue			0 3
Bouzoulouk, 3 kop., carmine			0 4
Charkoff, 5 kop., blue and silver			0 6
Irbbit, 2 kop., mauve			0 3
" " 10 kop., carmine			1 0
Jeletz, 5 kop., black on yellow			0 6
Kadnikoff, 3 kop., carmine and green			0 4
Lgoff, 5 kop., blue			0 6
" " 5 kop., carmine			0 6
" " 5 kop., green and yellow			0 6
Loubny, 5 kop., gold, black and green			0 6
Prilouky, 5 kop., black on mauve			0 6
Oustysolsk, 2 kop., birch-red			0 3
" " 2 kop., carmine and blue			0 3
Werchotour, 2 kop., pink			0 4
Zadonsk, 1 kop., mauve			0 2
Zienkow, 3 kop., red			0 4
" " 3 kop., pale green			0 4
" " 3 kop., golden			0 4
Zolotonoschtka, 3 kop., black, green and gold			0 4

COLLECTIONS ON APPROVAL.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, have always on Sale a number of Collections purchased by them, which they are prepared to send on inspection for any time not exceeding one week. These Collections vary in extent, some being comparatively small, others comprising twenty or more volumes. All the Stamps are separately priced.

ENTIRELY NEW AND REVISED SERIES

OF

CHEAP SETS for 1893.

Used * Unused † Used and Unused ‡ Postfree, 1d. extra.

		Set of	s. d.
*Canada, including old issues and envelope		10	0 6
" " Revenue, including obsolete		9	0 6
* " 1868, 1, 2, 3, 6, 12½, and 15 c.		6	1 6
† " Registered		3	3 6
‡Cape of Good Hope, including provisional and newsband		7	1 0
" " triangular, 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-		4	14 0
†Cape Verde, Crown, 5, 10, 20, 20, 25, 25, 40, and 100 reis		8	2 6
†Cashmere, including rare circular		6	2 0
† " 1883, 1½ pies, ½, ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas		7	7 6
‡Ceylon, including provisional envelope		5	0 6
" " 1885-87, including 9 provis. and 1 rupee 12 cents		13	12 0
† " 1888-90, 2 cents, provisionals		6	1 0
†Chamba, ½, 1, 2, 3, and 4 annas		5	2 6
†Chili, including obsolete and envelopes		8	1 0
†China, 1878, 1, 3, and 5 candarin		3	1 3
" " 1886, 1, 3, 5, and 5 candarin		4	0 10
* Colombia, 1865-68, including three 1 pesos		7	8 6
" " 1871-90, including registered		16	2 0
† " 1881, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 centavos		5	2 6
†Cook Islands, 1d., 1½, 2½, and 10d.		4	4 0
†Copenhagen, Local, including high values and provisional		19	4 6
†Cuba, 5, 10, 25, 50, and 100 mons		5	1 6
†Costa Rica, 1863, ½, 2, and 4 reales, and 1 peso		4	3 6
† " 1881-89, including two provisionals		7	1 6
† " 1889, Guanacaste and Official		4	0 8
* " 1863-89, including 40 blue		5	2 0
" " 1889, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 centavos, and 1 peso		7	3 0
" " 1889, 2, 5, and 10 pesos		3	15 0
" " Guanacaste, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 centavos, and 1, 2, and 5 pesos		9	17 6
‡Cuba, including obsolete and impresos		12	1 6
* " early issues, all obsolete		4	0 9
† " 1866, imperf., 5, 10, 20, and 40 centesimos		4	3 6
† " 1867, perf., 5, 10, 20, and 40 centesimos		4	2 3
† " 1868, 5, 10, 20, and 40 centesimos		4	2 6
† " 1869, 5, 10, 20, and 40 centesimos		4	3 0
† " 1871, 12, 25, 50 c. and 1 peseta		4	2 9
† " 1873, 12½, 25, 50 c., and 1 peseta		4	4 0
† " 1874, 12½, 25, 50 c., and 1 peseta		4	3 0
† " 1875, 12½, 50 c., and 1 peseta		3	3 0
† " 1876, 12½, 50 c., and 1 peseta		3	3 0
† " 1877, 10, 12½, 25, 50 c., and 1 peseta		5	5 6
† " 1878, 5, 10, 12½, 25, 50, and 1 peseta		6	4 0
† " 1879, 5, 12½, 25, 50, and 1 peseta		6	3 3
† " 1880, 5, 10, 12½, 25, 50, and 1 peseta		6	4 0
† " 1881, 1, 2½, 5, 10, and 20 c. de peso		5	2 0
† " 1882, 1, 2, 2½, 5, and 10 c. de peso		5	1 3
† " 1888, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mills, black		6	0 9
† " 1890, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mills		6	0 6
† " 1892, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 mills, and 1, 2½, and 5 cents		9	1 3
†Cundinamarca, 1885, 5, 10, 20, 50 centavos, and 1 peso		6	18 6
†Curaçao, 1889, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 5, 15 cents		6	2 0
†Cyprus, 1880, ½, 1d., 2½, and 4d.		4	2 3
† " " 6d. and 1/-		2	25 0
† " 1882, C and CA, 30 paras, ½, 1, 2, 4, and 6 piastres		6	3 6
†Deccan, Officials, red and black surcharges		6	10 0
*Denmark, all obsolete		12	0 6
" " Current, value in ore		9	0 6
†Diego Suarez, complete set, including 1 franc		13	7 6
†Dominica, C and CA, ½d., 1d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d.		6	9 0
†Dominican Republic, 1885, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 centavos		5	3 0
† " " Envelopes, cut square, on white, cream and blue, and including high values		19	20 0
*Dutch Indies, including obsolete and unpaid		6	1 0
†Ecuador, 1865, ½ real, blue, 1 yellow, 1 green		3	2 3
† " 1881-87, 1, 2, 5, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 80 centavos		8	1 6
" " 1881, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 centavos		5	0 6
*Egypt, various issues		5	0 6
" " 1872-92, including provisionals and unpaid letter stamps		21	1 6
" " Envelopes, 1888-90, 1 piastre, 1, 2, and 5 millimes		4	0 10
† " Interpostal, Circular		12	0 9
†Eritrea, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 c.		6	1 3

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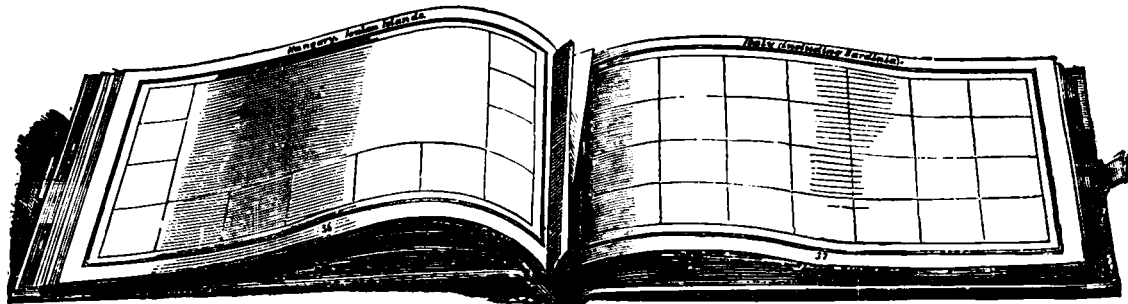
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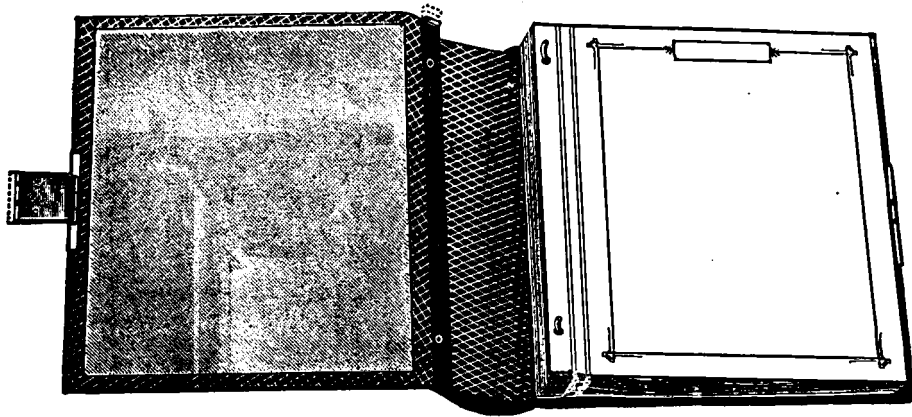
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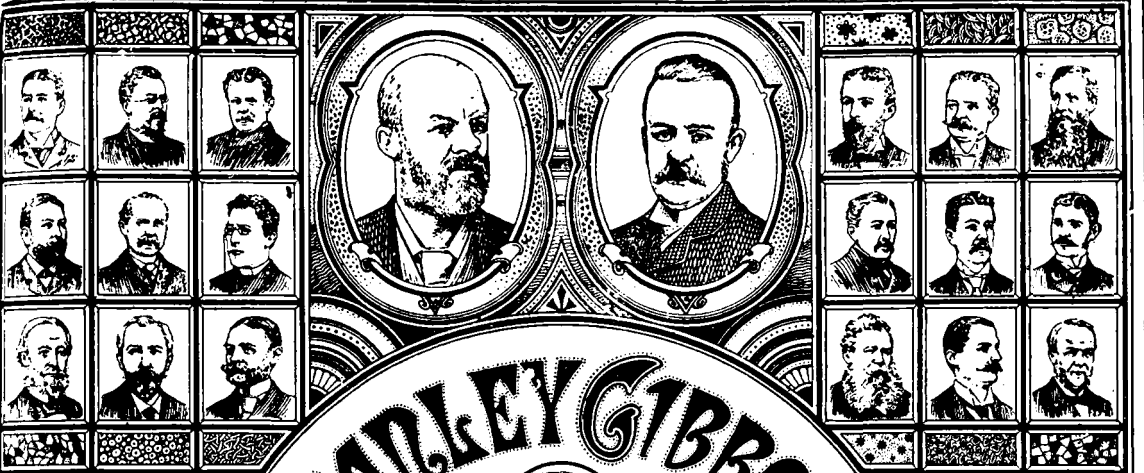
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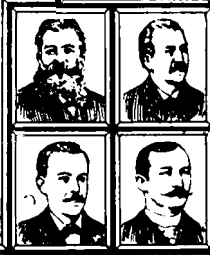
EDITED BY EDWARD B. EVARS

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The Illustrations in the Appendix have been largely augmented. To meet the expressed desire of many Collectors, this Edition of the Catalogue and Appendix may be obtained *interleaved with paper faintly ruled*. This will be much appreciated by Philatelists for various purposes, such as making notes of Auction Sales, New Issues, &c. &c.

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Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

AUGUST 31, 1893.

No. 38.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

THE most important item of Philatelic news that has reached us during the past month, is the announcement that the first portion of the Tapling Collection has at last been put on view at the British Museum. We say "at last," not because we believe that there has been any unnecessary delay, but because those words undoubtedly express the feelings of many who have long been wishing to see the collection, and because the delay, though quite unavoidable, is nevertheless to be regretted. We hope and believe that, now that a portion of the collection is on view, some effort will be made by collectors and others to induce the Museum authorities to endeavour to add to it, at least to the extent of obtaining "SPECIMEN" copies of new issues, which they could get simply for the asking. If this were done, we are sure that many philatelists would assist with donations of varieties that were not obtainable in this way, and thus, if current and future issues were never to be displayed in the same perfection as those of the period from 1840 to 1889, there would probably be a good representative collection, including all the prominent types, and always fairly up to date. In the mean time there are the issues of nearly four years, not a few of which are already obsolete, to be added, and if the attempt to continue the collection is to be made at all, it should be commenced at once before the gap becomes too difficult to fill; and it is on account of this ever-widening gap that we so much regret the delay that has taken place in putting the collection before the public.

Being absent from town at present, endeavour-

ing—as are probably most of our readers—to escape from the stifling heat, which is so unsuited to the calm pursuit of Philately, we have not yet personally inspected the treasures in the two cases now arranged for exhibition, but we extract a description of their principal contents from *The Globe* of the 16th inst., in which is an article of a column and a third, headed "THE NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTION.—A CHAT WITH DR. GARNETT."—It would be ungrateful to complain that the *column* deals with the second part of the title, and the *third* with the first!

* * *

"THOSE now on view are mostly colonial, including three-cornered Newfoundlands, specimens from Hawaii, with the heads of Kamehameha I., Elua-Keneta, and Queen Kapeolani; and early issues of British North America, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Canada, and Buenos Ayres. Among the New Brunswick are two specimens of the five cent. stamp, known as the Connell stamp, having been issued by a postmaster of that name, who had the temerity to put his own portrait on the stamp in place of that of the monarch. The stamps were only on issue for a short period, being withdrawn by order of Council. Among other curiosities are the halved stamps of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island. In order to prevent the necessity of having a new stamp prepared to meet a reduction of the postage fee, the public was allowed for a time to cut existing stamps in half, and use each half. As fresh selections are placed on view new curiosities will crop up from time to time, so that the collection will be a source of perennial interest."

"Kamehameha I." should be Kamehameha III., and "Elua Keneta" (which our youngest reader can no doubt translate as *two cents*) is probably Kamehameha IV., as shown on the issues of 1862 and 1864! We are surprised that the writer of the article did not notice the number of members of the *Keneta* dynasty portrayed upon the stamps; perhaps he would have believed them to be the descendants of an early emigrant named *Kennedy*, which—Happy Thought—would account for the

last representative being called Liliuokalani, a corruption, as we pointed out some time back, of the title Lily of Killarney. However, unfortunately *Keneta* is *cents*—and our suggestion is *nonsense*!

* * *

WE regret to learn that Dr. Garnett does not seem altogether to appreciate the interest and value of the collection :

‘It is a curious thing with regard to stamps, he remarked, that there is possibly no other object in which the intrinsic value is so small, both as regards the material of which it is made, or the art required to make it. The intrinsic value is out of all proportion to the “unearned increment” that became attached to it in consequence of its rarity. There are rare Mauritius stamps among the collection which are valued at about £200. The paper and paste of which they were made was of infinitesimal value, and the art expended on them practically *nil*.’

The paper and paste argument is worthy of the countryman at the Royal Academy, “Look at that ‘ere pictur, Maria, that must ha’ taken a matter o’ three or four pounds worth o’ paint, let alone the man’s trouble a laying of it on!” Looked upon from the point of view of the Keeper of Printed Books, the intrinsic and artistic value of stamps is indeed infinitesimal; but the Keeper of Coins and Medals would surely tell a different tale. The intrinsic value of a small copper coin is exceedingly small, the art expended upon it may be of still smaller merit, and yet the coin may be of great interest, and, if a rarity, of proportionate value. And after all it is the *rarity*, and not the historical or artistic interest, that gives it its value to a collector.

* * *

STAMPS are fairly comparable with coins and medals, and should, in our opinion, be arranged for exhibition, not in books, but in drawers. Mounted on sheets certainly, as that is the most convenient way of securing them in their places; but, except in very special cases, they should always be exhibited under glass. Volumes cannot be given out for examination like ordinary books, stamps will not stand unlimited handling, they are very easily injured by wear and tear, and small articles of such value would not be safe. But, our readers may say, the stamps now on view are under glass, and therefore are safe enough; so they are, but how large a proportion of the collection can be shown at a time under existing circumstances? The late Mr. Tapling had from 100 to 150 volumes, of fifty pages each, in which he proposed to mount the adhesives alone—and he was not sure that that number of volumes would be enough. This means some *six* or *eight*

thousand pages of adhesives, and an unknown number of envelopes, post cards, &c.

At the rate at which the pages will be shown under the present arrangement, a member of the general public will have to visit the Museum every few weeks for the next hundred years before he has seen the whole collection.

Again, there are some stamps which will not stand exposure to the light, even for a few weeks at a time, without fading or changing colour; such stamps suffer even in a private collection, where they are usually kept in books, and only exposed to light when someone wants to look at them. For this reason alone it is most unwise to exhibit the collection in ordinary glass cases.

Both for the protection of the stamps, and for the purpose of enabling a considerable proportion of the collection to be shown at a time, it should be arranged in shallow drawers, similar to those in coin cabinets, just deep enough to hold the page of stamps with a pane of glass over it. A few cases would contain an immense number of these drawers, and if the Museum cannot afford thus to accommodate the whole collection at once, a thousand pages or more might be made available for examination in a case about six feet long, by four feet high and wide; and if the contents were changed from time to time, the whole might be shown in the course of a year or two. However, let us not grumble, but be thankful for small mercies, and hope that they may grow into larger ones!

* * *

IN the present number we publish the commencement of a most valuable paper upon the Stamps of the Transvaal, by Mr. Emil Tamsen, a well-known South African collector, who has for years been accumulating stamps and information in that Republic. The Stamps of the Transvaal are perhaps as little understood, by the general collector, as those of any country whose issues are of equal importance and interest. The varieties are most numerous and complicated, and the fraudulent German impressions, which flooded the market and clouded for years the reputation of the originals, have added greatly to the difficulties of the student. Even Mr. Tamsen, living in South Africa, was not free from these European intruders; for a small lot of these fancy impressions found their way to the post-office there, and were purchased by him as *errors*, and it was not till some years afterwards that he discovered that the *errors* were— The unaccountable *error* of the post-office in selling such trash, and the unfortunate *error* on his part of buying them! For a description of these, and for many other interesting details that have not before been published, we would refer our readers to Mr. Tamsen’s paper.

WE are glad to learn from Mr. H. Hilckes, that the City of London Philatelic Club was formed on the 2nd inst., and that, at a meeting held on the 9th, a Committee was elected and the Club thus organized as a going concern. The first ordinary meeting is announced for October 5th, and we shall hope to receive reports of proceedings, during the coming season, for publication with those of other Societies. We wish the new Association every success, believing as we do that all the different Societies tend to the spread of Philately. If the Club, as some appear to suppose, is not of a nature to suit the wants of London Philatelists, it will no doubt die a natural death, but if it is wanted by a sufficient number—and we fail altogether to see why it should not be—we shall be only too glad to see it prosper. There is room for all!

* * *

MR. C. J. PHILLIPS being out of town, we are without his *Notes and News* for this month; but our friend, Mr. Cornelius van Wrinkle (no relation of Rip van Winkle), keeps us supplied with the latest philatelic intelligence.

BECHUANALAND POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

FRESH ADMINISTRATION.

FROM the 1st of April the Postal and Telegraphic affairs of Bechuanaland are to be conducted by the Cape authorities in the same manner as obtains in the post and telegraph offices throughout the Cape Colony. This action was agreed upon some time ago by the Cape and Bechuanaland Governments, it being found that such an arrangement would simplify the working of the department, and be the means of a saving in expenditure, eventually, to the Government of Bechuanaland.

The entire transfer of such an important branch of the public service naturally threw a good deal of work on to the Colonial authorities, and it is satisfactory to know that in the hands of Mr. J. Henry, the Postmaster of Kimberley, and Mr. Gilbert, Inspector of telegraphs in Griqualand West, this work has been adequately fulfilled, and the department is now running smoothly all along the line. Mr. Henry and Mr. Gilbert personally visited the offices as far as Mafeking, and after a very busy period returned to Kimberley, where other pressing duties await them, at the beginning of this week. There are still a few arrears to clear up, but otherwise the Bechuanaland P.M.G. and Superintendent of Telegraphs Department is practically abolished, and the Government will save its expense while continuing to receive a share of the revenue.

The new arrangement may possibly prove to be but the beginning of a system under which all the States of South Africa, while retaining local government in local affairs, will be one with the chief colony in so far as such things as posts and telegraphs are concerned. There may be here the beginnings of a United South Africa, in which railways, posts, telegraphs, and similar departments of a universal nature, may be worked from Capetown only, to the general good. But in the meantime we hope that there will be a lowering of postal rates in this territory and the establishment of P.O. Saving Banks, so that the public as well as the Government will reap some advantage from the new arrangement.—From the *Bechuanaland News*, April 8th, 1893.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, *Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E.*, or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Angola.—*Le Timbre-Poste* reports a 2½ reis stamp, of the same type as that chronicled last month for Cape Verd.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.

Argentine Republic.—A correspondent very kindly sends us a specimen of the 10 c. of the current type, in what we gather is a new shade; to our eyes it differs very little from that previously employed, but it is perhaps more distinct than before from the tint of the 5 c. This variety is stated to have been issued at the end of June.

Adhesive. 10 c., carmine-red.

In reference to the supposed error, 5 c., *green*, which we chronicled in April, a correspondent sends us a letter received by him from Buenos Ayres, in which it is stated that the sheet in *green* was simply a rejected colour proof, abstracted from the office of the printers, and that those curiosities never passed through the Post Office in any manner.

Bamra.—One of our contemporaries describes a new ½ anna stamp as printed in *violet-rose*, while another announces the same value in *blue on magenta*; we suspect that both of these are specimens of the stamp which we chronicled last month in *black on magenta*, as seen by other eyes.

Belgium.—We are indebted to our kind friend in Belgium for specimens of the three values, of the new series, which were to be issued on the 1st inst., but which seem to have made their appearance somewhat earlier. The 2 c. is of the design shown in the accompanying illustration, the higher values are similar to the 10 c.; the colours are as given in our June number, except that the 25 c. is on *white*, not on *rose*; and we may translate *sesda* into *bronze-green*.



The editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* suggests that collectors will require these curiosities in four different forms:

- a. Without the coupon.
- À. With the coupon below.
- .. " " at the top.
- .. " " at top and bottom.

A better plan would be, if this foolishness is to be continued, to issue the Sabbatarian coupons in separate sheets, free of charge, to those who wish for them; it would probably be more economical, and if they were made of thin paper, and a little more square in shape, they would make very neat gummed hinges! This would ensure a good circulation for them among philatelists. Minister Vandepereboom owes us something, for it is stated that he boasts that every new stamp produces a profit to the Post-office of 50,000 francs. We are evidently looked upon as public benefactors, and there is no great difference between a philatelist and a philanthropist after all!

Bolivia.—The stamp which we chronicled last month is, it seems, one of a whole series lithographed at La Paz, as a provisional issue; the other values are of the 9 Stars type, and *Le Timbre-Poste*, which gives the complete list, states that all are very poorly executed. The perforation gauges 11, and *The London Philatelist* mentions a portion of a sheet of the 1 c. which is *imperf.* vertically.

The Philatelic Journal of America states that the 5 c. Revenue stamp has been surcharged "PROVISORIO" (in small block capitals) "1893," in two lines, in *red*, while *Le Timbre-Poste* quotes the same stamp with a similar overprint, but the date at the top in *black*. The sale of these curiosities will, no doubt, help to pay the printer's bill; but there seems to be a genuine famine here, as in Ecuador, for the 20 c.

stamp has been found employed in halves for 10 c. Has Mr. Seebeck retired on his fortune, or is the business of Universal Provider proving unprofitable?

Adhesives. 1 c., rose.
1 c., rose; *variety, imperf. vertically.*
2 c., lilac.
10 c., vermilion.
20 c., deep green.
5 c., blue; *Revenue, black surcharge.*
5 c., " " red "

Brazil.—The 10, 20, and 50 reis of the new type are announced as perf. 11½; the 100 reis of the same type was chronicled by us as perf. about 13, and no doubt all the values exist with numerous varieties of perforation, as is the case with some of the earlier issues, of which we give a list on another page.

We have received the 50 reis Journal Stamp, of type 362, in a colour not unlike that of the 20 reis. It is printed on thickish white, wove paper, and the copy before us is perf. 14 × 11½.

Journal Stamp. 50 reis, green. Issued 26th July.

British South Africa.—*The Postal Card* gives a list of eight cards from these parts, ranging from 1d. to 2½ + 2½d., formed by ingenious combinations of the three cards of the Cape of Good Hope surcharged "MASHONALAND," which we chronicled under that head in February last, with adhesive stamps of the British South Africa Company. The 1d. and 1 + 1d. are as previously described; the 1½d. is the 1d. card with a ½d. adhesive added; the 1½ + 1½d. is similarly formed from the 1 + 1d.; the 2d. is the 1½d. card with a ½d. adhesive; the 2 + 2d. is the 1 + 1d. with 1d. adhesive; the 2½d. is the 1½d. with a 1d. adhesive; and the 2½ + 2½d. is the 1 + 1d. with 1d. and ½d. adhesives. All of which seems to show that philately is expected to contribute to the revenues of this Company, but we, personally, are prepared to forgive the directors if they will but adopt one territorial designation for their philatelic products—and stick to it.

Bulgaria.—*The Philatelic Record* announces the 50 stotinki with the large gauge of perforation. *Le Timbre-Poste* tells us that the Letter Cards, which we chronicled last month, measure 139 × 88 mm., the perforations cross at the corners and extend to the top and sides, there is an instruction in italics, at the left side, inside the perforations, and there are two lines of inscription on the reverse fold.

Adhesive. 50 stot., blue-green; perf. 11½.

Ceylon.—A correspondent in this colony states that the 3 c. stamp, which we chronicled in January, was only issued in July; he also informs us that the only 3 c. rate there is for printed matter under 2 oz. sent out of Ceylon, and that there is no inland 3 c. rate, so this value is not greatly required. The same correspondent kindly sends us the 2 c. card, printed in blue on white, but otherwise unchanged (except that, if we remember right, the original card had the word "To" as a heading to the address, which is now omitted); he tells us that this was printed in Ceylon, so we hope to hear of no more provisional cards of this value.

La Gazette Timbrologique states that the surcharge "10 CENTS," on the 15 c. Registration Envelope, exists in blue, as well as in black.

The Stamp News describes a new variety of the locally printed 2 + 2 c. card. The heading now consists of the word "CEYLON" at the top, followed by "POST—CARD" with the Arms between these two words; on the first half is the note, "The annexed card is intended for the answer," and on the second the word "REPLY" below the instruction.

Reg. Env. 10 CENTS, in blue, on 15 c., rose; size (?)
Post Cards. 2 c., blue on white; 121 + 85 mm.
2 + 2 c., " " new variety.

Chili.—A correspondent tells us that he has met with the current 10 c. in a reddish orange shade, very different to the yellow of the catalogue.

Adhesive. 10 c., orange.

Colombia.—*Le Timbre-Poste* reports a 2 + 2 c. card, similar to the single card of 1890 with the inscription "*Lit. de Demetrio Parédes Bogota.*"

Post Card. 2 + 2 c., black on orange; 130 × 84 mm.

Cook Islands.—*Le Timbre-Poste* has been informed that the Post Cards have been issued divided in half, and thus reduced to a more usual size, an alteration which we can all make for ourselves; but the original story was that this was a kind of reply-paid card, with no extra charge for the return; and if a card 126 × 156 mm. was sold for a penny, why should the same price be charged for one 126 × 78 mm.?

Just in time for notice this month, we have received a set of the new stamps for these Islands, which have been printed in New Zealand. In the centre is a portrait of the Ruler (name unknown), enclosed in a circular band, lettered "POSTAGE" above, and with the value in words below; surrounding this is a rectangular frame, with "COOK" at the top and "ISLANDS" at the bottom, and the value in figures is given on fancy labels in the lower spandrels. The stamps are watermarked with the "N.Z." and Star, and perf. 12.

Adhesives. 1d., brown.
1½d., mauve.
2½d., rose.
5d., grey-brown.
10d., green.

Ecuador.—*La Gazette Timbrologique* describes a new variety of provisional envelope, the 10 c. surcharged CINCO CENTAVOS," in *ultramarine*; and *Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles an error of the earlier overprint, with the word of value spelled "CENTAVCS."

Envelopes. CINCO CENTAVOS ON 10 c., green; blue surcharge.
5 CENTAVCS ON 10 c., " green "

Egypt.—*The American Philatelist* quotes a report of some specimens of the 2 millimes stamps being found in blue instead of green, but we may probably safely attribute this variety to some simple chemical process.

A correspondent at Cairo kindly sends us the 3 millimes and the 2 piastres in their new colours, which we chronicled in February, but which were not issued until the 1st inst.—to be particular, at 7 a.m. at Alexandria, and at 10 a.m. at Cairo!

Adhesives. 3 mil., orange.
2 piast., brown-red.

Eritrea.—We gather from *Le Timbre-Poste* that Italian stamps are to be met with bearing a forged surcharge of the name of this place, and that inverted impressions of the overprint may be regarded with suspicion.

Fiji.—A correspondent sends us a copy of the 2d., of the type of 1879, with a compound perforation which has not, to our knowledge, been chronicled before.

Adhesive. 2d., green; perf. 10 × 12.

France.—A correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* states that the report of the issue of stamps surcharged Mersina was a false alarm. We sincerely trust that this is true.

We are indebted to a kind friend for details of the whereabouts of the places which have given rise to these interesting issues:

	N. lat.	E. long.
Kawala (Cavalle)	40° ...	24½°
Dedeagatch (Dedeagh)	40° ...	26°
Port Lagos	40° ...	25°
Mersina	37° ...	34½°

Geography and Philately may go hand in hand for once!

We append an illustration of the *Unpaid Letter Stamps* disfigured for use for prepayment, which we described under the head of Morocco in February last.



Gold Coast.—We are indebted to Messrs. Cameron and Co. for copies of *The Gold Coast Chronicle*, for April 22nd and 29th, giving a long account of the examination, in the local police court, of three persons charged with stealing 1440 £1 stamps from the vault in the Colonial Secretary's office at Victoriaburg. The prisoners were committed for trial, and we have not yet heard the final result, but there is no doubt that twenty-four sheets (60 each) of the £1 stamps had disappeared, and about 950 of the total number of labels appear to have been recovered; to render the remainder comparatively valueless, the colonial authorities stopped the circulation of stamps of that value for a time.

Great Britain.—We have received several additions to our list of Mulready numbers—1d. Covers, A 37, 40 42 70, 80, 81, 247, 254.

Greece.—Our publishers have sent us an entire sheet of the current 2 lepta stamps, showing an extraordinary degree of carelessness on the part of the perforator. The sheet consists of six panes, each of 50 stamps in ten horizontal rows, the panes being arranged in threes, with vertical spaces the width of a stamp between the panes, and a horizontal space the depth of a stamp across the sheet. The horizontal rows of perforations are all there, and, with the exception that most of them cut more or less into the stamps, and that some of them are not very straight, there is not much to complain of; but of the vertical rows, of which there should be eighteen, *nine* only have been done, and these at irregular intervals!

Guatemala.—A correspondent sends us an envelope which appears to have been franked by the half of a 2 c. stamp, divided diagonally, and informs us that a provisional issue of this nature was made in the towns of Quezaltenango and Mazatenango, in January last. The specimen before us appears to be quite genuine, but we cannot say that we feel any great interest in varieties of this kind.

Guinea.—We have received the 2½ reis stamp of the new type.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.

Hankow.—*The London Philatelist* describes a series of stamps for this seaport, which we trust will not attempt to rival Shanghai in the multitude and variety of its issues. The designs are stated to be very quaint, the values are five in number, and the impression is on coloured wove paper, rouletted in colour at top and bottom and imperf. at the sides. Dotted rules are, no doubt, scarce in those parts, and the printer does not like chopping them up into short pieces. "The central design of the 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. represents a Chinaman carrying two chests of tea." Why not a Chinese parcel postman? On the 20 c. is a three-storied pagoda, and on the 30 c. a representation of some public building.

Adhesive. 2 c., violet on mauve.
5 c., yellow-green on salmon.
10 c., carmine on rose.
20 c., blue on cream.
30 c., red on yellow.

Hongkong.—We are happy to be able to congratulate our readers upon having had a very fortunate escape. A correspondent informs us that there was in the stamp vault a stock of the 20 c., 50 c., and 1 dollar stamps of the last issue (that of 1885?), which, for some reason best known to the local authorities, were considered obsolete and unfit for use. The Postmaster, with an eye to economy and to facilitating the *keoulement* (as they put it in Nossi-Bé), suggested converting them all into 7 c., by means of a surcharge; higher authority, however, to whom the thanks of all philatelists are due, ordered these stamps to be destroyed, and the deed, we hear, has been done! But what was the matter with these stamps, and why were they not used for their original values before the current issue was put in circulation?

India.—From an article in *The Englishman* of June 27 we gather that the reason for the objection now being raised to the obliterating of the stamps upon their letters by the senders, as has hitherto been the usual custom in India, is that it is proposed to introduce combined "Postage and Revenue" stamps, as in Great Britain; and it is feared that stamps used for fiscal purposes, and obliterated in writing, may be afterwards employed for postage. This appears to be an excellent reason for not employing the same stamps for both purposes, a system which is open to grave objections, as it renders it impossible to ascertain what the true revenue of the Post-office is.

Jhind.—We learn from an article in *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* that the Native stamps are really used for fiscal purposes; the writer of the article had seen a letter from the State Postmaster, forwarding a supply of what he described as "obsolete postage stamps of the Jhind State," and in which it was added, "these are now obsolete from the postal department, but are used as court fee stamps in the State." The question now arises, Which of the varieties have been issued since these stamps ceased to be used for postage? And, except in the case of a complete change of colour, such as we chronicled last month, the question is not an easy one to answer.

Labuan.—Messrs. Cameron and Co. inform us that the special stamps of this place are still in circulation there, as they have received the various values on unwatermarked paper direct; many of the sheets were un gummed, but this is probably due to their having got stuck together and been soaked to get them apart, as the ink on a sheet of the 6 c. has run in places.

Liberia.—The Editor of *The Stamp News* states that the 3 c., *red*, about which there appears to be some sort of a mystery, was received by him from Liberia with other stamps; and there seems to be little doubt that the impressions in *red* are from the same plates as those in *black*—which has indeed never been officially denied—though they may be *errors*, made on purpose for the too-confiding philatelist!

The same magazine quotes the Registration Envelope with the stamp in another new colour, the inscriptions, &c., in *blue* as heretofore.

Reg. Env. 10 c., venetian-red; *sise*?

Macao.—We have received the 2½ reis stamp of the new type. Our specimen was used on the 30th June last.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.

Mexico.—We have received some varieties of the Wrappers with the oval stamp, which do not appear to have been fully noted in English magazines. Of those for the Postal Union, we find both values with the words "Fajilla para impresos" below the Arms, in small type, with the first letter, only, a capital, and with the stamp enclosed in a frame of thick lines; we are not sure whether Wrappers, with the inscription in the same type, also exist with a stamp frame of dotted lines. With the words "FAJILLA PARA IMPRESOS" in capitals, we find both the Postal Union Wrappers and those for the *Servicio Interior*, the former with stamp frame of dotted lines, and the latter with both varieties of stamp frame. We also find evidence that the Postal Union and Local Wrappers are printed on the same sheet, for in the upper margin of a badly cut Postal Union Wrapper, with "FAJILLA," &c., in capitals, there are the letters "C" of the word "cuyo" in the instruction at the side of the Local Wrappers. All the above are on *deep buff* or *orange* paper, tapered and gummed at the right hand end.

The Postal Card describes a new variety of 2 c. card, with the current stamp in a rectangle in the right upper corner; the Arms consist of a small Eagle on two branches, in the upper centre; the inscriptions are "SERVICIO POSTAL MEXICANO" in a curved line, with eight-pointed ornaments between the words, "TARJETA POSTAL—CARTE POSTALE" in a straight line, and the instruction "EN ESTE," &c., in Roman type; the frame is formed of a thick outer and a thin inner line.

Post Card. 2 c., carmine and green on white.

Monaco.—This is another place, the cards of which seem somewhat to puzzle the chronicler. We have heard of the 10 c. in *black on buff* and in *bronze on blue-green*, and now *La Gazette Timbrologique* announces its receipt in *black on pale green*. We noted this card two years ago in *bronze on buff*, and we presume that some of the other varieties exist, but we should like to know which.

Post Card.

10 c., black on pale green.

Mozambique.—We give an illustration of one of the surcharged stamps which we chronicled in March, and we learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that the 2½ reis has already been replaced by the new type for that value.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.



New Caledonia.—*Le Timbre-Poste* gives the annexed illustration of the 5 c. on 20 c., and reports that similar overprints of 5 c. on 75 c., and 10 c. on 1 fr., have been struck. But the type appears to be the same as that employed some months back, so we may hope that this is only a fresh edition of the former interesting publication, or of an old story.

New South Wales.—A correspondent informs us that he bought, at the Sydney Post-office, "specimen" copies of the 9d. and 10d., surcharged "O. S." in *black*. We find

these given with *red* surcharge only, in the London Society's *Oceania*, so, if our publishers' catalogue is in error, it at least errs in good company. Another correspondent tells us of some varieties of perforation, which we believe are unchronicled.

Service Stamps, surcharged O S in black.

gd. on 10d., black and red.
10d., lilac.
4d., brown (Type 1687); *perf.* 11 x 12.
6d., violet (" 1639) " 11.

North Borneo.—We have received a very primitive design which, we are told, was used upon a newspaper wrapper. It consists of the words "ONE-CENT," in two lines, surrounded by "SANDAKAN" above and "POSTAGE PAID" below, with a Star ornament at each side separating the two parts of the circular inscription, and enclosed within a plain circle. The copy before us is unobliterated, and we gather therefore that it did not form part of a stamped wrapper, but really only indicated postage paid at the time of posting. *Wrapper?* 1 c., black on white.

Nossi-Bé.—*La Gazette Timbrologique* reports the 20 c. stamp surcharged with the name of this locality in *green*, but we trust that this is only a variation of the *deep blue* overprint of which we heard last month.

The Decree for these outrages states plainly that the reason for their perpetration is, not the convenience of the local Post-office, or even the advertisement of the fact that there is such a place as Nossi-Bé, and that it is in French occupation, but *Afin de faciliter l'écoulement des 18,000 timbres existant dans le coffre du receveur de la poste!* This is plain and straightforward at all events, and collectors who have no desire to facilitate the *écoulement* of stamps, in this and other places, will know what to do.

Nowanuggur.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* gives the colour of the 2 dokdo of the new issue, which is stated to have made its appearance in June last, and should have reached England before this.

Adhesive. 2 dokdo, lilac-brown.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—According to *La Gazette Timbrologique* a re-adjustment of the frontier between the English and German colonies on the Niger has caused the country known by this name to disappear, together with its stamps. This is a species of *écoulement* for which we were quite unprepared. We had heard rumours that the name of the territory was to be changed, but we had no idea that the country was likely to disappear altogether; and we recommend our readers to secure its stamps with extra strong hinges, if they have not already flown away!

A correspondent informs us that he possesses an envelope from the Oil Rivers, franked by a 2d. of Great Britain, uncharged. The postmark is dated "Old Calabar River, May 27." There seems therefore to be reason to hope that, although Old Calabar is still there, the use of surcharged stamps has been given up.

Persia.—A correspondent in this country informs us that 1 shahi stamps have been running short of late, and an order was issued that not more than one stamp of this value was to be used upon the same letter. He tells us also that the post card rate was raised in April last, and the cards were issued with half a 2 shahi stamp, divided diagonally, stuck upon each, but he only knows of these having been used between Ispahan and Bushire.

Another correspondent sends us a specimen of the 18 shahi on 10 shahi, with a double impression of the surcharge "OFFICIEL"—"1A 18 1A," both the overprints being more or less indistinct.

Adhesive. 18 on 10 sh., black and orange; *double surcharge.*

Post Card. 3½ sh., red and black on buff, with half of 2 sh. adhesive.

Portugal.—Since writing what we published in the last number, on the subject of the stamps perforated with a star, we have received some further information, for which we are indebted to a correspondent at Oporto, and which accounts for these stamps also bearing a postmark. It appears that when the stamps were attached to the telegraph form at the receiving office they were obliterated with a date stamp, similar to that used upon letters, but usually inscribed "EST. TELEGRAPH." (*estação telegraphica*); and, on the telegram being handed to the telegraphist to be transmitted, the stamps were further cancelled with the Star punch, to prevent the clerks from using them a second time. Our informant further states that stamps are no longer used on telegrams.

The *écoulement* of the obsolete issues is evidently not proceeding quite so rapidly here as was desired, so a fresh surcharge with a few variations has been invented. The word "PROVISORIO" is applied diagonally as before, and in the left upper corner is added the date, "1893," and in some cases a fresh value is impressed in the right lower corner; the whole overprint in each case is in one colour, as far as we have seen at present. The 10 reis card of 1884 has also suffered, being surcharged "Válido, 1893," across the stamp diagonally, in *black*.

We have also received three high values of the new type.

Adhesives. 5 reis, black; *carmine surcharge.*

	25	"	carmine; black	"
20 rs. on	25	"	lilac	"
	25	"	"	"
	50	"	blue; carmine	"
50 rs. on	80	"	orange; black	"
75 rs. on	80	"	"	"
	80	"	"	"
	150	"	carmine on rose; <i>new type.</i>	"
	200	"	blue on blue	"
	300	"	blue on buff	"
<i>Post Card.</i>	10	"	brown on buff; black surcharge.	"

Roumania.—We gather from *Le Timbre-Poste* that the card which we chronicled last month is of similar type to the ordinary 5 bani, but that a supply was printed upon the *grey* card employed for the Letter Cards, during a temporary exhaustion of the *pink*.

The *Postal Card* adds that the provisional variety is of abnormal shape, measuring 133 x 106 mm.

Russian Locals.—

Elizavograd.—*Le Timbre-Poste* reports that two of the values of the current issue (Type 2286) appeared in new colours on June 15th.

Adhesives. 2 kop., brown.
5 " yellow.

Jeletz.—We have received what we fancy is a new setting of Type 2333, unless our illustration is very inaccurate. On the stamp before us the inscription at the top is longer than in the illustration, the word "МАРКА" being distinctly longer than the top of the shield, instead of almost exactly the same length. The stamp is badly lithographed upon thin wove paper, rouletted.

Adhesive. 5 kop., black on yellow, *variety!*

Oustysolsk.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles the 2 kopecs envelope in two fresh varieties of size; both are of white laid paper. *Envelopes.* 2 kop., red; 154 x 90 mm. and 156 x 126 mm.

Zadovsk.—We have received a series of stamps of a design which appears to be compounded of the three previously employed; the general effect, at first sight, is that of Type 2647, but closer inspection shows it to be the frame of Type 2648 with the Arms in the centre replaced by the numeral in a crowned circle of 2649. This ingenious combination is lithographed on white wove paper, *perf.* 11½. The highest value is lavishly, and probably unnecessarily, printed in two different colours.

Adhesives. 1 kop., green.
2 " brown.
3 " rose-red.
5 " blue.
5 " red.

St. Lucia.—Messrs. Cameron and Co. have shown us a letter from the Postmaster of this Colony, in which he states that he proposes ordering 1½d. *Letter Cards*, with the stamp, &c., in *orange*.

St. Thomas and Prince.—We give illustrations of the permanent and of the two provisional types of the



2½ reis stamps already chronicled. *La Gazette Timbrologique* states that the two types of surcharge exist upon the 10 reis. The previous report was that the thin figures and italic "rs." were only to be found upon the 20 reis; we must now look for them upon the 5 reis to make the tale complete.

Adhesive. "2½ rs." in black, on 10 reis, green.

Sandwich Islands.—Our next illustration shows the type of the surcharge recently described, fresh varieties of which are still being found. We have received two sheets of 50 of the 1 c., violet, in each of which the centre stamp in the bottom row has the last figure of the date deficient; and we are informed that only 75 sheets were found showing this variety. It is curious that neither of these sheets shows the variety with the defective stop after "GOVT." We have also the 12 c., puce, surcharged in red, of which also we understand very few sheets exist; and, as there are no more in stock, no more can be thus surcharged. Truly the *écoulement* has been greatly facilitated, and the revenue of the Post-office must have benefited considerably by the revolution.

Adhesives. 1 c., violet; error of surcharge "189,"
12 c., puce; error red surcharge.

Servia.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles two letter cards recently issued here. The stamp, in the right upper corner, is of the type of the current adhesives. There are three words, in two lines, in the upper centre; three lines for the address, the third headed "y"; and an instruction at the left side, inside the perforations. The line of the latter is rounded at the upper corners.

Letter Cards. 5 p., green on bluish; 145 × 85 mm.
10 p., rose "

Seychelles.—Messrs. Cameron and Co. kindly send us panes showing the two settings of the 3 c. on 4 c., to which we referred last month. There is just sufficient difference to show that the type has been reset, and that is about all that can be said. Most of the same figures and letters seem to have been used. A figure "3" with a bit out of the head, which was previously on the fifth stamp in the first and sixth rows, now appears on the sixth stamp of the third and eighth rows. Another cracked numeral, which figured upon the fourth stamp in the second and sixth rows, has been discarded in the second edition; on the other hand, we now have a defective letter "c" on the first stamp in rows one and six.

Shanghai.—We are glad to be able to strike one item out of the list of novelties which we gave last month, as *Le Timbre-Poste* appears to have been misinformed as to the colour of the provisional 1 c. card, which has only been seen on buff. On the other hand there are several additions to be chronicled: *The London Philatelist* has received the 5 c. in two varieties of colour, perforated down the centre, and each half surcharged "½ Ct.," in deep blue, as shown in the first of our illustrations, which represents the "1 Ct." on half of 2 c.



as described last month. The same journal describes envelopes and a wrapper, bearing the design of the new adhesives (see our second illustration) embossed upon them; both are stated to be of white laid paper, the envelope being additionally watermarked with lines forming a diamond pattern. The *Postal Card* chronicles two new cards, which we gather bear a species of stamp in the upper centre, the design consisting of a circle containing the three shields displayed upon the adhesives, together with the motto and the value; above the circle are the words "SHANGHAI MUNICIPALITY," in an arch, "LOCAL" on the left, "POST" on the right, and a Chinese inscription below; all being enclosed in a fancy frame with numerals in the corners.

The other two illustrations represent the Jubilee and Postage Due stamps, to the description of which, as given last month, we have only to add that the person performing on the wheel is stated to be Mercury, but as the Messenger of the Gods was provided both with a winged cap and with winged shoes, it was hardly necessary to turn him into a

cyclist. A correspondent informs us that the artist is Mr. R. A. de Villard, who has certainly produced some artistic



designs which might almost entitle him to write "R. A." after his name as well as before it, and that the stamps are printed by Messrs. Barclay and Fry of London.

Adhesives. ½ c., in blue, on half of 5 c., rose.
" " " " 5 c., red.
Envelopes. 2 c., black and red; 146 × 85 mm.
5 c., black and blue; 154 × 96 mm.
Wrapper. 1 c., black and brown; 281 × 103 mm.
Post Cards. 1 c., brown on white; 138 × 97 mm.
2 c., violet " "

The Stamp News describes some extraordinary varieties of the 1 c. on half of 2 c. A pair has been found, each half of the left-hand stamp of which is overprinted "1 cent," in green, and of the right-hand "1 cent," in smaller type, in black, in addition, in each case, to the normal "1 Ct.," in blue. It appears that a sheet was surcharged in different types and colours for the authorities to choose from, and that from a spirit of economy (or in the interests of philately) this sheet was afterwards overprinted with the adopted type, and issued (for use?). We gather that none of the copies of these interesting varieties were allowed to go astray.

Adhesives. 1 c., in blue and green, on half of 2 c., brown.
1 c., in blue and black " " 2 c. "

Le Timbre-Poste notes the 20 cash of 1889 on paper with the watermark, but apparently laid, instead of wove. We fancy that this must be another of those instances in which the apparent laid lines are due to something in the printing, or to some manipulation after the paper was made.

Siam.—Our publishers send us a sheet of 120 (10 horizontal rows of 12) of the 4 atts on 24 atts, of which the last stamp in the third row has only the English surcharge, while all the others have both the English and the Siamese. The stamp above this, the last in the second row, is the variety with a space between the letters "1" of "atts."

The London Philatelist describes a square block of nine of another setting, the second and third stamps of the second row being without the Siamese surcharge.

Adhesive. 4 atts, in black, on 24 atts, blue and lilac; error, without Siamese surcharge.

South Australia.—A correspondent tells us of the 1d. of current design, perf. 15 and showing signs of re-cutting of the die, some of the portions of the profile, &c., which have hitherto been white, being now shaded.

Adhesive. 1d., green: recent, perf. 15.

Spain.—*The Postal Card* chronicles, as a novelty, the 5 + 5 c. card with inscriptions in Roman type similar to those upon the current single card. We gather, therefore, that the double card which we heard of last year, and which one of our contemporaries described as being of the new pattern, was not so, unless, indeed, both varieties were issued within a few months of each other.

Post Card. 5 + 5 c., green on buff: new variety.

Suaheli.—*Le Timbre-Poste* publishes a translation of an article which appeared in the *Ill. Brief Journal*, on the subject of this State and its supposed stamps, which raises once more the question of the existence both of the one and the other. The writer of the article affirms that there existed a Sultanate of Suaheli down to July 1, 1890, when the territory of which it formed a part passed from German protection to English, and the existence of the Sultanate may, as far as he knows, have come to an end. He claims to have received information as to the existence of the State from African travellers who had visited it, and who were personally acquainted with the Sultan Fumo Hakari, whose name did not inspire confidence in some of our contemporaries; and he further quotes a letter from the late representative of

Suaheli at Berlin, who states that both *ordinary* and *service* postage stamps were in use!

There is still some difference of opinion as to the values denoted by some of the different colours of the series, but as these are stated to be *brown, red, rose, and deep red*, it is not impossible that they may have at times been difficult to distinguish. The inscriptions give no indication of the value, but it is perhaps in their favour that an orientalist has been able to translate them.

For ourselves, we preserve an open mind, pending further information; but it appears a little curious that there should have been any doubt as to the existence of a State which possessed a *representative* (ambassador?) at Berlin!

Switzerland.—In an amusing account of the sale of the Zurich Exhibition cards, which we described last month, *La Gazette Timbrologique* confirms what we said as to the unofficial character of the variety, by stating that the Postal Department simply stamped 36,000 blank cards for the Exhibition Committee, leaving the latter to impress upon them any design that it pleased.

The cards seem to have caused great excitement and speculation, so much so, that on the second day of the Exhibition the sale of the cards was transferred to another place, in order that visitors to the Exhibition might not have to wait two or three hours at the entrance before they could make their way in; the result being that the collectors, for whose benefit we presume the cards were designed, visited the Exhibition without getting the cards, while the speculators crowded and broke one another's ribs to get the cards, but carefully avoided the show. This is Philately, from the Jubilee point of view!

Timor.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles the 2½ reis of the new type. The *Deutsche Brief-Zeitung* announces the 300 reis adhesive of Macao, surcharged with the name of this colony and with numerals "30," but this must be the stamp off the post cards previously described.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.

Tobago.—*The Philatelic Record* describes the 1½d. cards of this island surcharged "HALF PENNY," or "ONE PENNY," in Roman capitals, struck vertically in *black*. But are not these the cards that were chronicled twelve months ago, resuscitated like the similar provisionals of Barbados?

Tonga.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* quotes from a letter of the postmaster of Tonga, dated June 3rd, as follows: "The postage on correspondence to all parts of the world from Tonga was reduced to 2½d. on the 1st inst. Owing to the new stamps [½d. and 2½d.—*Ed. V. P. M.*] not being received in time, the Post-office has authorized the dividing of the 1d. stamp from lower right to upper left-hand corner, to be used as a halfpenny stamp for the time being. The new stamps will bear the head of George Tubou II." We gather therefore that there is to be a 2½d. stamp at all events, and possibly a whole new set, or new types of the 2d., 8d., and 1s., with the head of George II. replacing that of George I. In the meantime we are duly authorized to apply the scissors to our 1d. stamps.

A correspondent informs us that we were right in doubting the interpretation "Government Foreign Branch" for the letters "G.F.B." on the Official stamps. The words, of which these letters are the initials, are "Gauē Faka Buleaga," the English of which is, "On the Business of the Government."

At the last moment we hear that ½d., 2½d., 5d., and 7½d. stamps have been produced by means of surcharges, but we have received no particulars.

Transvaal.—We give an illustration of the ½d. on 2d. stamp described last month. *The London Philatelist* states that both varieties of the surcharge exist inverted, as might have been expected, and that there are numerous variations in the relative positions of the words "Halve" and "Penny." The same journal also announces a fresh edition of the "2½ Pence" on 1s., in which the "2½" is placed above "Pence," instead of in the same line; this likewise is to be found upside down.

Adhesives. ½d., in black, on 1s., green; new type.
½d., in red, on 2d., bistre; inverted surcharge.
½d., in black, on 2d., " "
½d., " on 1s., green " "



Travancore.—Mr. H. Clark tells us that he has received the current 1 chukram doubly perforated.

Adhesive. 1 ch., blue; double perf.

Trinidad.—*The Stamp News* chronicles the purple-brown and the grey-brown stamps, of the type without value indicated, roughly pin-perforated, a condition in which they do not appear to have been previously noticed.

Adhesives. (1d.) purple-brown; pin-perf.?
(1d.) grey-brown " "

Tunis.—*La Gazette Timbrologique* assures us that the 50 c. stamp and the 75 c., black on yellow, which have been chronicled, are neither in existence, nor even in contemplation.

United States.—We have received the 2 c. envelope, size H, with stamp of Type 4, without dots or line, and with the large Star, to be added to the list we gave in June. Not having our other envelopes at hand we are unable to say whether it is identically the same type as that upon size A. *Envelope.* 2 c., lilac; size H; Type 4, large Star.

Uruguay.—We have been shown a curious label, which has something of the appearance of a stamp, though we are unable to place it among either postals or fiscals. The design consists of the sun, in full, as upon the earliest issue, surrounded by the inscription "REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY" in a circle. The whole device is larger than the label as perforated, so that only the two latter words are shown in full, portions of the others being cut off by the perforations. No value is expressed, and the impression is in dark blue on rose-red paper, perf. 13½ to 14. What is it?

Venezuela.—We give an illustration of the "INSTRUCION" series, of which we have already chronicled two values. The long list which we give below is copied from divers of our contemporaries. Our second illustration, which



the editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* placed, very excusably, under *Etats-Unis*, is that of another of these Celebration postals which appear to be the prevailing features of the philatelic year. The view is stated to represent the Discovery of the Main Land, in 1498, and we cannot but think that it might more reasonably have been celebrated five years later.

Adhesives. 25 c., red-violet; special issue.

5 c., grey; Instruction.
10 c., green " "
50 c., orange " "
3 b., red " "
10 b., violet " "
20 b., pale brown " "
25 b., carmine " "

The colour of the 1 boliviar is stated to be brown-violet.

Victoria.—*The Postal Card* reports the Letter Card with the perforations crossing at the corners, and extending to the top and sides, instead of being rounded at the corners as previously described.

Letter Card. 1d., red on grey; variety of perforation.

We are indebted to The Philatelic Society of Victoria for impressions of two forged dies that have been discovered out there, and that are known to have been used for fraudulently obliterating cleaned Victorian fiscals. The dies imitated are those of Ballarat and Brooklyn, and the impressions will be available for comparison by the Committee of the Philatelic Protection Association, to whom any doubtful fiscal postals may be sent.

Western Australia.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* chronicles the permanent 1½d. card, which is described as of the same design and size as the ½d. and 1d.

Post Card. 1½d., brown on white.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

By EMIL TAMSEN.

THE history of the stamps of the South African Republic, commonly called the Transvaal, has been singularly neglected. Even I, a resident for many years in the country, did not know every thing; but having lately been successful in unearthing all the information—private as well as official—that is to be found in the country, I propose to give the same in the following pages, and hope to throw some strong light on several hitherto dark points, especially on the history of the stamps of the First Republic.

My best thanks are due to Mr. Fred. Jeppe, the former, and Mr. I. von Alphen, the present, Postmaster-General, who gave me all the information they possessed, and procured for me permission to take copies of the Official Records, which however were rather meagre, and if it had not been for the mass of most valuable information placed at my disposal by Mr. Jeppe I should not be able to make the history as complete as I can do now. I further searched the *Government Gazette* from 1868 to 1885, and I give as full extracts therefrom as I think necessary to explain the subject.

I divide my paper into three parts, the first containing the history of the stamps of the First Republic up to May, 1877; the second relating to the time from May, 1877, until August 8th, 1881, while the country was under British rule; the third dealing with the stamps issued since 1881, under the rule of the Second Republic.

PART I.

The Stamps of the First Republic.

The postal arrangements of the South African Republic before 1868 were very unsatisfactory. There were practically no posts deserving the name. Fortnightly communication by native runner was kept up with Kroonstadt, the nearest Post-office in the Orange Free State. But when it happened that the Vaal River, which is the boundary between the Transvaal and Orange Free State, was flooded, owing to heavy rains (and this happened nearly every summer), then the native post-carrier would quietly camp on the bank of the river, and wait patiently till the water had resumed its ordinary level, when he would pass over, not troubling himself how long he waited, time being of very little importance in those days.

There being no postage stamps, all postage was collected in cash, and sent with the letters to Kroonstadt, where the official would affix to the letters the stamps of his State, and forward them with his own mail to the coast.

The inland Post-offices were connected by native runners, or if a traveller passed he was generally asked to take the mail along to the next office.

There were only two or three newspapers published in the whole country, in the largest towns, such as Pretoria and Potchefstroom. These

circulated in but few copies outside the place of publication, and were sent in still smaller numbers abroad.

In 1866 Mr. F. Jeppe was appointed Postmaster of Potchefstroom; in 1867 he was appointed Acting Postmaster-General; and in 1868 he was permanently appointed to that post.

Mr. Jeppe's first care was to arrange better and quicker communication, and to place the whole Department on a proper footing. He started a weekly mail-cart on the main line between Pretoria, Orange Free State, and Natal; laid in a stock of Cape and Orange Free State postage stamps for the convenience of the public; ordered a special postage stamp to be prepared for use here, as well as the necessary cancellation stamps; drew up the first Postal Law; and must be considered the real originator of the Postal Service of this country, as well as of its postage stamps.

There were at this time some twelve Post-offices in the Republic, Potchefstroom being the head office, although the seat of Government was in Pretoria. The different magistrates' clerks of the several districts were generally also postmasters at a salary of £12 per year. It may be interesting to note the income of several of the offices during the period from 1867 to 1874, which I took from Government records.

<i>Post-office of Potchefstroom.</i>		<i>Post-office of Pretoria.</i>	
1867.	Total income, £576.	1867.	Total income, £110.
1868.	" 593.	1868.	" 120.
1869.	" 613.	1869.	" 211.
1870.	" 488.	1870.	" 250.
1871.	" 389.	1871.	" 210.
1872.	" 355.	1872.	" 290.
1873.	" 507.	1873.	" 210.
1874.	" 338.	1874.	" 420.

<i>Post-office of Kustenberg.</i>		<i>Post-office of Lydenburg.</i>	
1867.	Total Income, £91.	1867.	Total income, £6.
1868.	" 83.	1868.	" 9.
1869.	" 65.	1869.	" 13.
1870.	" 61.	1870.	" 20.
1871.	" 69.	1871.	" 30.
1872.	" 64.	1872.	" 20.
1873.	" 87.	1873.	" 73.
1874.	" 106.	1874.	" 198.

<i>Post-office of Heidelberg.</i>		<i>Post-office of Nylstroom.</i>	
1868.	Total income, £64.	1869.	Total income, £5.
1869.	" 42.	1870.	" 9.
1870.	" 50.	1871.	" 7.
1871.	" 45.	1872.	" 9.
1872.	" 103.	1873.	" 9.
1873.	" 91.	1874.	" 7.
1874.	" 116.		

<i>Post-office of Marabastad.</i>	
1867.	Total income . . . £4.
1868.	" . . . 5.
1869.	" . . . 5.
1870.	" . . . 6.
1871.	" . . . 13.
1872.	" . . . 15.
1873.	" . . . 20.
1874.	" . . . 59.

Owing to the discovery of gold in the Lydenburg and Marabastad districts in the "Seventies," which attracted a large number of European diggers, the Postal Revenue of these offices greatly increased; whereas in the other districts, with an agricultural population, it remained generally the same, and only increased later. It will be seen that many of

the Post-offices did not pay expenses, much less leave a profit, although inland rates were sixpence per letter, no matter what distance.

LAW REGULATING THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

Sanctioned by resolution of Volksraad of 18 June, 1869.
Article 242.

Art. 1. The Government of the South African Republic takes exclusive charge of the conveyance of Mails, and such is forbidden to anyone else.

Art. 2. Duties of Postmaster-General.

Art. 3. Postmaster-General responsible to State President.

Art. 4. Time of yearly estimate to Auditor-General.

Art. 5. Has access to all Post-offices.

Art. 6. Visiting of Post-offices.

Art. 7. Travelling expenses and salary of deputy.

Art. 8. He decides in cases of disputes.

Art. 9. To investigate when registered letters or other articles are lost.

Art. 10. He is to return those letters which have during a year and a half been lying in his office unclaimed, to those offices from which they were sent according to cancellation. Those letters which have no cancellation, so that it cannot be discovered from whence they came, to be opened by him in the presence of at least two witnesses, and if not containing anything of value to be burnt.

Art. 11. Remitting of money, Postmaster-General.

Art. 12. No payments to be made by Treasurer-General without same being approved of by Postmaster-General.

Art. 13. Surety.

Art. 14. Erection of post-offices, and office hours.

Art. 15. Delivery of mails after 8 p.m.

Art. 16. Office closed after arrival of mails, and no entrance allowed to strangers.

Art. 17. Delivery only to certain persons or their representatives.

Art. 18. Identity of person to whom a letter is addressed.

Art. 19. Identity of sender.

Art. 20. No information to be given re letters already posted.

Art. 21. Closing of Post-offices.

Art. 22. Registered letters have to be posted one hour before closing of mail.

Art. 23. Postmasters to obey orders of Postmaster-General.

Art. 24. No appointment or discharge to be made without advice of the head of the office.

Art. 25. Regulations re quarterly statements of Postmasters.

Art. 26. No Postmaster is allowed to open packets intended for other offices.

Art. 27. Regulations re yearly statements and accounts.

Art. 28. Time of quarterly statements.

Art. 29. The Postmasters shall be bound to send, on the 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, and 1st October of each year, to the Postmaster-General a list of letters, papers, parcels, &c., with full addresses, which are lying unclaimed in their offices, so that these lists can be published at once after receipt in the *Government Gazette* or other newspaper.

Art. 30. All letters unclaimed in eighteen months shall be sent to the Postmaster-General.

Art. 31. As soon as the necessary date stamps have been issued to Postmasters, they shall be bound to mark each letter and parcel with date of receipt and of de-patch. Till such stamps have been made the Postmasters shall write the name of office and date on the address of letters and parcels.

Art. 32. Regulations re sending of mails.

Art. 33. Regulations re receiving of mails.

Art. 34. Steps to be taken in case registered letters are missing.

Art. 35. Regulations for offices on boundary of State.

Art. 36. No Postmaster shall accept letters, papers, &c., to mail if the postage is not paid at the same time.

Art. 37. Book-keeping of quarterly statements.

Art. 38. Fines for neglecting duty.

Art. 39. Surety of Postmasters.

Art. 40. Time of mails leaving.

Art. 41. Under special circumstances Postmasters are allowed to keep mails waiting.

Art. 42. General time table to be published.

Art. 43. Post contractors are not allowed to accept letters except from Postmasters.

Art. 44. Carriage of dangerous articles prohibited.

Art. 45. Carriage of mails as per tenders.

TABLE OF POSTAL RATES.

Art. 46. The postage on letters and parcels is reckoned by weight, no matter wheresoever addressed within the State.

For each letter of not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce,	s. d.
English weight, or less	0 6

Above $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, and not more than 1 ounce	1 0
--	-----

For every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, or fraction thereof	0 6
---	-----

For registration of a letter, besides the postage there is to be paid	0 6
---	-----

Art. 47. The postage for a newspaper is, no matter how large

	0 1
--	-----

The postage for extra sheets, if sent with the paper to which they belong, is included in the postage of the paper.

If the extra sheet is sent separate then the postage thereon is same as for a whole paper.

Art. 48. The postage for parcels containing books, circulars, &c., is as follows:

For a parcel of not more than 4 ounces,	
English weight	0 3

Above 4 ounces, but not more than 8 ounces	0 6
--	-----

And for every additional 4 ounces, or fraction thereof, 3 pence; but the total must not exceed 3 lb in weight.

Art. 49. Parcels may not contain letters.

Art. 50. Sending of dangerous articles prohibited.

Art. 51. Postmasters authorized to open suspicious parcels.

Art. 52. Size of parcels.

Art. 53. All officials of the State shall be allowed to send their official letters and parcels free of payment. Letters and parcels of private persons to officials, even if official matter, have no freedom of postage.

Art. 54. Letters to and from a military expedition are post-free within the State.

Art. 55. The State President can grant freedom of postage.

Art. 56. Letters and parcels on Official Service, to be sent post-free, must have above the address the words "On Dienst" (On Service), and below, the name of the official sending the same, together with date of posting.

Art. 57. Memorials can be sent to the Volksraad post-free.

Art. 58. Postmasters have the right to demand inspection of official letters.

Art. 59. Letters marked "On Service" must be handed to Postmaster.

Art. 60. Under special circumstances they can be returned.

Art. 61. Abuse of privilege punishable with fine, and on repetitions of the abuse criminal action to be instituted.

Art. 62. Reason of registration.

Art. 63. Letter must be closed with sealing wax.

Art. 64. Instructions for closing registered letters.

Art. 65. Receipts for same.

Art. 66. Registered letters to be looked.

Art. 67. To be forwarded with two receipts.

Art. 68. Instructions for delivery.

Art. 69. Sender of a lost registered letter has right of a civil action.

Art. 70. Instructions re opening of post bags.

Art. 71. Fine and punishment for stopping mails.

Art. 72. Everybody bound to assist transportation of mails.

Art. 73. Punishments of Post-officials for opening or stealing letters.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

Art. 74. The date of issue of postage stamps shall be appointed by his Honour the State President.

Art. 75. The Treasurer-General to supply the Postmaster-General on demand with as many postage stamps as required by him.

Art. 76. The Treasurer-General is forbidden to supply postage stamps to anybody else than to the Postmaster-General, or on his written order.

Art. 77. The Treasurer-General to keep separate books for all stamps on hand and issued.

Art. 78. The Postmaster-General has to see that in all Post-offices supplies of postage stamps can be obtained by the public against payment of the value printed thereon.

Art. 79. Book-keeping of Postmaster-General.

Art. 80. The postage stamps to bear the Arms of the South African Republic, an inscription prescribed by the State President, and the indication of value.

Art. 81. There will be three values of postage stamps, namely, One Shilling (1/-), Six Pence (6d.), and One Penny (1d.).

Art. 82. Each value of the postage stamps will be printed in a different colour, which will be decided by the State President.

Art. 83. They are to be used to prepay postage on letters, newspapers, and parcels.

Art. 84. The postage stamps are to affixed on the address side of letters, newspapers, etc.

Art. 85. It is permissible to use more than one of the same or of different values of postage stamps on one letter, newspaper, etc., so as to make up the amount due for transmission.

Art. 86. Each postage stamp can only be used once; the postage stamps will be made useless (defaced) in the office where posted, in a manner to be prescribed by the Postmaster-General.

Art. 87. Letters, newspapers, etc., to which one or more postage stamps are affixed, which have already been used, or are forged, or have been written or printed upon, will be considered as unpaid, and will be treated as such. In case the appearance of these used postage stamps arouses the suspicion of an attempt to defraud, then the instructions contained in Art. 89 shall be acted upon.

Art. 88. The money value of one or more postage stamps with which letters, newspapers, etc., are franked must at least be equal to the amount due for postage; but Postmasters can act according to circumstances so that the public is not injured by the not sending of letters, etc.

Art. 89. The letters, newspapers, etc., to which are affixed one or more imitated or false postage stamps, or one or more genuine postage stamps, the look of which, however, arouses suspicion that an offence is intended, or an attempt thereto is made, shall be detained and placed in the hands of officials who by law are entrusted with the detection and prosecution of crimes.

Art. 90. As soon as postage stamps are issued the registration of letters, newspapers, &c., must be paid by postage stamps, which are to be affixed on the address side.

Art. 91. This ordinance shall be law one month after publication.

(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS,
State President.

By Order,
(Signed) B. C. PROES,
Government Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
PRETORIA, 31 July, 1869.

In this law, the first postal law of the country, the description and values of the future postage stamps are given, but no colours, nor is the date fixed for their issue, owing no doubt to the non-arrival of the stamps and plates, which were

expected, as Mr. Jeppe had already ordered them from his native country, Mecklenburg, in Germany, he having had *carte blanche* from Government on this matter, as shown by the following :

No. 1028. GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
PRETORIA, 29th October, 1869.

FRED. JEPPE, Esq.,
Pretoria.

DEAR SIR,—For your information is forwarded Resolution of Legislative Council, dated 28th October, 1869, Art. 33 :

On the letter of Mr. Fred. Jeppe, dated Potchefstroom, Sept. 8th, 1869, containing notice *re* ordering postage stamps, Resolved to ratify the arrangements made by Mr. Fred. Jeppe, and to accept his proposals.

(Signed), M. W. PRETORIUS, State President.
M. J. VILJOEN,
S. J. P. KRUGER, } Members.
S. J. GROBLER,
B. C. E. PROES, }

I have the honour to be
The Government Secretary,
(Signed), B. C. E. PROES.

Mr. F. Jeppe had instructed a brother of his, resident in Germany, to get the stamps, plates, press, &c., prepared by a competent man, and he in turn gave the order to a Mr. Adolph Otto, in Gustrow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, who supplied the articles. Mr. Jeppe sent from here a sketch giving the design, &c. for the stamps, and he also suggested the three colours for the 1 p., 6 p., and 1s. stamps; he took these from the Transvaal Flag, which are *red, white, blue, and green*. The size of the plates was left to the printer to decide, who made them with 40 impressions, stating that if he made the plates larger the press would not be strong enough to print with.

Through the kindness of Mr. Jeppe, I have been placed in possession of the original invoice, which I quote in full.

INVOICE.

GUSTROW, 1 October, 1869.

FRED JEPPE, Esq.,
Potchefstroom, Transvaal.
Dr. to JULIUS JEPPE.

1 case per <i>Colt</i> , containing :	
3 post stamp dies in tin cases Potchefstroom, Pretoria, Rustenburg, with requisites, each 40/-	£ s. d. 6 0 0
12 defacing stamps, each 3/-	1 16 0
1 General Post-office seal	12 0
2 lb. blue stamping ink, per lb. 4/-	8 0
Case and packing	0 2 0
1 case per <i>Bismarck</i> , containing :	
3 matrix stamp dies for 1s., 6d., and 1d. post stamps.	
6 printing plates, 2 each for 1s., 6d., and 1d. post stamps.	
1 printing case.	
3 rollers, 1 cutter.	
1 iron printing press.	
3 tins with green, red, and blue printing ink for postage stamps.	
1 tin with blue printing ink for post stamp dies.	
1 ream gummed paper.	Total for 50 0 0
For printing postage stamps sent <i>via</i> England per <i>Nea</i> , leaving 23th June, a.c.	10 0
Post paid here for the aforementioned post stamps	1 0 0
Freight paid here for 1 case 4753 per <i>Colt</i> throughout to Natal (care of Messrs. Escombe, Gladstone, and Co.)	1 17 0
For printing post stamps packed in this case	10 0
Packing and case per <i>Bismarck</i>	10 0
Freight paid here, Hambro expenses, insurance, postage, &c.	3 0 0
	£66 5 0

In this invoice several points of importance will be noted. I will take each separately.

1. For *printing postage stamps sent via England per Nea, 25th June, a.c., 10s.*

These stamps were the very first sent out to the Transvaal. They arrived here in August, 1869. Undoubtedly they were intended by the printer to be used for postal purposes, and not sent out as *patte ns*, or else I fail to see why he should have charged 10s. for the printing of them.

When these stamps arrived here, I presume the plates were expected shortly, and therefore the following notice was published, fixing date of issue for 1st January, 1870.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 146.

Whereas by Art. 74 of the Law regulating the Postal Administration in the South African Republic, approved of by Resolution of the Volksraad, dated 18th June, 1869, Art. 242, it is stated that the day of issuing the Postage stamps shall be fixed by me, I have thought fit to appoint, which I do herewith, that the issue of Postage stamps shall take place on the first January, 1870.

Given under my hand in Pretoria on the 30th October, 1869.

(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS,
State President.

By order,
(Signed) B. C. E. PROES,
Government Secretary.

During the time between August and December, 1869, I believe orders for postage stamps arrived from dealers and collectors, and as their demands were supplied it was found that when the 1st January, 1870, came the supply of stamps on hand was very small or totally exhausted—Mr. Jeppe states the latter—and as the plates had then not arrived, the issue was postponed. In December, 1869, the arrival of these stamps in Europe was chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* as

1 p., vermilion; 4 shades.
6 p., sky-blue; 3 shades.
1/-, green; 3 shades.

The Stamp Collector's Magazine gives them as

1 p., rose.
6 p., blue (ultramarine).
1/-, chrome-green.

The Philatelist writes that the sheets of 1 p. consisted of *sixteen* stamps, and varied in colour and clearness of impression, the clear ones being pure vermilion, brick-red, light red; those less distinct, which appeared to have had the type overcharged with colour, were in intense scarlet-vermilion and in a brighter shade of the same. The 6 p. are described as being in sheets of *thirty*, azure in colour, varying very slightly; the 1/-, in green, in sheets of *sixty*. All the three periodicals agree in stating that the stamps were rouletted. If these stamps were printed from the *original* plates, I cannot account for the irregularity of the sizes of sheets sixteen, thirty, sixty, the plates having uniformly forty impressions each. If the sheets were cut down to these peculiar sizes, I presume they would not have been called *sheets*, but only *parts* of such.

2. For *printing postage stamps packed in this case, 10s.*

Here we get a second supply of stamps sent out from Germany, which, I presume, was just as large

as the first lot, as the engraver charged the same price. This lot, Mr. Jeppe tells me, was also sent to dealers, etc., in Europe. He has supplied me with notes showing that he sent from 1st September, 1869, to 30th March, 1870, to parties in Europe 4800 of 1d., 800 of 6d., 400 1s., which totals £60 face value. This money he remitted to Germany to pay for the plates, etc. The reason for this was that the paper currency of the Transvaal, consisting of Government Notes, called blue-backs from the *blue* paper on which they were printed, for sums varying from 6d. to £1, was not accepted outside the Republic at any price (in the country itself, where they had a forced circulation, these notes were only taken at 6s. 8d. in the pound against gold), so he could not remit them in payment to Germany; there being no bank in the country he could also not remit in gold. therefore it suited him best to use the money, notes, drafts, etc., he got from dealers and collectors in Europe as a remittance.

I will now prove that all the German printed stamps were disposed of in Europe, and that none were used here.

The two cases arrived in Potchefstroom on the 23rd February, 1870, and on 2nd March Mr. Jeppe personally took the press and plates to Pretoria, and handed them over to the Treasurer-General, who by law was appointed to print the stamps and supply them to the Postmaster-General against receipt. On 4th April, 1870, the Postmaster-General received the *first supply* of postage stamps from the Treasurer-General, in evidence of which I give below the *Official Stamp Record* for 1870, which shows all stamps supplied to the Post Department:

FROM TREASURER-GENERAL.			
1870		£	s. d.
April 4.	312 sheets of 6d. stamps = 12,480 stamps	= 312	0 0
" 4.	171 " 1d. "	6,840	23 10 0
" 26.	214 " 1/- "	8,560	428 0 0
" 26.	107 " 1d. "	4,280	17 16 8
May 10.	120 " 6d. "	4,800	120 0 0
" 24.	108 " 1d. "	4,320	18 0 0
July 4.	305 " 6d. "	12,200	305 0 0
" 4.	101 " 1/- "	4,040	202 0 0
" 4.	194 " 1d. "	7,760	32 6 8

FROM BORRIUS, POTCHEFSTROOM.

Sep. 28. 600 sheets of 1d., *b' a' k* stamps = 24,000 stamps = £100

The above shows that the Postmaster-General only got the *first* portion of the different stamps (1d. and 6d. values) on 4th April, 1870, why not the 1s. stamps of these, if there were any German impressions on hand? Also, why did he not get any stamps at once, after having delivered the plates, etc., to the Government, if any German impressions were still left, and had not all been sold before? He has to wait nearly a month, and then only gets two values instead of three. Does not this seem to show that none of the stamps sent with the plates were left?

A further proof I have in the *Official Record* of the General Post-office for 1870, which shows that on 20th April, 1870, nine (out of twelve) post-offices were *each* supplied with 6 sheets of 1d. = 240 stamps, and 10 sheets of 6d. = 400 stamps, and that on 27th April, 1870, only the three large offices were supplied as follows:

Post-office Rustenburg was supplied with
 240 of 1d., 800 of 6d., 400 of 1s.
 Post-office Pretoria was supplied with
 1200 of 1d., 1600 of 6d., 800 of 1s.
 Post-office Potchefstroom was supplied with
 6000 of 1d., 4000 of 6d., 500 of 1s.

Further, that in the beginning of May only the former nine post-offices got a supply of 1s. stamps. I should certainly not think that this course would have been adopted if any of the German impressions had still been on hand. Mr. Jeppe always said, from the first time I spoke to him on this subject many years ago, that all the German stamps were sent to dealers and collectors in Europe, whose orders were in the country long before the stamps arrived. English magazines stated at the time that the supply of stamps sent out in 1869 consisted of *only a few pounds' worth*. I see no reason why the supply sent out with the plates should have been larger than the first lot, the price the printer charged being exactly the same each time; besides, it appears from the invoice that the first batch was sent by post, as *postage 20s.* is charged. It could not, therefore, have been very bulky, and it must have been securely packed against damp, as well as other damage in transit; considering also the high postage of those days, 1s. 4d. per ½ oz. to the Transvaal, it must be acknowledged that the quantity of stamps sent out from Germany cannot have been large.

Again, in July, 1870, or even earlier, the *native printed* stamps were received in England. At that time it took a letter at least six to eight weeks to reach Europe from here, this also seems to prove that the stamps issued here in May, 1870, were locally printed.

But if all the above is not proof enough, I will now show by the following four letters, kindly placed at my disposal by Mr. Jeppe, that no German stamps were issued here, and that the first lot used were all *locally* printed.

TREASURER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 PRETORIA, 2nd April, 1870.

The Honorable F. JEPPE,
 Postmaster-General, Potchefstroom.

SIR,—I have the honor to send you with this post
 12480 postage stamps of 6d. for £312 or. od.
 6840 " of 1d. " £28 10s. od.

Oblige me by sending receipts for these by return post. Further, I beg to inform you that the supply of paper is exhausted, and that it was very difficult to print the stamps on that gummed paper; it will not lie flat, and thus causes several misprints.

If you desire more stamps to be printed, then send me a supply of paper, and state which sort of stamps you desire, and how many of each sort.

I have the honour to be,
 The Treasurer-General,
 (Signed) M. J. VILJOEN.

312 sheets each 40 =	12,480 stamps at 6d.	=	£312	s. 0	d. 0
171 " " 40 =	6840 " at 1d.	=	28	10	0
			£340	10	0

TREASURER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 PRETORIA, 24th April, 1870.

The Honorable Postmaster-General,
 Potchefstroom.

SIR,—With this post you will receive the following postage stamps:

214 sheets of 1/- stamps =	8560 stamps =	£428	s. 0	d. 0
107 " " id. " =	4280 " =	17	16	8
		£445	16	8

I was awaiting the instrument which you promised in your letter of 6th of this month to send me by first post. I have not received anything, even no letter. I was therefore in doubt what to do—whether I had to send you the stamps uncut* or to keep them back, the more as you had complained that I did not cut* those formerly sent, which I could not do, owing to shortness of time. Taking in consideration that the time for issue of the stamps is near, I have sent the above-mentioned stamps. Whether the gum will be found satisfactory I do not know, it does not seem to dry well. Your brother made it up.

It would have been better if a supply of gum had been handed to me with the press, &c.

I hope that you will now send me the instrument in question.

I have the honour to be,
 The Treasurer-General,
 (Signed) M. J. VILJOEN.

TREASURER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 PRETORIA, 7th May, 1870.

The Honorable Postmaster-General,
 Potchefstroom.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 4 May, 1870, in which you request me to send you £50 stg. According to your letter of 27 April I have printed for £200 of the sixpence stamps, of which I send you herewith for £120.

The others are not yet cut,* because I had to wait for the gum, which your brother prepares. In the meantime I shall try to prepare the penny or sixpence stamps, and will send same by next post.

Your remarks re the gum are very correct.

I have tried to make the gum as thin as possible, according to prescription; but with wet weather the gum will not get dry, therefore I would propose to you, if the stamps stick fast again, to take a quantity of hot water and hold the sheets there over, then you can get the sheets easily asunder without tearing them.

Send me receipt for to-day's stamps.

I have the honor to be
 The Treasurer-General,
 (Signed) M. J. VILJOEN.

Endorsed: "Sent receipt 11 May, '70, for 4800 of 6 p. £120."

TREASURER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 PRETORIA, 2nd July, 1870.

The Honorable Postmaster-General,
 Potchefstroom.

SIR,—Enclosed I have the honor to send you the following postage stamps, with the request to send me the necessary receipts for same.

305 sheets =	12,200 6d. stamps,	£305	s. 0	d. 0
101 " =	4,040 1s. " =	202	0	0
194 " =	7,760 1d. " =	32	6	8
		£539	6	8

As the coloured paint (ink) has been used up can you (if possible) supply me with same?

I have the honor to be
 The Treasurer-General,
 (Signed) M. J. VILJOEN.

The first of these four letters, dated Pretoria, 2nd April, 1870, shows clearly that the first stamps sent by the Treasurer-General to the Postmaster-General were printed by the former in Pretoria on

* "Cut" means rouletted.

gummed paper, which I take to be the same (500 sheets) sent out *with* the plates, as it totals with the stamps—483 sheets printed, allowing the 17 for misprints and spoilage. It will be noticed that the Treasurer-General complains about the difficulty he had to print on gummed paper; in other letters he only complains of badness of local gum. The first letter also shows that only 1d. and 6d. stamps were printed on this gummed paper, so no 1s. stamps can exist on it. The next letter does not say what sort of paper was used for future printings, nor where it came from. I do not think it unlikely that the Postmaster-General sent some suitable paper from Potchefstroom. The second letter also clearly shows that the first lot of 1d. and 6d., and second lot of 1d. and first of 1s. stamps, were imperforate, the rouletting wheel being still in Potchefstroom, and being only sent to the Treasurer-General some time in April. It appears to have been in his possession in the beginning of May, the third letter showing that the 6d. stamps sent then were rouletted (*cut*, as the Treasurer calls it). The four letters also prove that the printing (to the great joy of the Treasurer, who afterwards positively refused to print any more) was brought to a certain end, because the ink was used up (I take this to have been the ink sent out with the plates). There were printed in all 580 sheets of 1d., 737 of 6d., and 315 of 1s., which is rather out of proportion. The original invoice from Germany would lead one to suppose that the quantities of ink sent out of each colour were equally large; but this may not have been the case. Anyhow, I cannot understand how it was that the *blue* ink gave nearly 50 per cent. more impressions than the *red*, and double as many as the *green*; but perhaps some of the *blue* obliterating ink may have been used.

With the press and plates a ream of gummed paper (20 books, each 25 sheets = 500 sheets), a can of each colour ink for printing postage stamps, and a cutter was sent out. This was simply a wheel with sharp points, star-like, fixed to a handle, intended for rouletting the sheets of stamps. Mr. Jeppe handed these over to Mr. M. J. Viljoen, the Treasurer-General, who was by law appointed custodian, and had also to print the stamps, which however he only did from April to July. After that date the plates were sent to a Mr. Borrius, a printer in Potchefstroom, who was sworn in as Government printer, and the latter printed most of the stamps (all of the locally printed ones) till 1874. Mr. Viljoen, never having been a practical printer, appears to have found printing postage stamps a difficult matter. He did the printing in a room in a private house, not too well adapted for the purpose. Mr. Jeppe tells me that, calling on him one day, he found him hard at work printing the stamps, when a whirlwind came in through the open window, and took a quantity of sheets, just wet from the press, which were lying all about the room to dry, out into the street, and that both had to hunt them up outside in the street. After returning to the room, they scraped the dirt off with knives, and laid the sheets out afresh to dry. As this printing of stamps was done in the spare

time of the Treasurer-General, and as the whole job was apparently not to the liking of Mr. Viljoen, I can quite well understand his trying to get rid of the printing as soon as possible, and that it was owing to his exertions that it was transferred to Mr. Borrius, a practical man, who I believe made a better job of it than his predecessor.

The copper plates (there are two of each value) consist of 4 impressions. Each plate is a solid block, made by electrotyping, or some similar process. They are all of the same size—190 × 135 millimètres—and each is mounted on a piece of wood some two inches larger all round than the plates themselves. The design is the same for all three values—1d., 6d., 1s. At top "POST ZEGEL," bottom "Z. AFR. REPUBLIEK," value in words at sides, in top corners numerals. The centre contains the Arms of the Republic, with a bird (supposed to be an eagle, but looking rather like some other bird) mounted on the top. Behind the Arms are three flags on each side, but only two staves are seen below, holding a scroll with the inscription "EEN-DRAGT MAAKT MAAGT." (Unity is strength). This type I shall in future refer to as Type I.



The blocks of the plates are cut so as to allow two plates to be joined together, thus there is a right and left-hand plate.

The 6d. plate has, in the fourth horizontal row, the last stamp inverted (in the left-hand plate), and the 1s. plate has a similar error in the left-hand plate, the first stamp of the first horizontal row. The 1d. plate has no errors.

I had been under the impression that the 6d. plates had been damaged, and that for that reason no 6d. stamps were printed or issued in 1883, but when I inspected the plates (1893) I found them to be in first-class order, showing no wear or tear at all. When copying the official stamp records, I found that the reason for no stamps of that value being printed was the large stock of 6d., black, Queen's head, still on hand, which lasted till the present design came into use, and then still left a balance over. With the plates the three matrix dies were sent out, and the Government thought that, possessing these and the plates, the printer could not—let us say—*humbug* them by printing off stamps without their authority; but the printer appears to have been wide awake, though not smart enough to mislead a good pair of philatelic eyes, as I will show further on. These three matrix dies have disappeared. I can trace one, the 6d., which was sent in 1872 to Natal, to Messrs. P. Davis and Sons, a printing firm, and used by them to print the first official envelopes with. What has since become of it, or of the other two, I cannot say.

The three post stamp dies in tin cases, with requisites, were the first real date stamps used in the country offices, the capital (Potchefstroom) having only had a similar but larger one since 1868. They consist of the name of the town above, "Z. A. R." underneath, in the centre movable date and year, and below "ZUID AFRIKA."

They were intended for the three principal Post-offices, Pretoria, Potchefstroom, and Rustenburg. The twelve defacing stamps are those with the four concentric rings, *without* numeral in centre. Each of the twelve Post-offices then established in the country was supplied with one, with strict instructions to use these only for the cancellation of the postage stamps. These instructions were very strictly carried out, and stamps of the first issue are extremely scarce with the date cancellations, which is to be regretted, as one now cannot with certainty prove when this or that shade of a stamp was used. These cancellation stamps were in 1874 replaced by similar ones with numerals in the centre. How long the 2 lb. blue ink of the first case, and the 1 lb. of the second case lasted, and whether all offices, or only the three principal ones, were supplied therewith, I am unable to show, but I think we may safely say that the stamps defaced with *blue* ink and four concentric rings must belong to the early issues of the first couple of years. I have never yet seen the numeral cancellation in *blue* ink, which appears to show that all the blue ink must have been used up before 1874.

I have a 1s., green, stamp on part of an envelope, which is defaced in *blue* and bears besides the date "Feb., 1873." This is the only specimen I ever saw showing both the marks in *blue*. I have a few more specimens of different values defaced in *blue*, but the great majority of the 400 stamps in my collection are cancelled with numerals, &c., in *black*; some are penstroked, and very few bear dates.

(To be continued.)

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE.

ALWAYS a calm before a storm, they say; and assuredly the month of August must be, from a philatelic point of view, a veritable calm before, let us hope, an autumn and winter of philatelic activity, if not of storm. The intense heat of the month in London has been enough to curl the back of *The Philatelic Album*, let alone a modestly thin paper postage stamp.

But for the indications of an early preparation for the forthcoming Exhibition of the Stamps of the West Indies, to be held by the Philatelic Society of London in October, we should be hard up for something to remind us that we still move and live—philatelically. The Exhibition has now been definitely fixed for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 17th, 18th, and 19th October. It will open at 11 a.m. and remain open till 10 p.m. each day, and I hear that the Annual Dinner of the Society will follow on the Friday; so that the week will be a veritable Philatelic Festival week. As at the last Exhibition held by the Society, there will be no charge for admission. It will of course be open to all members, and non-members will gain admission to view the Exhibition on presentation of the visiting card of any member of the Society.

If there is one thing more than another just now, that may be regarded as an indication that philately, or stamp collecting, has come to stay, it is the marked alteration in the manner in which our hobby and its devotees are now referred to in the columns of the daily press. We are no longer termed, by ignorant sub-editors, nincompoops and harmless idiots. Those individuals have at last discovered that their sweeping classification would include Royalties, Legislators, and other men of rank, of great wealth and of social position. Hence

it has become a recognized pastime; indeed, an important industry. We have lived down the combined ridicule of the press, and that alone is an overpowering proof of our irresistible vitality, and we are now climbing the crest of the wave of popularity—even in the daily press. The latest instance in this direction is afforded by no less a journal than *The Scotsman*, justly reckoned *The Times* of Scotland. As a remarkable testimony to the growing importance of stamp collecting its remarks demand quotation.

It had the following in its issue of the 27th July last:

"When the late Mr. Tapling left his unrivalled collection of postage stamps to the British Museum, many people heard with amazement that the gift was valued at a great many thousands of pounds, and I do not doubt that the ranks of stamp collectors received many recruits in consequence. At any rate, it is a matter of common observation that the collection of postal labels has of late years become an important industry. Philatelic societies abound; there is a voluminous literature devoted to the subject; dealers are found in every large centre; and in London there is at least one limited liability company which devotes itself entirely to supplying the wants of philatelists. Stamp auctions, where rare specimens fetch prices that make non-collectors gasp, are of common occurrence. Collectors are found in every rank of society, from reigning sovereigns to little boys in board schools, and the passion for possessing a collection of postage stamps is rapidly becoming universal. In fact, the demand for stamps is becoming so great that some of the smaller States of the world are turning the passion to account by frequent changes in their issues. Even British colonies have sometimes turned an honest penny by, not necessarily intentionally, making some slight alteration in their current issues."

The British colony here referred to is British Honduras, which has, through its Governor, confessed that stamp collectors in the year 1891 were induced to contribute no less than 23,521 dollars to the finances of the colony, or one-sixteenth of the total revenue of the year. That stamp collectors have not much to boast of in return, in the fanciful surcharges provided, goes without saying among philatelists, and it is time that the governors and the postal authorities of British colonies should understand that it is possible to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. As a case in point, the surcharging propensities of the Cingalese have relegated Ceylon from its position as a favourite country amongst collectors to one bordering on contempt.

Talking about Ceylon surcharges, I was immensely tickled at the press notices of the collection of postage stamps which the members of the London Philatelic Society sent the Duke of York as a wedding present. One journal picked out from the list examples of the rare stamps included in the present, and specially named "Surcharged Ceylons!" And this precious instance of a keen scent for rarities went the round of the press as quite "according to Cocker."

A portion of the Tapling collection is now on view at the British Museum, and provincial stamp collectors coming to London will henceforth include it in the interesting "sights of London Town." It will be found in the King's Library. When you enter the vestibule of the Museum take the first turning that is open to the right and you are in the King's Library. No extra charge for admission, *a la* Crystal Palace, Boyton's Water Show, Aquarium, &c. You are only required to yield up your umbrella to an attendant before you enter, as a precaution against your being tempted to poke some brother collector's eye out with jealousy as you gloat over the treasures that would make such very welcome additions to your own scanty store at home.

What a pity it is that our ever-beloved Tapling did not endow a special building, and place his grand collection on show at a nominal figure for admission—the admission fees to be spent in adding new issues to the collection. I could strongly recommend myself as an excellent curator to look after the business, especially if I were permitted to do a little exchanging with the visitors.

Mr. M. P. Castle, the general Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society, and Editor-in-Chief of *The London Philatelist*, is home again from his tour round the world. He makes no secret of his delight at being back amongst

his old philatelic cronies. When he started, the *Daily News* gave it out that he had gone on a tour round the world in search of rare postage stamps. But, as a matter of fact, his tour had nothing to do with a quest for postage stamps, though, of course, Mr. Castle would not be himself if he turned up his nose at an opportunity for securing a few philatelic treasures *en route*. I am told, however, that he has had precious few chances.

VARIETIES OF PERFORATION, &c., IN THE LATER ISSUES OF BRAZIL.

IN arranging their stock of the stamps of this country our publishers have found a large number of varieties, principally of perforation, which it seems desirable to place on record. We do not look upon these varieties as of extreme interest; indeed, we are not sure that the older collectors, who made free use of that despised implement the scissors, were not wiser in their generation than the present children of light; but if we give lists of the similar varieties of our Colonial issues, we cannot exclude these, and it is certainly well to know what exists, even if we do not collect them all. Our list is a lengthy one, but we do not suppose that it is nearly complete.

The numbers and types are those of the current (the 9th) edition of the Catalogue.

57. 10 reis, greenish-black; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 58. 50 ,, blue; perf. 13.
 59. 100 ,, green (small head); perf. 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$.
 60. 100 ,, (large ,,) ,, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 61. 100 ,, lilac (lined ground) ,, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 61a. 100 ,, (solid ,,) ,, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 62. 200 ,, rose (large head) ,, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 63. 200 ,, dull orange; perf. 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 63a. 200 ,, orange-red ,, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$.

We find these classified as *large*, *medium*, and *small head* respectively, and there seems to have been some slight recutting of the shading round the head, but the differences are very small.

64. 10 reis, orange-vermilion; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 65. 20 ,, bronze-green ,, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 66. 50 ,, blue (large head) ,, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 67. 100 ,, lilac; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 68. 100 ,, mauve (white figures); perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14,
 $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, 13×14 .
 70. 50 ,, blue; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, 13×14 .
 71. 100 ,, mauve (solid figures); perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14,
 $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, 13×14 .
 72. 300 ,, blue; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13.
 73. 500 ,, olive-green; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13.
 74. 700 ,, lilac; perf. 13.
 75. 1000 ,, pearl-grey; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13.
 76. 1000 ,, blue; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.

It seems doubtful whether the *pearl-grey* tint is not due to fading or discolouration of the *blue*. Many intermediate shades exist.

79. 20 reis, emerald-green; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13.
 80, 81. 50 ,, olive-green, green; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 82. 100 ,, lilac-rose; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 13×14 .
 83. 200 ,, purple; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$,
 13×14 , 11 , $11\frac{1}{2}$, 11×13 , 11×14 .
 84, 85. 300 ,, purple-blue; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14.
 86. 500 ,, pale bistre ,, 13, 11.
 86a. 500 ,, greenish-grey ,, 13.
 88. 1000 ,, ochre-brown ,, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$.
 90. 100 ,, lilac (redrawn type); perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14,
 $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, 13×14 ,
 $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, 11 , $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, 11×13 , $11 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$,
 11×14 , 11 at top $\times 12\frac{1}{2}$ at bottom $\times 13$ at
sides, 14 at top $\times 11$ at bottom $\times 13$ at sides,
 11 at top $\times 13$ at bottom and sides, 11 at
top and sides $\times 13$ at bottom, 11 at bottom
 $\times 13$ at top and sides, 11 at top $\times 13\frac{1}{2}$
at bottom and sides, 11 at top $\times 14$ at bottom
and sides, 11 at bottom $\times 14$ at top and
sides, 11 at top $\times 14$ at bottom $\times 13\frac{1}{2}$
at sides.

Type 358 on thick paper.

92. 20 reis, emerald-green; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 11,
 $11\frac{1}{2}$, 11×13 , 11×14 , 11 at top $\times 13$ at
sides $\times 14$ at bottom, 11 at bottom $\times 13$
at top and sides.
92a. 50 reis, green (shades); perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, 11.
93. 200 ,, purple; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.
93a. 300 ,, purple-blue; perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, 11×13 ,
 $11 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, 11×14 , 11 at bottom $\times 13\frac{1}{2}$ at
top and sides.

The paper varies a good deal in thickness, and the 500 and 1000 reis seem only to exist upon the thicker varieties. The large perforation, 11 to $11\frac{1}{2}$, appears to be the most recent, but it has been employed in combination (in almost all possible combinations and permutations) with the other gauges.

1891. Type 359.

94. 100 reis, red and blue; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $11\frac{1}{2}$,
 $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$,
 $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.
95. 100 reis, red and ultramarine; perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14,
11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, 11×13 , $11 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$,
 $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.
94a. 100 reis, red and blue; *tête-bêche*.
96. 100 ,, ,, *with frame inverted*.
96a. 100 ,, red and ultramarine; *with frame inverted*.

Impressions in *red* and *ultramarine* are also found with one of the two colours showing very distinctly on the back, but the impressions on the face and on the back in these cases (if there are two impressions) cover one another so exactly, that we think the appearance must be due to the ink showing through the paper. It is curious that although in some cases it is the *red* ink and in others the *ultramarine* that produces this effect, we have seen no copies in which both show it together; it is therefore not a case of transparent paper, and we are unable to account for these curiosities.

MAILS AND THE RATS.—Five of the mail bags for New South Wales, and some for Brisbane, *ex R.M.S. Curaco*, which were received by the southern express, of June 2, had been attacked by rats on the voyage. 175 letters and a number of packets were found, on examination of the contents, to have been partly destroyed, some with only the corners eaten off, others injured in a greater degree, and were accordingly re-enclosed in the Dead Letter Office before being sent on to the addressees. A few packets, which were almost completely destroyed, had apparently contained wedding cake, kid gloves, and similar articles.—*Town and Country Journal*, Sydney, June 6, 1893.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

DEAR SIR,—We stayed a week at Chicago, but unfortunately missed seeing most of the stamp exhibits at the World's Fair. Mr. Holman kindly came to the hotel to welcome us soon after our arrival, and was extremely kind in telling us what to see and how to see it best. This gentleman sold his very fine collection some two years ago, but evidently still takes a keen interest in all matters Philatelic. The stamp exhibits at the World's Fair are scattered about in various buildings, and we had great trouble in finding those few that we knew of. It took me two and a half hours' disconsolate wandering around the Manufacturer's Building to find your publishers' exhibits, but at length my patience was rewarded by the sight of a distant stamp, and there they were, with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s and Messrs. Waterlow and Sons' handsome frames close by. In the United States building were several sheets containing sets of most countries, with a fine frame, most tastefully devised, of proofs of United States stamps. The damp had evidently badly affected a large frame of entire envelopes, which were coated in places with a brown mould, a cheering sight for the owner. I heard afterwards

that there was a fine *specialité* collection of Trinidad, the joint exhibit of two gentlemen residing in the island, but this I did not see, nor could I find the A. P. A. exhibit.

We journeyed to New York by a roundabout way, taking in Toronto and Montreal. At the former place we only stayed three-quarters of an hour, which we devoted to being "rushed around" by an energetic cab-driver, who shrieked out the names of the principal buildings as we dashed along. Had our stay been longer, we should doubtless have found something of interest. The collection of Mr. B—, of Toronto, contains the five 12d. Canada I mentioned in my last. At Montreal we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Gibb, who kindly showed us his collection. Mr. Gibb is a very old collector, and he has never sold anything, so the accumulations can be better imagined than described. He certainly possesses a magnificent lot, with a pair and a single 12d. Canada, on laid, unused, and a superb lot of British North America, the Cape errors, the rare Natal surcharges, and some very fine old Europeans and Australians. Mr. Gibb kindly invited one or two other collectors in the town to meet us, one of whom, Mr. Patterson, showed us a good all-round general collection, with a few superb Sydneys. Mr. Gibb will be in England shortly, and will no doubt receive a very hearty welcome from his old friends in the London Society.

Our week in New York fairly brimmed over with Philately, and, despite the dead season, we had the pleasure of meeting nearly all the leading collectors and dealers. The Rev. W. H. Holman, brother of Mr. Holman in Chicago, showed us an astounding collection of Sydneys, plates complete on all the different papers and in all shades, and all in the finest condition; Nevis also was collected in the same lavish style, about forty plates and sheets, mostly complete. We were also privileged to see a Ceylon 4d. imperf., unused, in the most perfect condition, with gum. This stamp, with the four other octagonals unused, was purchased at auction several years ago for a few dollars; Mr. J. W. Scott kindly showed me the marked catalogue. Mr. C. B. Corwin invited us to his residence at Plainfield, U. S., to look over his collection. He recently sold a portion of it, and the balance has been mounted in two square-lined albums. Mr. Corwin has been unmercifully chafed about going back to a printed album; but the said square-lined albums contain some regular eye-openers, and some day will be passed on to his son—a charming little lad of ten or eleven. We were also shown a fine assortment of used Prince Edward Island, the rare roulettes and the imperfs. in pairs and strips. Collectors over there are finding out that some of the values are very hard to get used, and they are being eagerly sought for. Mr. Calman kindly showed us over the fine premises of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., and we saw the famous pair of 12d. Canada on wove unused, a 5 c. Sandwich Islands, and a host of other fine stamps. The J. W. Scott Co. have a handsome place in John Street, and showed us several interesting things. Mr. Henry Clotz was extremely kind to us, acting as our guide during our stay, and showing us all the principal sights in the city. He has a superb collection of the U. S. of Colombia, a large number of the rare Tolimas, &c., and also of the British West Indies, with some of the rare manuscript surcharges. We received an invitation to attend a meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society, and under the protecting wing of Mr. Clotz we made the trip across from New York, and after a pleasant drive round the island reached the restaurant where the meeting was held. The first thing in the room that attracted my curiosity was a wooden stand on the table, ornamented with the initials of the Society, "S. I. P. S." This was suggestive, and I thought to myself, "Can it be?" It was. The mystery was explained by a waiter bringing in and placing on the stand a small keg of lager beer. Glasses having been filled, work proceeded, and Mr. Castle and myself were honoured by being elected honorary and life members respectively. I was shown a large collection of U. S. match and medicine stamps at the meeting, and some of my readers will probably be as much surprised as I was to learn that £20 is by no means an outside price for the scarcer varieties.

We were entertained at dinner by the New York Philatelic Society, at Delmonico's, where an excellent repast was provided. Mr. de Coppet presided, and Messrs. Corwin, Clotz, Deats, and other prominent philatelists were present. Several extremely interesting speeches were made in the

course of the evening, and when, shortly after midnight, the assembly broke up, we went away much impressed with the enormous strides philately has made in the last few years.

We left New York on the 26th of July, homeward bound, and arrived at Southampton, after a fast passage, on August 2nd. On reviewing the course of our trip, it is vividly brought to mind how much our enjoyment has been augmented—firstly by the mere fact of our being stamp collectors, and secondly by the extreme kindness and hospitality showered on us in every big town our wanderings have taken us to by those interested in the hobby. It would be impossible for me to speak too highly of the way our philatelic friends laid themselves out to be of assistance to us, and I can say without exaggeration that this will always be my pleasantest recollection of the trip.

Yours faithfully, W. T. WILLETT.

BRIGHTON, August 11th, 1893.

THE DE COPPET AUCTION SALE.

SIR,—Your July number only reached me to-day, and I have just read with much interest the paper it contains under the above heading. I would fain suppose that even the Scott Stamp and Coin Company would hardly impute *wifful* misrepresentation to Mr. De Coppet. The infamy of such a suggestion could only be equalled, in the opinion of those who know him, by its ludicrous groundlessness.

In the winter of 1888-89 I assisted Mr. De Coppet, to some extent, in the re-arrangement of his collection. It was at the time when he decided on collecting the issues of the Western Hemisphere only. Mr. De Coppet's experience was not so great then as that to which he has since attained, and I had to point out to him that a few of his stamps (notably a Cape error, purchased for a large sum from a well-known Italian dealer) were forgeries. Of all the collectors I ever met, and they are many, I never came across anyone who welcomed criticism more readily, or who accepted an adverse decision against a stamp, dear to him in more senses than one, so frankly and so philosophically as Mr. De Coppet.

As regards the 50 cents, U. S. Columbia, 1863, error, red, if the stamp be the one which was once mine, and is a forgery to boot, then I claim that it must nevertheless be a valuable curiosity, as having run the gauntlet for so many years without being detected. In the days when I collected, members of the London Society were very speedily disillusioned as to the authenticity of a supposed gem, and, as you may imagine, it was not our gems, real or supposed, which we hid under bushels. That collectors have become less lynx-eyed during the last decade I have difficulty in supposing. It is strange that this stamp, which passed muster in London, Switzerland, Paris, and for years in New York, should only have been found wanting on the eve of or during an auction sale. Yours obediently,

BRUGES, August 22nd, 1893.

M. BURNETT.

"IT IS NEVER TOO LATE" TO BEGIN!

DEAR SIR,—The certainly interesting and amusing, if not precisely accurate, "Personals," or "Interviewings," so popular in our day, would, I think, be improved by avoiding mentioning by name persons who have nothing to do with the anecdotes or reminiscences. Thus, in your July number I am mentioned by name as having obtained the collection of Mr. D. H. Hill, of Melbourne (July, 1887), for a "nominal" sum. I fear that the expression used is calculated to give your readers the idea of vast "bargaining" and "squeezing," than which nothing could possibly be further from the real facts of the case. "Mutually satisfactory sum" was the proper term to use. Neither I nor Mr. Hill had any definite idea. I merely wrote to him from Sydney that stamps were as quickly "coming in" as my time (seven weeks) and cash (£800) were "running out." Would it be well for me, if he ever thought of parting, to see him again, and to reserve a sum?

As a result, Mr. Hill came to my hotel for three evenings, and we arranged the purchase in the most pleasant way. There was no "bargaining" at all. Why? Because the

value of Australian stamps, considered fair by the sellers out there in 1887, were so satisfactory to a Buyer from England that all I had to do was to buy all I could.

We neither of us knew the value of that entirely "unused" (not a "used" copy in it) Australian "hoard" of good Mr. Hill's.

I have half of it left still. I do not know its value now. Sixteen (!) unused, 1st Issue, 4 pence, octagon, Tasmania, on *one* page, startled even my (then) "guide, philosopher, and friend," Professor C. J. Phillips. (Note. Why does that all-absorbing London run away with the best men, and leave us for three years now "dull as ditch water"?)

I gave Mr. H. £310, Mr. W. about £75, Mr. B. £86 (excellent collection), Dr. E. £72, total, with others, £760, and (most injudiciously) brought £100 back with me, which ought to have been invested in Tasmania.

But I got tired, and was so delighted with that beautiful city Adelaide—the "exhibition" was on there—that I could not get away.

One word to the *young collector*. Do not say, "Ah! that was the time to buy, no chance now!" Pemberton always said to me, "Ah! wait till stamp collecting is fifty years old, then you will see." Let the beginners choose *safe, progressive* countries (governments above issuing would-be remainders, reprints, &c., to raise money)—say the United States, for instance, British Colonies, including all our possessions in the West Indies, Australia, &c. Let him choose clean, perfect copies, deny himself those usually mediocre—if not prejudicial—jam tarts, toffee, cigars (supposed to be tobacco)—let him put the money into such stamps, resist *all* temptations to *sell* (the rock upon which we old collectors all split), keep his stamps for ten years to come, and he will have cause to rejoice that he followed the counsel of

AN OLD COLLECTOR.

P.S.—If the Editor elects to receive a short sketch of the "Campaign" or visit to Australia in 1887 (no names given), I think I can afford the readers of the *Journal* some amusement and interest.

BIRMINGHAM, 16th August, 1893.

[We shall be most happy to receive an account of our correspondent's "Campaign" in Australia, as all such records have much interest both for present and future collectors.—ED.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. W. M.—New Zealand 1d., 2d., 3d., and 1s. are given in the current edition of the Catalogue as perf. 10. We have not seen the variety of shade of the Chili which you mention, but note it in our present number.

F. H. B.—There are no genuine 1 c. or 2 c. of the issue you mention in the same types as the 4 c. The fact that there are forgeries of the 1 c. and 2 c. in the wrong type is due to the forgers having copied the 4 c., or an illustration of it, for all three values.

Messrs. T. W. W. & Co.—Is not the stamp you allude to the one which we chronicled in April?

No. 171.—We shall be very grateful for any information you can give us as to the early issues of Persia, especially the actual date at which stamps were first brought into use, and whether those printed in Paris, and the 2 sh. perforated were actually issued.

R. F. G.—The provisional stamp was quite new to us, and we are much obliged to you for sending it. It is impossible to say what its value may be, but these half stamps are not in much demand.

H. G.—Many thanks for sending the Transvaal.

G. B.—Your stamp has probably been changed in colour, as many *green* stamps can be easily turned to *blue* by means of acids.

S. W.—We are very glad to hear that you liked our last number; we hope the following ones will not seem too flat in comparison. 1. The 1s. 6d. Victoria exists both in *blue* and *yellow*; you will find them numbered 164 and 164a in the current catalogue. 2. Many English fiscals have passed the post on letters; but only the Receipt and Inland Revenue stamps are allowed to be thus used, the others have passed

by mistake. 3. You will find an answer to this question in the present number. 4. We know of no handbook at present to the stamps of either of the countries you mention, but we will put them on the list, and some day—perhaps—

E. K.—Many thanks for your letter, of which we have made use. We do not know yet whether the surcharge has been given up or not, but hope it may have been.

A. H.—Many thanks for the cutting, which we hope to find room for.

X. Y. Z.—1. A "fake-fauk" is an implement quite unknown to us. *Fake* is a good old slang word, used generally as a verb, meaning to steal, pick pockets, &c. It has been used of late years to mean doing something fraudulent to a stamp, such as removing a fiscal obliteration and adding a postal one, adorning it with fictitious perforations, &c.; and, further, quite erroneously, as a substantive, meaning something (generally a stamp) that has been *faked* or fraudulently manipulated. 2. We do not know who invented perforations. Henry Archer seems to have been the first person to suggest applying perforation to postage stamps. 3. We must again confess our ignorance. We have never heard of the "Bartlett" stamp.

COLEMERE.—The stamped wrappers of *white* paper are those printed to order. Many newspaper publishers and dealers use them, so that they are not at all uncommon.

P. S. D.—a. Some collectors admit stamps with inverted watermarks as distinct varieties, and others do not. It is a matter which must be left to each individual to decide for himself, but we, personally, do not consider such varieties of much interest. b. The large letters which you have found watermarked in a Ceylon stamp are probably "C O," part of the word "COLONIES," which is watermarked across the centre of the sheet.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies would kindly send us a short account of each meeting before the 18th of each month, we shall be pleased to insert it in this Journal.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

The ninth ordinary meeting was held at the Society's Rooms, Church Gate Street, on Thursday, the 27th July, at 6 p.m. The following gentlemen attended: E. S. Gubbay, Esq., Vice-President; Krishnarao Ramchandra, Esq., Hon. Treasurer; P. De Cruz, Esq., Exchange Secretary; Messrs. D. Mahadevrao, A. J. Agabeg, H. W. Graham, and the Hon. Secretary.

Business Taken.—The following were balloted for and elected as corresponding members of the Society:

Mrs. K. Harvey, Central India, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by E. S. Gubbay, Esq.; Captain C. H. Hancock, Jhelum, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by A. J. Agabeg, Esq.; E. Brooks, Esq., proposed by the Hon. Treasurer, and seconded by H. W. Graham, Esq.

Mr. H. W. Graham read a letter from L. W. Gray, Esq., corresponding member, in which the following questions were asked:

1. Who invented perforations?
2. To what country does the "Bartlett" Stamp belong?
3. Explain "Fake-fauk."

The Vice-President remarked that these questions had better be put off till a more convenient season, as they had to discuss the question of Exchanges at the meeting.

The Hon. Secretary proposed that a list of all the members of the Society should be published for the information of members. This was seconded by H. W. Graham, Esq., and unanimously passed.

The Vice-President proposed that a form of certificate should be printed at the expense of the Society, to be given to each member.

The Hon. Secretary said that the funds of the Society in the hands of the treasurer amounted to a little over a hundred rupees, and as the Society was young, they had better wait till their financial condition could bear it before they used the funds for unnecessary purposes. He did not think that they could well afford the expense for the present, and did not see why the Society should pay for publishing certificates which would be of very little practical use to the members.

The Hon. Treasurer said that expenditure being a material point in a Society like theirs, he would have the certificates lithographed at his own expense.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Krishnarao for his kind offer.

The Hon. Secretary, in seconding the vote, said that it was most kind of Mr. Krishnarao to offer to print the certificates at his own expense, more especially as the Society owed it to his kindness that they had a place to meet in.

The Hon. Treasurer said that as regards the question of exchange between members, he was of opinion that the members themselves should price their own sheets according to Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, and that the exchange secretary should send the sheets to each member, allowing two days for selection, and that he should keep a debit and credit account of the transactions between members, any balance remaining at the end of the year should be adjusted in cash if no stamps could be given to the value remaining due. This was seconded by P. De Cruz, Exchange Secretary, and passed.

Mr. A. J. Agabeg proposed that a fixed rate of exchange, viz., 12 annas to the shilling and 25 per cent. discount should be settled on all exchanges between members. This was seconded by Mr. D. Mahadevrao and carried.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the following: Messrs. A. C. Trapp, J. Rebeiro, R. H. Frost, A. Wyim, and Dr. A. C. Pacco.

No further business was taken.

It is requested that all communications for the Honorary Secretary should be addressed as under, and not to Church Gate Street, as hitherto.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS,
Hon. Sec.
33, Sassoon Dock Road,
Calaba, Bombay.

BOMBAY, 28th July, 1893.

WEST AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE inaugural meeting of the West Australian Philatelic Society was held last Friday in the Literary Institute, Fremantle. There was a fair attendance of collectors, and apologies were read from some other of the leading collectors expressing their satisfaction at the movement and promising support. The following gentlemen were elected office bearers: President, Mr. C. L. Clifton; Vice-President, Mr. R. Snellgrove; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. Levine; Committee, Mr. Wade (Perth), Mr. George F. Carlton, and Mr. E. Fothergill. It was decided that the Committee form rules and bring them up at the next meeting of the Society, to be held June 30th, at the same place. After a few interesting anecdotes relating to stamp and coin collecting the members dispersed.

THE second meeting of the above was held in the Literary Institute, Fremantle, on Friday evening, June 30th. Present: Messrs. Snellgrove (in the chair), Wade, Fothergill, Carlton, Scanlan, Thompson, and Levine.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The rules drawn up by the Committee were then read. Proposed by Mr. Carlton and seconded by Mr. Wade, That the rules as read be adopted. (Carried.) Proposed by Mr. Carlton and seconded by Mr. Fothergill, That Mr. Levine be Exchange Superintendent. (Carried.) Mr. Clifton then came in and showed his collection, affording the members a chance of seeing many rare stamps, for which he had the thanks of the Society. A South Australian 2d., present issue, on pink paper, was shown (watermarked

Crown and SA) by Mr. Thompson, who also showed a complete sheet of the 3d. surcharge on 1d., yellow, showing the type with thin bar between the 1 and 2, only two specimens of this variety being on the sheet. A sheet of obsolete Servian stamps was then shown and pronounced by Mr. Wade to be forgeries.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

A. J. LEVINE, Hon. Sec.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

ANNUAL REPORT.

IN submitting to you their First Annual Report, your Committee has much pleasure in stating that your Society is in a prosperous condition, and that its formation has proved itself to have been fully warranted in the interests of collectors generally.

During the past twelve months eleven General Monthly Meetings have been held and have been uniformly well attended, members showing considerable interest in the proceedings.

At the first meeting of the Society Mr. David H. Hill was unanimously elected to be your President, twenty-one members being present. The roll of membership has since steadily increased during the year. Forty-six names have been placed on the list of members, and three have resigned, thus reducing the numbers to forty-three.

At several of the meetings papers on Philatelic subjects were read and discussed by the members present.

The papers read numbered seven, and were contributed by your President, Mr. Hill, and Messrs. C. B. Donne, A. J. Derrick, and A. T. Wilson, the subjects being as follows: "Emblems of Victoria," "Papers on which Emblems were Printed," "Kindred Societies," "Various Half-lengths of Victoria," "Beaded Oval Series of Victoria," "American Jubilee Series," "Mr. Vindin's Trip to Europe, and his Philatelic Career."

It is to be noted that the papers were mainly dealing with the stamps of your own Colony, and your Committee asks for the co-operation of members in reading papers on other countries as well.

In consequence of your Society only being of comparatively recent formation, the correspondence with kindred Societies and Clubs has only been very small, and of an uninteresting nature.

The books and literature of your Society consist of periodicals and books presented by members, amongst those donated being *Oceania*, by Mr. C. Hesselmann, your Secretary, and several bound volumes of *Vindin's Monthly*, by Mr. Dawson A. Vindin.

Reports of the General Monthly Meetings are published each month in *Vindin's Monthly*, your Society being indebted to Mr. Vindin for this courtesy.

Your Committee is also pleased to thank Mr. C. B. Donne for his kindness in taking charge of the books and periodicals of your Society, thus enabling members to have access to them at all hours at his place of business.

During the year your Committee considered it advisable to join the Philatelic Protection Association, and have since had occasion to bring under its notice a number of Victorian Duty Stamps with forged cancellations. Your Committee asks each member to bring under the notice of the Society any case of forged stamps or obliterations which may come under their notice, with a view to aid them in their endeavour to put down this vicious trade in counterfeits.

Eight exchange books were circulated amongst members during the year, and this medium of exchange was availed of by many members to increase their collections. The value of the books issued was £363 os. 3d., and of the six books settled £283 10s. 1½d. Members removed stamps from these six books to the value of £78 19s. 2½d., being 28 per cent. of the total, showing that the exchange system was much appreciated. The commission earned by your Society on these six books was £3 18s. 9½d.

In conclusion, your Committee trusts that your Society will make even greater progress in the future than it has done during the past twelve months, and feels certain of your Society taking, in the near future, a strong position in the ranks of the Philatelic Societies of the world.

Special Bargains and New Issues

FOR SEPTEMBER.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

BRAZIL.

	<i>Journal Stamp.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
50 reis, emerald-green	.. ..	0 4
80 reis	<i>Post Card. Surcharged "Carta Bilhete."</i>	0 4

NORTH BORNEO.

1886-1889. (Nos. 26 to 31 in Catalogue.)		
25 c., slate, 50 c., lilac, 81, red, 82, green, 85, violet, and 810, brown; the set of six rare stamps, used,	..	25 0

FIJI.

1893. <i>New Type.</i>		
1d., black	.. ..	0 2
2d., green	.. ..	0 4

GREECE.

1889. <i>Athens Print.</i>		
2 leptas, ochre, used	.. ..	2 0
1891. <i>Type 1090.</i>		
1 leptas, pale brown, perforated	.. ..	0 4
1 " dark brown	.. ..	0 4
<i>Unpaid Letter Stamps.</i>		
70 leptas, green and black, used	.. ..	2 6
80 " " "	.. ..	3 0

MACAO.

<i>Journal Stamp.</i>		
2½ on 10 reis, black and green, used	0 2

MAURITIUS.

1 cent, mauve	0 1
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PERU.

<i>Service Stamps, with red surcharge.</i>		
1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 centavos; set of 5, used	4 0

PORTUGAL.

<i>Surcharged "1893 PROVISORIO."</i>		
5 reis, red and black	.. ..	0 2
20 " black and carmine	.. ..	0 4
25 " black and pink	.. ..	0 6
50 " red and blue	.. ..	0 9
80 " black and yellow	.. ..	1 0
20 reis on 25 reis, black and pink	.. ..	0 4
50 " 80 " black and yellow	.. ..	0 9
75 " 80 " " "	.. ..	1 0
<i>Post Card. Surcharged "Valido 1893."</i>		
10 reis, black and brown on buff	.. ..	0 2

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.

<i>Unpaid Letter Stamps, with name overprinted diagonally.</i>		
5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60 centavos, 1 and 2 francs; the same, with T. P. added, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60 centavos, and 1, 2, and 5 francs; the rare set of 17 stamps	.. ..	40 0

SANDWICH ISLES.

<i>Provisionals. 1893.</i>		
12 cents, puce, with red surcharge	.. ..	2 0

SEYCHELLES.

12 cents on 16 cents, black, blue, and brown	1 0
15 " 16 " " " used	1 0

SIAM.

4 atts on 24 atts, used	0 6
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SURINAME.

<i>Head of Young Queen.</i>		
10 cents, bistre	0 4
12½ " mauve	0 5
15 " grey	0 6

VENEZUELA.

1893. <i>New Type.</i>		
5 centimos, "Instruccion," grey	.. ..	0 2
10 " " " green	.. ..	0 3
25 " " " blue	.. ..	0 6
50 " " " orange	.. ..	1 0
1 bolivar " " puce	.. ..	1 9
5 centavos, "Correos," brown	.. ..	0 2
10 " " " blue	.. ..	0 3
25 " " " violet	.. ..	0 6
50 " " " puce	.. ..	1 0
1 bolivar " " green	.. ..	1 9

Columbian Stamp. With View of Harbour, and Columbus Discovering the Main Land.

25 centavos	0 6
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ENTIRELY NEW AND REVISED SERIES OF CHEAP SETS for 1893.

Used * Unused † Used and Unused ‡ Postfree, 1d. extra.

				<i>Set of</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
†Faridkot, native issues	.. ..	1	12	1	6
†Fernando Po, 1 c., green, 5 blue, 10 brown, 10 carmine, 50 blue, and 50 c. surcharged	.. ..	6	7	6	7 6
†Fiji, 1871-91, including 3 provisionals	.. ..	7	7	6	4 6
†Finland, including old issues	.. ..	7	7	0	6
† " including 10 kopec, oval, 32 penni, 1 mark, etc.	.. ..	21	3	0	0
† " Locals for Helsingfors and Tavastehaus	.. ..	7	7	1	6
†France, including unpaid and envelope	.. ..	12	0	9	9
" " 1853-90, a grand set, including many rare varieties	.. ..	57	4	0	0
" " 1881, unpaid, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 30, and 60 centimes	.. ..	8	1	0	0
† " including 4 c. Republic, imperf.	.. ..	9	1	3	3
*French Colonies, 1881, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 25 c.	.. ..	9	0	10	10
† " unpaid, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 30c.	.. ..	9	3	6	6
†French Congo, 1, 2, 4, and 5 c.	.. ..	4	0	4	4
†French Guiana, 1, 2, 4, and 5 c.	.. ..	4	0	4	4
†Funchal, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 50 reis	.. ..	6	1	0	0
†Gambia, C and CC, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., and 4d.	.. ..	5	2	9	9
† " C and CA, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d.	.. ..	6	2	0	0
†German, early issues, including rare	.. ..	8	1	0	0
" " Telegraph, current and obsolete	.. ..	8	1	0	0
† " Empire, including 2½ and 5 gr., 18 kr., etc.	.. ..	11	1	0	0
† " Levant, 1889, 10 and 20 par., 1, 1½, and 2½ pi.	.. ..	5	1	9	9
†Gibraltar, 1887, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	.. ..	7	15	0	0
† " 1889 (Aug.), 5, 10, 25, 25, 40, 50, and 75 c.	.. ..	7	10	0	0
† " (Nov.), 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, and 75 c.	.. ..	6	3	0	0
‡ " including post cards and newsbands	.. ..	9	1	6	6
†Gold Coast, CAN CA, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., & 6d.	.. ..	7	2	9	9
" " including provisional 2/-, brown	.. ..	8	5	6	6
†Great Britain, including 1d., black, 1½d., envelope, etc.	.. ..	11	1	0	0
" " including 2/-, 5/-, and 10/-	.. ..	38	3	0	0
" " I.R. Official and Government Parcels	.. ..	7	3	0	0
†Granada Confederation, including rare	.. ..	7	1	6	6
†Greece, including unpaid and new issue	.. ..	7	0	6	6
† " a fine set, with a lot of old issues	.. ..	28	2	0	0
†Grenada, provisional, and 1881 issue	.. ..	4	3	6	6
†Guatemala, 1871, 1, 10, and 20 cents	.. ..	3	1	0	0
† " 1875, ½, 1, and 2 reals	.. ..	4	1	6	6
† " 1877, ½, 2, 4 reals, and 1 peso	.. ..	5	1	6	6
† " 1881, bird, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 c.	.. ..	4	1	0	0
† " 1886, 1, 2, and 5 c.	.. ..	3	1	6	6
† " provisional, 25, 50, 75, 100, and 150 c.	.. ..	5	2	6	6
† " ½, 1, and 2 reales envelope, and ½ real band	.. ..	4	2	0	0
†Guinea, Crown type, 20, 20, 25, 25, 40, 50, and 100 reis	.. ..	7	2	6	6
†Gwalior, 1886, ½ a., 1 a., 1 a. 6 p., 2 a., 2 a., 3 a.	.. ..	6	3	0	0
*Hanover, old and obsolete, including envelope	.. ..	7	2	6	6
†Hayti, 1881, imperf., 1, 2, 3, and 5 c.	.. ..	4	0	9	9
† " 1888, perf., 1, 2, 3, and 5 c.	.. ..	4	1	0	0
†Holkar, set, including circular	.. ..	7	7	1	6
†Holland, including first and newest issues	.. ..	12	0	0	0
†Honduras, 1877, provls. surcharged in blue, red, & black	.. ..	14	50	0	0
" " 1878, 1 c., 2 c., ½, 1, 2, 4 reals, and 1 peso	.. ..	7	2	0	0
† " 1890, Pyramid, 1 c. to 1 peso	.. ..	11	2	0	0
† " 1891, Head, 1 c. to 1 peso	.. ..	11	2	0	0
† " large bicoloured, 2, 5, and 10 pesos	.. ..	3	2	0	0
† " Officials, red and yellow, complete	.. ..	11	1	0	0
† " 1891, envelopes	.. ..	4	0	6	6
† " bands	.. ..	4	0	6	6
*Hongkong, including provisionals and 2 c. Jubilee	.. ..	13	3	0	0
" " 1890-91, surch., 7, 14, 20, and 50 c., and \$1	.. ..	5	3	0	0
†Horta, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 50 reis	.. ..	6	1	3	3
*Hungary, obsolete and newest issues	.. ..	8	0	6	6
" " 1888, 1, 8, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 50 kr.	.. ..	7	0	9	9
*Iceland, including high values and official	.. ..	8	1	6	6
†India, including envelopes and surcharged	.. ..	12	1	0	0
" " Service, ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, and H.M.S.	8	0	6	6
" " Telegraph	6	1	0	0
† " Envelopes, [] including provisionals	5	0	4	4
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" " Provisional, 1878, Newspaper Stamps	8	1	0	0
† " 1891, 2 c. on 10, 20, 50, 75, 1.25, and 1.75	6	0	6	6
" " Unpaid, 1, 2, 5, 10, 30 c., and 1, 2, 5, 10 lire	.. ..	9	1	9	9
†Jamaica, including postal, fiscal, and provisional	4	4	0	4
" " Official, including obsolete	4	0	6	6
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† " Cards, three issues	6	1	0	0

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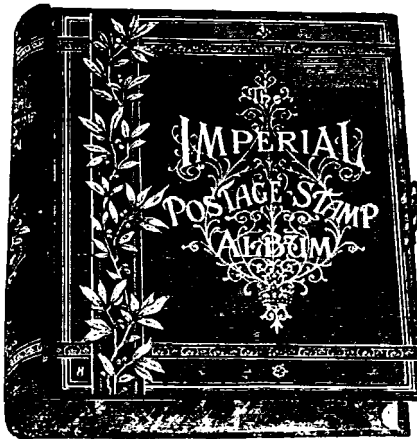
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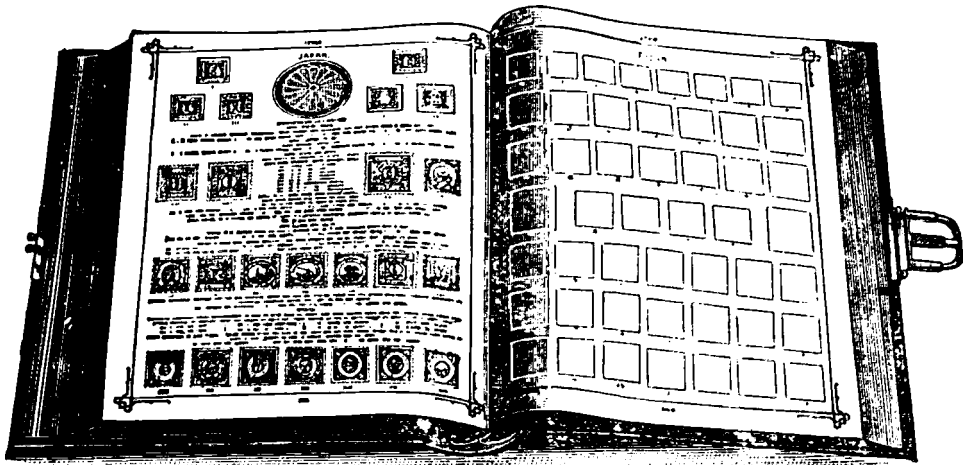
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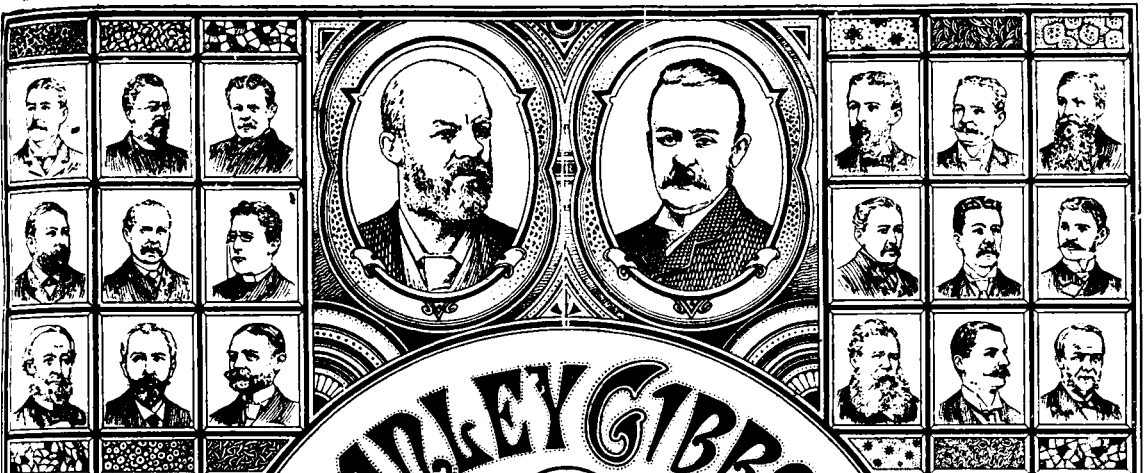
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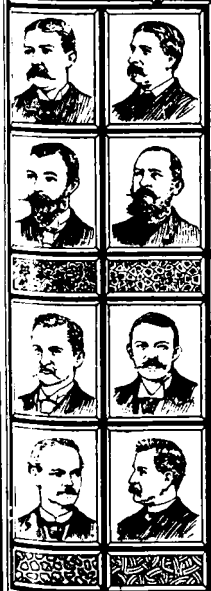
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An **ENTIRE REVISION** of the prices, based on a careful comparison with our stock. It is estimated that over 3,000 Stamps have been reduced in price, S. G., Limited, wishing to give their clients the benefit of the numerous bargains they have been able to secure since the last Catalogue was issued.

The entire Catalogue has been revised and (in the case of many countries) re-written, under the able Editorship of Major E. B. EVANS, aided by numerous Specialists—such as Mr. GILBERT LOCKYER (Japan, Australia, &c.), Mr. E. J. NANKIVELL (Transvaal), &c. &c.

The whole of the numerous New Issues that have appeared since the last Edition are fully catalogued.

A **VERY LARGE** number of Stamps that have hitherto had no quotation attached are in this New Edition correctly priced. Every effort has been made to insert prices, especially of Old Issues, wherever possible.

The Illustrations in the Appendix have been largely augmented. To meet the expressed desire of many Collectors, this Edition of the Catalogue and Appendix may be obtained *interleaved with paper faintly ruled*. This will be much appreciated by Philatelists for various purposes, such as making notes of Auction Sales, New Issues, &c. &c.

The Addenda will be published as heretofore announced. The exhaustion of the Eighth, and consequent appearance of the Ninth Edition of the Catalogue, will not interfere with the publication of the Addenda as advertised.

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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

Vol. IV.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1893.

No. 39.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W. C.*

EDITORIAL.

BEFORE this number reaches our readers the first portion of the Tapling Collection to be put on view will have been replaced by the second, which includes some exceedingly interesting items, being part of the magnificent series of the stamps of New South Wales, to which the late Mr. Tapling had given special attention, and in which the collection is exceptionally strong. The stamps of this one country alone occupy considerably over a hundred pages, and as only seventy-two pages can be exhibited at a time in the cases at present assigned to them, only a portion of the series can be shown; this includes, however, all the plates of the Sydney Views and the Laureated Heads, in fact the most interesting part; but still we must regret that this important series cannot be shown in its entirety, and we trust that, before very long, some more suitable provision will be made for exhibiting a really considerable portion of the collection, in cabinets or drawers such as we suggested last month.

In the meantime, we recommend all those of our readers who have the opportunity of doing so, to inspect the exhibit of New South Wales without delay, as it is not likely to be on view for very long. We understand that as a suitable adjunct to the London Society's Exhibition of the West Indian stamps, to which allusion was made in our last number, and which we may remind our readers is to be held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of October, Mr. Bacon is at work upon the stamps of British Guiana, and proposes to place them in the cases by that date. Collectors specially interested in the stamps of those parts

will thus, after studying the general exhibition of them at the Society's rooms, be able to see a particularly fine collection of the stamps of this Colony, including all the great rarities of the British West Indian issues.

* * *

For the information of those of our readers who did not see the account of the previous Exhibition of the London Philatelic Society, we may mention that the Society's rooms are at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand; the Exhibition is one of stamps belonging to members of the Society only, but the show will be open without payment to all persons introduced by a member. We may add that no difficulty need be experienced by any respectable person in obtaining such an introduction. We shall be happy to assist any of our readers who may apply to us through the publishers of this magazine, the members of the Society wishing to make their Exhibition as public a one as the size of their rooms will admit, and as is compatible with the non-admission of undesirable persons.

* * *

The way of the collector—whatever the object of his pursuit may be—is usually a somewhat hard one. There are always benefactors of their species in general, and themselves in particular, who if they know that anybody wants anything, from an antediluvian mummy to the latest thing in surcharged postage stamps, are anxious to provide that thing in some form or another. The collector of postage stamps seems to be the special prey of the "provider"; there is always something being made on purpose for him; a first-class forgery, a reprint, a fiscal stamp with a more or less genuine postmark, an ingenious variety of surcharge, &c. And the philatelist, who does not want things made for him, has a constant struggle now-a-days to cope with the shower of novelties that every month brings forth, and has to specialize his collection down, so to speak, in order to keep it within some sort of limits. Of course a great

part of this specializing is due to the careful manner in which minor varieties are collected at the present time, which has in itself increased enormously the number of specimens that a collector finds it necessary to obtain; but part is also due to the unsatisfactory nature of many of the more recent issues, and to the feeling—only too justly founded—that the collection of stamps is stimulating the supply, not only of specimens of early issues (that we could forgive), but of new issues, which it is hoped people will collect.

This is a kind of speculation which we should all like to put a stop to, but the difficulty is to discover how this is to be done. An Anti-Surcharge Association was tried, but failed, probably through the indiscreet zeal of some of its promoters, and the surcharge fiend is still with us; he is not quite so active, we think, as he was, and his products are certainly not received with the same enthusiasm as formerly—indeed all these pestilences wear themselves out after a time, but they certainly do harm while they last. What is wanted is a stern determination on the part of collectors and dealers to discourage, as far as possible, all *unnecessary* issues. It is our duty, as we repeat upon another page, to chronicle everything that appears, but we do not counsel our readers to collect everything. It may be very difficult in some cases to draw the line between the necessary and the unnecessary, but there are other cases in which there is no difficulty whatever. We have in our mind at present those Celebration, Centenary, and Birthday stamps that are becoming so fashionable. The first instance of the kind that we can recollect was the issue of special envelopes in the United States in 1876; this was a minor offence, and the example was not followed. In 1890 our own country perpetrated a similar deed, and injury was added to insult by making an extra charge for the obnoxious articles—for charitable purposes; still, if ever there could be an excuse for issuing a special stamp, envelope, or card, it would be the Jubilee of the introduction of cheap postage, and of the inauguration of the present system of prepayment, of which postage stamps are the visible sign. Twelve months ago the Columbus epidemic set in, and more recently a special issue of some sort appears to have become the one thing, without which no gentleman's Jubilee or Centenary can be considered complete. What on earth—we may fairly ask—had Christopher Columbus to do with postage stamps? What have postage stamps to do with the introduction of printing into Montenegro, the siege of Dunkirk, or Jean Bart? A more unsuitable means of

celebrating historical events could hardly have been selected, and we may safely say that if it were not that postage stamps are articles of commerce, no such means would ever have been thought of.

These are among the most indubitable instances of absolutely unnecessary issues, but they are not the only ones. The stamps of Portugal surcharged "PROVISORIO" may be placed in identically the same class. There was no occasion whatever for the application of this surcharge; and the same may be said about the issues for the various districts of the Azores, and for the eighteen French Colonies. Of the surcharged stamps for these Colonies we have often expressed our opinion; the necessity for some of them may be admitted as doubtful, but about those overprinted with names alone there can be no possible doubt—there was no necessity whatever for those adornments. Our Colonies are by no means free from blame, but they have offended for the most part in a manner that renders it exceedingly difficult to reject their products; there has usually—we do not say always—been a necessity for our Colonial provisionals in the first instance, but advantage has in too many cases been taken of this, by speculators and others, to multiply varieties in an unnecessary manner. We cannot recall an instance in a British Colony where new varieties have been made plainly to increase the revenue (or facilitate the *écoulement*), but sufficient care has not always been taken to prevent speculation by arranging for the production of sufficiently large quantities of provisional issues, and in certain cases speculation appears to have been deliberately encouraged by the printing of inadequate supplies. All these matters require a little consideration on the part of collectors, but we would remind them that the laws of demand and supply govern the philatelic market as well as others. Let the demand cease, and the supply will do the same!

* * *

We are indebted to several correspondents for kindly sending us notes of Mulready numbers, of which we propose to give additional lists from time to time. We have also to thank the Editor of *The Stamp News* for giving a summary of our paper on the subject, and thus affording it additional publicity, through which we have already received some assistance. He unfortunately made one mistake in copying our figures: 103 is not one of the missing numbers; it should have been 93.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Angola.—*The London Philatelist* describes and illustrates a curious article, which is intended to be a provisional Newspaper stamp. "JORNAES—2½ REIS" appears to have been handstamped upon the paper, or upon a wrapper, and over this is struck an oval, double-lined date stamp, lettered "DI-RECCAO DOS CORREIOS" above, and "PROVINCIA DE ANGOLA" below, with a date in the centre. This is supposed to be a novelty, but the date given in the illustration is "11 MAR 90," and the curiosity seems to be identically the same (with the exception of the day of the month) as a so-called Newspaper Frank described in *The Philatelic Record* in November, 1891!



We give an illustration of the new 2½ reis adhesive.

Angra (Azores).—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles three high values for this District.

Adhesives. 150 reis, carmine on rose; perf. 12½.
200 " blue on blue " 13½ x 13.
300 " blue on buff " "

Bamra.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* states that the new ¼ a. stamp (to which we alluded in error last month as ½ a.) is in sheets of a similar setting to that of the previous printing, showing "Postage" with and without the initial capital; but that the last stamp on the sheet shows a derangement of the letters of the word "BAMRA," which we gather must be loose, as different sheets exhibit different errors in this stamp.

Adhesives. ¼ a., black on magenta; error "BAMRA."
¼ a. " " " " "BAJRRV."

Barbados.—*Der Philatelist* describes a 2d. Registration Envelope with the stamp in grey, like that on the earlier 4d. envelope. The size also appears to be peculiar, being described as 127 x 160 mm.

Registration Envelope. 2d., grey.

Belgium.—The 1 c. and 5 c. Sabbaticals have duly made their appearance, according to promise; they are of the same type as the 2 c. and of the colours already described. As our correspondent remarks, it is like a novel published in monthly parts, only not quite so interesting!

Bermuda.—Our publishers have received from this colony the 2d. and 1s. in their new colours, so we can confirm the report of their issue; the colour of the 2d. seems liable to run, and we expect that the effects of a damp climate will not be entirely satisfactory. We have the single 1½d. card with a surcharge of the words "One—Penny," in two lines of very thick type, across the stamp, and we learn from *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* that the same overprint has been inflicted upon the reply-paid cards, and even upon a few copies of the first issue (with adhesive stamps) which were returned from one of the Post-offices—it would have been simpler to have removed the ½d. stamp from these, but not so scientific, from a Philatelic point of view!

Post Cards.

"One Penny," in black, on 1½d., carmine on buff (with adhesives).
" " " 1½d.
" " " 1½ + 1½d., carmine on buff.

Bolivia.—*The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* notes the 1 c. Fiscal stamp (Transacciones), surcharged "PROVISORIO—1893" in red, and used for postage. *The American Journal of Philately* adds the 2 c. stamp of 1887, overprinted "TIMBRE" for fiscal purposes, but nevertheless postally used. The latter magazine also describes envelopes with a stamp with nine stars, instead of eleven, and states

that a specimen of one of these has been found postmarked 1890; perhaps the dating stamp had not been changed for a few years!

Adhesives. 1 c., blue (Fiscal); red surcharge.
2 c., violet ("); carmine "
Envelopes. 5 c., blue on cream laid; 134 x 85 mm; 9 stars.
10 c., orange " "

Brazil.—*Le Timbre-Poste* notes several minor varieties, with and without accents, &c., of the current Post and Letter Cards, and adds that the 80 reis with the error of inscription exists on blue, as well as on rose as described in June.

A correspondent sends us a specimen of the 100 reis of 1890 with a curious flaw in the die, causing a bulge both in the inner and outer ovals between the 5th and 6th stars on the left, below "E. U." &c. Another correspondent sends us the current 500 reis, in a kind of slate colour, closely resembling one of the shades of the 300 reis.

Adhesive. 500 reis, slate; error?
Letter Card. 80 reis, rose, blue, and black on blue; inside ruled.

British Bechuanaland.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles the 1½d. card of the Cape of Good Hope, adapted for use here by cancelling the upper lines of the original inscription by means of two bars across each, and adding "BRITISH BECHUANALAND," ("BECHUANALAND BRITANNIQUE.")

Post Card. 1½d., grey on buff; black surcharge.

British Guiana.—A correspondent assures us that he has possessed a copy of the 48 c., type of 1863, perf. 15, and that it is now in a well-known collection on the Continent. He gives us the same history of the 10 c. of Chili wmkd. "20," which we quote further on—possibly the same specimen is in question.

Adhesive. 48 c., red (Type of 1863); perf. 15.

Canada.—We are indebted to Mr. D. A. King for a specimen of the new 8 c. stamp, intended for payment of inland postage and registration. The design is similar to that of the current low values, but the profile is turned to the left, and is enclosed in an oval. The colour is a bluish-grey tint, which will probably vary in successive printings.

Adhesive. 8 c., blue-grey; perf. 12.

Ceylon.—*The American Journal of Philately* reports that the surcharge "TEN CENTS" on the Registration Envelopes exists on size F of the 15 c., and also on sizes I and K of the 12 c. Are there none with double surcharges—"TEN CENTS" with a few of the varieties of the 15 c. on 12 c.?

We have received a 2 + 2 c. card, of the type of the single card described last month, with "THE ANNEXED CARD IS INTENDED FOR THE ANSWER" in one line below the instruction on the first half, and "REPLY" in a similar position on the second.

Reg. Env. TEN CENTS, in black, on 15 c., rose; size F.
" " " 12 c. " " I. and K.
Post Card. 2 + 2 c., blue on white; permanent type.

Chili.—*L'Union Postale Universelle* announces the discovery of a copy of the 10 c. of the first issue printed on the paper of the 20 c.

Adhesive. 10 c., blue (1853); wmk. "20."

Cochinchina.—A correspondent informs us that, in June, 1891, he received a letter from the "Receveur des Postes et Télégraphes" at Saigon, assuring him that the surcharged varieties given in our publishers' Catalogue as Nos. 7 to 17 never existed. We sincerely trust that this is the case; we shall strike them off the list without the slightest regret. On the other hand, the same informant sends us the 4 c. of the French colonies, 1881, &c., surcharged COCHINCHI (NE, the last two letters are off the stamp) diagonally, in block capitals, in red, which, to the best of his belief, was sent him from Saigon at about the same time as the letter quoted above. Let us hope that this is only an essay of some kind.

Adhesive. 4 c., claret on grey; red surcharge!

Costa Rica.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* reports a 1 c., carmine, fiscal stamp, of the type of 1892, surcharged in black "CORREOS" and "Secretaria de Hacienda de la Republica de Costa Rica." We presume the type alluded to is that of the Fiscal issue of 1891, in which case the 1 c. has been printed in a new colour.

Adhesive. 1 c., carmine; black surcharge; Fiscal postal.

Dominican Republic.—*The American Journal of Philately* has discovered the following interesting errors and varieties of the surcharged issues of 1883:

On plain paper.

1 c. (for 10 c.),	in black,	on 2 c.,	red.
5 c. (")	"	on 2 c.,	"
10 c. (for 5 c.)	"	on 1 c.,	green.
25 c. (for 10 c.)	"	on 2 c.,	red.
25 c. (for ?)	"	on 5 c. (? 2 c.),	red; surcharge inverted.
25 c.	"	on 5 c.,	blue
1 fr. 25 c.	"	on 25 c.,	violet " "

With coloured network.

25 c. (for 5 c.),	in black,	on 1 c.,	green.
50 c. (for ?)	"	on 1 c. (? 5 c.),	blue.
2 fr. 50 c.	"	on 50 c.,	orange; surcharge inverted.

There appear to be two misprints in the above list.

Ecuador.—*The A. J. P.* chronicles the 5 sucres stamp surcharged "5 CENTAVOS" diagonally, in black.

Adhesive. 5 CENTAVOS on 5 sucres, purple; black surcharge.

Eritrea.—The editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* has been convinced of the genuine nature of the overprint upon a 1 c. stamp with the surcharge inverted, so we may chronicle it with safety.

Adhesive. 1 c., black and olive-green; inverted surcharge.

France.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles a wrapper with the stamp (1 c.) at the left, instead of at the right; but this we should suppose to be merely a question of cutting up the sheets.

Dunkirk has been troubled with a celebration, and, as usual, the long-suffering philatelist is expected to help to pay the expenses. The art of letter-writing was introduced into Dunkirk in 1793, and a Mons. Jean Bart was the first Postmaster of the town. If this was not the case we fail to see what stamp collectors have to do with it. A letter card is the medium adopted this time. The authorities have struck a 15 c. stamp in a suitable position upon a piece of cardboard, as we believe they are always willing to do, and when the card is folded the stamp appears in the right upper corner; below the stamp are the words "CARTE LETTRE," in fancy capitals on a scroll, to the left is a vignette with the Arms and a view of the city, surmounted by a scroll inscribed "FETES DU CENTENAIRE DE DUNKERQUE 1793 1893"; below are three dotted lines for the address. On the reverse fold is a portrait of Jean Bart, with the dates "1648" and "1702," so that if this gentleman had anything to do with 1793 he must have lived to a good old age. The card is neither gummed nor perforated round the edges.

Private Letter Card. 15 c., blue on white; vignettes in grey.

Divers of our contemporaries report that the 5, 10, 15, and 30 (centimes), of the *Unpaid Letter* stamps, have appeared in their new colours.

Funchal (Madeira).—*The American Journal of Philately* reports three additions to this series. It may be noted that the perforations seem to vary in the different colonies, but probably all the varieties may be found in each.

Adhesives. 150 reis, carmine on rose; perf. 13½ × 13.
200 " blue on blue " 12½.
300 " blue on buff " "

German East Africa.—*The Philatelic Record* reports that the adhesives and post cards of the German Empire have been surcharged with the corresponding values in pesas, thus "2 PESA 2," &c., in black, for use in these parts.

Adhesives 2 pesa on 3 pf., brown.
3 " 5 pf., green.
5 " 10 pf., rose.
10 " 20 pf., blue.
25 " 50 pf., red-brown.
Post Cards. 3 " 5 pf., green on buff.
5 " 10 pf., rose " "
3+3 " 5+5 pf., green on buff?
5+5 " 10+10 pf., rose " "

It seems uncertain whether the reply-paid cards have been issued or not.

Great Britain.—Another of those possible varieties, which will long be a kind of nightmare to British specialists, has been discovered by an Australian collector, and is chronicled in *The London Philatelist*; it is plate 3 of the 2s. which has turned up this time—a used specimen.

Adhesive. 2s., blue; plate 3.

A correspondent has very kindly sent us specimens of a curious label—we should hardly call it a stamp, perhaps—said to have been invented for the benefit of those extremely conservative persons who still look upon William of Orange and the House of Hanover as usurpers, and who cannot even be persuaded to recognise Glorious Queen Bess as a rightful monarch. These labels bear in the centre a portrait of a lady, who is designated on the surrounding circular band "MARIA IV. D.G. BRIT. FRA. ET HIB. REG. F.D.," but whose actual title appears to be the Archduchess Maria Theresa Henrietta Dorothea, of Modena. The circular band is enclosed in a rectangular frame, inscribed "THE JACOBITE" above, and "1/6 PER ANNUM" below, with the white rose of the Stuarts in each spandrel. The whole design is very poorly drawn, and is lithographed in blue on white wove paper, roughly perf. 12½. We understand that these stamps were sold at 3s. per hundred, and were to be placed by the faithful upon their letters, by the side of the harmless but necessary postage stamp (the latter to be stuck on upside down) as a profession of faith, and as an advertisement of the newspaper whose name is mentioned upon them.

As an opportunity of teaching history by means of philately should not be overlooked, we may mention that the lady depicted upon these labels is a descendant of the youngest daughter of Charles I. Of the three Maries who are supposed to have preceded her, only one is known to the general public as a Queen of England, namely, Mary I., daughter of Henry VIII., the other two being Mary Queen of Scots, and Mary Beatrice of Modena.

Greece.—A correspondent has drawn our attention to the fact that some of the current stamps show small white letters under the wings of the ornament at the bottom, while others show no trace of these letters. The letters should be "H.H." on the left, and "A.D." on the right, and are the initials of H. Heindricks, the designer, and A. Doms, the engraver of the stamps. Some of the specimens upon which the letters can be distinguished are certainly Athens impressions, and we are not sure whether their absence is due simply to over inking of the plates, or to fresh plates having been constructed.

A Greek correspondent very kindly informs us that both varieties of 10 lepta card now have a watermark in the sheets. There are however twenty-four cards (six horizontal rows of four) on the sheet and the wmk. "ΧΑΡΤΗΣ ΔΗΜΟΣΙΑΣ ΤΙΜΗΡΕΣΙΑΣ" (paper for the public service) runs across the centre, so that apparently at the most eight cards on each sheet can show a portion of the watermark.

Guinea.—We give an illustration of the new 2½ reis.



Gwalior.—We are indebted to a correspondent in India for a specimen of the ½ a. with the longer type of the Hindostani surcharge.

Adhesive. ½ a., green; black surcharge 15 mm.

Hankow.—Our next illustrations show the three types which we described last month. We have seen specimens



of these, and find the 5 c. rouletted on colour at the sides, and imperf. at top and bottom, while all the other values are rouletted at top and bottom and imperf. at the sides.

Honduras.—The hardy annual of this Republic is stated, by *The American Journal of Philately*, to be in full bloom, as is usual at this season. The design is not described, but it is doubtless as beautiful and interesting as ever. Perf. 12.

Adhesives. 1 c., green. 25 c., vermilion.
2 c., red. 40 c., black.
5 c., dark blue. 50 c., brown.
10 c., bistre. 75 c., violet.
20 c., red-brown. 1 p., lilac-brown.

<i>Envelopes.</i>	5 c., dark blue on <i>white wove</i> ; 160×90 mm.
	10 c., brown " " " "
	20 c., rose " " " 240×102 mm.
	25 c., dark green " " " "
<i>Wrappers.</i>	1 c., dark green on <i>buff</i> ; 165×280 mm.
	5 c., rose " " " "
	5 c., dark blue " " " "
	10 c., brown " " " "
<i>Post Cards.</i>	2 c., black and pink on <i>grey-blue</i> .
	+2 2 c. " " " "
	3 c., black and blue " " " "
	+3 3 c. " " " "

Horta.—The following are announced for this District. Perf. 13½ × 13.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	150 reis, carmine on <i>rose</i> .
	200 " blue on <i>blue</i> .
	300 " blue on <i>buff</i> .

Hungary.—The *Timbre-Poste* describes, by way of warning, a would-be rarity, in the shape of a 10 kr. envelope of 1871, with the German *rosace* on the flap. This ornament, our contemporary points out, was never employed at Pesth, where the Hungarian envelopes were printed, and it was not even in use in Austria until 1875, when the envelopes of 1871 were obsolete. It is suggested that the Pneumatic Post envelope of Germany, recently discovered with this same ornament, may be an equally doubtful variety.

India.—The *London Philatelist* describes a curious misprint of the ¼ a. reply card, in which the impression which should be on the second half is on the back of the first. It is certainly very seldom that such curiosities escape out of Messrs. De la Rue & Co.'s establishment. We learn from a correspondent in India that the 4 a., *olive-green*, surcharged "On H.M.S.", has only recently come into use.

Post Card. ¼+¼ a., brown on *buff*; *error*.

Italy.—We learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that the distinction between the inland and postal union 10 c. cards (the object of which we could never understand) is now abolished, and that both the varieties are before long to be replaced by a card headed "CARTOLINA POSTALE ITALIANA (CARTE POSTALE D'ITALIE), and measuring 140×90 mm. The use of the 15 c. single and reply paid cards was to cease from the first inst., but those in the hands of the public can be exchanged up to August 30, 1894. These arrangements apply also to the cards of Eritrea.

We have received a 25 c. stamp of a new design; in the centre is the portrait of King Humbert in an oval, as before; above are the words "POSTE ITALIANE" on an arched label, below "CENT." in a straight line; all enclosed in a rectangular frame, with numerals "25" on white blocks in the corners. Paper, &c., as in previous issues.

Adhesive. 25 c., blue; *new type*.

Lagos.—Messrs. Cameron and Co. kindly send us a pane of the 4d., *lilac and black*, surcharged "HALF PENNY," in small capitals, across the centre, and with a thick bar cancelling the original value. The overprint appears to be hand struck, on two stamps at a time (a horizontal pair), and we find traces of a double impression in more than one case, the first having evidently not been sufficiently clear; and the cancelling bar also can be seen to be composed of two thinner bars close together, where it has not been heavily inked.

Adhesive. 4d. on 4d., lilac and black; black surcharge.

Macao.—We give an illustration of the new 2½ reis.

We find that No. 19 in our publishers' catalogue is wrongly described; it should be blue and green, not red and green.

Mexico.—We have seen the 2 c. card which we described last month, and also a 3 c. of the same type, and we find that the eagle is greatly reduced in size, and is perched quite up at the top, close to the frame, and that the upper inscription is on a kind of scroll, while the instruction in the left lower corner is in two lines—Spanish and French—in small Roman type, "En este," &c.; "Ce côté," &c. *Le Timbre-Poste* adds that there are said to be 5 c. cards of similar type, but it is probable that these are for the interior.

<i>Post Cards.</i>	3 c., vermilion and green on <i>white</i> .
	5 c., ultramarine " " "

Our correspondent in Mexico sends us some extraordinary errors of more or less recent cards, all of which he tells us were purchased at the Post Office in ordinary course:

1. Postal Union card of 1890, with 3 c. stamp upside down at the back of the right lower corner; the card, that is to say, has been put into the stamping press upside down, and with the reverse side uppermost.

3 c., vermilion and yellow-green on *white*

2. Postal Union card of 1891, Arms in centre and Greek frame, with 3 c. stamp upside down in left lower corner.

3 c., vermilion and blue-green on *white*.

3. *Servicio Interior* card of 1893, frame of four straight lines with double cross bars between the centre lines, with 5 c. stamp upside down in left lower corner.

5 c., ultramarine and red on *white*.

4. Postal Union card chronicled last month, with 2 c. stamp upside down in left lower corner.

2 c., carmine and green on *white*.

5. The same as 4, but with the stamp sideways in the upper centre of the card.

2 c., carmine and green on *white*.

From the same source we have a number of varieties of envelopes, with Wells Fargo and Co.'s vignette showing the Mexican Arms, Railway, Steamer, &c., as described in our number for July, 1891; the following list may supplement the one which we then gave, but we believe the number of varieties of these is practically unlimited. All of these have the oval stamps, and the vignette is in the left upper corner, and in *blue-green*, except where otherwise described:

17. Stamp, 5 c., ultramarine; vignette in *yellow-green*, value 10 c.; "Para Cartas ½ oz. á los Estados Unidos Exclusivamente" in *blue*; 153×87 mm.

18. Similar to the above, but vignette in *blue-green*, and inscription below it in *red*.

19. Stamp, 10 c., vermilion; value on the vignette 15 c.; "Para Cartas ½ oz. en la Republica Mexicana Exclusivamente" in *lilac*. Two varieties—*a*. With "½" and "Exclusivamente." *b*. With "½" and "exclusivamente."

20. Similar to 19, but with "Para cartas ½ oz. á Europa exclusivamente."

21. Similar to 19, but value on vignette crossed out, and "Precio 20 cvos." surcharged at side in *lilac*, "Para cartas 1 oz. á los Estados Unidos exclusivamente" in *lilac*.

22. Similar to 21, but value on vignette, 25 c., cancelled by the surcharge; size 227×100 mm.

23. Stamp, 20 c., violet; value on vignette, 25 c., crossed out in *red ink*; "35 CVOS." surcharged at side in *lilac*, this crossed out in *black*, and "Precio 30 cvos." added in *rose*; "Para cartas 1 oz. á Europa exclusivamente" in *lilac*; size 227×100 mm. (vignette in upper centre).

24. Stamp, 20 c., violet; value on vignette, 25 c., crossed out in *red ink*; "50 CVOS" surcharged vertically at the side of this in *lilac*, this crossed out in *black*, and "Precio 40 cvos." added diagonally, in *rose*; "Para cartas 2 oz. á los Estados Unidos exclusivamente" in *lilac*; size 153×87 mm.

25. Similar to the last, but size 227×100 mm.; vignette in upper centre, and "Precio 40 cvos." added at the left.

26. Stamp, 20 c., vermilion; value on vignette 25 c.; inscription as on 19a, but "1 oz." (Similar to 5 in the former list, but inscription in *lilac*). Size 153×87 mm.

27. Stamp, 20 c., vermilion; value on vignette, 35 c., crossed out in *black*; "Precio 25 cvos." surcharged at right in *lilac*; inscription as on 26; size 227×100 mm.; vignette in upper centre.

28. Similar to 23, but stamp in *vermilion*; value on vignette crossed out in *pencil*, and all the added inscriptions, &c., in *rose*; size 153×87 mm.

29. Two stamps, 20 c., violet; value on vignette, 20 c., crossed out in *red*, "UN PESO" surcharged vertically in *lilac*, this crossed out in *red*, and "80 cts" added in MS. in *red*; "Para carta 4 ozs. á los Estados Unidos exclusivamente." Size 153×87 mm.

30. Two stamps, 20 c., vermilion; value on vignette 15 c., partly covered by a surcharge of "50 CVOS." in *blue*; inscription as on 19b, but "2 oz." in *blue*. Size 153×87 mm.

Our correspondent also states that a Mr. Escalante, whose name is familiar to us as that of an almost too enthusiastic philatelist, proposed to supply the Government with special stamps of the values of 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c., to be issued on the 16th inst. only, with the understanding that all unsold copies were to be returned to him, after the



manner of Mr. Seebeck. We rejoice to hear, however, that the offer was declined with thanks. We presume the 16th September is Mr. Escalante's birthday, and that he wished to give the Mexican Government and others a birthday treat!

Montenegro.—We learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that the 5 novics envelope exists in a second size, but the paper is a thin yellowish wove in both cases.

The same authority reports that this Principality, wanting to increase its postal revenue by celebrating something, and not knowing what to celebrate, has hit upon the fourth Centenary of the introduction of printing in Montenegro as an excuse for disfiguring its stamps with a view to facilitating the *écoulement*!

This sort of thing is getting beyond a joke. Collectors have good reason to regret that the art of printing (or of over-printing, at least) was ever invented at all. It is our duty to chronicle all these abominations, but we advise our readers to have nothing to do with them, and to endeavour to forget that the good people of Montenegro learned to print 400 years ago, and to make a bad use of their knowledge in July, 1893.

The surcharge consists of words in Russian at top and bottom, "1493" on the left, and "1893" on the right, as shown in the accompanying illustration, and it is inflicted on the stamps of the envelopes and post cards as well as upon the adhesives.



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| <i>Envelope.</i> | 5 nov., red on cream; 145 X 111 mm. |
| | <i>Celebration Issue.</i> |
| <i>Adhesives.</i> | 2 nov., yellow; black surcharge. |
| | 3 " green " " |
| | 5 " red " " |
| | 7 " rose " " |
| | 10 " blue; red " " |
| | 15 " stone; black " " |
| | 25 " violet; red " " |
| <i>Envelopes.</i> | 5 " red on cream; black surcharge; 2 sizes. |
| | 7 " violet on white " " |
| | 10 " blue " " |
| <i>Post Cards.</i> | 2 " yellow on buff " " |
| | 2+2 " " " " " |
| | 3 " green on blue " " |
| | 3+3 " " " " " |

Mozambique.—We give an illustration of the new 2½ reis stamp, and we gather from various of our contemporaries some further details as to the recent provisionals. It appears that of the stamps surcharged "JORNÆS" at the top, 500 were overprinted with "2½ REIS," in black, 500 with "5 REIS," in black, and 96 with "5 REIS," in red, as chronicled in March. In addition to these, 1500 of the same stamps were surcharged "JORNÆS" at the top, and "2½" in each of the lower corners, 28 of the number receiving a second impression of the overprint; and a further 1500 were adorned with "PROVISORIO" at the top and "5" in each lower corner.



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| <i>Adhesives.</i> | "2½" in black, on 40 reis, chocolate. |
| | "2½" red 40 " " double surcharge. |
| | "5" " 40 " " " |

The London Philatelist's chronicles a mysterious post card, 10 reis, brown on buff, with a surcharge resembling that described in our last number under *Portugal*; we fancy the paragraph has somehow slipped out of its place geographically, as well as alphabetically.

We regret to state that we have received the 10 reis and 20 reis post cards, surcharged "COMP. DE MOZAMBIQUE" diagonally across the stamp, in two lines.

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| <i>Post Cards.</i> | 10 reis, blue on buff; black surcharge. |
| | 20 " rose " " |

Nabha.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* chronicles the 9 pies of India surcharged for use in this State.

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| <i>Adhes. v.</i> | 9 pies, carmine; black surcharge. |
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Nandgaon.—A correspondent in India has very kindly furnished us with translations of the inscriptions surrounding the sheets of the current stamp: Along the top is *Riya Sati dhik ticket*=Riya Sati postage stamp. Along the bottom *Bale Kam peras men chapa*=Printed in the press of Bale Ram. On the left *Kimal ritta* (on the ½ a.) *ath ana* (on the 2 a.) *do rupaia*=Price of each sheet (on the ½ a.) eight

annas, (on the 2 a.) two rupees. On the right (on the ½ a.) *Adha ane wali solah* = Half anna ones sixteen, (on the 2 a.) *Do ant wali solah* = Two anna ones sixteen.

The same informant tells us that, in reference to the stamps of the first issue, surcharged "M. B. D." in an oval, which we described in July, the Diwan wrote to him as follows: "The M. B. D. letters were printed on those postage stamps that were issued for posting the State Service covers." We presume, therefore, that these should be chronicled as a special issue.

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| <i>Service Stamps.</i> | ½ a., blue; 1st issue, violet surcharge. |
| | 2 a., rose " " |

New Caledonia.—The same magazine reports the 5 c. on 20 c., which we illustrated last month, with the over print inverted; also the 1 c. and 2 c. of the Colonial type, and the 4 c. of France, with the diagonal surcharge of the name of this Colony.

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| <i>Adhesives.</i> | 1 c., black on blue; perf.; black surcharge. |
| | 2 c., brown " " |
| | 4 c., claret on grey; imperf. " " |
| | 5 c., in black, on 20 c., red on green; inverted surcharge. |

New South Wales.—A correspondent very kindly sends us specimens of a species of Frank Stamp, employed by the Government printer in this Colony, which seems to be of a similar nature to that which we described in May last as used in Fiji. The design consists of fancy letters "O. H. M. S.," in a monogram upon a solid ground, enclosed in an oblong oval frame inscribed "GOVERNMENT PRINTER" above, and "NEW SOUTH WALES" below; this is impressed, in black, upon wrappers and labels, of buff and white paper.

The same correspondent assures us that he possesses one of the earlier id. cards (stamp Type 1685 in the current Catalogue) surcharged "O. S." in black.

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| <i>Official Frank.</i> | No value, black on white and buff; Government Printer. |
| <i>Service Card.</i> | 1d., rose on white; black surcharge. |

New Zealand.—A correspondent sends us the current 6d. perf. 10, and in a rather darker shade than hitherto.

Another correspondent directs our attention to an Official Frank stamp which is not included in our publishers' catalogue—a distinction that it shares with divers other objects of a similarly interesting nature. The design consists of a Crown, with the words "POSTAGE" above and "FREE" below, enclosed in a rectangular, key-pattern frame, with the letters "P, A, S, D" in the corners. It is known as an adhesive in black and in lilac-rose. M. Moens catalogues it as impressed upon an envelope, in red, and we have before us a specimen in black, which has evidently been cut from an envelope.

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| <i>Adhesive.</i> | 6d., deep brown; perf. 10. |
| <i>Official Franks.</i> | No value, black. |
| | " lilac-rose. |
| | " black on white laid; envelope. |
| | " red " " |

Nicaragua.—Of a similar nature to the Official Franks described above is an impression cut from an envelope of this State. The shape is oblong oval; a label inscribed "SERVICE POSTAL" lies across the centre; above is "REPUBLIQUE," below "de NICARAGUA." Why the inscription should be in French, with the exception of the word "POSTAL," we do not quite understand.

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| <i>Official Frank.</i> | No value, blue on blue laid; envelope. |
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Niger Coast Protectorate.—The Oil Rivers district, which we were told had disappeared, has reappeared under a new name, and presents us with a new portrait of her Majesty, in an oval frame surrounded by elaborate ornamentation. As may be seen by the accompanying illustration, another name ("OIL RIVERS" no doubt) was originally engraved upon the arched label above, and this has been erased and the words "NIGER COAST" inserted at the top. We learn from *The Philatelic Record* that the stamps are manufactured by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., that the engraving is in *taille-douce*, and the perforation 15.



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| <i>Adhesives.</i> | 4d., red. |
| | 1d., blue. |
| | 2d., green. |
| | 2½d., carmine. |
| | 5d., mauve. |
| | 1s., black. |

Nova Potuca.—Mr. Seymour Summers sends us a set of very curious stamps, which we chronicle with the utmost reserve, as not only are we unable to find upon the map the place from which they are said to come, but this unknown place turns out to be sufficiently advanced (philatelically) to have already *surcharged* its equally unknown stamps. Our informant is only able to tell us that the stamps are "supposed to hail from Nova Potuca Republic," and he surmises that they may "come from some new republic in Africa," a supposition which seems to be borne out by (or is founded upon?) the fact that three of the stamps are plainly postmarked "B 31," the number of Sierra Leone. The stamps are of narrow rectangular shape, and have in the centre a very indistinct object, which we take to be a Tree, resembling that of the Orange Free State; this is enclosed in a circle, with a small circular shaded boss below it; in each corner of the rectangle is a plain square block, the two upper bearing the letters "R" and "P" (Republic of Potuca?), and the two lower the value, numerals at the left, letter "C" at the right; there is a three-leaved ornament in each of the upper spandrels, and a triangle of vertical lines in each of the lower—between the corner block and the circle—the rest of the rectangle being filled in with horizontal lines. The design is very roughly drawn, and lithographed upon thick white wove paper, imperf. The surcharges consist of small figures struck in the centre, with two bars cancelling the original figures in the left lower corner. The 1 c. we have only seen surcharged, but we may presume it existed without the addition.

Adhesives. 1 c., rose.
5 c., blue.
10 c., green.
20 c., black.
10 c., in black, on 1 c., rose.
40 c. " 10 c., green.
50 c., in rose, on 20 c., black.

The exceedingly rough appearance of these labels is perhaps in their favour, but they have made a bad beginning.

Nowanuggur.—The 2 and 3 dokdo of the new issue have made their appearance, as given below, and it seems that the 2 dokdo is not known here in lilac-brown.

We have all the three values on thin wove paper; the 1 dokdo previously received was on thick.

Adhesives. 1 dokdo, black; thin paper; perf. 12.
2 " green " "
3 " orange " "

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—A correspondent tells us that he has received a letter, posted as lately as August 10th last, franked with the surcharged stamps, but that the surcharged and unsurcharged stamps of Great Britain appear to have been used in this territory indiscriminately, as he has seen them used together on the same letter; this looks as if the overprinting was a philatelic necessity (?), rather than a postal one. He adds that, of the registration envelopes, he possesses size F with £25 regulation only, and 11² with "FEE PAID" and £50 regulation. A fresh series of stamps has been prepared, which we describe under the new name of the Protectorate, but as a kind of dying bequest we have received the current ½d. card of Great Britain, surcharged, in black, "BRITISH PROTECTORATE—OIL RIVERS" in two lines, below the inscription.

Post Card. ½d., red-brown on white; black surcharge.

Ponta Delgada.—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles the same three values for this District as for the others.

Adhesives. 150 reis, carmine on rose; perf. 13½ × 13.
200 " blue on blue " 12½.
300 " blue on buff " "

Porto Rico.—According to *The Philatelic Record* the 5 c. de peso is announced in a new colour.

Adhesive. 5 c. de peso, bistre.

Portugal.—More varieties here. *The Stamp News* reports a 5 reis on 40 reis, which we fancy should have come under the head of *Mocambique*, as we are unacquainted with a 40 reis of Portugal. The Editors of *The Stamp News* and *The London Philatelist* seem to have conspired together to mix up these two places! *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles an error of the current 100 reis, printed on white, instead of yellow. Is it possible to bleach these papers?

We have received the 20 reis card with the new stamp; the inscriptions, frame, &c., remain as before.

Adhesive. 100 reis, brown on white; error.
Post Card. 20 " slate-blue on buff; 146 × 86 mm.

We give illustrations of some of the surcharged varieties described last month.



Queensland.—*The Stamp News* describes three values of the long rectangular "STAMP DUTY" fiscal stamps, in new colours, as having been used upon letters. These are stated to have been issued by the Post-office only during July, 1892. It is curious that, according to information which we published twelve months ago, the use of the same stamps for postal and fiscal purposes was to be abandoned in Queensland from July 1st, 1892, and special fiscal stamps re-introduced upon that date. We gather from *Le Timbre Fiscal* that this took place, and that the Revenue stamps were to be sold at the Post-offices. No doubt an early opportunity was taken of passing some of the new stamps through the post.

Vindin's Philatelic Monthly assures us that the 2d. stamp surcharged 2½d. does not exist—in Queensland.

A correspondent sends us the current 3d. with the letters "LA" of "QUEENSLAND" joined together, as already chronicled in the case of the 1d. and 2d.

Adhesive. 3d., brown, variety with LA joined.

Reunion.—We are reminded that we have omitted to chronicle the 20 c. of the Colonial type surcharged "02 c.", and the name, in a similar manner to the 15 c. on 20 c., Type 2088 in the Catalogue.

Adhesive. "02 c." on 20 c., red on green; black surcharge.

Roumania.—We have received specimens of the wrappers, which we had described previously from hearsay, and we find that the paper is a pale yellowish or greyish granite; probably all are on the same nature of paper, varying slightly in shade. The stamp is about 60 (not "6") mm. from the left-hand end, and there are black lines 30 mm. apart marking the upper and lower edges of the bands.

Le Timbre-Poste chronicles a new 5 bani card, with the Arms in the centre, above the words "CARTA POSTALA." The face of the card is rose and the back buff.

Post Card. 5 bani, black on rose; Arms in centre.

Russian Locals.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:



Giloff.—The design which was invented in 1887, and tinkered at in 1890, has been again touched up, as shewn in the accompanying illustration; the principal change on this occasion being the substitution of sloping for upright type in the inscriptions. There are six varieties, in a row, the row being repeated 20 times to make up the sheet.

Adhesive. 2 kop., black on grey-blue; perf. 11½.

Schatz.—The design with the Arms in an oval frame has again been redrawn; as originally issued it had five-pointed stars at the sides, in 1891 these were replaced by simple crosses "+," the liberality of the Government has now provided stars with six points!

Adhesive. 3 kop., black on rose; perf. 11½.

Zienkov.—This district has adopted the type introduced last year for Zolotonoschka, the Arms and the name alone being altered, and the same colours employed for the impression.

Adhesive. 3 kop., gold, black and green; perf. 12½.



Salvador.—This Republic has been provided by Mr. Seebeck, at the expense of the philatelic public, with the means of showing its gratitude to Columbus for having discovered it. The annexed illustrations require but little description; the scene depicted on the 2 pesos represents the landing in Haiti, which was named "Isabella," while that upon the 10 pesos shows Columbus starting from Palos, in Spain.



Adhesives. 2 pesos, green; perf. 12.
5 " violet "
10 " orange "



Sandwich Islands.—The list of varieties without the dot after "GOVT" is filling up; *Le Timbre-Poste* adds the following:

Adhesives. 50 cents, red; variety of surcharge.
1 dollar, carmine "

Shanghai.—We give an illustration of one of the stamps surcharged with the value in words, which we chronicled in June; we are not surprised to learn from *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* that both values of this type have been seen with double overprint. *The London Philatelist* gives an elaborate description of the varieties of the surcharge "½ Ct." on the halves of the 5 c., in which there appear to be straight and curly tailed figures "2," in combination with one another, and with misplaced stops—thus "Ct."—sufficient to rejoice the heart of any specialist; they may be found with (a) straight-tailed "2" on both halves; (b) curly tail on the left half and straight tail on the right; (c) straight tail on the left and curly on the right; (d) curly tail on both; a, b, and c exist with the misplaced stop, and a, c, and d with the stop correct, and all occur on both colours of the 5 c.! We have also the 2 c., green, perf. down the centre, and each half surcharged "1 Ct." in red.

A correspondent in China sends us the new 2 c. wrapper, together with various curiosities and some items of information, some of which we shall make use of elsewhere in connection with Mr. Thornhill's paper. He informs us that, the postal rates having been lowered before ½ c. and 1 c. stamps were put on sale, halves and quarters of the 2 c. stamps were employed by the public, and passed by the Shanghai Postal Officials, who were at last compelled to issue the provisionals of various kinds that have been noted—and we must say that they gave their customers as much variety as could be expected for the money. Our informant sends us specimens of envelopes and wrappers franked by fractions of the 2 c., brown, and the 2 c., green, and a wrapper marked "PAID," in a circle, denoting, no doubt, payment over the counter; he shows us three varieties of the provisional envelopes, and

POSTAGE PAID 1 CENT.



adds that he has heard of many more, also a specimen of the wrapper with double impression of the embossed oval— we append illustrations of these envelopes and wrappers.



We learn that the new adhesives are coming out gradually, and we trust that the necessity for all these provisional issues has now ceased, and that philately in Shanghai will return to more normal conditions.

Adhesives. 1 c., in red, on half of 2 c., green.
5 c., black and light blue.
10 c., black and grass-green.
15 c., black and yellow.
20 c., black and lilac.

Wrapper. 2 c., black and vermilion.

Postage Due Stamps. 1 c., black and brown.
2 c., black and red (not orange-yellow).
5 c., black and blue.

The stamps embossed upon the wrappers are among the most beautiful specimens of embossing that we have ever seen. We have also received the envelopes, and find them to be of ordinary laid paper, without any special watermark.

South Australia.—We are indebted to the Secretary of the Philatelic Society, Adelaide, for specimens of the 1d. and 2d., with the new perforation, and the new 1d. card; he also informs us that the 3d. and the provisional 2½d. have been issued perf. 15. The dies of the new 2½d. and 5d. have arrived, he states, and the former is to be printed in blue, and the latter in purple-brown; of the provisionals, 2500 sheets of 2½d. and 500 sheets of 5d. were printed, and there remained at the end of July three months' supply of the lower value, and a year's supply of the higher; it was suggested, however, that both the new stamps should be brought out together, and that any surplus of the provisional 5d., remaining when the 2½d. were exhausted, should be destroyed. We learn from the same source that the 1s. has appeared with the fancy "O. S.", and another correspondent tells us of the 3d. with the same surcharge.

The Post Card is a very artistic production. The stamp, in the right upper corner, bears a small profile of the Queen to left, within a circular band lettered "POSTAGE" above, and "SOUTH AUSTRALIA" below. Underneath this is a view showing a lighthouse on rocks on the right, and a mail steamer on the left, the whole being enclosed in a rectangular frame, with "ONE PENNY" on an arched label at bottom, and figures "1" in circles in the upper centre. The inscriptions on the card are "POST CARD" on a long label, interrupted in the centre by a horseshoe frame enclosing the Royal Arms and lettered "SOUTH AUSTRALIA." Below the label, and across the lower part of the horseshoe, is a scrolled ribbon bearing the instruction, and below this again the arms of the colony.

The Philatelic Record chronicles the 1d. perf. 10 horizontally × 12½ vertically.

Adhesives. 1d., green; perf. 10 × 12½.
4d., brown 15.
2½d. (on 4d.), brown and green; perf. 15.
Post Card. 1d., brown on buff; 130 × 88 mm.
Service Stamps. 3d., green; fancy "O.S." in black.
1s., brown " " " "

Timor.—We give an illustration of the new 2½ reis.

A reply post card is chronicled, with inscriptions in blue, and franked by means of 10 reis adhesives.

Post Card. (10+10 reis, green), blue on buff.



Tonga.—The Secretary of the Philatelic Society of New Zealand has very kindly sent us for description proof impressions, in the colours adopted, but imperforate, of the new values, which have been formed by printing the 1d., 2d., 4d., and 8d., in fresh colours, and surcharging them in red ½d., 2½d., FIVE PENNCE (in large block capitals), and 7½d. respectively.

Another correspondent sends us a specimen of the 1d. of last year, with a star nearly in the centre of the stamp in addition to the two surcharged in the corners. He also informs us that the 4d. Registration envelopes, as first issued, were of linen-lined paper, but those received more recently are of straw-coloured manilla paper. Some of these envelopes bear the maker's name and a date under the flap, in red; we are shown the linen-lined dated "1.1.93," and undated, and the plain paper dated "1.4.93." All of these bear the imprint "JOHN SANDS, PRINTER AND STATIONER, SYDNEY."

Adhesives. 1d., black and rose; with three stars.
 4d. (on 1d.), red and blue.
 2½d. (on 2d.), red and green.
 5d. (on 4d.), red and orange.
 7½d. (on 8d.), red and rose.
Reg. Env. 4d., red on straw.

Transvaal.—We give an illustration of the latest variety of 2½d. on 1s., which we trust will be the last, as the permanent stamp of that value has come to hand. We are indebted to several kind correspondents for specimens, but our friend, Mr. Nankivell, who is always to the fore where Transvaal stamps are concerned, was the first. We had been led to expect that a new type was to be introduced for this value, but find that such is not the case; we regret to see that the stamp provider of the Transvaal agrees with Messrs. De la Rue and Co. in thinking that 2½ is a singular number; the surcharger had it all right as "2½ Pence," but the permanent stamp has it "2½ PENNY."



The story goes that when 2½d. was first adopted as the international rate, someone high in authority said to Mr. De la Rue, "That's singular, ain't it?" and Mr. De la Rue not liking to say, "No, it ain't, it's plural!" made it singular and kept it so. N.B.—This is one of those singular stories that are none the worse for not being true!

At the last moment we have received a doubly surcharged specimen of the "1 Penny" on 6d., which we hasten to chronicle.

Adhesives. 1d., in black, on 6d., blue; double surcharge.
 2½ penny, mauve.

Trinidad.—We have recently been shown a horizontal pair of the red stamp, no wmk., of 1860, perf. 1½ at top and bottom and imperf. vertically.

Adhesive. (1d.) rose-red; variety of perforation.

Turks Islands.—We are informed that the expected supply of 4d. stamps not having arrived in time, a second lot of 600 4l. stamps were surcharged; these, like the former, were all used for postal purposes, none being sold to collectors or dealers. One of our contemporaries is mistaken therefore in supposing that these were absorbed by "the authorities" for speculative purposes; he is equally wrong in the ascription of his quotation—it was the *Landsman*, not the *Vulgar Boy*, who used the expression "stow'd the swag."

United States.—We regret to learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that even Messrs. Wells, Fargo and Co. have been bitten by the Columbus mania, and have added, below their "DOMESTIC FRANK" vignette, struck in blue, "COLUMBIAN ISSUE"—"1492*1892," in two lines. When we think of this (and there are two minor varieties of it) in combination with all the various dies and sizes of the Columbian envelopes, we can only commiserate the unfortunate collectors of such things—we cannot attempt to chronicle them! The "Eureka Express Co., connecting with Wells, Fargo and Co.," have adopted a similar means of celebrating the occasion.

Wurtemberg.—A new formula for the 5 pf. cards is described by *The Postal Card*. The Arms are omitted from the heading, the third and fourth lines for the address are lengthened, and at the left of the fourth line is the inscription "Wohnung (Strasse und Hausnummer)."

There is an error of the double card, lettered "nud" for "und," on the second half.

Post Cards. 5 pf., green on buff.
 5+5 pf. " " "
 5+5 pf. " " error "nud."

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 55.)

I HAVE shown that the Postmaster-General received the first batch of stamps on 4th April, 1870, and that he supplied nine offices therewith on 20th April, and the last three offices (the largest in the country) on 27th April, 1870. The following Government notice fixes the date of issue for 1st May, 1870; there can be no question at all about an issue of 1869:

No. 317. GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Whereas by Art. 74 of the Law regulating the Postal Administration in the South African Republic, Art. 242, it is stated that the day of issuing the postage stamps for use shall be fixed by me, I have thought fit to appoint, which I do herewith, that the issue of postage stamps shall take place on the 1st May, 1870.

Given under my hand in Pretoria on the 14th May, 1870.

(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS,
State President.

By order,
 (Signed) B. C. E. PROES,
Government Secretary.

As I have shown before, the Treasurer-General printed personally in Pretoria all the stamps issued from April to July, when the coloured ink used for printing gave out, and he found an excuse for getting rid of the troublesome job of printing. The Postmaster-General then received instructions to see after the printing himself, and he selected Mr. Borrius of Potchefstroom, whom he entrusted with the plates, and had him sworn, as shown by the following document:

I, Johannes Philippus Borrius, Printer, of Potchefstroom, acknowledge herewith to have received from the Honourable F. Jeppé, Postmaster-General, also of Potchefstroom,

Two copper Plates or Type, with which I am to print One Penny postage stamps for the benefit of the Government of the South African Republic, in such quantities as the Postmaster-General should think fit to order.

Further, I swear and promise not to use the above-mentioned plates for any other purpose, or to print postage stamps without the order of the Postmaster-General.

So help me, God Almighty.

(Signed) J. P. BORRIUS.

Sworn before me this day, the 16th day of Sept., 1870.

(Signed) O. C. WEEBER,
Justice of the Peace.

The above speaks only of the One Penny plates, but the Postmaster-General handed over the other plates also, as soon as he required a supply of stamps of other values.

The first stamps Mr. Borrius printed were 24,000 of 1 p., in black, owing to no red ink being obtainable. The Postmaster-General received these on 28th September, 1870, but they were only issued on 21st October, 1870, to the Pretoria Office to the number of 1200. Mr. Jeppé says that all the 1 p. stamps which Borrius printed afterwards were black, up to 1875, but I am inclined to doubt this. The revised Postal Law of 1873, which I quote further on, states distinctly that the colour of the 1 p. stamp is red; besides, the 1 p., black, is very much rarer than the 1 p., red, which would hardly have been the case if the black stamps had had a

circulation of four years. From September, 1870, to August, 1874, Mr. Borrius printed 65,480 1 p. stamps; from February, 1875, to September, 1878, 118,835 1 p. stamps were printed by the Stamp Commission; these latter were undoubtedly *red*. Supposing that Mr. Borrius printed all his 65,480 stamps in *black*, then there ought to be one *black* to every two *red* stamps, whereas in my experience at least ten or more *red* may be found for every *black*. I can only give my opinion on this subject, as I have no facts to go by. Mr. Borrius is dead, and his statement of the stamps printed for the Government mentions only quantities and values, no colours.

At the end of 1870 Mr. Jeppe, the Postmaster-General, was also appointed Treasurer-General, and took up his residence in Pretoria. On 2nd December he was asked to take over the plates, &c., from the late Treasurer, although practically they were in his possession, but the formality had to be gone through, as the following shows:

GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
PRETORIA, 2nd December, 1870.

The Honorable F. JEPPE,
Postmaster-General, Pretoria.

SIR,—Herewith I request you to take over from Mr. M. J. Viljoen, the Treasurer-General, against inventory, the Press, with all thereto belonging, utensils used for printing postage stamps.

I have the honour to be,
The State President,
(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS.
By order,
(Signed) B. C. E. PROES,
Government Secretary.

Inventory of Goods taken over on 3rd Dec., 1870.

1 press.
6 plates—2 of 1 p., 2 of 6 p., 2 of 1/-.
1 case for press.
3 ink rollers.

(Signed) F. JEPPE.

The Official Stamp Record for 1871 reads:

1871.				
June 30.	Received from Germany	8000	3 p. stamps,	£100.
July 25.	" "	Borrius	8680	6 p. " 217.
Dec. 2.	" "	" "	4000	6 p. " 100.

Here we get the date of the first 3 p. stamps. The design is the same as that of the 1 p., 6 p., and 1/- stamps, but the *bird* is improved, and is more like an eagle; and there are a few alterations in the centrepiece. This I shall in future call Type II.

Mr. Jeppe tells me that, when the first batch of stamps from Germany arrived here in 1869, he at once objected to the eagle, which looked more like a lame duck than an eagle; and when ordering the 3 p. stamps he instructed the engraver in Germany to alter the *bird* for the new value into something resembling an eagle more nearly, and this was the reason for this new type.

There is no invoice to be found for these stamps, but a memorandum, which charges for the 3 p. plates and 40 books of gummed paper (25 sheets each), being a total of 1000 sheets. The plates, which are still here, consist of 40 impressions each, without any errors, mounted on wood in the same way as the 1 p., 6 p., and 1/- plates. With the plates the matrix die was also sent out,

which was afterwards used for the printing of the second issue of envelopes.*

The supply of stamps sent out with the plates is given as 8000; the colour is *lilac*. There is no evidence to show whether they were rouletted or not, but I take it for granted that they were rouletted. These were in use till December, 1872, when Mr. Borrius printed a supply locally; this would give an average use of about 450 stamps per month. They were intended for prepaying parcels of less than 4 oz. weight, but the majority were no doubt used for inland letters, which all cost 6 p. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., as I can hardly believe that 400 parcels were ever posted in any one month in those days.

It has always appeared strange to me that these German-printed stamps were circulating in Europe as early as January, 1870, and that they only arrived here some sixteen months later, and I still cannot account for this long delay. Mr. Jeppe tells me that he had samples (proofs) of these stamps early in 1870, and that he wrote to the dealers and collectors who applied for supplies to apply for these stamps direct to the printer in Germany, who would send them the stamps at face value (he generally enclosed a sample). He also wrote to Mr. Otto in 1870, authorising him to sell to certain parties, giving names and stating quantities ordered, at face value, and to credit the moneys so received against his account for plates and stamps.

This authority, however, was only given for the 3 p. stamps, and was only meant to supply those dealers who had previously applied here for them. Mr. Jeppe never authorised Otto to sell any of the other values (he would not have thought of doing so, as the plates were sent out from Germany in 1869, so that the printer should not properly have been able to print any, even if ordered), nor did he ever authorise the printing of stamps in *faux* colours, which was against the law of the country. Mr. Jeppe simply trusted the printer (Otto), and he abused his trust, of which Mr. Jeppe only heard in 1871, and then at once warned the philatelic public. He also instructed an attorney in Gústrow to warn Otto to stop this unauthorised traffic, or he would take legal action against him. I believe this had some effect, and that Otto afterwards only sold the stamps cancelled, till the British Government took the country over, when I think he considered himself free to sell the stamps unused as well as used.

It is most difficult to distinguish German impressions of the 3 p. from the first locally-printed ones, most of the latter being nearly as well printed as those done in Germany. Colours and paper

* This illustration shows Type II., with the improved eagle, &c., as altered for the envelopes alluded to here. We always had an idea that the *bird* was intended to represent the *aas-vogel*, or South African vulture, a common feature of the landscape in those parts, which the eagle is not. The article in Type I. certainly resembles no bird whatever, unless it be the scarecrow!—Ed.



agree to a certain extent, both having been sent out with the plates. After the supply of paper and ink sent out was exhausted, the local printer made use of any paper and ink he could get, and the stamps printed with these can, of course, be more readily distinguished from the German impressions. In the year 1871 only 12,680 6 p. stamps were printed locally. This shows how small the postal revenue of the year must have been, and proves also that the stamps of the early issues are much scarcer than they are generally thought to be.

The Official Stamp Record for 1872 reads :

Jan. 5.	Received from Borrius	4,400 6 p. stamps	£	s.	d.
Feb. 13.	Received from Natal	2,000 6 p. envelopes	110	0	0
Mar. 29.	Received from Borrius	12,960 6 p. stamps	324	0	0
June 27.	Received from Borrius	14,000 1 p. stamps	58	6	8
July 5.	Received from Borrius	10,520 1 p. stamps	43	16	8
Aug. 27.	Received from Borrius	13,720 6 p. stamps	343	0	0
Dec. 19.	Received from Borrius	8,400 6 p. stamps	210	0	0
Dec. 25.	Received from Borrius	4,040 1/- stamps	202	0	0
"	"	8,040 3 p. stamps	100	10	0

Here we get the first supply of stamped envelopes. These were printed in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, by Messrs. P. Davis & Son, from the original 6 p. matrix die, which was sent out with the plates in 1870. The design is thus exactly the same as that of the 6 p. adhesive stamp. The paper of the envelopes is white laid, size 140 x 83 mm. There are two varieties of flap, one plain, the other with a tresse. The stamp is impressed in the right-hand top corner in blue. As there was a separate account kept for the envelopes, I am able to show how they were disposed of.

Sold up to March 31st, 1872	1100 envelopes.
" July 31st, 1872	175 "
" January 31st, 1873	153 "
" July 31st, 1873	322 "
" January 2nd, 1874	250* "
	2000

Mr. Jeppe tells me that there was quite a demand locally for these envelopes; but I suppose that a sale of 1000 a year, which includes the quantities supplied to dealers in Europe, will nowadays hardly be considered a demand. These envelopes were also largely forged in Europe (there can be no question of reprinting, as the original die was here, and the engraver in Germany had to make a new one, which differs from the original). These forgeries are the envelopes generally sold by dealers. They can be readily distinguished from the originals by the tests, which I give at the end of this part, for the adhesive stamps.

It will be seen that in this year two lots of 1 p. stamps, amounting to a total of 24,520, were printed. There is no evidence to show whether they were printed in red or black. Mr. Jeppe thinks that they were black, but I see no reason why a stock of red ink, as well as green and blue,

Supplied to P.O. Heidelberg.

should not have been procured since September, 1870, an interval of nearly two years. Another supply of 1/- stamps was printed at the end of the year, and also the first supply of 3 p., lilac, local impressions. These were apparently not noticed in Europe at the time as a distinct issue. I find no remarks on this subject, evidently they were nearly or quite as well printed as the German impressions. Being on the same paper, and in the same ink, they were probably looked upon as German-printed stamps. Another point to be noted is the large supply of 6 p. stamps printed in this year, namely, 39,480. This is in excess of 1870, and three times as large as the supply for 1871.

(To be continued.)

THE CHRONICLER OF NEW ISSUES.

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE.

A GREAT deal of sympathy is bestowed nowadays on the poor overworked legislator, and I add my tears of commiseration to the rivulets of tenderest pity that flow increasingly in that direction, though I must confess that when it is known that one who retired disgusted from the parliamentary treadmill has since voluntarily returned, like the sow to her wallowing in the mire, one is apt to think that there must be some little compensating advantage somewhere in the business.

But the parliamentary grind is nothing compared to the life that a poor chronicler of novelties leads.

To begin with, a parliamentary man—that is, one of the ordinary rank and file—needs no qualification but a good banking account and an attentive ear for Mr. Whip's instructions how to vote.

A chronicler of novelties, on the other hand, must be possessed of all the qualifications that secure the honours of the day for a Senior Wrangler, with a few odd accomplishments thrown in. He must be able to read fluently, through the heaviest postmark, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Chinese, Russian, all the native lingoes of India, Siamese, Spanish, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish—in fact, almost every printed language under heaven. He must understand intimately the manufacture of paper and liquid gum; all the varieties of type from ordinary Roman to the most fanciful of fancy founts. He must be able to distinguish the bearded letter from the clean shaven type. He must understand lithography, electrotyping, and wood engraving; and though the practical printer swears hard and fast that it is oftentimes impossible to distinguish a lithographed from an engraved stamp, he must be able to readily distinguish the difference. He must have a prodigious memory. He must be able to remember every stamp ever issued; its design, perforation, watermark, quality of paper, printed or lithographed, name of the designers and printers, date of issue, number printed, number of stamps to the sheet, remainders sold, remainders surcharged by provisional Government, and number of special errors distributed amongst officials. He must understand all the methods of reproduction for illustration purposes. As he chronicles a stamp he must be able to write it indelibly, *index rerum* fashion, on the tablets of a capacious brain surface. For dots and dashes, present and absent; for misplaced letters and misspelled names; for inverted surcharges and figures of value; and for a thousand and one defective impressions, he must retain a clear and cool recollection, which no additional error can confuse, nor double surcharge disturb.

Fondly imagining that I possessed these, and a few other qualifications, I once applied to a distinguished English philatelic editor for a job as chronicler of novelties, and I was appointed!

I set about the task with a light heart, and with a solid determination to show such old fogies as Major Evans, F.A., that he was not the only admirable Crichton in the chronicling field. I worked like a slave, for to tell the honest truth I

was not always quite certain of the fine distinctions that are sometimes drawn between a watermark and a perforation. But such purely technical knowledge is peculiar to all callings, and has to be mastered, like oakum picking, after you get inside.

But it is a peculiarity of the business of chronicling new issues that the difficulties increase, rather than decrease, with study. You settle a misplaced stop in one position and it turns up as cool as a cucumber in another direction. You discover a squint in the left eye of a lithographed portrait, and a brother chronicler declares that eye to be all right and the other defective. Again, you set down the colour as *mauve*, and a rival wonders at your ignorance and pronounces it *violet*. Result, your readers regard you henceforth as colour blind. Then the perforations are the very — well, don't let us swear about it! But I once measured the perfs. of a stamp, after I had come a cropper in that line, and fixed them. I invited an old collector, with a predilection for dogs, to dine with me one evening, on the pretext of getting him to look at a St. Bernard puppy that had the mange. After dinner I got him into my study, carelessly picked up the stamp from the floor, simulated an interest in its perfs. and got him to work with a millimetre rule. He gave judgment. It was different from my measurement, and different from the measurement given in a continental philatelic organ. In despair I mustered up courage to send it to the *Doyen* of the London Philatelic Society, and he corrected the lot of us. I then turned up the business for that week, and lit my cigarette with a strip of British Guianas (not circulars), to assure myself that I didn't care a hang for perfs.

Well, then came those confounded French colonial surcharges winding up with Obock. Obock! Never heard the word before, and could not satisfactorily say whether it was the name of a new colony, or colonial French for "postage due." I fled to an old coverless gazetteer! Alas! Obock! My eldest—a three year old—was just finishing that very leaf. I button-holed collector after collector, but the repetition of the word "Obock" produced only the blankest of blank looks. I shirked that novelty, "to be continued in our next," thinking I would feed on others' knowledge for once. I waited, and I read; but they chronicled a black surcharge—mine was red. And before we settled the question of the colour of the ink, the surcharge, which I had set down as curved, straightened itself, and I got considerably mixed. I have not touched Obock since, not even with Scotch.

Things went from bad to worse, till I got into such a nervous state of suspended animation that I began to watermark French colonies "Crown and CA," and to correct the measurements of Afghan perfs. There was an outcry! The vultures were down on me. One severe old stager solemnly declared that I did not pay even decent attention to quotation marks—always a weak point with me.

Till at last the Grand Panjandrum, my chief, broke out into the following:

"To CORNELIUS WRINKLE, ESQ.

"SIR,—This is to give you notice and to certify that you are required to quit and deliver up possession from this hour and for ever afterwards of the duties of chronicler of novelties for the *Spanking Banner of Philatelic Lore*; and further, that you are to quit the office of the said *Spanking Banner of Philatelic Lore* within one hour and fifty minutes from the receipt of this despatch.

"Yours fraternally and with kindest regards,

"CHARLES ST. JOHN FLUCRUM,
"Editor-in-Chief."

I quitted without a vain regret, and made the best of my way to Colney Hatch for a course of medical treatment, under which I am told I warded off one of the worst attacks of *lapsus on the mugged*.

* * * * *

Friends, strangers, and enemies! as you value your peace of mind in this sphere of activity, and your rest hereafter in the great land of inactivity, never, never, never wittingly, lay yourself open to the thousand and one pitfalls and worries that are incident to the occupation of chronicling novelties. With the daily increasing activity of the stamp-issuing mills, with the puzzlingly rapid manufacture of minor varieties, with the multitudinous discoveries after discoveries of Philatelic Stanleys, who can attempt to keep step? There can be but one ending to such an endeavour — Colney Hatch.

NOTES AND NEWS.

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

Highest Priced Postage Stamps in the World.—Our publishers have just purchased the two celebrated Post-office Mauritius stamps issued in 1847, the 1d., red, and 2d., blue, both unused, and probably the two finest copies in existence. I made a special journey for these to Bordeaux, where they were for sale. As far as we can trace the history, they were first acquired by Mrs. Dubois, of that city, being found in a large merchant's office there. Mrs. Dubois sold them to Mr. E. Lalanne in 1867. This latter gentleman has just sold his collection for 60,000 francs to Mr. Piet-Lataudric, a well-known French collector, from whom we have purchased the two stamps in question. As far as we are aware there are only two other copies of these rarities in England, namely, in the Tapling collection at the British Museum. The 1d. in this collection is obliterated, and the 2d., unused, is not such a fine specimen as the one we have purchased. In the whole world we know of about thirteen or fourteen other copies of these stamps, and, as far as we know, the price of £340 cash per stamp is a record up to the present.

We have had these stamps carefully photographed, and mounted on a neat card, with a short history attached, and can supply them for 1s. the pair, post-free.

* * *

New York Branch.—We should like to refer our readers to a very important announcement on the back page of this journal, from which it will be seen that we are opening a branch of our business in New York, under the able management of Messrs. R. F. Albrecht and Co. A large stock of packets, sets, and rare stamps has already been sent to New York, and others will follow as they can be prepared. We were partially induced to take this step by many of the leading collectors of that city, who have informed us that there is a great difficulty in securing rare stamps and good English Colonials in America. As we hold such an enormous stock of these, we shall see what we can do to meet this want. All inquiries for special stamps should be addressed to

Messrs. R. F. ALBRECHT & Co.,
90, Nassau Street,
New York, U.S.A.,

and they will receive prompt attention.

We are very pleased to state that Mr. Albrecht has secured the able assistance of Mr. J. N. Luff, the well-known San Francisco philatelist, and we look forward to a large and increasing business under the able management of two such energetic persons.

* * *

Queensland. 2½d. on 2d.—Some months ago a stamp of the above denomination was chronicled, and one was sent to us, which we had photographed and sent to the Postmaster-General of Queensland. We attach his reply herewith, so that this stamp may be finally proved to be—as we always supposed—a rank forgery.

"POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"BRISBANE, JUNE 22, 1893.

"GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your favour of the 10th ultimo I have the honour by direction to inform you that this Department has never issued a 2d. stamp surcharged 2½d., and those shewn to you are therefore fraudulent ones.

"The attention of the London Post-office authorities is being drawn to the matter.

"Thanking you for bringing the subject under notice,

"I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signature illegible)

Under Secretary and Supt. of Telegraphs."

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391, STRAND, LONDON."

* * *

Exhibit at Chicago World's Fair.—We should like to draw the attention of visitors to Chicago to the fact that we have had our exhibit in this exhibition moved to a better position. It was first of all, by arrangement with the British Commissioner, to be arranged exactly facing the exhibit of the

South Kensington Museum; instead of this, for some reason or other, it was placed in an out-of-the-way corner in the gallery. We have now had it removed to the other side of the gallery, on the main gangway, and opposite the collection of photographs. It is situated two cases from Erards' Harps, where trial competitions of music are held, and also next to one of pianos of various firms. These competitions attract large crowds, and no doubt philatelists visiting the gallery will find this the best guide to lead them to our exhibit.

We see that our American friends have been too sharp for us in reference to the 15 c. with inverted centre. When we were making up this card we had a bet with our friend who was arranging it, that the centre could be cut out of one of these stamps and replaced so as not to be discovered when looked at through the glass. Up to recently we thought we were going to secure this bet, as close upon three months have passed without this being noticed. However, we now find that one philatelist, keener than the bulk of them, has at length spotted it, very likely by the sun causing the stamp to cockle up a little, and thus show the join. We have two of these stamps in our possession, and also a 30 c. with inverted centre, but did not think it advisable to exhibit such rarities for six months subject to all kinds of damage from light, fire, etc. * * *

Western Australia v. Holidays.—It has been a toss up with me between holidays and writing the rest of my reference list of Western Australia, and I am glad to say the holidays won. I have spent a most delightful four weeks in Cornwall and the Scilly Isles, and can thoroughly recommend this part of old England for anyone who wants really bracing up, after a hard season in town. My head-quarters were at the Wellington Hotel, St. Just, R.S.O., Cornwall, which will be found a most convenient place for anyone wishing to explore West Cornwall, being situated within easy drive of Land's End, Penzance, St. Ives, &c. Full particulars of the Wellington Hotel can be had from Mrs. Annie Hocking, the genial proprietress. Having returned to town now, I hope to have more time, and be able to continue the article on Western Australia in the next number of the *Journal*. * * *

New Addendum.—Addendum No. 32, being the second one issued to the 9th edition of our catalogue, containing a list of stamps issued from May 1st to August 31st this year, is ready, and can be had—price 3d. * * *

New Packets.—We have just constructed three very fine new packets containing respectively 250, 500, and 1000 varieties. Full particulars of these will be found on our advertisement page (No. 4), and we believe that at the price we offer them they will be found to have a very large sale. We can strongly recommend all of them. * * *

Imitations of the Columbus Stamps of the United States.—We have received a post card from a Mr. Adolf Krüger, of Nicolaistraße 43, Hannover, offering for sale complete sets of the Columbus postage stamps, in the original colours, for the price of 50 pf. the set. We therefore think it as well to place on record that such are being offered, and to warn young collectors against buying these stamps when offered at such an absurd price. * * *

Forged Zurich Jubilee Cards.—From an article in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of August 8th we learn as follows: "The police learnt last Friday that on the previous day a number of foreign jubilee post cards had been sold to a buyer in Zurich. They succeeded in getting hold of the seller in the person of Alfred Hergert, of Berlin, and the matter was traced from him to two Swiss, that were the makers, named Jakob Saxer and his brother-in-law Jakob Homberger, both lithographers, who were arrested. After a long denial, they at length confessed their guilt. Homberger had drawn the stone for the forgery, Saxer did the printing. From evidence given them, the police discovered the stone buried in the earth near the Nettleberg, also the ready-cut paper and 500 cards; the whole of the stock has been confiscated, and it is believed that none of the forgeries have got about." We heartily congratulate the Swiss police on their promptness in this matter, and only wish their English *compères* would act as expeditiously in cases that have been brought to their notice.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE.

LAST month I expressed a hope that the quiet of that month was but the calm before a winter of Philatelic activity, if not of storm. Well, now, I am going to have a shot at raising the storm, and a very interesting storm too. It has been brewing for a long time in certain quarters, and, like murder, is bound to come out, sooner or later. I refer to nothing more nor less than the opportunity which is approaching, for the public to insist upon something more worthy of the British Empire, than the poverty-stricken designs that now distinguish most English postal labels.

Contracts happily do not run for ever, and the time is rapidly approaching when the public will be able to have its say about the contract for the supply of postage labels to Her Majesty's Government. That contract has, I believe, only some three or four more years to run, and I hear that the various stamp designers and manufacturers are already looking forward to a lively competition for its possession. As every one knows, Messrs. De la Rue and Co. are the present contractors. The price at which they have had to take the work probably does not admit of any better productions than they now turn out. But whatever the cause, the public should see to it that there is some change for the better when the present contract expires. We, the B.P., have ridiculed and scoffed the jubilee coins out of issue, and there is no reason why we should not, in the same way, secure the adoption of something more commendable in the matter of designs for our postage stamps. We, as a nation, lead the way in so many directions, that not a few imitate even our miserable postal labels, so that the poor designs of the English stamps are copied *ad nauseam*.

The most go-ahead firm just now as producers of postage stamps are Messrs. Waterlow. Many of their designs are really works of art, and they are most beautifully engraved. They are not at all likely to stand aloof, if the contract is put up to public competition, as the public must this time insist that it shall be. Then there still exist our old favourite stamp designers and printers, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. They designed and printed the first issue of Ceylon, and by common consent those stamps have never been beaten for excellence of workmanship; indeed, in the opinion of many people they have never been even equalled. For some forty years Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. printed our English postage stamps, and I am told that they don't quite understand why they lost the contract, except that the De la Rue process may be somewhat cheaper. Cheapness, however, is not everything. There are other firms engaged in the production of postage stamps that are also likely to enter the lists.

Now, it seems to me that this is a subject that may well form the talk of the town amongst philatelists for many a day. The more it is talked about, the more chance there will be of getting some good result out of it. In the time intervening between the present and the expiry of the contract, philatelists may do much to educate and guide the general public. By the exhibition of their collections they may show what is being done elsewhere, and they may easily demonstrate the fact that, almost without exception, English and English Colonial stamps rank lowest in the list from an art point of view. Let us agitate, agitate, agitate, and a change will most assuredly come over our postage stamps, as it has come over our coins. What has happened in the case of the coinage, must be fought for in the case of the designs of the postage stamps. Let the designs of the stamps be submitted in the same way to our most eminent designers, and let the choice rest, not with some single official, but with a select committee of the best judges of art work.

There seems to be a neck-and-neck race for a record price between the British Guiana circular and the "Post Office" Mauritius. Just now Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' £340 for a "Post Office" takes the cake; but I believe I am not overstating the matter, when I say that nine philatelists out of ten would attach more value to the British Guiana competitor. *Ergo*, we may yet have one of these stamps reaching a cool thousand. At the present rate of increase the four figure business is by no means out of the range of practical

politics. When De Coppet gave £75 for his British Guiana, everybody thought him a little gone in the upper floors, but after admiring his gem for a few years he has sold it for £210—about three times what he gave for it. If the purchaser of the "Post Office" keeps his treasure for a similar period, and has the same luck, he will go a long way towards the four figure limit. Time was, and not so long ago, when stamp journals seriously discussed the possibility of a single stamp some day reaching into such long figures as a £5 note. We have passed that limit and got into two figures, then three, and we are now heading straight for four.

Now that our gems are becoming so valuable, the preservation of their history becomes a question of importance. I am not alone in thinking that we should jot down on the hinge of every rare stamp the fullest particulars of its acquisition—when purchased, of whom, price paid, &c. Some time ago I came across a neat little hinge arranged thus:—

Bot
Of
Cost
Wmk.....
Perf.
Value
Issue

The winter activity is making itself felt already. The auctions are commencing, collectors are coming back to business and philately, and the London Philatelic Society has held its first Cabinet meeting. Next month we shall be in the thick of it, in real downright earnest. We are to have a whole week of philatelic festivity. And I am told that the Duke of York will most likely be a prominent exhibitor at the London Philatelic Society's Exhibition of the stamps of the West Indies.

Besides all this activity, there are now in the metropolis—upon paper anyway—two other societies. What they are going to do to wake the philatelic echoes remains to be seen, I don't think there is much cause for being very sanguine over either speculation. As to the Exchange idea, that is nothing new. It has been tried and failed, and under the best of auspices too, for no less an energetic philatelist than Mr. E. D. Bacon had the Secretaryship thereof. *The Philatelic Record* of April, 1884, contained a notice of the first meeting. Meetings were held every Wednesday. There were about forty members, half of whom were dealers. The attendance averaged about twenty. For a while a brisk trade was done. But, alas! *The Record* for the month of December, of the self-same year of 1884, announced the dissolution of the Association. "The Committee," so ran the announcement of the dissolution, "have done their best to make it a success, but apparently British collectors and dealers are not ripe for anything of the sort, and have not seen their way to avail themselves of advantages, which their French or German brethren would have turned to ample account." All the old obstacles continue to exist, and there are superadded the counter attractions of the auctions.

Have my fellow admirers of Victorias noticed the innumerable shades that are to be had of the current penny stamp. I am quite gone on shades—shades of colour in stamps, not the other shades—and I have rarely met with a stamp that yields such a rich and distinct variety as the current penny of Victoria. I happened to mention the matter to one of our leading collectors of the Colony a few days since. He had not noticed it, but I learned shortly afterwards that that very astute party had overhauled the stock of Stanley Gibbons, and had enriched his collection with no less than thirty distinct shades. Friends, go and do likewise while the chance offers; watch your approval sheets, and take my tip to look out for shades of the stamp in *yellow*, a variety that, so far as I am aware, has never yet been chronicled.

What is to be the next move in Hawaii? They must be getting to the end of their surcharged stock. The Government is still a provisional one. Uncle Sam cannot make his mind whether he will annex, or protect, or let the islands alone; and until Uncle Sam does make up his mind on the matter we may look out for curiosities in the stamps.

A great authority pulled me up with a sharp turn the other day with the question, "Why do you call them Sandwich Islands?"* and, while I was scratching my wool for a reply, he added, "They are not so designated on the stamps." I got out of it by laying the blame on the good old broad shoulders of Stanley Gibbons. "They are always put under that head in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue," I replied. "Never mind," said the inexorable poser, "the stamps are not so named. They have, on the contrary, always been styled Hawaiian or Hawaii."

Friend Brown, in the last issue of his *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, has been kind enough to refer to my notes as "light and charming." Nice chap, Brown. Auburn hair, pleasant face, æsthetic, artistic, convivial. I shall run down to Salisbury shortly.

* There is the same excellent reason for this as there is for calling one of the European States "Germany." It is not so designated upon the stamps, but it happens to be the English name for it. We rejoice to find that our friend Cornelius W.,

"In spite of all temptations
To belong to other nations,
Remains an Englishman."—Ed.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies would kindly send us a short account of each meeting before the 18th of each month, we shall be pleased to insert it in this Journal.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—O. FIRTH.

THE third annual meeting was held at the Leeds Mechanics' Institute on Saturday, the 6th of May, 1893. The chair was occupied by the President. There were also present Mrs. Beardsell, Rev. T. S. Fleming, and Messrs. F. J. Kidson, C. L. Rothenstein, J. F. C. Sieler, J. W. Duffield, E. Egly, A. N. Skipwith, W. A. Jefferson, and the Secretaries. Mr. Hermann Schmidt, of Gummersbach, was also present as a visitor. Novelties were shown by Messrs. Sieler and Skipwith, and Mr. Rothenstein showed part of his collection, which was exceptionally strong in old Spanish and other good stamps.

The annual report and balance sheet were then submitted by the Secretaries and Treasurer. The reports congratulated the Society upon a successful session, both as regards membership and attendance, and the addition of valuable works to the library. The successful establishment of an Exchange Club, open to both members and non-members, was also referred to, the report concluding with a mention that negotiations with the Leeds Corporation, for the use of a convenient room in the Municipal Buildings, had been brought to a successful issue.

The reports having been adopted, the Secretaries mentioned that the Public Librarian had kindly undertaken to issue the Society's books to members.

The meeting was then adjourned to the Society's new quarters, when the election of officers was proceeded with, resulting as follows:

President	MR. OLIVER FIRTH.
Senior Vice-President	MR. J. H. THACKRAH.
Junior ditto	MR. W. B. SIMPSON.
Treasurer	MR. EUGENE EGLY.
Secretaries (re-elected)	MR. W. DENISON ROEBUCK. MR. T. K. SKIPWITH.
Librarian	MR. F. J. KITSON.

The above, together with Mr. W. Beckwith and Rev. T. S. Fleming, ex-presidents, form the Committee for the Session 1893-4.

Votes of thanks were then passed to those instrumental in securing for the Society the use of the new rooms.

It is not proposed to hold any meetings during the summer months, but to open the new Session in the first week of October.

Secretaries' address—13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds.

OLDHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The above Society was formed on September 16th. The officers are: *President*—T. L. HOLDEN, Esq.

Secretary and Treasurer—

JNO. J. DARLOW, 7, Queen Street, Oldham.

Committee—

H. CHATTERTON. | S. INGHAM, jun. | A. STOCK.

The Society meets fortnightly. All applications for membership to be sent to the Secretary.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

The tenth ordinary meeting was held at the Society's Rooms on Thursday, the 24th Aug., at 6 p.m. Members present: E. S. Gubbay, Esq., Vice-President (in the Chair); Krishnarao Ramchundra, Esq., Hon. Treasurer; H. W. Graham, Esq., Dadabhai Mahadevrao, Esq., F. C. Webb, Esq., and the Hon. Secretary.

New members elected: (Ordinary) Chundreeka Prusad, Esq., Accountant, Agent's Office, B. B. & C. I. Railway, proposed by the Hon. Treasurer, and seconded by the Hon. Secretary; G. S. Barnard, Esq., Multan (Corresponding), proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by H. W. Graham, Esq.

Resignation accepted: H. P. Grant McPherson, Esq.

The Hon. Secretary showed a circular and admission forms of membership, received from Mr. Henseiger, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alamo City Philatelic Society, Texas, U.S.A.

E. S. Gubbay, Esq., Vice-President, proposed, and the Hon. Secretary seconded, that the members' card shown at the last meeting should be printed at the Society's expense, a sum not exceeding 2 rs. to be voted for this purpose from the general funds. Carried.

Mr. H. W. Graham said that with reference to the question of exchanges, he was glad to note that the Exchange Secretary, Mr. P. De Cruz, had sent him the first batch of sheets, and that doubtless they would be circulated to other members on the roll in due time.

The Vice-President proposed, and the Hon. Secretary seconded, that the Society should hold its anniversary meeting on Tuesday, the 29th inst. Carried.

The Hon. Secretary proposed, and D. Mahadevrao, Esq., seconded, that the Vice-President should bring his collection to the next meeting. Carried.

Mr. F. C. Webb showed an interesting collection of Revenues (Japan), and the 8 annas, current issue, "On H. M. S.," recently issued in Calcutta.

The Hon. Secretary made a statement to the effect that the new rupee postal (Indian), in carmine and green, had been issued by the Postal authorities here on the 9th August last. He also exhibited a complete set of the Columbian Issue, U.S.A., unused. The Hon. Treasurer was again to the fore with several rarities, including the forged rupee stamps of India, used, Bamra errors, etc.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Society was held at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, the 29th August, 1893, at the Society's Rooms. Members present: E. S. Gubbay, Vice-President (in the chair), P. De Cruz, A. Zygouras, D. Mahadevrao, H. W. Graham, Dr. A. C. Pacco, A. C. Veigas, A. Hayim, K. Ramchundra, Hon. Treasurer, and the Hon. Secretary; F. C. Webb, visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Vice-President addressed the meeting as under.

Gentlemen, as you are all aware, we have met here this evening to celebrate in a fitting manner the Anniversary of our Society. Through unforeseen circumstances our President, the Hon. Justice Parsons, has not been able to attend, and much as I regret his absence and deplore the cause that deprives us of the pleasure we anticipated from his opening speech, which was to have been delivered before us this evening, I cannot but feel flattered and proud that the pleasant duty of addressing you now devolves on me. It is all the more pleasing because of our Society being the

first of its kind in Bombay, and, I may add, the premier one in India; and I am sure we are all very proud of this fact. This occasion being our first Anniversary, we may all look back over a period of twelve months, and justly congratulate ourselves that the year has not been wasted. We commenced modestly, and are progressing modestly. Our progress, so far, has been fair—very fair, considering the difficulties we have had to encounter and overcome. I feel confident, and have not the slightest hesitation in saying, that the prospect before us is in every sense most hopeful. Our members are daily increasing in number, and at our approaching Annual Meeting, when the Annual Report of the Society will be read to you, I have no doubt it will prove most gratifying to us to notice the advance we have made. I have been requested, gentlemen, to put before you my modest collection. If it serves in any degree to encourage any of you to persevere along the pleasant path of Philately, or induces those who are commencing our innocent and interesting pursuit to enlist themselves in our ever-increasing brotherhood, I shall have cause to feel more than doubly repaid.

I will not detain you, gentlemen, but will conclude with wishing a hearty success to our Society, and hope it may go on flourishing for ever and aye. (Applause.)

The Vice-President's collection was next examined by the members. The collection is mounted in one of H. Schwaneberger's Albums, Eighth Edition, and it was noted that most of the top lines in the album, in Europe and the Colonies (British), were found complete, and most of the other countries of the world were well represented. A pleasant hour was spent in looking over the collection, and in the discussion of matters philatelic.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS,

Hon. Sec. Bombay Philatelic Society.

33, SASSOON DOCK ROAD,
COLABA, BOMBAY.

CANADIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

President—ERNEST F. WURTELE,

P.O. Box 1117, Quebec, Que.

At the sixth annual convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association, held in Quebec on the 23rd August, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President . . . ERNEST F. WURTELE, Quebec (re-elected).

Vice-President . . . W. KELSEY HALL, Peterboro', Ont.

Secretary-Treasurer . . . T. S. CLARK, Belleville, Ont. (re-elected).

Ex-Superintendent . . . C. C. MORENCY, Quebec, Que.

Librarian . . . A. E. LABELLE, Montreal (re-elected).

C. Detector . . . HENRY ADES FOWLER, Toronto, Ont.

DR. C. E. CAMERON, Chairman,

Trustees . . . { Montreal.

J. E. SCHULTZE, Montreal.

Official Organ . . . W. PATTERSON, Montreal.

"The Canadian Journal of Philately."

PHILATELIC PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

New Forgeries.

MEXICO.—Issue 1856 and 1861-62, also same type issued in 1867 with Gothic surcharge. Large consignments of these stamps have been received from Mexico City, with forged town surcharges and postmarks. The stamps are either reprints or remainders. As attempts have been made to force these stamps upon the market, and are likely to be repeated, all members are specially warned against them, and are requested to report to the Secretary any such attempt.

VICTORIA.—Fiscal stamps with forged postal cancellations. The Victoria Philatelic Society report fresh forgeries of postmarks as follows: Brooklin, Vic., May 19, '85; Ballarat, Fe. 8, '85, in plain single-line circle, and large figure 5 in oval of thick bars.

ITALY.—Messrs. A. Smith & Co. report that they are advised by a correspondent in Italy of the appearance of dangerous forgeries of the 10 cent., yellow, first issue, Segnatasse. They are placed on old letters with Roman States stamps.

FREDK. R. GINN, *Hon. Secretary.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. K. S.—Antigua and Montserrat *id.*, perf. 12, you will find in the current catalogue. Most of the stamps of Western Australia show the watermark (Crown & CC or CA) sideways. South Australia.—We cannot assign any special date to the stamps perf. 10 × 11½. Barbados, No. 6. Such a stamp certainly exists, but it is said to be an imperf. variety of No. 13. British Guiana and Chili we note.

M. E. B.—Many thanks for your note.

A. P.—We believe that most of the fractions of stamps which you mention have been described, but they are not usually catalogued, and are not considered of very great interest. The stamps of one colony used in another, without any distinguishing surcharge, are only collectable as curiosities, and should be kept upon the entire envelope. The "Paid at Montserrat," or "Paid at St. Kitts" marks probably denote letters on which the postage was paid in cash for want of stamps—they are not stamps, but show that stamps were not to be had. We are not quite sure what the surcharges are that you refer to, as on the unsevered 5s. stamp of Barbados, we only know this stamp divided down the centre, and surcharged "1d." Are you sure that your English Telegraph stamps were used postally? They were always postmarked when used on telegrams, but with a date stamp.

A. L. C.—The 8d., laureated, is not catalogued with the error "WACES," but there are two types on the reprinted sheets which show traces of a top stroke to the "L."

C. F. S.—Many thanks for your letter and the labels, these are struck on all sorts of paper (?).

J. S. S.—The design you describe, used at Bellary in 1841, is of a similar nature to those used in many places before the introduction of postage stamps—and indeed since—to denote prepayment of postage in cash; they are the very opposite of postage stamps. Things of somewhat similar appearance were sold to the public, and actually used as stamps in the Confederate States.

H. C.—Many thanks for your letter; it was a slip of the pen in reference to the two types of Venezuela. We are sorry that you took our remark under Shanghai so seriously.

E. W. H.—We have no information as to the half stamps you allude to having been employed recently, but it is quite likely that they are allowed to pass, or even cancelled to order.

I. L. H.—We made a mistake about the Bamra, it should have been ¼ a. If you send us the stamps you mention we will endeavour to tell you what they are.

H. C. M.—Watermarks are sometimes very troublesome, a thorough wetting is the best treatment for some of them, while a slight damping on the back brings out others; try both, also placing the stamp upon something black and looking at it in various lights.

H. W. B.—Specimens with a postmark are generally preferred by collectors to those penstroked. Used specimens of the cut envelopes would probably not fetch so much as unused.

F. C. T.—We believe that the cancellations you allude to are done with a machine, but a clerk at one of the Post-offices would probably tell you, if you caught him at a favourable moment.

H. L.—Many thanks for the anecdote, we will see if we can work it in, but this is a serious magazine—perhaps at Christmas!

A. E.—We understand that *Diego Suarez et Dépendances* includes *Nossi-Bé* and *Sainte Marie de Madagascar*, while letters by French mails from other parts of Madagascar are to be franked by ordinary French stamps. "The reason why we cannot tell."

J. M. L.—Varieties of inverted and reversed watermarks are by no means uncommon; they are not usually chronicled or collected.

W. F. and C. W.—We are greatly obliged for your notes, of which we hope to make use shortly.

Special Bargains and New Issues

FOR OCTOBER.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

BRAZIL.		<i>s. d.</i>
100 reis, envelope, red on white	.. ..	0 6
20 reis, wrapper, pale green on buff	.. ..	0 2

BOER REPUBLIC.

Without Arms.

No. 16, ½r, lilac on straw, dated "13 Oct., '86" ..	.. ..	40 0
No. 25, 2/6, lilac on blue, dated "19 Aug., '86" ..	.. ..	7 6

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

One penny on 2d., black and bistre, used	.. ..	0 6
" " " " unused	.. ..	0 8

COLOMBIA (REPUBLIC OF).

1892.

5 pesos, red on mauve, used	.. ..	8 6
10 " " blue on white "	.. ..	15 0

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

Without network.

No. 60, 1 fr. on 20 c., black and bistre	.. ..	5 0
No. 61, 1 " " buff	.. ..	5 0
No. 61a, 1 " " different type	.. ..	5 0

With network.

No. 74, 1 fr. on 20 c., black and buff, used	.. ..	3 0
No. 76, 2 fr. 50 c. on 50 c., black and orange	6 0
No. 77, 3 fr. 75 c. on 75 c., black and blue	7 6

GUINEA.

2½ reis, brown	0 1
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LAGOS.

"Half-penny" on 4d., black and lilac	0 6
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MONTENEGRO.

Jubilee issue, 1493-1893.

Set of 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15, and 25 nov., the seven	6 0
Post Cards, 2, 2 + 2, 3, and 3 + 3 nov., set of 4	.. ..	3 0
Envelopes, 5 small, 5 large, 7 and 10 nov., set of 4	3 0

ORANGE FREE STATE.

5/-, green, penstroked	8 6
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SHANGHAI.

Local Post.

½ cent, black and orange	0 1
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2½d. on 1/-, black and green (<i>surcharged in two lines</i>)	0 6
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\$1, rose-salmon, used	12 6
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The following is a short list of a few RARE Stamps at present on hand, and which are not priced in the Catalogue.

(CONTINUED FROM No. 37, JULY, 1893.)

	£	s.	d.
NATAL, embossed 9d., blue, on part of original paper, postmarked, size 24 + 24 mm., and strongly embossed	18	0	0
" 1/-, buff, size 30 + 22 mm., on original paper, circular dated postmark	10	0	0
" 1860, 3d., blue, wmk. <i>Star</i> , imperf., unused	12	0	0
" 1869, 1/-, green, overprinted "Postage," 12 mm. long and "P" 2½ mm. high, perfect and lightly postmarked	4	15	0
" 1869, 1/-, green, with "Postage" in thin tall capital, lightly postmarked and fine	6	0	0
REUNION, 1852, 15 cents, black on pale blue, unused and brilliant, original	54	0	0
SIERRA LEONE, 1861, 6d., lilac, <i>imperf.</i> , unused, and good margins	8	0	0
BERMUDA, 1/-, green, wmk., C. & C. C., unused, error, <i>imperf.</i> , large margins	4	0	0
BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/-, black and dull rose, used	2	10	0
" " " unsevered pair	5	10	0
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2½d., pale rosy pink, unused and <i>imperf.</i>	24	0	0
" " perf. 14, 10 c., pink and blue, unused	4	5	0
" " \$1, green, unused	4	0	0
BOLIVIA, 11 stars, 500 c., black, unused	5	0	0
BRITISH GUIANA, 1850, circular, 12 c., dark blue, cut round, used	7	0	0
" " " " 12 c., light blue, square, used	16	0	0
" " 1856, large oblong, 4 c., magenta, used	13	10	0
" " " " 4 c., four corners clipped, but design perfect	7	10	0
" " " " 4 c., blue, surface coloured only, lower corners slightly cut, but design perfect, and a fine specimen of this rarity...	60	0	0
COLOMBIA (Repub. of), 1863, 50 cents, <i>red</i> , error in colour of 20 c., postmarked and large margins, rare	22	0	0
ANTIOQUIA, 1868, 2½ c., blue, fine impression, but slight traces of penstrokes, otherwise apparently unused	15	0	0
BOLIVAR, small 10 c., green, penstroked	7	0	0
TOLIMA, 5 centavos, black on buff, mended at top left corner and penstroked	6	10	0
" 5 centavos, " very fine and large margins, <i>unused</i> , very rare	18	0	0
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1862, Medio real, square, rose, used	1	10	0
" " " Un real, dark green, unused	8	10	0
" " " another, very brilliant and large margins, unused	10	10	0
" " 1865, Medio real, pale green, unused	4	10	0
" " " Un real, dull yellow, unused	9	15	0
MEXICO, 1864, 3 centavos, brown, no surcharge, unused	5	0	0
" " " " with " " used, and a very rare colour	6	0	0
" " " " with " " used, and a very rare colour	18	0	0
NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/-, purple, unused	12	0	0
" " 1/-, " used	9	0	0
" " 1/-, " very pale colour	3	15	0
NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, purple, used, cut rather close	7	10	0
" " 1/-, " good colour but slight crack	4	5	0
PERU, Medio peso, pale yellow, used	2	5	0
" " deep buff, used, and finer	3	5	0
" " rose, fine, used	10	10	0
UNITED STATES, 1869, 15 c., centre, inverted used	14	0	0
" " " 30 c., flags inverted, used, <i>very fine</i>	40	0	0

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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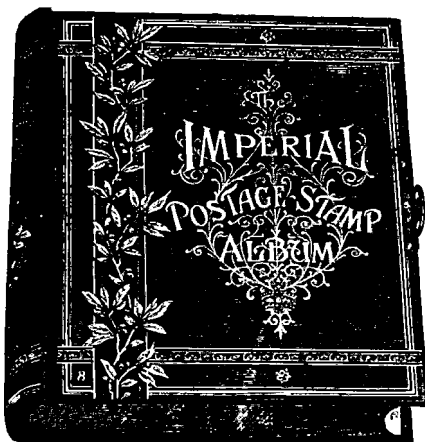
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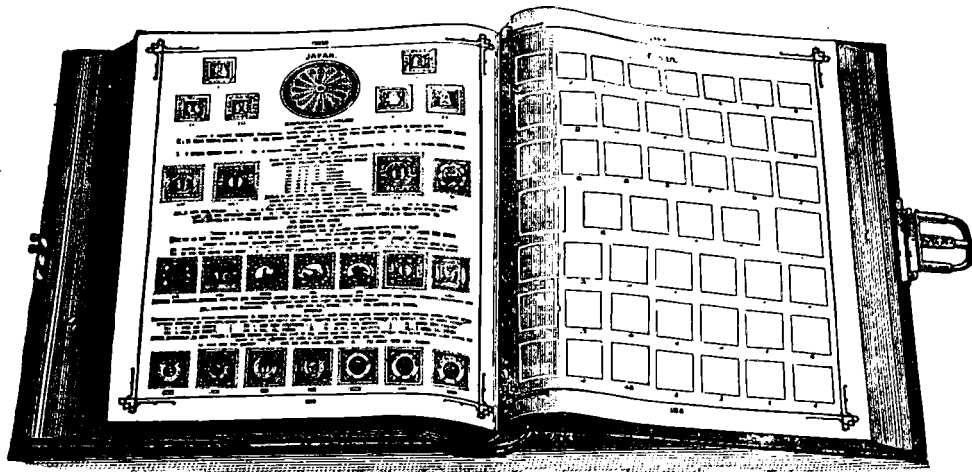
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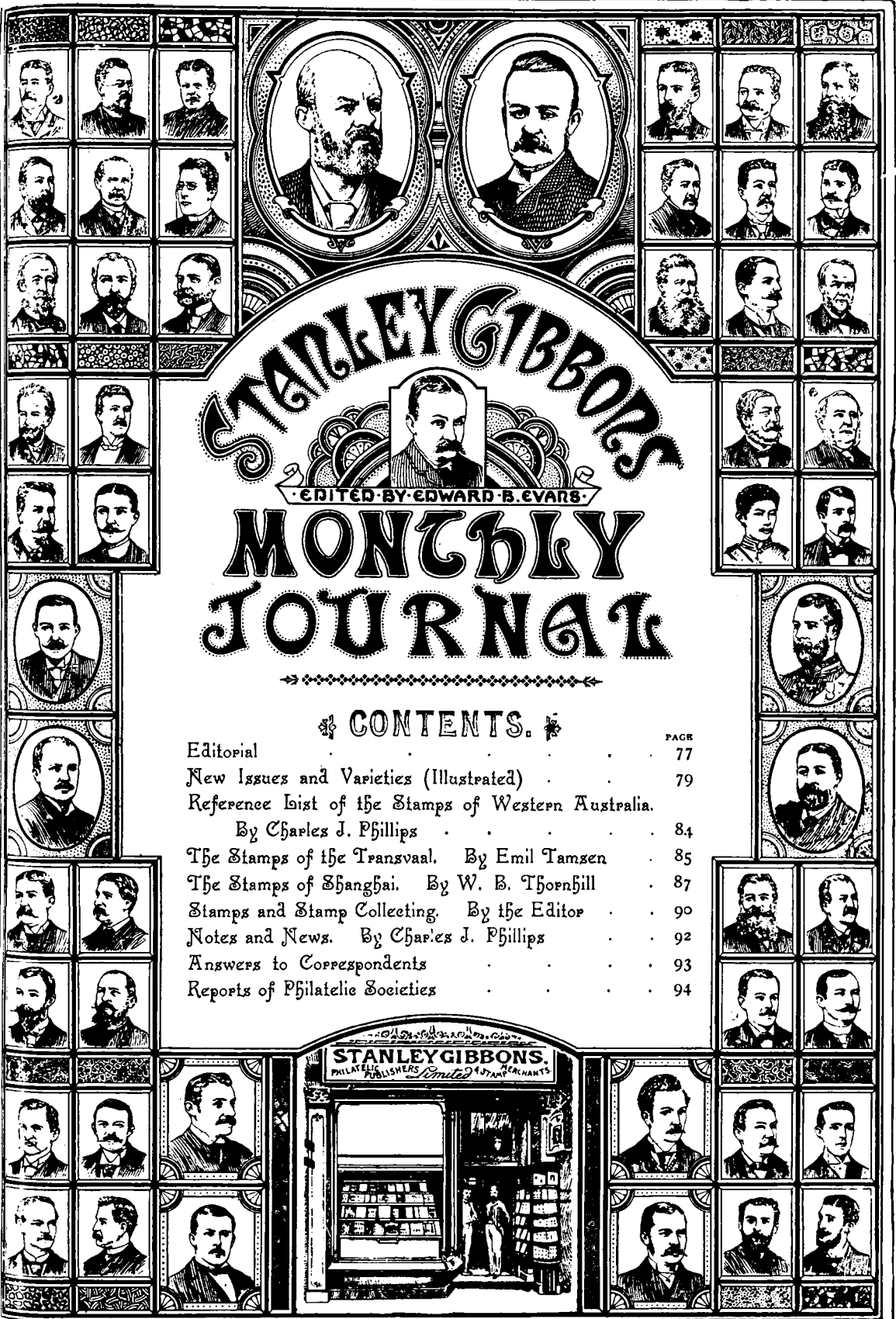
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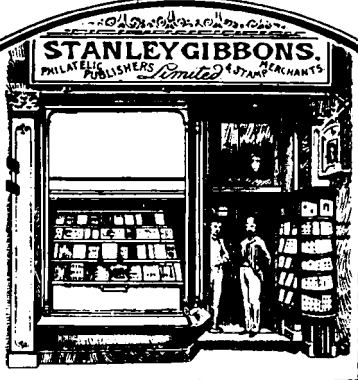




STANLEY GIBBONS
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MONTHLY JOURNAL

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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

OCTOBER 31, 1893.

No. 40.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED 391, Strand, London, W.C.*

EDITORIAL.

"THE Article of the Month"—and an extremely interesting article too, one which we perused from A to Z, or as far in that direction as it went—was undoubtedly the Exhibition of the Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies and more or less adjacent parts, held at the rooms of the London Philatelic Society. The idea of the Exhibition has already been explained in these pages, and we have now only to give a brief account of the successful manner in which that idea was carried out.

With the exception of an infinitesimal number of items, which might easily be reckoned upon the fingers of one hand, the collection shown was absolutely complete.

Antigua.—We noticed the absence of imperforate specimens of the stamps of 1862 and 1863 among the beautiful series shown, which we believe included every other known variety.

Bahamas.—The set of the stamps of this colony was perhaps the most complete and beautiful exhibit on view. The list is a comparatively short one certainly, but most of our readers know that it is by no means an easy one to fill up, and every possible variety of shade and perforation was represented here, by specimens in the most perfect condition.

Barbados.—More than one fine and practically complete collection of these stamps was exhibited. Among them we noticed particularly a fine block of three unsevered copies of the 1d. on 5s.

Bermuda.—This is not a very interesting colony, from a philatelic point of view, and consequently has been somewhat neglected by collectors. Its issues were fully represented, however, including the doubtful varieties of "THREE FENCE" on 1d.

and 2d., but the specimens of these were, as usual, not in a condition to throw any light upon their history.

British Guiana.—The collections under this head naturally formed the most valuable, though not the most artistic or the best represented portion of the exhibition. The circular monstrosities were all there, but not in the profusion that one might have hoped for. The only collection that contained a copy of the *pink* did not include a specimen of the *yellow*, in either variety of paper; the 4 c. on *pelure* was shown in another case, but we only noticed three copies of the 4 c., and two of the 8 c. in the entire show, which gives a fair idea of the extreme rarity of these circular stamps. Again, of the 1856 provisionals only one copy of the 4 c., *blue*, was on view, the second variety of paper not being represented; of the 1 c. of this type only one copy is known, and we need not say that that copy was not present; there was also no complete plate of the 1 c. of 1862. With these few exceptions the earlier issues of this most difficult country were very fully shown, and the later and less interesting varieties were practically complete also.

British Honduras.—The extreme rarity of the 3 c. on 3d., wmk. Crown and CC, *perf.* 12½, was illustrated by the fact that only one copy was included in the three exhibits of the stamps of this colony. We noticed also an unchronicled curiosity, consisting of the 1d. stamp (unsurcharged) divided diagonally, and used for 1 cent at the time of the change in the currency.

Dominica.—A complete set was shown, including the uninteresting surcharge, which here again constitutes the great rarity.

Grenada.—In addition to complete series of the stamps of this colony we noticed a curious variety of the 1d. of 1864, wmkd. with a small Star, with *four* rays only instead of the usual six.

Nevis.—The gem of the exhibition was a most beautifully-arranged and mounted collection of the stamps of this colony, containing entire unused sheets of almost every known variety, and a specimen of the almost unattainable 1s. on *laid* paper. It is worthy of remark that at the time of publication of the London Society's book, only one copy of this stamp was known to exist—the one in the Tapling collection—and but very few have been

discovered since. Of the scarce 6d. lithographed two entire sheets were on view; one of them had unfortunately been divested of its margin, but the other was in most perfect condition.

Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—An entire sheet was shown of the only stamp acknowledged to have been issued.

St. Christopher.—There is not much scope for display here. The set shown included the rare surcharge, which forms the principal feature of the issues of more than one of these small islands; also entire copies of the small sheets in which the stamps are printed.

St. Lucia.—Among the fine sets of the beautiful stamps of this island, there were no specimens that would set at rest the vexed question of the surcharges "Half-penny" and "Sixpence" on the early issues, which still await an answer.

St. Vincent.—This is a more interesting colony—philatelically—and all the unaccountable colour changes, and the divers surcharges, which have spoilt the beauty whilst adding to the value of so many of its stamps, were well represented. The 5s. stamp of this colony was an object of admiration to many of the visitors, and even a surcharge is not without artistic effect, when printed in the deepest *black* upon a brilliant *vermilion*.

Trinidad.—As might be expected, there were some very fine exhibits of the stamps of this colony. The early issues, including those of local manufacture, were displayed in considerable profusion; there were some magnificent specimens of the *blue* and *grey* lithographs, and an entire sheet of the *red*, showing probably the last stage of deterioration of the stone. We could only find *one* used specimen of this *red* stamp, which is plainly of great rarity in that condition. Among the curiosities of the exhibition is a set of stamps which was made for, and presented to, H.R.H. the Duke of York, on the occasion of his visit to Trinidad a few years ago. The postmaster of the colony, knowing that His Royal Highness was an ardent collector, had a few copies (query, two only?) of each of the values then current surcharged "9d." in large type, and presented the Prince with an unobliterated and an obliterated specimen of each. These, which are the only specimens known at present to exist, were kindly lent for exhibition, and we can only wish that all Commemorative Issues were equally limited in numbers!

Turk's Islands.—A very complete and instructive series was exhibited of the stamps of these islands, including two sheets, one entire and the other reconstructed, of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on 1d., and a block of fifteen of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on 1s., *prune*, showing plainly that there were at least two distinct settings of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on 1d., each containing 15 varieties, and another setting of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on 1s., *prune*, which seems to have been impressed in vertical rows of three.

Virgin Islands.—Of this colony, the last upon the list, a set was shown similar in completeness and in the beauty of the specimens and arrange-

ment, to that of the Nevis alluded to above; the absence of a specimen of the 1s. without the central figure can hardly be considered a deficiency, as it is more than probable that the specimen chronicled in this condition was merely an incomplete impression, never actually sent out for issue.

Of the Exhibition as a whole we may speak very highly; embracing as it did a very much larger number of countries than that of February last, it was proportionately more interesting to the general class of collectors, and the more so from the fact that the issues of some of the colonies represented are *comparatively* easy to complete.

If we wished to find fault we might point out that the general appearance of the show was a little uneven, the cards in some of the cases exhibiting an undue amount of blank space, while some of those in others were equally unduly crowded. A happy medium would have been more economical in the one instance, and have shown the specimens to far greater advantage in the other. Again, we were sorry to see evident signs that the specialists in this country devote their attention almost exclusively to adhesives, to the neglect of envelopes and post cards. Two general collections of "entires" were shown, but the arrangement in both cases was such as to render it impossible to see whether they were complete, and we are probably safe in saying that neither of them was so. The envelopes and post cards of the British colonies, with but few exceptions, present no great difficulty to the collector, even of moderate means; and we sincerely trust that some member or members of the London Philatelic Society will be found willing to take them under their special care—it is a form of specialism which we would earnestly recommend to their notice.

We have, as on the former occasion, thought it unnecessary to mention the names of exhibitors. The exhibition was not a public one, or in any way competitive; on the contrary, the members of the Society united to make the show as complete and interesting as possible, each contributing what would best tend to the accomplishment of that object. One name, however, we have already mentioned in connection with one very curious exhibit, and we feel that we cannot conclude this notice without some expression of the debt of gratitude which all collectors owe to H.R.H. the Duke of York for thus identifying himself with their favourite hobby. We believe that the Hon. Vice-President of the Society was the very first of its members to respond to the request of the Exhibition Committee for assistance, and that he placed his entire collection at their disposal, a kindly and gracious action of which considerable advantage was taken. To the outside public an exhibit from the collection of a prominent member of that Royal Family, which is so justly regarded by all British subjects with the highest esteem and affection, would be more attractive than entire sheets of circular British Guianas or unsevered pairs of "POST OFFICE Mauritius; but some of the pages shown by the

Duke of York possessed attractions for the most advanced philatelist. The stamps of the Turks Islands have, we understand, been a special object of study to H.R.H., who may be justly proud of the very fine collection of them to which we alluded above; and the curious variety of Star in the watermark of one of the Grenadas is a discovery due to the careful observation of the same illustrious philatelist. The other exhibits drawn from the same source—the stamps of Bermuda, the later issues of British Guiana, and a few others—were not of the same philatelic interest, being in fact instances where the Committee availed themselves of H.R.H.'s most kind offer to exhibit anything that might be wanted to complete the collection. We feel that to the participation of the Duke of York is due, to a very considerable extent, the abundant notice which the Exhibition received in the daily press, which we trust may be the means of attracting many new recruits to the philatelic ranks.

* * *

THE philatelic festivities of the week were brought to an appropriate conclusion by the annual banquet of the Philatelic Society of London, which took place at "The Monaco" on the 20th instant, when a party of members and their friends, some seventy in number, did justice to a most excellent repast, and spent a very enjoyable evening. It was a happy thought on the part of the Society to combine the exhibition with the dinner, as the double attraction no doubt brought some of the country members to town whom either by itself might have failed to draw, and it certainly resulted in the most successful of the annual feasts that the Society has yet held. The *menu* was of the most appetising description, and under the genial chairmanship of Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President of the Society, an ample toast-list, interspersed with some capital songs, prolonged the proceedings to a by no means unduly late hour, when hosts and guests parted, alike feeling that they owed a debt of gratitude to the Dinner Committee for a most excellently arranged entertainment.

* * *

We much regret to have to warn our readers against some wonderfully successful imitations of the One Penny, "Sydney View," plate I, which have recently been shown to us. Two types have been engraved in *taille douce*, side by side, and the specimens we have seen formed, apparently, the most magnificent unused pair we had ever set eyes upon. A brilliant colour, identical with that of some of the originals, yellowish wove paper, and a whole appearance eminently calculated to deceive. Fortunately, although we were not able to perceive any special distinguishing point, neither of the types agrees exactly with any one of the genuine, and we recommend our readers to examine very carefully any fine copies of this stamp that may be offered to them from sources that they do not know to be reliable.

* * *

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, *Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E.*, or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Antioquia.—*Le Timbre-Poste* reports the current types printed in new colours, and on white paper, perf. 13½.

Adhesives. 1 c., blue.
2½ c., green.
5 c., vermilion.

Argentine Republic.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the following abnormal varieties of the current issue:

Adhesives. ½ c., blue; no watermark.
1 c., brown "
5 c., carmine "
10 c. " imperf.

According to the same authority a sheet of the 2 c. Columbus issue has been met with, the two vertical rows at the left side of which show a double impression.

Austria.—*The London Philatelist* describes a specimen of the 3 kr. of 1850, rouletted about 15, which was found among a number of ordinary used stamps. It is probable that the rouletting—which does not appear to be of recent date—was quite unofficial, but even so it is curious, as our contemporary remarks, that it should not have been noticed before.

Bavaria.—The 3, 3+3, and 10 pfennig cards are chronicled with the date "93."

Belgium.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that the 50 c. and 1 fr. Sabbatical stamps duly made their appearance on the 1st instant. The same magazine reports that a non-delivery inscription is to be added to the Post Cards, and that the sender is to be permitted to cross it out if he does not like it; also that there is to be an exhibition at Antwerp next year, which is to be aided (financially) by a special issue of stamps; but we trust that by that time the great majority of collectors will have decided that these curiosities are as unnecessary to the philatelist as they are to the Post-office, being issued solely for *Revenue* purposes.

A correspondent informs us that there is a variety on the sheet of the 25 c. Sabbatical stamp, showing the figure "5" in the left upper corner deficient of the ball at the end of the tail.

Adhesive. 25 c., blue; variety.

Benin.—This place, tired of waiting for the new stamps, has, according to *Le T. P.*, proceeded to surcharge its name upon the remaining values of the general colonial issue. The normal type shows the overprint *horizontal* and in *black*, as before, but the 5 c. is reported with a *diagonal* surcharge in *blue*, which will doubtless further facilitate the *coulement*.

Adhesives. 5 c., green; blue surcharge.
50 c., brown; black "
35 c., black on orange; black surcharge.
75 c., rose; black surcharge.

Post Cards. 10+10 c., black on pale blue; black surcharge.
Letter Cards. 15 c., blue on grey; black surcharge.
25 c., black on rose "

The Post and Letter Cards are also found with the surcharge inverted.

Bermuda.—A correspondent in this colony informs us that the 2d. and 1s., in their new colours, were issued in August, and that the numbers of the Post Cards that were overprinted were 6116 of the single, and 414 of the double. How many of the former were of the old type, with adhesive stamps, he does not state.

Bolivia.—The accompanying illustration shows the design of the fiscal stamps recently adapted to postal use.

Brazil.—*The Philatelic Journal of America* states that the 20 reis of the current newspaper series was at first printed by typography, but that specimens more recently received, and all the 10 reis and 50 reis, appear to be lithographed. We have, however,



examined a copy of the 50 reis, which certainly appears to us to be typographed, and it is quite possible that all these stamps are printed by that process, though all may not show evident signs of it.

British Bechuanaland.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles the current ½d. card of the Cape of Good Hope surcharged for use in this territory.

Post Card. ½d., green on white; black surcharge.

Messrs. Cameron and Co. send us a sheet of the "One Half-Penny" on 3d., black and lilac, which shows some peculiarities that are worthy of note. The sheet consists of 120 stamps, in ten horizontal rows; the surcharge was printed in a block of 60, five horizontal rows, impressed twice upon the sheet, and there are practically 60 varieties of type of the overprint. Many of these are easily recognisable by slight variations in the relative positions of the words, and by breaks in the bars which cancel the original value; but there is one very prominent variety, the eleventh stamp in the sixth row, where the "f" of "Half" failed to print, owing apparently to the hyphen being slightly high; there is also one specimen, the fifth stamp in the sixth row, in which the "H" of "Half" is directly over the "P" of "Penny," instead of being to the right of it.

British Central and South Africa.—We have received a very pretty set of post cards for these territories, which appear to be closely connected—philatelically, if not geographically. The stamp of the British South Africa Company occupies the right upper corner of each, while the inscriptions indicate that the cards are intended for British Central Africa and Mashonaland, respectively. For the former we have two single cards, bearing the name upon an arched label, with the words "POST CARD" above, and "POSTAGE" below, all in black, while on the 1d. card is added the word "INTERNAL," and on the 2d. "EXTERNAL," in red (reminding one somewhat of the pills and ointment of the advertisements). These cards also are surrounded by a double-lined frame, the inner line black, and the outer orange. For Mashonaland we have two single cards and one reply-paid. The name is on a straight label on each, followed on the 1d. by "INLAND POST CARD," on the 1½d. by "INTERNATIONAL POST CARD," and on both halves of the 1d. + 1d. by "REPLY PAID POST CARD," accompanied in each case by the usual instruction, below which, on the second half of the double card, is the word "REPLY." These cards have no frame, and the whole impression is in one colour upon each. All the cards are white.

British Central Africa.

1d., black; inscriptions, &c., black, red, and orange; 122 × 76 mm.
2d., red " " " " " " 132 × 85 mm.

Mashonaland.

1d., blue; 123 × 75 mm.
1½d., yellow; 140 × 89 mm.
1d. + 1d., brick-red " " "

Canada.—*The Ph. J. of A.* states that a specimen of the 10 c. has been found upon fine laid paper.

Adhesive. 10 c., carmine on laid.

Chefoo.—It appears that, inspired by the success of Shanghai, all the Chinese treaty ports are contemplating the issue of stamps. Chefoo, we are informed, has already ordered a full set of adhesives, ranging from ½ c. to 10 c., "with a design of local interest in the centre," and, doubtless, with a design upon the pocket of the philatelist—also of local interest.

Colombia.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* chronicles a new variety of the Railway Post envelope. The stamp is of similar type to the current 2 c. adhesive, and is impressed in the upper centre, above the words "SERVICIO POSTAL FERRO," and the impression is in colour upon white.

Envelope. 5 c., red on white laid.

Confederate States.—*The Ph. J. of A.* describes some interesting varieties of Confederate Locals, some of which have not been previously chronicled.

Coliad.—These stamps are type-set, and no doubt exist in as many varieties as there were stamps on the sheet (number unknown), and it is probable that both values exist in the same varieties.

The following have been met with:

Adhesives.

5 c., black on bluish paper.
10 c. " " " " "
5 c. " " " error "GOLIAD."
10 c. " " " " "
10 c. " " " " "
5 c., black on white; "Goliad"; Postmaster's name omitted.
10 c. " " " " "
10 c., black on dark blue surfaced paper. " "

New Orleans.—A 5 c. in red on white has been discovered, forming the pair with the similar stamp on blue.

Adhesive. 5 c., red on white.

Victoria.—This is an entirely new provisional; it is type-set, and of nearly square shape, the design consisting simply of the name "VICTORIA"—"J. A. MOODY. P. M."—large numerals "10"—"POSTAGE," in four lines within a simple frame. A used specimen upon the entire envelope has been found.

Adhesive. 10 c., red-brown on green.

Cook Islands.—We give an illustration of the design of the new postage stamps chronicled in August. It seems an eminently suitable one—"Cook, good, plain," as they say in the advertisements.



Ecuador.—The use of other kinds of stamps for postal purposes still continues. We glean the following from *Le T. P.* and *The Ph. J. of A.*:

Adhesives.

20 c., oblong, vermilion; Telegraph stamp.
2 c., maroon; Fiscal 1887-1888; surcharged 1893-1894, in black.
10 c., orange " " " " "
2 c., blue " 1893-1894. " " "



The 20 c. Telegraph stamp is of a hitherto unchronicled design, with mountains and telegraph posts in the centre, "TELEGRAFOS" at the left, "ECUADOR" at the right, "VEINTE" above, "CENTAVOS" below, numerals in the upper corners, and "VEINTE" in very small capitals in the lower. Our illustration represents the provisional chronicled last month.

German East Africa.—We annex illustrations of the stamps surcharged for use in this territory; also of an issue said to have been circulated by a



private company, Messrs. Schulke and Mayr, who had a contract in 1892 for conveying mails between the German portion of the east coast and the Victoria Nyanza. The contract, according to *Le T. P.*, expired in May last, and it seems curious that the stamps should not have been heard of until some months after their usage had ceased! Still we suppose they must be chronicled.

Adhesives. 5 cents, rose; perf. 11½.

10 " orange "
25 " blue "
50 " green "
1 peso, brown "

Cents and pesos seem curious values for that part of the world, but of course, if the stamps were not issued until after the expiration of the contract those values would be as suitable as any others.

Germany.—*The L. P.* reports the Pneumatic Post Card on white, but apparently unchanged in other respects.

Pneumatic Post Card. 25 pf., orange on white.

Gold Coast.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* chronicled the 3d. in a new shade.

Adhesive. 3d., olive; wmk. Crown and CA; perf. 14.

Great Britain.—The new form of Registration Envelope, to which we alluded in June, has at last been issued. The object of having the impressed stamp upon the same

side as the address has been attained in the simplest possible manner, by turning the envelope hind part before. The large "R" in an oval, with its accompanying inscriptions (to which is added "THE ADDRESS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE") are now printed upon the side on which the flap closes. The latter is shortened, and simply rounded instead of tongued. The stamp is reduced in size by narrowing the circular band, and the three circles below are abolished; the rectangle for the adhesive stamp, with its necessary (?) inscription, is impressed upon the flap—this being on the right of the heading—and the left upper corner of the stamp helps further to secure the envelope. The words "FEB PAID," with a line below them, are in the left lower corner of the address side, and further to secure the address being rightly placed the other side of the envelope is entirely covered by the Insurance Regulation. A portion of this side—on the larger sizes—might be left off for advertisements!

Reg. Env. 2d., blue (new form); size G.

Greece.—A correspondent assures us, and sends us specimens to prove his statement, that the 25 l., *carmine*, which we chronicled with some reserve in June, can easily be produced from the 25 l., *violet*, by chemical action, and we fully agree with him in thinking that this variety has no official status.

Guatemala.—*Le T. P.* reports an addition to the *ungraved* series of the current type.

Adhesive. 20 c., deep green; *engraved.*

Honduras.—We give illustrations of the designs of the new adhesives, and of the stamps impressed upon the wrappers and envelopes, which we chronicled last month. The name of the gentleman whose portrait is depicted has not been revealed, but we are inclined to think that it is either Columbus or Mr. Seebeck. The cards have the type of the adhesives in the right upper corner, with suitable inscriptions alongside, including the date—1893, 1894—in large italic numerals.



India.—*The Postal Card* describes two varieties of the first issue of $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ a. cards, differing in the gauge of the perforations along the fold—one having 24, and the other 28 holes. Both, apparently, are found surcharged for some of the Native States.

The following cutting from *The Statesman and Friend of India*, Sept. 14th, 1893, is of prophetic interest:—"The Director-General of Post-offices has lately recommended the introduction of new postage stamps of Rs. 2, 3, and 5, and their designs are being prepared (by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.). It will be necessary that the new stamps be of a more elaborate design than any hitherto supplied to this country, and they will probably be bicolour stamps, and of the same size as the half-crown and 5-shilling stamps in use in England. The necessity for the introduction of postage stamps of higher value had been under discussion once or twice in the past, but until lately there has been no evidence brought before the postal authorities that they would supply a real need. At the close of the last year, however, the matter was especially brought to the notice of the Director-General by a representative of a Bombay firm, who was asked to place the matter before the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. That body subsequently addressed the Director-General, strongly recommending the introduction of stamps of higher value on the grounds of general convenience to the mercantile community, and this view has been supported by the Chambers of Commerce of Madras and Calcutta.

It is probable that these stamps will only be supplied to Presidency cities and larger towns."

Italy.—We give an illustration of the new 25 c.

Jamaica.—*The P. C.* describes varieties of the $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ d. cards, similar to those of the Indian quoted above, one having 27, and the other 32 holes along the fold.

Lagos.—We give an illustration of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d. described last month. We have since

seen other panes of this, and find that there are two settings of the surcharge, one covering a horizontal pair, the other a horizontal strip of three. Both were plainly handstruck, and double impressions, more or less imperfect, are not uncommon. We find no actual varieties of type, but the left hand overprint of the pair shows the "P" slightly below the level of the rest of the letters of "PENNY."



Macao.—The following statistics of the surcharged stamps of last year reach us from a reliable source, and seem worthy of being placed on record:

Issued Aug. 6, 1892.	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 40 reis,	black and brown;	20,000.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 80 "	black and grey;	20,000.
Aug. 17, 1892.	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 40 "	black and brown;	30,000.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 80 "	black and grey;	30,000.
Sept. 5, 1892.	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 40 "	black and brown;	10,000.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ on 80 "	black and grey;	10,000.
	30 on 200 "	black and orange;	24,000.

As 30 reis is a value quite unknown among the adhesives of Portugal and its colonies, we presume the last on the list were intended for use upon the post cards, though doubtless the facilitation of the *écoulement* was also in view.

Mexico.—With reference to the statement which we published in July, on the authority of *The Ph. J. of A.*, our correspondent in Mexico sends us a translation of an extract from *El Monitor Filatelico*, of Mexico, to the effect that the stamps in question—which were stated in *The Ph. J. of A.* to be supplied by Mr. Escalante—are certified by "the General Administrator of Posts of the Republic" to be authentic, surcharges, postmarks, and all. Our readers now have both sides of the case before them.

The same correspondent sends us an error of the 5 c. card with Greek frame and inscriptions, &c., in *red*, or *rose* (No. 541 in the Catalogue), having the stamp in the right upper corner, but *upside down!*

Post Card. 5 c., ultramarine and rose; stamp inverted.

Montenegro.—When the current cards were issued last year it was noticed that the double cards had the instruction "*La carte ci-jointe*," &c., printed on the second half, instead of on the first. This has now been corrected, and we have received the 3 + 3 nov. in the amended form; both varieties exist with the Celebration disfigurement.

Der Philatelist chronicles an error of the current cards, being the 2 nov. stamp struck upon the card of the 3 nov. Two specimens are stated to have been found in a packet of 3 nov. cards.

Post Cards.

2 nov., yellow on greenish blue;	error.
3 + 3 " green	" corrected form, black surcharge.

Mozambique.—According to *Le T. P.* the surcharge "JOURNAES" "5" on the 40 reis exists in *blue*, as well as in *red* and in *black*.

Adhesive. "5," in blue, on 40 reis, chocolate.

New Caledonia.—*La Gazette Timbrologique* states that the 40 c. stamps, both of France and of the Colonial issue, exist with the name of this colony surcharged diagonally.

Adhesives. 40 c., vermilion (imperf.); black surcharge.
40 c. " (perf.) " "

New South Wales.—*The L. P.* chronicles the current 3d. with a fresh variety of compound perforation.

Adhesive. 3d., green; perf. 10x11.

New Zealand.—The following we believe is a novelty:

Adhesive. 2d., blue; perf. 10.

Niger Coast Protectorate.—We append illustrations of the other five values of the series which we chronicled last month.



Norway.—The *Ill. Brief. Journal* chronicles the 3 öre card in the new form, with "Brevkort" in one word.

Post Card. 3 öre, orange-vermilion on white.

Obock.—This important colony is stated to have been provided with stamps of a comparatively high value, and of correspondingly imposing size and design, as shown in the accompanying illustration. According to *Le T. P.* these stamps are "employed for prepayment of correspondence conveyed by caravan for the countries of the interior and the coast of Madagascar." But where is Obock? Are all these places suburbs of Paris, where all the stamps seem still to be? If not, how do the caravans get from Obock to Madagascar? The stamp is magnificent, but it is a pity to put the price so high; it would go down well with the boys, and make a fine show on the outside of Penny Packets!



Adhesive. 5 fr., red on quadrill.

Paraguay.—*Le T. P.* is assured that the error "CENTAVOS" on the 1 centavo stamp has not been corrected. So much the worse.

Persia.—A correspondent at Ispahan draws our attention to the varieties of perforation in the issue of 1876, which are not mentioned in our publishers' Catalogue. Gauges 10½, 12, and 13 are found upon the 5 sh., and at least two of these upon each of the other values; there are also some compound varieties, but no detailed list appears to have been published. The same correspondent also informs us that a new issue may shortly be expected; the stamps have been printed in Holland, and supplies have already reached Persia.

Peru.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that the surcharge upon the 2 c. on 5 c. cards is no longer in four lines, but in three only, now reading "HABILITADO"—"POR"—"2 CENTAVOS."

Post Card. 2 c., in blue, on 5 c., black on white.

Portugal.—*L'Echo de la T.* announces that the 10 reis of obsolete type has received the "PROVISORIO—1893" surcharge, and the 2 reis the same with the addition of an overprint raising its value to 2½ reis.

Adhesives. 2½ reis on 2 reis, black; carmine surcharge.
10 " green; black "

Roumania.—*The P. C.* describes two varieties of the 5 bani, black on rose, which we chronicled last month: a. Size 135×101 mm., 33 mm. between first and

third lines for the address. b. Size 135×95 mm., 28 mm. between the lines.

The same authority chronicles the 5+5 bani card with the edges cut, instead of perforated, "CARTA POSTALA" measuring 52 mm. instead of 48 mm., "RESPUNS," on the second half, 26 mm. instead of 23 mm., and the instructions in the left lower corner changed in type.

Post Card. 5+5 bani, black on rose, reverse white.

Russian Locals.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Griazovets.—The stamp provider here has taken a new departure. Instead of several minor varieties of the same design, we now have two distinct types, as shown in the following illustrations, side by side upon the sheet! To



further facilitate the *écoulement*, the sheets are printed in three different colours. Perf. 11½.

Adhesives. 4 kop. (1st type), violet-brown, blue, or carmine.
4 " (2nd ") " " " "

Tscherdina.—The stamp chronicled in 1891 in carmine, and in April last in blue, is now announced in green.

Adhesive. 2 kop, green; perf. 11½.

Welsk.—The type of 1890 (2632 in the Catalogue) has been re-drawn, the principal difference being that the word "KOLL" below is now in a straight line, as shown in the accompanying illustration, instead of in a curve.

Adhesive. 3 kop., blue; perf. 12.



Zadonsk.—We give an illustration of the design of the series which we chronicled in August.

St. Thomas and Prince.—A correspondent in Lisbon furnishes us with a list of the numbers issued of some of the more or less recent provisionals:

"2½ rs.", in green, on 5 reis, black; 300.
" in black, on 10 " green; 300.
" on 20 " rose; 100.
"2½ rs." " on 20 " " 200.

The numbers seem small, and the prices asked are correspondingly large.

St. Vincent.—A correspondent in this colony, under date of Sept. 21, sends us a specimen of a Registration Envelope recently issued. It is of the form now abandoned in the mother country, and has a stamp of one of the usual circular patterns on the flap, with the imprint "MESSRS. DE LA RUE & CO., PATENT," under the flap in blue.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue; sizes F, G, H, H².

Salvador.—*Le T. P.* reports that the surcharge "UN CENTAVO" upon the 20 c. of 1892, which was chronicled some months ago, has been found impressed upside down.

Adhesive. 1 c., in black, on 20 c., orange; inverted surcharge.

Our publishers send us a vertical pair of the 2 c. of 1891, perforated all round, but imperf. between the two stamps.

Sandwich Islands.—The envelopes and cards have not escaped the surcharging mania, which seems to be a prevailing feature among the institutions of all comparatively young Republics. The words "Provisional Government," in one line of sans-serif type, with the date "1893" below them, are struck across the stamp.

Le T. P. adds the latest 2 c. adhesive, with inverted surcharge, to the list of abnormal varieties.

- Adhesive.* 2 c., violet; inverted surcharge.
Envelopes. 1 c., green on white; carmine surcharge.
 2 c., rose " black "
 5 c., blue on cream; carmine "
 10 c., black " "
Post Cards. 1 c., orange on orange-buff; black surcharge.
 2 c., black on white; carmine "
 3 c., green " red "

Servia.—We gather from *Der Philatelist* that the inscriptions, &c. upon the letter cards recently issued are in black, and the stamp alone in colour.

Shanghai.—Our illustration shows the design of the stamp upon the new envelopes and wrappers, but naturally fails to do justice to the beauty of the embossing.

The London Philatelist chronicles the full set of *Postage Due* stamps, which are apparently now all in circulation.

- Postage Due Stamps.*
 10 c., black and green.
 15 c., black and yellow.
 20 c., black and mauve.



Le T. P. gives the dates of issue of the various recent provisionals, the deluge of which has now, we hope, ceased—for a time.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| March 31, 1893. | ½ c. on 15 c., and 1 c. on 20 c. |
| May 4 " | 1 c. on half of 2 c., brown. |
| " 23 " | ½ c. " 5 c., rose. |
| " 29 " | ½ c. " 5 c., red. |
| June 24 " | 1 c. " 2 c., green. |

South Australia.—*The L. P.* announces the 5d. on 6d. with the new perforation.

- Adhesive.* 5d. on 6d., red and brown; perf. 15.

Spain.—*The Ill. Brief Journal* reports that the 10 + 10 c. Postal Union card, of the type of the single card of 1889, with inscriptions in Gothic type, has recently come into use.

- Post Card.* 10 + 10 c., carmine on buff.

Switzerland.—*The P. C.* reports the existence of varieties of the Jubilee card, with the stamp and the inscription in the left lower corner in rose, and the vignette in green, and with the stamp, &c., in blue, and vignette in black. The latter is said to be an essay, but what are we to call the former, of which only ten copies are said to have been printed?

Tahiti.—The wants of this colony do not appear to have been provided for, even in the issue for the 18 French possessions situated in and around Paris, so perhaps it is justified in taking the law into its own hands. The accompanying illustration shows the surcharge adopted, the moral of which lies in the application thereof—this is uniformly in black, so far.



- Adhesives.* 5 c., green.
 10 c., black on lilac.
 15 c., blue.
 20 c., red on green.
 25 c., black on rose.
 75 c., carmine.
 1 fr., bronze-green.
Post Card. 10 c., black on lilac.
Letter Card. 25 c., black on rose.

Tasmania.—*Der Ph.* describes a provisional 1½d. card, formed by adding an impression of the ½d. embossed stamp, in orange-yellow, below the stamp upon the 1d. card. This appears to differ, in the colour of the impression of the ½d., from the similar card which we chronicled in August, 1892.

- Post Card.* 1½d., carmine and orange-yellow on white.

Timor.—The correspondent who kindly supplied us with information as to the numbers of stamps recently surcharged for use in Macao, sends us the following details of the stamps of that colony surcharged also with the name "TIMOR."

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| Aug. 6, 1892. | 2½ on 40 reis, black and brown; | 50,000 |
| | 2½ on 80 " black and grey; | 20,000 |
| Aug. 17, 1892. | 2½ on 20 " black and carmine; | 20,000 |
| Sept. 5, 1892. | 30 on 300 " black and orange; | 24,000 |

But where are the stamps of Timor itself? In Portugal? Our publishers send us the 2½ on 20, 40 and 80 reis, with the word "TIMOR" upside down!

- Adhesives.* 2½ on 20 reis, rose; name inverted.
 2½ on 40 " brown "
 2½ on 80 " grey "

Tonga.—Official stamps of the new values have been formed by surcharging some of the others with large numerals and a letter "D," impressed in black, sideways.

- Official Stamps.* 4d., in black, on 1d., blue and red.
 2d. " on 2d. "
 5d. " on 4d. "
 7d. " on 8d. "

Uruguay.—*La Tribuna Popular*, of Montevideo, announces, according to *Le Timbre-Poste*, the discovery of forgeries of the 60, 80, 100, 120, and 240 centesimos of 1859, and of the 5 c. of 1884. The last appears to be a fancy article altogether, being stated to be printed in chestnut on pale blue, with the four figures in white, and "sold as a variety which never existed." This is plainly something more than unique.

The forgeries of the earlier issue may be recognised by the fact that the face of the Sun is much too large, the forger having taken his own cheek as a model, and the 60 c. and 100 c. show a space between the "v" and the "i" of "MONTEVIDEO."

Venezuela.—We have received the 10 + 10 c. card corresponding with the single card which we chronicled in February. The first half differs in no way from the single, but on the second half the third line of the inscription is "TARJETA POSTAL RESPUESTA," and a fourth line ("carte postale reponse") is added. The halves are joined with the bottom of the first to the top of the second, and are printed on the same side of the card when opened flat. The impression of this and of the single card received with it is in vermilion, not in carmine like the single card received earlier.

A correspondent informs us that he has received upon a business letter a specimen of the 50 c. stamp, surcharged with the Venezuelan Arms, having the overprint inverted.

- Adhesive.* 50 c., green (Postal Union); carmine surcharge inverted.
Post Cards. 10 c., vermilion on white.
 10 + 10 c. " "

A CHINESE PUZZLE.

ANOTHER democratic muddle is in the postal chaos. The local post has long been a useful nuisance; but when it stopped, and held for local postage, letters sent from one port—say Foochow—to another—say Hankow—it raised a commotion which should have ended in a lawsuit that would have tested the matter. But at the last minute the "learned counsel" withdrew, and the subject was dropped. The outcome seems to have been a local post for Hankow, and another for Chefoo, which will add to the possible trophies of stamp collectors, if not to the convenience of subscribers to the local posts. The abolition of the 30 tael subscription in Shanghai, and the substitution of compulsory prepayment, probably suited no one. It involves a maddening system of microscopic book-keeping with every depositor, who is notified as soon as his 2 cents, 1 cent, and ½ cent charges aggregate to dollars, when he must make a new deposit! Persons in out-posts must get Shanghai local post stamps, which are, of course, nowhere for sale—at least so far as has been confided to the public. The postage having been reduced to 1 cent, the old stamps were useless, and no new ones could be had for some time. So a "happy thought" led someone to cut a 2 cent stamp in twain, and use the halves! The local authorities, so it is said, promptly decided this to be irregular, not to say illegal, and then wisely went and did likewise. They ran a brass clock-wheel, or some other notched weapon, through the centre of their 5 cent stamps, and then on each half stamped the symbol "½ cent." In like manner the 2 cent stamps on hand were bisected into "1 cent." These have now all been supplanted by the new stamps, but stamp collectors would do well to buy up the entire issue wherever found, for in ages to come they must certainly prove rare curiosities, issuing from a democratic post-office.—*Shanghai Mercury*, July 11, 1893.

REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

(Continued from page 19.)

ISSUE V. 1864.

PRINTED by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. upon thick whitish paper, without watermark; perf. 13.

- 1d., carmine, lake, pale to deep red.
- 2d. (?)
- 4d., carmine.
- 6d., violet, violet-brown.
- 1s. (?)

Notes.—Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. ceased to print the stamps of Western Australia in 1861, and in the following year the five steel plates that they had used were handed by them to the Agents-General, together with nearly 8000 sheets of Swan watermarked paper. This paper was used by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. between 1862 and 1864, in which latter year it became exhausted, and unwatermarked paper appears to have been used by them previous to employing the Crown & CC paper (vide *London Philatelist*, vol. i. p. 323).

This issue without watermark is but little understood. The London Society gives the 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. with various perforations; but I am strongly of opinion that these varieties belong to the Swan watermark issue, and are only specimens in which the watermark could not be seen. This Swan is very difficult to detect, especially when the paper is a little thicker than usual. The 1d. and 6d. no watermark are quite common, and are easily distinguished from the Swan issue, the paper being much thicker and the perforation always 13. The 4d., carmine, I also include in this issue; but I have only seen two specimens of that value on the thick paper and perf. 13. The 2d., blue, I have never met with; but a celebrated collector in Vienna states that he possesses a copy. The 1s., green, also I have never seen, and I cannot learn that it exists with this perforation.

Dated stamps of this issue are scarce, the proportion of dated copies being barely 5 per cent. The earliest date I have met with is "JULY 5, 1864," on a copy of the 1d.

Mr. Overy Taylor, in an article in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. v. p. 62, stated that the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. existed without watermark; but whether the absence was accidental or not he could not determine. In the same magazine (vol. ix. p. 54) Mr. E. L. Pemberton stated that he believed the 1d. and 6d. to be the only values on unwatermarked paper.

ISSUE VI. 1865.

Printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. upon ordinary white paper. Watermark Crown & CC; perforated 12½. The dates in brackets are those of the earliest postmarks that I have met with.

(a) Watermark upright.

- 1d. (?)
- 2d., chrome-yellow, pale yellow (July 24, 1874).
- 4d., deep and pale carmine (October 25, 1867).
- 6d., lilac, purple, mauve, pale violet (April 2, 1868).
- 1s., deep green, bright green, pale yellow-green (April 26, 1865).

(b) Watermark sideways.

- 1d., bistre, yellow-ochre (July 13, 1867).
- 2d., chrome-yellow (September 8, 1879).
- 4d. (?)
- 6d., lilac, violet (I have not met with dated specimens).
- 1s. (?)

Varieties.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1869. | 1s., bistre. |
| January, 1879. | 2d., pale violet. |
| (Date ?) | 1d., chrome-yellow. |
| (") | 2d., bistre. |

Printed as proofs. Imperforate.

- 1d., bistre.
- 2d., yellow.
- 6d., deep purple.
- 1s., green.

Notes.—I have separated the varieties with the watermarks upright and sideways, but the stamps were apparently printed thus quite indiscriminately, as is proved by the dates. The earliest date I have noted upon a stamp of this issue is "AP. 26. 1865," on a 1s., green.

The 1s., *bistre*, an error printed in the colour of the 1d., is *exceedingly* rare. As far as I can ascertain only two copies are known. One was shown at a meeting of the London Philatelic Society on December 4th, 1869. (*Vide Stamp Collector's Magazine*, vol. viii. p. 14.) The other the Publishers of this Journal were lucky enough to discover in a small collection purchased by them early in 1892.

As regards the 2d., *pale violet*, in the colour of the 6d., which is now becoming quite scarce. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. had a curious experience. In 1878 they remitted a sum of money to the Postmaster at Albany, Western Australia, for stamps then in use. In his reply the Postmaster sent a half sheet of 120 2d., violet, asking that they might be accepted at the price they were charged to him by the Treasury, 6d. each. This was done, and the stamps were sent out as curiosities at 5s. each. One well-known collector of Australians objected to pay this sum, and returned them, but a year or two afterwards was glad to secure one for £5! Now, however, they command about treble that price.

This error is known postmarked Jan. 28, 1879. It was first chronicled in *The Philatelic Record* of February, 1879, and was therefore probably

issued early in the year. In *Oceania* it is given as end of 1877, but I do not know upon what grounds.

The 1d., *chrome-yellow*, and 2d., *bistre*, may possibly be only shades; but they appear to be from sheets printed in the reverse colours to the normal issue.

ISSUE VII. *February, 1872.*

Type printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. upon medium white glazed paper. Watermark Crown & CC sideways; perforated 14.

3d., brown, reddish-brown.

ISSUE VIII. *March, 1875.*

Provisional issue during a temporary exhaustion of the 1d. stamps.

"ONE PENNY," in *green*, on 2d., *chrome-yellow*.

Watermark Crown & CC.

- (a) Perforated 12½.
- (b) As last, surcharge inverted.
- (c) Perforated 14, and with the letters of the surcharge slightly taller than in variety *a*.

Notes.—The 2d., perf. 12½, is known with treble surcharge, but only in conjunction with the round hole denoting stamps for official correspondence. I therefore do not include it here, but in my list of official stamps, which will be given after the general issues.

Variety *c* I have grave doubts about, both on account of the surcharge being in different type, and from the fact that I can find no specimens of the stamps perf. 14 postmarked earlier than 1878.

Forgeries.—A specimen exists in the "Tapling" collection with a surcharge in *black*; but the letters are all the same size, and it is considered very doubtful, at best.

I have also met with specimens of this surcharge upon stamps watermarked Crown & CA, perf. both 14 and 12; but as the earliest of these stamps did not appear for some seven years after the surcharged 1d. on 2d. was issued, there is no doubt that these specimens are forgeries—in fact, it is within my knowledge that they were manufactured by a certain person in the city of London.

ISSUE IX. *1878 (?)*

As last, but perforated 14.

- (a) Watermark upright.
 - 2d., *chrome-yellow*.
 - 6d., pale lilac.
- (b) Watermark sideways.
 - 1d, *bistre*, yellow-ochre.
 - 2d., *chrome-yellow*.
 - 4d, *carmine*.
 - 6d., pale violet, pale lilac.

Note.—I am unable to find out at what date the 14 perforation was first used on these stamps. The earliest dated copy I have is a 2d., postmarked "Sp. 13, 1878."

(To be continued.)

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 71.)

The next official document I find in *The Government Gazette* is the following:

LAW NO. 7. 1873.

REGULATING THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

Sanctioned by Resolution of the Volksraad, dated 18th June, 1869, Art. 242. Revised and provisionally put in force by Resolution of Legislative Council (Uitvoerende Raad), Art. 150, dated 18th August, 1873.

Arts. 1-9 are the same as in former law.

Art. 10 has an addendum, reading: Letters sent from here to foreign countries and not claimed there shall, when returned here, be opened, and, if possible, sent back to the writers.

Arts. 11-28 are the same as before.

Art. 29 reduces the time of keeping unclaimed letters from eighteen months to twelve months.

Arts. 30-36 are as before.

Art. 37 has an addendum, reading: Insufficiently stamped letters, newspapers, &c., shall be published quarterly, together with the list of unclaimed letters.

Arts. 38-46 are as before.

Art. 47 limits weight of newspapers to 4 ozs. (The weight was unlimited in former law.)

Art. 48 has an addendum, reading: The postage for letters, newspapers, &c., addressed to foreign countries, must be prepaid, in addition to the above rates, with sufficient postage stamps of Cape Colony or Natal, according to whether the route through the Cape Colony or Natal is used, in conformity with the regulations of the Postal Conventions concluded with those colonies.

Arts. 49-77 are as before.

Art. 78 has an addendum, reading: There shall also be kept, as far as possible, a stock of postage stamps of the Cape Colony and Natal on hand, for the benefit of the public.

Arts. 79 and 80 are as before.

Art. 81 now reads: There are four sorts of postage stamps, namely, 1 shilling, green; 6 pence, blue; 3 pence, lilac; 1 penny, red.

The next article corresponds with Art. 86 of former law, the articles 82, 83, 84, and 85 being omitted.

Art. 86 This Ordinance is placed provisionally in force till approved of and sanctioned by the Honourable Volksraad.

(Signed) P. F. BURGERS,
State President.

(Signed) N. J. R. SWART,
State Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
PRETORIA, 18th August, 1873.

There is no notice to be found of the date when this law was approved of by the Parliament. It alters several points in the first postal law of 1869, it limits the weights of newspapers, and requires the different postmasters to keep a stock of Natal and Cape of Good Hope stamps on hand, the Transvaal stamps having only local franking power. This explains the items such as "Cape stamps, £100," found in the Official Stamp Records of after years. It gives also distinctly the colours of the postage stamps, and calls the colour of the 1 p. stamp *red*. This the authorities would not be likely to have done if the 1 p., *black*, stamp had still been in use, but I must own that

in the absence of any further evidence on this subject, it may have been that Mr. Borrius, the printer, or the Postmaster-General only noticed after the publication of this law that they were acting against the law by having the 1 p. stamp printed in *black*, and that they then only changed back to the official colour, *red*; but I am certain that after this no more *black* stamps were printed.

The Official Stamp Record for 1873 reads:

1873.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 2.	Received from Borrius 11,600 of 6 p. stamps	290	0	0
Jan. 9.	Received from Borrius 1,200 of 1 p. stamps	5	0	0
April 19.	Received from Borrius 8,000 of 1/- stamps	400	0	0
April 24.	Received from Borrius 12,000 of 1/- stamps	600	0	0
April 24.	Received from Borrius 4,000 of 6 p. stamps	100	0	0
May 2.	Received from Borrius 20,000 of 6 p. stamps	500	0	0
May 8.	Received from Borrius 16,160 of 6 p. stamps	404	0	0
May 8.	Received from Borrius 2,800 of 1 p. stamps	11	13	4
Dec. 2.	Received from Davis, Natal, 250 of 6 p. envelopes	} 5000 envelopes.		
Dec. 9.	Received from Davis, Natal, 1,250 of 6 p. envelopes			
Dec. 30.	Received from Davis, Natal, 3,500 of 6 p. envelopes			

From this Record we see that only 4000 of 1 p. and 20,000 of 1/- stamps were printed that year, and that the 6 p. ran up to 51,760, being nearly one-third more than were used in the preceding year. Evidently local letters were considerably increasing, owing, no doubt, to the opening of the alluvial goldfields in the Lydenburg district, which attracted a large number of diggers, mostly Europeans.

The most interesting point is, however, the second issue of envelopes. These were printed by Messrs. P. Davis and Son in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, from the matrix die of the 3 p. stamps. The Postmaster-General, when giving the order, instructed Messrs. Davis and Son to erase the words "DRIE" and numerals "3," and substitute the words "ZES" and numerals "6" instead (through this alteration the values stand on white ground), and to use this for printing the envelopes, which look much better than the first issue. Whether the matrix die was returned by the printer or not, and what has become of it since, is unknown; no trace is to be found of its whereabouts.

The envelopes have the stamp impressed in *bluc* in the right-hand top corner; the paper is white laid. I have only seen one size (124 x 75 mm.), but with two different flaps. Moens catalogues two sizes and three different flaps, which, I suppose, is correct, but I have only been able to secure two envelopes here, both unused. I have never seen a used specimen, either of this or the first issue.

Messrs. P. Davis and Son charged 4/- a hundred for printing and supplying the envelopes; the Postmaster-General sold them to collectors and dealers at 54/- a hundred, but issued them to the

different Post-offices at face value. As I have stated before in reference to the first issue, separate accounts for envelopes were kept, so I am able to show, to a certain extent, how the second issue was disposed of.

1874.		
Jan. 3.	To P.O., Potchefstroom .	1000
Jan. 1.	To P.O., Pretoria .	1000
July 31.	To P.O., Pilgrim's Rest .	186
July 31.	To P.O., Pretoria .	450
Oct. 31.	Sold for cash	364 at 54/- per 100.
Dec. 10.	Sold for cash	100 " "
1875.		
Mar. 17.	To P.O., Pretoria	1900
		5000

This list shows only 464 sold direct by the Postmaster-General to dealers, &c., but no doubt a part of those issued to the Post-offices in Pretoria and Potchefstroom were also disposed of to collectors in Europe. If this was not the case, I fail to see how Moens can still sell them at 5 fr. each, as I should think that he has sold more than a few hundred in the last 18 years. It is possible that the market has been flooded with Mecklenburg forgeries of this type also, but about this I know nothing.

The Official Stamp Record for 1874 is very interesting. It reads:

Mar. 24.	Received from Borrius 16,000 stamps of 6 p.
Mar. 30.	" " 8,280 " 6 p.
April 21.	" " 16,600 " 6 p.
April 21.	" " 12,960 " 1 p.
Sept.	Davis 603 sheets of 1 p. = 24,120.
Sept.	" " 1015 " 6 p. = 40,600.
Sept. 30.	" " Germany 983 " 6 p. = 39,320.

Here we find a very large increase of 6 p. stamps, being now 120,800. These appear to have lasted till May, 1875, when a fresh lot was locally printed. The 12,960 1 p. stamps printed by Mr. Borrius were the first lot printed since publication of Postal Law No. 7 of 1873, and I do not hesitate to state that I feel sure they were printed in *red*, as I see no reason why the printer should have had no *red* ink, nor why he should print stamps in a colour different to that which the law prescribed.

The 1 p. and 6 p. stamps received in September, 1874, from Messrs. P. Davis & Son, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, were printed from the old plates of 1870, which were sent to Natal for that purpose. They are all perforated 12½, clearly cut. I have a specimen of the 6 p., imperforate at sides, with very fair margins. It may therefore be that a row or two escaped perforation on some sheets. The colour of the 6 p. stamps varies from *light* to *dark blue*. The execution varies also, but as a rule the printing is well done. Of the 1 p., *red*, I cannot speak at all, not having as yet had the pleasure of seeing a real genuine copy; and that after having hunted for it out here for the last thirteen years, I have not found a copy in the collections known to me here, neither is there one in the official collection in Pretoria. My readers will therefore allow me to have some doubt as to the origin of

the specimens catalogued in Europe at 2/- to 4/- each. I think nearly all these 1 p. stamps were used for local newspapers, hence their scarcity used. Of the 6 p. stamps I have had about twenty-five. These stamps represent the inland rate for $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letters, as well as the registration fee, and I should have thought that more would have been saved. If that engraver and printer in Mecklenburg-Schwerin had not abused the trust placed in him by the Government of the South African Republic, and swindled as much as he did, many collectors would not know what the Transvaal stamps of the 1870 and 1876 issues look like, much less possess one! I have a pair of the 6 p. stamps, imperforate at sides, but perforated 14 at top and bottom, which was sold to me as genuine by a leading London firm years ago, when I myself could not distinguish between good and bad; but I hope that this sort of business will now be stopped. I can only repeat that if any of my readers suffer themselves to be taken in by the German forgeries it will be their own faults.

The next interesting item in the records is:

Sept. 30th.

Received from Germany 983 sheets of 6 p. = 39,320 stamps.

This stamp is of Type II. (the 3 p. type, with the wings of the eagle hanging down). It is printed in *light* and *dark blue*, and rouletted. The plates were *not* sent out, neither was the matrix die. I have no doubt that the plates were the same as for the 3 p. value, and that there must have been 40 impressions to the sheet, or the account of the stamps, sheets, and money value booked in the Official Records here would be inaccurate. There is not much to be said about this stamp. I believe it was issued only in the beginning of 1875, presuming that the stock on hand of the locally printed, as well as those received from Natal, were first used up. I find in the Government books, that on 15th February, 1875, there were still 31,126 6 p. stamps on hand, which I take to be part of the German stamps.

This is the most difficult Transvaal stamp of which to distinguish genuine copies from reprints (I can here speak of unofficial reprints, as the printer had possession of original plate), because German reprints as well as the genuine stamps were made by the same man, with the same plates, on the same paper (more or less), with the same gum, the same roulette, and also the same colour. The cancellation is about the only guide here. This stamp, which ought to be just as scarce as those prices! In this case, however, I cannot so much blame dealers or collectors, as it is more than difficult to detect the intruder. I can only advise buying it from such dealers as will not sell a forgery.

The reason given by the Postmaster-General for having the stamps printed in Natal and Germany, is the great difference in the prices charged there and locally.

(To be continued.)

THE STAMPS OF SHANGHAI.

BY W. B. THORNHILL.

(Continued from page 21.)

ISSUE IX.

1883 (Moens).

Five values, the stamps of Issue VIII. perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 103. | 20 cash, lilac, dark and light. |
| 104. | 40 " " dark rose. |
| 105. | 60 " " bright green. |
| 106. | 80 " " dark blue. |
| 107. | 100 " " light brown. |

Variety.

108. 20 cash, lilac; the figures "20" in very thin type (Moens).

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on Stamps of Issue IX., in *blue*.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 109. | 20 cash on 40 cash, dark rose; end of 1884 (Moens). |
| 110. | 60 " " 80 " " " blue " ("). |
| 111. | 60 " " 100 " " light brown " ("). |

Remarks.—The 20 cash is always, so far as I have seen, in the *lilac* shade, and not in the *blue lilac* of Issue VIII.; and the 40 and 80 cash are in deeper shades than those of the same value, perf. 15.

ISSUE X.

End of 1884 (Moens).

One value; white wove paper. Perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

112. 20 cash, green (shades).

Remarks.—This stamp was printed in sheets or panes of 50 stamps (5 rows of 10). I have found no other values with change of colour thus perforated, but I should not be surprised to learn that others exist.

ISSUE XI.

1885-6.

Five values; white wove paper; similar to Issue X., but perf. 15.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 113. | 20 cash, green (light and dark). |
| 114. | 40 " " brown (" ") Mar. 28, 1886 (Moens). |
| 115. | 60 " " red lilac, lilac. |
| 116. | 80 " " flesh (light and dark), Sept. 1885 ("). |
| 117. | 100 " " canary-yellow " " ("). |

Remarks.—The 40 and 80 cash are printed in sheets or panes of 25 (5 rows of 5). I do not know if this is sufficient evidence to prove the rest of the set to be so printed, but I think so.*

Varieties.

With compound perforations.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 118. | 20 cash, green; perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ at top, 15 at bottom and sides. |
| 119. | 20 " " " " 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ at bottom, 15 at top and sides. |
| 120. | 20 " " " " 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally, 15 vertically. |
| 121. | 60 " " red-lilac " " |

Remarks.—It is only the *red-lilac* shade that I have found with the compound perforation. The 20 cash, *green*, perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ at top or bottom, is always from the top or bottom row of a sheet or pane. All sheets, however, are not thus

* We presume the 20 cash stamps are printed in sheets of 50, as before, as they differ only in perforation from those of Issue X.—E.B.

in the absence of any further evidence on this subject, it may have been that Mr. Borrius, the printer, or the Postmaster-General only noticed after the publication of this law that they were acting against the law by having the 1 p. stamp printed in *black*, and that they then only changed back to the official colour, *red*; but I am certain that after this no more *black* stamps were printed.

The Official Stamp Record for 1873 reads:

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From this Record we see that only 4000 of 1 p. and 20,000 of 1/- stamps were printed that year, and that the 6 p. ran up to 51,760, being nearly one-third more than were used in the preceding year. Evidently local letters were considerably increasing, owing, no doubt, to the opening of the alluvial goldfields in the Lydenburg district, which attracted a large number of diggers, mostly Europeans.

The most interesting point is, however, the second issue of envelopes. These were printed by Messrs. P. Davis and Son in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, from the matrix die of the 3 p. stamps. The Postmaster-General, when giving the order, instructed Messrs. Davis and Son to erase the words "DRIE" and numerals "3," and substitute the words "ZES" and numerals "6" instead (through this alteration the values stand on white ground), and to use this for printing the envelopes, which look much better than the first issue. Whether the matrix die was returned by the printer or not, and what has become of it since, is unknown; no trace is to be found of its whereabouts.

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1875.		
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The next interesting item in the records is:

Sept. 30th.

Received from Germany 983 sheets of 6 p. = 39,320 stamps.

This stamp is of Type II. (the 3 p. type, with the wings of the eagle hanging down). It is printed in *light and dark blue*, and rouletted. The plates were *not* sent out, neither was the matrix die. I have no doubt that the plates were the same as for the 3 p. value, and that there must have been 40 impressions to the sheet, or the account of the stamps, sheets, and money value booked in the Official Records here would be inaccurate. There is not much to be said about this stamp. I believe it was issued only in the beginning of 1875, presuming that the stock on hand of the locally printed, as well as those received from Natal, were first used up. I find in the Government books, that on 15th February, 1875, there were still 31,126 6 p. stamps on hand, which I take to be part of the German stamps.

This is the most difficult Transvaal stamp of which to distinguish genuine copies from reprints (I can here speak of unofficial reprints, as the printer had possession of original plate), because German reprints as well as the genuine stamps were made by the same man, with the same plates, on the same paper (more or less), with the same gum, the same roulette, and also the same colour. The cancellation is about the only guide here. This stamp, which ought to be just as scarce as the 6 p., perforated, can be had in Europe at from 6 p. to 2/6, and is supposed to be genuine at those prices! In this case, however, I cannot so much blame dealers or collectors, as it is more than difficult to detect the intruder. I can only advise buying it from such dealers as will not sell a forgery.

The reason given by the Postmaster-General for having the stamps printed in Natal and Germany, is the great difference in the prices charged there and locally.

(To be continued.)

THE STAMPS OF SHANGHAI.

By W. B. THORNHILL.

(Continued from page 21.)

ISSUE IX.

1883 (Moens).

Five values, the stamps of Issue VIII. perf. 11½.

103.	20 cash, lilac, dark and light.
104.	40 " dark rose.
105.	60 " bright green.
106.	80 " dark blue.
107.	100 " light brown.

Variety.

108. 20 cash, lilac; the figures "20" in very thin type (Moens).

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on Stamps of Issue IX., in *blue*.

109.	20 cash on 40 cash, dark rose; end of 1884 (Moens).
110.	60 " 80 " " blue " (").
111.	60 " 100 " light brown " (").

Remarks.—The 20 cash is always, so far as I have seen, in the *lilac* shade, and not in the *blue lilac* of Issue VIII.; and the 40 and 80 cash are in deeper shades than those of the same value, perf. 15.

ISSUE X.

End of 1884 (Moens).

One value; white wove paper. Perf. 11½.

112. 20 cash, green (shades).

Remarks.—This stamp was printed in sheets or panes of 50 stamps (5 rows of 10). I have found no other values with change of colour thus perforated, but I should not be surprised to learn that others exist.

ISSUE XI.

1885-6.

Five values; white wove paper; similar to Issue X., but perf. 15.

113.	20 cash, green (light and dark).
114.	40 " brown (") Mar. 28, 1886 (Moens).
115.	60 " red lilac, lilac.
116.	80 " flesh (light and dark), Sept. 1885 (").
117.	100 " canary-yellow " " (").

Remarks.—The 40 and 80 cash are printed in sheets or panes of 25 (5 rows of 5). I do not know if this is sufficient evidence to prove the rest of the set to be so printed, but I think so.*

Varieties.

With compound perforations.

118.	20 cash, green; perf. 11½ at top, 15 at bottom and sides.
119.	20 " " " 11½ at bottom, 15 at top and sides.
120.	20 " " " 11½ horizontally, 15 vertically.
121.	60 " red-lilac " "

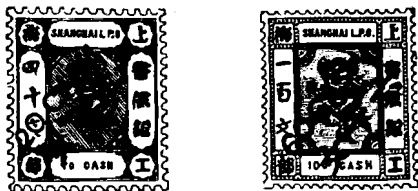
Remarks.—It is only the *red-lilac* shade that I have found with the compound perforation. The 20 cash, *green*, perf. 11½ at top or bottom, is always from the top or bottom row of a sheet or pane. All sheets, however, are not thus

* We presume the 20 cash stamps are printed in sheets of 50, as before, as they differ only in perforation from those of Issue X.—E.V.

perforated, some being uniformly perforated 15. It seems curious that only one line of perforations in a sheet showed gauge 11½, and that only in the top or bottom row.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on stamps of Issue XI., with approximate dates of issue.



Blue surcharge reading from left bottom to right top corner.

122. 40 cash on 80 cash, flesh; January 29, 1886.
 123. 40 " " 100 " canary-yellow; June, 1888.
 124. 60 " " " " " " January 29, 1886.

Varieties.

Surcharge reading from *left top to right bottom corner.*

125. 40 cash on 80 cash, flesh.
 126. 40 " " 100 " canary-yellow.
 127. 60 " " " " " "

Blue surcharge in two horizontal lines.

128. 20 cash on 40 cash, brown; January 10, 1888 (Moens).
 129. 20 " " 80 " flesh " (").

Varieties.

130. 20 cash on 40 cash, brown; surcharge reversed.
 131. 20 " " 80 " flesh " "
 132. 20 " " 40 " brown; with the surcharge in a double-lined frame with rounded corners.

Remarks.—The 20 cash on 40 cash, brown, with reversed surcharge, always appears to be in a lighter and brighter blue than the normal overprint. The above surcharges are, of course, on sheets of 25 (5 rows of 5). The surcharges are apparently hand-stamped, and present almost as many varieties as stamps on the sheet, owing chiefly to the running of the ink or smudging. I do not know whether the reversed surcharges are ever found on normally surcharged sheets, I have found none on the sheets I have examined. The surcharge in a double-lined frame appears not to have been noted in the catalogues,* it seems to me to be a distinct variety; though on the other stamps with the horizontal surcharge occasional smudges occur, which sometimes look like parts of a frame.

Red surcharge, reading from left bottom to right top corner.

133. 40 cash on 100 cash, canary-yellow; June, 1888.

Varieties.

134. 40 cash on 100 cash, canary-yellow; surcharge reading from left top to right bottom corner.
 135. 40 cash on 100 cash, canary-yellow; surcharge reversed, from right top to left bottom corner; with double surcharge, in black and in red.
 136. 100 cash, canary-yellow; surcharged horizontally 20 cash, in black, in a double-lined frame with rounded corners, and, obliquely from left to right, 100 cash, in red. April, 1889.



* This is No. 102 in our publishers' Catalogue, which is, we believe, in error in describing Nos. 113, 114 as having the surcharge in a frame.—Ed.

Remarks.—The *Philatelic Record*, at page 186, vol. xi., has the following account of the above stamp, which was received by the Editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* from Shanghai.

"I am unable to send you the 100 cash, yellow, with double surcharge of 100 c. and 20 c., for very few were issued. The reason of this singular surcharge is, that the Postmaster surcharged 800 stamps of 100 cash with the value 20 cash, when a globe trotter, passing through Shanghai, came to the Post-office at the moment these stamps were put on sale, and bought the whole lot, thinking that there would be no more surcharges as the watermarked stamps were expected to arrive from one moment to the other, but as these did not arrive, the Postmaster changed the 80 cash to 20 cash by surcharging them. Our globe trotter finding this out, wished the Postmaster, for some reason or other, to take back his stamps, which he refused to do. A complaint having been made to the Municipal Council, the Postmaster was requested to take back the 100 cash surcharged stamps; but having sufficient stamps of 20 cash, he restored them to their original value by a second surcharge of 100 cash." This was ingenious of the Postmaster, and really looks as if some of these surcharged abominations, at all events, were *bond fide*.

ISSUE XII.

1888, March and July.

Five values, on white wove paper. Perf. 15.

137. 20 cash, grey-bistre, pale grey; March, 1888.
 138. 40 " black July, "
 139. 60 " pale rose March "
 140. 80 " yellow-green July "
 141. 100 " bright blue " "

Variety.

142. 60 cash, rose; with the fourth Chinese character on the left incomplete, the top stroke or dot being omitted.

Remarks.—This may occur in other values, but I have not seen it. I have seen a block of 4 of the 60 cash, showing the error in a vertical pair. It is therefore probable that there is one vertical row of this variety in the sheet of 25.

Provisionals.

Surcharges to be found on stamps of Issue XII.

Red surcharge in two horizontal lines.

143. 20 cash on 80 cash, green; May, 1889 (Moens).
 144. 20 " 100 " blue " " (")

The first of these two stamps is referred to in the letter to *Le Timbre-Poste*, quoted above.

Variety.

145. 20 cash on 80 cash, green; surcharge reversed.

This I have not seen, but it is catalogued by M. Moens.

ISSUE XIII.

1889 (Moens).

Five values, on white wove paper, watermarked with Chinese characters reading *Kung-pu* = labour board. Perf. 15.

146. 20 cash, dark and light grey; May 10, 1889 (Moens).
 147. 40 " deep and pale black; July 18 " (").
 148. 60 " rose Dec. 9 " (").
 149. 60 " " variety without the dot.

Perf. 12.

150. 80 " green (shades); Aug. 14 " (").
 151. 100 " dark blue " " (").

Remarks.—Though only three values have been chronicled as perforated 15, the other two may, I think, be looked for; and the same may be said as to the probability of finding the whole set perf. 12.

ISSUE XIV.

January 1, 1890.

Five values of a new type (see illustration); thickish, white wove paper; perf. 15.



a. No watermark.

- 152. 2 cents, brown.
- 153. 5 " pink.
- 154. 15 " blue.
- 155. 20 " violet.

b. Watermarked with the Chinese characters *Kung-pu* sideways.

- 156. 10 cents, black.
- 157. 20 " violet.

ISSUE XV.

May, 1891.

The same values and type; paper and perforation varying.

a. Yellowish wove paper; no wmk.; perf. 15.

- 158. 5 cents, pink.
- 159. 10 " black? (Moens).
- 160. 20 " violet? (").

b. Yellowish wove paper; wmk. *Kung-pu* sideways.

- 161. 2 cents, brown; perf. 12.
- 162. 10 " black " 15.
- 163. 15 " blue " 15.

c. White wove paper; wmk. *Kung-pu*; perf. 12.

- 164. 2 cents, brown; very roughly perf.
- 165. 5 " pink " "
- 166. 5 " " clean cut perf.

ISSUE XVI.

1892.

The same values and type; wmk. *Kung-pu*; perf. 12.

Sept., 1892. Yellowish wove paper.

167. 10 cents, orange.

End of 1892. White wove paper.

- 168. 2 cents, green.
- 169. 5 " red.
- 170. 10 " orange.
- 171. 15 " violet.
- 172. 20 " light-brown.

Remarks.—The translation of the Chinese characters on the stamps of this type has been very kindly given me by Mr. L. C. Hopkins, and I think I cannot do better than give his letter on the subject *in extenso*. I may mention also that it is to the above gentleman that I am indebted for the translation of the characters on the previous issues.

"The legends on the stamps of the present issue are as follows (I give first the part common to all of them): The characters in the centre, at the top of the stamps, are *Yang Ying*=English money (in reality Mexican dollars, see below). On the shield in the centre, *Kung-pu*=Municipal Council. Below the shield, *Kuan H'sin shu*=Post Office."

The values are in the upper corners.

- " On the 2 cents, *Erh fen* =two hundredths (or candarins).
- " 5 " *Wo fen* =five hundredths " "
- " 10 " *I Chiao* =one ten cent (piece). "
- " 15 " *Chiao pan* =ten cents (and) a half.
- " 20 " *Erh chiao* =two ten cent (pieces).

"I presume that this series of stamps is based not on the *tael* as usual, but on the *Mexican dollar*. It is not so common to use *fen* for the cent or hundredth part of a dollar as for the *candarin* or *tael cent*, but it must be the case here. The word *chiao*, literally *horn*, is in modern commercial Chinese used for a ten cent piece, which is a coined fraction of the dollar, and never of the *tael*. N.B.—*Ying Yang*, literally English foreign, *i.e.*, English foreign money, is coming into use, owing to a vulgar misapprehension, for *Mexican dollars*. The true meaning of the characters *Ying Yang* is Eagle money; owing however to the words for *English* and *Eagle* being exactly the same both in *sound* and *tone*, and to the fact that English goods, &c., are more familiar to the Chinese at the ports and elsewhere than those of any other foreign country, the Mexican dollar is frequently, though wrongly, supposed to be English money, and its very

name, *Ying Yang*, helps to confirm the error; but it is surprising that a vulgar blunder like this should have been perpetuated in the L.P.O. stamps of the Shanghai Municipal Council."

Of the watermarked series of this type a good many stamps show only a portion of a watermark, and might be easily mistaken for unwatermarked stamps; especially in the case of those watermarked sideways, as the top stroke of *Kung* very often falls between the stamps, and unless looked for would not be seen. Thus it appears that several stamps, notably the 10 cents, black, 15 cents, blue, and 20 cents, violet, are catalogued as unwatermarked, whereas they really are on the watermarked paper. Just as in Ceylon you find a 10d. apparently without watermark, while a careful examination will reveal a corner of a star or part of the Crown and CC. In the sheet of stamps of this type there are only six watermarks to eight stamps, and consequently some fare badly, and show little or nothing of the watermark.*

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

January, 1892.

Five values, the ordinary adhesives of Issues XIV. and XV. surcharged "Postage Due," in old English type, in two lines. Various papers, &c.



a. White wove paper; no wmk.; perf. 15.

401. 2 cents, brown; black surcharge.

402. 5 " pink " "

403. 15 " blue " "

b. Yellowish wove paper; no wmk.; perf. 15.

404. 5 cents, pink; black surcharge.

405. 20 " violet " "

c. White wove paper; wmk. *Kung-pu* sideways.

406. 2 cents, brown; black surcharge; perf. 12.

407. 10 " black " " " 15.

408. 15 " blue " " " 15.

409. 20 " violet " " " 15.

d. Yellowish wove paper; wmk. *Kung-pu* sideways; perf. 15.

410. 2 cents, brown; black surcharge.

411. 10 " black; red " "

412. 15 " blue; black " "

End of 1892.

The same; white wove paper; wmk. *Kung-pu*; perf. 12. Surcharged in blue.

413. 2 cents, brown; clean cut perforation.

414. 5 " pink " "

415. 5 " " rough perforation.

1892-93.

Same paper, wmk., and perforation.

416. 2 cents, green; blue surcharge.

417. 5 " red " "

418. 10 " orange " "

419. 15 " violet; red " "

420. 20 " brown " "

I very much fear that my lists of these later issues of Shanghai are far from complete, and I have no doubt that I have made many blunders; but if collectors of Shanghai will only correct me, and put me right where I am wrong, I shall be much obliged. Shanghai is philatelically young in years, but is old in the art of worrying collectors and baffling comprehensive classification. I only hope this paper may be the means of putting a collection of the stamps of Shanghai on a footing with collections of those of other countries, instead of leaving the former, as they appear to be at present, on a par with Hamburg Locals, or other labels of like nature. *Verbum sap.* They deserve a better fate!

* Is it possible to say with certainty which varieties of this type are on unwatermarked paper and which are unwatermarked specimens from the watermarked sheets? Are any sheets of the yellowish paper altogether unwatermarked?—Ed.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 29.)

PFENNIG. The stamp upon the current post cards of Bavaria bears a large numeral accompanied by this word only, but as stamps cut out of post cards should on no account be collected, perhaps this explanation is hardly necessary.

P.G.S.—Perak Government Service. Surcharged upon the stamps of the Straits Settlements.

Philately. Stamp-Collecting or the Study of Stamps.

Philatelic. The adjective of *Philately*.

Philatelist. A follower of *Philately*.

In the early days of Stamp-Collecting and Stamp-Collectors, those terms were considered sufficient to indicate both the pursuit and its followers. But as time went on, and collecting began to be conducted upon more scientific lines, it was thought necessary that the Collecting of Stamps in an intelligent manner should be distinguished by some special word, in a similar way to the Collecting of Coins, Insects, &c.; and that thus *Collecting*—from a scientific point of view—might be distinguished from mere Accumulating of quantities of stamps without order or arrangement. Various titles were suggested, and as careful study of minor details, and research into the origin and history of the various stamps, were intended to be implied, it seems evident that something ending in "ology" would have been appropriate. Our neighbours across the Channel, who were the first to recognise the importance of the study of watermarks, perforations, &c., were, naturally, foremost in proposing suitable names for our humble science (if such it may be called). *Timbromanie* was, of course, an invention of the enemy; *Timbophilie* (Fondness for Stamps), and *Timbrologie* (the Study, or Science, of Stamps) were rejected as being compounded from words in two different languages. The second of the two appears to be very appropriate; it survives still in the title of *La Société Française de Timbrologie*, one of the oldest and most distinguished of the Philatelic Societies; occasional attempts have also been made to introduce it into English, as *Timbrology*, unmindful of the fact that the exact British equivalent would be *Stampology*—a word which is probably not more ridiculous to our ears than *Timbrologie* was to some French ones thirty years ago. About that period Mons. Herpin, of Paris, set to work to construct a word out of somewhat more homogeneous materials, and succeeded in producing one, which is not only purely Greek in derivation, but is to the present day the purest Greek to the general public. The first syllable is simple enough; "philos" (fond of) is a word that enters into the composition of not a few in our own language; but as the Greeks possessed neither stamps nor anything resembling them, it was necessary to denote them in some less direct fashion. The word selected was "arelys" (exempt from tax) or "areleia" (exemption from tax); and thus, as the stamp upon a letter or a document denotes that the postage or tax has been paid, and the article is exempt from further taxation, so the word *philately*, which would more strictly mean Fondness for Exemption from Taxation, was brought into use with the meaning of Fondness for the Stamps denoting that the tax had been paid. It is certainly a little far-fetched, and the word has the double disadvantage of not being easily understood or explained, and of implying simply *A Fondness for Stamps* rather than *The Study of Stamps*. However, *Philately* and its derivatives, *Philatelic* and *Philatelist*, have been so universally adopted that it is too late now to enquire whether better words could not have been invented. They are finding their way into dictionaries and encyclopædias, and it may be hoped that in time the general public will make no greater confusion between *Philately* and *Philanthropy* than between *Etymology* and *Entomology*; while perhaps some day we may be able to find a word that may bear the same relation to *Philately* that *Anthropology* does to *Philanthropy*, and that may more accurately express the study of stamps as distinguished from their collection. It is only necessary to

add that, in the two substantives, *Philately* and *Philatelist*, the accent is on the second syllable, while in the adjective, *Philatelic*, the accent is on the third.

It will be noticed that, from its derivation, the word *Philately* may be applied quite as appropriately to the collection of *Revenue* stamps as to the collection of *Postage* stamps.

PIASTRE *see* PARA.

Plate Numbers. All the plates from which the stamps of Great Britain were printed were numbered in the margin, showing the order in which they were made. In the earliest plates the number was not shown upon the stamps, but in the later ones the number of the plate was engraved upon every impression or block of which that plate was composed, and thus each stamp bore the number of the plate from which it was printed. Specimens of the same stamp showing different numbers are recognised as minor varieties.

PORTE DE MAR. The inscription upon labels employed at one time in Mexico, to denote to the authorities at Vera Cruz the amount of the postage upon each letter that was to be paid to the Company conveying the mails by sea. The whole of the postage was paid by ordinary postage stamps, and the *Porte de Mar* labels merely gave information upon a matter of accounts.

PORTE FRANCO CORREOS. Upon the early stamps of Peru.

PORTO GAZETEL. Upon the Newspaper stamp of Roumania (Moldavia).

PORTO PFLICHTIGE DIENST SACHE. Upon some of the official stamps of Wurtemberg.

PORTO SCRISOREI (ΠΟΡΤΟ ΣΚΡΙΣΟΡΗ). Upon stamps of Roumania (Moldavia).

PORTO STEMPEL. Upon the first envelope stamps of Finland.

POSTAGE. The stamps of Great Britain bear no indication of the name of the country to which they belong. The earlier ones are inscribed "POSTAGE" only and the value, the more recent issues are lettered "POSTAGE AND REVENUE." The first stamps of New South Wales, the "Sydney Views," also do not bear the name in English, but in addition to the word "POSTAGE" at the top, they have the inscriptions around and below the view, which will be found under letter "S."

POSTE LOCALE. Upon some of the early stamps of Switzerland.

POSTES. Found with the indication of the value only upon stamps shown in the illustrations below.



Alsace and Lorraine.



Belgium.



Belgium.



Luxembourg.

Posthorn.—Some of the Newspaper stamps of Hungary bear no inscriptions at all, and the principal part of the design is a *Posthorn*, surmounted by a crown of a peculiar shape.

Postmark. Any mark struck by the Post-office upon a letter or packet, including obliterating marks, date stamps, marks indicating "Postage Due," "Postage Paid," &c. In regard to the last two items, it is perhaps difficult in some cases to draw a line between these and certain labels which are collected as *Postage Stamps*; but it seems fair to consider handstruck marks showing postage to be collected as *Postmarks* only, and adhesive labels used for the same purpose as a species of *Postage Stamp*. In the same way handstruck marks indicating that postage has been paid in cash are usually looked upon as *Postmarks*; but if the very same marks are, for any reason, struck upon envelopes or wrappers, and sold to the public for postal use, we cannot refuse to recognise these as stamped envelopes or wrappers, and as collectable under that class.

"Postmarke." On the $\frac{1}{2}$ Gute gr. stamp of Brunswick.

POST-OFFICE. It is not necessary to explain what a *Post-office* is, but it may be well to say a few words as to the extremely rare stamps known as the "POST-OFFICE" Mauritius. The first stamps of this colony (which was the first British possession to follow the example of the mother country in this respect) were issued in September 1847. They were engraved locally, upon copper, and were printed one by one from small plates, upon one of which was engraved a single "ONE PENNY," and upon the other a single "TWO PENCE" stamp. The design, which is shown in the first illustration below, was evidently copied from the English stamps in use at the time, lettered "POSTAGE" at the top, and with the value at the bottom; at the sides was added the place of issue, "POST OFFICE" on the left, and "MAURITIUS" on the right. Only one supply, about 500 of each value, was ever printed from these plates, as the process of printing the stamps singly was a very slow one; and, as almost all were used for postage within the island, very few specimens have reached collectors. In the following



1847.



1848.

year stamps of the same design, but inscribed "POST PAID" in place of "POST OFFICE" (see second illustration), and printed in sheets of twelve, were issued, and these remained in use for some ten years.

POST STAMP. With no other English inscription except that denoting the value, on the stamps of the Deccan.

POST ZEGEL. On the early issues of Holland.

PREUSSEN = Prussia.

Proofs. Strictly speaking, *trial* impressions from a die or plate, but used also by publishers of engravings to mean early impressions (the number of which is not always limited!). The term is applied somewhat in this sense to such impressions from the dies or plates for stamps as are not printed for issue, as well as to those impressions which are taken before the engraving is completed, or immediately upon its completion.

Provisionals. Stamps temporarily put in circulation, usually when the supply of a certain value has been exhausted. Substitutes are formed either by printing the value required upon stamps of another value, or by the manufacture of stamps of a more or less simple design, produced from printers' types or by lithography.

P.S.N.C.—Pacific Steam Navigation Company. Upon stamps which were employed by this Company, and some of which formed a kind of experimental issue of the Government of Peru.

Quadrille. Paper watermarked with crossed lines, forming a pattern of squares or oblongs, is termed *quadrille*. The same term is applied also to paper *ruled* with crossed lines.

Queen on Throne. The design of one of the early stamps of Victoria consisted of a full-length figure of the Queen seated on a Throne, with no inscription except the value, TWO PENCE, below.

R. A large capital "R" is the only sign of a European inscription upon the native stamps of Jhind. It is probably the initial of the name *Rampoor* or of the word *Raj*.

The letter is also found surcharged upon some of the stamps of France and the French Colonies, used in *Reunion*.

"RAJ" Service, or "RAJ" SERVICE. Surcharged upon stamps of British India used in the State of Jeypore.

RAYON = Ralinus in French. On some of the early Swiss stamps, indicating the radius within which the different values prepaid a single rate of postage.

Recut, Redrawn, Re-engraved, Reset, Retouched. Expressions used to denote minor alterations made in the design of a stamp.

Recutting, Re-engraving, and Retouching practically mean the same thing, and should be used to imply repairs or renewing of the original dies, or of the actual plates from which stamps are printed. The alterations thus made may be exceedingly small, as in the case of the original die of the 1d. and 2d. stamps of Great Britain, which in 1854 was *recut*, to the extent of deepening some of the lines, and rendering the minor details clearer than before; or they may produce practically a different stamp altogether, as in the case of the native stamps of Mauritius, where the plate of the 2d. of 1848 (see illustration under **POST OFFICE**), which had become almost worn flat by ten years' use, was entirely *re-engraved* in 1858 or 1859, producing the rare stamp known as the 2d. *Large Head with Fillet*. This is an extreme instance of recutting; the various *Plates* of New South Wales, Sydney Views 1d. and 2d., and Laureated Heads 2d. (*fine* background and *solid* background) and 6d., are examples of the same process in a less marked form.



1859*

Redrawing implies the construction of a new die, plate, or stone, the general design remaining the same, but the details being modified, intentionally or unintentionally, to a greater or less extent. The alterations may be no greater than those produced by *recutting*, they may indeed be much less, in fact the result is the same, but the process is different. As instances of redrawing we may take some of the stamps of the Argentine Republic, among which there are several cases showing two or more editions of the same design, differing in minor details; the illustrations that follow show one of the most marked instances of this, but there are others



of the same kind. Some of the stamps of Brazil, 1882-1888, show similar modifications of design, and there are numerous instances among the Russian Local stamps.



* This illustration is incorrect, being lettered "POST OFFICE" instead of "POST PAID."



Resetting applies to designs that are made up of separate pieces, usually of printers' types and ornamental borders; in such cases, when a fresh supply of stamps is required, the inscriptions, &c., are frequently set up afresh, and slight changes in the relative positions of the pieces will be found. Of this nature are the stamps of Bamra, of the second issue of which several settings have already been noticed; errors which occur in one are not found in another, and a sheet of stamps of one edition can be easily distinguished from a sheet of stamps of another. The stamps of Nowanuggur on coloured paper, and those of Soruth, 1868, also exhibit the effects of resetting. In all these there are not only as many varieties of type as there are stamps on the sheet, but there are also several settings the sheets of which differ from one another. It is perhaps unnecessary to state that the Russian Local stamps likewise include instances of this peculiarity.

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

Stolen.—Messrs. Williams, Field, and Co. have issued a circular stating that an album of stamps has been stolen from their shop by a youth, of whom the following is a description:—About 16 years of age, about 5 ft. in height, rather fair, large blue eyes, white even teeth, rather nice-looking. Dressed in dark grey suit rather worn at wrists, but respectable-looking; very dark red, or red-brown tie, white shirt and collar with long turned-down points.

The collection was in our *Imperial Album*, one volume, and may be recognised by the following stamps:

- New South Wales. 1/2d. on 1d., inverted surcharge.
- Tasmania. Strip of 3d., red-brown, unused, imperf.
- New S. Wales. 3d., green; error "WACES."
- Sirmoor Service. 6 p., black and green, error.
- Gibraltar. Complete.
- India, 1866. Six annas, lilac and green, tall letters; ditto, short letters.
- British S. Africa. £1, used.
- Seychelles. 96 c., used; 90 c. on 96 c., used.

£5 reward is offered for the recovery of this book. If any of our readers should have a collection offered to them containing similar stamps to those mentioned, we shall be glad if they will communicate with us, and we will see that the matter is investigated.

* * *

The Providence Plate Found.—We are informed on good authority that the plate from which the stamps of Providence, Rhode Island, were printed has at length been discovered, and has been sold to Durbin and Hanes, of Philadelphia. The Providence stamps were printed in sheets of 12, 11 of them being 5 c. stamps and the twelfth a 10 c. stamp. With the plate there were 32 full sheets, eighteen 10 c. stamps and 161 5 c. stamps, and we learn that the price paid was \$3000.

* * *

The Monthly Journal.—We have seen many scores of criticisms on the special number of our journal which we published in July, with the history of the firm, and without exception they speak very highly of our efforts to make the *Monthly Journal* a really representative and popular paper. *The Philatelic Era* finds one fault, which we have never known to be looked at in that light before. It states as follows: "There is but one fault we can find with the *Journal*, and that is the price. One shilling per annum post free; surely this cannot be the publishers' idea of its worth, and the extremely nominal price gives a stranger the impression that it is only an advertising scheme, and is likely to conclude that it must be a pretty cheap class of people who support it, if that is all it will bring. It is to be lamented that such a representative journal should so under estimate its value."

The circulation of the *Journal* being now close on 5000, and amongst the best class of collectors throughout the whole world, is sufficient answer to the saying: "that it must be a cheap class of people who support it." No doubt whatever we should easily be able to get our old subscription rate of 4/- per annum, but in that case many smaller collectors would not subscribe. Our idea in asking such a nominal price was that every one, however small his means, should be able to afford to subscribe, as we wished to make the *Journal* what it has become—that is, the most widely-



read and studied really Philatelic paper that is published. For the present we shall continue to publish it at the same nominal price of 1/- per annum, but we believe that the time will come when the circulation will be so large that we shall have to raise our subscription rate slightly, as, at the rate it is published at now, we calculate that the net loss to us on it is over £500 per annum, and every additional thousand subscribers means a further loss. Of course we are well aware that such an extended circulation brings us a large number of orders, and in this way we cover a considerable portion of the loss; but we foresee that a time will come when it will possibly be necessary to slightly raise the subscription rate. If this is so, due notice will be given, and the opinion of our readers taken on the various points that have to be considered.

* * *

The Manchester Philatelic Society.—We have received from the librarian of this society an account of the work done by it during the past twelve months. The papers read before the society included interesting articles on Bergedorf, France, Heligoland, Belgium, Lübeck. We have not space here to review these articles, which, however, are well worthy of being studied. The price of the book is 1s., and it may be obtained from the honorary secretary, Mr. W. Dornning Beckton, Daisy Bank, Swinton Park, Manchester.

* * *

The London Philatelic Exchange.—This exchange is now in full working order. The first meeting was held at Bagen's Restaurant, Bucklersbury, Cheapside, E.C., on the 10th instant, when we understand that there was a large attendance, and that a fair amount of business was done. The following are the dates of meetings during the coming session:

1893.	1894.	1894.
Nov. 7.	Feb. 13.	June 5.
" 21.	" 27.	" 19.
Dec. 5.	Mar. 13.	July 3.
" 19.	" 27.	" 17.
	April 10.	" 31.
1894.	" 24.	Aug. 14.
Jan. 2.	May 8.	" 28.
" 16.	" 22.	Sept. 11.
" 30.		" 25.

Application for membership should be made to the hon. sec., Mr. F. R. Ginn, Holland House, Lansdowne Road, Tottenham, who will be pleased to supply full particulars. The meetings are held between the hours of 7 and 10 in the evening, and the annual subscription is one guinea.

Article 2 of the rules states that the membership shall be restricted to acknowledged stamp dealers, not under 21 years of age, or such other philatelists as the committee may see fit from time to time to invite.

* * *

Duty on Stamps in Victoria.—We just hear on authority that the colony of Victoria, Australia, has imposed a duty of 3 per cent., for Revenue purposes, on all stamps received there. The amount is small, but the inconvenience in collecting causes a good deal of trouble to those in the habit of receiving goods on approval.

* * *

New Philatelic Album.—We have pleasure in announcing that we have just prepared a new blank album, similar in size and arrangement to the well-known A and B series, which we have sold for some years. The chief difference in this book is that the centre of the cards, of which the leaves are made, are

sunk in. By this plan all abrasion or rubbing of specimens is obviated, and the book is thus rendered peculiarly adaptable for the preservation of the rarer specimens in fine collections. The album is bound in full Russia leather, with rounded corners, and has an improved double-action expanding lock. We shall be pleased to shew it to anyone visiting our shop, or to send it post-free on receipt of £5 2s. 6d. Further particulars will be found in our advertisement pages.

* * *

Chicago Exhibition.—Just as we are going to press we hear from our representative in Chicago that the authorities there have awarded to our firm the highest obtainable award for stamp albums, publications, and for stamps. We have no details as yet, but hope to publish same next month.

* * *

New Packet, 1500 distinct varieties.—We have just finished preparing a series of packets as above to follow on after the three new packets advertised last month. There has already been a great demand for these, especially No. 67—1000 varieties—and we feel sure that our present new packet, No. 68, with 1500 varieties, which is a large collection in itself, will give full satisfaction to anyone ordering it. We can honestly recommend it as containing good value for the money.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MAJOR-GENERAL L.—We are greatly obliged for your notes. Bulgaria, Type 459 in the current catalogue, is stated to bear a forged surcharge; possibly this accounts for the English "N" being employed in place of the Russian "H." *Bogoroiskaya*, &c., we believe to be the possessive case, meaning of *Bogorodsk*, &c.

B. H. D.—We regret to state that we cannot give the values of stamps in our answers. We believe such stock as there was on hand was bought up, and we should not like to prophesy as to the course of the market.

X. Y. Z.—You are quite right. The fact that our historical researches do not extend further back than the year 1840 should not make us forget that there were historical events before that date. Jean Bart was a worthy gentleman, well deserving of commemoration; but then why not be content with a statue or a medal, instead of inflicting him upon the unfortunate philatelist? As you justly remark, even if he had been alive in 1793 he would have been too old to undertake the office of postmaster, and we believe that he had had no experience in such matters, having never even commanded a mail packet.

W. A.—No. 119 is wmkd. Crown and "CC." We believe this does not exist with "CA."

W. W.—All the Hankow stamps were described in *August*.

J. C.—We have not met with the 2 c., *brun*, surcharged "Johor"; would you let us see the specimen?

G. B.—The two stamps you name are believed not to exist, and have therefore been struck out of the Catalogue. They had been previously chronicled, but apparently in error.

M. H.—1. The four Mexican stamps have never been issued, and no doubt will not be. 2. We do not think the 25 c. Holland was ever issued on tinted paper; probably one of the ingredients of the ink has run, and thus altered the colour both of the paper and the impression.

J. H. D.—We are very much obliged for your letter. These Madagascar stamps were described in 1891, and the numbers then given correspond for the most part with those mentioned by you.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies would kindly send us a short account of each meeting before the 18th of each month, we shall be pleased to insert it in this Journal.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

THE eleventh ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, the 28th September, 1893, at 6 p.m., at the Society's rooms, Church Gate Street.

Members present: E. S. Gubbay, Vice-President, presiding; Messrs. A. Clement Trapp, K. Ramchundra, Hon. Treasurer; P. De Cruz, Exchange Secretary; D. Mahadevrao, and the Hon. Secretary.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

K. Ramchundra, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, showed a copy of a member's card, or form of certificate, which had been passed by the Committee at the last meeting. After some slight alterations in the card were suggested by A. C. Trapp, Esq., it was passed as sanctioned.

P. De Cruz, Esq., Exchange Secretary, proposed the revised rules for the Exchange Section. These were fully discussed, and seconded by the Hon. Secretary. After a few amendments and alterations, the rules were passed. With reference to Rule I., A. C. Trapp, Esq., offered to bear the cost of publishing the first batch of exchange blank sheets, as he was of opinion that these sheets should be supplied to members desirous of availing themselves of the Exchange Section, free of expense. The Vice-President thanked Mr. Trapp for his kind offer, which was duly recorded.

The Hon. Secretary proposed that the following rule should be added to the bye-laws: "Life members should consist of ordinary members, who, with the approval of the Committee, may, upon the payment of a fee to be decided by the Committee at the time, become life members of the Society, which payment will be in lieu of all further dues." This was seconded by A. C. Trapp, Esq., put to the vote, and carried.

No further business taken.

The Hon. Treasurer showed his magnificent collection of the stamps of Turkey, which contained all the known rarities, halves, &c., and included the recently issued "Imprimés" stamps.

D. Mahadevrao, Esq., showed the Society a photograph of the red, white, and blue Scinde District Dawke stamps (forgeries), which he said were sent to him by the Hon. Secretary as a gift to the Society.

An interesting discussion about the new Shanghai and Hankow local post stamps brought the proceedings to a close.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(ESTABLISHED 1890.)

President—O. FIRTH.

THE first meeting of the fourth session was held on Saturday evening, 7th October, the President in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and associates, and there was a large display of stamps, the novelties including South Australian, 2½d., provisional, perforated 15 (sent by Mr. R. Hollick, of Birmingham); and Sierra Leone, provisional

"HALF PENNY" on 1½d. (Rev. T. S. Fleming), besides a number of new issues made during the summer for Great Britain, Ceylon, Dutch Indies, Belgium, Annam and Tonquin, British North Borneo, United States, Transvaal, Cape Colony, Seychelles, Tonga, and Shanghai, shewn by Messrs. Duffield, Skipwith, Beckwith, Roebuck, and Bennett.

A number of donations for the library were placed on the table and thanks voted, including Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, Mekeel's *American Journal of Philately*, the first volume of Hollick's *Philatelic Chronicle*, and the Alamo City Philatelic Society's Report.

The chief feature of the evening was a paper read by the President on "The Five Shilling Stamps issued by the Australian Colonies." In the course of his remarks Mr. Firth said it would be of interest to learn additional particulars on various points not sufficiently elucidated in *The Stamps of Oceania*, such as, for instance, the following: How long did Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. continue to print the 5s. stamps of New South Wales? What varieties of perforation are to be found in the 5s. centennial stamp of the same Colony? By whom was the 5s. Queensland of May, 1882, engraved and printed?

A vote of thanks to the President was passed, after which he promised to continue the subject at a future meeting.

V. DENISON ROEBUCK,
Sunny Bank, Leeds.

T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH,
13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds.

} Hon. Secs.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXCHANGE.

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Committee—

MR. T. BUHL.	MR. W. HADLOW.
MR. A. C. EMERSON.	MR. W. H. PECKITT.
MR. C. J. PHILLIPS.	

Meetings for business are held every alternate Tuesday evening at Bargen's Restaurant, Bucklersbury, Cheap-side, E.C.

THE CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

THE first weekly meeting of this new club was held on Thursday, October 5th, at Cossavella's Restaurant, Cheap-side, where a room admirably adapted for the purpose had been secured. Eighteen members were present. Mr. G. C. Warden, Vice-President, occupied the chair, but in the absence through illness of Mr. Harry Hilckes (who had promised to read a paper on the stamps of Hamburg), very little formal business was transacted. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Percy C. Bishop, gave a short *resumé* of the proceedings of previous meetings, and afterwards reported that seventeen new members—including Mr. Philbrick, q.c., Messrs. Collin and Calman, of New York, and Mr. Henry Ades Fowler, of Toronto—had been elected. The meeting was then made informal, and much selling and exchanging of stamps ensued. Mr. Walter Morley donated a file of the *Fiscal Philatelist* to the club's library.

The second weekly meeting was held at the same rendezvous, on Thursday, October 12th, twenty-one members attending. Mr. Harry Hilckes was now present, and his paper on the stamps of Hamburg was received with marked appreciation. Mr. Hilckes dealt in detail with each of the

Hamburg issues, but elected to leave the subject of private marks until the following week, when he would have something to say also about the stamps of Bremen. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Hilckes for his paper, which had provoked an interesting discussion among the members present. The subsequent business in stamps was brisk and extensive. Mr. Hilckes, speaking from the chair, announced that it had been decided to form a weekly exhibit of new issues contributed by members of the club.

PERCY C. BISHOP, *Hon. Sec.*

171, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, Esq.

THE opening meeting of the session was held at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on Friday evening, September 15th, the President in the chair, supported by about thirty-five members and friends.

The minutes of the last meeting in the previous session having been read and confirmed, the President delivered his inaugural address.

Letters expressing regret at being unable to be present were read from many of the leading philatelists.

The special feature of the meeting was the lime-light exhibition, by the aid of which the difference between certain forged and genuine stamps was clearly demonstrated. The arrangements were entirely in the hands of Messrs. Abbott, Beckton, and Duerst, who availed themselves of the offer made by Mr. T. Ridpath, of Liverpool, with whom the idea in the first instance originated, to manipulate the lantern.

The following is a list of the stamps shown :

Baden	18 kr., green.
Ceylon	1/9, imperf., green.
Hanover	1 gr., blue.
"	1/2 " "
"	3 " brown.
Saxony, 1850	3 pf., red.
New South Wales	1d., Sydney, red ; Plate II.
"	6d., laureated, brown.
Switzerland	Neuchatel.
"	Zurich. 6 rappen, black.
"	15 c., red.
Papal States	1 scudo, red.
Argentine Confederation	5 c., red.
Mexico, 1868	6 c., black on brown.
Victoria	1/-, imperf., blue.
Modena	15 c., black on yellow.
Thurn and Taxis	30 kr., orange.

Photographic slides of the stamps were thrown on the screen, the stamps appearing in their original colours ; and so excellently was the lantern handled that the whole design stood out, as it were, sharply upon the screen, the faintest line being clearly visible. The differences were pointed out by Messrs. Abbott, Beckton, and Duerst, and were even in the best forgeries very pronounced, by reason of the stamps being magnified over 1000 times. The greatest possible interest was centred in the exhibition, not only on account of its novelty, it being the first ever given in Great Britain, but also on account of the ease with which the most dangerous forgeries may be analysed, and the points in which they differ from the genuine stamps made a note of.

At the conclusion the President moved a vote of thanks, coupling a resolution electing Mr. Ridpath an honorary member of the Society, which was carried by acclamation. Mr. Ridpath in responding acknowledged what he considered to be a very great honour paid to him by the Society, and signified his intention to assist at any future time in a similar exhibition, adding that it had occupied a considerable period to work up all the details and bring it to the perfection in which it had been presented to the members that evening, and concluded by giving the benefit of such experience and the sole right of representation so far as he was concerned to the Society.

The syllabus for the ensuing session is as follows :

Sept. ^{1893.} 15.	Opening Meeting	{ Lantern Exhibition of Stamps.
" 29.	" Stamps of Gibraltar and Malta."	{ W. D. BECKTON.
Oct. 13, 27.	" Stamps of Thurn and Taxis."	{ G. B. DUERST.
Nov. 10.	"	
" 24.	" Perforation of Stamps."	W. GRUNEWALD.
Dec. 8.	" Stamps of St. Helena."	J. H. ABBOTT.
" 22.	"	
^{1894.}		
January 5.	" Manufacture of Stamps."	G. F. H. GIBSON.
" 19.	"	
February 2.	" Stamps of Gambia."	W. W. MUNN.
" 16.	"	
Mar. 2, 16.	" Stamps of Ceylon."	VERNON ROBERTS.
" 30.	"	
Apr. 13, 27.	"	

Other papers, the subjects of which are not settled, will be read on the vacant dates.

W. DORNING BECKTON, *Hon. Sec.*

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE third meeting of the above was held at the residence of Dr. Hitch, Perth, on Monday evening, August 7th.

Present : Mr. C. L. Clifton (in the chair), Messrs. Snellgrove, Dale, Fothergill, Hitch, Thompson, Wright, and Levine.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Messrs. J. T. Barnard and W. B. Wright were elected members.

It was decided that it was desirable to procure a copy of Messrs. S. Gibbons & Co.'s latest catalogue for the use of the members of the Society, the prices to form a basis of exchange.

Mr. Thompson presented the Society with Messrs. Gibbons & Co.'s *Monthly Journal* for the period of one year. Mr. Levine also gave *Vindici's Monthly*.

Mr. Snellgrove showed the 2d., chocolate, 1st issue Western Australia, printed on both sides, also the 2d. bistre, and 1d., black, rouletted. Mr. Fothergill showed a series of the 1889 1d. and 2d. in various shades. The present 1d., red, was shown by Mr. Wade surcharged "One half-penny." This stamp was unknown to most of the members. A complete set of South Australian postage and revenue, the latter to the value of £20, was shown by Mr. Clifton. Mr. Dale had in his collection a specimen of the 1s. telegraph postally used. Collections were shown by Messrs. Clifton, Dale, Wade, Hitch, and Snellgrove.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Hitch and to the Chairman terminated a very enjoyable evening.

FOURTH meeting, held at the residence of Mr. Clifton, Freemantle, on Monday evening, 4th September.

Present : Mr. Clifton (in the chair), Messrs. Wade, Dale, Snellgrove, G. John, Thompson, and Levine. An apology was received from Dr. Hitch, who was unwell.

Members elected : Messrs. O. P. Stables and A. G. Ing.

The 2d., 1889 issue, in black, shown at the last meeting was declared by Messrs. Gibbons & Co. to be oxidised by the air, and of no value. Mr. Wade said that the 1d. surcharged 1/2d., shown at the last meeting, was never issued by the Government.

Collections were shown by Messrs. Clifton, Snellgrove, and Levine.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the evening.

A. L. J. LEVINE, *Hon. Secretary*.

Special Bargains and New Issues

FOR NOVEMBER.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

BELGIUM.		
<i>Sunday stamps, with tablet.</i>		
1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 25 c., set of 6, price	..	1 0
50 c. and 1 frank, set of 2, price	..	1 9
BERMUDA.		
2d., brown, C and C A	..	0 4
BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.		
<i>Post Cards.</i>		
1d., black, red, and orange on white	..	0 2
2d., black, vermilion, and orange on white	..	0 4
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.		
<i>Wrappers.</i>		
1d., brown, and 1½d., grey on white, the two used and	□	0 3
COOK ISLANDS.		
1893. <i>Head of Ruler.</i>		
1d., 1½d., 2½d., 5d., and 10d.; set of 5	..	2 3
GUANACASTE.		
<i>Type 755.</i>		
50 centavos, black and carmine	..	1 0
1 peso, black and blue	..	2 0
2 pesos, black and violet	..	4 0
JAPAN.		
1892. <i>Officially Sealed.</i>		
No value, oblong, brown	..	4 0
LABUAN.		
"Two Cents" on 40 c., black and amber, used	..	4 0
"Six Cents" on 16 c., black and grey, with inverted surcharge and used	..	20 0
MASHONALAND.		
1893. <i>Post Cards.</i>		
1d., blue on white	..	0 2
1½d., yellow on white	..	0 3
1+1d., red on white	..	0 4
MEXICO.		
<i>Post Cards. New Type.</i>		
3 c., oval stamp, vermilion and green	..	0 3
5 c. " " blue and carmine	..	0 9
NEW SOUTH WALES.		
1890. <i>Unpaid Letter Stamps.</i>		
½d., green, used	..	0 4
4d. " "	..	0 6
PORTUGAL.		
<i>Type 2033.</i>		
80 reis, green, used	..	0 2
100 reis, chocolate on yellow, used	..	0 3
200 reis, blue on blue	..	0 6
SALVADOR.		
1891. <i>Type 2717.</i>		
1 centavo to 1 peso, set of 10, unused	..	2 0
SANDWICH ISLANDS.		
<i>Surcharged "Provisional Government, 1893."</i>		
<i>Post Cards.</i>		
1 c., black and red on buff	..	0 6
2 c., red and black	..	0 9
3 c., red and green	..	1 0
<i>Envelopes.</i>		
1 c., red and green	..	0 4
2 c., black and carmine	..	0 6
5 c., red and blue	..	0 9
10 c., red and black	..	1 0
SEYCHELLES.		
1890.		
13 cents, grey and black, used	..	2 0
SHANGHAI.		
"HALF CENT" on 15 c., blue and violet	..	1 6
"ONE CENT" on 20 c., blue and brown	..	1 6
"½ ct." on half of 5 c., blue and rose	..	1 0
"½ ct." " 5 c., blue and red	..	1 0
"1 ct." " 2 c., blue and brown	..	0 8
2 cents, black and pale red, "Local Post"	..	0 3
5 " " blue and black	..	0 6
20 " " mauve and black	..	2 0
1 c., 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c.; set of 7, Local Post	..	5 0
3 cents, black and pale red, "Postage Due"	..	0 3
10 " " black and green	..	1 0
15 " " black and yellow	..	1 6
20 " " black and mauve	..	2 0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c.; set of 6, Postage Due	..	5 0

<i>Envelopes.</i>			<i>s. d.</i>
2 cents, black and vermilion	..	..	0 3
5 " " black and blue	..	..	0 6
<i>Wrappers.</i>			
1 cent, black and brown	..	..	0 2
2 " " black and vermilion	..	..	0 3
<i>Post Cards.</i>			
1 cent, brown	..	..	0 2
2 " " mauve	..	..	0 3

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1891. <i>Type 2938.</i>		
"Thirty cents" on 32 c., black and red, used	..	2 6

TONGA.

1893. <i>Provisionals.</i>			
½d. in red on 1d., blue	} set of 4	..	7 6
2½d. in red on 2d., green		..	
PIVE PENCE in red on 4d., orange		..	
7½d. in red on 8d., rose		..	10 0
Overprinted "G.F.B." for "Gau Faka Buleaga"; i.e. "On the Business of the Government." 1d., 2d., 4d., 8d., and 1/-, blue and red; set of 5			
The same as last, surcharged with new value in large black figures. ½d. on 1d., 2½d. on 2d., 5d. on 4d., 7½d. on 8d., the set of 4			

TRANSVAAL.

<i>Provisionals with inverted surcharge.</i>		
"Halve" on 2d., black and bistre	..	10 0
Penny	..	7 6
Ditto, red and bistre	..	7 6

VENEZUELA.

1 Bolivar, green; "Correos"	..	3 0
10 Bolivars, violet; "Instruccion"	..	35 0
20 " " pale brown	..	45 0
1893. <i>Post Cards.</i>		
10 centimos, vermilion	..	0 3
10+10 " "	..	0 4

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<i>Used *</i>	<i>Unused †</i>	<i>Used and Unused ‡</i>	<i>Postfree, 1d. extra.</i>	
				<i>Set of s. d.</i>
† Hind, native issues, including imperf. and perf.	9 4 0
* " " used (rare)	..	..	..	7 5 0
† " curved surcharge, including Service	..	..	..	7 6 0
† " straight surcharge, including 1 rupee	..	..	..	8 7 6
† Labuan, early issues, including 8 on 12 cents	..	..	..	7 15 0
† " 1892, no wmk., 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, and 40 c.	..	..	..	7 7 6
† Lagos, including 1/- black and green	..	..	..	8 4 6
† Leeward Islands, ½d., 1d., 2½d., and 4d.	..	..	..	4 2 0
* Levant, including provisional 8 k. on 10 kop	..	..	..	5 2 8
† Liberia, early issues, including four of the large size	..	..	..	10 6 6
† " 1892, 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8	..	..	..	5 1 3
† " " 16, 24, 32 cents, and 1 dollar	..	..	..	4 8 6
† " " Officials, 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 cents, used	..	..	..	5 1 6
† " " 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24, and 32 cents	..	..	..	8 6 0
† " " Envelopes and Bands □	..	..	..	6 1 6
† Lubeck, including four of the first type	..	..	..	6 3 0
† Luxemburg, Official and S.P., mostly obsolete	..	..	..	13 5 6
† " " Head of Grand Duke, 10, 12½, 20, 25, 30, and 37½	..	..	..	6 2 0
† Macao, Crown type, 5, 25, 25, 50, and 100 reis	..	..	..	5 2 2
† " " provisional issues, surcharged	..	..	..	5 2 6
† Malta, including obsolete and newsband	..	..	..	6 1 0
* Martinique (French Colonies), including obsolete	..	..	..	7 1 0
* Mauritius, including provisional	..	..	..	5 1 6
† " " 1877, 2, 4, 8, 13, 17, 25, 38, and 50 cents	..	..	..	8 9 0
† " " all provisionals, including rare varieties	..	..	..	13 10 6
† " " pence and cents, unsurcharged including two 1/-s	..	..	..	12 2 6
† " " 1863, all "Cancelled" ½ on 10d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 10d., 1/- on 5/-, and 5/-	..	..	..	9 3 6
* Mexico, including obsolete	..	..	..	5 1 0
† " " 1864, 1, 2, and 4 reals, and 1 peso	..	..	..	4 1 0
† " " 1875, Porte de Mar, 2, 10, 12, 20, 50, and 100 c.	..	..	..	6 1 6
† " " 1879, Porte de Mar, 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, and 100 c.	..	..	..	6 4 0
* " " a grand assortment, all used, including first issues, Officials, envelope, &c.	..	..	..	29 2 6
† Moldo Wallachia, 1862, 3, 6, and 30 paras	..	..	..	3 2 6
† Monaco, including envelope and newsband	..	..	..	7 0 9
† Mozambique, Company, provisionals, 5, 10, and 20 reis	3 1 0
† Montserrat, including 6d. first issue	6 7 0

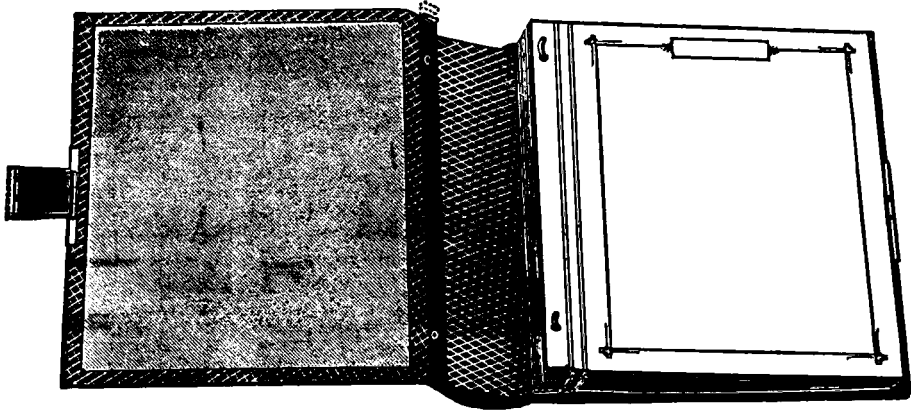
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Each dot is bisected by a small vertical line, thus ●● By this arrangement accurate measurement is guaranteed.

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No. 14.—The Two Shilling Packet of French Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties, used and unused, including Obock, Reunion, Morocco, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and others rare. Post-free, 2/1.

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No. 18.—The Half-Crown Packet of Unused Stamps contains 40 varieties, including amongst others, Holker, Tolima, Cashmere, Hayti, Jhind, Curacao, surcharged Luxemburg, Hawaii, Deccan envelope, Bulgaria, Macao, Uruguay, Portugal journal, Nicaragua, United States of Colombia, Soruth, Selangor, Zululand, British South Africa, Spain (head of Liberty), provisional South Australia, Nowanuggur, Cyprus, Cuba 1888, Travancore, San Marino, Bechuanaland, Roumania. Portuguese Indies, Sardinia, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/7.

No. 20.—The Five Shilling Packet of Rare Unused Stamps contains 60 varieties, including the following uncut envelopes: Victoria, Canada, and Egypt; also adhesives: Faridkot, rare Siam, Guatemala, British Guiana provisional 1 c., rare provisional Uruguay, North Borneo, Shanghai, Sandwich Isles, provisional Martinique, Alwur, Chamba, obsolete Tolima, Perak, provisional Ceylon, provisional West Australia, Cyprus, Argentine, Mexico Provisional de Mar, Granada Confederation, Cashmere service, Brunswick, Bolivia (figure of Justice), Swiss newsband, Chili, Bechuanaland, Finland, Jhalawar, Porto Rico, Belgium, provisional Norway, Spain, British Honduras, Greece, Azores, and many others. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 21.—The Five Shilling Packet of Russian Local Stamps (Government issues) contains 40 varieties, including many obsolete and rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 22.—The FOUR POUND Packet of Rare UNUSED Stamps contains 500 varieties, including, amongst others, scarce and obsolete Alwur, Angola, Antioquia, scarce Argentine, Azores, Bamra, Bahamas, Bavaria return letter labels, obsolete Belgium, Bermuda, Bhopal, Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, Brunswick, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Cashmere, Ceylon, Chili, Colombia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Faridkot, French Colonies, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, provisional Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Macao, Mauritius, set of 3 Mexico, 1868, Monaco, Mozambique, Newfoundland, set of 4 Nicaragua, Borneo, Nowanuggur, Persia, Peru, Porto Rico, Philippine Islands, Poonch, Portuguese Indies, Portugal, Jhind, Roumania, Russia, St. Thomas, Salvador, San Marino, Servia, Seychelles, Soruth, Spain, Perak, set of Swiss, and unpaid, Tunis, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela, Western Australia, Zululand. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/4.

PACKETS OF NEWSPAPER BANDS,

OFFICIAL AND INTERPOSTAL STAMPS.

No. 24.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 12 varieties, including New South Wales service, Interpostal Egypt, official German and Spanish Stamps, Italian Parcel Post, and Cyprus newspaper bands, India service, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 25.—The Shilling Packet contains 20 varieties, including Luxemburg, Danish and Wurtemberg service, Field Post envelope, Egyptian, German, Japan and Monaco newspaper bands, South Australia newsband and used service, Hungariao, Azores, and Italian newspaper stamps, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 26.—The Half-Crown Packet contains 36 varieties, including, amongst others, rare Czernawoda, Victoria and Mexico newsbands, Field Post Envelopes, Japan and Swiss Telegraph, Wurtemberg and French newspaper bands, Old Interpostal Egyptian, set of 3 Local Brunswick envelopes, Dutch newspaper, set of Spanish official, Italian, Swiss, Turkish, and Swedish Unpaid Letter Stamps, official Danish and Mexico, Austrian, German, Indian, and Japanese Telegraph, Nicaragua, 1 c., green, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/7.

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GREATLY IMPROVED, ALL UNUSED, ENTIRE, AND WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 27.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 6 varieties, including obsolete Japan, Perak, Cashmere, obsolete Cyprus, obsolete German Empire, and Roumanian Post Cards. Post-free, 9d.

No. 28.—The Shilling Packet contains 20 varieties, including provisional Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Holland, Surinam, Bulgaria, Danish, Servia, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria 3 pf. Post-free, 1/1.

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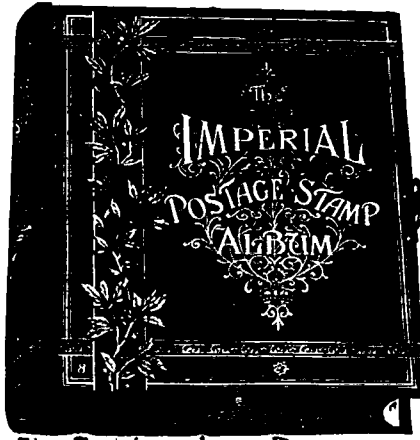
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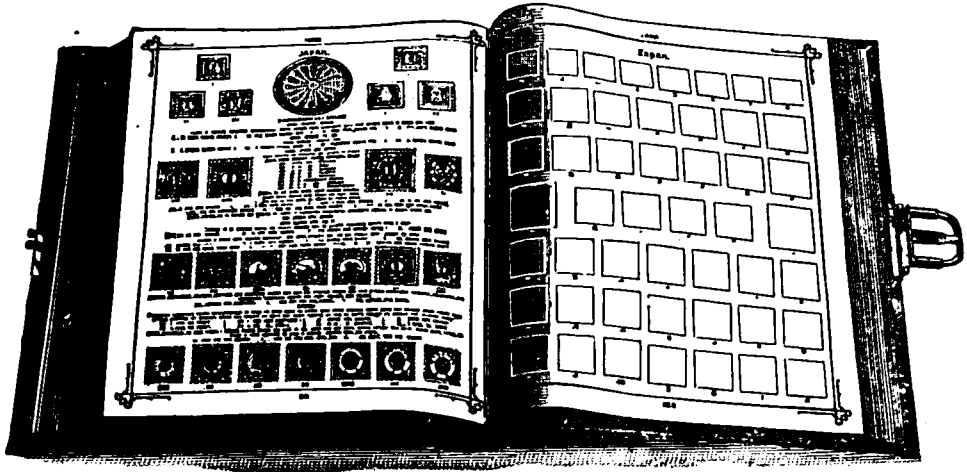
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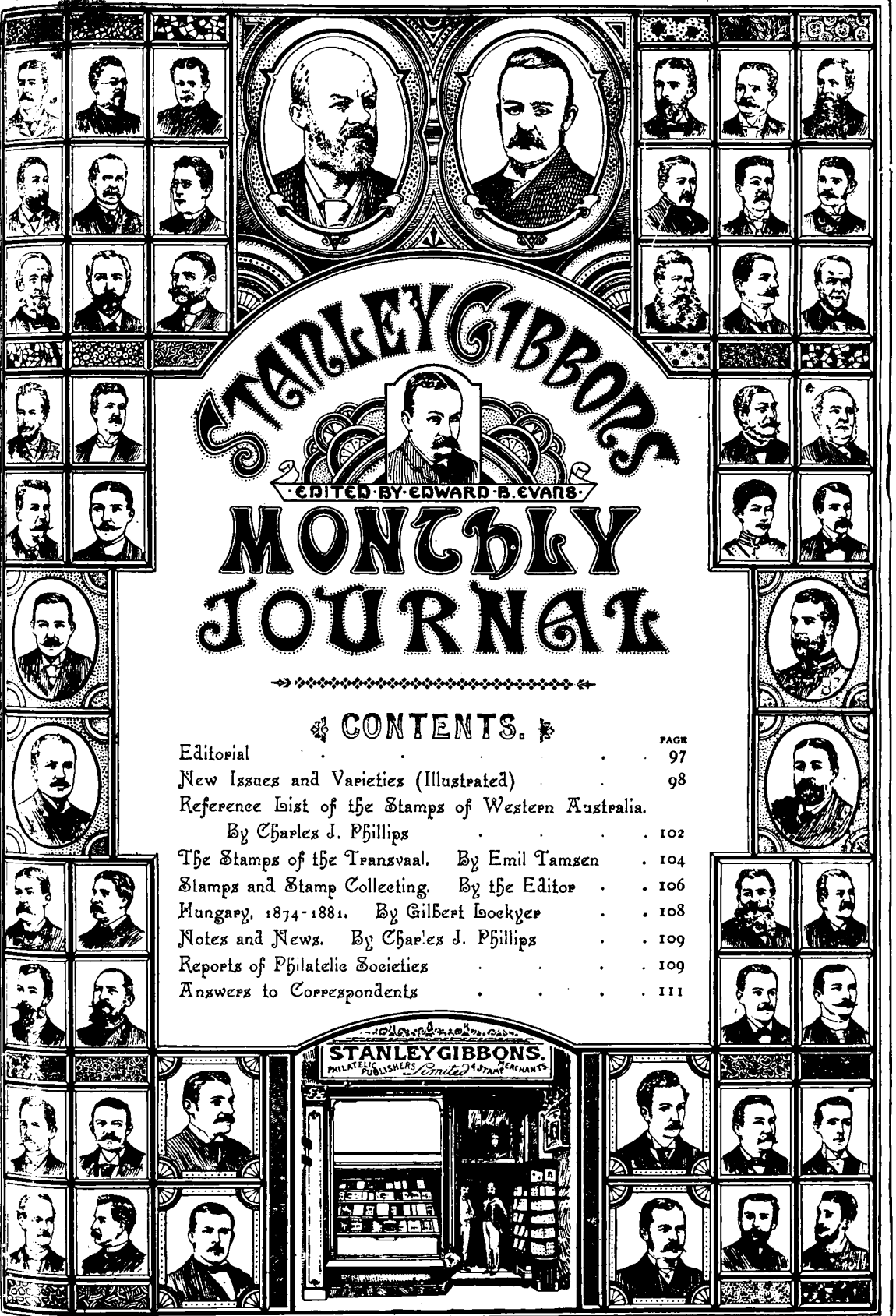
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The entire Catalogue has been revised and (in the case of many countries) re-written, under the able Editorship of Major E. B. EVANS, aided by numerous Specialists—such as Mr. GILBERT LOCKYER (Japan, Australia, &c.), Mr. E. J. NANKIVELL (Transvaal), &c. &c.

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Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

NOVEMBER 30, 1893.

No. 41.

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EDITORIAL.

WE have received the final portions of the marvellous Catalogue upon which our friend Mons. Moens has been engaged for some two years, the parts containing the Post Cards, and completing the Fiscals, having lately reached us. We tender to the learned author our most hearty congratulations upon the successful completion of a terrific task, which grows more and more difficult as years go by, and we at the same time congratulate philatelists upon the addition to their libraries of another of those monumental works, with which the name of our Belgian *confrère* is commonly associated in the philatelic mind.

As most of our readers are no doubt aware, a great improvement has been introduced in this edition, by separating the *Fiscal* portion from the *Postal*, thus rendering both parts more convenient for reference; at the same time the *Postal* portion has been further divided, by separating the Envelopes and Post Cards from the Adhesives, and from one another; we have only to regret, in the interests of uniformity, that the Telegraph and Pncumatic Post forms, envelopes, and cards were not classed with the other *entires*, instead of being given in vol. i. with the Adhesives. This is but a small matter, however; for the general result we have nothing but praise, mingled with a respectful wonder at the patient labour that has produced it; errors there may be, no doubt, both of omission and commission, but to look too closely for them would be an ungrateful task, in more senses than one; and when we look at a book consisting of nearly 1300 pages of letter press and 677 pages of illustrations, our wonder is not that there should be errors, but that they should be so few!

* * *

Die Persische Post und die Postwerthzeichen von Persien und Buchara, by Friedrich Schuller, is another book of which we recently received a copy. Unfortunately our knowledge of the

German language is the grossest ignorance, and our study of this work has been principally confined to the very interesting phototype plates with which it is illustrated. We are able, however, to gather that one of its principal objects is the denunciation of numerous surcharged varieties and supposed provisionals and reprints of various Persian issues, stated to emanate from a certain Major Mottes, who doubtless has a different story to relate. Into the merits of the dispute we are unable to enter at present, but we learn that many of these curiosities are entirely repudiated by the "Directeur Général des Postes" of Persia, and we strongly recommend those of our readers who collect the stamps of that country to study the work in question. The would-be stamps of Bokhara are also credited by the author to Major Mottes. Their authenticity has never been fully confirmed, and the letter, signed *George McKinnon*, a *fac-simile* of which is given on one of the plates, and which first revealed the existence of these stamps to Herr Friedl, of Vienna, certainly contains errors of spelling and expression which no educated Englishman would make. This is a point which does not appear to be noticed by the author of the book, and should undoubtedly strengthen the argument which he founds upon the dates attached to the letter.

THE RISE OF THE ENGLISH POST OFFICE.—Students of Post-office history will turn with interest to an article with the above title, by Mr. A. M. Ogilvie, which is published in the current number of *The Economic Journal*. The writer states that persons were first regularly employed by the Government for the conveyance of letters in the reign of Henry I. Edward III. established fixed stations, where the letter-carriers changed horses; and the first "master of the posts," whose chief duty was to supervise these change-houses, was appointed by Henry VIII. Edward VI. and Elizabeth spent large sums in making this system efficient, but no private letters were carried, except by favour. A post to the Continent was established early in the 15th century, and in 1558 the office of "the master of the strangers' post" was combined with the mastership of the Royal posts. Under Charles I. the Royal posts were opened to the public, but letters could only be sent from town to town, and not from one part of the town to another, even in London. Several local posts appear to have been established at different periods, but were suppressed by the Government. In 1784 the mails were first carried by coach, on the suggestion of one Palmer; and the next great event in Post-office history was, as everyone knows, the great reform of Rowland Hill. The article contains much historical information, besides interesting statistics, and shows great knowledge of the subject.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, *Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E.*, or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—Our publishers send us a sheet of the *shahi* of 1873-1874 (Type 10 in the Catalogue) on a very different paper to that of the copies commonly met with. It is a laid paper of a yellowish tinge, and distinctly thinner than that usually employed; in appearance it closely resembles some of the early Indian letter-sheets, but it is not so thin as the paper of these.

The following extract from the *Daily News* of the 9th inst. contains information, some of which will probably be as new to our readers as it is to ourselves. The new red stamp, with "a mosque and two flags," has not yet reached us.

The collectors of stamps may like to know that Ameer Abdur Rahman has had three issues of stamps. When he first came to the throne he had dies struck for two postage stamps, both round in shape and of a dull red colour. One of these was valued 1 abasi, or 4 annas, and the other 2 abasi; the former was used on letters weighing one miskal, or half the weight of a Cabuli rupee. The latter carried a letter up to two miskals. The inscription on these stamps is "Darus Sultaneh Cabul" on the margin, and the price is in the middle. Three years ago a small black oblong stamp, about an inch long, valued at 1 abasi, was issued. This was merely inscribed "Masul Kagaz Dak Khana Dowlat-i-Afghanistan fi miskal ek abasi." This has now been superseded by a much larger red oblong stamp, which bears the same words, but has in addition a mosque and two flags.

Angola.—*Le Timbre-Poste* describes a specimen of the 5 reis of 1887 in grey-black, almost as pale as the grey of the 80 reis of some of the other Portuguese colonies.

Adhesive. 5 reis, grey-black.

Argentine Republic.—*La Gazette Timbriologique* reports that the 1 c. wrapper is now gummed at the right hand end instead of the left, making it more convenient for use upon small objects, as the other end was liable in those cases to overlap the stamp.

Bahamas.—*The Post Office* notes a specimen of the "FOUR PENCE" on 6d. with the surcharge upside-down.

Adhesive. 4d., in black, on 6d., violet; inverted surcharge.

Barbados.—A correspondent in this colony assures us that the Registration Envelope, with 2d. stamp in grey, is quite unknown there. We are glad to strike it off the list.

Bavaria.—*Le T.-P.* adds the 5 + 5 pf. card to the list of those dated "93." *The London Philatelist* describes an imperforate pair of the 3 kr. of 1870 with watermark of crossed diagonal lines.

Adhesive. 3 kr., rose (1870); variety imperf.

Belgium.—A further instalment of the Sundaisical monstrosities duly made its appearance on, or about, the 1st inst.—the 1st being a *ne pas livrer* day in Brussels. This issue included the 35 c., which was not mentioned in our list in June, and completes the series of values; but we hear that a change in the colour of the 2 c. is contemplated, so as to keep up the revenue of the Post-office. The 35 c. is of similar colour to that of the previous issue of that value; a correspondent points out to us that it differs slightly in type, but we are inclined to think that this is due rather to defective reproduction than to any actual re-engraving.

Adhesive. 35 c., chocolate.

Bermuda.—We rejoice to be able to relieve our readers from the necessity of struggling after specimens of the first issue of 1d. + ½d. cards, surcharged "One Penny," as recently described. We learn upon the best authority that 87 of these cards were surcharged, but that all were purchased by a clerk in the Post-office, none being issued to the public.

Bhopal.—*Le T.-P.* chronicles a new type of 8 annas stamp, of the same design as the former, but re-drawn and slightly increased in size. There are again ten varieties in two vertical rows, but the block is now surrounded by a plain frame of a single line; the additional impression in relief is in many cases hardly visible. The specimens seen at present are unperforated, but doubtless that defect will be shortly remedied.

Adhesive. 8 a., greenish-black on thin laid.

Bosnia.—*The Postal Card* describes two varieties of the 5 nov. Letter Cards of last year:—a. Has 66 holes in the horizontal line of perforations, between the two vertical lines, and "ist" on the back with short "s." b. Has 72 holes, and "ist" with long "f." As far as the perforations are concerned, these cards appear to correspond with those of 1886, as described in Mr. Watson's Catalogue, but they are on the pale blue-grey card.

Brazil.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* reports two new values of the current *Journal* series.

Journal Stamps. 200 reis, black.
700 ,, violet.

British East Africa.—*Messrs. Smith and Co.'s Monthly Circular* states that the Postmaster of Mombasa doubts the authenticity of the ½ a. on 2 a. and 1 a. on 4 a. with printed surcharge. The Postmaster vouches for the following:

½ anna on 2 annas, issued January, 1891.	April
½ " 4 " "	May
½ " 3 " "	June

All of which, he states, were surcharged in MS., and initialled "A. D.," except the last, which was initialled "V. H. M." We were shown, nearly twelve months ago, some copies of the "½ anna" on 2 a., with surcharge printed in violet, and initialled "A. D." in apparently the same hand as some copies of the ½ a. on 2 a. with MS. surcharge, which were shown us at the same time.

British Guiana.—*The P. C.* chronicles a new 1 c. card, without the word "INLAND" at the top. Probably, like our own ½d. card, it is available for Postal Union purposes with the addition of an adhesive.

Post Card. 1 c., grey on buff; new variety.

Cape of Good Hope.—*The Stamp News* reports the 1 ½d. wrapper on thin, tough, white wove paper.

Wrapper. 1 ½d., blue-grey on white.

Chefoo.—Mr. R. A. Binns kindly sends us a set of the stamps to which we alluded last month, and which we learn were issued on Oct. 6th. The stamps are very neat, and, like so many other articles of cheap stationery, are "made in Germany." The central design consists of a Joss-house (used as a signal station), with a tall Flag-staff near it bearing the signal denoting a Steamer from the Southward; surrounding this is a rectangular frame, with a pattern of conventional ornaments, lettered "CHEFOO" at the top, and "CENT," or "CENTS," below; in the lower corners are numerals denoting the value, and in the upper Chinese characters, which are the same on all the values. The stamps are lithographed (or typographed?) on white wove paper, watermarked with Chinese characters, which appear to be the same as those in the right upper corner of the design, and are perf. 11 ½.

Adhesives. ½ c., green.
1 c., red.
2 c., ultramarine.
5 c., yellow.
10 c., brown.

China.—Our publishers send us a vertical pair of the current 1 candarin, without the line of perforations between the two stamps.

Adhesive. 1 cand., green; variety of perforation.

Colombia.—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles two more *Cubiertas*, of the type of 1892 (687 in Catalogue). *Cubiertas.* 30 c., black on salmon.
40 c., black on blue.

Confederate States. *Goldad.*—It appears that the variety of the 10 c. which we chronicled last month, with the name in italics, has the name of the postmaster written across it in red ink, "Clarke—P.M.," in two lines. This had escaped the notice of the editor of *The Philatelic Journal of America*, from which we now copy the corrected description.

Cyprus.—It appears that the $\frac{1}{2}$ piastre card, which we chronicled in *brown on buff*, on the authority of a contemporary, in July last, is still printed in *green*, and that it is the colour of the card only that is changed.

Post Card. $\frac{1}{2}$ piast., green on buff (corrected description).

Ecuador.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that Mr. Seebeck is not coming to the rescue of this unfortunate Republic until next January. But how about *remainders*? We presume there will be none in this case! In the meantime the use of all kinds of makeshifts still goes on, as we gather from various sources.

Adhesives.

- 5 c., in black, on 1 sucre, blue.
- 10 c., oblong, orange; *Telegraph stamp.*
- 1 c., slate; *Fiscal 1887-1888, surcharged 1893-1894, in black.*
- 4 c., brown " " " " "
- 5 c., blue " " " " "
- 10 c., orange " " 1893-1894. " " "

France.—We much regret to find that our remarks upon the celebrated celebration Letter Card of Dunkirk seem to have given serious offence to one of our esteemed contemporaries across the channel. Our observations were made purely in the interests of philately, which is by no means benefited by these speculative issues, and our *confère's* ebullition reminds us of the *Echo* of a storm in a tea-cup. We can only ask, with the Psalmist, *Quare frumentum?*

We learn from an article in *Le T. P.* that the card in question was not published with the sole object of doing honour to the "vaillant corsaire qui infligea," &c., &c., or of celebrating "la fuite honteuse," which took place some ninety odd years after his death. It appears that the publisher of the card is the fortunate possessor of the only genuine, original, guaranteed portrait of Jean Bart. He has had this engraved, and has copies for sale, which sale will perhaps be promoted somewhat by the issue of the cards, and thus profit and patriotism go hand in hand.

The visit of the Russian fleet to Toulon has served as an excuse for the issue of another "Picture Card," which, for some unknown reason, is adorned with two 1 c. stamps, in addition to a view of Toulon harbour and a portrait of the Czar, surmounted by the following extraordinary legend: "SOUVENIR DE LA VISITE DE L'ESCADRE RUSSE A TOULON, 13 OCTOBRE 1893 (*Affranchissement insuffisant*)." It does not appear exactly the sort of *souvenir* that either guest would wish to leave, or host would desire to commemorate; but it is possible that our gross ignorance of the French language has led us into error as to the reference of the last two words.

The illustration given in *Le T. P.* (we have not seen one of the originals) gives us the idea that possibly these cards have been formed from unsevered pairs of 1 c. wrappers, pasted upon card-board, as the two stamps are placed vertically one above the other, at some distance apart. At the side of the lower one are two spaces for the addition of 5 c. and 3 c. adhesives, with inscriptions denoting that a *centime* and a *kopec* are of equal value, a depreciation of the Russian currency which we believe to be unmerited.

Germany.—*Le T. P.* reports that the current 3, 25, and 50 pfennig stamps have been received *imperfect*, but justly observes that it would be interesting to know where these came from.

The P. C. describes two varieties of the 5 + 5 pf. card, dated "892 f." (a) With "ANTWORT" on the second half, 6 mm. above the first dotted line. (b) With 11 mm. between the word and the line.

Great Britain.—We learn from *The Philatelic Record* that sizes F and K of the new Registration envelopes have made their appearance.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue (new form); sizes F. K.

We have been shown a number of specimens of the 4d., *rose*, wmk. Large Garter, on very decidedly *blue* paper, the tint of which we have little doubt has been fraudulently produced. The well known appearance of the stamps with the Small Garter wmk. has been most skilfully imitated, and any collector looking at the face of the stamps alone would take them for specimens of the issue of 1856. The Large Garter paper is unknown to us with this *blue* tinge, and when we add that twenty copies of this variety were received from a continental dealer, whose name we do not propose to mention at present, we think we have said enough to warn our readers against what we believe to be a very dangerous fraud.

Haiti.—*The Ph. J. of A.* is informed that a few sheets of the current 2 c. stamps were put in circulation without being perforated. *Adhesive.* 2 c., blue; *imperf.*

Hankow.—*Le T. P.* states that there are ten minor varieties of each value of the stamps recently chronicled, differing in the pieces composing the frame, and also in the arrangement of the lettering. These stamps are printed in vertical strips of ten, except the 5 c., which are in horizontal strips.

Honduras.—The portrait upon the new stamps, &c. is stated to be that of General Cabanas.

The A. J. of Ph. gives the following correction of, and addition to, the list of adhesives, which we copied in September: *Adhesives.* 25 c., deep blue. 30 c., orange.

India.—A correspondent sends us a tracing of a curiosity which, we believe, has not been hitherto noted. It is the 2 annas of the first issue, divided in half diagonally, and thus employed—presumably—as a 1 anna stamp. The specimen described paid postage on a letter to Hongkong in 1857.

Mr. Seymour Summers sends us some labels, which are used upon parcels in India, the value of which is to be recovered by the Post-office from the addressee. We describe these principally with a view to pointing out to our readers that, as far as we can ascertain, they have no *postal* significance whatever, the value expressed upon them being simply that of the parcel, though it is possible that in some cases this may include the cost of carriage. They are plain type-set labels, printed in *black* on common coloured paper. The two before us are on *green* and *pink* respectively; at the top, in large type, are the letters "V. P.," followed by a number; below this, on the *pink*, "Amount to be recovered"—" (Exclusive of postage) "—"Rs.As.," in three lines, the second of the three being omitted on the *green*; this is enclosed by a frame of single lines, and at the bottom in each case is a space, in which is printed the name of the office from which the label emanates. Any one who wishes to collect these things can of course do so, but they are not postage stamps, although used by the Post-office.

Liberia.—We are indebted to Mr. Hayman for specimens of the current 6 c., both of the ordinary and the *official* series, surcharged "Five—Cents." in two lines of heavy (*Egyptian*) type, across the lower part, and with a figure "5" in each of the upper corners.

Our publishers send us a sheet of these stamps (40, in five horizontal rows). The stamp in the right bottom corner has thick numerals in the surcharge, apparently of the same font as the lettering, whilst all the others are surcharged with ordinary figures. This variety, we are told, occurs on all the sheets.

We are informed that 5 c. stamps of a permanent type will be issued shortly to replace the 6 c., that value being no longer required.

	<i>Adhesive.</i>	5 c., in black, on 6 c., green.	
		5 c. " " 6 c. " variety.	
<i>Official</i>	"	5 c. " " 6 c. " "	
		5 c. " " 6 c. " "	

With reference to the 3 c., *red*, *Le T. P.* is informed that some years ago these stamps were sent out to Monrovia from Germany, with a request that they might be returned obliterated; the authorities, very properly, confiscated them, and it seems that they have recently been found again and sent to England. But are they of the genuine type? And, if so, where were they originally obtained?

The registration envelope with stamp in *red* is stated by the same authority to be non-existent. The stamp certainly exists in *reddish-lilac*; possibly this may approach *vednian-red* in some lights.

Luxemburg.—*The London Philatelist* chronicled two months ago the 4 c. of the earlier type in *black*, *imperf.* In the last number Mr. Lockyer adds the same variety *perf.* 13. It seems curious that an error of colour, if such it be, should exist in both conditions, and yet not have been heard of sooner. *Adhesive.* 4 c., black (error?); *imperf.* and *perf.* 13.

Mexico.—*The Ph. J. of A.* chronicles the current 1 c. in *blue-green*, and the 2 c. in *bright red*, upon the *water-marked* paper; also divers other values in *bright red* upon *unwmkd.* paper, but these appear to be merely shades of the earlier *red* series of these stamps.

Mr. Chapman, to whom we are indebted for constant information from this country, assures us that there are no 5 c. cards of similar type to the latest 2 c. and 3 c., and that there is no probability of 5 c. cards of this type being issued. September 16th, he tells us, is the great national holiday in Mexico, Independence Day, but even this could not induce the authorities to accept Mr. Escalante's offer of a special issue of stamps. He adds, we regret to state, that a series of envelopes, of similar nature to those adorned with Messrs. Wells, Fargo, & Co.'s vignettes, is issued by the "Express Nacional Mexicano"; but although we believe these to be upon precisely the same philatelic footing as those of Wells, Fargo, and Co., which are likewise in reality *private locals*, we feel inclined to harden our hearts against them, lest they should increase and multiply too rapidly; and the more so as there appears to be another company, "Express Hidalgo," which is starting in the same business, according to *Le T. P.* In any case we propose to wait a little, and see how these things turn out before we chronicle them.

Chalco.—Mr. Chapman also kindly sends us a photograph of a letter concerning the provisional stamp of this district, a translation of which may be of interest to our readers.

"PUEBLA, Oct. 28th, 1890.

"SEÑOR FRANCISCO S. ORTIZ, Veracruz.

"ESTEEMED FRIEND,—In reply to the inquiries you have made of me regarding the provisional stamps issued in the year 1867 by the Postal Administration of Chalco, I have to inform you that these stamps were in circulation from the month of May in that year till the following June, and that General Francisco Mejia, who filled the office of Chief of the Treasury and took command of all the Revenue Departments, at my suggestion, and with the consent of General Porfirio Diaz, commanding the republican forces which were besieging the capital, ordered them to be put in use. I have not at hand a specimen with which to compare the one that you submit for examination" (this was attached to the letter and shown in the photograph); "however, as I recognise in it all the details of those (alluded to), which I recollect perfectly well, I consider it genuine, and as such you may safely purchase it.

"Your friend, &c., &c.,

(Signed) "MIGUEL VANGAR" (?).

We are not quite certain about the second name of the signature, but the writer plainly was, or professed to be, an official personage, acquainted with the circumstances of the issue of the stamps in question. But such is the scepticism of the present day that in these cases we want not only specimens on original letters, but sworn documents attesting every point in their history, and even then we are sometimes justified in disbelieving!

Monaco.—The editor of *The P. C.* vouches for the existence of the current 10 c. card in *red-brown on buff* and *on pale green*, and expresses a doubt of there being any other varieties. We suspect he is right, and at any rate we hope so.

Montenegro.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the following articles of postal stationery, with the type of the adhesives.

Wrappers. 2 nov., yellow on blue laid; 340x53 mm.
3 " " green
Post Cards. 5 " " black on blue; for Postal Union.
5+5 " " " "

Morocco.—A correspondent kindly sends us a specimen of a stamp of the same design as that of the *Mazagan and Morocco* post, but inscribed "MOGADOR A MAROC," with large numerals "20" in the centre, and a star in each spandrel. It is described to us as the stamp of a private company started in 1892, and the specimen is obliterated with "MRAKSH MA 6 92," in a straight line, struck twice diagonally, in the form of a St. Andrew's Cross, and with "AYAR" struck horizontally across the upper part.

Mogador and Morocco Post. 20 c., red; perf. 1½.

The same correspondent sends us an envelope bearing an octagonal stamp, showing Moorish characters upon a solid ground, handstruck in violet. This is stated to be a stamp of the Moorish Government post, but we should gather that, if it has any postal significance, it denotes postage paid in cash, and that these are not *stamped envelopes*. We should add that Mons. Kodet, to whom the envelope was submitted, states that this is not a stamp of any kind, but simply the impression of a seal, such as is commonly used by Orientals, and, we gather, usually impressed in ink upon documents, &c.

Mozambique.—*Le T. P.* adds the 30 reis card to the list of those surcharged "COMP^A DE MOÇAMBIQUE."

Post Card. 30 reis, green on buff; black surcharge.

Newfoundland.—A story is going the rounds of the philatelic press to the effect that the 1s., *vermilion*, has been seen upon thick *laid* paper. *The Philatelic Monthly* adds, upon what authority we know not, that this is an *essay* (proof?), of which a few specimens have escaped from the custody of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. Pending further information, we abstain from placing it on the list.

New South Wales.—*The Ill. Brief Journal* states that the 1d. post card, hitherto printed on buff, has now appeared on white; this, we presume, is the card without the *Warratah*.

The L. P. chronicles the 1d., red, on the Stamp Duty paper, surcharged "O. S.," in black.

Post Card. 1d., mauve on white; without *Warratah*.
Service Stamp. 1d., red; *wmk.* N. S. W.

Norway.—*Le T. P.* announces an addition to the Unpaid Letter series. It resembles the rest of the family, except in value. *Unpaid Letter Stamp*. 4 öre, violet.

Oil Rivers.—It appears that the re-christening of this Protectorate has caused some philatelic, and even postal, confusion. We learn from *The L. P.* that, in order to avoid mixing the *Oil* with the *Nigger*, the surcharged stamps were ordered to be used up before the new ones were put in circulation; hence arose a famine of ½d. stamps in Old Calabar, and a dearth of 1d. "Way down upon the Bonny River"—as the poet has it. The trouble at Bonny was easily got over by the use of ½d. stamps, and it might have been supposed that the scissors alone could have solved the difficulty at Old Calabar; but we are told that before bisecting the stamps it was thought necessary to surcharge each portion "½d.," and add a diagonal line to guide the cutter. The overprint is in red (some essays in violet proving unsatisfactory), and is apparently handstamped.

Adhesive. ½d., in red, on half of 1d., black and purple.

Paraguay.—*The American Journal of Philately* describes a variety of the imperforate 15 c. Official Stamp of 1866 with the wavy line pattern on the face, instead of on the back.

Official Stamp. 15 c., blue; with orange groundwork on face.

Portugal.—A correspondent informs us that two very distinct shades of the should-be-obsolete 80 reis (*orange and deep yellow*) exist with the "1893 PROVISORIO 50 rs.," surcharge. Of course there may be remainders of more than one printing, but we doubt not that the supply of these curiosities will be made to equal the demand, even though fresh printings should be necessary. The same informant tells us of a rumour that a celebration issue is in contemplation here. The occasion seems uncertain, but the object will be easily understood.

Roumania.—A new 10 bani card is described in *Le T. P.* The stamp is of the rectangular type employed upon the inland cards, and is in the right upper corner, with the Arms at the opposite side; inscriptions—"UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE"—"ROMANIA"—"CARTA POSTALA"; three dotted lines for the address, the first headed "D," and the third partly underlined; all within a fancy frame.

Post Card. 10 bani, red on buff; 128x90 mm.

Der Philatelist describes two adhesives, printed in two colours, with profile of the king to left in an oval as before, but in a frame of a new design. Perf. 13½.

Adhesives. 1 leu, brown, centre rose.
2 leu, orange " " brown.

Russia.—*The I. B. J.* chronicles the 5 kopecs stamp, of the type without the thunderbolts, upon an envelope of much smaller size than any hitherto catalogued in this country. It is curious that a new size of an obsolete envelope should only now have been discovered.

Envelope. 5 kop., lilac on buff; 95x68 mm.

Russian Locals:

Bijetsk.—We have received a new variety of the type-set designs patronized by this district. The inscriptions are similarly arranged to those of Type 2200 in the Catalogue, but are in different type; the value in words is added below the numeral, and the frame is composed of oval ornaments.

Adhesive. 3 kop., black on green; imperf.

Kolomna.—The following illustrations represent two sets of stamps which we have received from this district. We

learn from *Le T. P.* that the circular ones are for prepayment, and that the square denote postage due. All are lithographed on white wove paper and perf. 11½.

- Adhesives.
- 1 kop., orange.
- 2 " green.
- 3 " carmine.
- 5 " blue.

- Unpaid Letter Adhesives.
- 1 kop., orange.
- 2 " green.
- 3 " carmine.
- 5 " blue.



Orquiuff.—We have received a pair of stamps for this district of more or less novel design. The Arms are in a small Shield surmounted by a Crown, and enclosed in a narrow oval. Outside this are labels of fancy shape, containing the inscriptions, and the corners are completed by circles enclosing numerals. The stamps are lithographed (?) on white wove paper and perf. 11½.

- Adhesives. 3 kopeks, blue.
- 6 " carmine-rose.

Perejaslav.—We have the type of 1891 (2498 redrawn) in fresh colours.

Adhesive. 5 kop., deep blue on rose; perf. 12½.

Sarapul.—This district can only find a use for one value, but makes varieties by printing it in different colours. We have chronicled it in orange and brown, and *Le T. P.* now adds two more, all of the same type, &c.

- Adhesives. 2 kop., blue.
- 2 " green.

Solikamsk.—The same system is adopted here. We have received the 4 kop. stamp in a third variety of tint.

Adhesive. 4 kop., brown.

Starobyelsk.—We have received two new varieties from this district. The current design, as issued in 1888, had small ornaments in the lower corners (see Type 2584 in the Catalogue). In 1891 those ornaments were done away with. We now have the type of 1891 in a fresh colour (this the editor of *Le T. P.* believes to have been issued last year), and at the same time we receive a fresh modification of the design, with smaller ornaments than before in the lower corners, as shown in the accompanying illustration. Both are perf. 12½.



- Adhesives. 2 kop., blue on bluish-green; type of 1891.
- 2 " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
- 2 " " " " " " " " " " " " " "

Walki.—This we regret to state is a new district, philatelically, from which we have received two stamps of the accompanying design. *Le T. P.* tells us that it is incorrectly inscribed *Walkotokaya* instead of *Walkouskaya*, which no doubt will form an excuse for a fresh issue before long.

- Adhesives.
- 1 kop., blue; perf. 11½.
- 5 " carmine-red; perf. 11½.

St. Helena.—We have received from Messrs. Cameron and Co. a 2½d. stamp, formed by printing the 6d. in blue, but of a different shade to any of those in which it has hitherto been issued, and surcharging it "2½d.," the original value being cancelled by a short bar. The wmk. is Crown and CA, and the perforation 14.

Adhesive. 2½d., in black, on 6d., blue.

St. Thomas (Danish West Indies).—A correspondent calls our attention to the fact that the 1 c. exists with the centre in carmine-rose, as well as in violet. We find that this is catalogued by Mons. Moens under the date 1888, and it is plainly quite a different printing to the earlier issue, but it does not appear to have been chronicled in England.

Adhesive. 1 c., yellow-green and carmine.

St. Vincent.—We are indebted to Messrs. Cameron and Co. for two sheets of the 5d. on 6d., which are in very

different shades, the impression of the one being in a dull carmine, and that of the other in a very brown shade of carmine; the tints are not easy to describe, but are very distinct when seen together.

Sarawak.—Our publishers send us two curious varieties of the 2 c. on 8 c., which they have found among their stock. One pair shows one stamp with the ordinary surcharge, and the other doubly overprinted, while another pair balances this, having the ordinary surcharge on one stamp, and no surcharge on the other! Both curiosities testify to the fact that the overprint was applied by hand on one stamp at a time.

Adhesives.

- 2 c., in black, on 8 c., rose and green; double surcharge.
- 2 c. " " on 8 c. " pair, with 8 c. unsurcharged.

Shanghai.—We have received the 1 c. envelope and ½ c. wrapper with the embossed stamp; the wrapper is the same size as those previously noted, but both this and the 1 c. envelope are of thinner and whiter paper than that of the higher values. Mr. R. A. Binns sends us the 10 c. *Postage Due* stamps, of the surcharged type, in two distinct shades; the more recent variety shows the stamp in deeper orange than before, and the overprint in ultramarine, instead of dull blue. We have also received a letter card which differs from that of Great Britain only in the stamp, which is of the type of the current adhesives, the absence of the Royal Arms and of the instruction on the reverse fold, and in the colour of the impression.

- Envelope. 1 c., black and brown on white laid; 135×78 mm.
- Wrapper. ½ c., black and orange " 281×103 mm.
- Letter Card. 1 c., brown on blue.

Postage Due Stamp. 1 c., deep orange; ultramarine surcharge.

Messrs. Whitfield, King, & Co. have kindly shown us a set of photographs of essays for stamps, post cards, &c., submitted by Mr. R. A. de Villard, the designer of the current issue. It is hardly necessary to state that the designs are very pretty, and are beautifully executed, so much so that the Municipal Council has decided upon having a fresh issue every two years, in order to make use of them all. In the meantime, however, it is not impossible that within the next two years the Chinese Imperial Government may adopt a postal system, which will render all these Local Posts unnecessary.

Sierra Leone.—Messrs. Cameron, & Co. send us a sheet of the "HALF PENNY" on 1½d., on which the first stamp in the third row has the second word of the surcharge spelt "PFNNY"; and our informants state that this variety is always found on this stamp, so that apparently it is not a defective impression of the "E." We should add that the entire sheet here evidently consists of one pane of 60 stamps (10 horizontal rows) only, the marginal numbers ("53" and "1") occurring at top and bottom of the sheet sent us.

Adhesive. ½d., in black, on 1½d., lilac; error "PFNNY."

South Australia.—*The S. N.* notes the 2½d. on 4d. doubly perf. 15 all round! *The Ph. J.* of G. B. chronicles a wrapper, of manilla satined paper, with the stamp alone, and no inscription. We should suppose that this may be struck to order. The same magazine reports the discovery of the ½d. on 1d. surcharged "O.S." in the wide block type hitherto known only upon the wrappers.

- Adhesive. 2½d. on 4d., brown and green; doubly perf. 15.
- Wrapper. 1d., green on manilla; no inscription.
- Service Stamp. ½d., in black, on 1d., green; perf. 10, large "O.S."

Spain.—*The S. N.* chronicles, on the authority of a French contemporary, the current 5 c. entirely imperforate, thus capping the curiosity which we described in June.

Adhesive. 5 c., ultramarine; imperforate.

Tahiti.—*The Ph. J.* of G. B. describes a card which was used here more than nine years ago, and of which a specimen seems only now to have been met with. News travels faster now than it did in those days, and this variety was evidently made for use, not merely for speculative purposes. It is one of the old unstamped cards, with "MARINE.—1876. (696.)" in the left lower corner, and, instead of an adhesive stamp, it has printed in the stamp space "TAHITI"—"10 c." with a thick line above and below, and the figure "2" of "20" in the inscription in the upper centre altered in violet ink to "1." The specimen was postmarked "PAPEETE, TAITI 15 AOUT—84."

Post Card. 10 c., black on white.

Terra del Fuego.—*The A. J.* of Ph. publishes a letter which professes to give an account, obtained from a correspondent in Patagonia, of "How the Tierra del

Fuego stamp originated, and why so few are in the hands of collectors." We perused this with some interest, hoping to gather further details to add to the information we had received, and were somewhat disappointed at finding that, with the exception of about a line and a half, which is very slightly altered, the Patagonian letter is a word-for-word transcription of what we published on the subject last April.

Trinidad.—We believe that a few months ago there was a rumour, the reference to which we cannot now trace, to the effect that some of the stamps of this colony had been surcharged "O.H.M.S." Messrs. Cameron and Co. send us some information, obtained from an official source, which we are happy to say denies the existence of any varieties of this kind.

The P. C. reports two varieties of the 2d. + 2d. card: a. With 27 holes along the fold. b. With 32 holes.

Turkey.—We are informed that the 10 and 20 paras, of the 1876 type, exist upon thin, greasy-looking paper, like that of the other values chronicled in 1891.

Le T. P. states that a stamp exists upside-down upon the sheets of the current 2 piastres.

Adhesives. 10 par., green and grey on thin transparent paper.
20 " rose and grey
2 piastres, brown; variety "tête-bêche."

Turks Islands.—We have received the Registration envelope, size H, in a slightly altered form. The heading on the address side is in *sans-serif* type, and the three lines measure 72½, 118, and 95 mm. respectively, instead of 63, 110½, and 90 mm. Under the flap is "THOS. DE LA RUE & CO. PATENT," in blue.

Reg. Env. No value, blue, size H; new variety.

Uruguay.—A correspondent sends us a pair of the 15 c., orange-yellow, of the 1866 issue, rouletted, which appears from its history to have come from an official source. This variety is quite new to us, but it seems a not impossible one, the 15 c. having remained in stock for years after the rest of the series went out of use, turning up with the "OFFICIAL" surcharge as late as 1880. Perhaps some imperforate sheets were rouletted for distribution with specimen sets.

Victoria.—Mr. D. H. Hill writes to *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* stating that he has seen a specimen of the 6d., orange, of 1854, with the serrated perforation, upon a letter dated 30th October, 1855. This he considers a proof that the perforation in question was unofficial, as no action in that direction was taken by the Post Office till some fourteen months after that date. The perforation of this specimen gauges 18, and though others have been found perf. 19, Mr. Hill believes that all were done by the same machine.

REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

(Continued from page 85.)

ISSUE X. 1882-1890.

The same types. Watermark Crown & CA.

- (a) Perforated 12½.
1d., yellow-brown.
2d., chrome-yellow.
4d., carmine.
6d., violet.

Note.—Apparently the first supply on the CA paper was perforated by the old machine, giving the rough perforation of 12½; but this must have been quickly changed to the clean-cut perf. 12, as specimens showing the former are very scarce. I believe that Mr. W. B. Thornhill was the first to discover these varieties some ten years ago; but they were first noted in print in *The Philatelic Record* of April, 1888, when only the 1d. and 2d. were given.

- (b) Perforated 12.
1d., bistre (June 20, 1884).
2d., chrome-yellow.
4d., carmine (September 3, 1885).
6d., pale violet.

(c) Perforated 14.

- 1d., bistre, yellow-bistre (1888).
2d., chrome-yellow.
3d., reddish-brown.
4d., deep and pale carmine, lake.
6d., pale violet (January 1, 1890).

(d) Perforated 12 × 14.

- 1d., bistre.

Note.—The four varieties (a, b, c, and d) of this Issue afford plenty of scope for investigation as to the respective dates of issue. The various Philatelic journals give hardly any assistance on this point, and hence dated specimens have mostly to be depended on, and these are very seldom to be met with.

ISSUE XI. January 25th, 1884.

Provisional Issue, caused by the reduction in the newspaper rates to the other Australian colonies.

½," in red, on 1d., yellow-bistre; watermark Crown and CA.

- (a) Perforated 12.
(b) " 14.

Note.—A minor variety occurs on each sheet. On one stamp in the bottom row the dividing line between the "1" and "2" of the surcharge is a very faint hair-line, totally different from those on the other stamps on the sheet.

The surcharge has been met with inverted, but I believe this to be a forgery.

The stamp perforated 12 was issued first, being noted in *The Philatelic Record* of March, 1884. That perforated 14 I have dated "ju. 26. 1888," but I think it must have been issued before May, 1885, when the permanent ½d., green, came into use.

ISSUE XII. May, 1885.

Watermark Crown and CA; perforated 14.
½d., green.

ISSUE XIII. May, 1885.

The 3d. of 1872 surcharged "1d." in green.

Watermark Crown & CC., perf. 14.

- (a) Thick "1" with slanting top.
(b) Thin "1" with straight top.

Note.—This provisional is printed in panes of 60 stamps (10 × 6). The upper five rows of ten stamps have the "1" thick, and with slanting top. The bottom row of ten stamps has the thinner "1" with straight top. This latter variety is therefore five times as rare as the former one.

This stamp has been chronicled as issued in August, 1885. However I have a specimen clearly dated "May 21. 1885," and several dated June of the same year.

ISSUE XIV. April, 1889.

Old Type. Watermark Crown & CA; perf. 14.

- 1d., pale rose.
2d., slate.
4d., pale brown.

ISSUE XV. 1890-1893.

New Type. Same watermark and perforation.

- 1d., carmine (1890).
- 2d., pearl-grey (1890).
- 2½d., blue (May, 1892).
- 4d., brown (1890).
- 5d., ochre-brown (May, 1892).
- 6d., mauve (Jan., 1893).
- 1s., olive-green (April, 1890; Moens).

ISSUE XVI. January, 1893.

The 3d., brown, surcharged "ONE PENNY" in green.

- (a) Watermark Crown and CC; perf. 14.
- (b) " Crown and CA "

STAMPS USED FOR OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

These stamps are distinguished by having a hole punched through them. This hole is of two sizes, the earlier one used being about 3 mm., and the later one about 4 mm. in diameter.

In the following list I call the small hole A, and the large one B.

August 1, 1854.

Watermark Swan.

- 1d., black; imperf. A ... —
- 4d., blue (shades); imperf. A ... B
- 1s., brown " A ... B

Varieties.

- 4d., blue; two holes A ... —
- 4d., blue; rouletted A ... B
- 1s., brown; rouletted 9 A ... —

1857.

- 2d., chocolate; imperf. A ... —
- 6d., bronze " A ... B

July, 1860.

- 2d., orange-vermilion; imperf. A ... B
- 6d., green; imperf. A ... B

1861.

- 1d., rose; perf. 14 A ... —
- " " 15 A ... —
- " " 15½ A ... B
- 2d., blue " 14 — ... B
- " " 15 A ... B
- " " 16 A ... —
- " " 14½ × 15 A ... —
- " " 14½ × 15½ A ... —
- " " 14½ × 16 A ... —
- " " 15 × 15½ A ... B
- " " 15 × 16 A ... —
- 4d., vermilion; perf. 14 A ... B
- 6d., purple-brown; perf. 15 A ... —
- " " 15½ A ... —
- " " 14 × 15½ A ... —
- " " 14½ × 15½ A ... —
- " " 15 × 15½ A ... —
- " " 15 × 16 A ... —
- 6d., purple-brown (on blued paper); perf. 15 A ... B
- 1s., green; perf. 15 A ... B
- " " 15½ A ... —
- " " 14 × 15 A ... —
- " " 14 × 15½ A ... —
- " " 14½ × 15½ A ... —
- " " 14½ × 16 A ... —
- " " 15 × 15½ A ... —
- " " 15 × 16 A ... —

1864.

No watermark.

- 1d., carmine; perf. 13 A ... B
- 6d., violet " A ... B

1865.

Watermark Crown & CC; perf. 12½.

- 1d., bistre A ... B
- 2d., chrome-yellow A ... B
- 4d., carmine A ... B
- 6d., purple, lilac A ... B
- 1s., green A ... B

Variety.

- 2d., chrome-yellow; two holes — ... B

March, 1875.

Watermark Crown & CC; perf. 12½.

- ONE PENNY, in green, on 2d., chrome-yellow A ... B

Variety.

- Surcharged "ONE PENNY," three times — ... B

1878

Watermark Crown & CC; perf. 14.

- 1d., bistre — ... B
- 2d., chrome-yellow A ... B
- 3d., brown — ... B
- 6d., violet — ... B

1882-90.

Watermark Crown & CA; perf. 12.

- 1d., bistre — ... B
- 4d., carmine — ... B
- 6d., violet — ... B

As last, but perf. 14.

- 1d., bistre — ... B
- 2d., chrome-yellow — ... B
- 3d., brown — ... B
- 4d., carmine — ... B

May, 1885.

Watermark Crown & CC; perf. 14.

- "1d.," in green, on 3d., brown — ... B

Note.—This system of puncturing the stamps ceased about 1886.

TELEGRAPH STAMPS USED POSTALLY.

The 1d. and 6d. telegraph stamps are occasionally met with used postally. According to *The Philatelic Record*, vol. viii. p. 195, their use was authorised by the Postmaster-General of Western Australia on October 25th, 1886, but I believe the 1d. value at least was known used for postal purposes before this date.

Watermark Crown and CC; perf. 12½.

1d., straw.

As last, but perf. 14.

1d., straw.

6d., lilac.

Note.—Within the last few years a number of the Western Australia stamps overprinted "I.R.," and with a line through the word "POSTAGE," have been seen postmarked. I would refer my readers to an exhaustive article on this subject in *The Monthly Journal*, vol. ii. p. 130, as I am unable to add any further remarks to those there given.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

By EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 87.)

In 1874, new date and cancellation stamps were sent out from Germany, I believe with the 6 p. stamps, although the invoice does not say so. It reads:

GUSTROW, 12th March, 1874.

INVOICE.

The Postmaster-General FRED. JEPPE,
Debtor to ADOLPH OTTO, Engraver.

	£	s	d.
To 8 date stamps	19	4	0
" 36 cancellation stamps	8	2	0
" 36 boxes with pad and 1 bot. ink	7	4	0
" 17 Post-office seals	5	2	0
" 12 stamps: "Geregistreed ZAR No—"	3	0	0
" 12 " "Telaat"	1	10	0
" Case and packing	1	0	0
	45	2	0

The 8 date stamps are similar to the 3 sent out in 1870, with the name of Post-office and movable dates; the 36 cancellation stamps are similar to those of 1870, but consist of only 3 concentric rings, with numerals in the centre, the head office, Pretoria, beginning with No. 1.

The 12 stamps "Telaat" (Too late) have lettering in large block type, enclosed in a plain oblong frame. They were to be used for letters posted too late, which could still be sent on with the mail if an extra fee of 6 p. for each letter was paid. The 12 stamps "Geregistreed—ZAR No.", in two lines (Registered S.A.R. No.) are similar to the Too late stamps; they were impressed upon registered letters, and the official number of the package was filled in with pen and ink. Both of these stamps were intended to be impressed on the envelopes, &c., and not on the stamps as cancellations; but I have often found these stamps, mostly the Registration stamps, used for defacing purposes, owing, no doubt, to press of time when the mails were leaving. The study of these cancellations will repay itself to collectors, when it is remembered that the defacing stamps with numerals in the centre can only have come into use here in October, 1874 (I take it that these cancellation stamps arrived here at the same time as the German-printed 6 p. stamps did). It is thus to be seen at a glance that any genuine stamp bearing this obliteration must have been used after October, 1874. A 1 p., black, stamp cannot bear it, nor can any of the German-printed 3 p. stamps, which were sent out with the plates in 1871; thus all 3 p. stamps found with the numeral cancellation must be of local manufacture—the paper of such generally differs from that used for the German and first batch of locally-printed ones. The 1 p. and 6 p. perforated stamps from Natal can, however, bear it, as I do not think that these stamps were in use for a month before the new defacing stamps were issued to the Post-offices.

In this year—1874—the offices of Postmaster-General and Treasurer-General were again sepa-

rated. The following also shows that all plates were sent back again to Pretoria by the end of 1874:

List of utensils used for the manufacture of postage stamps, taken over this 2nd day of November, 1874, from the Postmaster-General:

2 plates for One Shilling stamps.
2 " Six Pence "
2 " Three Pence "
2 " One Penny "
1 case for the plates.
2 tins printing ink (green and lilac).

And of postage stamps:

6 p. for a value of £850.
1/- " £530.

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER-GENERAL,
PRETORIA, 2 Nov, 1874.

(Signed) H. F. STIEMENS,
Acting Treasurer-General.

It appears that on the 21st April, in this year (1874), the last lot of stamps was printed by Mr. Borrius in Potchefstroom, and that when new stamps were required, in 1875, they were printed in Pretoria by a Stamp Commission, which must have been at work as early as April, 1875, although the regulations on this point were only published in the Government Gazette in July, 1875. I give them below:

LAW No. 2. 1875.

REGULATIONS FOR THE STAMPMASTER (ZEGELMEESTER)
AND DISTRIBUTORS OF STAMPS IN THE SOUTH
AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

Sanctioned by Resolution of the Volksraad, dated 31 May, 1875.
Article 173.

Art. 1. All postage and other stamps of the South African Republic shall be manufactured by a commission appointed by the Government, and shall be sealed by the commission, and handed over to the custody of the Treasurer-General for safe keeping.

Art. 2. The printing machine for the stamps, ink, &c., shall be kept sealed in the office of the Legislative Council.

Art. 3. The postage and other stamps can only be had from the Treasurer-General by the Stampmaster against receipt, and shall by him only be issued against receipt to the different departments, as appointed by Government.

Art. 4. He shall submit every month a statement to the Auditor-General.

Art. 5. The distributors of stamps shall send monthly statements of stamps sold and still on hand to the Auditor-General, and shall remit the money to the Treasurer-General.

Art. 6. This law shall come into force at once, after publication.

(Signed) P. J. JOUBERT,
Acting State President.

(Signed) By Order,
H. STIEMENS,
Acting State Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
PRETORIA, 14 July, 1875.

LAW No. 3. 1875.

REGULATING THE MANNER OF MANUFACTURING POSTAGE
AND OTHER STAMPS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

Sanctioned by Resolution of the Volksraad, dated 31st May,
1875, Art. 174.

Art. 1. There shall be a Commission, who shall superintend the manufacture of stamps.

Art. 2. Members of the Commission and their salary.

Art. 3. The Treasurer-General to give notice to Government whenever a supply of stamps is required to be printed, Government then to appoint the members of the Commission.

Art. 4. The printing machine, plates, ink, &c., to be kept under seal of the Commission in the Office of the Legislative Council.

Art. 5. The stamps manufactured by the Commission shall be properly booked and given against receipt to the Treasurer-General; the receipt to be attached to the report of the Commission, which is to be sent to Government.

Art. 6. The Treasurer-General shall only deliver the postage and other stamps to the Stamp Master on his applying for same, as per regulations made for the Stamp Master.

Art. 7. Stamps once sold shall not be remitted as cash to the Treasurer-General, Stamp Master, or any other official.

Art. 8. Oath of non-official member of Commission.

Art. 9. This ordinance shall be in force according to Art. 69 of the Grond Wet.

(Signed) P. J. JOUBERT,
Acting State President.

By order,
(Signed) H. STIEMENS,
Acting State Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
PRETORIA, 14th July, 1875.

This Stamp Commission remained in existence even after the annexation of the country in 1877, till in 1878 the permanent stamps with Queen's Head arrived from England, when it was abolished. I could not find any of the reports which this commission was from time to time to make to the Government, and I have thus for future quotation only the extracts taken by myself from the Treasurer-General's Official Stamp Record, which shows all quantities of postage stamps received by him, as well as those given out to the distributor of stamps, who in turn had to supply the different Post-offices in the whole country, according to their demands.

Mr. Jeppe also resigned the Postmaster-Generalship in April, 1875.

The Official Stamp Record for 1875 reads :

1875.	
April 29.	Received from Stamp Commission 24,000 1 p. stamps.
May 11.	Received from Stamp Commission 24,000 6 p. stamps.
June 7.	Received from Stamp Commission 20,000 6 p. stamps.
Sept. 30.	Received from Stamp Commission 40,000 6 p. stamps.
" "	" " 24,000 3 p. stamps.
" "	" " 24,000 1 p. stamps.

This gives only 108,000 of 6 p. stamps, 10 per cent. less than were used in 1874, and only 24,000 of 1 p., being 50 per cent. less than were used the year before. There is also another printing of 3 p. stamps, which was the last lot locally printed of this value.

The Official Stamp Record for 1876, which is the last of the first Republic, reads :

1876.	
Feb. 29.	Received from Stamp Commission 33,080 1 p. stamps.
" "	" " 53,000 6 p. stamps.
April 10.	Received from Cape, Colonial Stamps for £102 10s.*
June 23.	Received from Cape, Colonial Stamps for £100.*
Sept. 12.	Received from Stamp Commission 13,200 6 p. stamps.
Sept. 28.	Received from Stamp Commission 48,000 6 p. stamps.
Oct. 12.	Received from Stamp Commission 35,680 1 p. stamps.

This list gives practically the same number of 6 p. stamps as the year before, and nearly three times the quantity of 1 p., the greater demand for this value being due no doubt to the increase of newspapers, which had to be franked with 1 p., and also to the alteration in the rates for letters posted and delivered in the same town. These had formerly also cost 6 p. each. The following extracts from *Government Gazette* bear on this subject:

* Not further specified.

Art. 150. Recommendation of Acting Postmaster-General laid before the Volksraad, reading : " I would recommend that letters which are not sent by post, but are called for and delivered at the Post-office where they are posted, be franked with a postage stamp of one penny (1 p.)." The Volksraad agrees with the recommendation of the Acting Postmaster-General.

Art. 151. Recommendation of Acting Postmaster-General laid before the Volksraad, reading : " I would recommend that money sent in specie (coin), for which the postal law makes no provision, be charged at book post rates, with compulsory registration." The Volksraad agrees with the recommendation of the Acting Postmaster-General.

I further would point out that the supply of 1 p. stamps lasted till the end of September, 1877, and that of 6 p. till July, 1877, so that in reality the use of the 6 p. stamps in 1876 was much less than before, but the consumption of 1 p. was nearly double that of 1875.

The last issues are generally catalogued as on very thin, almost pelure, paper. I think this is correct; all the 1 p. stamps with dates of 1877 are so; of the 6 p. I cannot say, having no dates to go by.

From the Official Record quoted for each year, we find that there were used in the period from April, 1870, to May, 1877 :

1 p., red, imperforate and rouletted	181,440
1 p., black " " " "	24,000
1 p., red, perforated (Natal) " "	24,120
3 p., lilac, rouletted (Germany)	8,000
3 p., " rouletted and imperforate (local)	32,040
6 p., blue " " (")	361,334
6 p., " perforated (Natal)	40,600
6 p., " rouletted (Germany)	39,320
1 s., green " and imperforate (local)	36,640

These figures speak for themselves, and show how scarce some of the stamps must be.

It will be noticed that I allow only one printing for the 1 p., *black*, as there is no proof of further printings in that colour, as I have shown above; however, any increase of the *black* 1 p. stamps means a corresponding decrease of the *red*.

I have made no special remarks as to the stamps locally printed being imperforate or rouletted, owing to all absence of any official information on this point, except in the case of the few *first* printings, which were imperforate. I know that it was thought by Mr. Viljoen, the Treasurer-General in 1870, to be too much trouble to use the rouletting machine, and I think that the greater portion of the stamps printed in Pretoria were imperforate. I also believe that when Mr. Borrius received the order to print the stamps for the Government, and when the plates, &c., were handed over to him, the rouletting wheel was included, and that he rouletted many of his sheets, although not all, otherwise the imperforate specimens would be scarcer than they are in comparison with the rouletted ones. I have also been informed that before he returned the plates, &c., to Pretoria, in 1874, the rouletting wheel was so blunt as to be of no use. It is therefore an open question whether the Stamp Commission ever used it, or in fact could use it, to roulette the sheets of stamps they printed. Besides this roulette, which is of a fine gauge, the same as used for the German forgeries, there exists another, wide roulette, which is very scarce, and which I

take to be of totally unofficial origin; it was, perhaps, used by some business firm for separating the stamps for their own correspondence.

Of the paper used in the seven years there are no statistical records, except that a supply of gummed paper was sent out with the plates in 1870, and another supply with the 3 p. plates in 1871, the former consisting of 500, and the latter of 1000 sheets. The other paper used for the local printing of the different stamps was whatever came to hand, the wove paper, commonly used for newspaper printing, predominating; only towards the end a better or special paper appears to have been employed.

Of the gum nothing can be said—the printer used any mucilage to be had; but there is one issue of the 6 p., *blue*, Type I., the gum of which is such a dark brown, and has so affected the paper that it remains quite brown after the gum is washed off. I have noticed this only on the 6 p. stamps, and presume that this gum was only used for *one* printing, these stamps being very scarce. The paper sent out from Germany with the plates was gummed, ready for use, as previously stated.

As to the printing itself, the impressions on some sheets vary greatly; but I believe that those of Mr. Borrius were always more or less good, he being a practical printer. Perhaps the Stamp Commission also employed a practical man, as all the stamps on pelure paper which I have are well done. The stamps printed by Mr. Viljoen, the Treasurer-General, were undoubtedly the worst. The stamps printed in Germany (3 p. and 6 p.) appear to be done in equally good style. In the Natal-printed stamps, I can only complain that some of the perforations were badly done.

Owing to the small stock of stamps on hand in the different country offices, and the slow communication with the Head Office, the 6 p. and 1/- stamps (principally the latter) were often cut diagonally, and used for half their value. I have two of 6 p. and some eight of the 1/- thus cut, one of the latter on the entire envelope. The practice was not objected to, or rather was tacitly allowed. It was even employed and allowed during British rule, after 1877, and was only officially prohibited by Government Notice in 1879, while the Queen's Head stamps were in use. Notwithstanding this I have several of these and of the second Republic stamps treated in the same fashion, which appear to have passed the posts without objection.

There are no official essays. Mr. Jeppe sent a sketch of the arms and inscription to Germany in 1868, and the printer engraved the stamps from this sketch. Mr. Jeppe states distinctly that he never heard of any essay, but he has a block of eight 1/- stamps printed in *lilac*, and two pairs of 3 p. in *blue*, which the printer sent him after having prepared the plates, very likely to show the colours. The essays (?) offered by the printer in Germany, printed in two colours, are frauds pure and simple, not having been made from the original die, but from that which he made afterwards to supply European dealers with cheap rubbish.

(To be continued.)

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 29.)

REICHS-POST. On the stamps of the German Empire.

Re-impressions or Reprints. Impressions from the original plates, blocks, or stones, from which stamps were printed, taken after the issue of the stamps had ceased; impressions, that is, printed not for use as stamps, but as specimens or curiosities, for sale to collectors or otherwise. A reprint, strictly speaking, should be from the same identical plate, &c. from which the stamps were printed; but in the case of lithographed stamps, the original matrix of which was an engraved die, fresh stones have in some cases been constructed from that die, and such philatelic value as the reprints might have possessed has thereby been destroyed. For instance, impressions from the original stones of the 4 annas, of the first issue of India, would be of considerable interest to collectors. Those stones however were cleaned off when no longer required for use, and the reprints consequently are from fresh stones, and merely show the stamp itself, without being any guide to the arrangement of the original sheets.

Remainders. Stocks left on hand when an issue or a particular stamp goes out of use. These have in many instances been sold to dealers, and thus very large quantities of certain stamps have come into the market. They must not be confused with *reprints, fac-similes*, or anything of that kind, being perfectly genuine in every way, and differing in no respect from the stamps that were put in circulation, being, as their title implies, stamps *remaining* unissued, and no longer required for use.

Reprints. See *Re-impressions*.

REPUBLICA ORIENTAL. Part of the title of the Republic of URUGUAY. These two words alone are found on the issue of 1864 of that State.

Recut.

Retouched. } See *Recut*, &c.

R.O. = Roumelie Orientale. Surcharged upon the stamps of Turkey for use in Roumelia.

ROMANA = Roumanian.

Rosace. Usually applied in philately to an ornament embossed on the flap of an envelope, where the pattern is formed of interlaced circles, the *lines* of which are sunk and the intervening portions are in relief.

Rouletting. A species of perforation consisting of small straight slits cut in the paper between the stamps, so as to enable the latter to be separated easily one from another. Such slits are usually cut by means of a little wheel, or *roulette*, of thin metal, with a notched edge, which thus when run along the paper does not entirely cut it, but pierces it at short intervals. Several of these little wheels or discs of metal were usually arranged upon a spindle, with rings between them to keep them the proper distance apart, so that a whole sheet or several rows of stamps could be *rouletted* at once.

Rouletting in colour is a particular form of this, but done in an entirely different manner. In this case notched slips of metal are inserted between the rows of casts, or electrotypes, from which the stamps are printed, and the points on the edges of these slips being inked with the rest of the form, the stamps are printed and rouletted at the same time, and each of the points that cuts a slit prints a short line or dot of colour. (See also *Perf.* and p. 30, vol. iii., of this magazine.)

Russian Inscriptions. The following illustrations show the designs of stamps of various countries, the inscriptions upon which are in Russian characters, but which are not Russian stamps.



Bulgaria.





The Levant



Montenegro.



Roumelia.

It is well to note the differences in the following :



Poland.



Russia.



Poland.



Russia.

The Russian alphabets shown below will, I hope, assist the reader in identifying the Russian Local stamps, of which it would be impossible to give full illustrations here.

RUSSIAN-ENGLISH.

Printed	Written	English	Printed	Written	English
Capital.	Small.	equivalents.	Capital.	Small.	equivalents.
А а	А, а	a	Ф ф	Ф, ф	f
Б б	Б, б	b	Х х	Х, х	kh
В в	В, в	v	Ц ц	Ц, ц	tz
Г г	Г, г	gh	Ч ч	Ч, ч	ch
Д д	Д, д	d	Ш ш	Ш, ш	sh
Е е	Е, е	e	Щ щ	Щ, щ	shch
Ж ж	Ж, ж	zh	Ъ ъ	Ъ, ъ	Not indicated at end of word.
З з	З, з	z	Ы ы	Ы, ы		yi
И и	И, и	i	Ь ь	Ь, ь	Not indicated at end of word.
К к	К, к	k	Ъ ъ	Ъ, ъ		ye
Л л	Л, л	l	Э э	Э, э	e
М м	М, м	m	Ю ю	Ю, ю	yu
Н н	Н, н	n	Я я	Я, я	ya
О о	О, о	o	Ѳ Ѳ	Ѳ, Ѳ	th
П п	П, п	p	Ѵ Ѵ	Ѵ, Ѵ	a
Р р	Р, р	r	Ѷ Ѷ	Ѷ, Ѷ	i
С с	С, с	s			
Т т	Т, т	t			
У у	У, у	u			

ENGLISH-RUSSIAN.

a	А	i	И	p	П	ui	Ы
b	Б	r	Р	r	Р	v	В
ch	Ч	k	К	s	С	ya	Я
d	Д	kh	Х	sh	Ш	ye	Ъ
e	Е	l	Л	shch	Щ	yu	Ю
e	Э	m	М	t	Т	z	З
f	Ф	n	Н	th	Ѳ	zh	Ж
gh	Г	o	О	tz	Ц	.	Ъ
i	И	a	А	u	У	.	Ь

S. Surcharged upon the stamps of the Straits Settlements for use in Selangor.

SACHSEN = Saxony.

SEGNATASSA or SEGNATASSE. Upon the *Postage Due* stamps of Italy.

SEN = Cent. The only English inscription upon some of the stamps of Japan.

SERVICE or SERVICE POSTAGE. Surcharged upon certain revenue stamps of India, the original inscriptions upon which had been removed, converting them into Postage Stamps for Official use.

S. H. In the upper corners of the first stamps of Schleswig-Holstein.

SIC FORTIS ETRURIA CREVIT = Thus brave Etruria grew. Motto below the "View" on the first issue of New South Wales.

SIGILLUM NOV. (a) CAMB. (ria) AUST. (valis) = Seal of New South Wales. Inscription surrounding the central design of the "Sydney View" stamps of New South Wales.

SILBER GROSCHEN. On an oval band, surrounding a Horse and Crown, upon the envelope stamps of Brunswick.

On an oval or octagonal band, surrounding a profile to the left, upon the envelope stamps of Prussia.

"Sld." or SOLDI. On the stamps of Austria for use in the Austrian post-offices in other parts of the Mediterranean, and on the stamps of Austrian Italy.

SOBREPORTE. On the *Postage Due* stamps of the Republic of Colombia.

SOLDI see "sld."

"Som ubesörget aabnet af Post Departementet." Upon the *Returned Letter* stamps of Norway.

S. P. M. = St. Pierre et Miquelon. Surcharged upon the stamps of the French Colonies.

S. U. = Sungei Ujong. Surcharged upon the stamps of the Straits Settlements.

(To be continued.)

HUNGARY, 1874-1881.

By GILBERT LOCKYER.

AN hour or two may be very agreeably and profitably spent among the Hungarians. I allude to the postal issues of the country from 1874 to 1881. There are



many worse companions than a few of these stamps and a perforation gauge. The design is well known: an envelope with a numeral, or numerals, in the centre, with a crown above, post-horn below, and branches of oak and laurel leaves on either side, MAGYAR KIR POSTA in curve below, all enclosed in a ball-pattern border, engraved in *taille-douce*, printed on white wove paper and perforated. First issued on October 1st, 1874, without watermark, but in April, 1881, with a watermark in the sheet of intersecting circles, each circle cut in four places, and enclosing the letters "KL." I have not been able to meet with a complete sheet, but M. Moens states that there are eight horizontal rows of seven circles in the sheet. The watermark is irregularly dispersed over the stamps, so that portions of curves and parts of letters are found in great variety, and to thoroughly satisfy the philatelic soul of collector Ceresus nothing but a whole sheet will suffice. The letters "KL" always, in my experience, read sideways on the stamps. What they stand for I do not know. Formerly they were

said to be "KP," representing "Kir Posta," but there seems no doubt that M. Moens is right in describing the letters as "KL." Frequently the "L" appears to be upside down (Г), and looks like a small "r."

The variety of shades and perforations, which are conspicuous features of both issues, will be more intelligible if I give a tabulated list of those known to me.

1. OCTOBER 1st, 1874. *Without wmk.*

a. Perf. 11½.

- 2 kr., lilac-rose, mauve, violet.
- 2 kr., red-violet (aniline).
- 5 kr., rose-carmine (aniline).
- 10 kr., blue.

b. Perf. 12½.

- 2 kr., violet, dull violet.
- 3 kr., blue-green.
- 5 kr., rose-carmine (aniline).
- 10 kr., blue.

c. Perf. 13.

- 2 kr., violet, dull violet.
- 3 kr., yellow-green, blue-green.
- 5 kr., vermilion, rose-red, rose-carmine (aniline).
- 10 kr., blue, Prussian-blue.
- 20 kr., blue-black, black.

d. Perf. 13½.

- 3 kr., green.

e. Perf. comp.

- 2 kr., red-violet (aniline), 11½ × 13.
- 2 kr., lilac-rose, 13 × 13½.
- 3 kr., yellow-green, 11½ × 12½, 12½ × 13.
- 5 kr., rose-carmine (aniline), 11½ × 12½, 13 × 13½.
- 20 kr., blue-black, 11½ × 12½, 12½ × 13.

The normal perforation seems to be 13.

2. APRIL, 1881. *Watermarked in the sheet.*

a. Perf. 11.

- 2 kr., violet.

- 3 kr., green.

b. Perf. 11½.

- 2 kr., violet, blue.*
- 3 kr., yellow-green, blue-green.
- 5 kr., rose (aniline).
- 10 kr., blue, Prussian-blue.
- 20 kr., blue-black, black.

c. Perf. 13.

- 2 kr., red-violet.
- 3 kr., green.
- 5 kr., rose, rose-carmine (aniline).
- 10 kr., blue.
- 20 kr., blue-black.

d. Perf. comp.

- 2 kr., red-violet, 11½ × 12.
- 2 kr., violet, 11½ × 13, 12½ × 13.
- 3 kr., blue-green, 11½ × 13, 12½ × 13.
- 3 kr., green, 13 × 13½.
- 5 kr., rose-carmine (aniline), 11½ × 13, 11½ × 13½, 12½ × 13.
- 10 kr., blue, 11½ × 13, 11½ × 13½.

The normal perforation is 11½.

It is of course more than probable that the combinations of the compound perforations are numerous, but the above will serve to show that the issues in question will repay examination, and that the gauges commonly catalogued of 13½ and 11½ hardly meet the case. In the days now fast approaching when we shall all be advanced collectors and specialists, when it will be considered necessary to include every variety, however minute, in every country, however insignificant, and when the relative scarcity and value of varieties, whether of watermark or perforation, is more widely known and better appreciated than at present, such lists as the above, although perhaps incomplete, will be found useful.

* This is the same shade as the 10 kr.; if an error of colour I know not.

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

New Wholesale List.—We have much pleasure in informing the Trade that we have at length been able to entirely re-write and reconstruct our wholesale list. In July we commenced our stock taking, which is even now not finished, the job having been a terrific one. In doing it we have found a vast number of old stamps, cards, and envelopes stored away, of which we had lost count. Where we have quantities of such things we have now included them in the wholesale list for the first time. We have also carefully revised the prices of everything throughout the list, especially those of the unused adhesives and the post cards, which will now be found to compare most favourably with those of any other wholesale firm in the world. This new list will be sent to anyone post free on application, and a comparison of prices with those of other merchants is respectfully invited.

* * *

Too Enthusiastic Stamp Collectors.—Albert Sturrock, 16, of 52, Warriner Gardens, Battersea Park, was charged at Bow Street with stealing from a book shop in Holywell Street an album containing about 3000 stamps, of the value of £100, and with being concerned with Arthur Thorne with unlawfully obtaining from Ed. Cooper and Co., Newman Street, four sheets of foreign stamps, value £2 12s. The theft of the album was not denied. Prisoners had written to Cooper and Co. for stamps, giving false names, and having the reply letters directed to stationers' shops in their neighbourhood. Detective-sergeant Thorley said the parents of the prisoners were respectable, hard-working people. The boys were very enthusiastic collectors of stamps, and wanted more than they could afford to buy. The magistrate bound over their parents in £10 each to bring them up for judgment if called upon.—*Star, Nov. 9th, 1893.*

* * *

The Auction Epitome, by S. C. Skipton.—We have received from Mr. William Brown, of Castle Street, Salisbury, Volume ii. of *The Auction Epitome*, comprising the results and prices of all the auction sales in England for the years 1890, 1891, and 1892. As far as auction prices are a guide, which we personally do not consider them to be, this book will be found very useful. It is well arranged and legibly printed, and the references are exceedingly simple. From long experience, however, we have found that the prices obtained at auctions are, on the average, much below the real value of good copies, for the simple reason that so many of the lots in the auction sales consist of inferior specimens and damaged copies, put in by dealers to be got rid of at any price. This is the chief reason that has caused us to discontinue noting the prices realised at auctions, as we have come to the conclusion that they are absolutely unreliable. Occasionally two bidders may be in the auction room, both badly wanting the same stamp, and in such cases we have known a specimen to fetch double the prices at which it could be obtained from several dealers in London. More often than not, however, collectors are poorly represented at the auctions, and therefore the prices obtained are very low, dealers sometimes paying more for similar specimens when sent to them. Still, the work in question will be found very useful to a large number of collectors who do not know much about prices, and to such we should strongly recommend the purchase of the book, the price of which is only 1s. 6d. post free. We have omitted to mention that the work is prefaced with a frontispiece, containing likenesses of Messrs. Chevely, Hadlow, and Thompson. Why, however, the latter gentleman has been included instead of Mr. Thomas Bull, who was the first of the auctioneers to start this business, we fail to see.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies would kindly send us a short account of each meeting before the 18th of each month, we shall be pleased to insert it in this Journal.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.

President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE first meeting of the season 1893-94 was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, October 23rd, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, O. Pfenninger, R. T. Thrupp, H. Stafford Smith, J. W. Gillespie, W. T. Willett, N. T. Woodman, A. H. Thomas, P. de Worms, A. de Worms. The President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. W. Nordheimer, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. P. de Worms, was duly elected a member of the Society. After the business for future meetings had been discussed at some length, it was proposed by the President, seconded by Mr. Willett, and carried unanimously, "That the stamps of the following countries, with such subsequent additions as may be hereafter suggested, be studied during the coming season, and that the members named be requested to bring to the respective meetings all the information and stamps that they possess of the countries enumerated." Several novelties were then exhibited, among which were Ceylon 1/-, no wmk., imperf.; block of five 5d., brown, wmk. CC; and 32 c., perf. 14 × 12½; all unused, shown by the Secretary.

SYLLABUS FOR THE ENSUING SESSION.

Nov. 6,	20.	"Stamps of Victoria"	M. P. CASTLE.
Dec.	4.	"Stamps of United States"	R. J. WOODMAN.
"	18.	"Stamps of Antigua and British Honduras"	A. DE WORMS.
Jan.	1.	Annual General Meeting	
"	15.	"Stamps of Great Britain"	W. T. WILLETT.
"	29.	"Swiss Forgeries"	O. PFENNINGER.
Feb.	12.	"Stamps of Holland and Colonies"	J. W. GILLESPIE.
"	26.	"Stamps of Tasmania"	H. STAFFORD SMITH.
March	12.	"Stamps of Roumania"	A. H. THOMAS.
"	26.		
April	9.	"Stamps of Belgium and Luxemburg"	J. H. REDMAN.
"	23.	"Stamps of Mauritius"	A. DE WORMS.
May	7.	"Stamps of British Guiana"	A. DE WORMS.
"	21.		

The opening of this session of the Brighton and Sussex Philatelic Society partook of a more festive nature than usual, owing to the dinner given by the members to Messrs. Castle and Willett to welcome them on their return from their journey round the world. The dinner was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, October 16th. The Hon. President, the Baron de Worms, occupied the chair, the guests of the evening being on his right and left, while the vice-chair was filled by Mr. J. H. Kedman, the Vice-President of the Society. After an excellent repast and the usual loyal toasts, the chairman proposed the health of the travellers. He alluded to the great services so long rendered to philately by Mr. Castle, and mentioned the fact that it was evident that their extended travels and absence from home had in no way weakened the great interest taken in philately by the guests of the evening. The toast, having been received with enthusiasm, was responded to in felicitous terms by Messrs. Castle and Willett. A magnificent photographic group of the officers and most of the members of the Brighton and Sussex Society, designed and executed by their *confrères*, Mr. Otto Pfenninger, was then presented by that gentleman to Mr. Castle, and a similar and smaller reproduction to the Brighton and Sussex Philatelic Society. The arrangements for the entertainment were most ably carried out by Messrs.

J. W. Gillespie and Woodman, and the company did not separate until a comparatively late hour, the unanimous verdict being that a very pleasant evening had been spent.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(ESTABLISHED 1890.)

President—O. FIRTH.

THE second meeting of this session was held October 21st, at the Leeds Municipal Buildings, Mr. W. Beckwith, ex-President, in the chair. Also present—Mrs. Beardsell, Rev. T. S. Fleming, and Messrs. Simpson, Sieber, Duffield, Egly, Thackrah, Kidson, A. N. Skipwith, Craven, T. K. Skipwith, and two visitors.

Mr. Arthur Lambert, of Headingley, was elected a member of the Society.

A proposition to change the night of meeting was, after considerable discussion, negated.

The novelties shewn included entire envelopes of Montenegro, and unpaid stamps of Brazil.

The remainder of the evening was spent in the comparison of collections and exchange of stamps.

The third meeting was held November 4th, Mr. J. H. Thackrah, Senior Vice-President, in the chair. There were present eleven members and associates.

Mr. Beckwith presented the Society with a large number of catalogues, magazines, a colour chart, and other Philatelic literature. A couple of forged stamps were added to the "Black Book," and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' *Journal*, presented by the publishers, was laid on the table, and thanks were voted to the several donors.

Novelties were shown by Messrs. Fleming, Egly, and Duffield.

Mr. T. K. Skipwith then described the stamps of Holland in great detail, and at the close received the hearty thanks of the meeting.

SYLLABUS FOR 1893-94.

1893.		
Oct. 7.	"The 5s. Stamps of the Australian Colonies"	OLIVER FIRTH.
Oct. 27.	Exhibition of Novelties, &c.	
Nov. 4.	"The Stamps of Holland"	T. K. SKIPWITH.
Nov. 18.	"The Stamps of Ceylon" (Part I.)	REV. T. S. FLEMING.
Dec. 2.	"The 5s. Stamps of British Colonies"	OLIVER FIRTH.
Dec. 16.	"The Stamps of Spain" (Alfonso XII.), Part III.	W. DENISON ROEBUCK.
1894.		
Jan. 20.	"Perforations"	J. F. C. SIEBER.
Feb. 3.	"The Stamps of Ceylon" (Part II.)	REV. T. S. FLEMING.
Feb. 17.	"The Stamps of Belgium"	W. B. SIMPSON.
Mar. 3.	"The Stamps of Victoria" (Part I.)	JOHN H. THACKRAH.
Mar. 17.	"The Stamps of Victoria" (Part II.)	EUGENE EGLY.
April 7.	"The Stamps of Victoria" (Part II.)	T. K. SKIPWITH.
April 21.	"The Stamps of Brazil" (Middle Period)	A. N. SKIPWITH.
May 5.	The Annual Meeting	

W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.L.S.,
Sunny Bank, Leeds,

T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH,
13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds, } Hon. Secs.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the Liverpool Philatelic Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool, on Saturday, November 4th. The President, Mr. J. H. T. Cottier, occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks said the Society had had a successful career of five years, was growing stronger, and had never before had so large a gathering, about fifty members and friends being present.

Through the courtesy of the Manchester Philatelic Society a limelight demonstration of genuine and forged stamps was given by Mr. Thos. Ridpath, of Liverpool, with descriptions and comparisons by Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, Mr. J. H. Abbot, and Mr. C. B. Duerst, of the Manchester Philatelic Society.

The exhibition was of a highly interesting character, and of great value to philatelists; and the Liverpool Philatelic Society are to be congratulated upon their efforts in spreading and intensifying a very fascinating and useful study.

Thanks were voted, and were certainly due, to the gentlemen who had devoted their time and experience in preparing a demonstration like this, the usefulness of which in its line can hardly be overrated.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, Esq.

THE second meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, Manchester, on Friday, September 28th, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by the Treasurer, Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Collett, Hammer, Munn, Grunewald, Batty, Ranck, Blockey Fildes, Pemberton, and three visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

It was resolved to convene an extraordinary meeting for next Friday, to welcome Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, to Manchester.

The Hon. Secretary read a paper on the stamps of Malta, pointing out *inter alia* the two different papers upon which the stamps of the current type are to be found.

The Librarian placed on the table the first publication of the Society, and likewise presented each member present with a copy. He informed the meeting that extra copies could be obtained by any philatelist, whether a member of the Society or not, from Mr. H. Ranck, 11, Sugar Lane, Manchester, or from the Hon. Secretary, price 1s. each.

Members were informed that the library now contained a priced catalogue of the De Coppet Sale.

THE fourth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Friday, October 27th, the President in the chair, supported by the Vice-President, Treasurer, Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Gibson, Grunewald, Munn, Petrie, Batty, Fildes, Blockey, Ranck, Pemberton, and Beazley.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the date fixed at the last meeting had been accepted by the Liverpool Philatelic Society for the limelight exhibition, and that he had made special arrangements for the convenience and comfort of those members who proposed attending the meeting in question.

The Hon. Treasurer read the continuation of his paper on the stamps of Thurn and Taxis, in which he stated that £400,000 was the amount paid to the Princes of Thurn and Taxis by the Prussian Government, on the latter taking over the Post in 1870. Further, that these stamps had never been reprinted, the unused ones of the later issues being so common on account of the large quantity of remainders. Of the error, only two sheets are said to have been printed.

A large variety of stamps was shown at the meeting, including Great Britain 9d., small letters with hair line, used, exhibited by the President.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE eighteenth meeting was held on Monday, October 16th, 1893, at the house of Dr. Murray, President, who occupied the chair. Ten other members were present. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been signed, letters

were read from Professor Napier, regretting his absence from the meeting, and from the Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, enclosing tickets for the exhibition, which were handed round.

Mr. Bucknill exhibited some fine copies of early Australians. Rev. H. Cummings made some suggestions as to future meetings. It was resolved to discuss them more fully at the next meeting.

The Secretary announced that the address which he had proposed at the end of last term should be designed, and which was unanimously agreed to by the members, to H.R.H. the Duke of York, had been completed during the vacation, and had awaited the commencement of term before being sent. This address, which was on the table, was written by Mr. C. Symonds (Oxford), and elaborately illuminated in colours on thick vellum. In the margins were various unused stamps now in use, representative of the British Empire, the intervening spaces being filled with a fanciful design, and in the centre were the following words, with each member's name below :

"TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE GEORGE OF WALES,
"DUKE OF YORK, K.G., K.T.

"May it please your Royal Highness, we, the members of the Oxford Philatelic Society, desire to offer you our hearty congratulations on the occasion of your marriage with Her Serene Highness Princess Victoria May of Teck, and we trust it may be pleasing to your Royal Highness, who is so deeply interested in the study of philately, to accept this address, which we have endeavoured to make representative of the adhesive postage stamps of the British Empire at this present time.

J. A. H. MURRAY, LL.D., *President.*
A. S. NAPIER, M.A., *Vice-President.*

E. A. BACON.
E. P. BUTLER.
H. C. CARVENTER.
T. NICHOLLS.
J. R. F. TURNER.
H. W. PLUMRIDGE.
W. J. KING.
H. E. BELLAMY.
R. H. H. SANKEY, M.R.C.S.
E. W. B. NICHOLSON, M.A.
J. A. BUCKNILL (Keble).

E. S. WOODIWISS.
W. L. MELLERSH (Ch. Ch.).
C. M. WOODFORD.
T. B. POWELL.
G. A. CARVENTER.
P. J. PAINTER.
H. THOMPSON, M.R.C.S.
G. WOODHOUSE (St. John's).
E. DE BURGH WADDINGTON,
Lieut.
REV. H. CUMMINGS.

J. F. BURNETT, F.C.S., *Assistant Secretary.*
F. A. BELLAMY, F.R. MET. SOC., *Hon. Treas. & Sec.*

This was enclosed in a highly-gilt red Morocco case, lined with red silk and ribbon, which also was made in Oxford.

It was decided to arrange a special meeting about October 30th to hear Professor Napier's paper.

The President (Dr. Murray) then read his paper on "The Post Cards of Great Britain and Ireland," illustrated by his collection, which was practically complete. Mr. F. A. Bellamy also exhibited his collection of British post cards, numbering about seventy-five varieties.

A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Murray for his paper.

Some unchronicled varieties of post cards were among those shown.

JOS. F. BURNETT, F.C.S., *Hon. Assist. Sec.*

WORCESTER STREET, OXFORD.

NORTH QUEENSLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At a meeting of philatelists, held in Mackay, on Saturday, August 26th, it was decided to form the above Society with the following objects :

1. To facilitate the interchange of stamps, and open communication with various parts of the world.
2. To assist members in detecting forgeries, new issues, varieties, &c.
3. To promote friendly intercourse between philatelists in North Queensland.
4. To form Branch Committees of philatelists throughout North Queensland.

Some twenty members were enrolled at the first meeting, and officers and a committee of three, to hold office until the first Annual Meeting in January next, were appointed as follows :

Patron—

HON. W. H. WILSON, M.L.C., *Postmaster-General.*

*President—*J. V. CHATAWAY, M.L.A.

Vice-President—

A. ULCOQ, Esq., *Manager, Queensland National Bank.*

*Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—*T. BRAND.

Committee—

F. BLACK, T. D. CHATAWAY, F. MYDDLETON.

The subscription was fixed at 6s. per annum.

THE PHILATELIC PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

FORGERIES RECENTLY DISCOVERED.

HOLLAND.—Unpaid Letter Stamp, 1881, 1 gulden, blue and red. Mr. J. K. Koning, of Amsterdam, reports a very dangerous forgery of this stamp.

TURKEY.—Current 10 and 20 paras, 1 and 2 piastres, surcharged with the word "Taxe," and the equivalent in Turkish characters. (2) Complete set of current issue, surcharged "Imprimé" in red. (3) Unpaid Letter Stamps of the former issue, 20 paras and 1 piastre, surcharged "Imprimé" in black. The above surcharges are all false, and have never been in use in any Post-office of the Turkish empire.

UNITED STATES.—1868, 90 cents, blue; 1870, 6, 10, 15, and 24 cents with forged grille. Fresh forgeries have been lately offered. Only the above values have been seen at present, but probably others exist. The grille in those that have been examined was too much oblong in shape, and the points composing same were too far apart.

FREDK. R. GINN, *Hon. Secretary.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. G. P.—The watermark and the varieties of perforation of Hungary are not distinguished in the current edition of the Catalogue. Probably they will be inserted in a future edition.

S. L. D.—We are much obliged for your letter. We have noted the variety you describe, but it is impossible to form any idea of its value.

R. H. S.—The varieties of perforation of some of the stamps of Holland are infinite in number. We may perhaps some day obtain a list of them for publication, but it will be impossible to give them all in the Catalogue.

T. D.—Many thanks for your card. We note the varieties you mention. There are a great number of varieties of perforation of New South Wales and other countries which are not yet included in the Catalogue. Are you sure that your 4d. S. A., surcharged "O. S.", is perf. 14½ at the sides? We do not see that gauge on any S. A. stamps.

Special Bargains and New Issues FOR DECEMBER.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

ANGOLA.		<i>s. d.</i>
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1
BELGIUM.		
1870. <i>Unpaid.</i>		
10 c., green, 20 c., blue, the pair, <i>used</i> ..	.. .. .	0 9
BORNEO.		
1890. " <i>Postage and Revenue</i> " in large type.		
½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10 cents, the set of 9 stamps, <i>all used</i> ..	.. .. .	2 0
CAPE VERDE.		
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1
CHILI.		
1 peso, black and brown, <i>used</i> ..	.. .. .	2 0
GUINEA.		
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1
INDIA.		
1 rupee, green and carmine, <i>used</i> ..	.. .. .	1 0
JAPAN.		
1875. <i>No syllabic character.</i>		
1 sen, brown, <i>used</i> ..	.. .. .	20 0
MACAO.		
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1
30, in red, on 200 reis, mauve, <i>used</i> ..	.. .. .	0 9
MOZAMBIQUE.		
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1
RUSSIAN LOCALS.		
BELEBEI.		
2 kop., blue ..	.. .. .	0 3
CHARKOFF.		
5 kop., blue and gold ..	.. .. .	0 6
DOUCHOWTCHINA.		
3 kop., deep blue; 3 kop., sky-blue; 6 kop., pink; large oblong set of 3 ..	.. .. .	1 4
ELIZAVETGRAD.		
2 kop., brown; 5 kop., chrome-yellow; imperf.; the two ..	.. .. .	0 9
GRIAZOVETZ.		
4 kop., rose, blue, and brown; figures in corners; set of 3 ..	.. .. .	1 6
" " " " " " figures in centre; set of 3 ..	.. .. .	1 6
JELETZ.		
5 kop., carmine ..	.. .. .	0 6
KOLOMNA.		
1, 2, 3, and 5 kop.; circular; set of 4 ..	.. .. .	1 3
" " " " " " square; set of 4 ..	.. .. .	1 3
KOUNGOUR.		
1 kop., yellow; 2 kop., green; imperf.; the two ..	.. .. .	0 5
SCHATZK.		
3 kop., black on pink ..	.. .. .	0 4
STAROBYELSK.		
3 kop., mauve; 3 kop., vermilion; the two ..	.. .. .	0 8
SOLIKAMSK.		
4 kop., green ..	.. .. .	0 6
WALKI.		
1 kop., blue; 5 kop., vermilion; the two ..	.. .. .	0 8
ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE.		
2½, in green, on 5 r., black; 2½, in black, on 10 r., green; 2½, in black, on 20 r., pink, <i>thick</i> and <i>thin</i> surcharges—the set of 4 rare provisionals, <i>all used</i> ..	.. .. .	35 0
SANDWICH ISLES.		
<i>Prov. Govt. 1893.</i>		
1 c., mauve, error "189" for 1893 ..	.. .. .	20 0
Entire sheet of 60 stamps containing the last-named error ..	.. .. .	50 0
SEYCHELLES.		
3 cents on 4 cents, <i>surcharge inverted</i> ..	.. .. .	6 0
SHANGHAI.		
½ c., orange and black (wrapper) ..	.. .. .	0 1
1 c., brown on blue (letter card) ..	.. .. .	0 2
TIMOR.		
2½ reis, brown ..	.. .. .	0 1

TONGA.

1893. *Provisionals.*

N.B.—The sets quoted last month are sold out, but the following odd values may still be had at prices quoted:

½d., in red, on 1d., blue ..	.. .. .	1 0
2½d., in red, on 2d., green ..	.. .. .	1 6
FIVE PENCE, in red, on 4d., orange ..	.. .. .	2 6
G. F. B. on 1d., blue ..	.. .. .	1 6
" on 2d., " ..	.. .. .	2 0
" on 4d., " ..	.. .. .	3 0
½d., in black, on 1d., blue	1 0
" 2½d., " on 2d., "	2 6

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

½d., brown on white (card)	0 2
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ENTIRELY NEW AND REVISED SERIES

OF

CHEAP SETS for 1893.

<i>Used * Unused †</i>	<i>Used and Unused ‡</i>	<i>Postfree, 1d. extra.</i>	<i>Set of</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
*Natal, including provisional	8	2 0
†Nepaul, including native paper and rouletted	5	3 0
†Nevis, ½, 1d., 2d., 2½, 4d., and 6d.	6	8 0
†New Brunswick, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12½, and 17 c.	6	4 0
†New Caledonia, 1881-84, provisionals, including errors 9	7	6 0
†Newfoundland, 1d., 3d., 4d., 5, 5, 6, 6½, and 8d.	8	11 0
† " Cents issues, including 24 c., blue	17	11 6
† " Cents, used, including 13 c., ship	9	6 6
*New South Wales, including early issues and service	9	1 0
" " " " 7½, 12½, and 3d. wmk. "10"	11	6 0
" " " " old issues, 5d., 6d., and 1/-, square and envelopes	21	3 6
" " " " office stamps and envelope	8	1 6
*New Zealand, 1882 issue and obsolete	8	0 6
" " Fiscal Postals, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, and 5/-	4	3 6
†Nicaragua, 1869, perf., 1, 2, 5, 10, and 25 c.	5	2 0
† " 1882, 1, 2, 5, and 10 c.	4	0 4
† " " 1 to 50 c., complete	7	2 0
† " 1890, 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	2 0
† " Officials, red and blue, 1 c. to 10 pesos 10	2	0
† " 1891, 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	2 0
† " Officials, red and green, 1 c. to 10 pesos 10	2	0
† " 1892, 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	2 0
† " Officials, blue and brown, 1 c. to 10 pesos 10	2	0
† " Envelopes, 5, 10, 20, 30, and 50 c.	5	1 0
† " Bands, 1, 2, and 4 c.	3	0 9
†North Borneo, obsolete and current	4	2 0
*Norway, including first issue	8	0 6
" " high values and provisional	19	2 6
*Nowanuggur, ½ anna, 1, 2, and 3 docra	4	1 0
†Oil Rivers Protectorate, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½, and 5d.	5	4 0
†Orange Free State, including provisional	6	1 0
" " 3 provls. and fiscal postal 10	2	3
*Panama, including first issue	7	1 0
*Paraguay, including two issues	6	1 0
† " early issues, including provisional	6	3 0
† " later obsolete issues, including 4 officials	12	4 6
†Persia, Service, 1, 2, 5, and 10 shahi	4	1 0
" " early issues, including three coloured borders	6	2 0
" " large stamps, including lithos, and 1, 5, and 10 francs	8	3 0
" " Later issues, including 1, 2, and 5 krans	9	2 6
†Peru, obsolete, current, and surcharged	5	1 0
† " post cards, provisional, etc.	6	2 6
" " including early issues and surcharged	14	3 0
† " 50 c. and 1 sol, and twelve provisionals, etc.	20	12 6
† " Arequipa, Yca, Piura, etc	8	12 6
† " Unpaid, 1, 5, 10, 20, and 50 c.	5	4 0
† " " with triangle, 1, 3, 10, 20, and 50 c.	5	8 0
†Ponta Delgada, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 50 reis	6	1 0
*Philippine Islands, including surcharged	13	1 9
" " all obsolete, including Habilitado, etc. 13	6	0
† " " all provisionals	5	3 6
† " " Baby King, including 12½ and 20 c.	7	4 6
†Poonch, including five different papers	8	6 0
†Porto Rico, early and recent issues	7	1 0
" " 1882, ½, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 mil., and 1 and 2 c. de p. 8	1	0
" " all obsolete, including high values	24	3 0
" " Baby King, including obsolete	8	0 9
*Portugal, including obsolete	7	0 6
" " 500 and 1000 reis	21	4 6

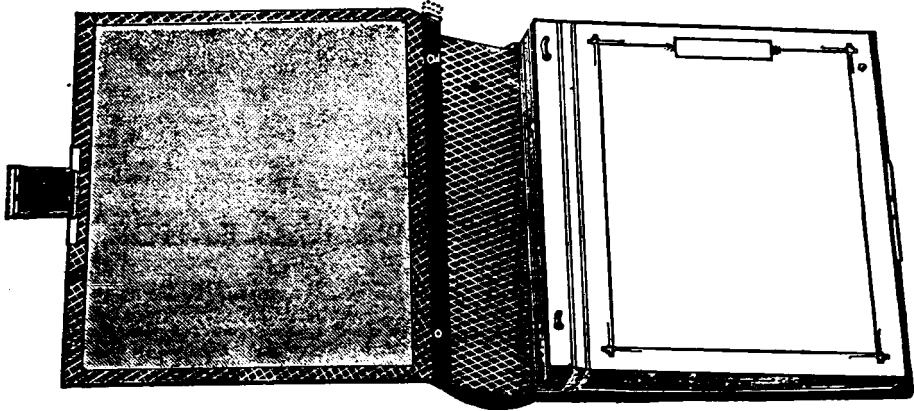
"The leaves in this Album are retained in their places by an original and newly-patented plan, entirely doing away with the unsightly screws hitherto necessary on the outside of books of this class."

Pronounced by all who have seen it, an ingenious and admirable arrangement, pre-eminently adapted for the purpose, and completely solving a difficulty experienced by Collectors in general.

NOW READY--THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE PHILATELIC ALBUM:

THE MOST SUITABLE ALBUM PUBLISHED FOR ADVANCED COLLECTORS.

SEVERAL important improvements have been introduced into this New Edition, suggested by increased experience, and greatly enhancing the use of this Work. Especially produced in answer to numerous enquiries for a really permanent blank Album. It will be found suitable for the reception of the most extensive and complete collection possible. It is also adaptable for Post Cards, Revenue Stamps, or entire Envelopes. Collectors using Albums of this class frequently resort to books not specially manufactured for the purpose, and hence unsuitable, or the more expensive and very often unsatisfactory mode of having them expressly made; it is to meet this want that this Album is published, and all that experience can suggest has been carried out to make it worthy the use of even the most Advanced Collectors, and adaptable to any arrangement that may be desirable.



It is also especially applicable for the use of those Philatelists who arrange their collections by the Catalogue published by ourselves or any other standard list. The Album is also peculiarly suitable for those who collect special countries only, taking as their guide the various lists published by the London Philatelic Society, &c. Each leaf has a double linen joint on an entirely new plan, allowing the leaves to set properly when the book is opened, and giving strength at the same time. A narrow marginal border embellishes each page, with a semi-visible network of quadrille dotted lines, designed to assist the correct insertion of the specimens to be mounted. The leaves are 100 in number, and printed on one side only on a very fine quality white card paper. They are movable, allowing re-arrangement or extension into two or more volumes, as may be desired at any future time. It is hardly necessary to point out the advantage of this; moreover, if a page becomes spoiled, it can be at once replaced. A handsomely arranged title is included. AN INSPECTION IS DESIRED WHERE POSSIBLE.

PRICES.

A.—Strongly bound in half morocco, gilt ornaments, and lettering; packed in a box, 30/-, carriage extra. Under 11 lbs. can be sent by parcel post.

B.—Handsomely bound in full Persian morocco, bevelled boards, gilt edges, double action expanding lock and key; packed in a box, 50/-, carriage extra.

Separate blank linen-jointed leaves can be had, 1/9 per dozen, or 2/3 per dozen if with gilt edges, post-free abroad extra. A sample leaf sent for 2½d., post-free.

A NEW AND SEPARATE EDITION OF THE PHILATELIC ALBUM

Has, in compliance with the desire of many Collectors, been published, and is now offered as pre-eminently the best adapted to meet the wishes of a large section of advanced Philatelists. The arrangement of the cover of this Album, as far as regards the liberation of the leaves, is practically the same as class A and B of the current edition. It is in the leaves themselves the main differences will be found. They are manufactured of a specially-selected cardboard of a granulated tint, with a raised marginal border, the central or sunken portion intended for the reception of the specimens being overprinted with a semi-visible network of quadrille dotted lines as in the other edition. The main advantage of this plan is that all abrasion is obviated, rendering the Album peculiarly adaptable where the care of the specimens is of the first consideration.

It is adapted to contain about 1,800 Stamps, is of a similar size to class A and B, and can be used in unison with them if desired.

C.—Handsomely bound in full Russia leather, rounded corners, gilt edges, improved double action expanding lock and key, packed in a box, £5; or £5 2s. 6d. by Parcel Post.

NOW READY.

THE 'IDEAL' PERFORATION GAUGE.

The Best, most Reliable, and in every way the most convenient Perforation Gauge ever invented.

The Publishers claim for this Gauge many advantages which the present Gauges do not possess.

It is portable, being of a convenient size to be carried in the breast pocket.

It is accurate, every gauge having been carefully measured, and the gauge itself printed from an engraved copper-plate.

It is three sets of gauges (vertical and horizontal) on the same card, by which the perforations of stamps arranged in Albums on the hinge can be measured without taking them from the book; also stamps can be measured without taking them from the book. These are advantages that can be claimed by few, and being printed on cardboard they will not easily crack. In this respect it is superior to those printed on thin paper or any transparent substance. It will not cockle, and it has but little effect on it.

It has twenty different gauges, from 7 to 16½, and includes 7½, 8, and 8½, not often found in gauges now before the Philatelic public, but which are required more especially for some of the Japanese and Turkish Stamps.

Each dot is bisected by a small vertical line, thus ●● By this arrangement accurate measurement is guaranteed.

In conclusion, we venture to assert that it is the best Perforation Gauge ever placed before the Philatelic public, and is in every respect as its name implies—

AN 'IDEAL' PERFORATION GAUGE.

Price Sixpence; Post-free, Sevenpence.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

NEW PACKETS OF UNUSED STAMPS.

GREATLY IMPROVED, AND ALL WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 12.—The Sixpenny Packet of Unused Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Siam (Greece, 1 lepton, perf.), Tunis, Monaco, Porto Rico, obsolete 2½d. Cyprus, and Mauritius 4d. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 13.—The Sixpenny Packet of Local German Stamps contains 10 varieties, all different. Post-free, 6d.

No. 14.—The Two Shilling Packet of French Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties, used and unused, including Obock, Reunion, Morocco, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and others rare. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 15.—The Shilling Packet of Unused Stamps contains 30 varieties, including obsolete 1d. Cyprus, Swaziland, Czernawoda, Newfoundland, Portuguese Indies, Bhopal, Ponta Delgada, rare Egypt envelope, provisional Italy, official Mexico, Holland unpaid letter stamp, Sardinia, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 16.—The Ninepenny Packet of Local Danish Stamps contains 20 varieties, all different. Post-free, 9d.

No. 17.—The Two Shilling Packet of Russian Local Stamps (Government issues) contains 30 varieties, including obsolete and rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 18.—The Half-Crown Packet of Unused Stamps contains 40 varieties, including amongst others, Holker, Tolima, Cashmere, Hayti, Jbind, Curacao, surcharged Luxemburg, Hawaiian, Deccan envelope, Bulgaria, Macao, Uruguay, Portugal journal, Nicaragua, United States of Colombia, Soruth, Selangor, Zululand, British South Africa, Spain (head of Liberty), provisional South Australia, Nowanuggur, Cyprus, Cuba 1888, Travancore, San Marino, Bechuanaland, Roumania, Portuguese Indies, Sardinia, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 20.—The Five Shilling Packet of Rare Unused Stamps contains 60 varieties, including the following uncut envelopes: Victoria, Canada, and Egypt; also adhesives: Faridkot, rare Siam, Guatemala, British Guiana provisional 1 c., rare provisional Uruguay, North Borneo, Shanghai, Sandwich Isles, provisional Martinique, Alwur, Chamba, obsolete Tolima, Perak, provisional Ceylon, provisional West Australia, Cyprus, Argentine, Mexico Porte de Mar, Granada Confederation, Cashmere service, Brunswick, Bolivia (figure of Justice), Swiss newsband, Chili, Bechuanaland, Finland, Jhalawar, Porto Rico, Belgium, provisional Norway, Spain, British Honduras, Greece, Azores, and many others. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 21.—The Five Shilling Packet of Russian Local Stamps (Government issues) contains 40 varieties, including many obsolete and rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 22.—The FOUR POUND Packet of Rare UNUSED Stamps contains 500 varieties, including, amongst others, scarce and obsolete Alwur, Angola, Antioquia, scarce Argentine, Azores, Bamra, Bahamas, Bavaria return letter labels, obsolete Belgium, Bermuda, Bhopal, Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, Brunswick, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Cashmere, Ceylon, Chili, Colombia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Faridkot, French Colonies, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, provisional Italy, Japan, Luxemburg Macao, Mauritius, set of 3 Mexico, 1868, Monaco, Mozambique, Newfoundland, set of 4 Nicaragua, Borneo, Nowanuggur, Persia, Peru, Porto Rico Philippine Islands, Poonch, Portuguese Inoies, Portugal, Jhind, Roumania, Russia, St. Thomas, Salvador, San Marino, Servia, Seychelles, Soruth, Spain, Perak, set of Swiss, and unpaid, Tunis, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela, Western Australia, Zululand. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/4.

PACKETS OF NEWSPAPER BANDS,

OFFICIAL AND INTERPOSTAL STAMPS.

No. 24.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 12 varieties, including New South Wales service, Interpostal Egypt, official German and Spanish Stamps, Italian Parcel Post, and Cyprus newspaper bands, India service, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 25.—The Shilling Packet contains 30 varieties, including Luxemburg, Danish and Wurtemberg service, Field Post envelope, Egyptian, German, Japan and Monaco newspaper bands, South Australia newsband and used service, Hungarian, Azores, and Italian newspaper stamps, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 26.—The Half-Crown Packet contains 36 varieties, including, amongst others, rare Czernawoda, Victoria and Mexico newsbands, Field Post Envelopes, Japan and Swiss Telegraph, Wurtemberg and French newspaper bands, Old Interpostal Egyptian, set of 3 Local Brunswick envelopes, Dutch newspaper, set of Spanish official, Italian, Swiss, Turkish, and Swedish Unpaid Letter Stamps, official Danish and Mexico, Austrian, German, Indian, and Japanese Telegraph, Nicaragua, 1 c., green, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/7.

PACKETS OF GOVERNMENT POST CARDS.

GREATLY IMPROVED, ALL UNUSED, ENTIRE, AND WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 27.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 6 varieties, including obsolete Japan, Perak, Cashmere, obsolete Cyprus, obsolete German Empire, and Roumanian Post Cards. Post-free, 7d.

No. 28.—The Shilling Packet contains 10 varieties, including provisional Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Holland, Surinam, Bulgaria, Danish, Servia, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria 1 pf. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 29.—The Two and Sixpenny Packet contains 30 varieties of Post Cards, including Sandwich Isles, Nicaragua, Greece, Nepal, Guinea, Swiss, Travancore, Wurtemberg 5 pf., Jbeend, Hungary, Iceland, Gwalior, and other Post Cards. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 30.—The Five Shilling Packet contains 36 varieties, including some of the rarest issued; viz., Siam, Macao and Timor, Bulgaria, Chili,

Orange Free State, Grenada, North Borneo, Wurtemberg, Austrian Italy, Dutch and Belgian Reply Cards, Bavarian 6 pf., Luxemburg, Portuguese Indies, Brazil, Norway, Cyprus obsolete, Tasmania, Shanghai 20 cash, set of 5 Austrian Cards with inscriptions in Bohemian, Italian, Ruthenian, Slavonian, and Polish, Gibraltar, International Swiss, Italy, Dutch Indies, Roumania, Chamba, &c. The packet of 36, post-free, 5/2.

No. 31.—100 Post Cards, all different, unused and entire, including many rare and long since obsolete. Post-free, 20/-; abroad, extra.

No. 32.—The Shilling Packet of Used Post Cards contains 15 varieties, including Hungary, India, Japan, Austria, Canada, Denmark, United States, Victoria, French, German, &c. Post-free, 1/1.

MISCELLANEOUS PACKETS.

No. 40.—20 Newsbands, all different, unused, and entire, and many obsolete. Post-free, 1/7.

All the following Packets contain Duplicates.

No. 40a.—1000 Continentals, assorted. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 41.—500 well-assorted Used Continentals. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 42.—1000 well-assorted Used Continentals. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 43.—100 assorted Used Italian. Post-free, 7d.

No. 44.—500 assorted Used Italian. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 45.—1000 assorted Used Italian. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 47a.—100 well-assorted Used Stamps, no European. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 48.—500 well-assorted Used Stamps, no European. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 48a.—1000 well-assorted Used Stamps, no European. Post-free, 5/7.

No. 49.—100 superior mixed Used Colonial Stamps, including Jamaica,

Cape of Good Hope, Queensland, South Australia, New Zealand, India H.M.S., Deccan, Tasmania, New South Wales, &c. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 49a.—500 superior mixed Used Colonial Stamps, same quality as

No. 49. Post-free, 6/6.

No. 50.—1000 superior mixed Used Colonial Stamps, same quality as

No. 49. Post-free, 11/6.

No. 54.—100 well-assorted Used West Indian, South and Central America, including Porto Rico, Mexico, Barbados, Trinidad, Chili, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentine, &c. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 55.—200 well-assorted Used West Indian, South and Central America, same quality as last. Post-free, 6/1.

No. 56.—500 well-assorted Used West Indian, South and Central America, same quality as last. Post-free, 10/7.

These packets cannot be sent by book post to Postal Union Countries.

The amount required for postage can therefore be reckoned, and should be added when remitting.

Parcel Post is recommended where possible.

NEW PACKETS OF USED FISCAL STAMPS.

ALL WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 34.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 12 varieties. Post-free, 7d.

No. 35.—The Shilling Packet contains 30 varieties, including obsolete and rare. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 36.—The Half-Crown Packet contains 40 varieties, including many scarce. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 37.—The Five Shilling Packet contains 60 varieties, including some very rare. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 38.—The Seven and Sixpenny Packet contains 100 varieties. Post-free, 1/7.

The higher price the Packet the rarer the varieties.

INTERPOSTAL EGYPTIAN STAMPS.

These rare and curious Stamps, that are used for the Towns and Villages of Egypt, may now be obtained in Packets.

No.	65.—	6 varieties.	Post-free	.	.	.	.	.	.
No. 61.—	12	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	0 7
No. 62.—	30	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	2 7
No. 63.—	30	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	2 7
No. 64.—	50	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	4 1

The larger size Packets contain many of the very rarest.

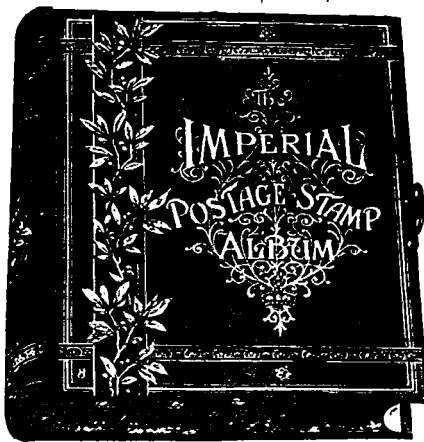
Now Ready.—The SIXTH EDITION of the

IMPERIAL POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

HAVE the pleasure to announce the publication of a **New Edition** of this, the most favourite and celebrated Album of the day. All the leading features, to which must be attributed the very great success of this work, are retained, and a number of most important improvements introduced, so as to be thoroughly in consonance with recent ideas and researches.

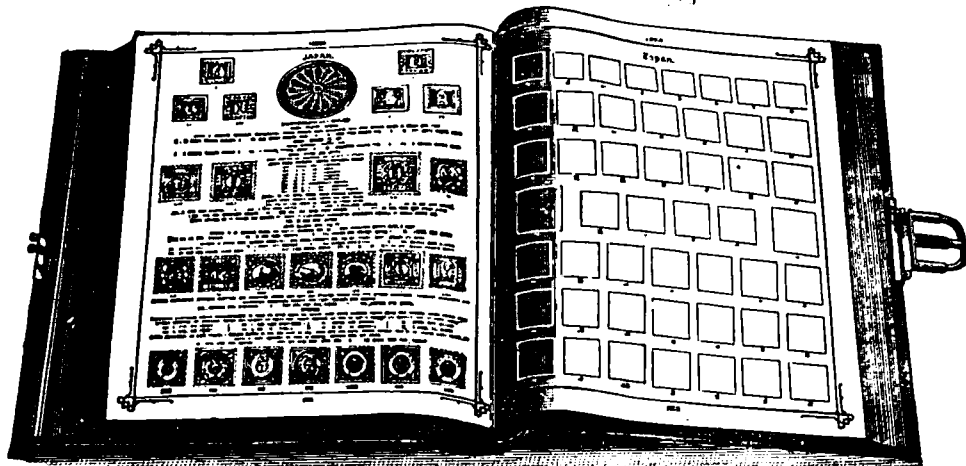
The **New Imperial Album** is based on the Eighth edition of the Price Catalogue, and all varieties of perforation, paper, and watermark provided there, are given in the New Album. The size of the pages is enlarged to 9 x 12 inches, so as to provide increased accommodation for the numerous new



issues. In order to ensure the most perfect accuracy the Album has been revised by Major E. B. EVANS. The numbers that have hitherto been placed in the centre of each space are now inserted *below*, for greater convenience of reference.

To meet the wishes of many, a **Cheap Edition**, printed on a paper far superior to that of any contemporary album, is now for the first time offered to the public. No further Supplements to the previous editions of the Imperial Album will be published.

Supplements to this New Edition, and corresponding to the enlarged size, will be issued as required, but at longer intervals than hitherto.



PRICES OF THE NEW IMPERIAL ALBUMS (SIXTH EDITION),

Securely Packed, and Post-free to Great Britain.

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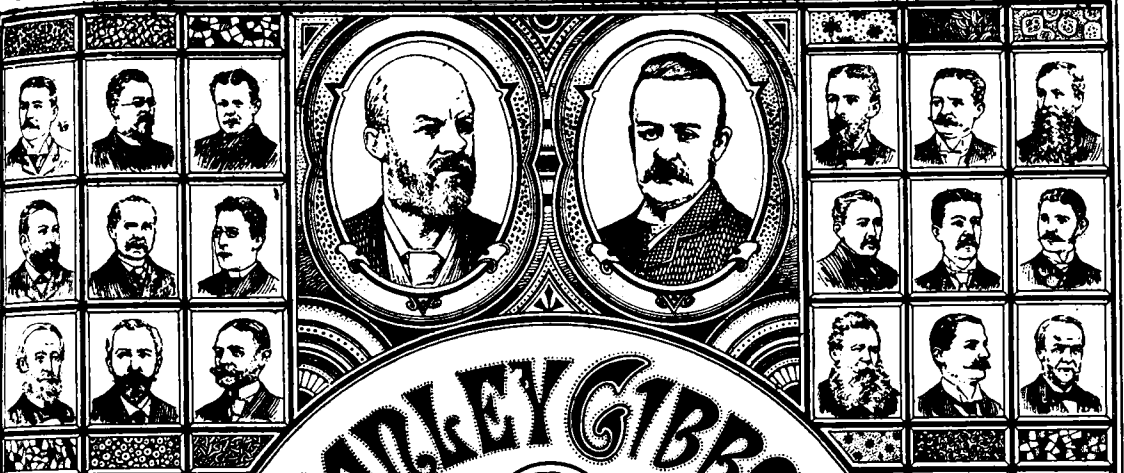
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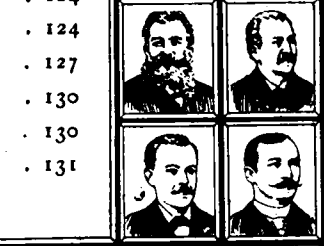
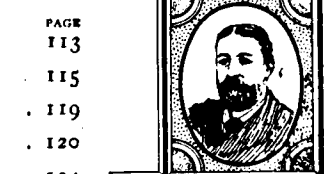
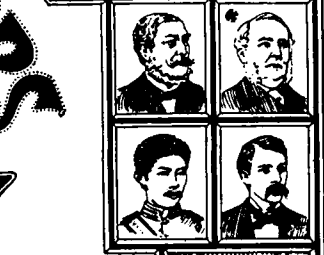
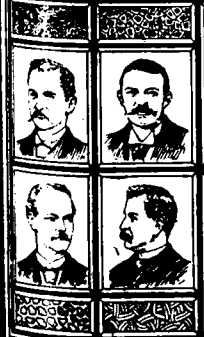
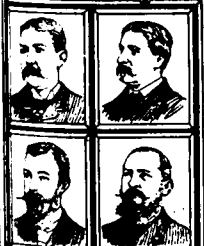
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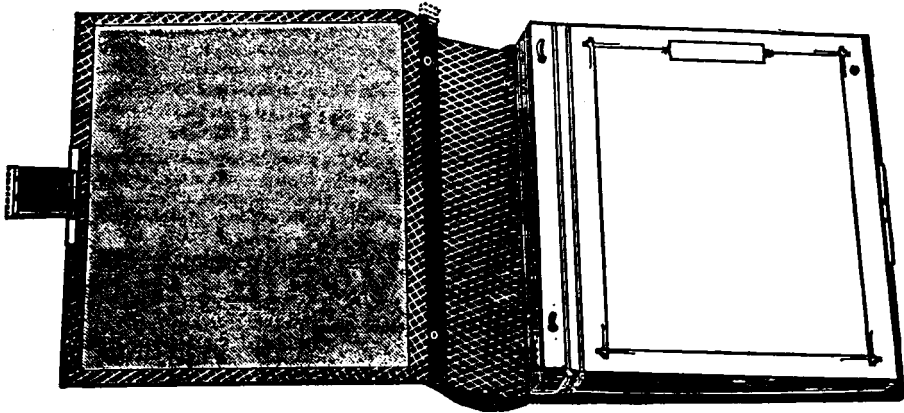
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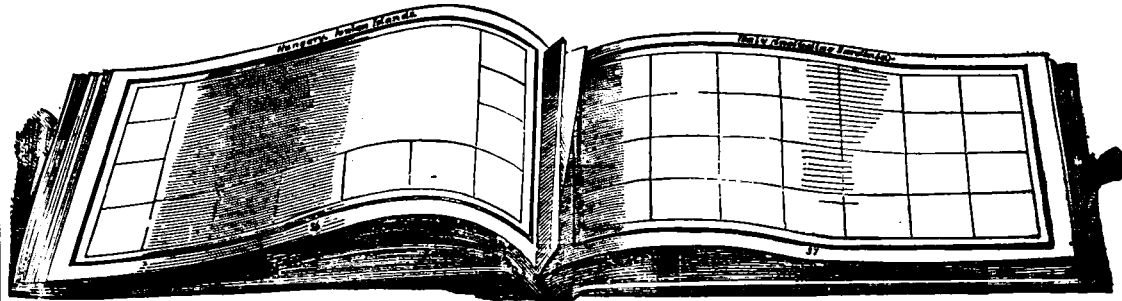
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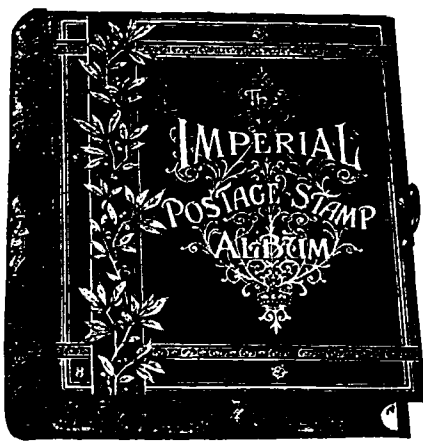
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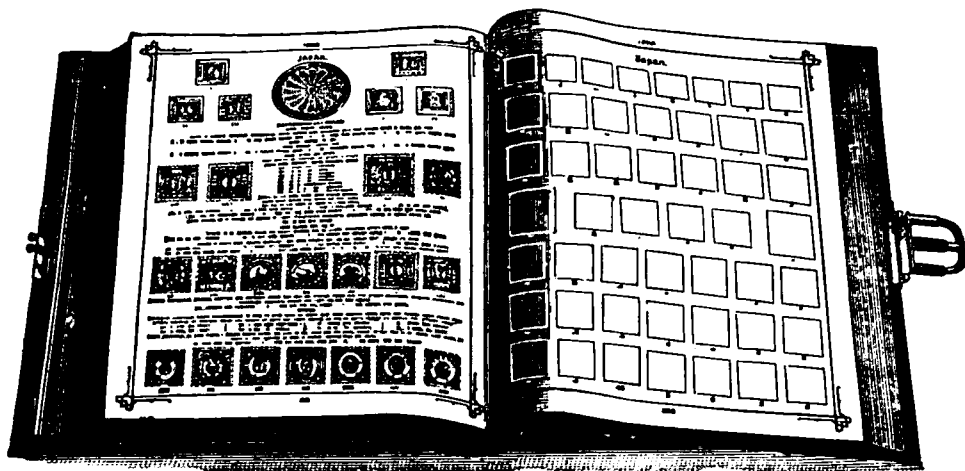
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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

DECEMBER 30, 1893.

No. 42.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.*

EDITORIAL.

THE return of the month of December brings us once more to the middle of a volume, and to the middle of another Philatelic Season, as well as to the end of another year—a period at which, after wishing all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with many additions to their collections, we may venture as usual to indulge in a few moral reflections upon the philatelic outlook.

The prevailing feature seems still to be the multiplication of those unnecessary issues, the collection of which we have endeavoured to discourage. The celebration variety of this species of philatelic weed has flourished exceedingly during the past twelve months, and we much regret to find that our efforts to exhibit certain specimens of this in their true colours have not been received with the gratitude which might have been expected from those whose gardens are infested by the weeds in question.

When varieties of this nature are issued "By Authority" it is difficult to exclude them; but when they are known to be published by private persons, and to be of the stamped-to-order class, it is the duty of all philatelic writers to bring those facts to the knowledge of their readers. It is for collectors themselves to decide what they will collect, and what they will reject; all these curiosities are collectable by those who want them. It is simply our duty to point out that the pictorial devices, upon the post cards and letter cards to which we are specially alluding, are entirely unofficial, and this we have done, and shall continue to do, quite irrespective of the events which they may profess to celebrate.

In this country it would be possible for any individual to publish a stamped envelope or wrapper in celebration, or advertisement of anything he thought fit, so long as the device

adopted did not encroach unduly upon the space for the address. The addition of *adornments* on the address side of post cards, and we believe letter cards also, is fortunately forbidden, and we trust that our Post-office will not lend itself to the propagation of any official celebration issues till the year 1940 arrives.

* * *

IN the matter of unnecessary issues, duly decreed and authorized, we must, at the risk of still further offending some of our fellow-workers across the Channel, point out that the French colonial possessions fully maintain their pre-eminence. The new colonial issue, consisting of 19 items for each of about a score of different places, far from putting an end to the surcharges which we were told were to be abolished, appears rather to have encouraged their production. It is more than twelve months since about 320 varieties of these absolutely unnecessary articles were let loose upon the philatelic market, and it seems doubtful whether any of them have yet reached the places for which they were supposed to be intended. In the meantime some ten of these colonies have added to their lists of equally unnecessary surcharged varieties, the manufacture of which was to be forbidden, and which certainly would cease to be made if all collectors refused to buy them.

Portugal is another offender in the same way, and with a little encouragement (which we trust will not be forthcoming) might run France hard in the philatelic race. There is the same unnecessary multiplication of colonial issues on the part of the home government, responded to equally eagerly by surcharges in the various colonies. But perhaps the most bare-faced of all the attacks upon the pockets of philatelists is that perpetrated by the withdrawal of various values of the previous issue of Portugal, only to re-issue them a few months later as *provisionals*, with ingeniously varied surcharges! *Provisionals* in the country where the stamps are printed, and where fresh plates have only recently been constructed, can have but one object, and that not a postal one. The official of Nossi-Bé, who decreed surcharges "*Afin de faciliter l'écoulement*" was only a little more open and above-board.

* * *

WE are happy to say that in the British colonies this year's crop of the rubbish to which we are alluding has been a very scanty one, and we may fairly attribute this fact in great part to the firm stand made by English collectors against such varieties. We may add that we believe that our colonial authorities have very seldom encouraged the manufacture of these things; but there were certainly a few cases in which they appeared to play into the hands of local collectors, and some in which postal officials seem to have taken advantage of their opportunities. The reduction of the international post card rate to 1d. has given rise to a certain number of conversions, the 1½d. cards of various colonies having become useless; and Ceylon appears to be unable wholly to forsake its evil ways.

* * *

At the same time we must acknowledge that the matters of which we have been complaining are a tribute to the wide-spread popularity of the pursuit of stamp collecting; it is a tribute, however, that the philatelist would willingly dispense with. We prefer, in this connection, to point to the increasing, and increasingly intelligent, interest in philately displayed by the non-philatelic press. Short reports of stamp auctions are frequently to be found in the daily papers, and it is no use now attempting to cram the editors with tales about £80 Mulready envelopes, or £5 English post cards. We were therefore surprised at seeing, in a recent number of a widely-read magazine for boys, a statement under "Answers to Correspondents" to the effect that the values of the Cape "wood-blocks" were 5s. each for the ordinary, and 35s. for the errors! Probably all our readers know a good deal better than this; but it may be of interest to note that, at one of Messrs. Cheveley & Co.'s recent sales, a fine specimen of the 4d., red, fetched £26, while a pair of the blue, showing the 1d. and 4d. joined, was sold for £100! The ordinary "wood-blocks" went comparatively cheap, but eleven copies fetched on the average nearly £1 each, and a very fine pair of the 4d. (not included in the eleven) produced £4 10s.

* * *

We are glad to see that the study of legitimate stamped stationery receives abroad some measure of recognition, which it unfortunately greatly lacks in this country. A series of most valuable little books upon *The Stamped Envelopes of the German States* (Die Briefumschläge der deutschen Staaten), compiled by C. Lindenberg, is in course of publication by Dr. H. Brendicke, of Berlin, and, judging from the portions already published, we doubt not that it will form when finished a most complete history of these very interesting issues. Fortunately most, if not all, of the States to be dealt with (we do not know whether Bavaria and Wurtemberg are to be included in the series) have gone over to the minority of non-issuers, so that the spreading of the series over two or three years is not greatly to its disadvantage.

Our own postage envelopes have, we believe, been carefully studied and catalogued; but we

fancy that a thoroughly comprehensive list—including all the minor eccentricities—of the registration bags has still to be written. We acknowledge that these varieties are not very amusing, but then neither are diversities of short gum, long gum, round gum, square gum, flap ornament, knife, &c., all of which have been most thoroughly worked up in other countries. We pointed out only a short time back that the stamped stationery of the British Colonies is almost entirely neglected by English collectors. The Tapling Collection is rich in these things, as in everything else, but we know of no private collection in which they are really well represented.

* * *

CAN no one invent a fairly suitable English designation for what we have been impelled to term stamped stationery?—one as short and as comprehensive as *adhesive*, and conveying a similar idea to that of the words *timbre fixe* as applied to fiscals. Not that the stamp upon an envelope or wrapper is really a *timbre fixe*, as it is not impressed upon the letter or paper which it franks, but upon something which is to be attached to the object to be franked. The stamps upon letter sheets, post cards, and letter cards are the true *timbres fixes*.

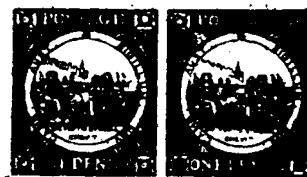
Entires is not satisfactory for many reasons. The expression *envelope* or *post card* does not mean a corner cut out of either the one or the other, and therefore the word *entire* should be unnecessary in this connection. Besides, no philatelist studies these clippings, though some collectors mount them in their albums.

* * *

WE publish in this number the first of a series of Letters, on contemporary Philatelic matters in Berlin, which we feel sure will prove of great interest to all our readers. Our German brethren study Philately, as they do all other subjects, with a thoroughness which we should all strive to imitate, and our Berlin letters, which are from the pen of one of the most eminent Philatelists of that city, will keep his fellow-students in this country thoroughly posted with all the most interesting items of news from Germany pertaining to the scientific side of our pursuit.

* * *

WE are happy to be able to present our readers with a *fac-simile* of the recently discovered forgeries



of the Sydney View stamps, to which we alluded in our October number. We refrain from pointing out the differences between these imitations and the genuine types, as that would only assist the producers in improving upon their work; but a careful comparison with the annexed illustration should enable the collector to avoid these very deceptive frauds.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longion Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—A correspondent has very kindly sent us specimens of two varieties of the larger oblong stamps, which were alluded to in our last number. The design is a little more pretentious than that of the last issue. In the upper centre is a circle, within which is represented what appears to be a Gateway, with a Flag on each side of it; it may be the entrance to a Mosque, but might equally well be the gate of a City. Below this is a long, slightly curved character extending the whole width of the stamp, and the lower part of the design and the spaces at the sides of the circle are filled in with characters, upon the usual groundwork of flowers and leaves, the whole device being upon a solid background, as in the earliest and the latest issues. The specimens before us are in black upon coloured tissue paper, one on green and the other on pink. Their owner informs us that the green stamp is used on letters from Cabul, and the pink on letters to that place; probably the latter is used for all letters posted in places other than the capital. We have obtained a translation of the inscriptions, showing that both stamps are of the same value, and we believe both to be of identically the same type. The characters read as follows: "Maḥsūl Kāghasi dak Khana Jowlat Afghanistan Miskal yak abasi. 1310" = "Paper Duty of the Post Office of the Kingdom of Afghanistan—per miskal, one abasi. 1310." A miskal = 54 grains troy, or rather less than one-eighth of an ounce avoirdupois. The year 1310 commenced July 26, 1892, and ended July 14, 1893; so these stamps were probably issued during the first half of the current year.

Adhesives. 1 abasi, black on green.
1 " " pink.

Antigua.—Le *Timbre-Poste* chronicles the 1d. in pale vermilion, with the Star watermark and perf. 12.

Adhesive. 1d., pale vermilion; wmk. Star; perf. 12.

Antioquia.—The same journal reports a 10 c. in a new variety of the type with "REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA" at the top, the initials of the two principal words being large capitals.

Adhesive. 10 c., pale brown; perf. 13½.

Belgium.—Our Belgian correspondent sends us some more curiosities of the Sabbatarian order, in the shape of an envelope and a letter card, each of which bears the latest 10 c. stamp in the right upper corner. The lower part of the stamp naturally cannot be removed from these, so a star is printed at the side of it referring to the following instruction along the lower margin: "(*) Cette inscription peut être biffée.—Dat opschrift mag doorgehaald worden." The other inscriptions upon the letter card remain unaltered, except that the letter "M" is omitted. The perforations do not cross at the corners. The whole impression is in colour in both cases.

Le *T. P.* states that the current Envelope Letters, which are but little used, have had the Sabbatical label added below the stamp, and the instruction printed in the lower margin.

Envelope. 10 c., orange on white wove; 146 × 116 mm.
Letter Card. 10 c. grey-blue; 117 × 80 mm.
Envelope Letter. 10 c., carmine on " with label, &c.

Our correspondent informs us that further instalments of this ingenious stationery may be expected as follows: 5 c. cards on the 15th Dec.; 10 c., 5 + 5 c., and 10 + 10 c. cards February 1st, 1894; and 10 c. Envelope Letter and 25 c. Letter Card March 1st, 1894. The last item is, we presume, for the Propagation of the Gospel (of non-delivery) in Foreign Parts, as we believe that the 25 c. Letter Cards do not circulate in Belgium itself!

Bhopal.—We give an illustration of the new 8 annas.



British East Africa.—In reference to the paragraph in our last number under this head a correspondent informs us that he possesses specimens, duly initialed and post-marked, both of the "½ anna" on 2 a., with surcharge printed in violet, and of the "1 anna" on 4 a., with manuscript surcharge, which is likewise ignored by the postmaster of Mombasa. The former is postmarked "Lamu — 28. 91," the name of the month being illegible, and the latter "Mombasa Jy. 22. 91." Our informant also possesses an imperforate pair of the 4 a. in grey, unused, and has seen imperf. specimens of most of the values up to 1 rupee, used, and on original letters.

British South Central Africa.—Messrs. A. Smith & Co.'s *Monthly Circular* announces that the registration envelopes of this compound association have had their value raised to 4d. by means of a surcharge cancelling the words "TWO PENCE" and inserting "FOUR" between the ends of the scroll.

Reg. Env. 4d., in black, on 2d., ultramarine; two sizes.

Bulgaria.—Some varieties of the current Letter Cards are chronicled: *La Carte Postale* describes the 15 stot. having the third word of the second line of the inscription on the back "3," instead of "6." *La Revue Philateliue* states that there is a new edition of both values, having the perforations larger, the card more highly glazed, the colour of the stamps paler, and the distance between the inscription on the left and the stamp 2 mm. less than before. It would appear also that the card is of different colour, but our contemporary does not draw special attention to this.

Letter Cards. 15 stot., orange on yellow; "3" at back.
5 " pale green on buff; reset.
15 " orange "

Cape of Good Hope.—The *London Philatelist* chronicles the first instalment of the new issue, the design of which seems to agree with the description which we copied from a colonial paper in June last. We hope to be able to illustrate it in a future number.

Adhesive. 1d., red-brown; wmk. Foul Anchor; perf. 14.

Ceylon.—The *Philatelic Record* announces a 30 c. of the bi-coloured type. We have received a 5 c. Letter Card of somewhat novel design. The stamp, of the type of that on the Post Cards, is in the upper centre; on the left "LETTER," on the right "CARD," in large Roman capitals, with an inscription beneath each word, in Cingalese on the left and in Tamil on the right. Below this are two straight lines, extending from which up each side and above the stamp, &c., is a plain frame, of a kind of tombstone pattern. The whole impression is in colour, on thin, yellowish card, folded at the top, and perf. about 6, with the lines of perforation crossing at the corners.

Adhesive. 30 c., violet, value in brown-red.
Letter Card. 5 c., purple on yellowish; 125 × 85 mm.

Chefoo.—We are informed that the Chinese characters in the upper corners of these stamps read *Yan Day*, which is the Chinese name for Chefoo; the watermark is *Yean*, which by itself means *Smoke*, or *Tobacco*. Smoky Day may well remind the exiled Cockney of his native city at this season of the year!

Our correspondent at Shanghai has received the following communications from the postmaster at Chefoo, in reference to a mysterious transaction which appears to have taken place there. Under the date Oct. 18th, 1893, he writes:

"I regret to say that 56 sets of stamps have been sold at this office by mistake, bearing the words 'Postage Due' across them.

"I am desired by the Chefoo Local Post Committee to request you to inform the Societies you represent, and through them the postal" (philatelic) "newspapers, that the issue and sale is an unauthorized one, and that the stamps are of no value."

Three days later the postmaster forwards "a copy of the notice which has been put up here about the *Postage Due* stamps," which runs:

"The Local stamps bearing the words 'Postage Due' on them, having been sold without authority, are hereby declared to be of no value; and holders are requested to return them to the postmaster, who will refund the money.

"(Signed), JOHN L. NEVINS,
"Chairman Chefoo Local Post Committee."

We gather that these overprinted stamps had been prepared for use, but not adopted, and we are glad to warn our readers that they are, at best, only rejected essays of a very uninteresting nature, and that it is possible that the overprint was simply a philatelic experiment on the part of someone in the Post-office.

Egypt.—According to *Le T.-P.* the larger size of the 1 piastre envelope, of *blue laid, watermarked paper*, has now come into use.

Envelope. 1 piastre, ultramarine on *blue laid, wmkd.*; 146×111 mm.

Falkland Islands.—A correspondent in the navy, who touched at these islands some months ago, informs us that when there he was shewn the provisional ½d. of 1891, not on the *Id., claret*, but on the *Id., brownish-orange*, which was not known until a later date. This should apparently not exist with the surcharge in question, but it is uncertain at what date the *Id.* in the new colour was received in the colony, and if it was in stock at the time, some sheets may have been surcharged as ½d. before the *Id.* was issued in that colour.

The following notices, sent us by our correspondent, are of interest as showing the date at which the provisional ½d. was withdrawn:

Government Gazette of 17th December, 1891.

"10 Dec., 91.—A supply of ½d. and 2½d. stamps have been received; no further issue of the Provisional Halfpenny stamps will be made.

"(Signed) SANGUINETTI."

Government Gazette of 21st January, 1892.

"11 Jan., 92.—The public are reminded that the new ½d. and 2½d. stamps having now been received, and that the Provisional Halfpenny is no longer in use; from this date any letters received with the Provisional Halfpenny stamp affixed will be treated as insufficiently paid to the amount of ½d., and the addressees will be liable to double the deficiency.

"(Signed) W. A. HARDING,
"Acting Postmaster."

Fernando Po.—*L'Union Postale Universelle* reports that the 1 c. de peso exists with the surcharge "HABILITADO PARA CORREOS 50 CENT-PTA.", similar to that already catalogued upon the 2 c. and 50 c. We are not told whether this is a novelty or a resuscitation.

Adhesive. 50 c., in black, on 1 c., green.

French Colonies.—We regret to learn from *The L. P.* that some of the absorbed colonies are to be exhumed. Diego Suarez is to lose its "Dependances," and to have a new issue all to itself (has the so-called current issue ever reached its destination—postal, not philatelic?); and Nossi-Bé and Ste. Marie de Madagascar are also to be fully provided. The same authority tells us of a new province with the extraordinary appellation of "Djibouti," which is to have a set of triangular stamps ranging in value from 1 c. up to 50 francs. We trust that all collectors will "Djib" at this addition to the load. *Le T. P.* gives the name as Djibouti, and states that only the 5 franc stamp is to be triangular, but that all are to be dated "1893-1894," thus giving promise of future blessings!

German East Africa.—The following is a translation of a letter, on the subject of the labels attributed to Messrs. Schulke and Mayr, published by the *Ill. Brief. Journal*:

"IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF GERMAN EAST AFRICA.

"DURESSALAM, 30th Sept., 1893.

"Gentlemen,—In reply to your request for information, dated 25th August of this year, I have to inform you that the Imperial Government made a contract with the firm of Schulke and Mayr with reference to postal communication with the Victoria Nyanza. At the expiration of a year this contract was not renewed. This firm also requested of the Post-office Department of the Empire permission to introduce stamps, but the request was refused.

"Consequently, according to the information which I now give you, the stamps which accompany your letter, and others similar to them, were never in use.

"(Signed), VON SCHELE,
"Imperial Governor."

The curiosities in question may safely be consigned to oblivion.

Germany.—In reference to the imperforate stamps, to which we alluded last month, *Le T. P.* has been informed that some imperf. sheets were received by the Post-office from the printing-office in 1889, and were handed over by the former to the Postal Museum at Berlin. The latter institution has recently been endeavouring to make a profit out of some of these stamps, and it is stated that the Post-office allows them to pass for postage, in which case we presume that they must be chronicled.

Adhesives. 3 pf., brown; imperf. orange
25 " orange
50 " red-brown "

Gibraltar.—A correspondent sends us a specimen of the reply-paid 15 centimos on ½d. card, showing an error on the second half similar to those found on some of the adhesives, the upper part of the right-hand stroke of the "N" being apparently defective.

Great Britain.—We are indebted to a kind correspondent for a specimen of the obsolete form of Registration Envelope with the new stamp impressed on the flap. The envelope is the G size, with the latest variety but one of the inscriptions, &c., "FEE PAID" printed and the £50 insurance regulation, and, we presume, received the new stamp in error.

Registration Envelope. 2d., blue; size G, old form, new stamp.

We regret to have to warn our readers against another fraud that has been perpetrated in connection with the stamps of this country. We have been shown a strip of three of the small oblong ½d. stamp, plate 13, on one of which one of the numbers "13" has been skilfully altered to "12." We hear that there are a few copies of this curiosity about, which are being offered at fairly reasonable prices. If this *fake* succeeds, it will doubtless assume other forms of a similar nature; it is therefore well to state emphatically that it is absolutely impossible that such a variety should be genuine.

Grenada.—Our attention has been drawn by Messrs. Cameron and Co. to a fact in connection with the "4d." on 2s., of 1888, which has not, we believe, been previously noted. It appears that there were two printings of the surcharge. In the first there is a distance of 4 mm. only between "4d." and the word "POSTAGE"; in the second the distance is 5 mm. It was in the first setting that the variety "4d." with Roman letter occurred; in the second all the stamps bear an italic "d."

Hankow.—We are informed that the present issue is a provisional one only, and that something more elaborate is in preparation. The following are the numbers stated to have been supplied: 26,000 of 2 c. and 15,000 each of 5 c. and 10 c., and 10,000 each of 20 c. and 30 c. But we presume that if more are wanted before the permanent issue is ready, more will be printed.

Holland.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the 2½ gulden with the head of the young Queen replacing that of the late King. The design is the same as before in other respects, and is similarly printed.

Adhesive. 2 gl. 50 c., carmine and ultramarine; perf. 1½.

India.—We chronicled some fifteen months ago the current 8 a. stamp with the "On H. M. S." surcharge. We have recently received a copy which seems to show that there has been a gradual change in the colour of the impression of the stamp, from the so-called *purple* to *rose*. The stamp before us is of a *lilac-rose* tint, much more *rosy* than the original colour, but not so much so as some specimens. Probably the official surcharge only exists upon some of the more recent shades.

Italy.—*Le T. P.* announces the issue of the reply-paid form of the new Cards, to which we alluded in September. The Arms are smaller than before, and the Flags differently arranged. The inscriptions also differ, both in the wording and in type. Both halves are said to be dated "90"!

Post Card. 7½+7½ c., carmine on *rose*; new variety.

Luxemburg.—A German correspondent informs us that the 4 c., black, which we described last month, are *proofs* struck by Mons. P. Bruck, in March, 1875; and in consulting (as we ought to have done sooner) the volume upon the stamps of this State in Mons. Moens' *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles* we find these impressions fully dealt with and noted, both perf. and imperf. However, we exhibited our ignorance in good company!

MACAO.—We are informed that two sheets of the 2½ on 10 reis, which we described in June, received a double impression of the surcharge. We wonder which of the high officials who scrambled for the issue secured this little lot? Perhaps the Government Printer!

Adhesive. 2½ on 10 reis, green; double surcharge.

Mexico.—We have received a further consignment of stationery from our correspondent, and though we do not consider the envelopes adorned with the vignettes of Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co. and others, and with values altered in divers ingenious ways, to be of great philatelic interest, still they should perhaps be chronicled. We number them in continuation of our former lists, pending an opportunity of arranging them in some more scientific manner.

First, with Wells, Fargo & Co.'s vignette.

31. Similar to 18, but inscription below vignette in *lilac*; and above, in *green*, "1492 * EMISION COLOMBINA * 1892."

32. Similar to 19b, with the addition in *green* as above.

These seem to be a little behind hand in point of date; however, they are seasonable, and we only want an *Emision Arlequina* to complete the pantomime!

33. Similar to 19b, but inscription below the vignette in *blue*.

34. Similar to 20, but the inscription is in smaller type, and in *blue*; we have this also with double impression of the inscription, which seems to vary slightly in shade.

35. With two stamps of 10 c., *vermilion*; value on vignette 15 c. crossed out in *black*; "PRECIO 25 CROS." struck vertically in *lilac*; "Para Cartas 1 oz. en la Republica Mexicana Exclusivamente" in *lilac*; 153 × 87 mm. These envelopes are stated to have been stamped 10 c. in error for 20 c., the error being afterwards corrected by the addition of a second stamp; but if this was so, it is difficult to understand why the 15 c. vignette was printed upon them, thus necessitating a further correction."

36. Similar to 23, but the first surcharge is "PRECIO 35 CTVO.", in *lilac*, at the left of the vignette.

37. Similar to 29, but the value inserted in M.S. is "60 cts.", the inscription below the vignette is crossed out in *red* ink, and "Para cartas 2 oz. á Europa exclusivamente" added underneath it, in *lilac*.

38. Similar to 26, but the inscription is in *rose*, and the size 227 × 100 mm.

39. Two stamps of 20 c., *vermilion*; value on vignette 15 c. crossed out in pencil; "50 cts." written at side in *red* ink; "Para cartas 4 oz. á los Estados Unidos exclusivamente," in *blue*.

Second, with vignette of the Express Hidalgo, as shown in the following illustration:



1. (Chronicled in *Der Philatelist*.) Stamp, 10 c., *vermilion*; vignette in *olive-brown*, in left upper corner, value, 15 c.; *white wove* paper, 152 × 90 mm.

2. Similar to the last, but vignette in *black*; *silurian-grey* paper, 153 × 86 mm.

3. (From *The Metropolitan Philatelist*.) Vignette in *blue*; thin wove *yellow-buff* paper, 156 × 90 mm.

Third, with vignette of the "Express Nacional Mexicano"; Arms of the Republic; name in an arch above; "FRANCO—PARA—CORRESPONDENCIA" in a curve below; "PRECIO" on left; value, varying, on right; and an inscription, also varying, below.

1. Stamp, 10 c., *vermilion*; vignette in *green*, in left upper corner; value, "15 cts." in *red*; "PARA SOBRES ½ OZ. = 15 GRAMOS," in *green*, below the vignette; *white wove* paper, 153 × 90 mm.

2. Similar to 1, but stamp 20 c., value on vignette "25 cts.", and weight "1 OZ. = 30 GRAMOS."

3. Similar to 2, but size 241 × 107 mm.

4. Similar to 1 and 2, but two stamps of 20 c., value on vignette "50 cts.", and weight "2 OZ. = 60 GRAMOS."

Montenegro.—We have received the 10 and 25 nov. with the printing centenary foolishness in *black*, instead of in *red*.

Adhesives. 10 nov., blue; black surcharge.
25 " violet " "

Le T. P. describes a number of varieties of reply cards joined in various ways, produced by getting the cards in sheets and cutting them up ingeniously; also a sheet, the cards on one side of which have no stamp, but have the Jubilee improvement in the place where the stamp should be! The cards and the envelopes are also found with the surcharge in divers inappropriate positions, as might be expected.

Nepaul.—We are informed that post cards are no longer kept in stock by this State.

New Caledonia.—We learn that the 35 c. of the Colonial issue has been disfigured like the rest of the series.

Adhesive. 35 c., black on *yellow*; black surcharge.

New South Wales.—We gather from some of our contemporaries that the card chronicled last month is of the type with the current stamp and the Warratah, but, if so, it was announced some eighteen months ago, as having been printed on *white* in February, 1892.

We are informed, by the Secretary of the North Queensland Philatelic Society, that an envelope with the 2d. stamp struck in *green* (according to our informant, in *error*) was purchased at the G. P. O. in Sydney. Can the colour be due to some chemical action, intentional or otherwise?

Envelope. 2d., green.

New Zealand.—The 6d. with the new perforation has been duly adorned, on the back, with a notice which seems peculiarly suited to the festive season, "CREASE'S—Dandelion—COFFEE—CURES—INDIGESTION."

Nova Potuca.—Mr. Seymour Summers informs us that he learns that the stamps of this still undiscovered Republic were received by their fortunate possessor from the Standard Stamp Co., of St. Louis. Possibly this mysterious State exists somewhere in that direction, but the news seems to have been carefully concealed from the American journals, and the execution of the articles is hardly up to the *Standard Stamp* products of the United States! Mr. Summers adds that he has seen the 1 c. without the surcharge, the existence of which we ventured to assume, and the 5 c. overprinted "20," in *black*. There will be enough varieties to fill a page by the time we discover where the place is, but we do not recommend these rarities as an investment. A correspondent of *Le T. P.* states that these stamps are old frauds, brought out in 1867 as an issue for Reunion!

Persia.—A correspondent informs us that the ways of the Postal Officials in this country are inscrutable. Some time back 7 sh. stamps ran short at a certain office; but as 10 sh. stamps were plentiful, the Postmaster informed his customers that they must put 10 sh. on their letters, instead of 9 sh. (usually made up of 7 sh. and 2 sh.); and as the officials usually take the money and put the stamps on the letters themselves, the senders were forced to pay an extra charge of 1 sh. per letter!

Portugal.—*The L. P.* states that the 2 reis recently reported as surcharged, in *carmine*, "PROVISORIO 1893 2½ REIS," "is of a mythical character." We rejoice to hear it. On the other hand, *The Stamp News* adds a curious variety "surcharged in black with full-face portrait." If this is thus we may expect to see sheets of the obsolete issue overprinted with the whole design of the new one, but we fancy there is something mythical about this statement also.

The P. C. reports that the 20 reis Card of 1887 has been surcharged "Valido 1893," in the same manner as the 10 reis of 1890.

Post Card. 20 reis, *carmine* on *buff*; black surcharge.

Portuguese Indies.—*Le T. P.* describes what appears to be a new variety of 3 reis on 1 tanga Post Card. At the left side is impressed a surcharge consisting of the Arms of Portugal with the inscription "SUPPRIMENTO 3 REIS" below in a semicircle.

Post Card. 3 reis on 1 tanga, blue on *buff*; black surcharge.

Queensland.—The Secretary of the N. Queensland Philatelic Society sends us an impression of a Frank Stamp of this colony; it is of oval shape, a plain band lettered "GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE—QUEENSLAND," en-

closing an oblong label for the date, above which is the word "FRANK" and below "STAMP." It is handstruck on letters or packets, the copy before us being in violet.

Official Frank. No value, violet.

We are also informed that new plates for the 1d. and 2d. adhesives have been constructed, and the errors with "LA" joined are no longer in the form.

Roumania.—*La Revue Philatlique* describes a variety of the current 5+5 bani card, having the second half attached to the right side of the first, instead of to the top; this is, no doubt, produced by dividing the sheets of cards horizontally instead of vertically, as in Montenegro.

Post Card. 5+5 bani, black on rose; variety.

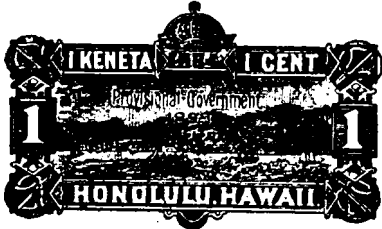
Russian Local.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Cherson.—The 10 kopecks of 1874 has been discovered with the centre inverted, and we gather from M. Moens' catalogue that similar varieties are known of some of the other early issues, Types 2955 to 2957 in our publishers' list.

St. Helena.—A correspondent informs us that he possesses a specimen of the 1d. with short line, 14 mm., *imperforate*, and with good margins.

St. Vincent.—A correspondent of *Le T. P.* states that he possesses the 3d., *orange*, with the Crown & CA wmk. We should like to see this, or to be assured that our *confre* had seen it, before we chronicle it.

Sandwich Islands.—The varieties and errors of the surcharges on the postal stationery of these islands are infinite in number and ingenuity. We are told of the 5 c., *ultramarine*, with the date misprinted as "1863," and with the figures of the date all turned backwards. How this is done we do not know, but as described to us it looks difficult, if not impossible! The Envelopes and Cards, of course, afford greater scope. There being four corners to each, the odds are naturally three to one against the surcharge falling in the right place, and it is wonderful how successful the printer has been as a rule!



The Provisional Government having determined upon having a new issue of 1, 2, 5, 10, and 25 cent stamps, called for designs for these values, to be submitted by the 1st November; and we are informed by Mr. Holdsworth, of Honolulu, that the designs tendered by him have been accepted, and the order for engraving them has been sent to New York. He very kindly sends us a rough sketch of each, of which the following is a brief description:

The 1 c. shows the Hawaiian Arms on a large shield with supporters; the name above and value below on scrolls, and a frame of rays; to be printed in *deep yellow*. The 2 c. bears a view of Honolulu, as on the 2 c. Card, in a square frame; name above, value below, "POSTAGE" at each side; colour to be *brown*. On the 5 c. is depicted the statue of Kamehameha I., as on the former 25 c., with inscription "HAWAIIAN ISLANDS POSTAGE" on a horse-shoe frame; value in the lower corners; taro leaves and palms in the spandrels; colour *carmine-red*. On the 10 c. is a Star, surrounded by palms, and with the date "1893" at the top; at the bottom is the value, surmounted by a scroll bearing the name; in the lower corners sugar-canes and taro leaves; colour *green*. The 25 c. has the portrait of Mr. S. B. Dole, President of the Provisional Government, in an oval; above, on a scroll, "HAWAII * 1893"; at the left of the oval (which touches the right side of the stamp) is draped the Hawaiian flag; below the oval an anchor; value on a block in the left lower corner; colour *blue*.

The designs appear to be eminently appropriate and interesting, and we can only trust that the new stamps will soon be ready, and thus a stop may be put to all the surcharging.

Servia.—The post cards are in trouble again. *Le T. P.* chronicles the following varieties of the current 5+5 paras: *a.* With the second half the same as the first. *b.* With the reply form on both halves. *c.* With the first half blank. *d.* With the second half blank. Let us hope that a specimen may yet be found with *both* halves blank!

Shanghai.—Through a misprint in our last number we chronicled a 1 c. Postage Due Stamp, of the obsolete issue, instead of a 10 c. We omitted to chronicle the 1/2 c. of the new issue of the same class.

Postage Due Stamp. 1/2 c., black and orange.

South Australia.—A correspondent sends us the 2 1/2 d. on 4d., perf. 10 at top, bottom, and left, and 12 1/2 on right.

Spain.—*The S. N.* chronicles the following fiscals (*Timbre-Mouil*) used postally:

Adhesives. 10 c., blue; dated 1893.
25 c., lake " "

Straits Settlements.—*The Ph. R.* reports the issue of two new cards of the usual colonial type.

Post Cards. 2 c., carmine on buff.
2+2 c. " "

Surinam.—*Le T. P.* describes a specimen of the 12 1/2 c., with head of the late King of Holland, printed in *pale brown*, and perf. 12 1/2. Can it be a chemical changeling?

Adhesive. 12 1/2 c., pale brown?

Tahiti.—*L'Union Postale Universelle* chronicles a set of adhesives with the name of this colony surcharged horizontally, and the date "1893"; also the *imperforate Unpaid Letter stamps* with this surcharge, and with the diagonal type described in October. These are curiosities which we trust most of our readers will be content to do without. The overprints are all *black*.

Adhesives. 5 c., green.
10 c., black on lilac.
15 c., blue.
20 c., red on green.
25 c., black on rose.
75 c., carmine.
1 fr., bronze-green.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

Diagonal Surcharge of name.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60 centimes, black.
1, 2 francs, red-brown.

Horizontal Surcharge of Name and date.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60 centimes, black.
1, 2 francs, red-brown.

Timor.—We give an illustration showing the 300 reis of Macao surcharged for use as 30 reis in this colony.



Tonga.—Our next illustrations represent the various surcharged stamps recently issued here.



Turks Islands.—We have received from Messrs. Cameron & Co. a vertical pair of the *jd. on ad.*, the lower stamp of which lacks the bar across the original value, the overprint being struck too low down. The stamps were overprinted in horizontal rows of 6, with a continuous thick bar intended to cover the lower labels, and a thinner bar, also continuous, running across the centre of the stamps. Above the latter bar is "1d." and below it "2," each repeated six times, thus giving $\frac{1d.}{2}$ on each stamp.

United States.—*The P. C.* describes a curious variety of the 1 c. card of the first issue, watermarked in the left upper corner with the letters "PO" upside down. The letters resemble, in size and shape, those of the wmk. in the Nesbitt envelopes. The address side of the card has a smooth surface; the other side is rough.

The M. P. describes a strip of three of the 15 c., *blue, imperforate*, recently seen used upon a packet in New York.

Adhesive. 15 c., blue; *imperf.*
Post Card. 1 c., red-brown on buff; *variety.*

Victoria.—We have received from Mr. Vindin a specimen of an envelope of *white laid* paper, embossed with two penny stamps, like the *blue* envelope chronicled last February. The story now is that a business firm, whose address is printed on the copy before us, had these envelopes stamped for use by their country customers, and that, the postal rate having recently been raised to 2d., they sent in their stock of envelopes and had a second 1d. stamp struck by the side of the first. The stamps were plainly not impressed at the same time, as the one nearest the corner is in a much deeper shade than the other, and the envelope appears to have been used in ordinary course of business.

Envelope. 1d. + 1d., orange and orange-brown on *white laid*.

Western Australia.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* states that the "Internal Revenue" stamps of this colony are now allowed to pay postage, and that the long 1d. stamp has been thus employed.

Fiscal Postal. 1d., lilac; long rectangular.

BERLIN LETTER.

CHRISTMAS is approaching, and the philatelic season is in full swing now. It commenced earlier here this year than usual, as it started with the 5th Annual Convention of the German philatelists—the "Deutsche Philatelisten-Tag"—held this year in Berlin, September 2-4. About 150 philatelists gathered in the splendid rooms of the "Architecten-Haus," amongst them being our best-known collectors, dealers, and publishers, such as Messrs. Fraenkel, Wassermann, Kropf, Rev. Eckardt, Berger, Meder, Haas, Heitmann, Baumbach, Senf, Friedl, Lietzow, and many others. Mr. Lindenberg in the chair contributed greatly to the success of the two official meetings. A most interesting paper was read by Mr. Haas "on the alleged reprints of Bavaria." English philatelists will perhaps be astonished to hear that Bavarian reprints are said to exist; but they may be reassured, there are none, as Mr. Haas proved by official statements, and by his own researches. The so-called reprints of the 1870 issue are printers' proofs, of which some few were sent out, and consequently used by the public, while most of them were kept in the General Post Office, and found their way occasionally into the hands of collectors.

A lively discussion arose about the motion of a Leipzig Society, that the members of the "International Association of Dealers in Postage Stamps" should put a stop to the offering of reprints. The majority was in favour of this proposal, while a few dealers pleaded in favour of those bastards of our hobby—the reprints. Finally it was resolved, that the convention expected the dealers to mark the reprints with a special surcharge, and to report on their steps in this direction at the next convention. At a meeting of the Dealers' Association, held in connection with the Convention, one of our prominent dealers moved, that the resolution be carried out by way of trial; but now he seems to have found fault with his own proposition, as he is trying to get rid of his stock of reprints *before* stamping them!

The visitors to the convention were favoured with a special visit to the Imperial Post-office Museum. It will interest outsiders to read some statistics about the collections of postage stamps, which form an important part of the

many treasures accumulated in this Imperial institute. First we have there the show collection, mounted on cards, and exhibited to the public on five days in every week. This first collection consists of unused stamps, but without regard to types, shades, and watermarks. It is almost complete, only a few *rarisima*, such as early British Guiana, Mauritius *Post-office*, Reunion first issue, waiting for a Maecenas who would present them to the Museum. This collection contains some 9000 adhesive stamps, 2350 envelopes and wrappers, 2200 post cards, 720 money order cards, 460 telegraph stamps, and 3400 essays and proofs, altogether some 18000 specimens.

The second collection was founded by Mr. Lindenberg, with the view to fill up the gaps of the first one; therefore it embraces all the varieties of type (entire sheets), shade, watermark, perforation, besides errors, reprints, cancellations, and all the extravagances of postal stationery; in fact, any and everything (including prominent forgeries), loose and on entire letters. Though this part was started but a couple of years ago, it contains already from 25,000 to 26,000 items.

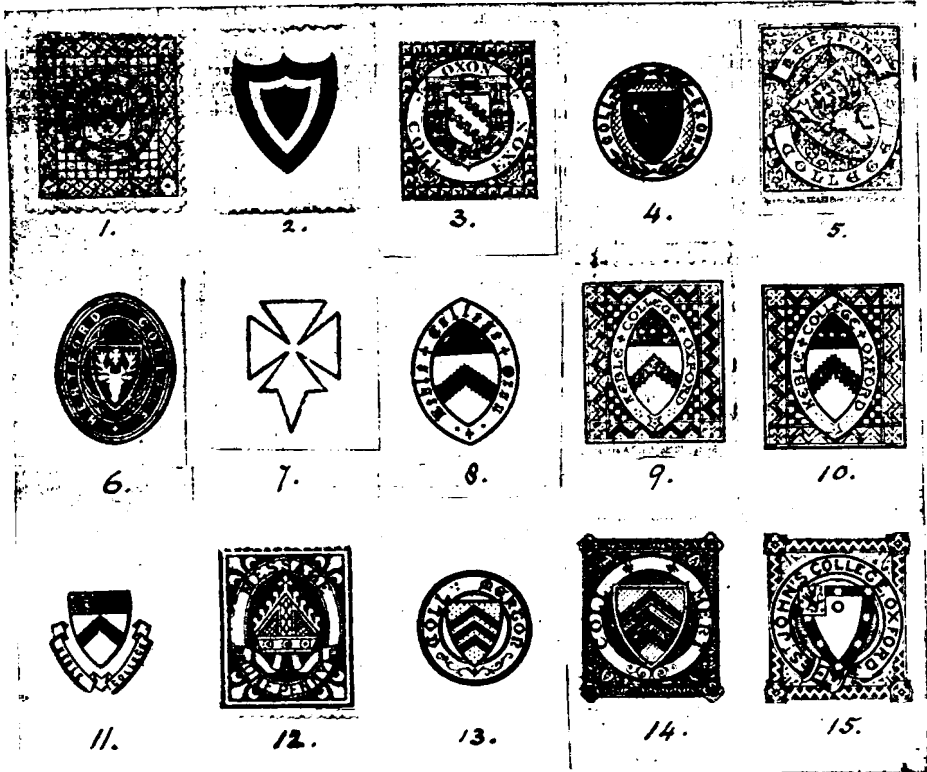
But the division in the Museum most interesting to philatelists will doubtless be the collection of original dies and plates. Of course they are not on view, but kept locked up carefully in order to prevent any possible abuse. From the nearly 400 dies and the 66 entire plates hidden in the Museum, and comprising most of those of the old German States, no reprints will be made.

The success of the Post-office Museum in the philatelic direction is entirely due to Mr. Lindenberg, whose continuous and unselfish working is beyond praise. But he has done more still for his brethren by his philatelic publications. Our readers are doubtless acquainted with some of them, so we need not enumerate them here. About a year ago he commenced a series of brochures on the envelopes of the German States. Up to this time there have appeared "the envelopes of Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Lubeck, Thurn and Taxis, Oldenburg, Baden, and the North German Confederation." The last-named book we looked forward to with uncommon expectation. You know that among the federal envelopes there are the so-called "Ueberklebte"; *i.e.* obsolete envelopes of the formerly independent German postal administrations clad with a federal stamp, and afterwards surcharged with a large rectangular stamp, containing the microscopic inscription "NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK." Of these provisional envelopes 128 varieties are known now, but there were only some 70 fifteen years ago. It was difficult to understand how the number of varieties could increase to such an extent ten years after those envelopes had been withdrawn, and how it was that nearly all of these posthumous varieties could be traced back to one and the same father.

After some eight years of study Mr. Lindenberg was able to clear up the history of these envelopes to a certain degree. First of all he showed, from the records, which kinds of the provisional envelopes were intended by the Government. The list he made up comprises 93 varieties, of which 14 are doubtful. These 14, with 35 more, undoubtedly exist, some of them being known even in a used state; but Mr. Lindenberg has never seen one of them with genuine cancellation, all the used ones he examined bearing a forged cancelling mark. The forger has imitated the stamp of a town that only had a post-office in 1872! Can you imagine a better proof of the faker's immoral work? Look out for the cancelling mark "DAHLHAUSEN" on any issue prior to 1872!

Mr. Lindenberg's explanations caused some excitement among collectors and dealers. German envelopes were for some time neglected at the Berlin Bourse. In some quarters an opposition arose against the keen investigator, who with a stroke of the pen declared valueless the treasures which the unhappy possessors had been proud of up to that time. They formed a committee, and commenced by promulgating the theory that a certain gentleman whom Lindenberg accused of the propagation of the forged envelopes was not the forger. But besides this they tried to arouse suspicion against Mr. Lindenberg, and to throw mud upon him. Well, before long they will see their *protégés* still further degraded, as Mr. Lindenberg is in the way to discover the real forger. We hope to refer to this matter in a future number, but we may assure our readers already that the further manufacturing of surcharged German envelopes is rendered impossible.

FRANCISCUS.



THE OXFORD COLLEGE STAMPS.

BY PROFESSOR ARTHUR S. NAPIER, M.A., PH. D.

(Read as a Paper before the Oxford Philatelic Society.)

THE very considerable local correspondence which passes during the Oxford term-time between the different colleges, and from the colleges to various parts of the city, was, from time immemorial, forwarded, not by the Post-office, but by private messengers in the employment of the several colleges. Some twenty years ago the method in vogue in most colleges was for the sender to write his name or initials on the outside of the envelope, the fee for delivery being entered to his account.

When Keble College came into existence in 1871, the authorities decided not to adopt this plan, which necessitated a considerable amount of bookkeeping, but determined to simplify matters by issuing stamps, to be sold to the undergraduates and affixed to the letters. In accordance with this resolution, the first stamps made their appearance in the autumn term of 1871. In the December number of the 5th volume (1871) of *The Philatelist*, p. 154, there appeared the following paragraph: "A stamp has been issued by the authorities of Keble College, Oxford, freeing letters thence to the other colleges, or to any part of the city itself. A college messenger carries the letters, the stamp being simply obliterated by a pencil mark. A second stamp affixed pre-pays the reply if necessary. The stamp is rectangular, bearing the arms of the college in centre, within an upright pointed oval frame, inscribed "KEBLE COLLEGE, OXON." The design is in relief, on vermilion-coloured paper, gummed and perforated; value, one halfpenny."

The first college to follow the example of Keble was Hertford, which had stamps prepared at the end of 1875, although they do not seem to have been actually used until 1879. Merton followed suit in the autumn of 1876, and in June, 1877, Lincoln College issued stamps. Then came Exeter in November, 1882, whilst All Souls' and St. John's

put their adhesives into circulation early in 1884. The stamps prepared for Balliol in 1885 came too late to be ever actually used.

The reason why so few colleges ever adopted stamps is that, in some cases, the feeling prevailed from the first that their use was illegal, being an infringement of the prerogative of the Post-office; in other cases, a certain fixed sum being paid by each undergraduate for the messenger's services, no extra charge was made for the delivery of letters, so that the issue of stamps would have served no purpose.

In compiling this paper I have had considerable difficulties to contend with, and although I have done my best to make my account of the college stamps complete, future workers in the field are pretty certain to come upon facts which have escaped me.* In the absence of any published material on the subject, my only sources of information have been (1) the entries in the books of the colleges, or of the firms who supplied the stamps, (2) the memories of those who were in Oxford at the time, and (3) the evidence afforded by the stamps themselves. During the eight years which have elapsed since the withdrawal of the stamps from circulation, all recollection of them seems to have passed away. Those who mainly used them, the undergraduates, have long since left the university, and have forgotten them, whilst the correspondence franked by them, being as it was of an essentially ephemeral character, has almost entirely perished. With a few exceptions, such as old college porters and messengers, personal enquiries led to but small results, and my account is therefore mainly based upon the evidence furnished by the first and last of the sources above indicated.

I have to tender my best thanks to Mr. J. R. F. Turner, of Oxford, for much kind help, both in the way of enquiries made and in placing his very fine collection at my free disposal for examination. Nearly all the dated used specimens to

* The few meagre notices of the college stamps which have come to my knowledge have not afforded me any help at all. They are contained in *The Oxford Review*, January 27, 1886, p. 196; *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, vol. 1, p. 63; *The Stamp Collector*, March, 1893, p. 33; *The Stamp News*, April, 1893, p. 64.

which I have occasion to allude in the course of this article are in his possession. I have also to thank Messrs. Emberlin and Son, and Mr. F. Vincent (successor to Spiers and Son), Oxford, for kindly searching their books for me.*

Of the seven colleges which issued stamps (I leave Balliol for the moment out of consideration) only two, viz., Keble and Merton, employed as adhesives embossed impressions on surface coloured paper; and even they discarded them, after a few years, in favour of the surface printed stamps, which were the only ones ever used by the remaining five colleges. In the case of Exeter, Merton, St. John's, and Keble (No. 6) [probably also of All Souls', Hertford, and Keble (No. 5)], a single stamp was engraved on a copper plate and impressions taken thence on paper, from which the requisite number was transferred to a lithographic stone. The Lincoln stamps, on the other hand, were printed straight from an engraved plate on which were thirty representations of the stamp. The variation in colour and shade observable in many college stamps is due partly to their being supplied at different times, partly to the fact that the firms supplying most of them not being accustomed to this kind of work, were not able to produce any considerable number of stamps in exactly the same shade.

With regard to the method of cancellation employed, I find that as a rule no obliteration at all was used, the great majority of used copies now met with having no cancelling mark at all. Only in the case of Lincoln does cancelling appear to have been the rule, used specimens of the stamps of that college bearing a pencil obliteration, usually in the form of a cross. Pencil, sometimes pen, obliteration is occasionally found in the case of other colleges, but is rare. The only colleges which had any special stamp for cancellation were Keble and Hertford, and even in the case of these two only a very small proportion of used copies are met with cancelled. The obliterating stamp in use in Keble consists of five black dots. According to the passage from *The Philatelist* quoted above, the stamps were obliterated by a pencil mark, but the messenger then employed states that the cancelling stamp was procured very soon after the introduction of the stamps. He also says that it was only for a short time in use (being found very inconvenient for those whose business it was to cancel the stamps, it obligingly lost itself), I have only seen three copies thus obliterated: one of No. (2), and two of No. (3). The Hertford college cancelling stamp, an outlined cross patée fichée (Type No. 7), is reproduced from an impression taken from the original stamp.

The types on the plate are, in the case of Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, reproduced from specimens of the stamps. Nos. 3, 10, 15 are taken from black impressions printed direct from the original plates, which, as they seemed more likely to yield a clear facsimile, were chosen in preference to the stamps themselves, whilst Nos. 4, 8, 11, 13 are from embossed impressions taken from the original dies.

ALL SOULS COLLEGE.†

Adhesive (Type 1). Rectangular stamp, lithographed in ultramarine blue, and perforated 11½. Design, the college arms in a shield, surrounded by a circular band containing the inscription "ALL SOULS COLLEGE." Issued in sheets of 49 stamps (eight rows of five each), and supplied by Messrs. Spiers and Son, High Street, Oxford. Price one halfpenny. From an entry in Messrs. Spiers' books, it appears that on January 26th, 1884, 15,000 stamps were supplied, and the college butler informs me that no more were ever ordered. Neither cards nor envelopes were used.

BALLIOL COLLEGE.

Adhesive. College arms embossed in red on white gummed paper (Type 2). There is no inscription. The stamps are not in sheets, but in long strips of seventeen, the top and bottom of each stamp being perforated 11½ (sides imperforate). The embossing seems to have been done by hand, the impressions are not one exactly above the other, but are very irregular, whilst instances of *le béche* occur on all the strips I have examined, sometimes only one stamp being reversed, sometimes several; in some instances about half

* To save these firms from being troubled with applications for stamps, I may mention that they have no specimens left.
† Unless otherwise described, the paper used for the adhesives is white wove unwatermarked paper.

the impressions face one way and half the other. The Balliol stamps were never actually in use; they had been prepared for issue in 1885, but the interference of the postal authorities prevented their being put into circulation.

EXETER COLLEGE.

Adhesive (Type 3). Rectangular stamp, lithographed in salmon colour. The college arms in a shield, surrounded by a circular band with inscription "COLL. EXON. OXON." Issued in sheets of 96 stamps (eight rows of twelve each), and supplied by Messrs. Emberlin and Son, Oxford. Perforated 12. The first lot, consisting of 500 sheets, was supplied November 11th, 1882. Price one halfpenny.

Card (Type 4). White card, measuring 4½ x 3 inches. The stamp consists of the college arms in a shield, surrounded by a circular band with inscription, "COLL. EXON.," embossed in red in the middle of the top margin of the card. Slight varieties exist in the colour both of the card and of the embossed stamp, probably owing to supplies being ordered at various times. Like the adhesive, the card was procured from Messrs. Emberlin and Son. It was still in use in 1885, but I have not been able to ascertain when it was first issued. Price one halfpenny.

HERTFORD COLLEGE.

Adhesives (Type 5). Rectangular stamp, lithographed in mauve, and perforated 11½. College arms in a shield, which is suspended diagonally. Inscription above and below in semi-circular bands, "HERTFORD COLLEGE." The background is formed of tiny crosses, identical in shape with the cancelling stamp used by the college. Underneath the lower margin of each stamp is printed, in small letters, "Spiers & Son, 102 & 103, High St, 1, 2, & 3, Oriol St, Oxford." Issued in sheets of 35 stamps (seven rows of five each). A few sheets appear to have escaped perforation, as unperforated specimens occur, but possibly these are reprints. Price one penny. From an examination of Messrs. Spiers' books (this firm furnished the Hertford College adhesives, cards, and envelopes) it appears that only one lot of the adhesives, consisting of 15,000 stamps, was ever supplied to the college. This was in December, 1875, and the college books show that they were paid for early in 1876, but they do not appear to have been actually issued until some years later. The earliest mention in the college books of the sale of any stamps is in 1879, when the sum realized amounted to less than eleven shillings.* In the entries no distinction is made between adhesives, envelopes, and cards, but the college messenger, who has held the post for fourteen years, states positively that the adhesives were only in circulation during 1884-5, so that it is quite possible that the earlier entries merely refer to cards and envelopes, and that the adhesives were not actually issued until some years later. Can the great increase in the number sold in 1882 be due to the adhesives being put into circulation in that year?

Envelopes. There are two distinct issues of these, the same die being employed for both, but the colour of the oval embossed stamp being different. This stamp, which in both issues is in the right-hand top corner, is, in the case of the first issue, mauve, in that of the second issue, blue. Very distinct varieties in the depth of the colour occur in the case of both issues, as also in the cards. The stamp (Type 6) consists of the college arms within an oval band, with

* Mr. Turner kindly made enquiries and found that, according to the college books, the following quantities of stamps, &c., were sold during the years 1879-1885. None at all were sold before the first mentioned date, nor after the last named year.

1879	..	..	..	10/4
1880	..	..	..	17/1
1881	..	..	..	6/3
1882	..	..	..	£3 11 10
1883	..	..	..	£6 8 3
1884	..	..	..	£4 4 10
1885	..	..	..	£3 13 5

Total £19 12 0

The total value of the 15,000 adhesives, 14,000 envelopes, and 1000 cards, which we know to have been supplied, amounts to £122 18 4, leaving over a hundred pounds' worth unaccounted for. But a very small remainder was left in the college. Some years ago, after the erection of additional college buildings, the bursarial, etc., offices were removed, and the clerk thinks it very possible that most of the stamps were then destroyed.

inscription "HERTFORD COLLEGE." The price was one penny. Both issues occur in four sizes :

- (a) Large square, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in.
 (b) Small square, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in.
 (c) Large oblong, $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in.
 (d) Small oblong, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in.

FIRST ISSUE. Stamp embossed in *maruv*.

In the case of this issue we find two different kinds of paper employed. The two square sizes, *a* and *b*, are on yellowish-white rough laid paper, watermarked with a post-horn above the words "ANTIEN LAID POST," and below that "A P & S" (*i.e.* Alexander Pirie & Son). For the two oblong sizes, *c* and *d*, a bluish-white laid paper, much smoother than the other, was used. In all four sizes of the first issue the words "SPIERS & SON OXFORD" are embossed underneath the flap. These words are not found in the envelopes of the second issue. The envelopes of size *c* also

occur with _____ printed in black on the address

Mr.

side. These envelopes were supplied (only one supply of each issue was sent) by Messrs. Spiers and Son, in January, 1876, in the following quantities :

Large square size (a)	1000.
Small square size (b)	1000.
Large oblong size (c)	3000.
Small oblong size (d)	2000.

SECOND ISSUE. Stamp embossed in *blue*.

The paper used is the same as that employed for the square sizes (*a* and *b*) of the first issue, *viz.*, the rough laid paper with watermark. These envelopes were supplied in 1879 in the same quantities as the previous issue :

Size <i>a</i>	1000.	Size <i>c</i>	3000.
Size <i>b</i>	1000.	Size <i>d</i>	2000.

It has already been mentioned that the earliest entry in the college books relating to the sale of the stamped envelopes is in 1879, and this agrees with the statement of one of the fellows of the college, who says, speaking from memory, that the envelopes were first used in that year. At the same time it is difficult to understand why the college authorities should find it necessary to order a new supply in 1879, if the whole of the stock bought in 1875 were still untouched. It is, however, possible that the earlier issue had between 1875 and 1879 got mislaid, and, being subsequently found, were used up side by side with the second issue. I understand that the authorities of the college were by no means agreed as to the desirability of using messenger stamps at all, and this would account for the delay in their issue.

Card.

White card with blue embossed stamp (Type 6) in the right-hand top corner. The size is $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ inches. Price one halfpenny. They were issued in 1879, in which year 1000 were supplied by Messrs. Spiers and Son. Probably other lots were subsequently ordered, but the entry for 1879 is the only one that could be found in Messrs. Spiers' books.

KEBLE COLLEGE.

Adhesives. (a) Embossed on surface-coloured paper.

All supplied by Messrs. Emberlin and Son, Oxford.

(1.) (Type 8.) College arms in pointed oval. Inscription in pointed oval band surrounding the arms, "KEBLE COLLEGE OXON." Colour, *bright orange* or *orange-vermilion*. Perforation, which is somewhat irregular, measures 11. I have seen used specimens on letters ranging from November 21st, 1875, to May 22nd, 1876.

(2.) Same stamp as No. 1 (Type 8), but the perforation, which is quite regular, measures 12. I have seen a used copy on envelope dated October 19th, 1876.

(3.) Same die (Type 8). Colour, varying shades of *pink* (dull to bright). Roughly perforated 11.

(4.) Same die (Type 8). Colour, rich, deep *carmine*. These stamps were apparently produced in strips, as they are roughly perforated (11) at top and bottom, but not on the sides. They are much larger than Nos. 1-3, measuring 30 mm. in width, whilst the height varies from 21 to 29 mm. The only used specimen I have seen is on an envelope bearing date October 30th, 1876. According to the mes-

senger then employed, these stamps were only in use for a single term, the undergraduates objecting to their size.

With regard to the order of issue of these four varieties I have been unable to obtain precise information. Messrs. Emberlin and Son could find no entries in their books relating to them. The notice in *The Philatelist*, already quoted, which describes the earliest stamps as *vermilion*, shews, however, that those issued in the autumn of 1871 must have been either (1) or (2), and perhaps the evidence of the dated envelopes justifies us in assigning to (1) the priority. At the same time the fact that the only *cancelled* Kebles which have come under my notice were specimens of (2) and (3), points to the conclusion that both these issues were in use not long after 1871. Perhaps the most reasonable inference is that the printers used the two kinds of paper indifferently, taking whichever they happened to have in stock, and that they employed sometimes the one perforating machine, sometimes the other, with the result that occasionally Nos. (1), (2), and (3) may have been in use at the same time. Certainly Nos. (2) and (4) were in use in the autumn term of 1876, the very term in which the first supply of blue stamps was procured from Messrs. Spiers and Son.

(b) Lithographed stamps.

(5.) * Rectangular stamp lithographed in *blue* (Type 9). College arms in pointed oval. Inscription on band surrounding arms, "KEBLE COLLEGE OXFORD." Below each stamp is printed in minute letters, 'Spiers & Son, High St, Oxford.' Roughly perforated 11½. A search in Messrs. Spiers and Son's books shewed that two lots of 15,000 each were supplied—the first in October, 1876, the second in June, 1879. I have seen fourteen used copies of this stamp on envelopes ranging in date from May 1st, 1877, to December 9th, 1882. It is very possible that, although supplied in the autumn of 1876, they did not come into actual use until the following spring.

(6.) The design is the same as that of No. (5), but differs in a number of minor details (Type 10). The lettering is somewhat larger, the stars in the upper part of the arms are slightly smaller, etc. There is no inscription underneath the stamp. Perforated 12. Issued in sheets of 48 stamps, arranged in two panes of 24 each (the pane consisting of four rows of six each). These stamps were procured from Messrs. Emberlin and Son, 1000 sheets being supplied on April 1st, 1882. They apparently came into use in the autumn term of that year. I have seen seven used copies on envelopes ranging in date from November 15th, 1882, to November 27th, 1885. The price charged for the adhesives of all issues was one halfpenny. In the case of the earlier issues, perhaps also of some of the later ones, an answer could be prepaid by affixing two stamps to the letter.

Envelopes. First issue.

White laid paper. Size $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The stamp, which is embossed in *vermilion* in the right hand top corner, is from the same die as the embossed adhesives (Type 8). These envelopes, as well as those of the next issue, were supplied by Messrs. Emberlin and Son, but I have not succeeded in ascertaining the date of their first appearance. They were sold at 1s. 3d. a dozen.

Second issue.

These envelopes, which are made of purplish-grey Portland wove paper, are of two sizes—(1) $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and (2) $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. They have no stamp at all on the front, but bear an impression, from the same die as the adhesives (Type 8), embossed on the flap without colour, and lying on its side. These, which perhaps scarcely deserve the name of "stamped envelopes," were introduced after the interference of the Post-office at the end of 1885 and are still in use.

Card.

The stamp, which is from the same die as the adhesive and envelopes (Type 8), is embossed in *vermilion* in the middle of the top margin of the card. Size $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ inches. Supplied by Messrs. Emberlin and Son. Two quite distinct varieties exist in the colour of the card, the one being white, the other an ivory colour. Price one halfpenny.

* I hear that unperforated specimens of No. (5) have recently come into the market. Can these be reprints?

The Parcels Stamp.

In one of the drawers in the porter's lodge at Keble was found a small piece of gummed note paper with eight embossed impressions of type No. 11 in *vermilion*. The former college messenger (1871-77) and the porter assert that they remember them, and that they were used about 1876 for the purpose of franking parcels. They were sold for 2d. each, and were used by the undergraduates chiefly for sending oil cans to be replenished, and for books. The united evidence of messenger and porter seems to prove the existence of such a parcels stamp, whilst the fact that they both recognised the impressions in question as the former parcels stamp must be allowed to be strong evidence in its favour. On the other hand, the extremely irregular manner in which the eight specimens found were embossed—not in a row, but one here, one there, one upright, another on its side, and so on, so irregular that they could not have been cut into squares, and must have caused the porter considerable trouble to separate them—might certainly be urged against the identification of these impressions with the parcels stamp. Moreover, seeing that the college authorities had a special embossed die (Type 8) for franking purposes, it is difficult to see why that was not employed in preference to a type in constant use (as Type 11 was) as a college crest on paper and envelopes, sold by the stationers to any purchaser. Still the balance of evidence is perhaps in their favour.

There still remain an envelope and a card, about the authenticity of which I must confess myself more than sceptical. The porter remembers that, on one occasion, the supply of envelopes and cards running short, ordinary envelopes of greenish paper, with the impression (Type 11, or a very similar one) in *blue* on the flap, and white cards with similar *blue* impression in left-hand upper corner, were used, for a very short time, provisionally. But seeing that such envelopes and cards were (and are) sold by the stationers to anyone who chooses to buy them, and could therefore be purchased by the undergraduates at the price of ordinary stationery, it seems incredible that the college authorities should ever have given them franking power. Moreover, Keble College not being a West Indian or Asiatic colony, but being situated in an English city, where the ordinary stamped envelopes and cards could at any time be procured at a couple of days' notice, it is most unlikely that recourse was ever had to the issue of provisionals.

LINCOLN COLLEGE.

Adhesive. Rectangular stamp engraved in *taille-douce* (?) and printed in *indigo-blue* (Type 12). Bishop's mitre in oval band with inscription. Above, MESSAGE. Below, ONE PENNY. Issued in sheets of 30 stamps (five rows of six each). The first, second, fourth, and fifth stamps of the third row have a dot midway between MESSAGE and PENNY, whilst the first stamp of the third row has also a dot immediately after the "y" in PENNY. Perforated 14. Designed and printed by Mr. A. Wyon, Regent Street, London. From information kindly furnished by Mr. Wyon I learn that the plate was engraved in June, 1877, when 3000 were supplied. Two further lots of 5000 each were printed in November, 1878, and June, 1882. The Bursar of the college informs me that he finds two invoices dated respectively June 8th, 1882, and February 15th, 1884. Hence, combining the information, it would appear that four lots were altogether supplied, viz., in 1877, 1878, 1882, and 1884. The stamps first printed differ slightly from the later ones: they are in deep *indigo*, on somewhat yellowish paper, and show the finer lines of the design, the lines of the background, etc., more clearly. The later ones are rather lighter in colour and on white paper, and somewhat less finely executed. Proofs exist both in *black* and in *blue*, the former on thick cartridge paper.*

* I have seen one sheet of each (in the possession of Messrs. G. F. Napier and J. R. F. Turner respectively), and consider them to be genuine proofs. Quite recently, however, a number of unperforated sheets of the Lincoln stamps (both with and without gum) have come into the market, which I have very good reason for believing to be quite modern reprints. They differ decidedly in colour from the originals, the blue being of a somewhat purplish tint. Moreover, the width of these questionable sheets (measured from the outside margins of the stamps) exceeds that of the original by slightly more than 1 mm. This is probably due to shrinkage of the paper in the case of the original sheets.

MERTON COLLEGE.

Adhesives and cards were first issued in the autumn of 1876. At a college meeting held on October 26th in that year, it was resolved "That stamps and stamp cards be adopted for messages." With the exception of adhesive No. (3), they were all supplied by Messrs. Emberlin & Son.

Adhesives. (a) *Embossed on surface-coloured paper.*

(1) Circular design (Type 13), but perforated so as to form a rectangular stamp. College arms in circular band, with inscription "COLL. MERTON." Colour, *dark blue*. Embossed in vertical strips of thirteen stamps. The width of those I have examined measures 22 mm. Perforated 12½ at top and bottom. The perforation is produced by an instrument that merely pushed the paper in, without cutting out clear holes. This appears to be the first stamp issued, for I have had one in my possession since the early part of 1877.

(2) Same die as last (Type 13). Colour somewhat lighter. Also embossed in strips varying from 18 mm. to 20 mm. in breadth. Perforated 12, clear cut. I have seen a used copy on an envelope dated November 30th, 1880.

(3) Embossed stamp of a similar design to Nos. (1) and (2), but from a different die. The letters of the inscription are larger; the width of the "o" in "MERTON" as well as in "COLL." is greater than its height, whilst in Nos. (1) and (2) the "o" has the form of an upright oval. The right hand top corner of the shield points to the "g" of "MERTON," whilst in the other type it is opposite the space between the "e" and the "r." The lower part of the shield extends further down than in (1) and (2), etc. The colour of the paper is *dark blue*. The stamps are printed in horizontal (not vertical) strips, 23 mm. in breadth, and are irregularly perforated (12) at the sides, not at the top and bottom. The only copy I have seen is on an envelope dated January 19th, 1883.

Used copies of the stamps from the first die are sometimes met with, consisting only of the round embossed central portion. In such cases the embossing had probably cracked the paper, separating the circular middle part from the rectangular frame, and the sender merely affixed the central part to his letter, regarding it as the essential portion.

Nos. (1) and (2) were procured from Emberlin and Son, the last lot (2000 stamps) being sent October 18th, 1882. I have ascertained from them that they did not supply No. (3), as they only possess the one die, and never used any other.

(b) *Lithographed stamps.*

(4.) Rectangular stamp (Type 14), lithographed in *mauve*, and perforated 12. The college arms in shield surrounded by circular band, with inscription "COLL. MERT." Issued in sheets of 48 stamps, arranged in two panes of 24 each (the pane consisting of four rows of six each). The first lot, amounting to 1000 sheets, was supplied January 29th, 1883. The price of all the adhesives was one halfpenny.

Envelope.

White laid paper. Size 4½ × 2½ inches. The stamp (Type 13) is embossed, in dark *ultramarine-blue*, in the right-hand top corner. Although envelopes were not specified in the college resolution above mentioned, they must have been issued at the same time as the adhesive and card, for I possess a copy which I obtained in the college early in 1877.

Card.

White card. Size 4½ × 3 inches. The stamp, which is from the same die (Type 13), and in the same colour as that on the envelope, is embossed in the middle of the top margin. The card (and presumably the envelope also) was in use up to the time of the interference of the Post-office. I have seen a used copy of the former dated June 6th, 1885.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

Adhesive. Rectangular stamp (Type 15), lithographed in light *slaty blue*, and perforated 12. The college arms in a shield within a circular band inscribed, "ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OXFORD." Issued in sheets of 48 stamps (eight rows of 6 each). An examination of the stamps shows that they were printed in sheets of 96 (like those of Exeter College); but it appears that they were divided into half sheets before being sent to the college. Procured from Messrs. Emberlin and Son, who supplied 1000 sheets on January 19th, 1884. The order was not repeated. Price one halfpenny.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE.

AFTER a short, enforced absence at Obock, Suaheli, and Buluwayo, ye crags and peaks; that is to say, ye collectors of such unconsidered trifles as "Post-office," Mauritius, and circular Guianas, I'm with you once again, honoured by an invitation to "pad out" a page of "our Christmas number" with "some of your stuff."

And accordingly I have been around to find out what is "the talk of the town." Not of stamps! No; it is mostly of albums for the albumless ones at Christmas. And a pretty Christmas present too is a neat, well-bound album. It opens up limitless possibilities of recruiting the ranks of stamp collectors. Wherever I peregrinated albums were on show, and stamps under the counter.

The new issues on show; *i.e.* where such things were on show, included some suitable novelties, evidently done for the Christmas market. There were prominent amongst them the new heathen Chinese, Chefoo, to wit; also Hankow. Now that the heathen Chinese has more actively entered the stamp business we may expect curiosities *ad lib.* I don't often indulge in prophecy, but Cornelius Wrinkle's edition of old Moore's almanack will indicate a Chinese philatelic downpour in 1894.

Stamp collectors in the Great Republic are apparently doomed to a continuation of the peculiar blessings which follow in the train of Protection. It will be remembered that when the McKinley tariff came into operation, United States collectors were surprised to find foreign postage stamps come within the clutches of the tariff as "printed things," and therefore liable to a duty of 25 per cent. Query: Do Seebecks, and the stamps of those States supplied by the American Bank Note Co. of New York, escape? Surely they should do so, as being "home manufactures." However, the United States dealers and collectors have been trying to get stamps removed from the list in the revision which is to take place, but they seem to have been treated with scant courtesy.

Of course the tariff is evaded, as it deserves to be, especially by collectors. If a dealer receives a registered envelope the presumption is that it contains dutiable stamps, but it would be a near cry to a revolution to insist upon an inquisitorial examination of every registered letter delivered to a private citizen. My fellow-collectors in the States have my sympathies, with a malicious reminder that there are still some things we do manage better in this effete old country. It must be galling to find 25 per cent. added to the market price of your stamps without a corresponding increase of value. That is what it must come to in the end. For a while small dealers will smuggle their supplies through other channels rather than submit to the extortion, but big dealers cannot well adopt such petty shifts, consequently collectors will eventually be saddled with the duty. If foreign stamps were turned out in the tablecloth size of the U.S. Columbians there would be some reason in the dictum of "printed things."

I am told that a philatelic edition of Mr. Bottomley is walking about seeking whom he may devour—a sort of Aaron's rod, that wants to gobble up various other little rods—but, up to date, the other little rods "don't quite see it."

At the present rate of progress the London Philatelic Society, by the time it reaches its jubilee, will consist largely of dukes and earls, and stamp collecting will be as fashionable as kid gloves. Possibly some day a knowledge of watermarks and perforations will be regarded as a necessary adjunct to a West-Ender's education. Then we may have, as part of a stamp business, class-rooms and masters, and pupils studying perfs and watermarks, &c., with eventually a Cabinet Minister as a "Stampmeister," eh? Friend Brown, of Salisbury fame, would make a handsome "Stampmeister." I'll vote for him if he'll put up for our borough, down Whitechapel way.

Ah! then will be the day of sunk mount albums, and whole morocco, with gilt edges galore, and Chubb's locks *de luxe*. Then will be the time when the special £3000 gems will be mounted in miniature glass cases, after the style of the toy terriers at the Crystal Palace shows; and poor philatelic scribblers, like Cornelius Wrinkle, will walk abroad

with gold mounted canes, collars a foot high, and cuffs to match, with Jubilee "fivers" for general distribution to the poor at Christmas-time.

I see by the announcements on the back of this journal that Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are rumoured to have opened a branch business in New York, and I believe there must be something in it, you know, for I got a letter from an old flame in New York, U.S., a few days since, asking if the "Cornelius" on the enclosed publication of Stanley Gibbons was her used-to-be-very-own Cornelius of yore. As she is now the mother of a large family, I, though a sorrowing bachelor, replied that it was O.K. Weep not for me, gentle reader, for, after all, there's nothing like single blessedness—except in shades.

THE 2 KOPECS SERPENTINE PERF. OF BALLYROTSK.

(CONSIDERABLY) AFTER JULES VERNE.

[We very greatly regret that, owing to the inexorable exigencies of space and expense, we have been obliged greatly to curtail this very interesting story, the original manuscript of which would have produced a three-volume novel. We have felt it necessary to bring it into a single number of this magazine, and have therefore most reluctantly omitted a vast amount of geographical, ethnological, and other scientific details, which we are sure would have been most interesting to our readers, and reduced it to a mere shadow of its former dimensions. We trust, however, that in thus pruning it we have not diminished its interest, but have perhaps, by concentration, even added thereto.—ED.]

The Stamp Bourse of Paris was in a state of emotion closely bordering on excitement. An entirely novel variety had been discovered; not merely a new variety—such are met with every day upon the Bourse—but a variety of a novel kind, hitherto quite unknown to philately.

Now Philately, or the Science of Stamp Collecting—[We are obliged to omit here a dissertation of several pages upon Philately, or the Science of Stamp Collecting.—ED.]

This notable discovery emanated too from the very highest and most responsible source. It was made by no less a person than the great Mons. Chose, of the firm of Chose, Bonmarché, et Cie., well-known as being at the head of the Stamp Trade in Paris, that is in the whole of the civilized world.

The Stamp Trade, as we all know—[We have again to omit a detailed account of the Stamp Trade, but considerations of space and expense cannot be disregarded.—ED.]

The 2 kopecks stamp of the current issue of Ballyrotsk is pink paper, disfigured by a design impressed in the poorest

manner of lithography, are to be found in every school-boy's collection; yet here was a variety of it that commanded almost the highest figure on record, a specimen the possession of which was disputed at the price of a king's ransom by the richest collectors in Christendom, a rarity such as the great Mons. Chose himself believed to be possibly unique. Lithography, as all collectors know, even lithography as practised at the primitive printing office of Ballyrotsk, does not produce any very striking varieties, or, at least, none that cannot be easily accounted for.

Lithography, or the art of printing from stone—[Considerations of space reluctantly compel us to omit a most interesting article upon this subject, copied, we believe, from the "Encyclopædia Britannica."—ED.]

No; it was plain that the variety which had aroused so much enthusiasm was not one of design. But varieties of design are not the only varieties known to advanced followers of the Science of Philately. [Considerations, &c. &c., again oblige us most regretfully to omit the chapter upon varieties of all kinds.—ED.]

What then was the particular form of variety in question here? Was it of watermark? No; watermarks were quite unknown in Ballyrotsk. Of paper? Well, little variation in the substance or tint of the paper—which was of the



commonest and cheapest nature—were only to be expected. No, it was something more interesting than this. It was a variety of the most philatelic nature, a variety of perforation!

The ordinary 2 kopeks, black on pink, of the issue of 189—, is, as every philatelist is aware, imperforate, devoid of any nature of perforation, even of the most ordinary description. Throughout its long career as a stamp-issuing district, Ballyrotsk had never perforated its stamps. The simple Jugginski,* if ever he used the stamps, tore them roughly asunder; the scientific collector or the careful dealer severed them with the scissors. Small wonder then that the discovery of a single perforated specimen should have caused such excitement in the philatelic world. Had Ballyrotsk indeed adopted at last one of the most advanced improvements of philatelic civilization, or was this the handiwork of the gang of nefarious *fakers*, for which Albion—perfidious in this as in all else—was so justly famed? Surely the answer to one of these questions must be in the affirmative—but such was not the case, and hence arose the mystery which was troubling all the savants of philately.

The stamp had been received direct from Ballyrotsk by the great firm of Chose, Bonmarché, et Cie. in the ordinary course of importation. A single perforated specimen among a quantity of *used* stamps would have been nothing; but these were not *used* stamps. The oldest philatelist in Paris had never seen a used stamp of Ballyrotsk. Either the inhabitants of that district religiously preserved all the used stamps, and would not allow one of them to leave the country, or—but the alternative was too monstrous; Ballyrotsk had been issuing stamps for years; it was impossible to believe that all were produced entirely for exportation.

No; the stamp in question had been received direct from the district Post-office. It was immaculate, and the original gum was still uninjured upon its reverse. It formed one of a sheet, the usual sheet of fifteen, in three horizontal rows of five, differing from one another only in the greater or less degree of smudginess of the impression. But this one, forming the extreme upper corner of the right-hand side of the sheet, differed from all the others, not only on that sheet, but on all other sheets that had ever yet been seen! On two sides, and these not the opposite sides, as is usually the case with partially perforated stamps, but two adjacent sides—the top, namely, and the right-hand side—it showed plain traces of a rough kind of perforation!! Truly a marvellous variety!!!

But, you will ask, Of what kind was this perforation? Now the natures of perforation known to philatelists—[*Con., &c., &c., again compel us to consign to the waste-paper basket a treatise on perforation, which we are sure, &c., &c.*—ED.]

Which of all these various methods had been employed here? It was a question not easy to answer. The great Dr. Lunettes, the highest known authority upon such a point, had examined the specimen with the most powerful magnifiers. Other only less learned philatelists had studied it also; and Monsieur Chose himself—no mean authority—had subjected it to no mere cursory inspection. With an unanimity almost as surprising as the stamp itself, all these high authorities were agreed upon one point, and that was, that this was a species of serpentine perforation; on every other point connected with it they, as was more natural, entirely differed. As to the nature of the machine by which it had been produced, there was the most stormy controversy; the sheet—for the stamp had not yet been removed from it, but still retained the place of honour, the right upper corner—would certainly have been torn in pieces, without the aid either of perforations or scissors, had not one of Monsieur Chose's most active assistants rescued it, almost at the risk of his life, and placed this unique variety in the fire and burglar-proof safe. Unique! But was it *unique*? Time alone will determine this.

CHAPTER II.

The zemstvo, or district, of Ballyrotsk is one of the smallest and least important in the great Russian Empire. It is shown only on the largest maps. Look a little to the south of the thirty-first parallel of longitude, and some fifty degrees west of St. Petersburg, and you probably will not find it. [50° west of St. Petersburg is in the Atlantic Ocean. It can't be there!—ED. Quite right. Don't I say that you won't find it!—AUTHOR.]

Situated many thousands of *verst*s from any centre of

* Peasant of South Central Russia.—*Author.*

civilization, it was one of those places where the proverb, "Go further, and fare *verse*," would not apply, for it was practically impossible to do either. The Hsirap Licnuoc (the local authority) had long ceased to attempt the collection of taxes, on the principle that it is impossible to extract blood from a stone, and the village Post-office was now the sole source of revenue.

The fact that no letters ever passed through it, for the simple reason that there was only one person in the district who could write, in no way prevented this department from being a most flourishing one; and the Imperial Government, which claimed a large percentage upon the gross receipts, had granted it all the privileges of first-class postal rates.

The Letajoski* was a man of considerable talent as a financier. In addition to the above important office, he was also the Editor and Publisher of the local paper—the *Wraggvlatt*—President of the Hsirap Licnuoc, and proprietor of the only printing establishment, tobacco store, and licensed premises for the sale of *hsiri* and *hctocst*† in the village. He was also the one person of liberal education to whom we alluded above, and had been decorated with the fifteenth class of the Order of the Holy Blue Boar.‡

The resources of the printing house of this enterprising gentleman did not provide a sufficiency of type and ornamental borderings for setting up a whole sheet of stamps at once. Had it been otherwise, numerous minor varieties of type would doubtless have brought joy to the philatelist and a plethora of kopeks to the till. Reproduction by lithographic transfer was the method employed. But the Letajoski had invented sixteen different ways of spelling the name Ballyrotsk, and during the eight years that stamps had been in use in that district only one-half of those spellings had been exhausted? An infinite variety of coloured papers of the cheapest description had done the rest, and the Post-office was, as I have stated, a most flourishing institution.

This being the case, how was it that on this particular evening of October 29th, 189—, the officer of the 15th Class of the Holy Blue Bear, &c., &c., was poring over his accounts in a state bordering on distraction? How was it that he was tearing his hair and thumping his breast in a frenzy of distress?

"Three roubles two kopeks and a half missing," exclaimed the wretched man, "and the Schloggvodski § has promised to have me knouted if my accounts are wrong again. Every stamp in the drawer, every fragment of a stamp, must be accounted for, although I told him that several sheets had been so devoured by the mice as to be quite unsaleable. He won't believe me; he declares that I am trying to defraud the revenue, both of the District and of the Empire. I, an officer of —"

His soliloquy was interrupted by the jangling of bells and the cracking of whips, as a *bacmosnah*,|| drawn by three *yeknod*¶ abreast, rattled up to the door, while a traveller called loudly for the Letajoski in an unmistakable foreign accent.

CHAPTER III.

Was it unique? That was the question—a question which Mons. Chose, of the great firm of Chose, Bonmarché, et Cie., was not likely to leave long unanswered.

A discovery of this kind, made by such a firm as that, is not blurted out to the whole world immediately. Mons. Chose was a man who knew when to speak and when to be silent, and on this occasion he had been silent—as far as the philatelic world was concerned at least—for some 24 hours after making this important discovery.

Twenty-four hours before the Stamp Bourse was electrified by the exhibition of this extraordinary variety the electric wires had been brought into play, and a telegram had been despatched as follows:—

"Postmaster, Ballyrotsk, Russia.—Reserve entire stock for Chose, Paris. Agent on the way."

The Electric Telegraph [we really have not room for a history of the *Electric Telegraph*.—ED.]

To one person alone had the discovery been revealed.

* District or sub-Postmaster.—*Author.*

† Two forms of a fiery spirit distilled from rye, which in these districts provides both food and drink.

‡ L'ordre du Sac-ré Cochon Bleu.

§ Travelling Inspector of the Imperial Post-office.—*Author.*

|| Hackney carriage of the country.—*Author.*

¶ Small kind of rough pony, very hardy and surefooted.—*Author.*

Alcide Roulette was the most trusted and intelligent of the vast staff of *employés* of the great firm whose name we have already quoted so often.

Alcide Roulette might be said to have been born and bred a philatelist. Originally discovered when an infant in the largest letter receptacle at the chief Post-office in Paris, where he narrowly escaped obliteration, he had been brought up among stamps.

To say that he was an accomplished philatelist was not sufficient. He knew *all* about stamps! All!! All that anyone else knew, and a great deal that no one else knew. He knew why this was thus; he knew why that was not. He knew why the stamps of his native country, his beloved France, were perf. 14 in one direction and 13½ in the other.

But there was one thing that Alcide Roulette did not know, and that thing was—What was the machine that produced the Serpentine Perforation of Ballyrotsk.

This he was about to discover, for at the very same moment that Mons. Chose, with his own hand, delivered his message at the telegraph-office, his trusty lieutenant started upon his journey to the interior of Russia.

Now to reach Ballyrotsk Alcide Roulette had three courses open to him. Taking the *chemin de fer de*— [*We have again to omit several pages of most interesting matter, describing in detail all the places through which the intrepid traveller might have passed, but did not, as well as those through which he did pass without stopping to see them; also a thrilling narrative of an encounter with wolves—without which no journey through Russia is complete—but we feel that we cannot carry over the denouement of the story into our next number. It is sufficient therefore to say that Alcide Roulette reached his destination in due course, and that it was he, in a bacmosnah drawn by three yeknods abreast, who was left shouting for the Letajoski at the end of chapter II.—ED.*]

CHAPTER IV.

John Robinson Brownjonesmith was a typical Englishman; he might well have sat for the portrait of John Bull himself.

Ruddy, and of a cheerful countenance, the brilliant hue of his complexion was only rivalled by that of his abundant *chevelure*.

His appearance was dazzling. He wore the full national costume upon all occasions; the bright scarlet *redingote*, the snow-white waistcoat, the creamy cords, the boots with tops of a delicate buff, matching the tint of the thin post cards.

These boots were polished until he could see to shave himself in them; indeed it was popularly supposed that he did shave himself in them, and it was credibly reported that on festive occasions he had even been known to retire to rest without removing them from his feet.

Such was the living representative of the illustrious families of Smith, Jones, Brown, and Robinson, in the direct line of the senior branch of each of those houses; such was the great English philatelist.

For John Robinson Brownjonesmith was indeed a philatelist, though it is hard to conceive how the intricate science of philately can exist in a country of dense fog, where the teeming population is only kept within bounds by the ravages of the spleen and the constant suicides from London Bridge.

Yes, he was a philatelist after the English fashion. He collected stamps, as he did everything else, violently, explosively. If he wanted a stamp, he rested neither day nor night, he spared neither time nor money, until he got it. And great was his wrath, fearful was his language, dreadfully did he stamp and rage, if the prize had been secured by someone before him.

Such is philately in that land of the dismal swamp, which its inhabitants, who know nothing of any other, fondly call Great Britain!

When the Stamp Bourse of Paris is excited, its throbs are felt throughout the stamp world. Within a few minutes of the announcement in Paris of the great discovery of Mons. Chose, that discovery was known in London, and John Robinson Brownjonesmith was aware that another unique variety had been unearthed, that another unattainable rarity had passed out of his reach.

An hour or two was spent in violent objurgation, in stamping and raging, in the course of which his thickest pair of boots was worn through, and a brand-new Kidderminster carpet reduced to rags. Then occurred to him the question which had presented itself to Mons. Chose some twenty-six hours earlier, Was it unique? And this question

John Robinson Brownjonesmith, with his usual impulsiveness, determined to decide for himself.

To put on a pair of new boots was the work of a few moments. A hansom cab conveyed him first to the nearest Post-office, whence telegrams were despatched in all directions. Among them was the following:—

"Postmaster, Ballyrotsk, Russia. Reserve entire stock for Brownjonesmith, London. Am on the way."

After a violent altercation with the clerk as to whether his name was to be charged as one word or three, he repaired in haste to the offices of Messrs. Cook and Son, where he engaged, regardless of expense, a personally-conducted tour to Ballyrotsk for himself alone.

Twenty-seven hours, fifteen minutes and a half had elapsed since Alcide Roulette, unknown to the Englishman, had started from Paris. Was it possible that by means of a special train to Dover, a special fast steamer across the Channel, and specially-engaged conveyances—provided by the agents of the ubiquitous Cook—that delay of twenty-seven hours, &c., unwittingly incurred, could be made up?

Time alone would show; and Time, as usual, was rapidly hurrying onward.

The usual pace of an express train—[*We have to omit some very interesting statistics as to rates of travelling by various conveyances, from the earliest times, &c., &c. But the usual considerations, &c.—ED.*]

CHAPTER V.

We left Alcide Roulette, in a *bacmosnah* drawn by three *yeknods* abreast [*A means of conveyance which we confess we never heard of before; we hope it is all right.—ED. Certainly it is all right; you may depend upon me.—AUTHOR.*], shouting for the Letajoski.

No sooner did the latter make his appearance than he was assailed with a torrent of eager questions.

"Your stock, your stock of stamps, where is it?"

"My stock, Monsieur!"

"Yes, your stock. Did you not get my telegram?"

"No, indeed, Monsieur. When was it sent, and from where?"

"Yesterday week, at 11.29 a.m., from Paris."

"But, Monsieur, telegrams reach us only by the ordinary mails, arriving at Ballyrotsk but once a month. We had a mail just one week since; the next will arrive twenty-one days hence."

"Confusion! And your stock?"

"It is gone, all; the drawer is absolutely empty! There will be no more stamps until I have time to print them, and this is our busiest season."

"But stamps like this, the perforated stamps," and Alcide Roulette produced an accurate tracing of the marvellous variety, "what are they, where are they?"

"Alas! Monsieur, all the stamps like that are eaten!"

"Eaten! Merciful heavens! to what straits have these wretched villagers been reduced! But the machine, the machine!"

"The machine, Monsieur?"

"Yes, the machine, the machine that produces this perforation?"

A light dawned upon the Letajoski, a brilliant idea flashed across his mind.

"Monsieur, if you will stay here but one night, only till to-morrow morning, you shall have—for the ridiculously small sum of three roubles, two kopeks and a half, silver, paid in advance—you shall have the machine. I swear it, upon the honour of an officer of the 15th Class of the Order of the Holy Blue Boar."

Mystery upon mystery! Why was not the machine forthcoming at once?

But the wily Letajoski would give no explanations, and the sum being but a small one, Alcide Roulette paid it, and the skin of the officer of the Order of the Holy Blue Boar was saved from the knout!

Alcide Roulette retired to such rest as he could obtain in the miserable quarters that were alone available. It was plainly useless to order supper, when the inhabitants had been reduced to devouring their postage stamps. He swallowed the few fragments which he had fortunately saved from his dinner, and retired to the humble apology for a bed that had been provided for him in the licensed drinking shop.

To bed, but not to sleep! No! All the most influential inhabitants of the district united to render sleep impossible.

To use his own expression, he was *Perçé en fleu, piqué à la punaise*, and rouletted in all the coloured lines of the solar spectrum!

Besides all this, the thoughts of the extraordinary perforation, and of the mysterious machine which produced those curious *denticulations*, were enough of themselves to keep his brain in a sleepless whirl. Poor Alcide Roulette! Small wonder that at daybreak he was again clamouring at the door of the village Post-office, half distracted.

The Letajoski slept soundly, and when he at last awoke it was only to indignantly assure his untimely visitor that the Post-office did not open till 10 a.m., and that it was contrary to all the regulations to admit anyone, no matter who, before that hour.

Alcide Roulette returned to his comfortless couch.

After feverishly tossing about for an hour or two he fell into a fitful slumber, disturbed by nightmares, in which gigantic perforating machines penetrated his chest, pinning him to the ground with their needles, while a kind of Juggernaut Car with rouletting wheels threatened to divide him into narrow longitudinal strips. On the top of all was seated the grinning Letajoski, with a sheet of serpentine perforated stamps in one hand and the machine in the other.

What was the machine? Pinned down as he was he could not get at it; he could not even see what it was like.

He awoke with a start—it was broad daylight—he had slept, if sleeping it could be called, till long past midday.

Now for the machine!

He hurried to the Post-office. The Letajoski received him with a pleasant smile, quite unlike the fendish grin of that horrible dream, and asked—without the slightest tinge of irony—whether he had slept well. With his natural politeness, Alcide Roulette assured him that he had passed a most agreeable night, and then proceeded to ask for the promised machine.

"Here it is, Monsieur; I have captured it at last!"

And the Letajoski produced to the astonished gaze of his questioner—what? What could it be? A small apparatus of wires and wood, with something inside which rattled and—and *squeaked!*

Could it want oiling, this machine?

What was it? Could it be? It was—

A mousetrap! An ordinary, domestic, penny mousetrap! And inside it—was it possible?

A Mouse! *Mus domesticus!* *Mus ridiculus!!* MUS DENTICULATOR!!! (Even at this most exciting moment, the author could not resist the opportunity of introducing a few pages dealing with the natural history of the RODENTIA, which we have no scruple about omitting.—E.D.)

"What does this mean?" exclaimed the indignant Frenchman. "I am in no humour for jesting, Monsieur."

"But, Monsieur, this is the machine for which you asked. I told you that the stamps were eaten——"

Eaten! Nibbled! Horror!

"Then the serpentine perforation, this extraordinary variety on account of which I have travelled all the way from Paris—is it possible?"

"But certainly, Monsieur——"

"Ha! But it will not happen again. I have caught here the largest and fattest of these rascals, and have the pleasure to hand him over to Monsieur for safe custody. Besides, I have obtained a tin box in which to keep the stamps in future!"

Alcide Roulette was furious.

"These stamps! These miserable labels——"

"Stay, Monsieur, do not abuse my stamps, as the Englishman——"

"The Englishman! What Englishman?"

"The Englishman, Mister Brownjonesmith, who arrived yesterday, some six hours before you did, and purchased the whole of my stock."

It was the last straw. Alcide Roulette, with 27 hours, 15 minutes, and 30 seconds start, had yet been beaten in the race by some six hours!

"I explained to him, Monsieur, what had happened, as I would have to you—but you were too hasty, you would not listen. And when I had finished he said, "These stamps—these wonderful varieties of yours—are all blooming rubbish!" I replied to him—I said it with all the dignity of an officer of the 15th Class of the Order of the Holy Blue Bear—No, Monsieur, they are not blooming rubbish, they are—lallyrotsk!"

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 108.)

NOTE.—We omitted to mention in our last number that the Russian alphabets, with English equivalents, which we there gave, were originally published in *Nature*, February 27th, 1890. The system was arranged by "some of those most interested in the cataloguing and recording of Russian scientific literature," with a view to enabling "those unacquainted with Russian not only to transliterate from that language into English, but also to recover the original Russian spelling, and so to trace the words in a dictionary." It has, we understand, been adopted in the Catalogue of the Natural History Library, the Zoological and Geological Records, the publications of the Royal Society, &c., and may therefore be depended upon as thoroughly sound and accurate.

Surcharge. Some addition to the design or inscriptions, printed or written upon a stamp which was already complete and fit for use without any such addition. A *surcharge*, therefore, as a rule, alters either the value or the use of a stamp, and if it does not do this it seems doubtful whether the addition is to be considered a *surcharge*, or a completion of the stamp. The earliest instance we know of was the Mauritius *Britannia* stamp, in green, overprinted "FOUR-PENCE," in black. This was, in point of fact, a completion of the stamp, which was considered unfit for use without some indication of its value; at the same time the stamp was already complete without that addition, and similar stamps were used, both in Mauritius and in other colonies, without any value being indicated upon them. It is thus open to question whether this should be included under *surcharged* stamps or not.

Another doubtful case is that of some of the Indian revenue stamps converted into *Service Postage* stamps; those alluded to had the labels indicating their original use cut off, and were therefore incomplete without the overprint showing their new use. The stamps of St. Helena, formed by means of impressions from the plate of the sixpence, printed in various colours and with different values added in black, should not be considered as *surcharged*, for although such stamps would appear to be complete without the addition of the black overprint, they were not fit for use in that condition. The stamps, &c., of the first issue of Gibraltar must on the other hand be classified under the head of *surcharged*, as the majority of them differed in no respect (except the overprint) from those of the same values then in use in Barbados, Bermuda, &c., and one portion of the same printing might have been sent to one of the Colonies whose plates were made use of for the production of these stamps, envelopes, wrappers, and cards, and another portion *surcharged* with the name "GIBALTAR." It must not be forgotten that in this case three of the values, the ½d., 2d., and 1s., were printed in colours different from those till then in use for those values of Bermuda, and these should, strictly speaking, come under the same head as the St. Helena stamps.

Other more or less doubtful instances may be met with, but it may be taken as a general rule that a stamp must have existed, and been put in circulation, as a stamp, before it can be said, philatelically, to be *surcharged*.

In the Post-office Department the word *surcharge* is used to denote the extra charge levied upon unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letters and packets, or to denote the whole charge, including the postage upon such letters, &c., that is claimed from the receiver; and it has been suggested that this word should be applied philatelically, in the form of *Surcharge Postage Stamps*, to the labels now usually termed *Unpaid Letter Stamps*, the word *overprint* being used for what has been described above as a *surcharge*. *Overprint*, however, appears to be too comprehensive, as it would include everything printed over the original impression of a stamp. A *surcharge* is certainly an *overprint*, but an *overprint* is not in all cases a *surcharge*—from our point of view.

Surface-printing. (See *Typography*, also page 89, vol. iii.)

SVERIGE = Sweden.

Swords. Crossed swords are the most conspicuous portion of the device upon the stamp of the post card of Nepal.

A sword, upright, with the point uppermost, figures upon the stamps of Rajpeepla.

Syllabic characters. These are small characters upon the stamps of Japan of 1875, indicating separate plates or separate printings of a certain number of sheets, and corre-

sponding to a great extent with the *Plate numbers* upon the stamps of Great Britain. They are to be found at the bottom of the central device upon the stamps in question, and are usually enclosed in a small frame; in the following illustrations the large 30 sen is without the *Syllabic character*, and the small one with it. The large types of the 10, 20,



and 30 sen also exist with the characters; in the 10 and 20 sen they are not framed, but are placed at the left of the tails of the dragons on the lower value, and of the leaves on the higher. On the 6 sen they are engraved just below the buckle of the garter on the earlier stamps, and on the last plates of the 6 sen, *orange*, the character is enclosed in a small oval which replaces one of the holes in the lower part of the garter.

Taille-douce. A method of engraving in which the lines of the design are cut into the plate, the corresponding English term is *Line Engraving*. The technical expression for printing from such plates is *copper-plate printing*. (See page 89, vol. iii.)

TAKCA—Tax (or Postage to be Paid). On the *Unpaid Letter Stamps* of Bulgaria.

TANGER-FEZ. On stamps used by a courier company in Morocco.

TASSA GAZZETTA—Newspaper Tax. On the journal tax stamp of Modena.

TE BETALEN PORT—Postage to be Paid. On the *Unpaid Letter Stamps* of Holland and the Dutch Colonies. Three different types have been employed at different times; all are without indication of the name of the country to which they belong, the colours alone distinguishing the labels employed in the different Colonies from one another and from those of the mother country.



	1.	2.	3.
CURAÇAO . . .	2 & 3.	Frame green, value black.	
DUTCH INDIES.	1.	5 (cent), yellow on white.	
		10 " green on yellow.	
		15 " orange.	
		20 " green on blue.	
	2 & 3.	Frame carmine, value black.	
HOLLAND . . .	1.	5 (cent), brown on buff.	
		10 " violet on blue.	
		3.	Frame blue, value black or red.
SURINAM . . .	2 & 3.	" violet "	

TELEGRAFOS. On Telegraph stamps of Spain and Spanish colonies. Some of those of the Philippines have been used for postage, both unsurcharged and with various overprints.

Tête-bêche. A term applied in French to stamps printed upside down in reference to one another. One such stamp may appear in a sheet, through one of the dies forming the plate being accidentally set the wrong way; this stamp will be *tête-bêche* as regards those surrounding it. Some of the stamps of Grenada were printed with alternate rows reversed, so that the stamps in one row were *tête-bêche* with reference to those in the next. Such varieties must of course be shown in pairs, as the stamps when separated exhibit no peculiarity.

Thurn und Taxis in microscopic letters on the adhesives—**THURN U. TAXIS** on the envelope stamps—of the first issues of Germany. The counts of Thurn and Taxis farmed the German Post Office from a very early date, and the Depart-

ment was still in their hands when stamps were first issued. These stamps were therefore, strictly speaking, the issues of a private company, which worked the post-office for the Government.

Tiger's Head. This forms the device in the centre of the earlier stamps of Afghanistan (see illustrations under Indian inscriptions).

TIMBRE IMPERIAL JOURNAUX. On the newspaper stamps of France, under the empire.

TIMBRE MOVIL—adhesive (or *movable*, as distinguished from an *impressed*) stamp. On revenue stamps of Spain, some of which have been used for postage.

TJENESTE POST FRIMÆRKE—Service postage stamp. On the official stamps of Denmark.

TOSCANO—Tuscan.

Tresse. A circular or oval ornament on the flap of an envelope, with a pattern of lines in relief (see also *Kosace*).

Type. This word is used generally to mean the *design* of a stamp, but it may also have a more special sense. Thus, if we say that two stamps are of the *same type* we should mean that the design of both is identically the same, and that they differ only in colour, paper, or perforation, or that the value only is changed, and the rest of the design remains unaltered. Where slight changes have been made we may say that the stamps are of *similar type*, or of the *same design but different type*, the design having been redrawn or re-engraved; and we may term these varieties *Type 1, Type 2, &c.*, of the design. Some years ago scientific collectors were anxious to lay down some rule for the use of the words *Type* and *Variety*, and it was proposed that they should be employed in philately in a similar manner to that in which *Genus* and *Species* are used in Natural History; it was found, however, impossible to draw the line between them, and to decide what amount of difference should constitute a new *type*, or what amount of resemblance should imply merely a *variety*.

Type (Printer's). In describing the inscriptions, or the surcharges, upon stamps, it is necessary to state what kinds of letters are used, and as all these different kinds have names, I have asked the printers to set up some of those more commonly employed, and I give the names by which they are known to English printers and type-founders. In America some of them are known by different names to these, and Philatelic writers have, unfortunately, been accustomed to use entirely wrong names in some cases.

It is perhaps unnecessary to state that the various kinds of type exist (many of them) in numerous varieties of size, from the enormous letters used upon gigantic posters, down to the microscopic type of the smallest Bibles and Prayer-books. These all have their names also, but these are not what I wish to describe here; I would only point out that the so-called *large capitals* of one size (or fount) may be no larger than the *small capitals* of another fount, and these can only be distinguished when different natures of letters of the same fount are used together.

The ordinary natures of type exist in five different forms, which belong to one another, so to speak. Three of these are *upright*, and two are *sloping*. The three upright are respectively called *Large Capitals*, *Small Capitals*, and *Small Letters* or "*Lower Case*," as the last are technically termed. Of the sloping, *Large Capitals* and *Lower Case* only are usually supplied by the founders, and if *Small Capitals* are required they have to be specially made. The origin of the term *Lower Case* is a very simple one. The cases, or trays, of letters in a printing office are placed upon sloping racks, or desks, for the convenience of those using them. The small letters are in one case (each in their own separate partition), and the large letters are similarly arranged in another case; and the former, being the most wanted, are placed nearer the compositor than the latter; *i.e.* the small letters are in the *lower* of the two cases on the desk, and the large letters in the *upper*. Hence, the small letters have come to be commonly known as *lower-case* type, and the large are sometimes termed *upper-case*.

To take an example: The ordinary upright type, in which English books are printed, is called "*Roman*"; of this we have "*LARGE CAPITALS*," "*SMALL CAPITALS*," and "*lower case*," the second being of similar form to the first, but of similar height to the third. The sloping letters corresponding to these are called "*Italic*," and of these again we have "*LARGE CAPITALS*" and "*lower case*."

The nature of type in which this magazine is printed is called "Old Style." Two different sizes are employed :

Long Primer, for the *Editorial* and some of the *Principal Articles*.

Brevier, for the *New Issues and Varieties*, and the other *Articles*, &c.

As specimens of large and small type of this same "Old Style" we may take :

Great Primer—

Roman.

LARGE CAPITALS,
SMALL CAPITALS, lower case.

Italic.

LARGE CAPITALS,
lower case.

Pearl.—Roman, **LARGE CAPITALS, SMALL CAPITALS, lower case.**
Italic, LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

These are by no means extremes in the way of size ; large type may go up to almost any dimensions, and there are two sizes smaller than *Pearl*, termed *Diamond* and *Brilliant* respectively.

The following are a few varieties of type, of which specimens are given in the Long Primer size, for comparison.

Taking first the types which have *serifs*, or short horizontal lines terminating the vertical and slanting strokes of the letters, and vertical lines at the ends of the horizontal strokes of capitals "E," "T," &c., we have :

1. OLD STYLE.

Roman—**LARGE CAPITALS, SMALL CAPITALS,**
lower case.

Italic—LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

2. MODERN.

Roman—**LARGE CAPITALS, SMALL CAPITALS,**
lower case.

Italic—LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

Differing from Old Style principally in the letters being narrower, the "C" and the "O" less rounded.

3. ALBION.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

In which the thick strokes are very much heavier than in the previous types ; it is sometimes used abroad for surcharges, as shown in the "N.S.B." and "Nossi-Bé" in the following illustrations :



All these three have the serifs and the thinner strokes very fine, as compared with the thick strokes.

4. OLD STYLE ANTIQUE.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

5. IONIC.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

6. EXTENDED CLARENDON.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

7. ANTIQUE.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

8. EGYPTIAN.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

These show a gradually-increasing tendency to make all the lines more nearly the same thickness, with heavy *serifs*, the latter being slightly rounded where they join the strokes of the letters in Ionic and Clarendon, and quite square at the junctions in Antique and Egyptian.

9. SANS-SERIF.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

10. GROTESQUE.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

These are two forms of type without *serifs*, as the name of the first implies. Type of this kind has been commonly termed "block" in philatelic works, but this title is unknown, apparently, to printers and type-founders.

11. GRECIAN.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z . ,

This is a type which varies somewhat in form, as made by different type-founders.

12. FRENCH ANTIQUE.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

13. GLYPHIC.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z . ,

14. DE LA RUE.

X B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z . ,

15. OLD ENGLISH.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

This is practically the same as German type ; it is also known as "Gothic" or "Black letter."

16. GERMAN BLACK.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

17. OPEN BLACK.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

18. CHARLEMAGNE.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

19. BIJOU.

LARGE CAPITALS, lower case.

20. TUSCAN.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z . ,

21. OUTLINE.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z . ,

22. SHADED.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z . ,

Type-set—Made up from movable types. Applied principally to designs formed of printers' type and plain or ornamental borders, such as are found in most printing offices, but applicable also to any design made up of separate parts instead of being all in one piece. Almost all surcharges are type-set, and so are very many other provisional stamps. Among the rarities produced by this means are the various provisional issues of British Guiana,



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and the first issues of Reunion and the Sandwich Islands.



Typography. Printing from dies or types, the raised portions of which are inked, as distinguished from dies or plates engraved in *taille douce*. (See page 89, vol. iii.)

UKU LETA—Paid letter. Upon some of the stamps of the Sandwich Islands.

ULTRAMAR—Beyond the Sea. Upon stamps of Cuba. Some of these were also surcharged, as shown in the following illustrations, for special use in Porto Rico.



Unpaid Letter Stamps. Stamps denoting charges to be paid by the receiver of a letter or packet; either postage unpaid, or insufficiently prepaid by the sender, or any other charges made by the Post-office. The term "Postage Due Stamps" would appear to be far more appropriate.

Unperforated (unperf.) = not perforated. (See *Imperforate* and *Perforated*.)

Unused. Strictly speaking, a stamp that has not been used for postal or fiscal purposes; but the word is frequently employed in the sense of *unobliterated*, in the same way as *used* and *obliterated* are too often treated as synonymous terms. It is evident that a stamp may sometimes be *used* and yet escape *obliteration*, and it is very necessary to remember that an *obliteration* is not always a proof that a stamp has been *used*.

Us.d. (See *Unused*.)

U.S. = United States.

"Valevole per le stampe" = Available for (prepaying postage of) printed matter. Surcharged upon the Parcel Post stamps of Italy, converted into 2 c. stamps, and permitting their use upon newspapers and other printed matter.

Value alone. (See *CENTS*, &c.)

Vergé—Laid (q. v.)

Watermark. A design or pattern in the substance of paper. (See page 30, vol. iii.)

WENDENSCHÉ-KREIS or WENDENSCHEN KREISES = The circle (or district) of Wenden. Upon the stamps of Livonia.

Wmk. = Watermark.

Wove. Paper of plain, even texture, such as is commonly used for books and newspapers. (See page 31, vol. iii.)

Z. A. R. or Z. AFR. REPUBLIEK = South African Republic or the Transvaal.

ZA LOT KOP. 10 = 10 kopecks per *lotte*, or *lotk*, the Russian unit of weight for letters, rather less than half an English ounce. On the stamps of Poland. There is a similar inscription on some of the Russian stamps, but in Russian letters.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

SIR,—Having read Mr. Lockyer's interesting article on "Hungary," I have great pleasure in sending a list of other varieties from my own collection, which will help to complete the sets there given.

Issue of 1874.	Perf.	11½; 3 kr.
" "	"	12½ × 13; 2 kr., 10 kr.
" "	"	13 × 11½; 3 kr., 5 kr., 10 kr.
" 1881.	"	12 × 11½; 3 kr., 5 kr., 10 kr.
" "	"	12½ × 11½; 3 kr.
" "	"	11½ × 12½; 20 kr.
" "	"	12½ × 13; 5 kr.
" "	"	13 × 12½; 5 kr.

(Horizontal perforation is given first.)

I also, as in Mr. Lockyer's case, have the 2 kr., *blw.* perf. 11½, but with no other perforation.

Is there "no doubt" about the watermark being *Kl.*? In the great majority of cases it appears to be "*Kr.*" I cannot find any satisfactory *Kr.*'s or *Kl.*'s, although I have looked over thousands. Is "*Kr.*" meant to stand for the beginning of the word "Kreuzer"? If you invert the letters, and disregard the downward projection of the *K*, the inverted *r* does not make a satisfactory *L* either in English or German.

Yours truly, G. JOHNSON.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. E. S.—The "Circular Delivery" stamps were issued by private companies, most of which were suppressed before they had actually done any work. The "Kanton Berne" stamps are fiscals. We regret that we cannot give you the address you ask for.

A. M. S.—1. Do you mean the Railway Parcel stamps? None of these are included in the catalogue. 2. We do not know the 10 kr., *grey-blue*. 3. Liberia, *imperf.*, see note on page 84 of catalogue. We do not look upon any half stamps as of much value or interest. 4. *Scarlet* and *vermillion* may almost be considered varieties of shade only. 5. Noted in October. 6. We suppose these will have to go in. We hear that all the fiscals can now be used for postage. 7. We have not yet seen the "Christopher."

G. S. B.—See answer to J. S. S. in the September number.

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

Mr. Stanley Gibbons, accompanied by his wife, leaving England early next January for an Eastern tour, would be pleased to meet any philatelists, or others interested, in the cities and places he proposes visiting. Mr. Gibbons will be prepared to purchase collections, or loose rare stamps, and would be glad to hear from any one having same for sale. Letters should be addressed c/o Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, at their offices in the respective cities visited, or at the chief hotel of the place where they have no agencies. The approximate dates are:

Genoa	January 6.
Alexandria	January 13-15.
Cairo and Nile	January 16-February 27.
Alexandria	February 28.
Jaffa	March 2.
Jerusalem	March 4-8.
Beirut	March 10-13.
Damascus	March 14-17.
Smyrna	March 20, 21.
Constantinople	March 22-30.
Bucarest	April 1.
Budapest	April 5.

* * *

Strand Album.—I should like to draw special attention to this new book, which has just been issued by our publishers. There has been a great demand for a square book, and after carefully thinking over the matter they have prepared a first edition of 5000. One of the most novel features in the two better editions of this album is the inclusion of a series of six maps, specially engraved for this publication. The maps have been prepared by a well-known geographer, and include the name of every stamp-issuing place known to us at the date the plates were drawn. This should be a very special feature, and most useful both to the advanced as well as the more juvenile collector. As no doubt these maps will be in considerable demand, we shall have prepared in about a month a series of six maps in a neat case, to be sold for the sum of 2s. separately; the case could then lie flat in the front of the Imperial or any other large album, and be kept for constant reference. Full particulars of this new album with prices will be found in our advertisement pages.

* * *

LORD RIPON ON SURCHARGED POSTAGE STAMPS.

The *Selangor Government Gazette* publishes the following circular despatch from Lord Ripon:

“DOWNING STREET, 18th August, 1893.

“SIR,—My attention has been called to the practice of issuing surcharged postage stamps, and to the temptations which it affords to postmasters and treasurers, and other public officers, of making irregular profits by dealings with stamp dealers and collectors.

“If proper care is taken to maintain a sufficient supply of stamps the practice of surcharging is unnecessary, and it should never be resorted to unless absolutely required for the convenience of the public, and in every such case the officer responsible for keeping up the supply of stamps should be liable to be fined.

“I have, etc., RIPON.

“The Officer Administering the Government of the Straits Settlements.”

—*Straits Times*, Nov. 7th, 1893.

* * *

The new Dominion Criminal Code providing for a penalty of 14 years' imprisonment on conviction of counterfeiting, using, or selling bogus stamps of Canada or any other country, is being highly commended.

* * *

The United States Congress has passed an Act prohibiting the transmission by mail in the United States of letters bearing on the covers words “obviously intended to reflect injuriously upon the character or conduct” of addressees. The right to exclude any particular class of correspondence from its mails was given by the Postal Union Convention. Postmasters exchanging mails with the United States are instructed not to forward to that country, but to send to the Dead Letter Office, letters the covers of which bear such words as “Bad Debt Collecting Agency,” or “Collecting Detective Agency,” &c., as letters with these inscriptions have been specifically objected to by the United States Post-office as conflicting with the Act before referred to.

* * *

Alleged Theft of Postage Stamps.—Chas. Austin, alias Berne, a middle-aged man, was charged with stealing two sheets, on which were attached a number of postage stamps, together of the value of 15s., the property of W. L. Heard, of Cozga, near Monmouth; also with stealing a book containing foreign postage stamps of the value of £17 12s., the property of H. Thompson, of 42, Albert Street, Mornington Crescent, London. William L. Heard said the two sheets containing a number of used and unused postage stamps of different nationalities were last in his possession on August 5th. He had previously advertised the same for sale, and on that day received a letter (since destroyed) signed by F. Deane, of 3, Egerton Brow, Bristol. To that address he had sent the two sheets on approval, but had never received any acknowledgment of the same, although he had written to the same name and address about a fortnight after forwarding the same. Detective Inspector Kobertson stated Thompson had refused to prosecute. There were, however, numerous complaints from people living in all parts of the country who had been victimised in this way. The bench did not think there was sufficient evidence to convict in the one case, and as the other had fallen through, the accused would be discharged. They recommended the payment for the stamps in the case of Heard, and the suggestion was complied with before the accused left the court.—*Western Press*, Dec. 9th, 1893.

* * *

British Honduras Postage Stamps.—The Crown agents for the Colonies are offering the stock of surcharged British Honduras for sale by public tender. The following are the numbers of stamps to be sold:

3 c., in black, on 3d., reddish-brown	13,734
15 c., in red, on 6 c.	31,084
20 c., in black, on 6d., yellow	18,731
50 c., in black, on 1s., grey	8,411

The whole of the above stamps are the large surcharges, and the face value amounts to £1,828 17s. 10d. No tender will be considered for a less amount than face value.

We consider that the above stamps will not realise anything like face value; a large number of them are already in the market from various sources, and most large dealers are fully stocked for years to come. However, it is as well to place on record the quantities of stamps that are offered.

* * *

Chefoo Local Post-office.—We have received from an esteemed friend the rules of this office. The following are the most important :

7. *Outward Mail Matter* will be received on the following tariff to ports, as well as locally :

Letters.—1 cent per oz., or fraction thereof.

Newspapers and Circulars.— $\frac{1}{2}$ cent each, not exceeding 4 oz.

Book Post.— $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per 2 oz., or fraction thereof.

Trade Patterns and Samples of Merchandise, not weighing more than 4 oz., $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, over 4 oz., parcel rates.

Parcels.—4 cents per lb., or fraction thereof; 1 cent every additional 1 lb., or fraction thereof.

Registration.—5 cents.

8. If possible adhesive stamps will be procured and be for sale at the office. Firms and residents in Chefoo can be furnished with pass books on application, in which the amount of postage incurred will be entered, and the amount due will be collected at the end of each month.

14. Letters, &c., addressed to foreign countries, entrusted to the Chefoo Local Post-office, bearing stamps of the Postal Union in addition to local postage, will be sent forward, but entirely at the risk of the sender. Letters so addressed, but bearing no Postal Union stamp, may be detained for inquiry, or returned to sender.

16. Correspondence will be received at the Chefoo Local Post-office for Amoy, Chinkingang, Foochow, Hankow, Ichang, Kinkiang, Nanking, Ning Po, Pagoda Anchorage (Foochow), Swatow, Wenchow, and Wuhu, and other places that may be included in the Shanghai Local Post-office system.

* * *

The P. J. Thorpe Court-martial at Newry.—A Newry correspondent telegraphs that the decision in the case of Lieutenant and Quartermaster Thorpe, of the Royal Irish Rifles, who was tried by court-martial in Newry, last month, for the embezzlement of over £2,000, neglect of duty, and making false returns, was promulgated yesterday. The accused was found guilty of embezzlement and guilty of conduct to the prejudice of discipline, and sentenced to be cashiered without pension.—*Telegraph, Dec. 14th, 1893.*

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President :

H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President :

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President :

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

DURING the interval intervening between the date of the Annual General Meeting and the commencement of the current Season three Extraordinary General Meetings of the Society have been held, on the 21st July, the 3rd August, and the 29th September. On the first-named date the receipt of works for the Society's library, presented by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, Mr. A. P. Rogers, and Mr. Donald King, was reported, and the presents were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. A very beautiful frame of proofs of various stamps, printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., was also presented on behalf of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Limited, to whom a cordial vote of thanks

was accorded for their valuable present. At the same meeting the Rev. W. H. Holman, proposed by the President and seconded by Major Evans; the Earl of Ranfurly and Mr. C. J. Lucas, both proposed by the President and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. R. T. Stevens, proposed by Mr. Barrett and seconded by the Treasurer; and Mr. G. F. Melbourn, proposed by Major Evans and seconded by the Secretary, were elected members of the Society. At the second meeting the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Transvaal was proceeded with and adjourned. The last of the three meetings was held for the purpose of welcoming the Vice-President and Mr. Willett on their return from their tour round the world. There was a large attendance of members, and Dr. E. H. Gonin, who accompanied the travellers on their journey, was also present as a visitor. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and during the meeting the members present had the privilege of inspecting a large number of most interesting and artistic sketches by the Vice-President of the numerous places of interest visited by him in the course of his tour.

THE first meeting of the Season 1893-94 was held at Effingham House on Friday the 6th October, 1893, at 7.30 p.m., and was attended by twenty members. There were also three visitors present, viz., Messrs. C. M. Woodford, J. A. Bucknill, and G. B. Calman.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President the chair was taken by Major Evans. Mr. Bacon reported the receipt of a letter from the President, who had been seriously ill, regretting his inability to preside at the meeting, and a letter was directed to be written to Lord Kingston expressing the sympathy of the members in the cause of his absence.

The minutes of the last meeting, and of the Extraordinary Meetings held during the recess, having been read and confirmed, the Assistant Secretary read the correspondence, and presented on behalf of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, a bound copy of the work on the Stamps of Portuguese India, which was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The Assistant-Secretary reported that Mr. Lumley had written tendering his resignation, which was directed to be accepted with regret.

Mr. F. O. Conant, of Portland, U.S.A., proposed by Mr. Gibb and seconded by the Secretary, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Nankivell produced for inspection several Western Australian stamps of the first issue, on portions of the original letters or covers, sent by Messrs. Williams, Field & Co., amongst them being a block of seven one shilling stamps in the pale brown colour, a pair of the same stamps rouletted, and a pair of the sixpence and one of the fourpence values, also rouletted.

The meeting then proceeded to the consideration of the Statutes, and the proof of the new Statutes, as suggested by the Council, was then read through and discussed in detail, and finally approved. On the motion of Mr. E. S. Gibbons, seconded by Mr. Creeke, it was resolved that the old Statutes should be repealed, and that the Statutes as read be printed and adopted as the Statutes of the Society.

THE only business at the second meeting of the Season, held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 13th October, consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Transvaal. Major Evans showed at this meeting an entire sheet of the 2 annas stamp of the first issue of India, kindly lent for the purpose by Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

THE third meeting of the Season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 27th October, at 7.30 p.m. Thirteen members present.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the following new members were elected; viz., Miss Feyl de Pfeil, of Paris, proposed by Mr. A. de Reuterskiold and seconded by Mr. Bacon; Mr. D. A. Quiggin, proposed by Mr. Hallett and seconded by the Treasurer; Mr. G. S. Bird, proposed by Mr. Geldard and seconded by Mr. Tilleard; and Mr. E. S. Schwabe, proposed by Mr. Hubbuck, seconded by Mr. A. W. Chambers.

(ordinary); and Jesse Eccles, Esq., proposed by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by A. Hayim, Esq. (corresponding).

The Vice-President showed an alleged "forgery" of a Persian stamp, issue 1876, Shah's head, Stanley Gibbons type 1897.

Chandrika Prasada, Esq., made a statement to the effect that the plates of the Faridkot lithographed series had been recently destroyed by the State authorities. He also showed several Indian post cards, surcharged one anna on one and a half anna, with broken letters, and one with an inverted "G" instead of the "O" in "one."

The Hon. Treasurer suggested that a public stamp auction should be held, in connection with this Society, at the end of each meeting, for the sale of rare stamps. This question was, however, postponed till the meeting in December.

The members next examined the collection of Dr. C. F. Pacó. This collection is carefully mounted in Senf's album, 4th edition, the strong feature in it being a specially valuable lot of Portuguese Indies, of which country Dr. Pacó is a known specialist. Among the "tit-bits" shown were the following:

Great Britain.—1s., green on bluish, small letters.

India.—4 a., oct., '54, minus dots, circle, and lines; several types of same with varying spaces between head and circle. Same in block of four on envelope, used; $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 a., '54, blocks and strips on covers, used.

Portuguese Indies.—1st issue—900 reis; 40 reis, Prussian-blue; 100 reis, yellow-green; 20 reis, red (about 25 different types); 5 reis on $\frac{1}{2}$ reis, in black; same in red; 5 reis, in red, on 10 reis without star. Crown series—2 tangas on 10 reis, green; 4 tangas on 100 reis, lilac; 4 tangas on $\frac{1}{2}$ reis, black.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS,
Honorary Secretary.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.
President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE second meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, November 6th, at 7.45 p.m., the President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed some correspondence was read by the Secretary, including a letter from Mr. W. T. Willett, presenting to the Society a large photographic group of its members, recently taken by Mr. Otto Pfenninger, with a suggestion that as the Society already possessed a copy it should be offered to the London Philatelic Society. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Willett for his kindness was unanimously carried. The President then read some very interesting notes on the first two issues of Victoria, illustrated by his magnificent collection of these stamps. After giving a very instructive description of the various alterations made in these early issues, he stated that although the 2d., with fine background and sides, was always believed to be the first variety of this value issued, a specimen with coarse background and fine sides had been recently found post-marked several days prior to the earliest date before known, thus showing that both varieties were, in all probability, put into circulation at the same time. A vote of thanks to the President was passed. Mr. Stafford Smith exhibited the 1d. value of a new issue for the Cape of Good Hope. An exchange packet from the Manchester Philatelic Society was also handed round.

THE third meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, November 20th, at 7.45 p.m. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. J. W. Gillespie took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a letter was read from the President expressing regret that he was unavoidably prevented, through indisposition, from attending the meeting, and therefore from continuing his notes on Victoria. It was then proposed by Mr. W. T. Willett that a collection of "forgeries" should be made by the Society for the use of the members. Mr. J. W. Gillespie seconded the proposal, and after some discussion it was unanimously carried. The Secretary was requested to send out notices to that effect, and to solicit contributions of forgeries.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE fourth meeting of the session was held November 18th at the Leeds Municipal Buildings, Mr. W. Beckwith in the chair. It was expected that the Rev. T. S. Fleming would have read a paper on the early issues of Ceylon, but he was unavoidably absent, and the evening was spent in general conversation on matters philatelic.

Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* and Mekeel's *Philatelic Journal of America* were laid on the table as donations from the publishers, and thanks voted for the same.

THE fifth meeting was held December 2nd, Mr. J. H. Thackrah, senior vice-president, in the chair. Included in the donations to the library may be mentioned vol. i. of the "Catalogue des Cartes Postales," presented by Mr. George Campbell; a paper, by Herr B. Blauhuth, on the stamps of Bremen, and the Hamburg forgeries of the same, presented by Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick & Co.; and the November number of *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*. The thanks of the Society were voted to the donors.

The President (Mr. O. Firth) was prevented from being present, and his paper on the 5s. stamps of the British Colonies (Part 2), comprising the West Indies, was read by Mr. W. Beckwith. A vote of thanks was passed both to the writer and reader of the paper.

Novelties were shown by Messrs. W. B. Simpson and Duncan Bennett. The address of the Secretaries is 13, Victoria Road, Headingley, Leeds.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, ESQ.

THE fifth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars' Hotel, on Friday, November 11th, 1893, the Vice-President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton then read a paper on some reminiscences of his father, the late E. L. Pemberton. These proved of very great interest, the late Mr. Pemberton being one of the pioneers of philately.

THE sixth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars' Hotel, on Friday, November 25th, 1893, the Vice-President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary announced the presentation to the Society of the following publications: *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, vol. ii., by Mr. Brown; *Catalogue of Post Cards*, by Mr. Campbell; *The Philatelic Chronicle*, by Mr. Walton, which were directed to be acknowledged, with the thanks of the Society, to the donors.

The Hon. Secretary announced the receipt of a letter from the Earl of Kingston, thanking the Society for electing him an honorary member, which gave great satisfaction to the members.

Mr. Grunewald read a paper on the perforations of stamps, treating his subject in a comprehensive and interesting manner.

The Hon. Secretary read a short critique on the Tapling collection, New South Wales, or rather such portion of it as the space at present allowed to Mr. Bacon in the British Museum permitted him to exhibit.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND.

Headquarters—WELLINGTON.

THE fifth Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 6th, at 8 p.m. There was a fair attendance. Mr. E. G. Pilcher occupied the chair.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and duly confirmed, it was reported that the affairs of the Society were in a good financial position. Six Exchange Books had been kept in circulation throughout the different districts. The amount of stamps removed from the exchange

sheets showed a falling-off compared with previous years, which may be attributed in great measure to the exceedingly common stamps some members send in for circulation, not a few also pricing their stamps far above ordinary catalogue rates. To facilitate speedy exchange members should err in the opposite direction. The four ordinary Quarterly Meetings had been held during the year, and were fairly attended. Reports of these have been published in *Vindin's Monthly*, a favour for which the Society is indebted to Mr. Vindin. Thanks are due to Mr. A. R. Rogers, of New York City, for a copy of his *Philatelic Blue Book*, which should prove both useful and interesting; and also to the Alamo City Philatelic Society, Texas, U.S.A., and to the Victorian Philatelic Society, for copies of their respective Annual Reports.

The number of members now on the roll is 48, showing an increase over last year of 18.

A request was received from Blenheim for information as to the formation of a branch of the Society in that town, and the Secretary was directed to furnish copy of rules, &c.

A letter was received from Mrs. Thomas, of Christchurch, covering a specimen of the New Zealand Railway 3d. newspaper stamp, printed in dark brown. Enquiries show that this was an error in printing a small quantity of the earlier supplies, as no colours but yellow or orange had been officially sanctioned.

A letter was received from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, enclosing specimen of id., red, New Zealand, perf. 13. This stamp, although heavily postmarked, was reviewed with interest as a specimen of one of the rarest of New Zealand stamps.

It was proposed by Mr. A. T. Bate that members should be invited to study the fiscal stamps of New Zealand with a view of throwing some light, if possible, on the postal issues of this Colony as regards dates of varieties of perforations, watermarks, &c., and also for the purpose of compiling a correct list of the fiscal issues. This proposal was agreed to, and the Secretary was instructed to prepare the necessary circulars for distribution among the members for guidance in tabulating the stamps.

The following new members were elected: Mrs. C. R. Sanderson, Mr. Wm. Salt, Mr. J. Mason, Mr. F. J. Barnett, and Mr. R. C. Bentley.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year, 1893-4: President, the Hon. the Postmaster-General; Vice-President, E. G. Pilcher, Esq.; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. L. A. Sanderson; Committee, Messrs. A. T. Bate, H. J. Knowles, and P. Fauvel.

The rest of the evening was devoted to the exhibition of stamps, and discussion thereon. Mr. E. G. Pilcher showed proofs of surcharged Tonga ½d., 2½d., 5d., and 7½d. Several old issues of New Zealand, including many rare varieties of roulette and serrated perforations, were exhibited by Mr. H. J. Knowles, among which may be mentioned a id., red, imperf. *pelure*, unused; and also a 2d., blue, perf., no wmk. This concluded the meeting.

L. A. SANDERSON, *Hon. Secretary*.

WELLINGTON, Oct. 19th, 1893.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—A. R. BARRETT.

The opening meeting of the Third Session was held at 7A, Princess Square, on October 11th, 1893. The President in the chair.

It was resolved that at least one-half of the meetings held during the Session should be devoted to elementary study of stamps, for the instruction and assistance of young collectors, papers to be read at the other meetings.

The following papers were promised:

By the PRESIDENT	"Stamps of Japan."
" VICE-PRESIDENT	"Manufacture of Paper" (2nd portion).
" HON. SEC.	"South Australian Perforations."

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. William Earl, Solicitor, for again placing a room in his offices at the disposal of the Society.

THE second meeting was held on October 25th. The President in the chair.

Mr. W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, was elected a member.

It was resolved that a vote of thanks be conveyed to the Philatelic Society, London, for cards of admission to their Exhibition of West Indian Stamps.

THE third meeting was held on November 15th. The President in the chair.

The President read the first portion of a paper on the Stamps of Japan. He intimated that he should deal with the subject under three heads:

- I. The Paper upon which the Stamps were Printed.
- II. The Japanese Numerals and Syllabic Characters.
- III. The Various Issues of Stamps.

In the course of a most instructive paper, illustrated by his fine collection, he alluded to the great assistance students of Japanese stamps had derived from the writings of Mr. E. D. Bacon, whom he considered to be the greatest authority on the subject. He described at some length the various papers used, which he divided into three classes, commonly catalogued as Native Laid, Native Wove, and European Wove. The two former were hand-made, and he deemed the last to be named erroneously, as, although made with European machinery, it was manufactured in Japan of Japanese materials, and would be more correctly designated as machine-made.

In a discussion which ensued Mr. R. T. Stevens expressed his opinion that collectors of Japanese stamps had been labouring under a delusion in describing the paper showing a fine quadrille pattern watermark as being laid, and asserted it was wove. He described to the meeting the difference between laid and wove paper, and gave it as his opinion that the peculiar square wove appearance in the paper of some of the earlier Japanese stamps was owing probably to the mesh of the deckle being made of fine split bamboo, combined with the extremely fibrous material of which the paper was composed. He described at some length how this combination of circumstances would produce the effects seen.

THE fourth meeting was held on November 29th, the President in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary announced the receipt from the publishers of vol. i. of the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* as a gift to the Society's library. The same was accepted, and a vote of thanks passed.

The President read the second portion of his paper on the stamps of Japan, dealing with the numerals used for expressing the values and the syllabic characters. He was of opinion that these latter denoted control marks, although they were generally regarded as plate numbers; this latter theory appeared to him to be upset by the fact that the same syllabic character had been found on two different plates in the case of more than one value. He very fully explained the different numerals, &c. as they appear on the various issues.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. R. T. Stevens, who had printed for the use of the members copies of the numerals and syllabic characters dealt with.

ASHER LEVY, *Hon. Secretary*.

190, UNION STREET, PLYMOUTH.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTH HANTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—GEORGE CHURCHER, Esq.

THE first meeting of the season was held at the Star Chambers, Gosport, on 5th October, 1893. Major H. A. Tapp, 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment, being under orders to proceed to India, tendered his resignation as Hon. Secretary, which was accepted with regret, and a vote of thanks accorded for his past services to the Society. Mr. C. J. E. Mumby was appointed Hon. Secretary (*pro tem.*). The stamps of British Columbia and Canada were considered. The President shewed an envelope sent by Surgeon Cooper, R.N., bearing postmarks of Hamilton, 22nd October, 1855, and Liverpool, 4th November, 1855, on which were three 3d. stamps, and an excess of 1d. was levied, showing that the 10d. rate from Canada to England was then in force, the earliest date given in the Society's book on the stamps of the North American Colonies being 1st May, 1856.

Special Bargains and New Issues

FOR JANUARY.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

ANGRA.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Envelopes.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
25 reis, green		0	3	2	3	—	—
50 " blue		0	0	6	4	6	—

BELGIUM.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Sunday Stamps.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
35 centimes, chocolate		0	6	..	4	6	..
2 francs, lilac		2	6	..	25	0	..

CHEFOO.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1/2 cent., green		0	1	..	0	5	..
1 " red		0	1	..	0	9	..
2 " ultramarine		0	2	..	1	6	..
5 " yellow		0	4	..	3	6	..
10 " brown		0	9	..	7	6	..

DECCAN.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Envelopes.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1/2 anna, brown on yellow, buff, blue, pink, and green; set of five, uncut		10	0	..	—	—	—

ECUADOR.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>1892.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 sucre, deep blue, used		1	6	..	—	—	—
5 sucres, violet, used		7	6	..	—	—	—

1893. Provisionals.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 centavos on 1 sucre, black and blue		1	6	..	—	—	—
5 " on 5 sucres, black and violet		1	6	..	—	—	—

EGYPT.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 piastres, orange-brown, used		0	2	..	—	—	—

FINLAND.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>1891. Wrappers.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 kop., orange on manilla		0	1	..	—	—	—
2 " green on manilla (2 sizes)		0	2	..	—	—	—

1891. Post Cards.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
3 kop., carmine on buff		0	2	..	—	—	—
3+3 " " "		0	3	..	—	—	—
4 " " "		0	3	..	—	—	—
4+4 " " "		0	6	..	—	—	—

HANKOW.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 cents, violet on mauve, used 6d., unused		0	3	..	2	0	..
5 " yellow-green on salmon, used 9d., unused		0	6	..	3	6	..
10 " carmine on rose, used 1s., unused		0	9	..	7	6	..
20 " blue on cream, used 2s., unused		1	6	..	—	—	—
30 " red on yellow, used 3s., "		2	0	..	—	—	—

HOLLAND.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Queen's Head.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 cent., blue (envelope)		0	2	..	1	8	..
5+5 cents, blue (post card)		0	4	..	3	0	..

LIBERIA.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>1893. Provisional.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
FIVE CENTS on 6 cents, black and green		0	6	..	3	6	..
Variety, figure "5" with straight top, one only in each sheet, the two types, unsevered		3	6	..	—	—	—
Also officials, as last, and with same variety		—	—	..	—	—	—

MONTENEGRO.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Jubilee issue. Errors.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 nov., blue, black surcharge		2	0	..	—	—	—
25 " brown, black surcharge		2	6	..	—	—	—

Ordinary issue.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 nov., black on blue. Post Card.		0	3	..	—	—	—
5+5 " " " Wrapper		0	6	..	—	—	—
2 " yellow on blue.		0	2	..	—	—	—
3 " green on blue.		0	3	..	—	—	—

MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Provisional Post Cards.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 reis, black and blue		0	3	..	—	—	—
20 " black and carmine		0	6	..	4	0	..

NEW SOUTH WALES.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>Obsolete Service Stamps.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 on 1d., black and green (O. S.), used		3	0	..	—	—	—
7 on 6d., black and brown (")		15	0	..	—	—	—
12 on 1s., black and rose (")		15	0	..	—	—	—

NICARAGUA.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
<i>1877. Rouletted.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1, 2, 5, 10, and 25 centavos, set of 5		2	0	..	15	0	..
10 centavos, red, used		0	9	..	—	—	—
25 " green, used		0	9	..	—	—	—

NORTH BORNEO.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
6 cents on 10 cents, Postage and Revenue, used		1	6	..	15	0	..
"Eight Cents" on 25 cents, used		10	0	..	—	—	—
"TWO CENTS" on 25 cents, surcharge inverted, used		35	0	..	—	—	—
25 cents slate, pair, perforated horizontally and imperf. vertically, used		25	0	..	—	—	—
25 c., 50 c., \$1, and \$2, set of 4, used		6	0	..	60	0	..
25 c., 50 c., \$1, \$2, \$5, and \$10, set of 6, used		25	0	..	£12	—	—

PRUSSIA.

1850. Wink. Wreath. Unused originals.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 sgr., black on lake		7	6	..	—	—	—
2 " blue		7	6	..	—	—	—
3 " yellow		7	6	..	—	—	—

SEYCHELLES.

90 cents on 96 cents, black, mauve, and carmine, used		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
		3	0	..	—	—	—

TIMOR.

1886. Head.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 reis, black		0	1	..	0	6	..
10 " green		0	2	..	0	10	..
5 reis to 300 reis; set of 10, unused		5	6	..	—	—	—

TRINIDAD.

1882. Crown and C.A.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1/2d., black and mauve, used		15	0	..	—	—	—

USED AUSTRALIANS.

SPECIAL WHOLESALE PRICES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

	PER 12				PER 100			
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1/2d., grey	0	4	..	2	0	..	18	6
3d., green	1	0	..	6	6	..	60	0
4d., brown	0	6	..	3	0	..	26	0
6d., carmine	0	4	..	2	0	..	18	0
1s., brown	1	3	..	7	6	..	—	—

NEW ZEALAND.

Insurance Stamps.		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1/2d., mauve		1	6	..	8	0	..
1d., blue		1	0	..	5	0	..
2d., lake		1	6	..	8	0	..

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
4d., violet		1	3	..	7	6	..

VICTORIA.

		EACH		PER 12		PER 100	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 1/2d., carmine		0	8	..	4	0	..
3d., bistre		0	9	..	5	0	..
4d., red		0	8	..	4	0	..
6d., blue		0	6	..	3	0	..

ENTIRELY NEW AND REVISED SERIES

OF

CHEAP SETS for 1894.

Used * Unused † Used and Unused ‡ Postfree, 1d. extra. Set of s. d.

†Portuguese Colonies, Crown type, including Macao, Timor, Guinea, etc., and including several 200 and 300 reis		50	..	10	0
†Portuguese Indies, early issues and four provisionals		10	..	7	6
† " " all surcharged on Crown type		7	..	7	6
† " " Crown, 1 1/2, 4 1/2, and 6 reis, 1, 2, 4, and 8 tangas		7	..	3	6
† " " Head, 1 1/2, 4 1/2, 6 reis, and 1 tanga		4	..	0	6
†Prince Edward Isle, 2d., 3d., 4d., 4 1/2d., 6d., and 9d.		6	..	3	6
† " " 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 12 cents		6	..	2	0
*Prussia, early issues, including rare		6	..	1	3
†Puttiala, curved, including 1 rupee		5	..	8	6
† " straight, including errors and high values		9	..	9	6
† " Service, curved and straight		8	..	5	0
*Queensland, obsolete and current		5	..	0	6
including high value and band		11	..	1	6
†Reunion, all obsolete provisionals		10	..	6	0
2 on 20 c., three types		3	..	0	4
†Roumania, obsolete issues		6	..	1	0
" old and new, including high values		30	..	2	0
Unpaid Letter, 2, 5, 10, 30, and 50 bani		5	..	1	6
†Roumelia, including surcharged		8	..	4	0

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Greatly augmented and improved, confidently recommended as the most varied, and undoubtedly the cheapest, as the numerous press notices received certify.

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No. 1.—The Sixpenny Packet of Mixed Continental Stamps contains 100, including many obsolete and rare. (This Packet contains duplicates.) Post-free, 7d.

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No. 3.—The Sixpenny Packet of Used Colonial Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Orange Free State, Ceylon, India H.M.S., Cape of Good Hope, British Guiana, Mauritius, Tasmania, New South Wales Service, Victoria, Jamaica, South Australia O.S., &c. All different. Post-free, 7d.

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No. 6.—The Eighteenpenny Packet of used Foreign Stamps contains 100 varieties, including Finland, Japan 15 and 25 sen., Azores, Chili, Brazil, Greece, surcharged Peru, Russia, Porto Rico, Sweden, Portugal, Holland, India envelope, Jamaica, Egypt 1879, Belgium, set of 4 Norway, Spain, Canada, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 7.—The Two Shilling Packet of Rare Used Foreign Stamps contains 100 varieties, including Porto Rico, Colombia, Deccan, Peru, registered Canada, rare Turkish, old Spain, Dutch Indies, United States official, Danish service, Mauritius, Portugal, French Colonies, 4 Sweden, Straits Settlements, Cyprus, Greece, Sardinia, Belgium, West Australia, Chili, old Denmark, Italy parcel post, Egypt, Bavaria, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/1.

No. 8.—The Five Shilling Packet of Obsolete Stamps contains 100 varieties, including, amongst others, Argentine, set of 4 Finland, Granada Confederation, Cashmere, provisional Ceylon, Hungary first issue 25 kr., Chica, Brazil fig. issue, Great Britain 1d., black, Mexico, Bavaria, Uruguay,

Transvaal, old Egyptian, old Swiss, Turkey, provisional Orange Free State, Peru, Tunis, Denmark (fire r. b. s. and others, all obsolete), Spain, Porto Rico, Canada, Chili, old Tasmania, old Japan, 15 and 25 sen., Indian Telegraphs, Siam, Oldenburg, Brazil, Sarawak, and others rare. This packet contains no stamps of the present issue, and is well worth 10/-. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 9.—The Five Shilling Packet of Foreign Stamps contains 100 varieties (used and unused), including Guatemala, Cape of Good Hope, Ottoman Empire, set of 4 Spain official (3, 1, and 4 onzas, and 1 libra), Belgium, India On H.M.S., Sardinia, Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Spain, U.S. Post Office, Russia, Swiss, British Guiana, Swan River, Sweden, Bulgaria, Denmark, South Australia, Mexico, Malta, Tasmania, U.S., Holland, Greece, Italy, Victoria, Chili, Queensland, set of 3 Gibraltar, Porto Rico, Greece 1 l., perf., Argentine ½ cent., Nicaragua, set of 9 Swiss, British Honduras, Sirmoor, &c. All different. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 10.—The Ten Shilling Packet of Used and Unused Stamps contains 100 varieties, all rare and different, including Nepal, Guatemala newsband, Nowanuggar, obsolete Cyprus, Salvador, Ecuador, Java, Philippine Islands, Nevis, Hayti, Tolima 5 c., Azores, Uruguay, Italy, Jheend, Finland, surcharged British Honduras, old Victoria, Newfoundland, Mexico, British Bechuanaaland, British Guiana, unpaid Greece, Deccan, Danish envelope, Nicaragua, Zululand, set of 7 Egypt, rare New Granada, New South Wales O.S., 6 scarce Spanish, Serbia, Honolulu, Ottoman Empire, Ceylon envelope, Porto Rico, provisional Chili, Bermuda, Bamra, Bhopal, Philippine Isles (Infant King), and others scarce. This packet is highly recommended as being well worth 20/-; and if the stamps were bought separately, it would come to over that amount. Post-free, 10/1.

No. 11.—The Guinea Packet of Rare Used and Unused Stamps contains 100 varieties, including provisional Trinidad, Persia, obsolete Japan, Official Mexico, Porto Rico, Antioquia, Ecuador, provisional Ceylon, South African Republic, Java, provisional 1881 British Guiana, New Caledonia, Swaziland, Madeira, Bhopal, surcharged Peru, Sierra Leone, Spanish, Levant, rare Granada Confederation, Gibraltar, Cuba, Argentine Republic, Egypt, South, Peru envelope, Greece unpaid, Guatemala, Faridkot, set of 3 Chili, Surinam, Honolulu, Brazil 1850 and other obsolete issues, Bulgaria, St. Thomas, rare Moldo-Wallachia, Fiji Isles, obsolete Newfoundland, Deccan envelope, Japan newsband, Honduras, British South Africa, British Honduras, set of 4 Nicaragua, set of 3 Philippine (Infant King), Argentine ½ cent., and others equally rare. Some of the stamps in this packet are worth from 1/6 to 2/6 each. Post-free, 21/1.

THE ONLY PACKETS ISSUED THAT ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER.

NOW READY, 1/- EACH, POST-FREE, 1/1, NOS. I., II., III., AND IV. OF

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Rare Used and Unused Foreign Postage Stamps.

Each contains Twenty Varieties, all Warranted Genuine.

No. 30 contains Wadhwan, Azores, provisional Macao, Japan, 2 sen., Cuba, Cyprus (obsolete), Brazil, Sierra Leone, Philippine, provisional Ceylon, Hungary (1875), Roumania, Bavaria 5 pf., India surcharged H.M.S., and other good stamps.

No. 31 contains Hayti, Portuguese India, Egypt (1879), Ecuador, Bechuanaaland, surcharged Martinique, China, Granada Confederation, New South Wales O.S., Nowanuggar, official Italy, Cape of Good Hope, and other good stamps.

No. 32 contains Nicaragua, Zululand, Turkey, New Brazil, Dutch Indies, Bhopal, Swan River, Sweden (unpaid), Bulgaria, Faridkot, Swiss (unpaid), Greece, Jamaica 4d., and other good stamps.

No. 33 contains Curacao, provisional Mauritius, surcharged Peru, Mozambique, Transvaal, India service 2 annas, Straits Settlements, official Sweden, Sandwich Isles, provisional South Australia, Chili, and other good stamps.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

NEW PACKETS OF UNUSED STAMPS.

GREATLY IMPROVED, AND ALL WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 12.—The Sixpenny Packet of Unused Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Siam (Greece, 1 lemon, perf.), Tunis, Monaco, Porto Rico, obsolete 1/2d. Cyprus, and Mauritius 4d. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 13.—The Sixpenny Packet of Local German Stamps contains 10 varieties, all different. Post-free, 6d.

No. 14.—The Two Shilling Packet of French Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties, used and unused, including Obock, Reunion, Morocco, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and others rare. Post-free, 3/1.

No. 15.—The Shilling Packet of Unused Stamps contains 30 varieties, including obsolete 1d. Cyprus, Swaziland, Czernawoda, Newfoundland, Portuguese Indies, Bhopal, Ponta Delgada, rare Egypt envelope, provisional Italy, official Mexico, Holland unpaid letter stamp, Sardinia, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 16.—The Ninepenny Packet of Local Danish Stamps contains 20 varieties, all different. Post-free, 9d.

No. 17.—The Two Shilling Packet of Russian Local Stamps (Government issues) contains 30 varieties, including obsolete and rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 3/1.

No. 18.—The Half-Crown Packet of Unused Stamps contains 40 varieties, including amongst others, Holker, Tolima, Cashmere, Hayti, Jhind, Caracao, surcharged Luxemburg, Hawaii, Deccan envelope, Bulgaria, Macao, Uruguay, Portugal journal, Nicaragua, United States of Colombia, Seruth, Selangor, Zululand, British South Africa, Spain (head of Liberty), provisional South Australia, Nowanuggur, Cyprus, Cuba 1888, Travancore, San Marino, Bechuanaaland, Roumania. Portuguese Indies, Sardinia, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 3/7.

No. 20.—The Five Shilling Packet of Rare Unused Stamps contains 60 varieties, including the following uncut envelopes: Victoria, Canada, and Egypt; also adhesives: Faridkot, rare Siam, Guatemala, British Guiana provisional 1 c., rare provisional Uruguay, North Borneo, Shanghai, Sandwich Isles, provisional Martinique, Alwur, Chamba, obsolete Tolima, Perak, provisional Ceylon, provisional West Australia, Cyprus, Argentine, Mexico Porte de Mar, Granada Confederation, Cashmere service, Brunswick, Bolivia (figure of Justice), Swiss newsband, Chili, Bechuanaaland, Finland, Jhalawar, Porto Rico, Belgium, provisional Norway, Spain, British Honduras, Greece, Azores, and many others. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 21.—The Five Shilling Packet of Russian Local Stamps (Government issues) contains 40 varieties, including many obsolete and rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 22.—The FOUR POUND Packet of Rare UNUSED Stamps contains 500 varieties, including, amongst others, scarce and obsolete Alwur, Angola, Antioquia, scarce Argentine, Azores, Bamra, Bahamas, Bavaria return letter labels, obsolete Belgium, Bernuda, Bhopal, Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, Brunswick, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Cashmere, Ceylon, Chili, Colombia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Faridkot, French Colonies, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, provisional Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Macao, Mauritius, set of 3 Mexico, 1868, Monaco, Mozambique, Newfoundland, set of 4 Nicaragua, Borneo, Nowanuggur, Persia, Peru, Porto Rico Philippine Islands, Poonch, Portuguese Indies, Portugal, Jhind, Roumania, Kussia, St. Thomas, Salvador, San Marino, Servia, Seychelles, Soruth, Spain, Perak, set of Swiss, and unpaid, Tunis, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela, Western Australia, Zululand. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/4.

PACKETS OF NEWSPAPER BANDS,

OFFICIAL AND INTERPOSTAL STAMPS.

No. 24.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 12 varieties, including New South Wales service, Interpostal Egypt, official German and Spanish Stamps, Italian Parcel Post, and Cyprus newspaper bands, India service, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 25.—The Shilling Packet contains 20 varieties, including Luxemburg, Danish and Wurtemberg service, Field Post envelope, Egyptian, German, Japan and Monaco newspaper bands, South Australia newsband and used service, Hungarian, Azores, and Italian newspaper stamps, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 3/1.

No. 26.—The Half-Crown Packet contains 36 varieties, including, amongst others, rare Czernawoda, Victoria and Mexico newsbands, Field Post Envelopes, Japan and Swiss Telegraph, Wurtemberg and French newspaper bands, Old Interpostal Egyptian, set of 3 Local Brunswick envelopes, Dutch newspaper, set of Spanish official, Italian, Swiss, Turkish, and Swedish Unpaid Letter Stamps, official Danish and Mexico, Austrian, German, Indian, and Japanese Telegraph, Nicaragua, 1 c., green, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 3/7.

PACKETS OF GOVERNMENT POST CARDS.

GREATLY IMPROVED, ALL UNUSED, ENTIRE, AND WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 27.—The Sixpenny Packet contains 6 varieties, including obsolete Japan, Perak, Cashmere, obsolete Cyprus, obsolete German Empire, and Roumanian Post Cards. Post-free, 7d.

No. 28.—The Shilling Packet contains 30 varieties, including provisional Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Holland, Surinam, Bulgaria, Danish, Servia, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria 3 pf. Post-free, 3/1.

No. 29.—The Two and Sixpenny Packet contains 30 varieties of Post Cards, including Sandwich Isles, Nicaragua, Greece, Nepal, Guinea, Swiss, Travancore, Wurtemberg 5 pf., Jheend, Hungary, Iceland, Gwalior, and other Post Cards. Post-free, 3/7.

No. 29a.—The Five Shilling Packet contains 36 varieties, including some of the rarest issued; viz., Siam, Macao and Timor, Bulgaria, Chili,

Orange Free State, Grenada, North Borneo, Wurtemberg, Austrian Italy, Dutch and Belgian Reply Cards, Bavarian 6 pf., Luxemburg, Portuguese Indies, Brazil, Norway, Cyprus obsolete, Tasmania, Shanghai 20 cash, set of 5 Austrian Cards with inscriptions in Bohemian, Italian, Ruthemian, Slavonian, and Polish, Gibraltar, International Swiss, Italy, Dutch Indies, Roumania, Chamba, &c. The packet of 36, post-free, 5/2.

No. 30.—100 Post Cards, all different, unused and entire, including many rare and long since obsolete. Post-free, 30/1; abroad, extra.

No. 30a.—The Shilling Packet of Used Post Cards contains 15 varieties, including Hungary, India, Japan, Austria, Canada, Denmark, United States, Victoria, French, German, &c. Post-free, 3/1.

MISCELLANEOUS PACKETS.

No. 40.—30 Newsbands, all different, unused, and entire, and many obsolete. Post-free, 2/7.

- All the following Packets contain Duplicates.
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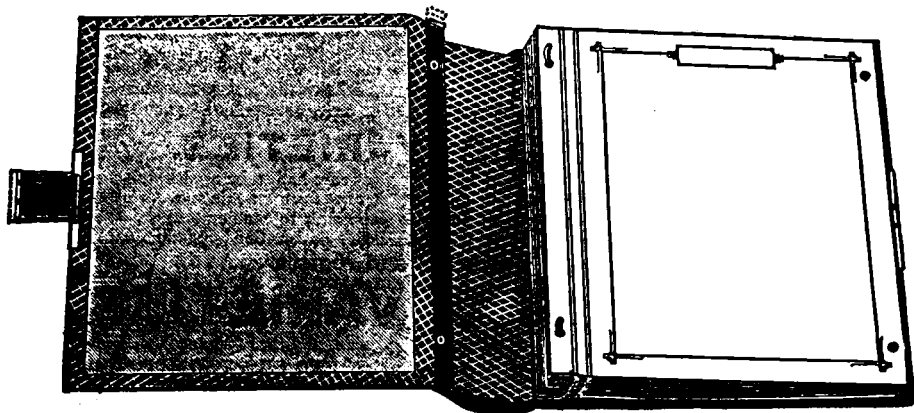
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VOL. IV.

JANUARY 31, 1894.

No. 43.

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EDITORIAL.

OUR kind friend, the Editor of *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, takes us gently—very gently—to task, in his last number, for being over-hard upon our good friends and fellow-workers on the other side of the Channel in the matter of their Colonial issues. Perhaps he is right; at any rate, if he erred at all, he erred most seasonably on the side of peace and goodwill, and if our zeal for philately has led us to "rub in" our views upon this subject, in a manner calculated to cause unnecessary irritation, we can only plead that our intentions were of the very best and soundest description, and eminently suited for those macadamizing purposes to which good intentions are said to be ultimately devoted. At the same time we must not forget the celebrated case of *Eels v. Cook*, in which it was conclusively proved that eels became accustomed after a time to being skinned alive, and that therefore it was more humane to skin them as often as possible until they got used to it—after that it plainly did not matter—than to perform that operation only occasionally.

On the other hand we have always believed that French philatelists, or the majority of them, had as little sympathy with all the unnecessary products of their own too fertile Colonial Post Offices, as English philatelists had with the equally uninteresting productions of the Government printer of Ceylon, for example; and we are very glad to find that such is the case. *L'Union des Philatérophiles* denounces the latest Tahitian monstrosities with an energy which we can only hope to emulate; our contemporary assures us that not only were sufficient stocks of the special Colonial issues sent out nearly a year ago, but at the same time the Colonial authorities were ordered to return all the stamps of the obsolete type on hand, and were most strictly enjoined not to have recourse to surcharges at all. This Tahitian issue

is therefore in open contravention of both those injunctions; we believe that only a portion of a sheet of each value was overprinted, and our *confrère* states plainly that the affair is due to the corruption of an official by some interested person, into whose hands the whole edition has passed. We can only join with him in recommending that the corrupted should be suspended from his office, and the corrupter by the neck!

* * *

TALKING of French Colonies reminds us that we have never yet been able to discover where the Sultanate of Anjouan is situated; we cannot find it in any atlas to which we have access, and even the faithful Whitaker has failed us. M. Moens knows most things, almost everything indeed, but he does not solve this problem. The philatelic birth of Anjouan is of too recent date for its name to appear in the adhesive volume of the catalogue, but in the Post Card portion we find, under letter A, "ANJOUAN (*voir Protectorat d'Anjouan*)."

This raised great hopes, for M. Moens usually gives the continent in which each country or colony is situated—and that would have been better than nothing; but, alas! under letter "P," "Protectorat d'Anjouan" is conspicuous by its absence, and we can find nothing to dispel the belief of a sceptical correspondent that this Protectorate is in the Bois de Boulogne, near the Jardin d'Acclimatation!

* * *

IN the meantime the Unnecessary flourisheth like a sour apple tree. We are personally becoming so confirmed a necessarian that a Somali, in full dress, or a Crocodile, or even an Argus Pheasant with outspread tail, however much it may appeal to our taste for the fine arts, is unto us, philatelically, even as a camel in a triangular frame; and we are of opinion that a Philatelic Protection clause should be enforced by the Postal Union, forbidding the issue of any stamps that are sufficiently beautiful to tempt philatelists to collect them for that reason alone. Shanghai—well the Shanghai stamps are confessedly *Locals*, although an attempt was once made to disguise that fact by transforming the inscription into "SHANGHAIL P. O.," and those who collect *Locals* know what to expect. Still, after rejoicing over the prospect of being able to

celebrate the Local Jubilee at the small cost of a Two Cents stamp, it is rather a shock to the Shanghai Localist to find himself saddled with an entire issue of Adhesives, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards, and Letter Cards—the Postage Due Stamps are not in it, for some unknown reason—adorned with an overprint or surcharge (we would suggest the word “overcharge,” as an ingenious combination of the two, and eminently suitable). It is true that this is still a Free Country, to a certain limited extent, and that no collector is absolutely compelled to invest in these things; but suppose he is a Specialist, and therefore morally bound to have every variety, including surcharges in all possible positions, and with the most improbable errors of omission and commission. In that case we can only recommend him not to specialize in Shanghai, or French Colonies, or Straits Settlements, or Ceylon, or—in fact anything except match-box labels and cotton-reel-tops—and in the meantime to join the Society of Philatelic Necessarians, and not to include anything in his collection that he does not feel inclined to!

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Antioquia.—We give an illustration of the new 10 c. stamp, which we chronicled last month.

Argentine Republic.—*The American Journal of Philately* describes an imperforate pair of the 60 centavos of 1890. *Le Timbre-Poste* tells us that the current 5 c. envelope, size 148 × 117 mm., has the stamp impressed in vermilion, instead of carmine; and *Der Philatelist* chronicles what we gather is the other size of the envelope, with tongued flap, instead of plain.

Adhesive. 60 c., black; variety, imperf.
Envelope. 5 c., carmine on straw: 153 × 88 mm. (?); tongued flap.
5 c., vermilion " 148 × 117 mm.



Austria.—*Le T. P.* gives full particulars of a series of Unpaid Letter Labels, which are to be put in circulation on February 1st. All the values are to be printed in the same colour, but we gather that the figures denoting the value are to be impressed separately from the rest of the design, and in a deeper shade.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.
1 kr., brown. | 10 kr., brown.
3 " " | 20 " "
5 " " | 50 " "

Belgium.—The 5 c. card with the non-delivery stamp duly made its appearance on the 15th December, and we may venture to chronicle the other cards, which, we doubt not, will be equally punctually issued on February 1st. We are informed, however, that these ingenious labels, with their coupons, have caused so much trouble and confusion, both to the P. O. Department and the public, that it is not improbable that the whole series will shortly be withdrawn, and that it is possible that another fresh set of stamps will be issued. The plates of the other recent issues have never

been very satisfactory. Innumerable minor varieties of type can be found. Mr. J. K. Schuh kindly sends us the 2 c., chocolate, with the first “E” of “BELGIQUE” an outline letter, and the 5 c., green, of similar type, in which the “C” of “CENTIME” has the appearance of an “E.”

Post Cards. 5 c., green on buff.
5 + 5 c. " "
10 c., orange on azure.
10 + 10 c. " "

Bermuda.—*Le T. P.* announces the permanent 1d. cards, single and reply paid, in the usual type.

Post Cards. 1d., carmine on buff.
1d. + 1d. " "

Boer Republic.—A correspondent in South Africa points out to us that this title is a wholly incorrect one for the State which was absorbed by the Transvaal a few years ago, and that the official designation was New Republic. Our informant kindly sends us the following extract from the *Staats Courant*, or *Government Gazette* of the Transvaal, in which the absorption was announced: “The agreement, whereby the union of the Transvaal (South African Republic) with the New Republic was effected was signed by Mr. S. J. P. Kruger, State President, and W. Eduard Bok, as State Secretary of the Transvaal, and by Lukas J. Meyer, President, and Ph. R. Spies, Chairman of the New Republic. The agreement was signed at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal, in September, 1887.” We quite agree with our correspondent in thinking that the name of this defunct republic should be restored to its proper place in the alphabet, and we propose henceforth to term it “New South African Republic.”

British Bechuanaland.—Messrs. Cameron & Co. send us what appears to be a new edition of the 1d. Cape of Good Hope surcharged with the name of this territory, in two lines, vertically. The words now run from top to bottom, instead of from bottom to top, and the distance between them appears to us to be slightly greater than before—it measures from 5 mm. to 5½ mm. on the specimens before us.

Adhesive. 1d., carmine-rose; black surcharge.

Bulgaria.—*Der Ph.* chronicles the 10 stotinki in vermilion, instead of carmine, and on very thin paper.

Adhesive. 10 st., vermilion on thin paper; perf. 11.

Canada.—Mr. D. A. King informs us that the Canadian Pacific Railway employs a sheet stamped with the current 1 cent wrapper die, upon which is printed the monthly statement of receipts and expenditure for transmission to shareholders; the paper is bluish grey, but this is hardly an official variety, though it is well that its existence should be noted.

Cashmere.—A correspondent sends us the following cutting from an Indian paper, but we fancy that the prohibition alluded to will only throw the business entirely into the hands of the native Post-office:

“The British Post-office at Srinagar is so distracted with innumerable appeals that come in from all parts of India, asking for specimens of the Cashmere State postage stamps, that it has been found necessary to prohibit the Postmaster from attending to any applications of this kind in future.”

It is perhaps interesting to note, in connection with a discussion which is being carried on in another place, that the name is still commonly spelled with a “C” out there, though we believe that the full official designation used in the State itself is “Jamu and Kashmir.”

Ceylon.—A correspondent sends us a specimen of the 3 c. card surcharged “TWO CENTS,” with something resembling a comma after the word “CENTS.” The mark, however, seems to us to be an accidental smear of some kind; it is not a clear comma, and it is below the level of the letters.

Divers of our contemporaries announce the new 2 c. card in black on white. We have only seen it in blue. Does it exist in black also?

Chamba.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* describes the 1 anna, both ordinary and Service, with the error “CHMABA,” previously chronicled on the 1 rupee.

Adhesive. 1 anna, black and brown; error “CHMABA.”
Service Stamp. 1 " " " " " "

Chefoo.—We give illustrations showing the designs both of the stamps and the watermark described in November. We have received information from three correspondents at Shanghai, relative both to the stamps as issued, and to those surcharged "Postage Due," to which we referred last month. Two of them kindly give us the numbers of the various values forming the first supply sent out, as follows:



- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| ½ c., 15,800. | 5 c., 12,760. |
| 1 c., 36,120. | 10 c., 17,240. |
| 2 c., 33,160. | |

All are in sheets of forty, five horizontal rows of eight. The ½ c., we are told, were at once sold out, and the 5 c. were stated to be nearly exhausted; fresh supplies of both were ordered, and it seemed possible that the colours were to be changed. In fact, we gather that the first issue was so great a financial success that some of those interested were anxious to bring out an entirely new one at once. However, there is a proverb about killing the goose that lays the golden eggs, which would apply to such a case as this, and we trust that wiser counsels will prevail.

The history of the stamps overprinted "Postage Due" appears to be this: A die with these words engraved upon it was issued to the Post-office, to be used upon letters, &c., on which postage had to be collected. Some person in the office, through ignorance or excess of zeal, applied this die to a number of ½, 1, 2, and 5 cents stamps, and sold some of these to persons interested in philately. This not being the object for which the die was intended, and no such overprinted stamps having been in any way authorized, the Post Committee, as soon as the circumstance came to their knowledge, very properly issued the notice which we published last month, and did all in their power to prevent collectors being victimized by means of these curiosities. One of our correspondents tells us that on the 16th October he went to the Post-office at Chefoo to get some stamps, and that, as he was leaving, the Post-mistress told him that there was an issue of "Postage Due" stamps, and asked if he did not want some. He naturally replied that he did, and he was then shown some sheets of the stamps, roughly overprinted, as described above. He bought some, and did not return them when the circular was issued; and he asks us: "Can an issue of stamps, after being issued at a regular recognized public P.O., and in exchange for the legal currency, be declared valueless to collectors by the Secretary of the P.O., simply because he (the Secretary) had not been consulted, and had not authorized it?"

Our answer must be that the Secretary of a Post-office has nothing whatever to do with what is or is not of value to collectors, but he can warn collectors and the general public against varieties, the preparation and sale of which was entirely unauthorized; and our opinion in this instance is that the stamps in question, which practically have been obliterated (without being used) with a die intended for quite another purpose, are of no philatelic interest whatever.

Chili.—*Le T.P.* assures us that no 5 pesos postage stamp has been issued, but that there is a telegraph stamp of that value which has probably been chronicled under the wrong heading.

Congo.—Mr. Schuh informs us that the 25 and 50 francs stamps, which we chronicled in June, and struck out in July on the authority of Mons. Van Riet, certainly exist, and that they were printed at the same time as the 5 francs, grey. He states, however, that they have never been sent out to the Congo, and that he is not sure whether they are intended for postal or for fiscal use.

Costa Rica.—The publishers of *The A.J.P.* state that they have found in their stock a sheet of the 2 c. of 1889, imperforate, and another perforated vertically only. Accidents of this kind will happen, but one could wish that they remained undiscovered.

Adhesive. 2 c., green; imperf. and partly perf.

Ecuador.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles another of the oblong telegraph stamps used postally.

Adhesive. 40 c., oblong, blue; telegraph stamp.

Egypt.—*La Revue Philatelique* announces a 2 piastres card, with stamp of the current type on the upper right, and a Sphinx and a Pyramid in a circle on the upper left. The value seems high for a card, we should rather have expected one of 3 millimes.

Post Card. 2 piastres, brick-red (on buff?).

France.—It does not appear likely that the proposed abolition of surcharging in the colonies will cause any serious loss of revenue to the French Post-office.



The mother country is following with avidity the bad example set by her children, and we presume that before long every French Post-office in the Levant and elsewhere will have a set of stamps of its own. The latest arrivals are from Vathy, in Samos, which is provided with a set resembling those of Cavalle, &c., and from Zanzibar, for which place, as we learn from *La Gazette Timbrologique*, the stamps have their values translated into Indian currency.

We have at last received one of the Unpaid Letter Stamps in its new colour; we do not know whether the whole series has appeared.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 10 c., brown.

Vathy.

Adhesives. 5 c., green; red surcharge. 10 c., black on lilac; blue surcharge. 15 c., blue; red surcharge.

"1 Piastre 1" on 25 c., black on rose; blue surcharge.

"2 Piastres 2" on 50 c., rose

"4 Piastres 4" on 1 fr., bronze-green; red "

Zanzibar (colour of surcharge not stated).

Adhesives. ½ anna on 5 c., green.

1 " on 10 c., black on lilac.

2½ annas on 25 c., black on rose.

5 " on 50 c., rose.

10 " on 1 fr., bronze-green.

Gold Coast.—*The Ph. J. of G. B.* announces the Registration Envelope with the new type of stamp, as recently issued at home, but with the old formula, and the name of the colony measuring 63 mm.

Reg. Env. ad., black and blue; size G; new stamp.

Guatemala.—Mr. Schuh informs us that the 5 c., like some other purple stamps, turns blue by exposure to the sun, and he kindly sends us specimens, both with the wide and the narrow figure, which owe their blue tint to such exposure. We may strike the 5 c., blue, off the list.

Holkar.—We are indebted to Mr. Seymour Summers for specimens of an envelope and a post card prepared for this State by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Limited. The stamp, in the right upper corner of each, is of the type of the small adhesives, but surface-printed, instead of copperplate. In the upper centre of the card is a device showing a Horse and a Buffalo, with a Spear and what looks like a Club crossed between them, apparently worshipping the Sun, over which is suspended a kind of extinguisher or smoke-consumer! To right of this is "HOLKAR STATE—POST CARD," in two lines, and to left two lines of inscription in Indian characters, a third line of which runs across below these. Four lines for the address, the last a very short one, complete the formula for the card, the impression of which is on lilac paste-board, coloured on one side only. The envelope is of thin, white wove paper, with plain pointed upper and lower flaps.

Envelope. ½ a., lilac-brown on white; 124 × 96 mm.

Post Card. ½ a., orange on lilac, reverse white; 125 × 86 mm.

Holland.—We give an illustration of the new 2½ gulden stamp, which we chronicled last month.



Hongkong.—We have been shown a curious variety, in which we have no belief. It consists of the large rectangular fiscal, 25 c., green, surcharged "20 CENTS," in black, and bearing what is plainly intended to be a postmark. We suspect that both surcharge and obliteration are fraudulent, but should be glad to know whether any of our readers have met with a similar curiosity.

Italy.—We have received the reply-paid card, which we chronicled from hearsay last month. It is slightly wider, and considerably deeper than the card previously in use, measuring 140 x 90 mm., instead of 139 x 80 mm. The top line of inscription on the first half is longer, 79 mm., instead of 73 mm.; the second line is "(Cent. 15.," instead of "(CENT. 15.);"; the inscription on the left has "della presente" inserted after "anteriore"; the flags are very greatly reduced in size; and the line after "Provincia di" is dotted. On the second half an ornament is inserted above the word "RISPOSTA," and the inscription on left and line at bottom correspond with the first half. Finally, both halves are dated "93," not "90."

Liberia.—Mr. Hayman kindly informs us that the registration envelopes are to be done away with when the present stock is exhausted, and are being replaced by registration stamps, of which the following is a description: The shape is a narrow oblong, 55 x 20 mm.; at the left a large letter "R" on a disc of engine-turned pattern, enclosed in a square frame with large rosettes at the corners; to right of this is an oblong label with the name of one of the four counties, into which Liberia is divided, at the top; "REGISTERED" at the bottom; and a lined space, headed "No —," in the middle. The impression of this design is in colour on coloured paper, and above and below the "R" is added, in black, "10 CENTS 10." The provisional Postage Due stamps are replaced by a permanent issue, the design of which consists of an oval band, inscribed "POSTAGE DUE" above, and "REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA" below; the space inside the oval is filled with a ground of network, upon which is printed, in black, the value — large numerals above the word "CENTS." The registration stamps appear to be lithographed, and are on unwmkd. paper; the Postage Due are copper-plate printed, and have the same wmk. as the ordinary adhesives, as shown in the annexed illustration. The value on both appears to be typographed, and the perforation varies from 14½ to 15. Our second illustration shows the provisional 5 c. stamp, previously described.



Registration Labels.

- 10 c., black and blue on rose; "BUCHANAN."
- 10 c., black and green on buff; "HARPER."
- 10 c., black and red on yellow; "MONROVIA."
- 10 c., black and red on blue; "ROBERTSPORT."

Postage Due Stamps.

- 2 c., black and orange on straw.
- 4 c., black and carmine on rose.
- 6 c., black and brown on buff.
- 8 c., black and blue on blue.
- 10 c., black and green on pink.
- 20 c., black and violet on grey.
- 40 c., black and olive-brown on greenish.

Lourenço Marquez.—A 2½ reis stamp, of the general colonial type, is stated to have been issued for this place; the *Boersen Courier* seems to be the original authority for this statement, which we have traced through divers of our contemporaries.

Adhesive. 2½ reis, brown.

Mexico.—Our correspondent, Mr. Chapman, sends us various items of information, together with several extraordinary varieties of the Wells, Fargo & Co. envelopes; these latter consist of one copy with only half of a 20 c. stamp at the right hand side, another with a still smaller portion of a 10 c. in the right lower corner; a 10 c. with the upper part of the stamp missing, owing to the pad underneath the die having slipped out of place; the same value with the vignette inverted in the right lower corner, below the stamp, and another with two stamps impressed, one partly over the other; and finally three with albino impressions of the stamps, one 20 c. and two 10 c. All these misprints, &c., we doubt not are of the greatest rarity, some of them we hope and believe are unique, but we cannot feel that they are of any particular philatelic interest.

The Express Hidalgo and the Express Nacional are, as we supposed, private companies doing a similar letter-carrying business to that of Wells, Fargo & Co., and we can only hope that they will not develop philatelic proclivities. There have been three editions of the envelopes with the vignette of the Express Hidalgo, as described last month. We gather that the first of these had the vignette in blue, and the second in olive-brown, we have both of these before us on pale buff, size 152 x 90 mm., while the current edition has it in black.

A more interesting novelty than any of the above, in our humble opinion, is a variety of the 2 c. card with the small Condor at the top. This has all the other Postal Union inscriptions, but the words "CARTE POSTALE" are omitted, and "TARJETA POSTAL" is printed in the centre.

Post Card. 2 c., carmine and green; variety.

In reference to the letter which we quoted in November on the subject of the Chalco stamp, Mr. Chapman tells us that the signature should be "Miguel Vargas," and that this gentleman is still the Chief *Administrador* of the Postal Division of Puebla. There is also an error in our translation of the letter—"Ordered them to be put in use" should read, "Ordered that they should at once cease to be used"—and we agree with our correspondent in thinking that the correct translation affords even stronger evidence in favour of the stamps having been actually in circulation.

Natal.—A correspondent very kindly sends us a specimen of the 1d. card, with the value altered to ½d. by covering the word "PENNY" with a brown slab. *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* states that the inscriptions on the 1d. cards, single and double, have been altered by the addition of the words "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE" along the top, and by placing the name above the Arms, instead of below.

The *London Philatelist* describes a curious variety of the "One Penny" on 6d., violet, of 1877, without the surcharge "POSTAGE." We presume that the colour, &c., of the stamp itself preclude the possibility of its being one of the earlier stamps with a forged surcharge of "One Penny."

Adhesive. 1d., in black, on 6d., violet; without "POSTAGE."

Post Cards. ½d (1d.—1d.), brown on buff.

1d., carmine on buff; new variety.

1d.+1d. " "

A collector in Pietermaritzburg sends us a copy of some correspondence between himself and the Postmaster-General of this colony, which took place in the first half of last year. We are glad to gather therefrom that the issue of reprints of obsolete stamps of Natal has been put a stop to; but we much regret to learn that, during the previous twelve months, unknown quantities of reprints of the 1d., 3d., 6d., and 9d. stamps of the first issue were struck off by the Commissioners of Stamps and sold, and that our correspondent believes that it is practically impossible to distinguish these recent reprints from unused originals. He is still investigating the matter, and we await the result before saying more upon the subject.

New Caledonia.—The *Ph. J. of G. B.* reports that the 2 c. of the type of France, 1876, has received the diagonal surcharge of the name of this colony. It is extraordinary to see little hoards of these stamps turning up whenever a fresh surcharge takes place.

Adhesive. 2 c., brown, imperf; black surcharge.

North Borneo.—The company which rules over the destinies of this territory has taken a leaf out of the *Liberian* book, and has provided itself with a series of stamps, engraved and printed in the finest style of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Limited, which we may safely say are the most beautiful things of the kind that have yet been issued. The accompanying illustrations, which give but a very imperfect idea of the magnificent execution of these little works of art, render a detailed description unnecessary, and we need only





state that the central device in each case, except upon the 3 c. and 24 c., is in *black*, and the rest of the design in the second colour given in the list below. The engraving is *taille-douce*, the colours are skilfully chosen, and the paper is white wove and unwatermarked.

It will be noticed that the title is altered to "State of North Borneo," and we learn from *The L. P.* that there are higher values, up to 25 dollars, of similar types to the 25 c., &c., hitherto in use, but with the new designation. We can but applaud the wisdom of the administration in employing the new types solely for those values for which there is likely to be a ready sale among collectors. If they would accept our advice, we should suggest their strictly confining the issue of these to their London office. The old types are quite good enough for use, and it would be a pity to disfigure the new ones with a postmark!

Adhesives.

- 1 cent, black and yellow-brown; *perf.* 14.
- 2 cents, black and carmine " 15.
- 3 " olive-green and lilac " 15.
- 5 " black and vermilion " 15.
- 6 " black and olive-brown " 14.
- 8 " black and dull lilac " 14.
- 12 " black and blue " 14.
- 18 " black and deep green " 15.
- 24 " blue and dull lake " 15.
- 25 " large rect., dull slate.
- 50 " violet.
- 1 dollar " vermilion.
- 2 dollars " green.
- 5 " very large rect., violet.
- 10 " " dull brown.
- 25 " " " dark blue.

Norway.—We have seen the 4 öre Unpaid Letter Stamp which we chronicled in November, and find that the colour is rather *magenta*, than *violet*.

Obock.—We have received the 5 fr. stamp of striking design and inconvenient shape, which we chronicled in October, and we have with it a 2 fr. stamp of the same design, but smaller dimensions, the side of the triangle

measuring 32½ mm., instead of 45 mm. Both are outlined with imitation perforation, and are upon paper with a more or less invisible *quadrille* pattern.

Adhesive. 2 fr., slate-green; *imperf.*

Persia.—We have received from a correspondent in Teheran some notes, together with a photographic reproduction of various fraudulent varieties, with forged surcharges, &c., most of which are attributed to Major Mottes, to whom we alluded in November in noticing Mr. Schüller's book on the subject. Our Berlin correspondent also has some remarks upon this matter, to which we would draw our readers' attention.

Portugal.—A Portuguese collector has very kindly furnished us with some information, of which we gladly avail ourselves. He assures us that the Government is not printing fresh editions of its obsolete stamps for the purpose of surcharging them, but he does not doubt that all the values of the new issue will be brought out before the old stocks are exhausted, and that we may expect surcharged varieties of the whole set. We may add that, from an examination of several specimens, we find that the surcharge of the date "1893," with or without an alteration of value, was added to stamps which had already been surcharged "PROVISORIO," which seems to show that the production of fresh varieties was the principal object.

The rumoured celebration issue is proposed in honour of the centenary of the Infante Enriquez, a celebrated Portuguese navigator, and our informant believes that an entire series, from 2½ reis to 1000 reis, of a special design, will be unloaded upon collectors early in March next. This speculation, however, is not promoted by the Government, which is to receive only a sum equal to that produced by the sale of stamps during the corresponding period last year, but by a Committee, which proposes to erect a monument, and otherwise commemorate the navigator, at the expense of the much-enduring philatelist.

The perforations of the current stamps vary from 11½ to 13. Perhaps some of our enthusiastic gaugers will take the matter up.

We have reason to believe that the surcharges, "1893" and "PROVISORIO," upon the 10 reis, *green*, are in *carmine*, not in *black* as announced in October.

Porto Rico.—It appears that Columbus is supposed to have visited this place on November 19, 1493, and a stamp was naturally issued to celebrate the 400th anniversary. The design is shown in the accompanying illustration.



Adhesive.
3 c. de peso, green.

Portuguese Congo.—*The Ph. J. of G. B.* announces a 2½ reis, of the now well-known type, bearing the name of this Colony. *Adhesive.* 2½ reis, brown.

Puttialla.—A correspondent tells us of a specimen of the ½ a., on which the second letter of the name surcharged appears to be "J," instead of "U"; but this we must suppose is an imperfect, or imperfectly printed letter. *The Postal Card* describes a variety of the ½ + ½ a. card, on the first half of which there is a space between the third and fourth letters of the name, thus "PUT TIALLA." The card is stated to be of the *small* size, and *perf.* along the fold, a variety of the Indian card which we have not yet met with.

Queensland.—A correspondent in this colony sends us a number of notes upon its stamps, with special reference to our publishers' catalogue. In regard to the varieties described as *perf.* 9 x 13, he assures us that there has never been a machine in the colony which produced a *perf.* 9, or anything near it, and he suggests that stamps with large margins may have had the original perforations cut off and a fraudulent perforation, gauging 9, applied to them. We have never seen any specimens of these stamps, so cannot say whether this is probable or the contrary. Two machines are in use in Queensland, one of them perforates one row of holes only at a time, and is used now for the large-sized stamps—2s. to £1; the gauge is 12. The other perforates the top and bottom and one side of twelve stamps at once,

and the gauge of this is 13. There is also an old single line machine of 13 gauge, not now used, which our correspondent thinks may have produced the square perforations of 1864, as the needles are believed to have been sharpened from time to time by filing.

The watermark in large script capitals consisted of the words "Elector's right," the paper used being some upon which was formerly printed the claim of an elector to have a vote. The letters are very large, and it has been impossible, by examination of the stamps, to ascertain what the entire inscription was. The sheets with the short-pointed Star are wmkd., he states, with the word "POSTAGE" only, but this, we think, must be a mistake, as we have certainly seen all the letters of the word "QUEENSLAND" in specimens of these stamps. He adds that the word only appears in three rows out of twelve, and even so does not cover a whole row, so that only about one stamp in six shows a letter.

Our correspondent also sends us the following varieties which are not included in our publishers' catalogue:—

- 1s., purple, Type 2066 (the early type), with network across the back.
- 2s., Type 2068, in pale red, with L.A. joined.
- 2s., brown; a deeper shade than before.
- 2s., 6d., Type 2070, scarlet; no wmk.
- 10s., Type 2069, brown; no wmk.
- 1d., " 2068, rose-red; L.A. joined (A without bar).

The 2s., Type 2069, is no longer in use, and that value of Type 2068 is printed in a deeper shade, as given above; the wrapper with a 1d. stamp is unknown in the colony, and we fancy this was originally chronicled in error.

Reunion.—Our publishers send us a provisional stamp which they believe belongs to this island, though there is nothing to show its origin. It is the 20 c. of the general colonial issue, surcharged with a tall, narrow figure "2," 5½ mm. high, and a small "c." on a level with the top of the figure.

Adhesive. 2 c., in black, on 20 c., red on green.

Roumania.—The Ph. R. informs us that the two high values, of which we now give an illustration, are wmkd. with the letters "P. R." We gather from a scientific contemporary that an alteration has been made in the expression of the name on the current 10 bani cards. We are not quite clear that this is the case, and it is with fear and trembling that we venture to suggest that the description given is not quite so explicit as it might be. It runs:

'Messrs. — send us the current 10 c. card with the word Roumania spelt with a final "e." For "10 c." we may probably read 10 bani, but the word Roumania is always spelt with a final "e" on these cards, or rather the English name is not used at all, but either the native *Romania*, or the French *Roumanie*.

The latest 10 bani card, as chronicled and illustrated in *Le T. P.* a few months ago, bore "Romania." Has this now been changed to "Roumanie"?

Russia.—*Le T. P.* chronicles an unstamped card, with Arms on left, one line of heading, six lines for the address, two lines of instructions, and impression in black like the formula of the 3 kop. card of 1884. The specimen was used in July of that year.

Post Card. No value, black on buff (1884).

Russian Locals.

Belazersk.—The type which we chronicled last May in blue has now reached us in a new colour.

Adhesive. 2 kop., rose-red.

Biejetsk.—*Le T. P.* chronicles a deluge of varieties, some of which have reached ourselves also. The circular type is



stated to have been a provisional one, which perhaps accounts for the fact of its having been printed upon one variety of paper only.

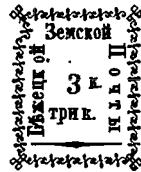
Adhesive. 3 kop., circular, black on rose.

Next came the second type given above, which is that of which we chronicled one variety last month.

Adhesives. 3 kop., black on pale rose, red, grey, pale blue.

And this has in turn been superseded by the two types which follow, and which are printed together—six varieties of the smaller type and five of the larger—upon divers coloured papers, which we are able to describe from personal inspection.

3 kop., black on rose, blue, rose-granite, grey-granite (small).
3 " " " " " " (large).



Fatejh.—*Le T. P.* tells us of some more varieties of the envelopes. The stamp—the value of which is, we believe, only indicated by the colour—remains the same, and the paper is white laid. A few coloured papers would vary the monotony a little, but perhaps there is not sufficient demand for these to justify such extravagance.

- Envelopes. (4 kop.), black-blue; 143 x 114 mm.; stamp on right.
- (6 ") vermilion " " inverted.
- (4 ") black-blue; 141 x 80 mm. " "
- (6 ") vermilion " " "

Morschansk.—We have received a stamp of a new design from this fertile locality. The Arms are enclosed in a circular inscribed band; there is a further inscription on an arched scroll above, and the value in words on a label below, all within a rectangular frame, with a numeral in a circle in each corner.

Adhesive. 5 kop., red and blue; perf. about 11.

Ochansk.—*Le T. P.* chronicles a new variety, the beauties of which our readers will be able to understand from the accompanying illustration.

Adhesive. 2 kop., yellow-green on white bâtonné; perf. 11½.



Schadrinsk.—We have a new type from here also, showing in a central oval the Bear and Windmill of the province of Perm above the Fox of the village of Schadrinsk; above this is the name on a horse-shoe label. The value is given in words on four small scrolls at top, bottom, and sides, and in figures in circles in the corners. The Arms and inscriptions are in blue, the numerals in green, and there is a background of crossed lines in red.

Adhesive. 3 kop., blue, green, and red; perf. 11½.

Tichvin.—We have a more gorgeous stamp than ever from this place, oblong in shape, about 40 x 28 mm. A golden Sun shines from the centre above upon the word *zemstvo*, in silver, which surmounts a golden Crown and a Book. A wreath of green leaves springs from below the book, and comes up on each side; there are inscriptions and dates—"1773, 1864, 1893"—in black on a ground of red rays, and the whole is enclosed in a gold frame, with the value partly enframed in silver in each corner.

Adhesive. 5 kop., black, green, red, silver and gold; perf. 10.

St. Vincent.—We give an illustration of the stamp upon the Registration Envelopes which we chronicled in October.



Senegal.—*La G. T.* states that the two provisional stamps of this colony, which has been singularly modest in its philatelic supplies so far, were first overprinted with the values in black; it was then thought necessary to add the name, so this was applied in red, but after 50 of the lower value and 150 of the higher

had been thus ornamented it was found that the red ink was not satisfactory, and the rest were disfigured in black. We have therefore to add to our list:

Adhesives. 75 c., in black, on 15 c., blue; name in red.
1 fr. " on 5 c., green " "

Seychelles.—*Le T. P.* announces the following adhesives, of the current type, replacing the surcharged provisionals, also 6 c. post cards, single and reply-paid.

Adhesives. 3 c., violet-brown, value in orange.
12 c., brown-grey " green.
15 c., olive " lilac.
45 c., brown " carmine.

Post Cards. 6 c., blue on buff.
6+6 c. " "

Shanghai.—We have received a specimen of the 2 c. Jubilee stamp, and find that it differs slightly in type from the proof or essay from which our illustration was taken, the figure of Mercury being upon a ground of rays, and there being much less shading about the portions surrounding the oval. We greatly regret to learn that the authorities, not content to celebrate the occasion by the issue of a special stamp, or perhaps encouraged by its success (for we hear that there was the usual crowding and excitement at the Post-office), decided to issue on December 11th the whole current series of ordinary stamps, envelopes, &c., with a Jubilee surcharge. It seems to be about time to transfer Shanghai to the Black List. We chronicle these goods, but cannot recommend them. We have seen the Post and Letter Cards, which are disfigured with the dates "1843—1893," and the word "Jubilee," in red.

The Amer. Jour. of Phil. chronicles varieties of the provisional envelope and wrapper, inscribed "POSTAGE 1 CENT" and "POSTAL NEWSPAPER WRAPPER," respectively.

Adhesives.

½ c., black and orange, with Jubilee surcharge.
1 c., black and brown " "
2 c., black and red " "
5 c., black and blue " "
10 c., black and green " "
15 c., black and yellow " "
20 c., black and lilac " "

Envelopes.

1 c., black on white; variety of inscription.
1 c., black and brown; with Jubilee surcharge.
2 c., black and red " "
5 c., black and blue " "

Wrappers.

½ c., black on white; variety of inscription.
½ c., black and orange; with Jubilee surcharge.
1 c., black and brown " "
2 c., black and red " "

Post Cards.

1 c., brown on white; with Jubilee surcharge in red.
2 c., violet " "

Letter Card.

1 c., brown on blue; with Jubilee surcharge in red.

Sierra Leone.—*Le T. P.* reports that this colony has been provided with ½d. cards, with stamp of the type of the current adhesives, and the usual Arms and inscriptions.

Post Cards. ½d., green on buff.
½+½d. " "

South Australia.—The scissors of our philatelic ancestors are much wanted here, a little clipping would greatly simplify matters. *The Ph. R.* chronicles the 2d. of current type, wmk. *Star*, with a hitherto unknown combination of horizontal perforation and vertical rouletting; the specimen was used as early as August, 1869; also the 6d. with the new gauge. It is some consolation to learn that the 1d. has not been re-engraved, and that the apparent differences of type are due to imperfections of printing, or to fair wear and tear of the plates.

Adhesives. 2d., orange; wmk. *Star*; perf. 1½ and rouletted.
6d., blue; wmk. *Crown and SA*; perf. 15.

Spain.—We have received a specimen of a Frank stamp, the design of which is shown in the accompanying illustration, issued, we understand, for the use of the Army engaged at Melilla. The inscriptions and outlines of the design are in black, the Arms, flags, lions, &c., are in carmine and yellow. The specimen before us is used by the side of an ordinary 15 c. adhesive, and therefore apparently did not fully frank the letter bearing it.

Frank Stamp. No value, black, carmine, and yellow; imperf.



Straits Settlements.—*Perak.* *Le T. P.* chronicles 1 c. cards, with stamp of the Tiger type, and Arms and inscriptions as upon our Colonial cards.

Post Cards. 1 c., green on buff.
1+1 c. " "

Surinam.—*Le T. P.* states that the 12½ c., brown, recently described, is an essay, obliterated and sold "par les faussaires de Londres, trop connus." Perfidious Albion has been at it again!

Tahiti.—*L'Union des Timbrophiles* assures us that the latest surcharges, of which we gave a long list in our last number, are purely speculative, having been printed for a dealer. We do not doubt this statement, neither do we vouch for its accuracy, but it sounds extremely probable.

Tonga.—*The L. P.* publishes the following statistics relating to the provisional 4d. and 8d. of 1892:

4d. on 1d., 12,720 printed, 6,660 sold.
8d. on 2d., 3,360 " 2,640 "

It seems to be uncertain whether the remainders have been destroyed, or whether they are still for sale.

We have received a 10d. of the official issue, formed from the 1s. by means of a surcharge of large figures, sideways.

Official Stamp. 10d., in black, on 1s., blue and red.

Tunis.—We are sorry to learn from *La G. T.* that the stamps of the first issue have been reprinted, and are supplied at the Post-office at Tunis; but not, we gather, for use, as there is a window specially devoted to their sale.

United States.—*The L.P.* describes a variety of the 6 c. Columbiad "printed in dull blue instead of purple or noted" (?). Probably this is one of the purples that will not stand exposure to the light. The word "noted" is doubtless an effort at originality on the part of the printer, which escaped the eye of the proof reader.

Uruguay.—A correspondent informs us that three different imitations have been discovered of the obliterating mark, employed for three days in October, 1892, as a harmless method of celebrating the Columbus centenary. As we remarked at the time, we do not collect postmarks, and we therefore feel but a limited amount of interest in this piece of news.

Victoria.—*The Ph. R.* chronicles a new edition of the current 1d. card. The Arms are larger, there is no Lion on the top of the Crown, and the motto is divided into two portions, "DIEU ET—MON DROIT," instead of three, "DIEU—ET MON—DROIT."

Post Card. 1d., orange-brown on straw; Arms of new type.

Wurtemberg.—We have received a new value of the current type, and *Le T.P.* chronicles a 3 pf. card for ordinary use, replacing the 5 pf. card, which it resembles in all other respects than the value and colour.

Adhesive. 2 pf., slate-grey.
Post Card. 3 pf., brown on buff.

BERLIN LETTER.

PHILATELIC writers have been busy in Germany during the last two months of the past year. Three important books made their appearance—two on German postage stamps, and one treating of the stamps of Persia. This last has already been referred to in the *Monthly Journal*; it is of special interest to German philatelists, inasmuch as it openly accuses the largest philatelic association in the world [the Dresden Philatelic Society] of having aided the propagation of the forgeries sold by a certain Major Mottes. In 1891 the late Mr. Larisch, of Munich, warned collectors against a great swindle in Persian stamps, emanating from Mottes. The latter, then being a member of the Dresden Society, sent an official document to the committee, upon which the alleged forgeries were pasted, and in which they were declared genuine by the postal administration of Persia, and in consequence of this evidence the Dresden Society excluded Mr. Larisch. But this gentleman did not rest, he wrote a pamphlet revealing the real state of things, but unfortunately

died from an attack of that modern plague the influenza, just when his book was ready to be distributed. The Dresden Society thereupon bought up the whole edition, caused the name of Mr. Mottes to quietly disappear from the list of members, and believed themselves safe from any further investigation into this disagreeable matter. But Mr. Schuller, a member of the same society, has repeated the denunciation against Mottes, first in American and German papers, at last in his recent pamphlet. His statement is that Mottes had removed the genuine stamps from the official document that he sent to Dresden, and put his forgeries upon it. Now the Dresden committee is wriggling to get out of the dilemma, for they have always been boasting of being the only competent counterfeit detectors, and will not confess now they are as liable to error as other more modest people. The other German societies look on at this struggle with no little pleasure: the Dresden committee have very few friends outside their own society.

The question of reprints will never be settled. Mr. Schuller's book contains useful information on the Persian reprints, which would deserve a special article, but the other monographs mentioned above also add to our knowledge of this subject. Though there are happily no reprints of the Brunswick adhesives, yet Mr. Berger in his new and pretty book on the postage stamps of Brunswick tells us that the stamp used on local correspondence ("St. P. Fr." in a circle) has been privately reprinted. Very interesting also are Mr. Lindenberg's notes on the reprints of the Baden envelopes, which he has fully dealt with in his latest brochure. The first issue of the Baden envelopes was reprinted in June, 1864, but not more than 100 of each value were struck off. In November, 1865, 500 more of the two highest values—12 and 18 kreuzer—were reprinted. Now judge how scarce these reprints must be, as there are only 100 reprints of the 3 kr. envelope to 209,200 originals. Of each of the envelopes of 12 and 18 kr., 8500 were originally printed in the small size, and 2000 only in the large size, but scarcely 3000 of each value seem to have been sold. Is it not a pity that the remainders of these rarities were cruelly destroyed? In those days the philatelic business was not as highly appreciated by the postal authorities as it is to-day!

You are no doubt aware that there exist many private companies for the conveyance of letters and parcels in all the larger towns of Germany. The law does not forbid them, as far as the local delivery is concerned, and as they do their work cheaper than the Post-office, they are much favoured by the public, especially in Berlin, where the difference of postage is most remarkable. The Post-office asks 5 farthings for the single letter of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., while the private delivery company charges only $1\frac{1}{2}$ farthing for a letter of nearly 4 ozs. Herr von Stephan does not apparently mind the loss that the Imperial Post-office is suffering by keeping up its high tariff, but the Bavarian and Wurtembergian postal administrations make ample use of their right to fix the tariffs for the interior of their countries themselves. By this means they render private competition impossible. We wonder if Herr von Stephan will follow this example; we are afraid he will not. *De minimis non curat praetor!*

In consequence of the new tariff we have got some new postage stamps in Wurtemberg as a new year's present. They have not always made such useful things there. A few years ago the Post-office permitted private envelopes, cards, and letter cards to be stamped to order. One dealer exhausted this privilege by having every possible thing done, especially old Wurtembergian envelopes of the kreuzer currency stamped with a 5 pf. or 10 pf. stamp of the current issue. Unfortunately the postal administration set the example in 1875, when some old 1 kr. and 3 kr. envelopes were used up in this ingenious manner by adding a new stamp in Imperial currency. The dealer was, of course, not satisfied with the official combinations of 1 kr. + 5 pf. and 3 kr. + 10 pf.; he had also 6 kr. + 10 pf. and 9 kr. + 10 pf. made, besides some varieties caused by the difference of the overprint and of the tresses on the flaps. All these curiosities have no philatelic value whatever. English collectors will seldom hear of or see them, as most of them do not care for postal stationery, but prefer the simple little adhesive stamp.

In your last number you chronicled some unperforated stamps of the current Imperial German issue, and you went on to say that the Berlin Postal Museum made profit out of these stamps.

As this remark may mislead those who are not acquainted with the administration of that institution, I beg to state that such profit is invested entirely in enlarging the collection of postage stamps. The Museum has no funds with which to buy stamps, but it gets all the stamps arriving at the Imperial Postal Department, either unused ones from foreign administrations, or used on letters. Out of these stocks the philatelic collections are fed, directly or by exchange. Of some of the curiosities that have emanated from that source I will speak in another letter.

FRANCISCUS.

THE JOURNAL COMPETITION.

RESULT.

Winners of the £100 Prizes.

A YEAR ago we announced our intention of giving ten prizes of the total value of £100, to those persons who could secure the most subscribers to our *Journal* by December 31st, 1892, and we are now able to announce the result. A very large number of our customers entered for this competition, but many of them seemed content to get a few names of personal friends, and let the matter rest there; on the other hand many other collectors set to work in earnest, and the result has fully answered our expectations, the subscriptions to the *Journal* having nearly trebled in number during the year 1893.

The following are the prize winners, with the numbers of new subscriptions each one obtained:

- 1st. Rev. WILLIAM BELL, St. Luke's, Cork. 190 subscribers.
(£50 worth of stamps.)
 - 2nd. J. S. SUMMERS, Esq., 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Bombay, India. 109 subscribers.
(£25 worth of stamps.)
 - 3rd. Miss M. BURN, 10, Lower Kemindine Road, Rangoon, India. 100 subscribers.
(£10 worth of stamps.)
 - 4th. W. N. ROE, Esq., Elstree, Herts. 82 subscribers.
(£5 Imperial Album, No. 10.)
 - 5th. A. M. SOUTH, Esq., St. Helens, Westwood Park, Forest Hill, London, S.E. 74 subscribers.
(£4 Packet, No. 22, of Unused Stamps.)
 - 6th. Herr HENRICK DETHLOFF, Christiania, Norway. 57 subscribers.
(50s. Imperial Album, No. 9.)
 - 7th. F. A. WICKHART, Esq., 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury Park, N. 54 subscribers.
(30s. Imperial Album, No. 8.)
 - 8th. J. J. OVERTON, Esq., 435, Pearl Street, Cleveland, O., U.S.A. 53 subscribers.
 - 9th. Miss SCOTT, 2, Durham Villas, Kensington, W. 36 subscribers.
 - 10th. Miss M. TRAILL, 83, North Street, St. Andrew's Fife. 28 subscribers.
- And Mrs. GREENE, 7, West End, Mallow, Cork. 2 subscribers.

The last four competitors will each receive an Imperial Album, No. 7, value 20s., as the last two have secured an equal number of subscribers, and this award is one that cannot well be divided.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

[BY EMIL TAMSEN.]

(Continued from page 106.)

Now for the German *reprints* (so called), which, with the exception of the 6 p., blue, Type II., are simply forgeries.

I have shown that the Government, by demanding the plates and matrix dies, thought to have protected themselves sufficiently against fraud, but they reckoned without their host. No doubt the printer intended to remain honest when he got the orders to make the plates, &c., and I fully believe the story which is told in Germany, that when he had sent out the plates and matrix dies to the Transvaal, in 1869, he only had the outside frame containing name and value left, and that therefore when he afterwards got orders from European dealers to supply the stamps of that type, he had to make up a new centre-piece.

This centre-piece is a downright forgery, varying in many small points from the original. Some of the differences are so marked that I am rather surprised that they are not more known, and that so much of the rubbish (it is said to amount to millions) has been palmed off on collectors.

I speak now of the 1 p., 6 p., and 1/- stamps collectively as Type I. The main points easy to be seen and remembered are:

1. In the genuine stamp the eagle has a white circular face, with a small dot for an eye. In the bogus reprints the head of the eagle is a shapeless, longish white patch, split into two parts on the right side, more or less distinctly.

2. In the genuine the right-hand flagstaff consists of *only one thick line*. In the bogus this has *two distinct lines*, leaving the centre white.

I have always found one or both of these points plainly visible. Sometimes, but seldom, the bogus reprints are heavily printed, or the forged obliteration goes over the head, and then it is difficult to make out the face with certainty. But the flagstaff on the right nearly always shows up plainly with the two lines.

3. In the genuine the right-hand flagstaff does *not* touch the oval containing the arms, and there is a distinct *space* between the top of the ribbon and the lower outline of the oval; but in the bogus reprints the flagstaff *always* touches the oval, and there is *no space* between the ribbon and the oval.

This test does not hold good for heavily-printed native impressions, because in these the small space is generally covered with ink; but the bogus reprints being generally clearly printed, this point can nearly always be noticed, if the cancellation does not happen to conceal it.

There are many more small points of difference, but only in the centre-piece. I would recommend everybody to read the Rev. R. B. Earee's *Album Weeds* on this point; it is better than any description of mine could be, and covers the ground most completely.

For Type II. 3 p. and 6 p. I regret to say there are *no tests*, the colour, the paper, and the cancellation alone distinguish the good from the bad. It is often difficult to say which is which—only someone who has these stamps constantly in his hands can speak with any authority on this point. I have got now a sort of instinct, which tells me at the first look what to expect from the specimen before me. In this type I mostly rely on the cancellation; the forged cancellation is seldom or never *impressed* on the stamps, but appears to be *lithographed* (?), whereas the original is generally sunk into the paper, and shows at the back of the stamp, owing to the steel defacing stamp being pressed into the paper, which is generally thin in this type. A part of the locally-printed 3 p. stamps are on stout paper, which will not show any mark on the back, but here the shade of colour comes to our aid.

After preparing the 3 p. plate, the printer evidently kept a transfer, or made a duplicate plate, so as to save himself the trouble of afterwards making a new one when the original was out of his reach (he had apparently improved since he sent out the plates of Type I.), and as he kept possession of the original plate of the 6 p. Type II., he has not found it difficult to supply the philatelic world with more than it requires of these unofficial reprints. These two stamps of Type II. are the *only* ones which have a right to the name reprint, all the similar labels of Type I. being forgeries pure and simple.

I have seen several stamps of the bogus-reprint-forgery tribe, Type I., 1 p., 6 p., and 1/- genuinely used, the cancellation being that of Middelburg office; and as the same defacing stamp was in use there from 1874 till 1885, it is impossible to say when this happened, nor do I know if many of these stamps so used exist. When the present Postmaster-General inspected the Post-offices in 1888, he stayed a day at my house, and I then pointed out to him the risk the Government was running, as neither he nor any of his Postmasters could possibly judge between genuine and bad stamps, and as the stamps had not been recalled, they could still be used in any quantity for postal franking purposes. He promised me to see to this, and on his return to Pretoria he at once recalled all stamps issued prior to 1885; thus there is no fear of anybody putting a quantity of these stamps through the post; besides, the cancellation mark in use now is quite different to that of 1874.

After the retrocession of the Transvaal to the Boers in 1881, it became known to Mr. Jeppe that Mr. Adolph Otto, the engraver in Gustrow, Mecklenburg, was still at his old game of manufacturing forgeries and reprints, both of the old and also of the 1883 type (to which he even added a new value—6 p.—which was never issued here) for the benefit of collectors (?) and his own pocket. Mr. Jeppe therefore caused the plates and stock of stamps on hand [At Gustrow?—Ed.] to be taken and destroyed, thinking thereby to settle the matter; but the stock in other hands (Berlin?) must have been enormous, or the printing still goes on with fresh plates. Anyhow, most

dealers in Europe still have these labels for sale at low prices, which are still too dear for—waste paper.

For the first issue of 6 p., blue, envelopes the tests for the 6 p. adhesive stamp hold good; of the second issue envelopes I can say nothing, not having seen any bogus impressions, although I do not doubt that such exist.

Years ago, when not up to the mark myself, I was sold with a set of so-called *essais*, three values, which cost me 10/- (each, or the set, I forget which). They consisted of the 1 p., 6 p., and 1/-, the 1 p. having a red frame with Arms printed in blue; the 6 p., a blue frame and Arms in red; the 1/-, the frame in green and Arms in red. Needless to say that they are of the bogus type. The frames are printed as usual, but the Arms are sunk into the paper, showing this on the front, and still more on the back of the stamps. As I have stated above, there are no official essays, so these have no right to this name at all.

I have not spoken about the so-called errors of colour, which are offered in Europe in all the shades of the rainbow; they are the purest humbugs also. There were no errors of any value ever printed or issued here. In 1880 I purchased several dozen of the 3 p., Type II., printed in blue, in the General Post Office in Pretoria, and paid face value for them, and I certainly believed at the time that I had bought genuine errors of impression, and it was only years afterwards that I found out that they must have been of Mecklenburg origin, and of no philatelic value whatever. Notwithstanding this, having bought them at the Post Office, I could have had them exchanged in 1888, when the present Postmaster-General withdrew the currency of all stamps printed prior to 1885, but I then forgot about them, and have them still as mementos!

The 6 p., Type II., printed in brown, which appears to have formerly been sold on the Continent as being specially intended for official use, franking letters on the Public Service, is likewise a fraud. There has never as yet been issued any special stamp for official correspondence, all such correspondence bearing simply the note "In Dienst" (On Service), and the name of the official and his office in left-hand lower corner of the envelope; letters so marked are sent free to any part of the country. I will now give a list of the several stamps issued, with which I think I can close the history of the stamps of the first Republic.

SYNOPSIS.

1870.			
1 May.	1 p., red, imperf.	} Printed in Pretoria on gummed paper sent out from Germany.	
	6 p., blue "		
	1/-, green "		
	1 p., red "	} Printed in Pretoria on paper obtained locally.	
10 May.	6 p., blue, rouletted		
24 "	1 p., red "	} obtained locally.	
Printed 28 Sept. and issued on 21 Oct.			
	1 p., black, rouletted and imperforate;	} Printed in Potchefstroom on local paper.	
4 Oct.	1 p., black (or red?), rouletted (?)	} printed in Potchefstroom on local paper.	

1871.	
30 June.	3 p., violet, rouletted; printed in Germany.
27 July.	6 p., blue, rouletted (?); imperf.; printed in Potchefstroom on local paper.
1872.	
13 Feb.	Envelope. 6 p., blue, Type I.; printed in Natal.
25 Dec.	3 p., lilac, rouletted and imperf.; printed in Potchefstroom on gummed paper sent out from Germany.
	1/-, green, rouletted and imperf.; printed in Potchefstroom on local paper.
1873.	
Dec.	Envelope. 6 p., blue, Type II.; printed in Natal.
1874.	
Sept.	1 p., red, perf. 12½; printed in Natal.
	6 p., blue " " "
	6 p., blue, Type II., rouletted; printed in Germany.
1875.	
April.	1 p., red, imperf. (?); rouletted (?); printed in Pretoria on local paper.
May.	6 p., blue, imperf. (?); rouletted (?); printed in Pretoria on local paper.
Sept.	3 p., violet, imperf. (?); rouletted (?); printed in Pretoria on local paper.

The above dates are generally those when stamps were delivered to the Postmaster-General or the Treasurer respectively, and not always dates of issues. As a rule there were only a few days between date of printing and issue to Post-offices.

(To be continued.)

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

New Addendum, No. 33.—This addendum, being the third one to the current edition of our catalogue, is now ready. It contains a list of all stamps, etc., issued from September 1st to December 31st, 1893, and the prices at which most of them can be supplied.

* * *

Wholesale Price List.—The attention of the trade is respectfully requested to the List of New Issues, and Special Bargains, quoted month by month in this paper. Where sufficient stock is on hand, the prices are quoted for new issues by the dozen and hundred, thus obviating the necessity of constantly revising the Wholesale Price List. The latter in future will only be issued about three times a year, instead of bi-monthly as formerly.

* * *

Stamps and Stamp Collecting: A Glossary of Philatelic Terms and Guide to the Identification of the Postage Stamps of all Nations, by Major Edward B. Evans.—This work is intended to fill a void which has hitherto existed in the philatelist's library. It will be found invaluable as a most useful, and indeed a standard book to refer to, in all cases of doubt or obscurity appertaining to postage stamps and their surroundings. The collector is not unfrequently perplexed by the various terms employed, and the fullest explanations are here given of such. Much interesting information is also included as to the various classes and the manufacture of the paper employed, the typography, the embossing, the perforating or rouletting, together with many instructive and interesting details connected with the fascinating science of stamp collecting.

The information in this new work has appeared, during the past eighteen months, in a series of papers in this journal, and our publishers have thought it advisable to reproduce the same in book form. The work is in the press, and will be ready in a week or two; prepaid orders can now be booked. The price is 2s., or 2s. 3d., post-free, to all parts of the world.

South Australia.—The second of the series of "the Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks," entitled *South Australia*, and written by Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N., and Mr. Gordon Smith, is also in the press, and will be ready for delivery in a few days. This new publication is strongly recommended, not only to the student of this particular colony, but also to the general philatelist and dealer. All the minor varieties of both perforation and watermark will be found included for the first time, together with the most complete list of the departmental stamps ever compiled. The whole is skillfully scheduled and priced so as to still further add to its utility as a finished work of reference. Price, 4s. 6d. in strong cover, or 6s. in gilt cloth; post-free, 3d. extra. Prepaid orders can now be booked.

* * *

The Stamp Collectors' Journal for January has been drawing upon its imagination, as may be seen by the following clipping from London notes by "Incog": "Speaking of the Gibbons firm, I have just been made the recipient of a piece of news anent a new department in the business. The enterprising Mr. Phillips, I am told, has just concluded negotiations with Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son for the sale of packets of stamps at all their railway bookstalls. This should mean the addition of a handsome revenue to the firm's turnover." Well, I wish this was true; but, alack-a-day, Messrs. Smith and Son have not yet taken up the sale of stamps, and what is more, no such suggestion has been made to them by our publishers. When they do decide to go in for philately we trust to be there.

* * *

Photographs of Stamps.—We still have for sale a few photos of the 1d. and 2d. Post-office Mauritius, for which we paid the record price of £680 a few months ago, and which we have since sold at a fair profit. These photos can be supplied at 1s. each set, neatly mounted on card. We have also some superb photographs, unmounted, of the complete set of United States Columbus stamps, from 1 cent. to \$5, price 9d., the set of 16, post-free.

* * *

Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P.—We have received a pamphlet containing the speeches of this gentleman in the House of Commons, during the session of 1893, on "Telegraph and Postal Grievances and Remedies," and those who are interested in this matter would do well to get a copy of the pamphlet from the printers, Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C. Mr. Henniker Heaton, in conclusion, gives a list of *sixty reforms* he would like to see adopted by the Post-office, many of which would no doubt be of great benefit to commercial houses. But we all know how hard the authorities require to be pushed before they will stir themselves.

* * *

St. Martin's-le-Grand, the Post Office Magazine, in its last issue has an interesting article upon "Mr. Heaton and the Post-office." One paragraph in this letter is worthy of notice, remembering that it is written by a Post-office official, and one who is to some extent prejudiced against Mr. Heaton. It is as follows: "The fact of the matter is—and let us be brave, and confess it at once—that in spite of many mistakes and ill-informed attacks Mr. Heaton succeeds in hitting us very hard indeed."

This is an admission worthy of attention, and should encourage Mr. Heaton to go on in the good work he has undertaken, which is to abolish many absurd anomalies in the Postal Service, and to still further increase its usefulness to the general public.

* * *

The Press and Philately.—Both the English and Foreign Press is beginning to recognise the fact that Philately has now grown out of its infancy, and that it must be recognised as a scientific pursuit worthy, to use a Cornish phrase, of "One and all." *The Daily Telegraph*, only a few days ago, had a leading article of over a column upon our hobby, and spoke very well of it too. Abroad also, in India, South America, Australia, &c., we continually see interesting articles upon stamp collecting; and in many cases abroad the reports of the meetings of the local Philatelic Societies are to be found in the daily journals. This is as it should be, and is a great advance upon the tone the Press took towards us only a few years ago.

New French Stamps.—On December 27th last the first tenders were received for the new French postage stamps, and others may be sent in during the next three months. The conditions as to design are not limited beyond the obligation to bring into each stamp the words "Postes" and "République Française," and the figures indicating the price. (1) The drawing is to be eight times the size of the present stamp, that is to say 176 millimetres in height, and 144 in breadth. A photographic or other reduction is to accompany each design, reducing it to an eighth of its dimensions, and to have with it the name and address of the designer. All designs are to be exhibited for three days: The jury will decide which are to be accepted within two days after the close of this exhibition. The person whose design is chosen to serve as a type for all stamps is to receive a prize of £120, the second best will be rewarded with one of £60, and the third with one of £40. All designs thus rewarded will be the property of the Post-office.

* * *

The Travels of Approval Sheets of stamps in our business are vast and varied; we pick out one at haphazard from our stock, and note that it has been to the following far distant parts of the world during the past two years, which with us is about the average life of the better class "Approval Sheets." Switzerland, Buenos Ayres, Baltimore U.S.A., Paris, Leipzig, Bordeaux, Malmo Sweden, Chybassa India, Honolulu Sandwich Isles, New Zealand, Scotland, Cape Town, Egypt, Persian Gulf, Calcutta.

* * *

The Shanghai Jubilee Stamp.—An esteemed correspondent in Shanghai writes us as follows:

"These stamps were issued on the 15th instant, and the sale was limited to \$5 to each person. Such a tremendous crowd at the local Post-office to buy stamps has never been known before. There were about 300 foreigners of all nationalities outside the Post-office determined to buy the stamps, and four or five policemen guarding the place. It was with great difficulty I managed to get my \$5 worth, and had to employ people to get the rest for me. It is known that two speculators here engaged the crew of a French gunboat to buy the stamps for themselves! On the next day after the issue of the stamps there were none left for sale at the Post-office."

* * *

Pearson's Weekly is one of the latest of the papers to take up Philately. The editor has kindly favoured us with an advance proof of particulars of an interesting competition, which will be found in their issue of Friday, February 2nd, and following two weeks. *Pearson's Weekly* is sent post-free for one year for 8s. 8d., which should be sent to the offices, Henrietta Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL TO STAMP COLLECTORS.

Quite a number of letters have reached me lately from readers who are interested in stamp collecting, and suggestions have been made that special prizes should be offered to those who have made this form of amusement their hobby.

Judging from my own observations and experience, I should imagine that very nearly every reader of *P. W.* has now or had at one time a collection of stamps, and I have no doubt that the offer made below will find favour with them.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, the well-known Stamp Dealers and Importers, of 391, Strand, London, W.C., have empowered me to offer the following eight prizes:

LIST OF PRIZES.

		£	s.	d.
1st.	A Packet of Stamps, 2,000 varieties, priced at	7	10	0
2nd.	New Imperial Album, in Russian leather	5	0	0
3rd.	Philatelic Album	5	0	0
4th.	Philatelic Album	5	0	0
5th.	A Packet of Stamps, 500 varieties	4	0	0
6th.	A Packet of Stamps	4	0	0
7th.	Philatelic Album, bound in full Persian Morocco	2	10	0
8th.	New Imperial Album, in morocco	2	10	0
		£35	10	0

The prizes will be awarded to the senders of what we consider the eight cleverest anagrams on the words: "STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., STAMP DEALERS."

All the letters must be used—no more, no less. Competitions must be marked "Stamp," and must reach here by Monday, February 19th. No competitor may send more than one attempt.—*Pearson's Weekly*, February 2nd, 1894, Henrietta Street, Strand, London.

* * *

Testimonials.—A few of the more recently received ones will serve to show that the high position held by our publications is fully maintained.

A. F. S., Governor-General's office, Canada, says, "I have great pleasure in telling you that I am very pleased with the books. They are far superior to any Yankee albums, that cost two or three times as much."

A. R. B., Sandymount, Co. Dublin, says, "I am very much pleased with your album; so far as I have examined it, it appears about the most perfect album I have ever seen."

J. W., University Street, Belfast, says, "Many thanks for album No. 9, it is one of the most magnificent I have ever seen, and the new arrangement could not be better."

W. A. A.—Meldon Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. "The album arrived all safe, and my little boy is perfectly delighted with it. The book is certainly splendid value, and makes an excellent birthday present for a boy. The approval sheet arrived also, and I am highly pleased with the appearance of the specimens."

C. J. C., Chichester, says, "The 1s. stamp album received this morning has given such satisfaction that I want you to send another for my younger boy, who won't be satisfied until he gets it."

W. Y. B. B., Newton Abbot, says, "I have this day received your Imperial Stamp Album, and I can safely say that I am highly pleased with the same in every way."

P. K. R., Hackney Downs, says, "Last week I saw an advertisement of yours—viz., a stamp album and fifty stamps for 1s. Out of curiosity I wrote to you, wishing to see what it was. I was agreeably surprised to find a most marvellous shilling's worth, well worth treble the money, and shall always recommend this publication to my young friends. You are at liberty to make any use of this letter you think fit."

G. C., Dunedin, New Zealand, says, "I must add to the number of testimonials as to the excellence of your Imperial Stamp Album; it is invaluable to a young collector. I may add that I have induced several to take your album, and have shown mine to several old collectors, who find they have nearly to start over again. Stanley Gibbons is a household word here."

E. G., Hylton R.S.O., Durham, says, "I am delighted with the sixth edition of your Imperial Postage Stamp Album in two volumes, which I received a few months ago, it has greatly increased my philatelic knowledge."

Capt. T. B., Limerick, says, "I have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of 6th edition Imperial Stamp Album. The two vols. are real works of art, and are well worth £5. The binding, paper and printing, are of the best, and I find no difficulty in finding the proper place for each stamp."

W. A., Hongkong, says, "I am very pleased to say the albums reached me in splendid order. They arrived by last French Mail. They are the best I have seen, and are well worth the £5, which I think is very cheap."

E. H. K., Richmond, Surrey, says, "I have received your Imperial Postage Stamp Album, and it has greatly exceeded my expectations."

R. E. H.—Kincardine-on-Forth, N.B., says, "I am greatly pleased with the album (Imperial No. 8), which I confess surpasses my most sanguine expectations in the perfection of its method and arrangement."

* * *

PHILATELY IN FICTION.*

PHILATELIC fiction, as usually met with, takes the form of the more or less curious dream, in which the fortunate fictionist revels in extraordinary, not to say impossible, discoveries, and wakes to find that it was only the tinned lobster, or the pickled salmon, or that extra mince-pie which he incautiously took at the previous evening meal. Philately in fiction is of much less frequent occurrence. The common or garden novelist usually leaves our pursuit severely alone, either because he does not see the capabilities of the subject, or, perhaps, because he recognises his own ignorance of it. We welcome, therefore, the more heartily a really charming little novel, in which one of the principal characters is a rabid collector, and in which no inconsiderable portion of the plot, or at least of the plotting, turns upon the advantage taken by the other characters of his devotion to our hobby.

The authoress of *A Third Person*, for which we would venture to suggest as a sub-title "The Foolish Philatelist and the Wily Widow," appears to have some knowledge of philately, or so we should suppose from the entire absence of those egregious errors which as a rule entrap the unlearned. She may indeed be an enthusiastic collector; but if such be the case, she dissembles her love almost to the kicking-downstairs point. The only philatelist in the book is an elderly general, with a vile temper, an attractive granddaughter, and a noble ambition. His temper is violent, even beyond that of the normal retired military officer of fact or fiction; and his philatelic, which is in reality the one redeeming point in his character, is plainly looked upon by his family and friends as a sign of incipient insanity. This, alas! is but too true to nature, but in fiction the philatelist might hope for a better fate.

The heroine, who reads the daily papers to her grandfather, and is in most respects a charming person, is, we regret to find, made to say, "Thank goodness he reads the Stamp Magazine himself." But probably the old man took *The Blank Blank*, or *The Dash Dash*, or, perchance, *The Blank Blank of Dash Dash*, not *The Monthly Journal*!

The hero affects a fraudulent interest in the General's stamps, in order to obtain admission to the house inhabited by the object of his affections.

From time to time he invests a five-pound note in rarities (obtained from "a shop in the Strand"), which he presents to the innocent old collector, with a story about their being found among the duplicates of an intimate friend, and thus becomes a welcome visitor.

The General has, as we have stated, a noble ambition. He does not rise to the height of desiring a pair of "Post-office" Mauritius, or a circular pink British Guiana, but he has set his heart upon getting a blue nineneence Natal. Had the hero but saved up his money until he could find an opportunity of purchasing a specimen of this, no doubt he might have had the hand of the heroine for the asking, and her grandfather's blessing thrown in—though the old gentleman was not much given that way. But while he squandered his cash on Swiss Locals and Pony Express labels, the Wily Widow arrived on the scene, and, having marked him down for No. 2, succeeded in keeping him and the heroine apart until it was time for him to rejoin his regiment in India.

An opportunity is lost here of introducing a little local philatelic colour, in the way of green and yellow Scinde Dawks, and 4 annas with inverted heads, which would probably have gone far towards reconciling the General to the loss of his granddaughter. However, all comes right in the end. The hero returns from India, the heroine returns his affection, and we leave them with every prospect of getting married and living happily ever afterwards, a fact which their attitude towards philately hardly merits.

The widow, finding it impossible to obtain the hero for a husband, consoles herself by becoming his stepgrandmother-in-law. With this view she also affects a fictitious interest in the General's stamps, and mentally resolves to put an end to all this nonsense (our readers will find it hard to believe that she refers to stamp collecting) after they are married. We are left to wonder whether she will worry the old man into a premature grave, or whether she will irritate him into

* *A Third Person*. By Mrs. B. M. CROKER. London: F. V. White & Co.

braining her with a six-foot perforation gauge. We are half inclined to back the General!

But the reader may ask, What about the *Third Person*? Well, for this the book itself must be studied. To tell the truth we are not quite certain about this point. We are rather inclined to assign the title rôle to a highly intelligent Indian Mynah, one of the finest characters in the book; a collector too, though not of stamps, but of unconsidered trifles in the way of violent and objectionable language used by his master, which he treasures up and brings out on appropriate occasions, and others, with excellent effect.

Of the real plot of the book we have given but a very imperfect outline, having only touched upon those incidents which relate to our favourite pursuit. But we most warmly recommend it to our readers, as an amusing story with just enough of philately in it to render it of special interest to collectors.

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President:

H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President:

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President:

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

At the sixth meeting of the Season 1893-94 the business consisted of the revision of the Reference Lists of the stamps of the Transvaal. Mr. Hastings Wright showed a number of the 4d. English stamps (watermark, large garter), apparently on the safety paper. The stamps were received from a firm in Switzerland, and are apparently the ordinary stamp on white paper, changed to blue by some chemical process.

The seventh meeting of the Season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 24th November, at 7.30 p.m., and was attended by the Vice-President (in the chair), and twelve members. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, a letter from the Secretary of the Alamo City Philatelic Society, announcing that this Society had been elected to honorary corresponding membership of that body, was read, and it was determined to accept the membership. Letters from Messrs. E. F. Broderip and John C. Badgeley resigning the membership of the Society were also read, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret. Mr. John M. Cripps, proposed by Mr. Lambert and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary, was elected a member of the Society. The Vice-President then read a paper on "The First Twopence Stamp of Victoria," giving the result of his investigations into the history of this stamp, and containing a large amount of novel and valuable information in regard to the several types. After some discussion on the various questions raised in the paper, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle, on the motion of the Assistant-Secretary, seconded by Mr. Colman, for his very interesting contribution, which, with the permission of the author, it is proposed to publish in *The London Philatelist*.

At the eighth meeting of the Season the study of the Reference Lists of the Transvaal was proceeded with and concluded. It was determined to proceed with the study of the new British African Companies' stamps, which would complete the revision of the Society's Reference List of the stamps of the South African Colonies, and afterwards to take the remaining Colonies of Great Britain in Europe and Asia.

The ninth meeting of the Season was held at Effingham House on Friday, December 8th, at 7.30 p.m., and was attended by the Vice-President (in the chair), and thirteen members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary reported the receipt of a bound copy of Vol. I. of *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, presented by the publishers, and the Librarian was requested to acknowledge the receipt of the book with the thanks of the Society. Mr. Castle, in presenting, on behalf of the Brighton Philatelic Society, a framed group of portraits of its members, mentioned that Mr. Willett had given the portraits to his Society for the purpose of the gift. The Assistant-Secretary was directed to acknowledge the gift, with the thanks of this Society to Mr. Willett and other members of the Brighton Society. Major Evans moved "That Lady Members of the Society, whether in town or country, shall pay one guinea subscription only, and that Article 21 of the Society's Statutes be amended so as to read: 'The annual subscription for Town Members is two guineas, and for Ladies and Country and Corresponding Members one guinea.'" After some discussion the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Bacon, was carried unanimously. The Vice-President read a paper on "The Second Plate of 2d. Laureated Series of New South Wales," which was illustrated by his fine collection of the stamps in question. On the motion of Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Gibbons, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his interesting paper, which it is proposed to publish in *The London Philatelist*. Owing to the near approach of the Christmas holidays it was decided to postpone the meeting, which, in the ordinary course, would be held on the 22nd December, until Friday the 29th.—From *The London Philatelist, the Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London*.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.

President—M. P. CASTLE.

The fourth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, December 4th, at 7.45 p.m., the President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary intimated that the Rev. Rogers and Mr. Escolme both tendered their resignations as members of the Society, which were accepted with regret. Contributions towards the "forgery" collection were received from several members and accepted with best thanks. The President presented to the Society's library a bound copy of *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, vol. i., from the proprietors, and *The Auction Epitome*, vol. ii., from Mr. W. Brown, of Salisbury. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the donors, which the Secretary was requested to convey. The President also exhibited the second portion of his collection of Victoria, containing all issues from 1854 to 1862, and gave at the same time a graphic description of the numerous varieties of watermarks, perforations, &c. A vote of thanks was passed to the President for his very interesting notes.

The fifth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, December 18th, at 7.45 p.m. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. Willett took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from the Assistant-Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, conveying the best thanks of its members for the picture presented to them by this Society. Mr. E. Mainwaring, proposed by Mr. G. G. Hodgson and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, was duly elected a member of the Society. Mr. Willett then presented a very fine album for the Society's collection of "forgeries," also an interesting proof of the notorious forgery of the Indian 1 rupee. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Willett for his gift. The Secretary showed his collection of Antigua, Montserrat, and British Honduras, and read some notes on the same, for which he was accorded a vote of thanks.

BRITISH GUIANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE first General Meeting of the above society was held on Friday, 24th November, 1893. Present: Messrs. J. Rodway, President; T. A. S. Quail, Vice-President; J. Markland Lovell, Secretary; F. das Neves e Mello, Treasurer; and thirteen members.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November were read and confirmed.

The proof sheet of the rules was read, and an addition was made, admitting members under the age of sixteen, providing their application is signed by a guarantor.

The President gave a lengthy address on the working of the Post-office from the first settlers to the present time, which proved very instructive.

Mr. Quail then addressed the meeting on the stamps of British Guiana from the first to the present issue, showing what a complete collection of British Guiana stamps is worth.

THE second General Meeting was held on Friday, the 8th December, at the hall of the above society, Mr. J. Rodway presiding.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Letters from Messrs. M. P. Jorge, and W. H. C. de Silva, giving notice of motions, were read, and allowed to stand over until the next meeting.

After an interesting paper on the Postal Reform of England had been read by Mr. Quail, the Secretary also read a paper, The Reminiscences of Philately, which was loudly applauded.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE sixth meeting of the session was held at the Leeds Municipal Buildings on Saturday, December 16th, 1893, Mr. Beckwith, ex-President, in the chair. The donations to the library consisted of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, Mekeel's *Philatelic Journal of America*, and volume 2 of *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, by Mr. R. Hollick, and the thanks of the meeting were voted to the donors. Novelties were exhibited by Messrs. Beckwith, Duffield, and T. K. Skipwith.

Two gentlemen were proposed as associates.

Mr. J. F. C. Sieber then read an interesting paper on "Perforations," illustrated by diagrams, and at the close a cordial vote of thanks was accorded him.

W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.L.S., } *Hon. Secs.*
T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH, }

13, VICTORIA ROAD, HYDE PARK, LEEDS.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, ESQ.

THE sixth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Friday, the 8th of December, 1893, the Vice-President occupying the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary read the correspondence, including a letter from the Philatelic Society of South Australia. A sub-Committee was formed to report and carry out, if advisable, arrangements for the Annual Dinner of the Society before the close of the year.

Mr. Duerst then read a paper on the Stamps of Prussia, informing the members that when the postal authorities determined to issue stamps the King of Prussia drew a design for the stamps, which consisted principally of the arms of Prussia. The authorities did not consider the design satisfactory, and prevailed upon the King to allow his portrait to appear upon the stamps. On the succession of King William I. the design was altered to the eagle of Prussia, which remained on the stamps until the foundation of the German Empire.

Mr. Duerst read the decree, authorizing the use of the octagonal envelopes cut for adhesive purposes, but pointed out that the cut envelopes were not sold to the public, but had to be placed on the envelopes by the officials of the

Post-office, by whom alone they were allowed to be used as adhesives and principally for registered letters.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton showed the 2 sgr., blue, 1861-64 issue, rouletted horizontally, and undoubtedly perforated vertically.

The Hon. Treasurer then referred to the paper read by him last session on the stamps of Heligoland, and an epitome of which has been included in the publication of the Society. Since reading the paper he had had the opportunity of examining entire sheets of all the values, including entire sheets of all the originals, and three different printings of the reprints of the *schilling* issue. The perforation of all the three reprints and the originals is identical; of course, it is established that the 2s. and 6s. do not exist perforated as originals. The rouletting of the originals and the reprints is likewise no guide.

The first reprinting was done at Berlin, where the stamps were printed, and it is difficult to distinguish these, the most dangerous reprints, from the originals; the paper is slightly thinner, and the tone of the colours slightly different.

The second reprints were done at Lubeck, the paper in this case being appreciably thinner, and the gum whiter. If these reprints are placed face downwards, all the lettering can be read from the back of the stamps.

The third reprints were manufactured at Hamburg, on still thinner paper, very different indeed from the originals; the gum is thin and pure white, while the embossing is not nearly so good. These last reprints are the common ones, and not at all dangerous.

The meeting closed with the customary votes of thanks.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE nineteenth meeting was held at the Bursary, Exeter College, the President (Dr. Murray) in the chair. The usual business having been transacted, the Secretary read the following letter:

"YORK COTTAGE, SANDRINGHAM,
"NORFOLK, Oct. 28th, 1893.

"GENTLEMEN,—I am desired by the Duke of York to offer to you, the members of the Oxford Philatelic Society, the warmest thanks of His Royal Highness for the interesting and beautifully illuminated address, representative of the adhesive stamps of the British Empire at the present time, which you have been good enough to send on the occasion of His Royal Highness's marriage.

"I am, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

"(Signed) DEREK KEPPEL,
"Eggenry-in-Waiting.

"TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OXFORD
PHILATELIC SOCIETY."

This letter was ordered, on the proposal of the Hon. Sec., to be entered on the minutes of the Society.

Professor A. S. Napier then read his paper on "The Stamps, Cards, and Envelopes used for messenger purposes at some of the Colleges in Oxford."

As this paper has been printed in *The Monthly Journal* it is quite unnecessary to enter into details; yet it should be stated that besides the specimens of types exhibited by Professor Napier, Mr. J. R. F. Turner had upon the table the whole of his unrivalled and all but complete collection, only one variety being required. In this collection was a specimen, on the original envelope, of the unique type of embossed Merton. There were also specimens of stamps used by Keble for parcel purposes; a very large number of entire sheets, and adhesives used on envelopes, and two entire strips of (17) embossed Balliol. A discussion took place, and a vote of thanks was passed to Professor Napier.

TWENTIETH meeting held at Dr. Murray's house. Ten members and one visitor present.

The usual business was transacted, which included the proposal of Mr. Stanley Billups for membership.

Several books of stamps were on the table.

A copy (in German) of a paper on the secret marks of the Bremen stamps was presented to the library of the society, and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick & Co. for the gift.

F. A. BELLAMY, *Hon. Sec. & Treas.*

4, ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

**PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTH HANTS
PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

President—GEORGE CHURCHER, ESQ.

THE second meeting was held on the 8th November. The stamps of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island were considered. The President shewed a fine collection of the latter in both used and unused states. The Rev. E. T. Fyffe, R.N., and Major G. A. Jackson Burton were elected members of the Society.

SWISS PHILATELIC UNION.

THE annual meeting of the delegates of the Societies forming the Swiss Philatelic Union was held at Olten, on Sunday afternoon, November 19th.

The meeting was attended by 22 delegates from 13 Societies, representing 520 members.

After the report of the Committee for 1893 had been read, and the three new Societies (Einsiedeln, St. Imier, and Geneva), which had joined since the last meeting, had been officially elected, the following committee was elected for 1894:

- MR. JÖRIN SOUTTER, Bâle, *President.*
- " SCHULTZ GYSIN " *Secretary.*
- " EDER BLAUL, St. Gall.
- " WEINMANN, Zurich.
- " DE REUTERSKIÖLD, Lausanne.

The two official forgery detectors for Swiss stamps,

- MR. A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD, Lausanne,
- and MR. W. HAUSER, Lucerne,

were unanimously re-elected.

It was also decided to continue the publication of the official organ of the Union under the slightly altered title of *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung*, which will in future be published partly in German and partly in French.

The Bâle Society was re-elected as the publishing committee, with a sub-committee, composed of the Secretaries of the five French-speaking Societies for the French portion.

The delegates from Geneva announced that it had been decided to hold an International Postage Stamp Exhibition at Geneva, in July or August, 1896, during the National Exhibition to be held in that town in the summer of 1896.

**THE
PHILATELIC PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.**

FIFTH MONTHLY REPORT.

NEW FORGERIES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Sydney View, 1d. red, 2d. blue. Laureated Issue, 1d. red (two shades), 2d. blue (two shades), and 3d. green.

Registration Stamps, imperf. and perf.

NEW ZEALAND.—1s. green, imperf. and perf.

CEYLON.—1861, 4d. rose and 2s. blue.

NATAL.—1st Issue, embossed, 3d. rose.

FREDK. R. GINN, *Hon. Secretary.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

**MR. TAMSEN'S ARTICLES ON THE STAMPS
OF THE TRANSVAAL.**

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

SIR,—As one of the few philatelists who give special attention to the stamps of the Transvaal, I must express my appreciation of the valuable and interesting information given by Mr. Tamsen in his articles on these stamps.

I do not, however, desire to comment at present on the matter of his articles, but write to point out one or two errors into which he has fallen in speaking of the quantities of stamps printed. The errors are not important, but it may be as well to correct them.

In your September issue (page 70) Mr. Tamsen says: "From February, 1875, to September, 1878, 118,835 1 p. stamps were printed by the Stamp Commission." It will be seen that the total quoted is not divisible by forty, the number

of stamps to a sheet. The figures should be 116,760, the total of the printings by the Commission of the penny value set out by Mr. Tamsen in his articles for each year prior to the British occupation in May, 1877, the last of which printings is said by him (page 105, November number) to have lasted until the end of September, 1877 (not 1878, as above quoted).

On page 105, in speaking of the quantities of stamps printed in the year 1875, Mr. Tamsen says: "This gives only 108,000 of 6 p. stamps, 10 per cent. less than were used in 1874, and only 24,000 of 1 p., being 50 per cent. less than were used the year before." The quantities are wrongly stated. In 1875 84,000 6d., and 48,000 1d. stamps were printed.

On the same page Mr. Tamsen says, with reference to the printings of 1876, "This list gives practically the same number of 6 p. stamps as the year before, and nearly three times the quantity of 1 p." The comparison made is incorrect. The number of 6d. stamps printed in 1875 was 84,000, and in 1876 114,200, an increase in the latter year of 30,200. In 1875 48,000 1d. stamps were printed, and in 1876 68,760, not half as much again instead of three times more.

Mr. Tamsen gives (also on page 105 of your November issue) a summary of his quotations from the official records of the stamps printed in the period from April, 1870, to May, 1877, and states the number of the 6d. value (excluding the Natal and German printings) as 361,334—a number not divisible by 40. The quantity should have been stated as 372,480.

I am, yours faithfully, R. PEARCE.

LONDON, 18th January, 1894.

[We have compared the figures given in Mr. Tamsen's manuscript with those printed, and find that the former are accurately reproduced; we fear therefore that the author's arithmetic is at fault, or that he may have made some errors in copying. In reference to the numbers of stamps printed in 1875, it is possible that those supplied on April 29th were 6d. instead of 1d., which would make the total of the former 108,000, and of the latter 24,000; but this would throw out still further some of the other figures.—ED.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. J. C.—The 1870 issue of France is lithographed, and quite different in appearance to the engraved series, which is the one catalogued *imperf.* under French Colonies, 1873-77.

COLEMÈRE.—1. There are numerous shades of the 25 c., blue, but we have not a series at hand, so cannot say whether any one of them is identical with the blue of the 15 c. We have no official information on the subject. 2. The Post-horn is no doubt intended to be some kind of test of forgery or fraud. Many thanks for the cuttings.

C. E. H.—The differences between the dies are practically indescribable, and impressions from worn plates are exceedingly difficult to distinguish.

R. M.—The 2 c. journal stamps undoubtedly exist both perf. and imperf., and we are not aware that the 2 c., rose, in that condition differs in status from the others. The 20 c., blue, of 1849 is well known as an error, or as a stamp prepared but not issued; there is a 20 c., blue, of the current type, which was also never put in circulation.

J. R. B.—We do not know either of the stamps you mention, and should be inclined to suspect the genuineness of the surcharges, unless they are quite recently issued.

G. H. S.—We cannot quote prices or make offers for stamps in this column. Stamps for sale should be sent to the publishers of the journal.

ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.—We are afraid you are right; cross-examination has drawn from the author a confession that his knowledge of Russian is as limited as our own; that he has always supposed that the foreign expressions employed in English works were invented by the writers, and he acted upon this principle—or want of principle. Some of the words he admits are simple inventions—such as "Jugginski" (we had our suspicions about *Jugginski* from the first). "Letajoski" he declares to be an ingenious combination of Hawaiian and Anglo-Russian; others are merely inversions of ordinary English words, which he maintains that any *yeknod* should have been able to translate! He is plainly quite incorrigible!

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300 " blue on buff	2 0	18 0	—

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10 centimes (Envelope), brown on white	0 3	2 0	0 14 0
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1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, and 24 cents; set of 9	5 0	52 0	—

COLOMBIA.

Registration Labels. All used.

507 .. 50 centavos, red	4 0	—	—
512 .. 30 " blue	2 6	—	—
515 .. 60 " "	5 0	—	—
520 .. 10 " black on rose	1 0	—	—
521 .. 20 " black on yellow	1 6	—	—
522 .. 30 " black on orange	2 0	—	—
529 .. 1 peso, vermilion	9 0	—	—

FRANCE.

1894. Unpaid Letter Stamp.

10 centimes, brown	0 2	2 0	15 0
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HOLLAND.

Head of Queen.

2 gulden 50 cents, rose and blue	5 0	—	—
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ITALY.

25 centesimi, blue	0 5	3 6	26 0
7½ + 7½ cent (Post Card), carmine on rose	0 4	3 0	—

LIBERIA.

1894. Postage Due.

2 cents	0 2	1 4	10 0
4 " "	0 4	2 6	19 6
2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 20, and 40 cents, set of 7	6 0	55 0	—

Provisional Registration Labels.

10 cents, black and blue on pink, for Buchanan	0 9	7 0	56-100 the four assorted
10 " black and green on cream, for Harper	0 9	7 0	
10 " black and red on yellow, for Monrovia	0 9	7 0	
10 " black and red on blue, for Robertsport	0 9	7 0	

MEXICO.

Envelopes. Wells, Fargo & Co's Express.

30 cvos. (on 35 c. on 25 c.) on 20 c., puce	7 6	—	—
40 " (on 50 c. on 25 c.)	3 0	—	—
60 " (on 1 peso on 20 c.) on 20 + 20 c., puce	7 6	—	—
20 " carmine	2 6	—	—
20 " (on 15 c.) on 10 c., carmine	2 0	—	—
30 " carmine	4 0	—	—
30 " (on 35 c. on 25 c.) on 20 c., carmine	5 0	—	—
50 " (on 50 c. on 15 c.) on 20 + 20 c., carmine	6 0	—	—
50 " (on 80 c. on 15 c.) on 20 + 20 c.	6 0	—	—

1492 Emission Colombina 1892.

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1d., green, used	0 4	2 0	—
2d. " "	0 4	2 0	—

NORWAY.

Postage Due Stamp.

4 ore Type 1782 violet	0 8	2 0	7 6
----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Post Cards. "Brvhort" in one word.

5 ore, green	0 2	1 3	9 0
5 + 5 " "	0 3	2 3	—

OBOCK.

Camel Post.

2 francs, triangular, grey-green	3 0	—	—
5 " " red	7 6	—	—

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2 " " 2748 black and carmine	0 4	2 6	—
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5 " " 2744 red and deep blue	2 0	10 0	—
5 " " 2744 red and ultramarine	0 5	4 6	—
6 " " 2746 red and green	2 0	12 0	—
10 " " 2751 red and black	2 6	12 0	—
10 " " 2751 black and vermilion	2 6	12 0	—
10 " " 2751 black and chestnut	2 0	12 0	—
12 " " 2749 red and black	2 0	—	—
12 " " 2749 black and puce	15 0	—	—
12 " " (error) 2749 red and puce	8 6	—	—
15 " " 2752 black and brown	3 0	18 0	—
18 " " 2747 black and rose-red	3 6	—	—
25 " " 2753 red and purple	4 0	—	—
50 " " 2754 black and red	7 6	—	—
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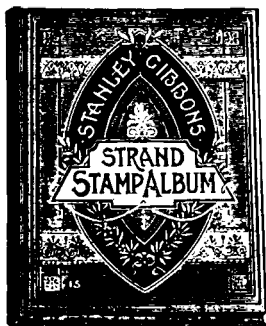
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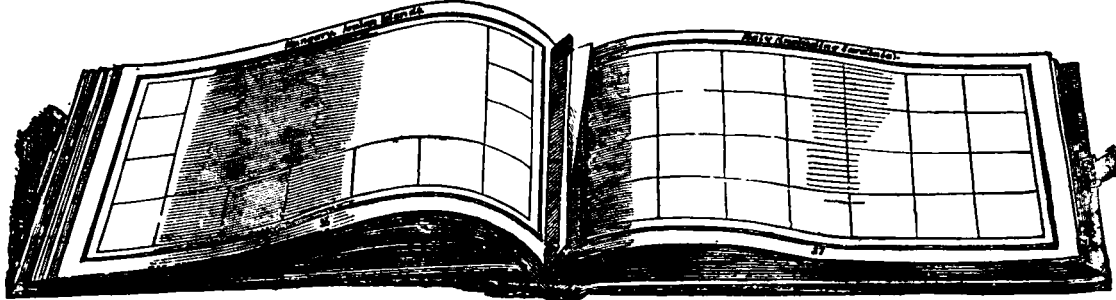
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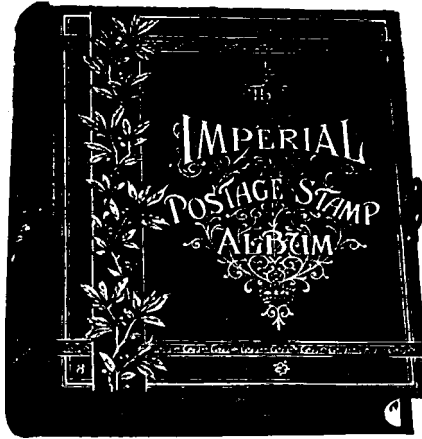
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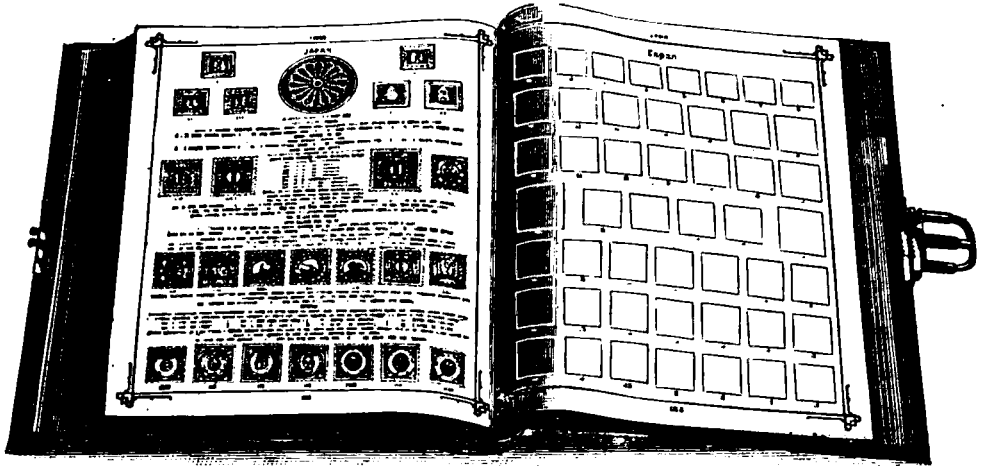
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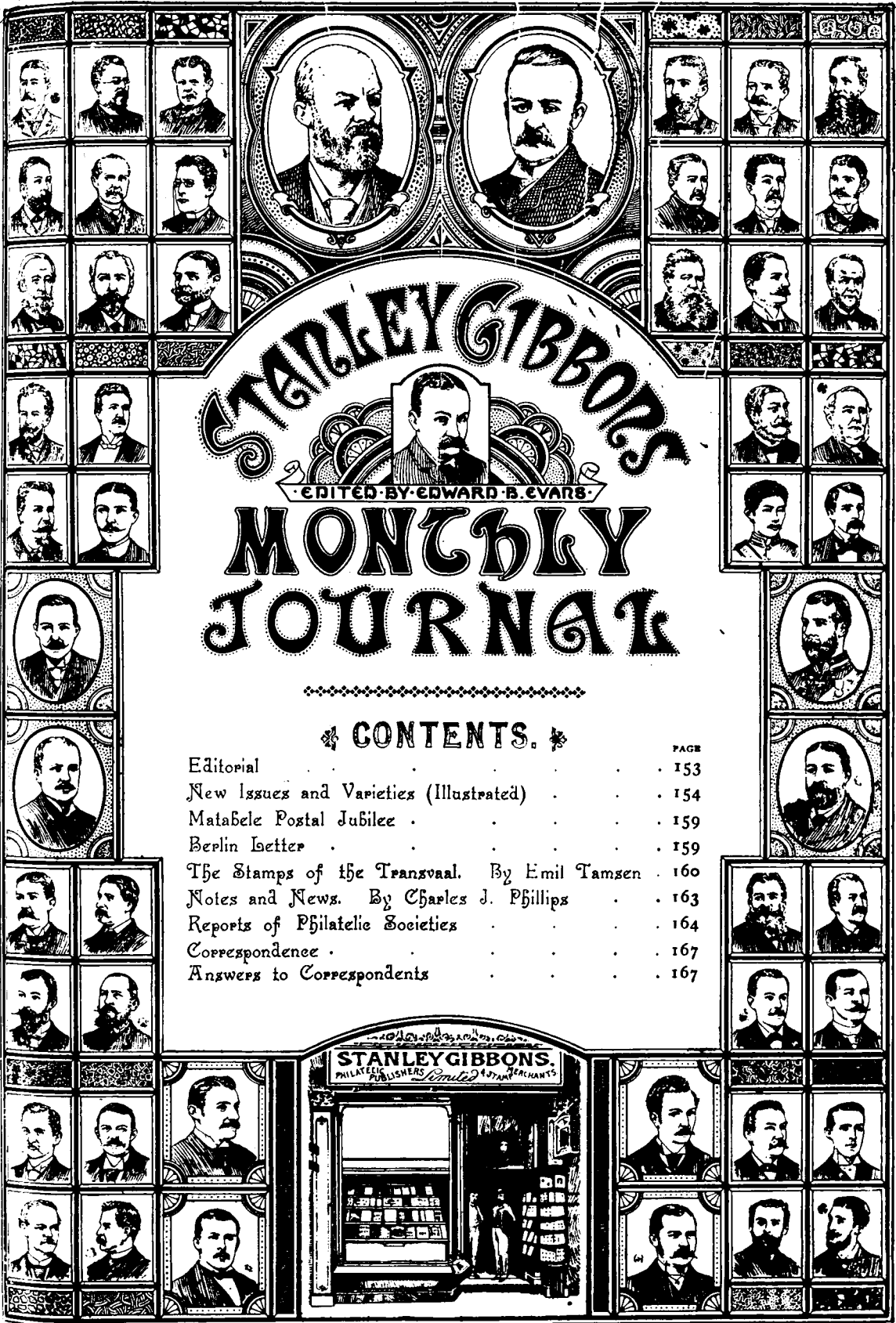


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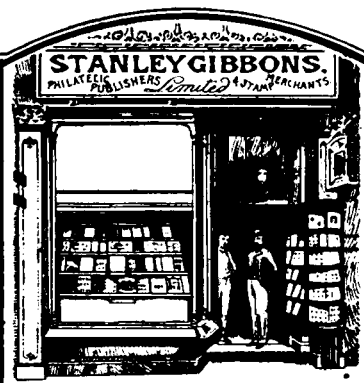
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 MONTHLY
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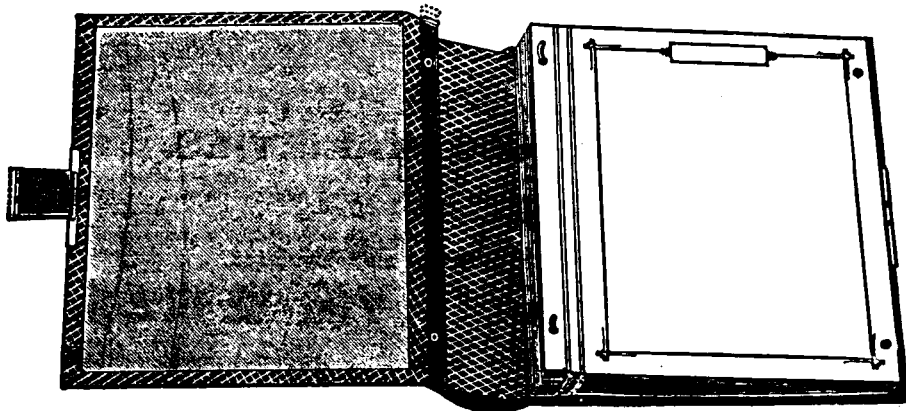
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The whole of the numerous New Issues that have appeared since the last Edition are fully catalogued.

A VERY LARGE number of Stamps that have hitherto had no quotation attached are in this New Edition correctly priced. Every effort has been made to insert prices, especially of Old Issues, wherever possible.

The Illustrations in the Appendix have been largely augmented. To meet the expressed desire of many Collectors, this Edition of the Catalogue and Appendix may be obtained interleaved with paper faintly ruled. This will be much appreciated by Philatelists for various purposes, such as making notes of Auction Sales, New Issues, &c. &c.

The Addenda will be published as heretofore announced. The exhaustion of the Eighth, and consequent appearance of the Ninth Edition of the Catalogue, will not interfere with the publication of the Addenda as advertised.

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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

FEBRUARY 28, 1894.

No. 44.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.*

EDITORIAL.

WE greatly regret to learn, from a letter in *L'Union Postale Universelle*, that Dr. Legrand has thought it necessary to sever his connection with *La Société Française de Timbrologie*, of which he has for so many years been the Secretary and the moving spirit. Into the merits of the questions which have led up to this result it is not our intention to enter; but it seems desirable to say a few words upon the reasons given by Dr. Legrand for the step which, we are sure, he has not taken without very careful consideration, and without very considerable reluctance.

The Society was founded in December, 1874, and was composed from the first of three classes of members — *titulaires, correspondents, libres*. Members of the first class alone were allowed to take any part in the management of the Society, and that class was composed exclusively of amateurs. This arrangement continued for about ten years, during which time much good work was done by the Society. In 1885 a revision of the Statutes took place, admitting dealers in stamps to the ranks of the *membres titulaires*, but still leaving the direction of affairs in the hands of the amateurs. Since that date, however, according to Dr. Legrand, the number of active amateur members has been gradually reduced by death and other causes. The number of members engaged in the stamp trade has increased, the Society has practically come under the management of the latter, and its nature and objects have been so greatly changed that finally the man who was one of its chief promoters, and who was for many years emphatically its guide, has felt impelled to leave it, and to found another Society.

Now has not this case, coupled with other similar ones that have happened elsewhere, some lesson for those who are anxious that the London Philatelic Society should open its membership to

Dealers and Collectors alike, and upon equal terms? Let us not be misunderstood; we have not a word to say against Stamp Dealers in general, or against those in particular who have become members of *La Société Française de Timbrologie*. Our publishers are Dealers; we have many good friends in the Stamp Trade, men of the highest integrity, whom we are happy to meet in any circumstances; men of great intelligence and energy. And here, it seems to us, lies the difficulty. A man of intelligence and energy, who becomes a member of any association, is bound to take an active part in it; if it is one solely for amusement, or for some study entirely unconnected with his daily work, he will do good to it, it will do good to him. But if it should chance to be an association whose objects of study are the very things by which he gets his livelihood, there is always the danger that he may, unconsciously perhaps, make use of his connection with that association to forward the interests of his own business. Under such circumstances jealousies and serious unpleasantness are only too liable to arise, and even if such is not the case, the aims of the Society are likely to be diverted from their original objects to the interests of trade.

We do not suggest that any Stamp Dealer would desire to join the London Philatelic Society, or any other Society of a similar nature, with the object of changing its aims and position, or even with the object of promoting his own personal interests. On the contrary, we believe that all recognise that such a Society, doing such work as that Society does, is of very great benefit to the stamp trade, as well as to philately; but there are those who believe that a widening of its membership in a particular direction would in no way change its nature or its work. Unfortunately, and we greatly regret to have to recognise it, the fact remains that experience in other places does not bear out this theory. The Society is not unduly exclusive, neither, as far as we personally are aware, does it assume any kind of superiority in this matter; a member may keep any kind of shop—as far as the Society is concerned—so long as he does not keep a Stamp Shop. It is not a matter of "quaint exclusiveness and perfumed snobbishness," but of something far older than either of these—the instinct of self-preservation.

* * *

AN excellent number of *The London Philatelist* ushers in a "New Departure" in the arrangements of that journal. We are glad to see that a limited chronicle of the more interesting of the new issues is to be retained, and that Jubilees are to be severely let alone. We fully agree with the Editor of our contemporary, in thinking that it is unnecessary for each of the philatelic periodicals to give an elaborate description of every new stamp, &c. that appears, as this is occupying more or less valuable space with vain repetitions; but with his reasons for abandoning the task in his own journal, as given in one of its recent numbers, we humbly beg to differ. The compiling of a careful chronicle is most laborious and uninteresting work, but at the same time one of the most essential parts of philatelic journalism. The composition of an interesting and scientific article, upon the stamps of his pet country or group of countries, is, or ought to be, a pleasure to any philatelist. The monthly chronicle is a mere drudgery, but where would our future cataloguers and writers of monographs be without these uninteresting compilations? It is often of considerable importance to know not only whether such and such a variety exists, but at what date it was seen and described, and it is for such a point as this that our files of old magazines are most frequently consulted. True, we need not all compile chronicles, but those who do that work do not care to be told that it is done for the sake of "increasing the interest in and promoting their own share in the sale of postage stamps."

We ourselves possess, philatelicly, an angelic temper, besides we knew that our friend did not mean it; but he would have saved himself the trouble of explaining that fact if he had abstained in the first instance from saying it.

* * *

AMONG the articles in the January number of the magazine to which we have been alluding is a most valuable one by Mr. Bacon on the Fiji Times Express Stamps. Some twelve months ago, incited thereto by the receipt of some very interesting specimens from Mr. Vindin, we tried to get together materials for the construction of a sheet of the varieties of these stamps, but were obliged to give up the task as hopeless, for want of sufficient copies of the higher values. Our friend Mr. Bacon has, we are happy to say, been more fortunate, and is able to give an illustration of a reconstructed sheet, which is complete with the exception of one variety of the shilling, and this can be identified by any one possessing it by comparison with the other varieties on the plate. Our own investigations had not gone very far, but as far as they did go they fully confirm Mr. Bacon's arrangement, except that we should invert the positions of his Nos. 14 and 16, about the placing of which he states that he was quite uncertain. According to our notes, we had established fairly satisfactorily the relative positions of the six types of the penny, and we think that the illustration tends to confirm our arrangement; the No. 14 (as there given) appears a little wide for No. 20 below it, while the No. 16 seems to

be narrower than either 22 below or 10 above it. But this error (if indeed it be an error) is a very small one in the arrangement of so difficult a plate, and we congratulate our fellow-labourer most heartily upon his success.

* * *

"SWEET are the uses of advertisement," as the poet says. We advertised largely, in our last number, our ignorance of the whereabouts of one of the numerous French Dependencies that were provided with stamps and other postal stationery some two years ago, one too that should be held in especial honour by philatelists, for it has never yet offended by the humblest possible overprint. Is it possible that this is due to the fact that its situation was to a great extent unknown? We hesitate to reveal its position, lest some enthusiast should at once proceed there with a toy printing-press and an assortment of type, and celebrate the introduction of printing in the usual manner. However, several kind correspondents have favoured us with information upon this important geographical point, and we feel that we should not be doing our duty, if we concealed from our readers what has been communicated to us for their benefit, as well as for our own. Anjouan is the French name of the most important island of the Comoro group, situated between the northern part of Madagascar and the African coast. It is given on English maps under the name of Johanna. And now if mischief, as suggested above, comes from the dissemination of useful knowledge, we shall regret having ever attempted to learn geography by means of postage stamps!

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—We give an illustration of the new stamps which we chronicled in December. Some of our contemporaries state that one of the two varieties is for fiscal use, and *Der Philatelist* adds a third, in black on orange-red, which we are not sorry to hear is not to be issued.



Antioquia.—*The Post Office* chronicles the 5 c. in a new shade, but does not state whether the design is altered also.

Adhesive. 5 c., carmine.

Argentine Republic.—*The American Journal of Philately* describes, under the head of Official Envelopes, copies of the 10 c. and 15 c. envelopes of 1888, with the stamps plastered over with printing ink, and used for the conveyance of official correspondence. We should suppose that these envelopes, not being in demand for general use, are being thus employed from a spirit of economy, and that the stamps are simply obliterated before being supplied to the government offices to prevent risk of fraud.

Austria.—We are indebted to a correspondent for a specimen of the 1 kreuzer of the Unpaid Letter series, which we described last month, and we find that it is produced by two separate printings the whole value is impressed together, the numeral being evidently not struck over the word "KREUZER." Our copy is perf. 10½.

Bahamas.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* announces a Registration envelope for this colony, with a stamp on the flap of the usual design, with the necessary variations. The size of the envelope seen is not mentioned. *Reg. Env.* 2d., blue.

Barbados.—We have received what we believe to be a new edition of the 1d. Registration envelope of this colony. It has the large "R" in an oval, &c., as before, but is inscribed "THOS. DE LA RUE & CO. PATENT," in blue, under the flap. Size F.

Benin.—The *Ill. Brief Journal* reports that the 15 c. of the French colonial issue exists with the name of this place surcharged in red and in blue as well as in black. Why this one value alone should have been thus thrice blessed we fail to understand; let us hope that the report is untrue!

Bermuda.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* announces the discovery of the 1s., green, perf. 14 x 12½, to keep the 3d. company. *Adhesive.* 1s., green; *wmk.* Crown and CC; *perf.* 14 x 12½.

Bolivia.—We have received an imperforate pair of the 1 c., rose, and *The A. J. of Ph.* reports a block of four of the 2 c., violet, perforated all round, but without the horizontal and vertical lines of perforation between the stamps, and a horizontal pair of the 10 c., vermilion, imperf. between the two stamps. All these curiosities belong to the lithographed provisional issue.

Brazil.—*The A. J. of Ph.* describes a new edition of the 80 reis Letter Cards, on which the words "CARTA BILHETE," in a label, are inserted in black, as in the case of the errors previously chronicled, in substitution for the same words printed in colour.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie reports a 300 reis of the current Newspaper series.

Journal Stamp. 300 reis, carmine.
Letter Cards. 80 reis, rose, blue and black on blue.
80 " " " " rose.



British South Africa.—We give an illustration of the surcharged Registration Envelope described in December. This territory seems never to be satisfied with the liberal series of values provided for it by the South Africa Company. It yearned at one time

for a 4s. stamp, and having received it was content therewith for a time. It has now, however, had it converted into a 3s., by means of the usual surcharge in two lines of *sanserif* type. But if this overprinting is done in London, as we should suppose from its appearance, why was not a supply struck off from the adaptable die, and the value inserted in the proper way?

Adhesive. THREE SHILLINGS, in black, on 4s., grey, red, and black.

Canada.—Mr. D. A. King has sent us a copy of the printed form to which we alluded last month, and we find that it has the Wrapper stamp impressed in black, with the words "Printed Matter Only" printed above.

Wrapper or Letter Sheet for Printed Matter.
1 cent., black on *axure laid*.

Cochinchina.—*Le Timbre-Poste* is informed, by a correspondent at Saigon, that no stamps have been issued surcharged with the name of this colony. The variety which we described in September was probably an essay, as we hoped might turn out to be the case.

Colombia.—We have received another value of the current series of *Cubiertas*, Type 687 in the Catalogue. *Cubierta.* 50 c., black on green.

Cuba.—*Le C. de T.-P.* gives the following list of stamps of the current type in new colours, and also describes a post card of a new value with stamp in upper centre, and no frame. *Adhesives.* ¼ mil. de peso, rose.
1 cent. de peso, sky-blue.
2 " " rose.
2½ " " violet.
20 " " light-brown.
Post Card. 5 " " green on buff.

Diego Suarez.—We gather from various sources that this Colony has been shorn, philatelically, of its *Dependances*, as previously threatened, and that a whole series of thirteen adhesives, with a full compliment of envelopes and other stationery, bearing the name Diego Suarez alone, is to be added to our treasures. "The Band as before!"

Dominican Republic.—*Le T.-P.* reports, on the authority of Mons. Forbin, the 5 c. of 1880 surcharged "5 centimos," in this type, in black. We presume this is an error, and we could almost hope that it is a fiction!

Adhesive. 5 centimos, in black, on 5 c., blue?

Ecuador.—*The provisional* appears to be the only thing that is permanent here. The higher values being exhausted, the 50 c. has in turn been converted into 5 c., according to *Le T.-P.* The same authority reports the discovery of a new size of the 10 c. envelopes of 1887, which exists both unsurcharged and, we gather, with the surcharge applied in 1891.

Adhesives. 5 c., in black, on 50 c., maroon.
5 c. " " 50 c. " " surcharge inverted.
Envelopes. 10 c., orange on straw; 151 x 91 mm.
10 c. " " blue " "
5 c. on 10 c. " " straw " "
5 c. on 10 c. " " blue " "

Fernando Po.—The Editor of *Le T.-P.*, who had some suspicions as to the character of the 50 c. on 1 c., has had them set at rest by the sight of an envelope franked by three impressions of the surcharge, struck in blue, and accompanied by a note to the effect that this provisional franking stamp was employed owing to the exhaustion of the supply of adhesives. The surcharge, therefore appears to be genuine, and we may accept it as having been employed on the 1 c. We have also to chronicle it as hand-stamped upon letters.

Provisional. 50 c. de p, blue; hand-stamp.

France.—The Unpaid Letter Stamps in their new colours are gradually making their appearance. We have received the 5 c., and others are quoted by divers of our contemporaries.

Unpaid Letter Stamps. 5 c., pale blue.
15 c., pale green.
30 c., rose.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* gives the colours of the surcharges upon the French stamps adapted for use in Zanzibar; the 5 c., 10 c., and 1 franc are overprinted in red, the 25 c. and 50 c. in blue.

Gold Coast.—*Le T.-P.* gives a long list of varieties of the straight surcharge upon the Registration Envelopes supplied to this colony:

Name	53½ x 3 mm.	Size F.
"	63 x 3 mm.	Sizes F, G.
"	62½ x 3½ mm.	Size F.
"	64 x 3½ mm.	Sizes F, G.
"	65½ x 4 mm.	Size G.

The *London Philatelist* gives a similar list, from which we add the following:

Name	64 (54?) x 3 mm.	Size F.
"	61 x 4 mm.	" G.
"	63 x 4 mm.	" G.

The first of these is possibly the same as the first of the former list; the third is no doubt the same surcharge as that given by M. Moens as 62½ x 3½ mm., but on G instead of F; the second is different to any of the others. Our information twelve months ago was to the effect that there were two distinct types, the earlier measuring about 54 mm. and the later about 64 mm., both of which existed on sizes F, G, and H.

Le T. P. adds that imitations of the overprint are to be met with, measuring 63 x 3½ mm.

The *Philatelic Record* states that the envelope with the new stamp has the new formula also, but without the Insurance Regulations.

Great Britain.—The *Ph. R.* describes a specimen of the 2s., blue, Plate 2, a plate which was said to have been spoilt in the making, and of which we believe no sheet was even registered; yet now a copy turns up on the spray paper, and perforated. We presume that it is impossible that the figure "1" can have been altered to "2" so skillfully as to pass muster. *Adhesive.* 2s., blue; Plate 2.

The *L. P.* has obtained official information to the effect that 14,976 of the old pattern Registration Envelopes were embossed with the new die, in error; all were of size G.

A correspondent sends us a wrapper of azure wove paper, embossed with the oval 3d. stamp, and states that the authorities will no longer print the ordinary wrapper stamp upon azure paper. We were not aware that this had ever been done; we have no recollection of having seen the wrapper stamp upon other than *white* or *buff*.

Mons. A. de Keusterskiold informs us that he has found a specimen of the 10d., brown, plate 2, making, we believe, the third or fourth copy of this variety that is known in the issued condition.

Hayti.—In addition to the 2 c., which we noted in November, *Le T.-P.* chronicles the current 7 c. in an imperforate condition.

Adhesive. 7 c., vermilion; imperf.

Holkar.—Our publishers send us a couple of horizontal pairs of the ½ a. stamps, in both of which the vertical line of perforation between the stamps is missing. On the other hand one of them has been doubly perforated below, producing a line of small denticulations resembling those of the unique variety of Ballyrotsk.* The stamps bear an overprint, consisting of Indian characters in an oblong frame, the meaning of which is unknown to us.

Adhesive. ½ a., orange; varieties of perforation.

Honduras.—The authorities of this Republic have resolved upon keeping the pleasures and profits of philately in their own hands in future, and have cancelled their contract with Mr. Seebeck. We doubt whether collectors will benefit much by this, the multiplication of varieties will probably continue much as ever, and future issues are not likely to be such fine specimens of engraving as the last.

India.—A correspondent kindly gives us ocular demonstration of the fact that the ½ a. card is still allowed to pass as 1 a. with a 9 pies adhesive. He adds that he believes we are in error regarding the 8 a., *rose*, stamp, but does not say whether our error is in chronicling that variety, or in supposing (as we did originally) that it might be a *chemical*.

We have been shown an envelope, which passed through the post in 1866, franked by an 8 pies postage stamp and a 6 a. bill stamp unmutated and uncharged. This is an undoubtedly genuine specimen of an interesting curiosity which is quite new to us. Mr. Summers sends us two specimens of the ½ a. Service Card, with the stamp bearing the Queen's head, one of which has three dotted lines, in *black*, on the address side; but we believe these to be merely a departmental addition, like the printed form on the other side. We have also a variety of this card in which the bracket "(" is absent from the commencement of the instruction.

Italy.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the new single 10 c. card. The heading is "CARTOLINA POSTALE ITALIANA —(CARTE POSTALE D'ITALIE)" in two lines. The Arms and the instruction on the left are the same as upon the reply-paid card described last month, and the words "Provincia di" are omitted.

Post Card. 10 c., carmine on cream.

Liberia.—We are indebted to Mr. Hayman for specimens of the new 5 c. stamps, both ordinary and official,



* We still believe this variety to be unique, in spite of the assertions of our old friend File. We know those Old Files, they come from Sheffield.

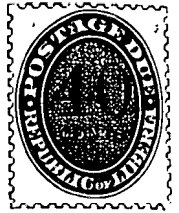
which replace the provisionals chronicled in November. The accompanying illustration saves us the trouble of describing the design, but we must add that it is most beautifully engraved and printed, the vignette in *black* for the ordinary and in *green* for the Service stamp, and the frame in *carmine* for the former and in *lilac* for the latter, on white wove unwmkd. paper. The Service stamps are further distinguished by the letters "O. S.," surcharged in *black* near the lower corners. Both stamps are imperf. at present, but we understand that they will be issued perforated later.

Adhesive. 5 c., black and carmine.

Service Stamp.

5 c., green and lilac; O. S. in black.

The following engravings represent the postage due and the registration stamps described last month.



Mexico.—We have before us a post card, which we believe belongs to the issue of 1890, but which is not given in our publishers' catalogue. It has the current stamp on the upper right, Arms on upper left, and "SERVICIO POSTAL MEXICANO" in an arch in upper centre over a foliate ornament; below the latter are the words "TARJETA POSTAL" in a straight line. There are the usual three lines for the address, headed "Senor," and the instruction below, in fact the card is similar to No. 528 in the Catalogue, but is lettered "SERVICIO URBANO" at the ends, and has the Arms and inscriptions in *blue*.

Post Card. 2 c., carmine and blue; *Servicio urbano*.

Our illustration shows the vignette of the *Express Nacional Mexicano*, as struck upon the envelopes which we chronicled in December.



Monaco.—We learn from *Le T.-P.* that the 75 c. of the current type, which was announced in 1891 in *black on rose*, has only just made its appearance, and is in the colours given below.

Adhesive. 75 c., violet-brown on straw.

Montenegro.—The *J. B. J.* announces the wrappers in fresh colours. Have these been changed already, or is there some mistake about this?

Wrappers. 2 nov., red on yellow.

3 " black "

New Caledonia.—A stamp for Military correspondence is reported, with the name of this colony, but we should like to know a little more of its history before chronicling it.

Nicaragua.—We have received one of the adhesives of the new issue for this year; the design is an artistic one, and of smaller size than hitherto. In the centre is a female figure (? Victory), resting her left hand upon a triangle which contains the Arms of the Republic, and holding up in her right a wreath, with which she is doubtless about to crown Mr. Seebeck. Above the inscription "CORREOS—REPUBLICA DE," and below "NICARAGUA," at the sides "U. P. U.," "1894," and at the bottom "CENTAVOS," with numerals in

each of the lower corners. Engraved in *taille-douce*, printed on white wove paper, and perf. 12.

Adhesive. 10 c., grey

The *Ph. Borsen Courier* announces a variety of perforation of the 5 c. of 1893; the gauge is an unusual one for Seebeckian stamps. *Adhesive.* 5 c., dark blue; *perf.* 14.

Norway.—A correspondent kindly sends a specimen of the 5 öre, the type of which has plainly been redrawn to some extent; the most noticeable point of difference is that the inscription is no longer in *sans-serif* letters, but in a type closely resembling the "Old Style" or "Old Style Antique" of the printers. *Adhesive.* 5 öre, green; *variety of type.*

Nossi-Bé.—We understand that a whole series of adhesives and stationery has been supplied for this place, which is no longer included under *Diégo Suarez et Dépendances*.

Obock.—We give an illustration of the 2 francs stamp which we chronicled last month. We learn from divers of our contemporaries that the 1892 issue, which was to abolish the surcharger and all his works, has been disfigured by an overprint of gigantic letters "D J," and a slab covering the word Obock. The letters are the first two of the name *Djibouti*; which, Mons. Maury states, is a dependency of Obock, and consists of a few huts, among the inhabitants of which may be a couple of Europeans at most! A series of 5 c., 25 c. on 1 c., 50 c. on 2 c., 1 fr. on 5 fr., and 5 fr. is said to exist. We hope it may not be true, but we fear the worst!



Since writing the above we have received a full set of stamps, from 1 centime to 1 franc, of an entirely new design, which we can hardly suppose is intended to serve for all the French Colonies, although the name is inserted, like the value, in a different colour from that of the rest of the impression. The central device appears to represent the Parish Council of Obock, assembled in extraordinary session on the sea shore; this is enclosed in an oblong frame, arched above, and surmounted by a scroll inscribed "REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE," the scroll being interrupted in the centre by a circle containing the value. At the sides of the picture are labels inscribed "COLONIES"—"POSTES," and in the centre below is a similar label containing the name "OBOCK," and the date "1893-94"; in the upper corners are Arabic characters; and the whole is surrounded by an oblong rectangular frame, filled in with conventional ornaments, and adorned outside with imitation perforations. The name and date, the value and the characters in the upper corners are in the second colour given below, and the impression is on the same *quadrillé* paper as the higher values. Is it possible that these extraordinary designs, with imitation perforations, are the result of some speculation, like that of the Melilla curiosities? We can hardly believe that any respectable government would issue such monstrosities.

Adhesives. 1 c., black; name, &c., in rose.
 2 c., lilac " green.
 4 c., claret " orange.
 5 c., blue-green " brown.
 10 c., black " green.
 15 c., blue " carmine.
 20 c., orange " purple.
 25 c., black " blue.
 30 c., bistre " green.
 40 c., orange-brown " deep green.
 50 c., lilac-rose " blue.
 75 c., violet " orange-brown.
 1 fr., sage-green " purple.

Paraguay.—*Der Philatelist* states that the 7 c. of the 1887 issue exists with the "OFFICIAL" surcharge in violet, to be added to the series of 1891.

Official Stamp. 7 c., brown; violet surcharge.

Philippine Islands.—*Le T.-P.* announces another change of colour in the current type.

Adhesive. 12½ c. de p., flesh.

Porto Rico.—More changes here, of which we obtain news from *Le C. de T.-P.* and *Le T.-P.*

Adhesives. ½ mil. de p., light brown.
 1 " blue.
 2 " flesh.
 4 " yellow-brown.
 1 cent de p., brown.
 2 " violet.

Adhesives. 3 cent de p., olive.
 5 " red-brown.
 8 " dark violet.
 10 " olive-green.
 20 " sky-blue.
 20 " bright rose.
 40 " red-brown.
Post Card. 3 " carmine on buff.

A correspondent on the spot informs us that the Columbus stamp was designed by Pedro Blanes Viale, a youth only fourteen years old, which is perhaps some excuse for him, though not for the authorities who issued it. He adds that 10,000 copies were printed, and almost all were taken up by Government officials!

Queensland.—In reference to our remarks upon the 9 × 13 perforation of some of the stamps of this colony, Mr. Stafford Smith assures us that he has found specimens thus perforated in a parcel of common stamps, and *The Ph. J.* of G. B. reports the same experience. We must not be taken as endorsing all the opinions of the correspondent from whose letter we quoted last month, and we are happy to be able to report that we have, at the last moment, received a letter from him stating that he has discovered the machine which produced the 9 or 9½ perforation, and containing some other information which we will lay before our readers next month.

Reunion.—We give an illustration of the surcharged stamp described last month, and we learn from *Le T. P.* that the overprint was set up so as to cover 25 stamps at once; 18 resemble the type shown, 6 have a figure "2" with the upper part curled inwards, and the remaining 1 has a figure 7 mm. high.



Roumania.—*The Postal Card* describes the 10 + 10 bani cards, corresponding with the single card we chronicled in November. The cards are joined with the top edge of the reply half attached to the bottom edge of the first half, both impressions being on the same side of the card when opened.

Post Card. 10 + 10 bani, carmine on buff.

Russian Locals.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Biejsk.—It appears that there are five varieties of type of the round stamp chronicled last month. These appear side by side in a horizontal row, the alternate rows being printed upside down for the benefit of amateurs of *tête-bêche* pairs. They were in circulation from December, 1892, to January, 1893. The next type, without the line under "МАРКА," continued in use until October, 1893, when it was replaced by the two types that are still in use, the larger one being for the female inhabitants and the smaller for the male.

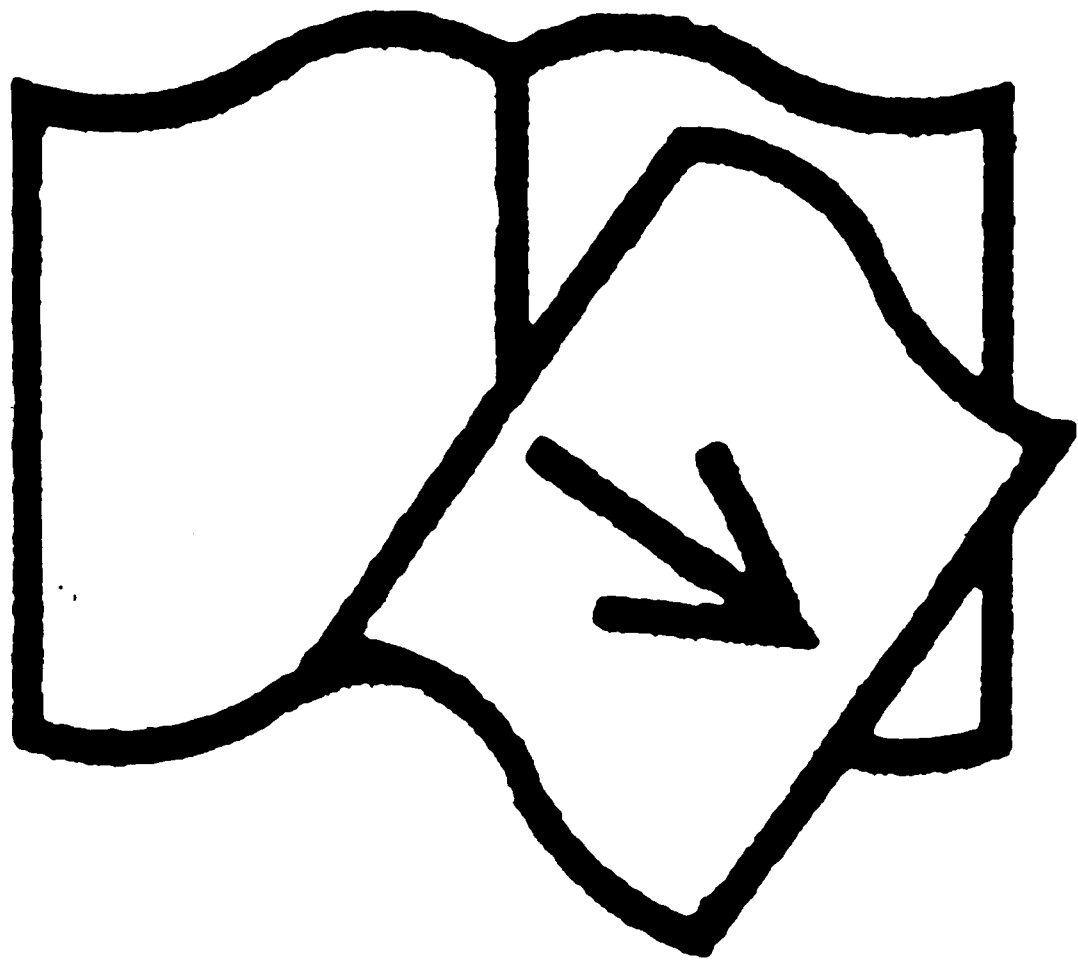
Oustoujna.—Our *confrère* states that the stamp has been restored to the dimensions which it possessed previous to 1891, but the illustration shows a design of identically the same size as that of the issue of that year, though it is allowed an ample margin inside the perforations. We fancy, however, that this is the variety chronicled in August, 1892, differing from the stamp of 1891 in having no stop after the inscription above the numeral, and perf. 11½ instead of rouletted.

Schadrinsk.—We give below an illustration of the stamp described last month.

Soroka.—The stamp of 1885 has been found imperforate vertically.



Tichvin.—Our second illustration represents the gorgeous label described in our last.



Tula.—A number of interesting varieties of the earlier envelopes have been discovered, showing fresh permutations and combinations of the stamps, which are printed sometimes on the flap, sometimes on the address side, and occasionally one in each position!

St. Helena.—We give an illustration of the recently-chronicled 2½d. stamp.



Ste. Marie de Madagascar.—This is another of the scraps of territory hitherto included under Diego Suarez, but which is now provided with stamps, &c., from the adaptable die.

Salvador.—We have a single specimen of the Seebeckian Annual from this State, the prominent feature in the design for which, as in the case of Nicaragua, is a female figure. Who the lady is here it is more difficult to say, but from the fact that she carries a Staff on the top of which is a Cap, we should suppose her to be Liberty; she rests her arm, however, upon a book, on the top of a photographer's property pedestal, and we never heard that Liberty was much of a reader! This centre-piece is enclosed in an oval, with "CORREOS DEL SALVADOR" above, and value in words below, all upon a rectangular background, with "C.A.," "1894," in the upper corners, and numerals in the lower. *Taille-douce* engraving, white wove paper, perf. 12.

Adhesive. 5 c., chestnut-brown.

Nothing is sacred to a surcharger! We have the beautiful helmet of the noble policeman (as our friend Ollendorf remarks) disfigured with an overprint, which reduces by one-half the value of the 2 c. stamp of 1893. The surcharge consists of the words "UN CENTAVO," printed vertically, in black; one stamp on each sheet of 100—the 8th stamp in the 9th horizontal row—has an error "CENTNVO."

Adhesives. UN CENTAVO, in black, on 2 c., red-brown.
UN CENTNVO " " 2 c. " error.

Samoa.—The *L. P.* chronicles the current 4d. surcharged "FIVE PENCE" in small block capitals, and with the original value cancelled by a thick and a thin line. We would suggest, however, that, if only for this crime, Samoa should be expelled from "Great Britain and Colonies," and relegated to "Other Countries."

Adhesive. FIVE PENCE, in black, on 4d., blue.

Sandwich Islands.—Our publishers send us a vertical pair of the 5 c., *ultramarine*, perforated vertically, but imperf. horizontally. The specimen is postmarked "Jan. 25, 1892."

Adhesive. 5 c., ultramarine; variety of perforation.

Le C. de T. P. states that, in turning out the old stock of the Post-office, the Provisional Government discovered two sets of the four stamps of the first issue. It ought to be worth the while of almost any Philatelic Society to organise an expedition to annex the islands.

Seychelles.—*L'E. de la T.* chronicles an 8 cents, green and lilac, stamp, surcharged "Revenue," and in addition "4 CENTS," and nevertheless used for postage. We have hunted through Mons. Moens' catalogue, and the recent numbers of *Le Timbre Fiscal*, but can find no record of an issue of Revenue stamps for this colony, so can only suppose that this stamp has been converted to postal use without ever having served its original purpose.

Adhesive. 4 CENTS, in black, on 8 c., green and lilac; Revenue stamp.

Shanghai.—We have received all the surcharged Jubilee matter of which we gave a list last month. The overprint on the adhesives is "1843—Jubilee—1893" in three lines in black, struck diagonally. On the envelopes and wrappers it runs, "1843=1893—Jubilee," in two diagonal lines, in blue on the ½ c. and 2 c., and in black on the 1 c. and 5 c. On the post cards it is in similar type in red, the dates above "LOCAL" and "POST" respectively, and the word below the Arms. And on the letter card the surcharge is "1843—JUBILEE—1893" in three lines in red, diagonally across the stamp.

Sierra Leone.—A correspondent at Freetown very kindly sends us a specimen of the ½d. + ½d. card chronicled last month, which he tells us was issued, with the corres-

ponding single card, on December 19th, 1893. It is of the same length as our English ½d. card, but about 1 mm. less in depth. The cards are joined at the top, and perf. 4½ along the fold.

Le C. de T. P. reports that a registration envelope has been issued here, of similar form to those of the other British colonies. Sizes not mentioned.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue.

South Australia.—A correspondent of *The Stamp News* states that the provisional 5d. stamp has not been issued perf. 15, and is not likely to be. We have not seen this variety, but copied the announcement from a very high authority.

Spain.—We learn, without either surprise or regret, that the magnificent label for the use of the army at Melilla, which we described last month, is the production of an ingenious young gentleman of Almeria. This person is stated by Señor Duro, in a letter to *Le T. P.*, to have had these articles designed and printed, and to have proceeded to Melilla and personally distributed his sticking plasters among the soldiers, with instructions for their use. We understand that there are numerous varieties, adorned with divers pictorial devices, names of different regiments, &c. We would suggest handing over this young man to the Sultan of Morocco to be perforated!

Tasmania.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* informs us that "Souvenir" post cards were issued in connection with the Tasmanian International Exhibition, but we rejoice to find that the infiction in this case consists merely of a picture printed on the message side, rendering the card practically useless for any but philatelic purposes, and not constituting a variety of any particular interest.

Tunis.—A correspondent informs us that he has recently obtained a set of the stamps of the first issue, direct from an official source in Tunis, and that the letter containing them was franked by stamps of that issue. The reprints are therefore apparently available for postage, and are practically a re-issue.

Turkey.—*The Ph. J. of G. B.* states that there are "two varieties of *l'le-bêche* 2 piastres. In one the Turkish numerals and in the other the French numerals are inverted." But this nature of variety is not what is commonly understood by the expression *l'le-bêche*; we gathered from *Le T. P.* in November last that there was a stamp upside down on the sheets of this value.

Adhesives. 2 piast., brown; Turkish numerals inverted.
" " " French " " "

Uruguay.—Our publishers have found a pair of the 5 c. surcharged "Provisorio—1891," on one stamp of which the first two letters are entirely absent, and the side of the third letter is slightly defective, making it read "ovisorio." Something must have come between the stamp and the type, as there is ample room for the whole surcharge.

Adhesive. 5 c., red and violet; variety of surcharge.

Victoria.—We have before us two varieties of the Letter Cards of the current type. One is on grey card, with the reverse white, like the material of the first issue, and the impression seems to be in red; this appears to be the variety issued in November, 1892. The other is on pale azure card, the same on both sides, and is printed in rose; this we believe to be new. Both have the line of perforations rounded at the corners. Does either of them exist with the perforations crossing? and, if so, which of them? We should add that the instructions on the backs of the two cards described above are not in identically the same type, and that in the earlier one there are commas after "affixed" and "Zealand" in the last line which are not present on the later variety. *Letter Card.* 1d., rose on azure.

Various of our contemporaries state that stamps clipped from all kinds of postal stationery, envelopes, wrappers, post cards, and letter cards, are now allowed to pass as adhesives in this colony.

Western Australia.—The Fiscals are coming freely on letters, as might be expected after the announcement in our December number. We shall have to copy the entire list from the Fiscal Catalogues.

BERLIN LETTER.

IN my first letter I spoke of Mr. Lindenberg's work on the envelopes of the North German Confederation, in which a great many of the rare provisional envelopes were declared forgeries. Amongst the latter are included the envelopes with a 2 groschen stamp on the 2 and 3 silbergroschen envelopes of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. Now one of the unfortunate possessors of these forgeries asked the dealer who had sold them to take them back, which the latter refused to do. So the purchaser went to law with the dealer, and the latter was condemned to take the suspicious envelopes back, and refund the money for them to the purchaser. As the most remarkable feature of the trial, I may mention that the evidence of the dealer, and of the propagator of those doubtful things, was not sworn, their evidence not being trusted to by the court. Now the action is before the superior court, and it will certainly be carried to the last

resort, for if the first verdict be sanctioned, any German dealer will be forced to take back all the suspicious *ueberklebte* he has ever sold. German philatelists therefore are eagerly watching the continuation of this important action.

One would think that the German stamps, such favourites with most continental philatelists, would hardly leave room for discoveries. Yet such has happened within the last month. Two collectors, unknown to one another, found at about the same time an error in the first issue of Baden—the 9 kreuzer printed on *green* paper. It is not very surprising that this error has been overlooked till now, for it requires a careful eye to note the difference between it and the *green* 6 kreuzer. Three specimens are known so far—used in July, 1851, in a small place in the Grand Dukedom, and most likely coming from the same sheet,* erroneously printed on the wrong paper. Two of the errors were shown at the meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club. These were absolutely genuine and beyond suspicion, but we may be sure

* The sheet consisting of 360 stamps in four panes of ninety.

STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 146.)

PART II.

The Stamps Issued under British Rule.

OWING to troubles with native tribes living within the boundary of the Republic, to the dissatisfaction of a great part of the inhabitants with the then President, F. Burgers, and to sundry other causes, the British Government sent, in January, 1877, Sir Theophilus Shepstone to Pretoria. He proposed certain alterations in the Constitution, which were accepted by the Volksraad, assembled in an extra-

administrator. When the first printing of how many it consisted, and which values it comprised, I have no evidence whatever. The Official Stamp Record begins only on 7th July, 1877, and all issued before that date were not booked.

As I take it that the last issued stamps of the Republic were on *pelure* paper, and as nearly all the stamps overprinted with "V.R. TRANSVAAL" are on wove paper, more or less thick, I feel positive that a new printing must have taken place some time between April and July, say in May, 1877. Moens chronicles the 1 p., red,* on *pelure* paper, with surcharge; and I have myself seen a specimen of this; so that probably some sheets that were still on hand (perhaps in the office

* Also the 3 p.—ED.

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Further evidence in favour of my theory is the similarity of the paper of the stamps surcharged in *red*, and the 1 p., dull red; also that but few rouletted specimens of stamps with this surcharge are found. This, I think, shows that the stamps were urgently wanted, and that there was no time to roulette many. Owing to the great scarcity of stamps on entire envelopes, and of specimens obliterated with date stamps, I fear it will be impossible to prove when the stamps surcharged in *red* came into use; but I take May, 1877, as a probable date. I have hunted high and low for information on this point, but without success. The Treasurer-General, Postmaster-General, and Distributor of Stamps of those days are dead; the Auditor-General (also a member of the Stamp Commission) and the printer do not remember anything about this subject, which is only of interest to philatelists, and would hardly be noticed by officials.

Mr. Jeppe, who was away from the Transvaal during the first seven months of 1877, unfortunately cannot enlighten me; but he states that on August 8th he sent two specimens of 3 p., surcharged in *red*, and two of 3 p., surcharged in *black*, to a friend; and this seems to be a further proof of my theory being correct. I take it for certain that the 3p. stamps, printed and issued on July 7th in a quantity of 14,400, were surcharged in *black*, and that the quantity of those surcharged in *red* must have been very much smaller; their present rarity proves this plainly enough. Besides this unrecorded supply of stamps with *red* surcharge another printing must have taken place, consisting of a large quantity of 1s. stamps with black surcharge; this quantity was large enough to last until, in November, 1878, the permanent type with head of Queen appeared. From the Blue-book for 1878, an extract from which I give later on, it is clearly shown that in the half-year—January 1st to June 30th, 1878—4,111 shilling stamps were used. From this I take the supply to have been between 10,000 and 12,000 stamps, reckoning date of issue as May, 1877, and date of new type issued as November, 1878, which gives the stamp a circulation of 18 months. This stamp is scarce; it is found rouletted, and with inverted surcharge owing to the *tête-bêche* stamp in the plates. It is also met with cut in halves, diagonally or vertically, and each half used separately as a 6 pence stamp. I have several of these on parts of envelopes, cancelled in different offices, showing that the cut stamps were allowed to be used.

I have one of these 1s. stamps, with *black* surcharge, on which the distance between "V. R." and "TRANSVAAL" is $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. larger than in the usual surcharge; the stamp, surcharge, and cancellation, are undoubtedly genuine. It is the only copy with this surcharge that I have ever seen, nor have I seen it mentioned anywhere before. I cannot in any way account for it; I have never seen a full sheet of the surcharged 1s. stamp to see whether or not a row of the overprint was placed further apart than usual. If my theory is correct that the 1s.

stamps with *black* surcharge were printed separately, that would account for the error only being found in this value. As I have now drawn attention to this variety I hope other collectors will examine their specimens, and I should be glad to hear if other copies are discovered.

Of the 1 p., dull red, on white wove paper, similar to that on which the stamps with *red* surcharge are printed, I have a sheet of forty stamps; it has the peculiarity of being rouletted all round the outer edges, but elsewhere imperforate. I think this rouletting was only done for the sake of getting rid of the more or less large margin of the sheets; perhaps it was found to be easier and quicker than to use scissors. I cannot find any errors in the surcharge on this sheet, nor am I aware that any such exist on the stamps surcharged in *red*, which would seem further to prove that this 1 p., with *black* surcharge, belongs to the lot including the other values overprinted in *red*, and forming the first issue. In the Reference List at the end of this part I have given the *red* surcharge first, followed by 1 p. and 1s. with *black* surcharge. This is not, strictly speaking, correct; but the stamps surcharged in *red* have always been considered a separate issue, and it would perhaps cause confusion to place the one value surcharged in *black* with the three surcharged in *red*. There is absolutely no evidence to show how large the supply of the first surcharged issue of 1 p. stamps may have been; if issued in May it lasted the authorities till the end of September, thus being in use for five months, and perhaps 20,000 were sufficient for that purpose.

To avoid repetitions I will call the surcharge "V.R. TRANSVAAL" in capitals, with dot at the end, Type I. I take the 6 p. and 3 p. stamps printed on 7th July, as per Stamp Record, to have been surcharged with Type I. in *black*, and make the 1 p. stamps printed on 28th September, 1877, a second edition of the same surcharge. I take the latter to be those printed on a glazed paper, in rather *bright vermilion*. I have three large blocks of these stamps, which are rouletted on the outer edges, but otherwise imperforate. One of these blocks shows the last stamp but one in the top row to have no dot after "TRANSVAAL." I have several other specimens, which, owing to irregular printing, read only "TRANSVAA," "TRANSVAAL T," &c.

Major Evans in his catalogue chronicles for the *black* surcharge other varieties, such as double surcharge, no stop after "R" of "V.R.," inverted "A" for "V" in "TRANSVAAL," none of which I have as yet met with, although I possess some ninety stamps of this issue. I chronicle these on his authority.

The printing of 31st August, 1877 (26,880 6 p. stamps), I take to have been the 6 p., blue on *rosé*, which Moens catalogues under October, 1877.* This is the first stamp of the long series printed on coloured paper.

I have tried my best to discover on whose

* It was chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* for December, 1877.—Ed.

authority the various changes of paper were made, and where these papers were obtained. The following extract from a letter of the Auditor-General, in answer to some of my inquiries, gives some information upon this point :

"The first few months after the Annexation we used the old Transvaal stamps with "V R." surcharged on them; when the stock was exhausted we printed more from the blocks, which were in possession of the Stamp Commission. The surcharge was made on instructions received from the Colonial Secretary's office; the surcharge was printed immediately after the printing of the stamps from the blocks in the office of the Government Gazette. The old Republican Government used coloured papers for the different denominations, and the Commission continued to do so until certain colours ran out, when the remaining colours were used indiscriminately for the different denominations. I cannot tell you where the paper was procured; but we found it in stock, and used it."

The Auditor-General here makes a mistake; he mixed the Revenue stamps, which under the old Republic were always printed on coloured paper, with the postage stamps, which were all printed on white paper; he would have had much more to do with the Revenue series than with the others, hence his mistake. But he tells us where the coloured paper came from, namely, from the stock on hand, which was bought in 1874-76 from Holland for use for the Revenue stamps. The Stamp Commission printed both Revenue and postage stamps, and had the paper for the former in their possession, whereas the paper for the latter was most likely supplied by the printer; it may therefore be supposed that they wanted to use the coloured paper up, knowing that a new design would be or had been ordered from England, and that it would be useless, or perhaps dangerous, to keep remainders of the coloured paper on hand. The design of the Revenue stamps is not very elaborate, and if the right paper could be obtained it might not have been difficult to forge these stamps, which run from 1 p. up to £5, all of the same design, the value only being altered.

This will probably be all we shall find out about the coloured paper, and I think we may safely say that no special care was taken to print certain values only on certain paper, but that any paper on hand was used for the value needed at the time.

The 6 p. stamp is printed in blue ink on rose paper, it is found frequently rouletted; the black surcharge is of Type I., evidently some sheets were printed reversed, as inverted surcharges are not so uncommon as in the other values; it must also exist *tête-bêche*, owing to the inverted type in the plate. Specimens with no dot after "R" of "V.R." exist, also stamps cut diagonally and each half used as a 3 pence stamp. Moens chronicles this stamp also without any surcharge, which proves that at least one sheet must have escaped the overprinting, but I have never met with a specimen of this variety.

(To be continued.)

RESULT OF THE ANAGRAM COMPETITION.

THE Anagram Competition on the words STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., STAMP DEALERS, has proved quite as popular as those competitions of a similar nature which have been previously held in this paper. More than 15,000 readers of *P. W.* have competed, and the members of my staff have been busily occupied during the past week in sorting out the good anagrams. A thousand of the best were submitted to me personally; and I have, after very careful consideration, decided to award the prizes which I have been empowered to offer by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., of 391, Strand, London, W.C., as follows :

The First Prize, a packet of stamps, 2,000 varieties, priced at £7 10s., goes to W. F. Searcy, 53, Connaught Street, Hyde Park Square, W., for his anagram "I beg all my best pals send to Strand." Second Prize, a new Imperial Album, priced at £5, goes to Frank Yole, L. and S.W. Bank, Ottery St. Mary, Devon, for "My last tip, gentle Bob, Read S.S. and S.L." Third Prize, Philatelic Album, value £5, goes to J. H. Helsdon, 10, Sutherland Street, Pimlico, S.W., for "A grand list, best send me all by post." Fourth Prize, a Philatelic Album, value £5, to James K. Bisgood, Ingestre Hall, Staffordshire, "All a grand list. Send me best by post." Fifth Prize, a Packet of Stamps, 500 varieties, value £4, to Miss Staveley, Killiney Vicarage, Co. Dublin, Ireland, for "Spend liberally, most and best at S.G." Sixth Prize, a Packet of Stamps, value £4, to David Elder, jun., 7, St. Vincent Street, Edinburgh, for "N.B.—All smart boys get a splendid set." Seventh Prize, Philatelic Album, bound in full Persian Morocco, value £2 10s., to M. Mackenzie, 28, Bianca Street, Bootle, Liverpool, for "Trade sampl.s. Best lot in land, by S.G." Eighth Prize, New Imperial Album, in Morocco, value £2 10s., to W. N. Roe, Elstree, Herts, for "Pretty labels add blessings to man."

[Advanced proof from *Pearsons' Weekly*, kindly supplied by the manager to show result of this interesting competition.]

NOTES AND NEWS.

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

South Australia Handbook.—This, the second in the series of the *Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks*, was noted last month in our columns as being nearly ready, and has since then been received, and can now be supplied. We find, however, that a mistake was made in the price, the price at which it was advertised being under cost. The book contains nearly twice as much matter as that on *Portuguese India*, and we are obliged to alter the prices to the following, namely :

7/6 in strong cover, or
9/6 bound in cloth; post-free, 3d. extra.

We shall be glad if intending purchasers will kindly notice this alteration in price.

* * *

The Imperial Post Card Album, Second Edition, is now ready, and can be supplied at prices to be found in our advertising columns. The pages in this volume are blank, with the exception of a marginal border similar to that in the *Imperial Postage Stamp Album*. They are so thoroughly guarded that when full of Cards the covers of the book are flat, and not bulged, as is too often the case with ordinary albums intended for the reception of Post Cards. The book is similar in size to, and is bound in styles to correspond with, the current edition of the *Imperial Postage Stamp Album* and all the *Supplements*. Any number of these books can be employed for the reception of Post Cards, according to the size of the collection.

Edinburgh Philatelic Society.—During a short visit paid to Edinburgh last month we were surprised to find that no Philatelic Society existed there, or in any other part of Scotland. Since our return, however, we have received a letter from a collector headed *Edinburgh Philatelic Society*, which caused us to write for particulars, and the following is a copy of a portion of the letter we received in reply :

“6, ROTHESAY TERRACE, EDINBURGH.

“DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 29th January, I have to say that our society is a semi-private one of recent formation, which we are doing our best to extend, chiefly among young collectors of the West End of Edinburgh.

“We adopted our name because, to our certain knowledge, there was no Philatelic Society in Edinburgh.

“Our total membership is as yet eight ordinary, six corresponding, and three honorary members. The latter are Prof. J. R. Fraser, M.D., F.R.S., the Right Hon. the Lord Advocate, and Lord Moncrieff.

“We should be glad if you would mention us in your Journal, and would feel ourselves greatly honoured if the head of your firm would condescend to become our Honorary President.

“We have not yet printed our rules, but will forward a copy as soon as possible.

“I believe I have satisfactorily explained how it is that we are not as yet known in Edinburgh; but we hope that we shall soon become so, and include in our membership most Edinburgh collectors. Yours faithfully,

“(Signed) T. C. FRASER,
“Member of Managing Committee.”

We trust that this notice in our Journal will be the means of largely increasing the Society, to which we wish every success. To our certain knowledge there is a considerable number of medium and fairly advanced collectors in Scotland, and a Society of this nature should do a great deal towards fostering stamp collecting. We hope when we next visit that beautiful city we may have an opportunity of attending one of the meetings, and seeing what advance has been made in Philately in the northern capital.

* * *

Fiscal Collecting is evidently not a favourite pursuit in this country. Mr. Walter Morley, the well-known dealer in fiscals, has published twelve numbers of his paper, *The Fiscal Philatelist*, and writes, under date of the 2nd instant, that he will have to discontinue it for the present, in consequence of the scanty support it has been able to command. We regret to hear this, as the paper was a decidedly interesting one, and the only one of its kind, so far as we know, published in the English language. We trust that in a short time Mr. Morley may be able to reconsider his decision, and re-publish his paper, which we feel sure met the want of a certain class of collectors.

* * *

New rates of Postage in the Straits Settlements.—Through the courtesy of the acting Postmaster-General we have been favoured with the following :

In order to permit of complete arrangements being made with all Post-offices using Straits Settlements stamps, and with a view to allow of ample notice to the public it has been decided not to bring the new rates of postage into force until March 1, 1894. From that date the rates will be as follows :

To places in the Straits Settlements and the Native States, letters, per half oz., 3 cents; printed papers, per two oz., 1 cent; post cards each 1 cent.

To places outside the Straits Settlements and the Native States—letters, per half oz., 8 cents; printed papers, per two oz., 1 cent; post cards each 3 cents.

The rate for (a) commercial papers and (b) patterns and samples will be the same as for printed papers with the proviso that the minimum charges will be 8 cents and 3 cents respectively.

The registration fee will be 5 cents, and the late fee 5 cents for the first three-quarters of an hour, and afterwards 10 cents.

The postage on the privilege letters of soldiers and seamen in Her Majesty's Service will be 3 cents each.

It will be seen that the registration and late fees and the postage on newspapers generally and on local post cards remains unchanged.—*Singapore Daily Advertiser.*

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President :

H. R. H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President :

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President :

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

At the tenth meeting of the season 1893-94, held at Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 15th December, 1893, the business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Society's reference lists of the stamps of the new British Companies in South, Central, and East Africa, which were proceeded with and completed.

The eleventh meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 29th December, 1893, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President occupied the chair, and twelve other members were present.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Assistant-Secretary reported the receipt, from Messrs. Theodor Buhl and Co., of a copy of the *Stamp News Annual* for the Society's library, which was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The committee appointed on the 9th December, 1892, to investigate the question of the dates when the various imperforate stamps of New Zealand were in use, brought up their report, which was read by Mr. Maycock, who acknowledged the assistance derived from most of the principal dealers, who had placed their stocks at the disposal of the committee. A list compiled by a leading philatelist in New Zealand was appended to the report, which will prove of considerable assistance in elucidating the difficult questions referred to the Committee.

On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Tilleard, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Committee for the able manner in which they had fulfilled their task, and it was directed that the report should be published in the *London Philatelist*, in the hope that collectors possessing dated copies of the stamps in question may be induced to send particulars to supplement the information already obtained.

His Imperial Highness The Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch, proposed by H. R. H. The Duke of York, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary, was unanimously elected a member of the Society. In proposing the name of the Grand Duke, Mr. Tilleard explained that it was understood that His Imperial Highness preferred to seek election as an ordinary member, an honour which was highly appreciated by the members present.

The next business on the agenda consisted of Mr. Bacon's motion in regard to the appointment of an Expert Committee. The objects of the motion, which was seconded by the Vice-President, were explained by Mr. Bacon; and after some discussion it was resolved: "That, taking into consideration the enormous increase in the number of highly dangerous imitations of postage stamps that have appeared of late years, and bearing in mind that one of the objects of the Society is 'the detection and prevention of forgeries and fraud,' an instruction be given to the Council to appoint an Expert Committee, who shall adjudicate upon any stamp or stamps submitted to them for their opinion, such Committee to be empowered to charge a fee for each specimen examined, with the object of defraying expenses incurred in connection with its work, and to make whatever arrangements it thinks best for the carrying out of this resolution in the most effective manner."

Mr. Bacon then read his paper on the "Fiji Times Express Stamps," illustrated by engravings of a reconstructed plate, which were handed to the members to enable them to follow the paper. The various types with their positions on the plate were fully explained; and, on the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Biggs, a

cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bacon for his most interesting contribution, which with his consent it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist*.

At the twelfth meeting of the season, held on Friday, the 5th January, 1894, the business was confined to the settling of the reference list of the Stamps of Malta, which was completed.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 12th January, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., and proved to be one of the most successful meetings ever held by the Society, it being attended by thirty-four members and eight visitors.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting the chairman congratulated the Society on the large attendance of members, and on the great interest which was evidently taken in the study of the stamps of our own country.

Mr. Hastings E. Wright then read a paper upon "The Stamps of Great Britain." After explaining some of the principal difficulties to be encountered in the collection of these stamps, and that in view of a more extended work on the subject, which was in course of preparation, the paper had been confined to notes intended only for the guidance of collectors in forming a collection, Mr. Wright went through the various issues *seriatim*, explaining the chief varieties to be sought for by the student of English stamps. The paper was illustrated by a very choice selection from his own fine collection, kindly lent by Mr. Wright, and left by him for exhibition in the Society's rooms during the past two days. After a discussion on the points raised by the paper, in which several of the members present took part, a hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr. Philbrick, seconded by the Vice-President, accorded to Mr. Wright for his most interesting paper, which with his consent it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist*.

The remainder of the evening was occupied in the inspection of a beautiful collection of the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain, recently acquired by the Honorary Vice-President, comprising upwards of eight hundred stamps in an imperforate state, kindly sent by His Royal Highness for production at this meeting.

The Assistant-Secretary stated that he was the bearer of a message expressing the great interest taken by His Royal Highness the Duke of York, in the work of the Society, and the pleasure which it afforded to His Royal Highness to be able to co-operate in the work by the loan of stamps from his collection.

On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Wright, it was resolved, "That the cordial thanks of the Society be accorded to the Hon. Vice-President, H.R.H. The Duke of York, for the great interest evinced by His Royal Highness in the Society's operations, and for so graciously placing at the disposal of the Society the magnificent collection of stamps, which the members have been privileged to inspect at this meeting."—From *The London Philatelist*, the *Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London*.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

ON December 21st Mr. W. G. Walton gave his paper on "Sydney Views." The various plates and varieties were well illustrated from the collections of the members present.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. R. Hollick for presenting a number of forgeries to the forgery collection of the Society, and also for a gift of books to the Library.

Mrs. L. Smith was elected an ordinary member.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Walton concluded the meeting.

THE first meeting of the New Year was held on January 4th, when the President, in a few opening remarks, expressed his intention of presenting to the Society, as a New Year's gift, *The Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s Advanced Catalogue*.

Mr. Walton presented a bound copy of the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, vol. ii. Votes of thanks were

given to Messrs. Wilson and Walton for their useful and generous gifts.

Mr. Victor Lundblad was elected an ordinary member.

Mr. R. Hollick then read a very interesting and instructive paper on the issues of New South Wales from 1854 to 1863. Embracing as it did a careful description of the errors of colour and watermark and all the various shades and perfs., it will be of valuable assistance in drawing up the Society's List of these series.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Hollick brought the meeting to a close.

At the ordinary meeting on January 18th Hon. Auditors were elected and requested to audit accounts for 1893 before the next meeting. In the case of monthly publications it was decided to enter the votes of thanks on the minutes at the completion of the volumes, in order to save the time of acknowledging the receipt of each month's presentations.

Mr. W. T. Wilson then gave "Some additional notes on the New South Wales diademed 2d." as a continuation of the paper given by Mr. Hollick. The paper was illustrated by rows of shades arranged in nine divisions according to condition of the die.

I. Imperf.—1. First state. 2. Worn state. 3. Retouched. 4. Second retouch. 5. Printed from a die that had only been partially retouched.

II. Perf.—6. New plate from the matrix. 7. Background and corners redrawn. 8. Retouched. 9. From injured die.

Mr. G. Johnson then read his paper on the stamps of Holland and her Colonies. The latter comprise: Curaçao (including for postal purposes Oruba, Buen Ayre, south part of St. Martin, Saba, and St. Eustatius, all being islands of the West Indies), Dutch Indies (Java, Sumatra, Celebes, greater part of Borneo, the west part of New Guinea, part of Timor, and a large number of smaller islands), and Surinam, or Dutch Guiana.

The varieties of perforation were classified, and the types and arrangement of the unpaid letter stamps shewn, together with the numerous shades and dies of the post cards and envelopes of the above countries. Among the oddities of perforation there were of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. (1877) Holland:

1. $14\frac{1}{2}$ top, $11\frac{1}{2}$ bottom, 12 sides.

2. $14\frac{1}{2}$ horiz., $12\frac{1}{2}$ vert., with an additional perf. ($12\frac{1}{2}$) across the bottom part of the stamp.

3. $13\frac{1}{2}$ all round, but another line of perf. ($11\frac{1}{2}$) across the stamp.

4. $14\frac{1}{2}$ horiz., 12 vert., $12\frac{1}{2}$ across the stamp near the bottom.

5. $14\frac{1}{2}$ horiz., 12 vert., $12\frac{1}{2}$ across the stamp near the top.

6. $13\frac{1}{2}$, double perforation all round.

7. 12 top, $13\frac{1}{2}$ bottom, 13 at sides, with another line of perf. (12) vertically near left side.

A complete set of the 1867-71 and some of the later values were shown imperf.

A vote of thanks to Messrs. Wilson and Johnson brought the meeting to a close.

ORDINARY Meeting, February 1st. Balance-sheet for 1893 having been audited and found correct was passed, a balance standing to the credit of the Society.

Mr. A. A. Bartlett (Prince Edward Island) was elected a "corresponding" member. Letters were read from Messrs. Bartlett and Wurtele *re* Exchange Packets between the Birmingham and Canadian Societies. Arrangements were left in the hands of the Hon. Secs.

Mr. G. Johnson then read his paper on New South Wales, 1870 to 1887, 1888 to the present time. The former series was divided into two distinct sets, according to the shape and size of the watermark. The paper was ordered to be printed in the official journal of the Society.

Ordinary Meeting, February 15th. J. S. Goodacre (Barnstaple) was elected a "corresponding" member.

A vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. for a copy of their *Stamps and Stamp Collecting* (Major Evans).

Discussion *re* "Members subscribing to *The London Philatelist*" was adjourned till next meeting.

Mr. J. H. Cooke then introduced the subject of "Forgeries" by showing a number arranged on sheets alongside the genuine stamps. Other members also brought their collections of these stamps, including forged grilles, &c.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

A SPECIAL MEETING was held on Wednesday, the 6th Dec., at 6 p.m. Two new members were elected. Proposed by A. C. Trapp, Esq., and seconded by D'Mahadevrao, Esq., that an Honorary Corresponding Society membership be conferred on the Alamo City Philatelic Society, Texas, U.S.A. (Carried.)

The Honorary Secretary read a letter from Mr. Edward W. Heusinger, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alamo Philatelic Society, intimating that the Governing Committee of that Society had conferred an Honorary Corresponding Society membership on the Bombay Philatelic Society. A cordial vote of thanks to that Society for the honour was carried unanimously.

The members next discussed the question of having an auction sale once a month in connection with the Society.

Exhibits.—The Hon. Treasurer showed fine clear used specimens of the 1, 2, and 3d. Sydney Views, including those of the 1d. with and without clouds.

The Hon. Secretary showed his collection of the plate numbers of Great Britain (almost complete), including the rare 2s., red-brown, plate number 1, in fine condition.

Several sheets containing doubtful Persian stamps, Stanley Gibbons' types 1897 and 1899, 9th edition catalogue, were put on the table for the inspection of members, and after some discussion it was decided that a Sub-Committee be formed to examine and report upon the doubtful specimens.

THE fourteenth ordinary meeting was held on Tuesday, the 26th December, at 6.30 p.m. Two new members were elected. The minutes of the last ordinary meeting and the special meeting, held on the 6th December, were read and confirmed. The Hon. Secretary read a paper on the unpaid postal impressions of Mauritius. J. C. Gardiner, Esq., proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary for his very interesting paper. This was seconded by P. De Cruz, Esq., and carried unanimously, after which an exhibition of stamps, &c., by magnifying lantern was shown by the Hon. Secretary. Exhibits: Mr. Dadabhai Mahadevrao showed a copy of the 8 annas East India postage, used, having a double row of perforations across the centre. Dr. C. F. Pacó showed a 6d. Great Britain, without letters in corners, surcharged 6d. in red. The Hon. Treasurer showed a 10d., red-brown, Great Britain, having plate No. 2. The Hon. Secretary showed a used envelope having the 2s., blue, and 6d., green, and an unpaid impression in red to the value of 10d., the impression having been defaced by the Mauritius postmark.

THE fifteenth ordinary meeting was held on Monday, the 8th instant, at 6 p.m. Present—E. S. Gubbay, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair, and eight members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

New Members elected.—C. W. Bond, Esq., proposed by Dr. C. F. Paco, and seconded by D. Mahadevrao, as ordinary member; A. Lyon Mercado, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by K. Ramchundra; Mrs. M. A. Dinwiddie, proposed by L. W. Grey, Esq., and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, as corresponding members. It was proposed by Dr. C. F. Paco, and seconded by K. Ramchundra, that an album be purchased for the Society, as many members would be glad to present their spare stamps to the Society for this object. (Carried.)

The Hon. Secretary's report for the last session was read and passed.

The election of the Committee for the ensuing year was voted for with the result as follows: President, the Honourable H. J. Parsons, C.S.; Vice-President, E. S. Gubbay, Esq.; Hon. Secretary, J. Seymour Summers; Hon. Treasurer, K. Ramchundra; Exchange Secretary, P. De Cruz; Members of Committee, A. C. Trapp, W. Dobrovich.

The Vice-President showed the following unchronicled varieties of official Persian stamps: 12 sh. on 5 sh., green; 12 sh. on 10 sh., green; 18 sh. on 50 sh., grey; 6 sh. on 25 sh., green (engraved).

W. Dobrovich, Esq., showed two varieties of the quarter anna post card on H.M.S., blue—one on smooth paper, and the other on rough grained paper.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS, *Hon. Sec.*

33, SASSOON DOCK ROAD, COLABA, BOMBAY.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.

President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE sixth and annual general meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 1st, at 7.45 p.m. Present: The President, in the chair, and eleven members. The minutes of the last annual general meeting were read and confirmed. All the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year. The Hon. Secretary presented the annual report for the session 1892-93, and a balance-sheet for the year ending December 31st, 1893, which showed a balance in favour of the Society. The report and balance-sheet were received and adopted. Mr. Thrupp submitted a report of the Exchange Circuit for the past year. The President expressed an opinion that the Society should have a permanent room for meetings, where its books, &c., could be kept, and so become available to members; also that a librarian should be appointed to take charge of the same; and after some discussion it was agreed that the President and Mr. Penninger should form a Sub-Committee to consider and report on the matter.

THE seventh meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 15th, at 7.45 p.m. Present: The President, in the chair, nine members, and one visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The President proposed a resolution that the number of members of the Committee be increased from "seven" to "eight," and that a librarian be appointed. Mr. Willett seconded the resolution, which was carried. Mr. Thrupp made some suggestions as to the Exchange Circuit, which were adopted. Mr. Willett then read some notes on the Stamps of Great Britain, and exhibited his splendid collection of the same, containing almost every variety, in perfect unused condition. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Willett for his interesting paper.

A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*

27, ADELAIDE CRESCENT, BRIGHTON.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(FOUNDED MAY, 1890.)

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE seventh meeting of the session was held at the Leeds Municipal Buildings on Saturday, 20th January. Present the President, in the chair, ten members, and three visitors. The donations to the library consisted of Major Evans' *Handbook* and Westoly's *Stamps of Great Britain*, both presented by Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, to whom the thanks of the Society were accorded. The Secretary announced that a copy of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company's elaborate Catalogue of Stamps and Post Cards had been acquired for the Library.

Mr. Quarkowsky exhibited a number of Wurtemberg official envelopes; Mr. Fleming a British South Africa 5s. stamp surcharged "B.C.A."; Mr. Beckwith a ½d. on 4d. Lagos; and several members the complete set of nine State of North Borneo stamps.

The Rev. T. S. Fleming then gave the introductory portion of his paper on the Stamps of the Island of Ceylon, and received the thanks of the meeting.

THE eighth meeting was held on the 3rd of February. Present, Mr. William Beckwith, ex-President, in the chair, and seven members. Mr. A. Angel, of Headingley, was elected an Associate.

Mr. J. F. C. Sieber exhibited an error of perforation of the British Penny, red, Die II., Large Crown, perforated horizontally through the middle.

The donations to the library, for which thanks were voted, included Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, Mekeel's *American Journal of Philately*, and Major Evans' paper on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" (which is calculated to be extremely useful to collectors); all presented by the publishers.

The Rev. J. S. Fleming continued his paper on the "Stamps of Ceylon" by describing the earlier issues, and Mr. T. K. Skipwith supplemented it by giving a summary

of the later ones, a vote of thanks to both members being accorded at the close.

T. K. SKIPWITH,
13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. DENISON ROEBUCK,
Sunny Bank, Leeds, }

OLDHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The seventh meeting of the session was held on January 17th, 1894, the President in the chair.

After confirming the minutes of the last meeting, it was proposed, seconded, and resolved that papers on different philatelic subjects should be read once a month by such of the members as would kindly offer; and the first paper, entitled "Stamp Collecting of To-day," was promised by the Secretary for February 14th. Other papers to follow this were also promised.

Mr. F. Wild was unanimously elected on the Committee, in place of Mr. S. Ingham (resigned).

Afterwards a number of novelties and new issues were exhibited, amongst them being part of the new issue for North Borneo, and part of the Russian-Finland stamps, sets being shown by the Secretary and the President.

The eighth meeting was held on February 14th, but there being only three members present, it was decided to defer the business until February 28. J. J. DARLOW, *Secretary*.

7, QUEEN STREET, OLDHAM.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the above Society was held on January 16th, 1894, at the house of Dr. Murray, the President. Thirteen members and one visitor were present. The annual report of the Committee was read and adopted. The following is an extract: "Twelve meetings have been held during the past year, with an average attendance of 8.8 of Oxford members, corresponding to about sixty per cent. Seven new members have been elected (four Oxford and three corresponding). Among philatelic papers contributed may be mentioned one by Dr. Murray (the President) on "*The Post Cards of Great Britain*;" one by Professor Napier (Vice-President) on "*The Oxford College Stamps*" (this paper has been published in Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*); and on two occasions a discussion on "*The Stamps of Hamburg*" was opened by Mr. J. F. Burnett, Hon. Assistant Secretary. A forgery collection has been compiled during the year (this was laid on the table), and is at present being edited and arranged by the Secretaries." Allusion was also made to the address sent by the Society to H.R.H. Duke of York on the occasion of his marriage. The balance-sheet was next taken. This, on account of the purchase of reference books for the library, and other extra expenses, shewed a deficit of 11s. 2d. The officers for the year 1894 were then elected; J. A. H. Murray, LL.D., President; R. H. H. Sankey, M.D., Vice-President; F. A. Bellamy, F. R. Met. Soc., Hon. Secretary and Treasurer; J. F. Burnett, F.C.S., Hon. Assistant Secretary. Committee (extra members)—E. A. Bacon, W. J. King, Prof. A. S. Napier, H. Thompson, M.R.C.S., J. R. F. Turner. Some slight amendments were made in the rules, and Mr. H. G. Brittain was proposed a member. Books of stamps from Messrs. W. Morley and Hilckes Kirkpatrick and Co. were on the table, also two exchange packets from other societies.

JOS. F. BURNETT, *Hon. Assist. Sec.*

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—A. R. BARRETT.

THE seventh ordinary meeting of the Session was held at 9A, Princess Square, on January 24th, at 7.30 p.m. The President in the chair. Six members present.

The President concluded his paper on the "Stamps of Japan," dealing very fully with the syllabic and surface-printed issues. He gave a list of the various perforations, exhibiting some in his own collection which he had not seen chronicled. He had only recently secured a copy of the $\frac{1}{2}$ sen., grey, perf. 9, which was new to him. A very cordial vote of thanks was passed to the President for the interesting and instructive paper with which he had favoured the Society.

THE eighth meeting of the session was held on February 7th. The President in the chair. Eight members and one visitor present.

A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for having presented to the library of the Society a copy of their recently published work on *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*.

A circular from M. P. Castle, Esq., in reference to *The London Philatelist*, was read, and the Hon. Sec. instructed to reply to same.

The perforations of South Australian stamps were discussed, and it was decided to devote the next meeting to comparing the dated specimens of South Australian stamps in possession of members with the reference list now appearing in *The Philatelic Record*. ASHER LEVY, *Hon. Sec.*

190, UNION STREET, PLYMOUTH.

RANGOON PHILATELIC CLUB.

AT a meeting of stamp collectors, held in Rangoon on Monday, January 8th, Mr. Cornwall being voted to the chair, it was decided to start a stamp club to facilitate exchanges and to promote the subject of philately, and to ascertain whether this club could be affiliated with the Bombay Philatelic Society for the purpose of effecting exchanges, etc.

Mr. Wagner was appointed Hon. Secretary, and was instructed to write to Bombay for full particulars, and to call together a further meeting on receipt of a reply.

It was decided that a monthly subscription of 1 rupee be levied from each member to defray preliminary expenses, and Mr. Gawthorne was appointed Hon. Treasurer, who kindly placed his office at the disposal of the club for future meetings as a temporary arrangement. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting separated. The following gentlemen were enrolled as members: J. Cornwall, H. R. Heysham, Captain C. S. Jarvis, F. Fraser, S. Oppenheimer, Captain H. Blyth, P. Raineer, H. Gawthorne, Lieutenant R. R. Brown, R. O'Brien, and C. Wagner.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "*Monthly Journal*."

SIR,—I have been greatly interested in Mr. Lockyer's article on "Hungary" in your November number, and also in Mr. Johnson's addition to his list of perforations. I find on looking through my stamps that I have a few other varieties of perforations, viz.,

Issue 1874. Perf. 13 \times 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 5 kr.
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" " 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ \times 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 5 kr.

The horizontal perf. given first.

I have also very carefully gone through a large number of the stamps, and examined their watermarks, and agree with Mr. Johnson that the letters are undoubtedly "kr." and not "KL."

Yours truly, E. E. MANWARING.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. L. C. W.—1. The envelopes stamped to order are printed by the Government on paper supplied by the persons who order them; under the existing regulations coloured papers are not accepted for stamping; we have no idea why the change in the colours was made. 2. The letters in the margins of the sheets are not exactly equivalent to 1'late Numbers, as they are not changed when new plates are made, but when a certain number of stamps has been printed.

F. C. S.—We have no doubt that the inversions you mention are fairly plentiful: it is difficult to say at present what their value may be.

D. L. A.—We are very suspicious of *brown* 3 c. Canadians; beautiful tints can be produced by chemical action. We fear this is an old *chestnut*, as they would term it out there!

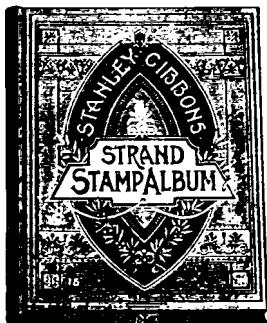
E. R.—The envelope you mention is an error; it is described in the December number.

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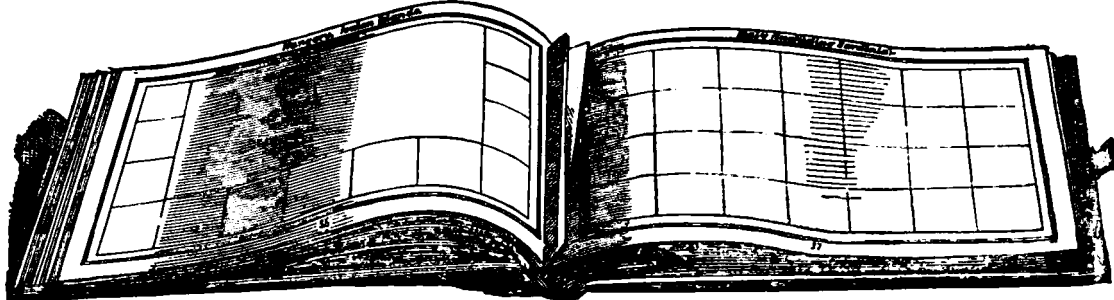
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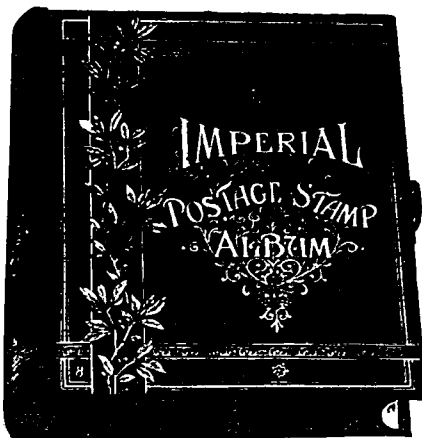
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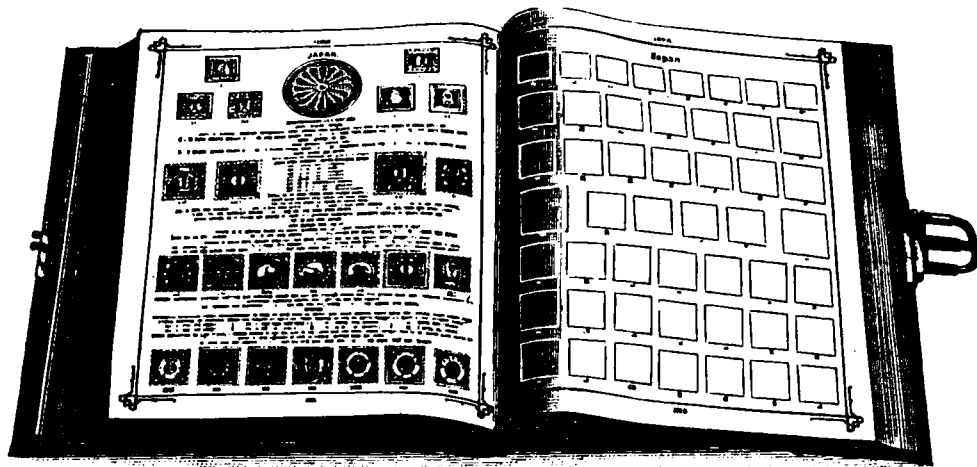
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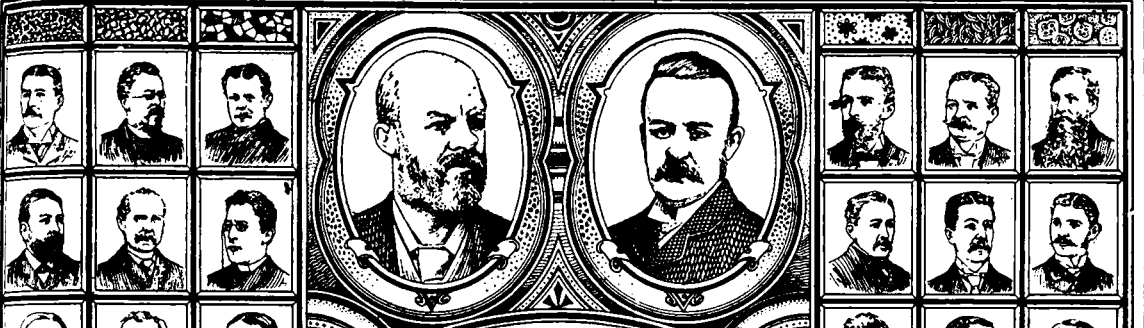
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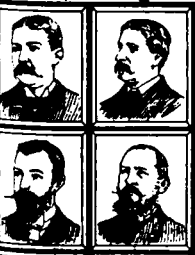
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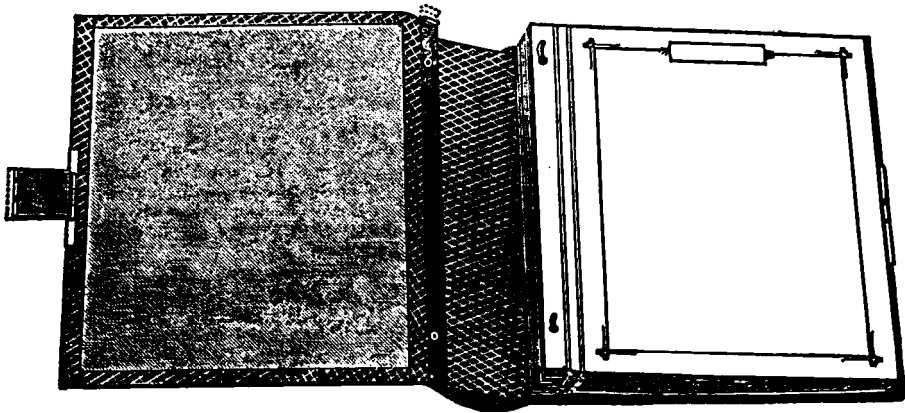
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Each dot is bisected by a small vertical line, thus ●● By this arrangement accurate measurement is guaranteed.

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The additions and alterations are considerable, prominent among which may be named—

An ENTIRE REVISION of the prices, based on a careful comparison with our stock. It is estimated that over 3,000 Stamps have been reduced in price, S. G., Limited, wishing to give their clients the benefit of the numerous bargains they have been able to secure since the last Catalogue was issued.

The entire Catalogue has been revised and (in the case of many countries) re-written, under the able Editorship of Major E. B. EVANS, aided by numerous Specialists—such as Mr. GILBERT LOCKYER (Japan, Australia, &c.) Mr. E. J. NANKIVELL (Transvaal), &c. &c.

The whole of the numerous New Issues that have appeared since the last Edition are fully catalogued.

A VERY LARGE number of Stamps that have hitherto had no quotation attached are in this New Edition correctly priced. Every effort has been made to insert prices, especially of Old Issues, wherever possible.

The Illustrations in the Appendix have been largely augmented. To meet the expressed desire of many Collectors, this Edition of the Catalogue and Appendix may be obtained *interleaved with paper faintly ruled*. This will be much appreciated by Philatelists for various purposes, such as making notes of Auction Sales, New Issues, &c. &c.

The Addenda will be published as heretofore announced. The exhaustion of the Eighth, and consequent appearance of the Ninth Edition of the Catalogue, will not interfere with the publication of the Addenda as advertised.

The Price of the Catalogue and Appendix will be the same as before.

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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

MARCH 31, 1894.

No. 45.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—*Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W. C.*

EDITORIAL.

We were exceedingly sorry to read in a number of *Le Petit Journal*, kindly forwarded to us by Messrs. Cameron & Co., the announcement of the death of Monsieur Gustave Caillebotte, the elder of the two brothers who some five or six years ago abandoned philately, after having acquired a reputation as most enthusiastic and intelligent followers of that pursuit. The brothers Caillebotte were well known for the thoroughness with which they attacked certain special philatelic problems, such as the surcharged stamps of Mexico, the plates of New South Wales, Philippine Islands, &c., and in a comparatively short space of time got together a magnificent general collection also, the gems of which were afterwards absorbed in the Tapling Collection, now in the British Museum. Both of the brothers were likewise esteemed for their genial kindness of disposition, and their readiness to impart to others the information they so laboriously acquired, and we are sure that the many friends whom they made in their too brief philatelic career will be ready to join with ourselves in lamenting the untimely death of the one, and in offering condolence to the other upon his loss.

* * *

We have received a letter drawing our attention to Mr. Westoby's article, in last month's *Philatelic Record*, on "Infringements of the Privileges of the Post-office." We should have ventured upon some remarks upon the article in question in any case, and we are glad to take our correspondent's communication as a basis for the following observations. We regret to note that Mr. Westoby has thought it necessary to degrade the College Stamps to the level, or below the level, of those of the Circular Delivery Companies, a position which from a philatelic point of view is wholly untenable,

though from a postal point of view *perhaps* both classes of stamps occupy the same position.

The statement that the members of neither class are *postage* stamps is one that our correspondent disputes. No doubt one definition of a Postage Stamp is "a stamp issued or used by the Post-office," but we believe the definition of Postage as "Price Paid for the conveyance of a letter" to be equally correct. But this has really nothing to do with the case; collectors accept many stamps that were not issued by any Government Post-office, and many others that do not indicate Postage Paid; and it matters nothing, in our opinion, whether the stamps are postage stamps or not.

As to the philatelic position of the stamps in question, the fact remains that the German Locals and Circular Delivery Stamps, with which they are compared, have been largely reprinted, and were in some cases originally produced solely for sale to collectors, whereas no such charge can be brought against the College Stamps. And with regard to their postal position, it is fair to point out that, while the Circular Delivery Companies were attacked and suppressed within a very short time after they commenced operations, the College Stamps continued in circulation for some fourteen years, their use has never been proved to be illegal, and, as far as we are aware, the system of the conveyance of College letters is still the same—even as Mr. Westoby acknowledges that it was in his own time—and the only difference is that the charge for their conveyance is no longer (except in one College, whose name we refrain from mentioning) collected by means of stamps.

It is a pity that the question has never been tested, as the facts in favour of the Colleges appear to be very strong. From time immemorial, as Professor Napier stated in his paper, the local correspondence of members of the Colleges has been conveyed by College Messengers and other servants. No doubt it has also for many years been the custom to make a small charge for the conveyance of each letter; surely there can be nothing illegal about this. If there is, it is curious that the custom seems never to have been interfered with; if there is not, it can hardly be illegal to employ a stamp as a convenient means of collecting the charge.

* * *

WE fear that we succeeded, in our last number, in putting our foot in it with both hands! Our best of friends, the Editor of *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, whose remarks have so often caused our complexion to assume a hue rivalling that of the outside cover of his magazine, is unable to see the point of a paragraph in our last editorial; and the youngest scion of the ancient house of File has arisen in her wrath, and having recourse to the last dread prerogative of Mr. Speaker, has named a supposed offender for trifling with the family pedigree, discovering Ballyrotsk, writing nonsense about "the instinct of preservation," and other heinous crimes too numerous to mention.

Now we could never contradict a lady, far less argue with one, especially when it comes to calling names; so we will show our preference for impersonalities by returning to our friend the Editor. Perhaps one reason for his inability to perceive the point of our remarks lies in the fact that he appears to have shifted his own point of view. What we said last month was intended as a feeble kind of defence of the London Philatelic Society, against the charge of "quaint exclusiveness," &c., and we find our arguments met with the complaint that the Society is not exclusive enough. The trouble now seems to be, not that there are too few dealers in the Society, but too many! Let us admit, dear Sir, that there is a little inconsistency on both sides; let us leave the London Philatelic Society to weed its garden, as occasion or necessity arises; let us change the subject and take a New Departure!

* * *

TALKING of New Departures reminds us that we are unable to add our voice to the chorus of approbation which has greeted the New Departure of our other friend, the Editor of *The London Philatelist*; and lest any one should say, "Mind your own business," let us hasten to show that we are minding our own business, as a humble, but more or less faithful, chronicler. Now our idea of a chronicle is that it should all be placed under one comprehensive heading, such as "New Issues and Varieties," "Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations," or what not, and arranged so as to be as easy of reference as possible. Any attempt at classification is certain to cause inconvenience to some one, and we cannot but think that the good old Alphabetical Order is the best suited to the case (the only fault that we have to find with that Prince of Chroniclers, the Editor of *Le Timbre-Poste*, is that he persists in spelling Germany with an "A," and Spain and United States with an "E"); and when we find Cook Islands held up as an "example to other peccant colonies," presumably in consideration of the fact that those Islands are neither a *Colony*, nor so far particularly *peccant*; Samoa placed under Great Britain and Colonies, while the protected Native States of British India fall to "Other Countries"; and Vathy expelled from Europe; we feel inclined to rend our blotting-paper, and vow that

"Classification is vexation,
Division twice as bad!"

WE have received a circular on the subject of an Exhibition, to be held in Paris from July to December next, of Articles connected with the production of Books and Paper, the full title being *Exposition Internationale Industrielle, Scientifique, Litteraire, Artistique, Retrospective et Moderne du Livre, et des Industries du Papier*. The comprehensive programme thus indicated is held to include *Timbrologie*, to which a special section is assigned; and a Committee, with Dr. Legrand at its head, and including such well-known collectors as Herr von Ferrary, Monsieur A. Donatis, &c. &c., has been formed to supervise the general arrangements of the section, which are under the more immediate guidance of Mons. Raffalovich, 28, Rue Caumartin, Paris, to whom all enquiries should be addressed. This Exhibition should be as a whole most interesting to philatelists, to whom an intimate acquaintance with the various natures of paper, and the different printing processes, is so essential, and we trust that the Philatelic Section will be well filled.

* * *

WE much regret to have to announce the very serious illness of Mr. Geo. H. Watson, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, who is probably well known to most of our readers as an enthusiastic collector of Post Cards, and as publisher and one of the Editors of *The Postal Card*. Mr. Watson was taken suddenly ill while crossing the river from New York to New Jersey, and was conveyed to a hospital, where he lay for some days in an unconscious state. We hear that he has since improved slightly, but fear that he is still in a very precarious condition.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Azores.—At the last moment we have received the whole set of Celebration adhesives, and the post card, surcharged "AÇORES," in *black*. We refer our readers to *Portugal* for the list, and can only express our surprise that Angra, Horta, Ponta Delgada, Funchal, and all the rest, have not got a set each; but perhaps they are to come!

Baden.—A curious error of one of the early issues of this Duchy was mentioned in our Berlin Letter of last month, which reached us too late for the discovery to be chronicled under this head. It is the 9 kreuzer of the first type, printed on *green*, doubtless in mistake for the 6 kreuzer; three used copies have been discovered so far. Let our readers be on the look out for others, and beware—when found—lest they be the product of the *faker*!

Adhesive. 9 kr., black on *green*; *error*.

Bamra.—We have a post card of somewhat primitive appearance from this State. In the right upper corner is a stamp bearing a fancy portrait of a Potentate with a very elaborate Crown, enclosed in a rectangular frame, with the value in words below, a blank label for the name of this or any other place above, and fancy ornaments at the sides; a row of imitation perforations at top and bottom completes the design. The inscriptions on the card are "BAMRA

STATE POST CARD," in one line, followed by two lines of native characters similar to those upon the adhesives. The impression is very heavily typographed upon this grey-blue card. *Post Card.* ½ a., green on grey-blue; 126×84 mm.

Bavaria.—*La Revue Philatelique* announces the 10+10 pf. card dated "93," and with the usual watermark of vertical wavy lines.

Our publishers send us a pair of very curious errors of the current 3 pf. and 5 p. cards, produced by irregular cutting of the sheets; each shows about three-quarters of one card and one quarter of the adjoining card on the right, the latter being placed upside down in reference to the former. We gather therefore that *12e-bêche* pairs could be produced by any one fortunate enough to obtain unsevered sheets!

Belgium.—We regret to have to report that the Antwerp Exhibition stamps, as per annexed portrait, have duly made their appearance; and as their use is not confined solely to the interior of the Exhibition, but they are allowed to defray postage in the ordinary way, we suppose we must chronicle them. We have only seen the lowest value at present, which we believe was issued on Feb. 20, but we learn from *Le Timbre-Poste* that two other values were to make their appearance on the 20th inst.



Adhesives. 5 c., green on rose; Antwerp Exhibition.
10 c., carmine on blue " "
25 c., blue on rose " "

With reference to the rumoured withdrawal of the Sunday stamps, to which we alluded in January, a correspondent kindly sends us a letter which he received from the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs in reply to an enquiry upon this point. The letter states that "there is no question either of issuing new Dominical stamps other than those with the Arms of Antwerp, or of withdrawing from circulation the current Dominical stamps."

The same informant tells us that he has seen the 5+5 c. card of 1892 with the halves joined below instead of above, an error which has already been noticed by the postal authorities, with the result that orders have been sent to the printer not to do so again!

Post Card. 5+5 c., green on buff; joined below, error.

Bolivar.—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles a cancelled (*? used*) specimen of the 20 c. of 1879 in green. We should suppose this to be a proof or fancy impression: it could hardly be an error, as there was no green stamp in that issue.

Bolivia.—We have received a new series of adhesives of the accompanying type with 9 Stars, which replaces the lithographed set. There are envelopes and cards also, adorned with the same type, the last-named articles being further inscribed "REPUBLICA DE BOLIVIA" on an ornamental tablet, "TARGETA POSTAL" on a small label below it, followed on the first half of the double card by "CON RESPUESTA PAGADA"; three lines for the address, the first headed "Sr," an instruction in the left lower corner, and an inscription indicating Interior or Postal Union use at the right side. There is a Seebeckian beauty about the cards which looks suspicious, but we do not know whether the issue emanates from that celebrated establishment.



Adhesives. 1 c., yellow-brown.
2 c., orange.
5 c., green.
10 c., brown.
20 c., blue.
50 c., violet-brown.
100 c., carmine-red.
Envelopes. 5 c., green on buff; 155×84 mm.
10 c., brown " "
Post Cards. 1 c., yellow-brown on pale green.
2 c., blue on buff.
2+2 c. " "

Brazil.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that the instruction upon the recently-issued Letter Cards, which we chronicled last month, is in italics. The same journal reports two varieties of the 100 reis envelopes, one with the stamp

embossed without colour, and the other similar to the first, but with the addition of a coloured impression in the right lower corner; also that the type for these envelopes has been re-drawn—the inscriptions are smaller, "CORREIO" more compressed and "REIS" more extended. The impression is described as in *carmine-rose*, on envelopes 135×108 mm., and struck before the envelopes are made up instead of after. We gather that this is the variety which we chronicled in July; having no copies of the earlier envelopes at hand, we did not notice the differences of the type and mode of impression.

British Bechuanaland.—The *Ill. Brief Journal* reports that the British wrappers exist with the name of this colony added in red instead of in black.

Wrappers. ½d., red and brown on buff.
1d. " " "

Bulgaria.—Various tinkering of the type of the unpaid letter stamps have been reported during the past two years, but we now learn that the design of the lowest value has been considerably touched up, as may be seen by comparing the accompanying illustration with Type 462 in the catalogue. It is stated by *Le T. P.* to be printed on pelure paper, and perf. 11½.



Unpaid Letter Stamp. 5 st., deep orange on pelure.

Canada.—We are indebted to Mr. D. A. King for specimens of the post card in a new size, which is to replace the large one issued last year, and the wrapper with stamp of the current type in the new colour now used for the cards. The material of both remains as before.

Mr. Bartlett kindly sends us a very curious horizontal strip of four of the current ½ cent. It is perforated at top, bottom, and ends, but there are no perforations between the first and second or between the third and fourth stamps, while there is a double line of holes between the second and third stamps!

Adhesive. ½ c., black; variety of perforation.
Wrapper. 1 c., grey-black on straw; 275×127 mm.
Post Card. 1 c. " buff; 140×85 mm.

Another correspondent sends us some notes on dates of certain varieties, which will be valuable for reference. He possesses the 3 cents on laid paper on covers postmarked in 1869, showing that this paper was used at quite an early period of that issue; also the 1+1 c. card, error with stamps on the left, postmarked Sept., 1884—an earlier date than that usually assigned to it.

Cape of Good Hope.—Some twelve months ago the discovery was reported of a specimen of the 1d., brown, fiscal stamp, franking in part a letter dated Feb., 1865. The Editor of *Le T. P.* has recently examined the envelope in question, and has come to the conclusion that the fiscal stamp did not originally occupy its present position, as the obliteration struck upon it does not correspond with that upon the edge of the envelope, and that the curiosity, in fact, is a—curiosity!

Ceylon.—*Le T. P.* reports the "TWO CENTS" on 3 c. card with double impression of the surcharge, one across the head and the other correctly placed.

We have received a 2 c. envelope of a new type. In the right upper corner is an impression of the wrapper stamp, and by the side of this, along the upper margin, is the following inscription in three lines, within a plain double-lined frame: 1. "District Letter Envelope, price 2½ cents," underlined; 2. "This Envelope will not pass through more than one Post-office, will"—3. "only be delivered when called for, and will not be re-directed." The whole impression is in colour on coloured wove paper.

Envelope. 2 c., deep green on pale green; 137×99 mm.

Cuba.—*The A. J. of Ph.* gives the following to be added to the list of adhesives of the current type in new colours:—

Adhesives. 1 mil de peso, rose.
2 " "
3 " "
4 " "
8 " "

Le T. P. states that the colours of the 5 c. and 10 c. remain unchanged, and that the "2½ c." should be described as "2½ c."

Deccan.—*Le T. P.* chronicles what is stated to be a 9th type of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna envelope, but a comparison of the illustration given with specimens in our possession leads us to believe that the variety is a worn impression of Mons. Moens' Type 4. This type has hitherto only been chronicled on coloured paper, but we have in our collection used copies on white paper showing no less than twelve varieties of flap ornament, all equally unofficial and uninteresting. We can add the following to Mons. Moens' list, all in red on white laid paper, 137 x 80 mm.:

a.	(Type 3),	red on white;	9 varieties of flap.
a.	" 4)	" "	" 12 " "
a.	" 5)	" "	" 9 " "
a.	" 6)	" "	" 2 " "
a.	" 7)	" "	" 1 " "
a.	" 8)	" "	" 2 " "

Ecuador.—We gather from *The A. J. of Ph.* that the surcharge "5 CENTAVOS" upon the 50 c. and 1 sucre is not in the same type as that upon the 5 sucres, but in *sans-serif*. *The Stamp News* states that the earlier surcharge is also to be found upon the 1 sucre, and we can quite believe it. The former magazine reports a mysterious 2 c., *vermilion*, surcharged "Oficial" in violet, which is described in one place as of "1877," and in another as of "1882"—we await more precise information before chronicling it—also the new issue for 1894, which we may welcome as putting an end to surcharging and other vagaries for the present. The design consists of the portrait of an unknown personage in an oval, with "CORREOS DEL ECUADOR" above, and value on a straight label below, with a numeral at each end of it; all upon a rectangular background of lines, with "U. P. U." "1892" in the upper corners. The Official series—for there are Official stamps of course—consists of the ordinary set printed in grey, and surcharged "FRANQUEO OFICIAL" at the top in carmine.

But *Le T. P.* informs us that another provisional was issued at the last moment (Dec. 20th), formed by over-printing the 5 sucres telegraph stamp with the surcharge shown in the accompanying illustration. We believe this to be the second type to which we alluded above.



Adhesives. 5 c., in black, on 1 sucre, blue: first type.
5 c. " on 5 sucres, black and carmine; second type.

- 1 c., blue.
- 2 c., dark brown.
- 5 c., green.
- 10 c., vermilion.
- 20 c., black.
- 50 c., orange.
- 1 sucre, carmine.
- 5 " dark blue.

Official Stamps. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 centavos, carmine and grey.
1, 5 sucres, carmine and grey.

Egypt.—*Le T. P.* reports that the rumoured 2 piastres card is non-existent, as we surmised when copying the news from another contemporary.

France.—We give an illustration of the surcharge applied to the stamps for use in Zanzibar, which *Le T. P.* states is inflicted in red on the 5 c. only, and in black on the other values.



A correspondent assures us that he has met with the 10 c. receipt stamp, with Head of Liberty and the inscription "QUITTANCES," &c. used with the current 15 c. to make up 25 c., and allowed to pass for postage. One requires these things on a very distinctly entire envelope.

French Colonies.—We understand that the Unpaid Letter stamps, in their new colours, which have not all come into circulation yet in the mother country, have already been supplied *imperforate* for use in the colonies.

Unpaid Letter Stamps. 5 c., pale blue; *imperf.*
10 c., brown "
15 c., pale green "
30 c., rose "
50 c., puce "
60 c., brown "
1 fr., pink "

German East Africa.—*Le T. P.* states that the 5 + 5 pesa on 10 + 10 pfennig card exists, but leaves us still in doubt as to the lower value of reply-paid card.

Great Britain.—We learn from Messrs. Alfred Smith and Son's *Monthly Circular* that the dating of the envelope dies has at last been entirely done away with, and that the holes for the date plugs are filled up with ornaments of dots.

The London Philatelist reports, on the authority of a correspondent, a curiosity, the combined peculiarities of which, in the way of date, colourless flap seal, and double embossing, render it worthy of a place in Herr Friedl's Museum or Madame Tussaud's Chamber of Horrors! "Small size envelope with silk thread, Dec. '80; white seal to flap, with doubly-embossed head."

In reference to our remark last month, to the effect that we had not seen the ordinary 3d. wrapper stamp on azure paper, the correspondent we then mentioned kindly sends us specimens showing the stamp in two distinct shades of red-brown upon bands of azure wove. These have been chronicled before, no doubt, but we have an idea that the variety was omitted from a recent edition of our publishers' catalogue on account of its existence being considered uncertain.

We believe that the accompanying illustration should be placed under this heading, though the original is sent us as an Essay for one of the three kingdoms only. The portrait is stated to be that of the first Scotch King of Ireland, and it will be noted that the Head is placed above the Crown, instead of the Crown above the Head!

*William I
Emperor of
Ireland.*



An Irish Essay

Greece.—The *Börsen Courier* chronicles some of the Unpaid Letter Stamps *imperforate*; and *The L. P.* quotes the 5 lepta of the first type, on white paper without figures on back, perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, probably done at the same time as the 1 l. and 2 l. of the same type, which we chronicled in May, 1891.

Adhesive. 5 l., green (1st type); perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Unpaid Letter Stamps. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 lepta, green; *imperf.*

Hungary.—*Le T. P.* tells us that the reply-paid card for use in Croatia now has the instruction measuring 91 mm. instead of 93 mm.

India.—The permanent 1 a. and 1 + 1 a. cards have made their appearance. The inscriptions are the same as those on the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. cards, and the stamp is of similar design, but has the value on a straight label below instead of in an arch above the head, and the four sides are plain, the corners only being hollowed.

Post Cards. 1 a., blue on buff.
1 + 1 a. "

Japan.—Mr. R. A. Binns sends us a corner of a curious card, about which some of our readers can perhaps furnish us with information. It appears to be a coarse imitation of the current 1 sen card, the value on the stamp being replaced by Japanese characters, and the words "JAPANESE POST" by "JAPAN SEIZO." The characters below the stamp, two of which appear in the scrap before us, are also different to those upon the ordinary card, and we fancy that this curiosity may be either a private card, to be used with an adhesive stamp, or perhaps an advertisement or fancy article got up out there in the form of a post card.

Lagos.—We are indebted to Messrs. Cameron and Co for specimens of three new values of the usual type; wmk Crown and CA; perf.

Adhesives. 5d., lilac, value in green.
7d. " " carmine.
10d. " " yellow.

Liberia.—We are indebted to Mr. Hayman, to whom we applied for some information as to the Registration Envelopes, for six varieties of the latter, five of which are new to us. We described the three types of the stamp upon these envelopes in May, 1892, when we also gave a list of the varieties then known to exist, which included only one of those now before us, the first mentioned below. These are all of size F, with the large "K" in an oval, and have exactly the same formula and the same inscription under the flap:

Stamp of Type 2 in ultramarine, brick-red, greenish blue.

Mr. Hayman states that the Registration Stamps do not actually supersede these envelopes, but replace some similar labels, without indication of value, which were issued some eighteen months ago. The envelopes are, however, now obsolete, and we shall be glad to hear of any further varieties, to enable us to compile a complete list.

Mauritius.—The A. J. of Ph. reports that the 15 cents stamp has appeared in a new colour.

Adhesive. 15 c., blue; wmk. Crown & CA; perf. 14.

Montenegro.—The A. J. of Ph. has received a list of additions to the current adhesives, which we trust will not be disfigured by any unnecessary surcharges, as the overprinting Jubilee should be over by this time.

Adhesives. 1 novitch, blue.
20 " red-brown.
30 " dark-brown.
50 " ultramarine.
1 florin, dark green.
2 florins, deep carmine.

We presume these are perf. 12½.

Morocco.—The annexed illustration shows the design of the stamp which we described in November.

Nabha.—Le T. P. reports the discovery of a few copies of the ¼ a. "Service" post cards with the Arms inverted.

Service Post Card.

¼ a., black and brown on buff; Arms inverted.

New South Wales.—Le T. P. chronicles the current 1s., brown, surcharged "O S." in red, and obliterated September 12, 1889. We should like to be assured of the possibility of such a surcharge being genuine before putting this on our list.

Nicaragua.—The A. J. of Ph. adds the following to the list of the new adhesives, the design of which we described last month.

Adhesives. 2 c., vermilion; 1894 type.
5 c., deep blue "
20 c., claret "

Niger Coast Protectorate.—The Philatelic Record states that the British Registration envelopes of the new pattern, with the insurance table on the back, have been surcharged "NIGER COAST—PROTECTORATE," in two lines of sans-serif capitals, in black, above the stamp. Does the insurance arrangement extend as far as this?

Reg. Env. 2d., black and ultramarine; sizes F, G, H*.

The L. P. alludes to a new issue of adhesives for this territory, but it appears, from the description given, to be the series chronicled by ourselves and others some six months ago.

North Borneo.—We give an illustration of the new high value, which, although inscribed "REVENUE" only, can, we understand, also be used for postage; in fact, so long as the purchaser pays his money he may take his choice, and if he prefers to put the stamp in his album unused, so much the better for the Company.

According to Le T. P. a 25 dollars stamp lettered "BRITISH NORTH BORNEO, POSTAGE & REVENUE" has existed; we await proof that such a stamp does exist before chronicling it.



Norway.—The Ill. Brief. Journal chronicles two more values in the type of the 5 öre which we described last month.

Adhesives. 2 öre, orange-yellow.
20 " blue.

Obock.—The annexed illustration shows one of the types of the overprint to which we referred last month. We understand that the other values are adorned with the name "DJIBOUTI" in full; in fact, with a Djiboutiful surcharge!



Our second illustration shows the new design which we described last month. We may add that the execution of the copy is, if anything, rather an improvement upon that of the original.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—It appears that the Rivers of Oil have not been swallowed by the Nigger without considerable effort, attended with a final struggle for philatelic notoriety. The Niger Coast stamps were not to be issued till the first of January; but in December there was a run on the banks of the River, causing much issue of stock, with conversions that might have rejoiced the heart of all the missionaries in the neighbourhood. We learn from The L. P., and from a correspondent in Sierra Leone, that the 2½d. stamp became a ½d., by means of a red surcharge in two varieties of type. The value of the 2d. was raised to "One Shilling" by an overprint struck in violet, red, or black, and to 5s. by a similar addition in violet only. The 5d. was surcharged 10s. in red; and finally the 1s. stamp (of which, it will be observed, there was no spare stock!) was converted to 20s., the disfigurement in this case also being in black, red, or violet! Doubtless the scoulement was greatly facilitated, and we trust that the great majority of our readers will not consider these curiosities absolutely necessary to their philatelic felicity.

Persia.—Mr. Summers sends us a specimen of the current 7 shahi stamp surcharged "SERVICE," in sans-serif capitals, diagonally, in ink which appears to have once been violet. Our informant states that this was given to him by a correspondent at Bushire, but he apparently cannot vouch for its character, and we can only express a hope that it is not genuine, a hope that is strengthened by the fact that the word "Officiel" would more probably have been employed, accompanied by Persian characters of the same import.

The same correspondent sends us an envelope bearing the word "SERVICE" in the right upper corner, and "DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE—DES—POSTES PERSANES" in three lines on the upper left. It is closed by a large circular wafer, with the Lion and Sun in the centre, surrounded by inscriptions in French and in Persian. We should fancy that this wafer, which exists we are told in several varieties of colour, is of a similar nature to the Egyptian Interpostal Labels.

Peru.—Philatelic business has been very dull here for some years past, but the authorities would seem to have been turning out their old stock, roused to emulation perhaps by the success of the Provisional Government of the Sandwich Islands. A correspondent of The A. J. of Ph. states that a number of obsolete stamps are to be put in circulation after being duly "surcharged with a black hand stamp representing the bust of President Morales Bermudes." We believe that no reflection is intended upon Bermudian morals in the matter of surcharged post cards, but the name is certainly suggestive!

The following is given as the list of the victims of the epidemic so far:

Adhesives.	
1 c., yellow.	5 c., blue.
1 c., green.	5 c., " (U. P. U.).
2 c., lilac.	10 c., green.
2 c., rose.	50 c., "
2 c., red (U. P. U.).	50 c., red (U. P. U.).
	1 sol, blue (U. P. U.).

We presume that those marked "U. P. U." have the oval surcharge of 1880, &c. It is stated that "these stamps will

be sold only at the post-offices at Lima, and as the supply is not very large, it is natural that they will rapidly rise in price." The only remedy that we can recommend in this case is total abstinence!

Philippine Islands.—We copy the following list of new colours of the current type from *Le T. P.*:

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
1 mil. de peso, olive.	2 cent de peso, carmine.
2 " " "	2½ " " grey.
5 " " "	5 " " yellow-green.
½ de centavo, light brown.	8 " " brown-violet.
15 cent. de peso, red.	

Porto Rico.—*Le T. P.* states that the announcement of a 20 c. de p., *sky-blue*, which we copied from that journal last month, was made in error.

Portugal.—*The Ph. R.* states that the colour of the 5 reis adhesive has undergone a modification.

Adhesive. 5 reis, pale yellow.

The Don Enriquez celebration issue has reached us from divers correspondents, to all of whom we would express our thanks. As we hope next month to give illustrations of the three designs employed for the adhesives, we will content ourselves with a very brief description now. On the lower values, up to 20 reis, the Navigator is shown in a commanding but somewhat unsafe position in the bow of a boat, a sudden lurch of which would certainly precipitate him into the sea. On those from 25 reis to 100 reis he is safely landed, and appears to be represented as Gulliver directing the movements of the fleet of Lilliput; while on the higher values, which we may add are very nicely engraved in *taille-douce* (the others being poorly lithographed), he stands in the midst of the universe, apparently supporting the two globes, Celestial and Terrestrial, with either hand! The card is inscribed "*Bilhete Postal—Portugal e Hespanha—Dez Reis*" in three lines, with "1394—1894" in the right upper corner, and at the left a full-length figure of the Infante in full armour, with the Arms of Portugal and other suitable accessories; below are four lines for the address, with an instruction in the left lower corner. We would warn our readers against cancelled specimens of the stamps. We have before us an envelope bearing the whole set, each of them cancelled with an obliteration reading "1394—CENTENARIO—1894" in a circle, which is carefully struck so as to entirely obscure the central design in each case, and thus render the labels, in our opinion, utterly valueless even as curiosities.

We may add that the stamps are of the oblong shape, which seems to be considered appropriate to the unnecessary issue, and are perf. 14.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
5 reis, orange.	75 reis, carmine-rose.
10 " violet-rose.	80 " pale green.
15 " brown.	100 " pale brown on buff.
20 " violet.	150 " rose-red.
25 " green.	300 " blue on salmon.
50 " blue.	500 " mauve on bluish.

1000 reis, black on straw.

Post Card. 10 reis, lilac on buff; 140×96 mm.

Queensland.—We alluded briefly last month to some information obtained by a correspondent here, to whom we have been previously indebted, and we now give it in detail. Our informant found a specimen of the shilling perf. 9½×13, and was thus convinced that what had been told him as to the large perforation was incorrect; and on making further enquiry, with this evidence in hand, he ascertained that there had at one time been in use a revolving machine, which cut the horizontal perforations of a whole sheet of stamps at once, but that this was not used for long as it was found to crease the paper. He obtained a specimen of the perforation of this machine, and kindly enclosed us a small slip, the holes in which are rather large, cleanly cut, and gauge a little over 9½.

In regard to the watermarks also, our correspondent has been able to correct his former information. He has had an opportunity of seeing a sheet of the paper with the large script letters, and finds that the words are in three rows:

Q U E E N S L A N D
POSTAGE *POSTAGE*
POSTAGE *POSTAGE*

The second and third words occurring twice in each row, with a quatrefoil ornament in the centre. Our informant states that the first word is in larger letters than the others, but on examining some unused blocks of these stamps, lent us by Mr. Castle and our publishers, we find no difference in the height of the letters in the first and second row, though those in the latter are more compressed. We succeeded in reconstructing

Q U E E N S L A N D
POSTAGE

We may add that the *wmk.* reads vertically with reference to the stamps; and our informant states that the size of the sheet is 20×11 inches. The paper was no doubt considered unsuitable for the purpose for which it was plainly intended, as not showing any distinct design in each stamp; and it seems to have been used up for other documents.

The other paper, about which there was some question, is stated to have been originally intended for bank notes; it is watermarked with truncated stars, in 21 rows of 12, with the word "QUEENSLAND," in single-lined capitals, four times on each sheet.

Our publishers have shown us the following varieties:

- 1d., orange (Type 2066); *wmk. Crown & Q; an imperf. pair.*
- 2d., blue (Type 2067); *with a flaw like a second "o" after "two."*
- 2s., brown (Type 2068); *with "LA" joined.*

Roumania.—*The A. J. of Ph.* chronicles some of the current adhesives printed upon the *wmkd.* paper prepared for the two higher values recently issued. As the latter are of larger size than the former, the *wmks.* do not quite fit, there being 9 *wmks.* to the horizontal row of 10, and 12 to the vertical row of 13 of the smaller stamps. The same journal has received proofs of a new set of adhesives, from 1½ to 50 bani, of similar size to the higher values but varying in design.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	3 b., violet; Type 2116; <i>wmk. P.R.</i>
	5 b., green " "
	25 b., blue " "
	50 b., orange " "

Herr R. Friedl kindly sends us a copy of the 3 bani, which we find to be perf. 11½×13½, as described in *The A. J. of Ph.*

Le T. P. adds that the 1½, 10 and 15 bani, are now perf. 13½, but have not been seen on the *wmkd.* paper.

In our October number we described some varieties of the current 5 bani cards. We now have specimens of both single and reply paid, which appear to be new. The single measures 133×88 to 90 mm. (varying at the two ends), and the distance between the first and third lines for the address is 25½ mm. The double measures 135×95 mm.; the distance between the lines is 28 mm. on each half, and the instructions are in ordinary type, and run vertically at the left side; "CARTA POSTALA" measures 55 mm., and "RESPUNS" 15½ mm. The cards are joined with the left side of the second half to the right of the first, and are *yellowish-white* on the reverse.

Post Cards. 5 bani, black on rose; variety.
5+5 " " "

Russian Locals.—Chiefly from *Le Timbre-Poste.*

Biejetsk.—This district has apparently raised sufficient funds, by the sale of the recent type-set varieties, to pay for something more pretentious. We have received some lithographed labels, with the Arms of Tver in the centre, surmounting those of Biejetsk, within a fancy frame; enclosed in a rectangular band, with rounded corners, containing the inscription. Lithographed on wove paper; imperf.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	3 kop., black on white.
	3 " " rose.
	3 " " pink granite.
	3 " " blue.

Bogoradsk.—This district is taking a leaf out of the Seebeckian Album, and is issuing hardy annuals, duly dated; we have received two sets, including a higher value than usual. The following illustrations show the designs. One is inscribed at the top, in Russian, "OPLOTCHENAI" (*paid*), and the other "DOLGOWAIA" (*to pay*).

<i>For Prepaid Letters.</i>	2 kop., indigo.
	4 " blue.
	8 " green.
	20 " ultramarine.
<i>For Unpaid Letters.</i>	2 " yellow-brown.
	4 " red.
	6 " carmine.
	20 " rose.



Elizvetgrad.—We are not sure how far the new colours announced differ from those chronicled last August, but they would seem to be at most only varieties of shade.

Gadiatsch.—We have the early design, Type 2288 in the Catalogue, but with the frame placed so that the word "МАРКА" is below instead of above, in two fresh varieties of colour.

Adhesives. 3 kop., vermilion; imperf.
3 " blue

Longa.—A new type has been issued here, as shown in the accompanying illustration. It is lithographed on white paper and perf. 11½.

Adhesive. 7 kop., blue.

Ochansk.—The square design shown below is stated to be that of the first issue of the district, and is said to have been in use in 1872 (not 1871); 1785 copies only are believed to have been printed.



The 10 kopeks stamp of 1891, being no longer required for use, has been converted to 2 kopeks by the surcharge of a large figure "2" as shown in the second illustration; but on the receipt of a fresh supply of 2 kop. stamps of the current type, the provisionals are said to have been withdrawn from circulation and burnt! Among the new arrivals was found an imperforate sheet.

Adhesives. 3 kop., blue; square type.
2 " in black, on 10 kop., blue and gold.
2 kop., yellow-green; imperf.

Opotchka.—The current type has undergone another change of colour.

Adhesive. 5 kop., deep blue; perf. 11½.



Our contemporary mentions a new size of an envelope which we fancy should have come under another heading, as we do not know of an envelope of this District.

Ostrowjna.—A new value has been issued here of similar type to that which has been in use for some years past.

Adhesive. 3 kop., green; perf. 13.

Oustjoujna.—It appears that the stamp illustrated last month exists in six varieties of type on the sheet. It has been met with imperforate vertically, and the same setting is now impressed on green paper instead of yellow.

Adhesives. 3 kop., black on yellow; imperf. vert. call.
3 " green; perf. 11½.



Salvador.—We give illustrations of the surcharged variety and of the new type, both of which we described last month. The following list of adhesives, envelopes, and wrappers is taken from *Le T. P.*, which states, on the authority of *L'Echo de la T.*, that the impressed stamps are of the same type as the adhesives, but embossed:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Adhesives.</i> | |
| 1 c., deep brown. | 11 c., vermilion. |
| 2 c., blue. | 20 c., deep blue. |
| 3 c., carmine. | 25 c., orange. |
| 5 c., chestnut-brown. | 50 c., grey. |
| 10 c., violet. | 1 peso, black-blue. |
| <i>Envelopes. White wove paper.</i> | |
| 1 c., brown. | 10 c., violet. |
| 3 c., vermilion. | 11 c., carmine. |
| 5 c., bistre. | 20 c., blue. |

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 22 c., green. | |
| <i>Wrappers. White laid paper.</i> | |
| 2 c., deep blue. | 10 c., violet. |
| 3 c., vermilion. | 11 c., carmine. |

Samoa.—The *Weekly Stamp News* chronicles another variety of the provisional stamp which we described last month, the surcharge in this case being a large figure "5" and the letter "d" in red.

Adhesive. "5d." in red, on 4d., blue.

Seychelles.—Messrs. Cameron & Co. kindly send us specimens of the 4 c. on 8 c. *Revenue* stamp, to which we alluded last month. They believe that this was issued for fiscal purposes in June last, and that it has never been allowed to pay postage, although specimens may have been placed upon letters and duly postmarked.

Shanghai.—We give an illustration of one of the surcharged adhesives which we duly listed in January. Our publishers send us a sheet of the 1 c., which has been doubly surcharged, the first impression having been found too pale.

Adhesive. 1 c., black and brown; double Jubilee surcharge.



Siam.—*Der Philatelist* reports a variety of the 4 atts on 24 atts, in which both the English and Siamese characters are larger than usual. We presume this news is not a reminiscence of the provisional 2 atts, of which there were two distinct types?

Adhesive. 4 atts, in black, on 24 atts, blue and lilac; larger surcharge.

Sierra Leone.—We have been shown some unused specimens of the 2d., wmk. Crown and CA, with margin attached, the whole of the paper of which appears to be laid instead of wove. The appearance is not due to the gum, as that has all been removed, and the paper has evidently been well wetted.

South Australia.—Divers of our contemporaries announce the 4d. with the new perforation. *The L. P.* describes a specimen of the 3d. on 4d. with double impression of the black surcharge.

Adhesives. 3 PENCE (on 4d.), black and blue; double surcharge.
4d., mauve; perf. 15.

Tonga.—A correspondent kindly sends us a specimen of the now obsolete 1d. stamp, which is adorned with four stars, while there is a fifth on a portion of the margin of the sheet attached to it; the three-star brand is not in it! From the same source we receive an envelope with a circular hand stamp in the right upper corner, bearing a Crown and Wreath within a band lettered "TONGA GOVERNMENT FRANK." Along the upper margin of the envelope are the words "THE FEKAU A BNE AFIO" (By Order of the King), and on the lower left "Toga..... 189." The whole impression is in black, and the envelope is of white laid paper.

Adhesive. 1d., black and rose; variety with 4 stars.

Official Envelope. No value, black on white.

Turkey.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the current series of adhesives surcharged, as shown in the illustration, with Turkish characters which replace the word "IMPRIMÉ," the latter having begun to pall somewhat upon collectors. The new addition is only to be printed in black—at present.



Journal Stamps.
10 paras, green; black surcharge. | 1 piast., blue; black surcharge.
20 " rose | 2 " brown
5 piast., lilac; black surcharge. "

Turks Islands.—Our attention has been drawn to a variety of the current id., which we think has been noted before, though not in these pages. It differs from the ordinary impressions in showing a pattern of lines in the lettered labels, instead of the usual solid ground of colour. But we have no doubt that this is due to some difference in the amount of ink applied to portions of the plate, as on examining two sheets of the same tint, which we obtained at the same date from the Post-office at Grand Turk, we found three or four stamps upon one sheet showing this peculiarity more or less clearly, and not a single trace of it upon the other.

United States.—The 10 c. of the Columbus issue comes in a new shade. A correspondent sends us a specimen which is almost black, with a slight olive tinge, and we have received a rather more olive impression upon a letter. We have also received a new 1 c. card having inscriptions similar to those upon the large card of 1892, and a stamp with the portrait of Jefferson in place of Grant.

Adhesive. 10 c., olive-black; *Columbiad.*
Post Card. 1 c., black on buff; 139×89 mm.; new type.

Victoria.—We learn from the *Monthly Circular* that the letter card was issued on Dec. 21st with an additional inscription on the reverse fold, as follows: "IF ANYTHING BE ENCLOSED IN THIS LETTER CARD, IT WILL BE TREATED AS AN INSUFFICIENTLY PAID LETTER."

Letter Card. 1d., red on azure; additional instruction.

Zululand.—The *Ill. Brief. Zeitung* states that the 6d. Natal of 1882 exists with the overprint "ZULULAND" in black.

Adhesive. 6d., mauve; black surcharge.

BERLIN LETTER.

SOME weeks since the *Illustrierte Briefmarken-Zeitung*, of Leipzig, published the startling news that one of the native states of India had been in advance of Europe in issuing, not only single post cards, but also cards with reply paid. Dr. von Stephan, who, to our knowledge, first suggested, and the Austrian Government, that first introduced that modern medium of correspondence, were to be deprived of their laurels. The author of this news—one Dr. Ladendorf, of St. Andreasberg—asserted that he possessed post cards of Travancore, single and reply paid, dated April, 1864, and March, 1867, respectively, and he offered them at the modest price of £1 each. But, alas! the precious cards did not stand close examination by an impartial and uninterested eye. The 1864 of Dr. Ladendorf turned out to be really 1064, and, worse still, the Travancore people are now only in the year 1069 of their era! Thus 1064 means 1889, or perhaps 1888–1889, for it is by no means certain that the months in Travancore are the same as ours, and the fourth month of the Travancore year 1064 may perhaps coincide with November of 1888. This probability Dr. Ladendorf did not account for, and so he interpreted as "August" an abbreviation that was meant for the twelfth month. Now the unfortunate "discoverer" will have to part with his cards at a much cheaper rate, and to leave to Austria the well-established honour of having been first in the field with the post cards.

You will remember that about two years ago some stamps made their appearance which were said to have been used in the Sultanate of Suaheli. This country had been under German protection from 1885 to 1890, when it was transferred to the British in exchange for Heligoland. The alleged stamps had a very unpretentious appearance, being printed by means of a hand stamp on coloured wove paper, and showing but three lines of Arabic lettering without any indication of the value. A good deal was written in German papers on these curious stamps, as some not only disputed the authenticity of the stamps, but went so far as to deny even the existence of the sultanate in question, while others declared in favour of both. Now the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* has an exhaustive paper on this matter, from which we can derive sufficient information. It appears that there was a postal institution in the Sultanate of Suaheli, with the centre of administration in Wito, but that this post-office was very seldom made use of by the few Europeans residing in the country. So the stamps existed

without being detected either by amateur or by professional stamp discoverers, and the whole institution seems to have been lost in the revolution that broke out after the country had been surrendered to the British. It is only through Mr. Cl. Denhardt, one of the Europeans then living at Wito, that we know anything of this native post-office and its stamps. This gentleman has the peculiar custom of keeping all his correspondence in the original envelopes. When he returned to Germany, he was asked by a friend to look through his files for foreign stamps, and thus the stamps of the Suahelis came to light. There seems no reason to distrust Mr. Denhardt's tale, as he is neither a collector nor a dealer in stamps, and has never sold any of them. The only copies of the Suaheli stamps that are known are the few that have been presented by Mr. Denhardt to his friends. We may therefore believe in their authenticity, and take them as a *souvenir* of the late Sultan Fumo Bakari of Wito. They are on the same footing as the Indian native issues. It may also be mentioned that the Suaheli Government had asked the officials of the Imperial printing office at Berlin if they would manufacture the required postage and duty stamps for the sultanate, but when the reply arrived the Suaheli post-office had already ceased to exist.

In my first letter I warned collectors of old German envelopes against buying any obliterated with the stamp of *Dahlhausen*; but there are some more cancelling marks of the same value. The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, of Berlin, has an autotype plate illustrating some of these forgeries. The obliterating stamps themselves were genuine as far as the border and the name are concerned, but the dates have been set up by the forgers, and therefore differ from the originals in the shape and the arrangement of the figures. Moreover, all the addresses on these envelopes are written by two hands—one male, the other female—and are confined to less than half a dozen different names. Great praise is due to Mr. Lindenberg for having detected and exposed this swindle, which far surpasses the works of the London Fakers, having been done with genuine dies, and having deceived everyone for more than ten years. We hope sincerely that the day will come when the manufacturers of the forged German envelopes, and those who knowingly dealt in the same, will be prosecuted, like the London gang. In Germany the action would involve a much smaller outlay by the interested parties than it did in London.

FRANCISCUS.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 163.)

PART II.

The Stamps Issued under British Rule.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE No. 62, dated 13th May, 1878, reduces the inland postage from 6 p. to 3 p. per half ounce, and this is the reason of the great demand for this value as shown in the statements of stamps sold in 1878 and 1879.

The next three printings are:

1877.	Oct. 24	.	.	21,960	of 3 p.
	Nov. 27	.	.	17,920	of 6 p.
	Dec. 6	.	.	13,040	of 1 p.

I take these to have been the 3 p., *lilac on buff*; 6 p., *blue on green*; and 1 p., *red on blue*. These have the surcharge altered, the "V.R." remaining as before; but the word "Transvaal" has now only a capital "T," the rest being small letters, and there is no stop after the word. This I shall call Type II.

All three values exist with inverted surcharges, and the 6 p. ought to show a *tête-bêche* pair; the 1 p. has a real error, reading "Transvral" for "Transvaal." It is a very scarce stamp, existing

apparently only once on every double sheet of 80 stamps, which would give 163 copies only, most of which have no doubt been lost. I have only seen one specimen in a block of 6, which appears to be the left hand top corner of the sheet. This is in the Official Stamp Collection in the Postmaster-General's Office at Pretoria. Major Evans chronicles this 1 p. with no stop after "V" of "V.R.," and no stop after "R" of "V.R." He also gives for the 6 p. no stop after "R" of "V.R.," and stop before "R" of "V..R" instead of after it. I have met with none of these as yet, although my collection numbers seventy-five specimens of this issue. All the varieties exist finely rouletted, but they are generally found imperforate. The inverted surcharges I have only on the 3 p. and 6 p. rouletted, but the 1 p. may exist too. I have also the 6 p. cut diagonally and used as a 3 p.

I think it best to quote here the following from the Blue Book :

POSTAGE.

The postage rates in the Transvaal are regulated under law regulating postal matters in the South African Republic, approved by Volksraad Resolution of 18th June, 1869, Art. 242, amended and re-enacted by Resolution of Executive Council, Art. 150, dated 18th August, 1873.

POSTAGE RATES.

	Free State, Cape Colony, and Griqualand W.		Natal.
	Transvaal.		
Letters per ½ oz. or less	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
For every additional ½ oz. or fraction thereof to be added, reduced from 6 p. to 3 p., in accordance with G. N., No. 62, 13th May, 1878	0 3	0 6	0 4
Newspaper, for each number, including supplements (Government Gazette free), according to G. N., No. 30, 11th May, 1877	0 1	0 1	0 1
Exceeding 2 oz., and not exceeding 4 oz.	0 3	0 3	0 2
Book-post, including books, circulars, manuscripts, samples, &c., for 2 ozs., English weight or less	0 3	0 3	0 1
For every additional 2 ozs., or fraction thereof to be added	0 3	0 3	0 2
Registration, irrespective of weight, to be affixed in stamps	0 6	0 6	0 4

Coin may be forwarded by book-post under compulsory registration, but only within the limits of the Transvaal, in accordance with Volksraad Resolution, 27th May, 1875, Art. 51.

Town letters, and letters addressed to persons living within the immediate neighbourhood, 1 p. per ½ oz., according to Volksraad Resolution, 27th May, 1875, Art. 150.

On letters, newspapers, &c., forwarded to Natal through the Orange Free State, the Orange Free State rate of 4 p. per ½ oz. on letters, 1d. on newspapers, and 1 p. per 2 ozs., book-post, has to be affixed in Orange Free State stamps.

On late letters, posted after closing of mails, 6 p. Transvaal postage extra must be paid.

Postage rates to England and foreign countries forwarded through the United Kingdom :—

In addition to a Transvaal rate of 6 p. per ½ oz. on letters, 1 p. on newspapers, and 3 p. per 4 ozs. on book packets, the following rates are payable, and have to be affixed in Cape Colonial stamps, if forwarded through Cape Town, according to Postal Convention, dated 19th January, 1877; and in Transvaal stamps, if forwarded *via* Natal, according to Postal Convention with Natal, dated 28th May, 1877 :

England—	6 p. per ½ oz. on letters.
	1 p. on newspapers not exceeding 4 oz. in weight.
	2 p. per 2 ozs. on book packets.
	3 p. " 4 ozs. "
	3 p. for every additional 4 oz. weight.
	Cape and Natal registration fee 4 p.
Germany, France, Holland, America, &c., and all countries comprised in the General Postal Union—	
	7½ p. per ½ oz. on letters.
	2 p. " 2 oz. on newspapers not exceeding 4 ozs. in weight.
	2 p. " 2 oz. on book packets.
	3 p. " 4 oz.
	2 p. for every additional 2 oz. weight.
	Registration fee 8 p.

From the above it will be seen that it must have been a real pleasure to be a postal official, or to have much correspondence. One was bound to have a supply of Transvaal, Orange Free State, and Cape Colonial stamps on hand, and to know all the various rates, otherwise one ran the risk of having letters or parcels kept back, and a list published three months afterwards in the Government *Gazette*. The Postmaster-General, in his report for 1878, dwells on this subject, saying, *inter alia* : "The public cannot be led to understand that a letter to Durban costs 4 p., while one to Kimberley or the Orange Free State, having to travel no more than half the distance, costs 6 p. The public makes many mistakes in the affixing of the necessary stamps."

The Official Stamp Record for 1878 reads :

1878.							
Jan.	18.	Received from Stamp Commission,	48,160	1 p. stamps.			
"	24.	"	14,800	6 p.	"		
"	25.	" P. M. G., Cape Town,	1 p. stamps,	4980.			
			½ p.	"	4800.		
Mar.	20.	Stamp Commission,	20,000	6 p. stamps,	1205.		
"	22.	" P. M. G., Cape Town,	6 p. stamps,	1200.			
			½ p.	"	15120.		
April	15.	Stamp Commission,	40,000	1 p. stamps.			
May	13.	"	74,480	3 p.			
July	24.	" Crown Agents, London,	34,720	6 p.			
			1 p.				
			120,000	3 p.			
			40,000	4 p.			
			120,000	6 p.			
			200,000	1/-			
			10,000	2/-			
				50 x			

The Record says nothing as to colours or paper, but I find that Moens says, in the March number of *Le Timbre-Poste* for 1878, that the 1 p., *red on blue*, is obsolete, and that the 1 p. is now printed on *orange*; this was probably the supply printed on 18th January, 1878, and as no mention is made of a new 6 p. stamp at that time (he only notices the 6 p., *blue on blue*, in August, 1878) I think I am safe in taking the 6 p. stamps, printed on 24th January, 1878, to have been the same as before, namely, *blue on green*. As to the 20,000 6 p. stamps of 20th March I am doubtful whether they were on *green* or on *blue* paper, but I should rather suppose the latter, as the 6 p. on *blue* is somewhat more plentiful than the 6 p. on *green* paper. Adding up the printings this would give 27,840 6 p., *blue on green*, and 54,720 6 p., *blue on blue*, which I think is more likely to be correct than 47,840 on *green*, and only 34,720 on *blue*; but this point can only be settled by finding a 6 p., *blue on blue*, with a date before 13th May, 1878. Moens gives the date of issue of the 6 p., *blue on blue*, as July, which, as may be seen from the Stamp Record, is at least two months after the actual date of issue. From the Issue side of the Record I find that the stamps printed in January and March were handed over to the distributor of stamps on the day that they were received; the 3 p. of 15th April were issued in two lots on the 15th and 24th of the same month; of the 1 p. 16,000 were issued on 27th April, and the remaining 24,000 on July 1st; of the 6 p., 16,000 on May 13th; a further batch of 8000 on August 24th; 7600 on October 26th; and the balance on December 3rd, 1878.

Major Evans in his catalogue says that the 1 p., *red on orange*, 3 p., *lilac on buff*, and 6 p., *blue on blue*, were issued last, the sheets consisting of one pane of 40 overprinted with Type II., and the

second pane of 40 with 13 of Type II., and 27 of Type III. (Type III. has the letters "V.R." in italics); whereas the sheets of 1 p., *red on orange*, issued previously, were all overprinted with Type II. only. This leaves no doubt as to issue of 18th January, which must have been all of Type II. The 1 p., *red on orange*, of January has a peculiarity not found in others; namely, the variety without the stop after "V," as well as that without the stops after "V" and "R," of "V—R," and showing the letters "V.R." closer together than would be the case in a defective impression, where the stop has failed to print. This is a sure test, the difference being about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. I have complete panes of 40 stamps, one showing the first and last stamps of the first horizontal row without stop after "V" of "V.R.," and the fourth stamp in the last (bottom) horizontal row with no stop after "R" of "V.R.;" the second pane shows no omission of stops at all. Another block of eight from the right-hand corner of right-hand pane shows the top corner stamp without stop after "V" of "V.R.," and the stop after "R" on the same stamp is hardly visible under the glass; the second "A" of "Transvaal" has also failed to print, leaving a blank showing no trace of the letter at all. This stamp exists also rouletted, but I have not yet met with any of the varieties of stops in this state.

I pass the 6 p. of January 24th and March 20th, the first as being undoubtedly the *blue on green*, and the second because I am not certain to which issue it belongs, and go on to the supplies printed on 15th April and 13th May. In these we first get Type III. of the surcharge, which is the same as Type II., except that the letters "V.R." are italic capitals. This appears only on 27 stamps out of 80 on the sheet; namely, the last three stamps of the second horizontal row and the following three complete horizontal rows of the second pane. The 1 p. and 3 p. of Type II. of these printings cannot be distinguished from the former printing of Type II., so we have only to do with the 6 p., *blue on blue*, and Type III. of all three values. A real error of this stamp is chronicled, namely, the 6 p. without surcharge; very likely only a sheet was by accident omitted to be surcharged. I have not met with a specimen as yet; it ought also to exist *tête-bêche*. I have the 6 p. Type II. cut vertically in half, and also cut diagonally, and each half used as 3 p. I have also on part of an envelope two halves of this stamp cut diagonally, but both the two lower halves, fixed together and used as a 6 p. stamp; it reads Transvaal reversed on top and Transvaal correct at bottom. This was used in Potchefstroom on June 18th, 1878, and appears to have passed the post unchallenged. The varieties of no stop after "V" or "R" in Type II. are due to defective printing; whether these are real errors in Type III. or not I cannot say. This type is rather scarce, and the rouletted specimens much more so; but little attention was formerly given to these varieties, and even Moens in his latest catalogue has not noticed them.

All the "V.R." issues are chronicled with fine

roulette as well as large roulette. The stamps finely rouletted all round are scarce, those rouletted on one or two sides are more often found. I think this roulette was applied by the Postmaster of Pretoria to facilitate the sale of the stamps to the public. The Stamp Commission did *not* roulette the stamps, but handed the entire sheets over to the Treasurer-General. Of the large or wide roulette I cannot say anything, when, where, or who applied it; but I believe it to be of private origin.

In 1877 the Administrator of the Colony, after having appointed all the officials, and set the Government in proper working order, ordered through the Crown agents in London a permanent set of postage as well as Revenue stamps. The Crown agents gave the order to Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., whose account dated April 1st, 1878, I could not find; but there is an entry in the Treasurer-General's book under that date—"For supplying Postage and Revenue Stamps, £28 18s. 7d." These stamps arrived here on 24th July, 1878, and were issued at various dates, which I will give later on. The stamps are all of the same design—head of Queen Victoria to right, on a groundwork of horizontal lines within an oval, beaded at the sides; "TRANSVAAL POSTAGE" on a curved label above, value in words on a similar label below the head, numeral of value in a small circle in each of the four corners; printed in colour on grayish-white wove paper without watermark; white gum; perforated $14\frac{1}{2}$. The set consists of six values—1 p., red; 3 p., lake; 4 p., olive-green; 6 p., grey-black; 1s., dark green; 2s., blue. It is curious that no $\frac{1}{2}$ p. stamps were ordered at the same time, so that the public could not make up the foreign rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ p. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letter. The Government had been in the habit of drawing supplies of this value from Cape Colony, and very likely these stamps were used for foreign correspondence. The 20,000 received last would go a good way for franking single letters.

After the date of issue of this set of Transvaal stamps no more Colonial stamps were imported, the Cape postal authorities accepting these as legal, and the amount due to them for transmission of mails was settled quarterly in cash, as has been the case ever since.

When the order for the printing of these stamps was sent to England there was evidently no intention to reduce the postage. It will be noticed from the list I gave of the quantities imported that the largest lot was of the 6 p. value, and that the amount of the 3 p. is but small, far too small for a supply of the value most used. Thus it is not to be wondered at, that no stamps of this value were on hand nine months later, and that the authorities had to fall back on the old plates for a provisional supply. The permanent stamps arrived in Pretoria, as previously stated, on 24th July, 1878. From the issue side of the *Stamp Record* I take the dates of first issue of the different values, which are:

1878. Aug. 26.	30,000 of 1 p.;	30,000 of 4 p.
1878. Nov. 25.	30,000 of 3 p.;	12,000 of 6 p.;
	1,000 of 1s.;	1,000 of 2s.

Moens gives the date of issue as September 1st, which is nearly correct for the 1 p. and 4 p., but three months out for the other values.

There is not much to be said about these stamps, only that the quantities of the lower values sent out were too small to meet the demand, or fresh supplies were not ordered in time; anyhow, not many months after the date of the first issue the Government had to come back to printing from the old plates, and also to adopt surcharging a low value on a higher one to keep the public wants supplied.

I will now give an extract from the Postmaster-General's Report for the year 1878 as published in the Blue Book, most of which, I think, will be of interest :

POSTAL DEPARTMENT, 1878.

Extent of postal route in miles	2,820
Number of miles travelled	135,699
Cost of conveyance of mails	£10,174 2s.
Average cost per mile	Is. 5 ⁸⁰ / ₁₀₀ d.
Number of post-offices on 1st January	45

Considering the many difficulties mail contractors have to overcome in the Transvaal, the contracts and conveyance have generally been well performed.

The average cost per mile is certainly very high, but this must chiefly be attributed to the want of competition, the enormous price paid for forage, and the want of accommodation for horses along the road, as well as the prevailing horse sickness during the summer season. It would be of great advantage if a law could be passed to compel owners or tenants of farms along the postal routes to allow the mail contractors to build their own stables for the accommodation of the post-horses, and to allow free grazing for those horses on the ground. In one instance now before me the occupant refuses the contractor the necessary space for stables, and will not take care of the horses on his farm, and the contractor has to drive the same team of horses for nearly fifty miles through want of accommodation. The number of post-offices established during the year 1878 was seven, and the number discontinued three, making an actual increase of four in the number of post-offices in the colony.

All postmasters get the requisite postage stamps on credit, and have to remit monthly the moneys they have collected, according to returns signed and certified as correct by their respective magistrates.

All post agents must buy the necessary stamps for cash, for which advance they get five per cent. commission in stamps.

The number of persons employed in connection with the Postal Department during 1878, exclusive of mail contractors, was 57.

During the year 1878 a new series of postage stamps has been issued.

The stamps now in use are of the following denominations; viz.—1 p., 3 p., 4 p., 6 p., 1s., 2s.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following return shows the revenue of the Postal Department collected during the year 1878 :

	£	s.	d.
Sale of stamps	4877	3	3
Fines on postal contracts	10	3	0
Total	£4887	6	3

The expenditure of this department during 1878 was :

	£	s.	d.
Salaries	1801	17	9
Contingencies	34	9	2
Purchase and printing of postage stamps	796	14	6
Conveyance of mails	10,174	2	0
Rent of Post-offices	65	0	0
Refunded to Natal for Ocean postage	51	12	2

Total £12,923 15 7

The item "Conveyance of Mails" may be particularised as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Conveyance of mails under contract	9008	9	7
Conveyance of mails, per native carriers	1109	12	7
Rations to mail carriers	27	14	8
Sorting Transvaal mails at Newcastle (Natal)	28	5	2
Total	£10,174	2	0

It is gratifying to observe that, although the inland postage was reduced since the 1st June from 6 p. to 3 p. per ½ oz., the value of Transvaal stamps issued during the second half year is nearly equal to the value issued during the first six months, showing that this reduction did not decrease the revenue by any amount worth mentioning.

I may here add that the privilege of freedom of postage enjoyed by the volunteers and troops on active service, according to Article 54 of the Postal Regulations, diminishes the income considerably.

The item brought up as refunded to Natal is the amount of ocean postage due on mail matter sent from here *via* that colony, which ocean postage was prepaid in Transvaal stamps instead of in those of Natal.

I would suggest that a uniform rate of postage should be adopted to all places in South Africa beyond this colony, as the difference on postage now in force is the cause of many mistakes in the affixing of the necessary stamps. The public cannot be led to understand that a letter to Durban costs only 4d., while one to Kimberley or the Orange Free State, having to travel no more than half the distance, costs 6d., and still this is the tariff now in force.

As this colony does not pay towards the ocean mail contracts, all mail matter sent to places beyond sea *via* the Cape Colony must have the ocean postage prepaid in Cape Colonial stamps; hence the item in expenditure for *purchase of stamps*.

The increase during the last six months shows that the work of the Postal Department is rapidly increasing. Although many improvements have been made in this department during the year 1878, there is still a good deal wanting. The Post-offices are mostly too small, and do not afford the accommodation needed for the safe and speedy transaction of the business to be performed; in fact, the only suitable office in the whole colony is the one at Potchefstroom.

The room used as an office for the Postmaster-General, the same being part of the Pretoria Post-office, is 15 ft. x 12 ft., which space, after deducting the room taken up by the furniture, leaves a space of 10 ft. x 6 ft. for the Postmaster-General and two clerks to sit and work in.

In several districts the post-office is kept in a room adjoining the magistrate's office, and although this may be a good plan, especially as most of the magistrates' clerks are also postmasters, these rooms, as before stated, are mostly too small for the safe transaction of postal work.

In five places the post-office is a room hired from the public. The post agencies, being on farms along the postal route, are of course all kept in the dwelling-houses of the post-agents.

Another great inconvenience is the want of safes in the post-offices. Most of the post-masters have to keep their stamps and collections in a small tin cash-box, which they have to take home with them every night.

The dies and stamps of the South African Republic are still in use, and it will be necessary to order new sets shortly.

The want of Post-office Money Orders is felt very much. There are only four towns in the Transvaal where banks are established, and where the public have the opportunity of sending money to other places, and even at these institutions the lowest amount for which a draft can be got is £5 (the charge on this being 2s. 6d.), so that no amount under £5 can be remitted to other places or colonies in South Africa, unless in bank-notes, on which the banks generally charge 5 per cent. when the notes are not of their own branches.

Post-office Money Orders are constantly applied for, and would prove a benefit to the public at large. The present rule that *coin may be sent by book-post* could then be abolished.

(Signed) J. A. DE VOGEL,
Postmaster-General.

TRANSVAAL STAMPS.

1878.	1d.	3d.	4d.	6d.	1s.	2s.
1st January to						
30th June	47,470	33,736	Nil.	49,140	4111	Nil.
1st July to						
31st December	83,680	63,245	20,231	28,229	3290	70
	131,150	96,981	10,231	77,369	7401	70

CAPE COLONIAL STAMPS.

1878.	3d.	1d.	4d.	6d.	1s.
1st January to					
30th June	9000	9180	4230	6060	629
1st July to					
31st December.	2060	11,720	4712	8408	380
	11,060	20,900	8942	14,468	1009

From the above report the readers can judge what the postal arrangements must have been under the first Republic, when they were still so bad after the British Government had possession of the country for some twenty months. From personal observation I may add that matters were practically the same in 1880, only that the Pretoria office had been supplied with two safes. Perhaps the Government may have intended to amend the defects, but in the four years the country was under British rule these intentions were not carried out. The Postmaster-General's report shows that from January 1st to June 30th, 1878, he sold 4111 of the 1s. stamps, which must have been the 1s., *green*, with black "V.R.," Type I. It is not stated how many more he had on hand at that time, but as 1000 of the new 1s. stamps were issued on the 25th November, which lasted till 15th January, 1879, when the balance of 9000 was issued, we may suppose that about 2000 of the 1s. "V.R." must have been on hand on 1st July, 1878, so that my estimate of some 10,000 to 12,000 of these stamps printed will be nearly correct.

I come now to the issues of 1879. The Official Stamp Record reads:

1879. April 18.	Printed from old plates, 29,680 of 3 p.	
" 22.	Reduced 18,000 6 p. stamps to 1 p.	
" 28.	" 6,000 6 p. " to 1 p.	
May 6.	" 36,000 6 p. " to 1 p.	
" 30.	Printed from old plates, 30,800 of 3 p.	
Aug. 26.	" " 54,000 of 1 p.	
Sept. 5.	" " 52,960 of 3 p.	
Oct. 31.	Received from Crown Agents, London,	
1 p.	3 p.	4 p.
360,000	300,000	200,000
6 p.	1s.	2s.
200,000	20,000	4000

In the Treasurer-General's books there is an entry in the Cash Account with Crown Agents, London:

1879. July 5. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.
for supply of postage and
revenue stamps . . . £41 1s. 6d.

In going over the several issues separately I find that the issue of the 18th April, which was handed over to the Distributor of stamps on the same day, is the 3 p., *lilac on green*, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal," in Types II. and III. (Roman and Italic letters.) I do not know whether these two types were arranged in the same manner as before, and I rather doubt it; but as I have never seen a full sheet I must be silent on this point. This printing appears to have been rather carelessly done. I have stamps without surcharge, with inverted surcharge, with stop after "R" of "V.R.," about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. higher than usual, also with both stops $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. too high; with Transvaal above, and "V.R.," Type II. or Type III. below; with no

stop after V of "V.R.," Type III.; with "V.R." and no "Transvaal"; and with irregular surcharge owing to sheet not having been placed properly in the press. Both types exist rouletted, but I do not know if all varieties are found in this state; most of them should, however, exist, and perhaps they only require to be pointed out to be looked for and found. The "V.R." issues generally still give a good opening for a specialist. I am sure that many varieties exist besides these which I and others have chronicled up to the present, but it is very difficult out here to get hold of a stock of these stamps; they are, with the exception of some of the low values, rather scarce, some very scarce, the rouletted more especially so.

The next issue is another provisional one, made by overprinting "1 Penny," in *black* or in *red*, on the 6 p. stamps with Queen's head. These were printed at three different dates in April and May, and issued the same day to the Distributor of stamps, so that the date of issue is April, and not May or June, as generally given in catalogues.

These stamps appear to have been noticed in Europe in July, 1879, but it is not stated which surcharge, the *red* or the *black*, was first issued. The Official Record is silent on this point, but I take it that the *red* surcharge was issued first, and the *black* afterwards, which would give 18,000 *red* and 42,000 *black*. I think it is likely that the printer supposed that *red* ink would show better than *black* on the *grey-black* stamps, and that he thus used the *red* colour for at least the first printing, but found that it did not show so well after all as one would expect, and that he then used *black*. I take the second printing of 6000 to have been with the black surcharge. I may be wrong in doing so, but I think 18 to 42 a more correct proportion than 24 to 36, as the stamps with *red* surcharge have always been much more scarce than those with the black. Owing to the stock of type in the printing-office, where the Government *Gazette* was published, being limited, the printer had to take any letters to complete the setting-up for the 60 stamps, and thus arose five distinctly different types, with a sixth variety the same as one of the others, except that the letter "f" has no tail. There are also some varieties in the figure "1" which brings the types to seven. I give below a description of the several varieties, but I would add that they were first described in vol. i. of *The Philatelic Record*. I have made up a complete sheet of the *black* surcharge, but in used specimens, and can say that it is not too easy to get all correctly together, as some of the types are very scarce.

In Type 1 the "1" has a short top stroke, and no bottom stroke.

In Type 2 the "1" has a longer top stroke, and a thin bottom stroke.

Type 3 is the same as Type 2, but the "y" of Penny has no tail.

In Type 4 the "1" has a short top stroke, and a thick bottom stroke.

Type 5 is the same as Type 4, but the letter "P" of Penny has a thick horizontal stroke below.

In Type 6 the figure and word are slanting.

In Type 7 the figure and word are in upright block type, all capitals.

The types are distributed in the sheet in the following quantities :

Type 1. Four ; 2. Eleven ; 3. Two ; 4. Three ; 5. Ten ; 6. Five ; 7. Twenty-five.

They are arranged on the sheet as shown in the following diagram :

2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	3	3	2	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Owing to irregular placing of the sheets in the printing-press, some sheets have the surcharge misplaced so as to read "Penny 1," "y 1 Penny," "Penny," &c. A pair of these stamps is also known, of which only one stamp is surcharged and the other not. Of late years these stamps have been offered with inverted surcharges, but such are considered in England to be forgeries ; and although I have never seen one myself, I am likewise of that opinion.

These issues, of 60,000 stamps in all, lasted some four months, when the stock of 6 p. stamps appears to have been too low to allow more over-printing, and the authorities had again to fall back on the old plates. I do not know why they did not do this in the first instance, except that the overprinting was no doubt cheaper than printing new stamps.

The next item in the Official Stamp Record reads, "May 30. Printed from old plates 30,800 3 p. stamps." This 3 p. stamp must have been a second edition of the April, 1879, issue 3 p., *lilac on green*, Types II. and III. My evidence for this is a specimen dated, "Pochefstroom, 31st July, 1879." Pochefstroom was the second largest Post-office in the country, and I do not think it likely that it would have had a supply of the April issue on hand at the end of July ; thus I take this specimen to have been of the May issue, which was perhaps sent there in June, or later. Further, I found no mention made in the philatelic journals at that time of a new 3 p. stamp. *The Philatelic Record* notices in October that the 1 p. on 6 p., black, with Queen's Head, had become obsolete, and was replaced by a 1 p. of the owl-eagle type, *red on yellow*, and *red on orange*. These latter were printed and issued in August, so if a new 3 p. stamp had come out, it surely would have been noticed at the time, especially as the correspondent of *The Philatelic Record* had very good communications with Pretoria. I have thus nothing more to say on this issue, having covered the ground before when treating the April issue. It may be that some of the varieties I described under that date belong to this issue, but as the stamps themselves are the same I think this is immaterial.

(To be continued.)

EASTERN RAMBLINGS.

By E. STANLEY GIBBONS.

It would be idle for me to pretend at the outset that these few and, so to speak, disjointed notes should possess any serious Philatelic interest ; indeed, to quote from the remarks made by a friend—a collector and a distinguished member of our London Society—who has but recently returned from a very extended tour in these parts and round the world, he says, "There are no stamps of any moment to be obtained in these Eastern countries. Nor is there much Philatelic interest of the higher grade displayed outside the circle of Europeans scattered here and there. The Mohammedan population of Egypt seem to betray no hankering after stamps and their belonging, their apparently sole enjoyment seeming to be, after their day's work is done, and not too much of that, tobacco, coffee, chatter, and sleep." Consequently, many readers of this journal will, I hope, kindly excuse me if they find herein a minimum of stamp talk, and a maximum of casual remarks on general subjects, not to say even personal experiences.

Travelling *via* Dover and Calais it was our misfortune to cross that somewhat trying passage in such rough weather that instead of taking one hour, four were absorbed, consequently missing our connecting train at Bale for the St. Gothard route. We therefore put up for the night at the far-famed Lucerne hostelry, "The Schweizerhof," where I had hoped to have made the acquaintance of M. Hauser, one of the proprietors, and owner of possibly the finest collection of Swiss stamps extant. In this, however, I was disappointed, for it being the "off season" he was unfortunately absent. Crossing from Genoa to Alexandria, again in some of the roughest weather it has been my lot to experience, it was my good fortune to be welcomed on arrival by two of the most serious collectors in that city, viz., Messrs. M. Nani, the local Postmaster, and M. Fitini, the cashier and second in charge of Messrs. Thos. Cook and Sons' offices in that city. During my short stay in Alexandria these gentlemen bestowed on me the greatest possible attention, and I experienced much pleasure in some lively confabs over their collections. Of course I visited several so-called dealers, mostly tobacconists, and agents for other and more important stamp importers. Consequently these calls were of no great interest, there being a plethora of fancy things, such as beautifully postmarked halves, especially Turkish, with a delightful sprinkling of reprints and forgeries. There being nothing noteworthy to detain us in Alexandria, we hastened on to Cairo, and located ourselves at the Grand New Hotel, a palatial establishment of the first order, and a most comfortable one into the bargain. We had stayed there three years previously, so at once felt quite at home.

During my stay in Cairo I had considerable intercourse with the most prominent Cairene philatelists, both collectors and dealers. I very soon wearied of visiting the so-called dépôts for stamps scattered in and around the tourist or European quarter of the city, for, as a rule, I found the proprietors' knowledge of philately was practically "nil," and simply extended to the sale of the sheets, or perhaps collections, entrusted to their care by some enterprising dealer or other. These dépôts generally are carried on conjointly with that of tobacconists, dealers in photographs, Soudanese, and other Oriental curiosities. They were numerous enough in all conscience, the notice "Stamps for Collectors," and similarly inaccurately-spelt placards, meeting the eye at all points. To stroll along the sunny side of the Eskebeyeh Gardens, lined with some of the most delightful bric-a-brac shops in existence, is a most pleasant experience, to say nothing of the extraordinary cosmopolitan traffic thronging the road and pavement. True, one may regret the fast fading of Oriental scenery in this quarter, and the displacement of alleys, smells, stalls, dogs, refuse, and mud pavements by well-lighted and regular streets, "a la Paris." Picturesque as the Oriental style may be, it seems always accompanied by inertness, stagnation, and dirt. Civilisation, with its attendant cleanliness, is far better.

But I must return to philately, otherwise the reader will be wondering what all this has to do with postage stamps ; and here I have a little episode that will, I think, both

interest and amuse collectors. It is this: It was my good fortune whilst in Cairo to attend an auction sale of the philatelic belongings of the late M. Gustave Koch, held in the Maison Bircher. This concern is a large mercantile one, and is established in a large and handsome old Mameluke palace, with superbly-carved ceilings, domes, and beautifully-carved screens of Monchrahea work. The private office of the firm was more like the private chapel of some great magnate than anything else. The walls were of granite, superbly chiselled in geometric and Arabic patterns, and inlaid with antique blue and yellow enamelled tiles. It was in the courtyard of this delightful old place the sale took place, the auctioneer being the executor of the late M. Koch. At the appointed time I found myself in the company of a number of the leading collectors and dealers of the city, and the bidding was fairly spirited in each case, although intolerably slow. Each lot took some twenty minutes before it came to the hammer, so that it became rather wearisome, and had it not been for the refreshments of coffee and cigarettes handed round, intermingled with much conversation, sarcasm, &c., I think I should have fled long before it was over. A good many lots were, I think, bought in, but I managed to secure an important parcel of many hundred thousand of used Egyptian postage stamps. This was a unique accumulation in its way, every issue being fairly represented, from the first to the most recent, and including a vast number of used unpaid letter stamps, many values of which are difficult to meet with in this condition. There was one lot, however, that was not offered, and which I should have much liked to have secured. It was a box of indiarubber stamps, of all kinds and types, for printing spurious surcharges. In my hurried inspection I noticed good imitations of the following: "Cyprus," two or three types; "Postage," for Natal adhesives, many varieties; "Service," for Indian adhesives, both in large and small type; also "On H.M.S.;" Bermuda surcharges; a large number of numerals suitable for overprinting on Turks Islands, and other issues. Had it not been that my intentions might have been misconstrued I would have made an endeavour to obtain them, for it would have been interesting, and perhaps of decided advantage to collectors in general, to have had all these fictitious surcharges inserted in this journal.

During my stay in Cairo I had the pleasure of meeting M. Cantell, a most earnest collector, who bestowed on me many attentions, M. Aphonides, Mr. P. D. Langley, and M. Colacci, the only dealer of any real importance in the city. To M. Cantell I am indebted for directing my attention to a secondary variety of the current 5 piastre, grey, Egyptian postage stamp, which perhaps may be new to the reader. This stamp was first issued in 1890, and for the first six months was printed in an ink that fades or dissolves directly it is placed even in cold water. Probably it is of aniline origin. There is no difference of watermark, and the shade being practically the same it appears to be most difficult to detect the difference between the two issues except by actual experiment. This being the case its importance is much lessened, although worth noting. There is another fact that may perhaps be new to some collectors, and that is there are two kinds of piastres, the piastre *tarif* being exactly double the value of the piastre *current*. The former is by far the most general, but still a purchaser at the various shops is exceedingly apt to be misled, for often the "current" is intended. The commercial mode of signifying the difference is "P T" for the piastre *tarif*, and "P C" for piastre *current*. All postal transactions are transacted in *tarif* piastres, although such is not expressed on their face, with one exception, and that exception is the Unpaid Letter series. No doubt this is done to prevent any misconception in the collection of the various dues on the unpaid missives.

At the last moment before our departure it was my pleasure to meet M. Luigi Torfida, the chief of the money-order department at Cairo, and a very old correspondent of mine. I was not aware of his residence in this city, otherwise should have certainly liked to have bestowed more time and attention on his beautiful collection of something like 20,000 varieties. I will pass over what I may term the ordinary rarities; i.e. stamps of great value and scarcity, but otherwise well known. There were some, however, novel to me that struck my attention, and may be of interest to the reader. I was particularly interested in two varieties

of Cyprus—a colony in which I had hitherto imagined I had had as much experience during my career as anyone. The first was the current 4 piastre adhesive, printed "*l'île bêche*," which I understand occurs once in every sheet. The other was the ordinary newspaper band— $\frac{1}{2}$ piastre, green—printed on a pale green paper, instead of buff, as usual. Were these stamps printed in the island, it would be probably easy to account for the variety, as possibly it would be done to order, but coming from England, as I have every reason to believe they do, it is difficult to account for this variety. Two Egyptian stamps also merit note as being somewhat uncommon—the one being the 5 piastre, first issue, perforated, *without watermark*; and the other a pair, "*l'île bêche*," of the 2½ piastre, purple. This latter variety occurs once only in an entire sheet. M. Torfida was in the employ of the Suez Canal Company at Ismailia during the time their stamps were in use, so, of course, possesses a complete used set, the higher and lower values of which are uncommon in that state. I also noted among many other interesting stamps a complete set of New Republic, first issue, *dated*. The values ranged from 1d. to 5s., the earliest date being January 24th, 1886, and the latest December 2nd, 1886. This series is decidedly scarce, as I know by actual experience, for I at the time succeeded in obtaining a few odd values, and immediately on receipt sent for a second and larger supply, which I did not manage to obtain, the postmaster sending me the commoner *undated* issue. There were many other stamps I much admired; and last, but not least, the finest set of all values first issue Shanghaï, including a large number of errors, I have seen for a very long time.

My notes of this city I will finish with an interesting reminiscence, furnished me by Mrs. Large, a former resident there, and an old friend of the family of Mr. C. J. Phillips, the popular manager and active head of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. It is this: When resident in Birmingham, she distinctly remembers often seeing the juvenile Mr. C. J. Phillips, college cap on head, going to school, absorbed on the way in the inspection of his little collection of stamps.

We left Cairo with much regret, although at the time of our departure it rained the proverbial cats and dogs. I had always understood the average annual fall of rain in Cairo was of about twenty minutes' duration, and that only of a light character. In this instance it lasted fully thirty hours, a downpour that the Cairenes seemed totally unprepared for, as witness their frantic endeavours to stop their non-watertight roofs, and the accumulation of mud and slush which they found quite impossible to cope with.

After a stormy passage from Jaffa, we arrived at Beyrout, and were glad to be once more on *terra firma*. We were at once beset with the troublesome formalities of procuring our Teskerah, or Turkish passport, and the questions we were subjected to and the scrutiny we had to undergo was most amusing. Not only had we to furnish full particulars of our own two selves, but also that of all four of our parents. It appears to me the great object of all this is to extract backsheesh from the traveller's pocket. Take, for instance, the procedure at the examination of the luggage. The owner opens his trunks, and is plainly told, if he does not pay up, all his belongings will be pulled out, and he will have the pleasure of repacking under the public gaze.

In one of my first peregrinations I paid visits to the various foreign Post-offices in this town. I found they were all located, Ottoman Post-office included, in one large building, or arcaded square, built somewhat after the style of our London Royal Exchange, with an additional story added. Here I found these offices, and after pushing my way through a mass of humanity, evidently waiting for their letters, there being no "house to house" delivery, I managed to reach the "Poste Otoman," as described over the portal. Here I made some small purchases, for which I paid I know not what. There is one delightful characteristic about Turkish money, you never know the value of many of the coins, and I was assured that even residents do not understand them. Nearly the whole of one of the other sides of the building is taken up with the foreign Post-offices of Great Britain, Austria, and France, where the well-known surcharged postals are obtainable. Business in each appeared to be in full swing, and a very large traffic going on, so that, what with this and the trades of cobblers, tailors, basket making, the cries of itinerant

vendors of lemonade, sweets, fruits, &c., all being carried on in the corridors, the noise was deafening and the crush most unpleasant. Unexpectedly here I had the pleasure of meeting M. Alfred Glavany, of Constantinople, who received us most kindly at his son's luxurious and superbly-situated villa on the heights above Beyrout.

I will pass over our visit to Damascus, a fourteen hours' journey by diligence each way, and also our visit to the marvellous and gigantic ruins of Baalbec, as possessing no Philatelic interest. The number of Europeans in the former place is very limited, the inhabitants, mostly Mahomedan, being extremely fanatical. It was the season of the fast of the Ramadan when we were there, and many that passed us spat on the ground, and muttered what our dragoman said were curses. He would not allow me even to smoke a cigarette in the streets. We returned to Beyrout, and embarked there for Smyrna.

En route our vessel, the *Gironde*, one of the "Messageries Maritimes" line, called at Samos, and on anchoring we were glad to get on shore for a ramble through the town of Vathy, the minute capital of the island. Facing the landing-place I found the office of the Austrian Post-office, and in a back street, in a house bearing no outward sign of postal business, the office of the Imperial Ottoman Post-office. Here one clerk was employed, and altogether the arrangements were of a most subsidiary, not to say humble character. In another part of the town the words "Poste Française" on a letter-box outside the office of the "Messageries Maritimes" Company enticed me inside. Here I found a fellow-passenger negotiating for some stamps. It then transpired that he was a collector, and knew the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, well. Not only that, but that the agent of the company, a wine merchant in a large way of business, had but just received an order for the stamps specially overprinted for this town.

Judging from appearances, I should say the demands for collectors must very far exceed that for postal purposes. Possibly the town consists of some 4000 inhabitants, and granting that this office receives the chief postal custom of the entire place as being the most reliable, still the demand must be quite inconsiderable. No doubt it is a most paying business for the proprietor, for dealers and collectors have to pay the French facial value, which I calculate is about 25 per cent. over that surcharged on the stamps, and at which they are sold to the inhabitants. That this was so was evident, for I was informed envelopes and cards properly surcharged had been written for.

Samos is an island nominally under the suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey, who appoints a governor (generally a Phanariot Greek), with the title of Prince of Samos. His small palace overlooks the town, most beautifully and picturesquely situated in a deep horseshoe-shaped bay, surrounded by hills covered with luxuriant vegetation. Before leaving we indulged in a bottle of the wine of the country, for which I tendered a mejideea, a silver coin of the value of about 3s. 5d., and received so much change that we calculated the bottle cost us just the alarming sum of 4d. It was of somewhat a liqueur character, muscat flavour, but too sweet. And here I may mention the amount of silver (Turkish currency) circulating is miserably inadequate for the public needs—old, and poor in quality—so that it is supplemented with all kinds of foreign coins.

NOTES AND NEWS.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

Continental Philately.—During a hurried scamper through Cologne, Leipsig, Dresden, Berlin, Hanover, and Brussels in the first half of this month, with short visits to the leading dealers and collectors in each place, I noted particularly the almost entire absence of rare stamps and fine copies. A considerable difference is to be observed in this respect since two years ago, when I visited most of the same towns. Unused stamps, which were then almost totally neglected, are now beginning to be appreciated at nearer their true worth, although the difficulty of making up fine unused sets of the old German States is even now not fully realized.

The days are evidently past when English dealers could replenish their stocks by a run over the Continent.

Nothing is more palpable than the great estimation in which the stamps of the English Colonies are held in the great German centres of collecting. The stocks of these stamps are very limited, and the demand is very great. Another thing that particularly struck me was the entire absence of even respectable copies of the better class of Australian stamps; e.g., I did not see during the whole trip a single *fine* Sydney View. Another instance is in South Australia; in the many fine collections I saw the first set of imperforates mostly consisted of rouletted copies cut down. Of Western Australia early issues there are practically none in Germany, in *fine* state. This all foreshadows a well-merited rise in the value of the scarcer Australian stamps.

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Cologne.—My chief object in staying here was simply to break the journey to Leipsig. Philatelically speaking there is not much to attract one in Cologne. I had very comfortable quarters in the "Dom Hotel," immediately facing the Cathedral.

* * *

Leipsig ("Hotel Hauffe," central and good).—This important centre is about twelve hours by express from Cologne. Here, of course, for the philatelist the chief attraction is the justly celebrated establishment of Gebruder Senf. I have to express my acknowledgments to Mr. Richard Senf and Mr. Theodor Hass for a very pleasant morning spent with them. An interesting exchange of views took place as regards the increase in the demand for good stamps.

* * *

Dresden.—My good friend Mr. Kunkle, one of the Secretaries of this, the greatest Philatelic Society in the world, to whom I telegraphed time of arrival, unfortunately happened to be travelling, and through this I missed hearing that there was a meeting of the Dresden Society on the evening of my arrival, or I should have been very happy to have renewed the pleasant memories of two years ago.

There is no lack of appreciation of the value of their own stamps in the Saxon Capital—my *compagnon de voyage* secured two exceptionally superb copies of the 3 pfennig, at commensurate prices. The first issue of the head series, unused, seems to be totally exhausted, and but few relatively of the second series are to be found. We had a pleasant drive to Striesen, to revisit the famous museum of Mr. Ernst Petritz, which I described at length in *The Monthly Journal* on the occasion of my former visit.

* * *

Berlin (Central Hotel, Frederickstrasse, very handy and good).—The Metropolis is undoubtedly the Philatelic centre of Germany, and our visit there was made exceedingly pleasant by the kindness of the leading collectors. Our acknowledgments are especially due to Landersgerichts-Direktor Carl Lindenberg, Amtsrichter H. Frankel and Dr. Kalckhoff.

An amazing growth is to be noted here in the value of the leading collections. Many of the dealers have valuable stocks, but they are fully alive to the recent development in prices. The leading ones in this respect appear to be Messrs. Stotzer, Stock, Augspach, Schlesinger, and David Cohn.

* * *

Imperial Post Museum, Berlin.—Every collector or dealer visiting Berlin should make a point of seeing this Museum, which is undoubtedly the finest of its kind in the world. The entrance to the Museum is from No. 15, Leipzigerstrasse, across a large courtyard and upstairs on the left.

The Museum is open every day (including Sundays) except Wednesdays and Saturdays, between the hours of eleven and two, and no charge is made for admission.

Owing to the kindness of Mr. Lindenberg, we were allowed a private inspection after the Museum was closed to the public, and were personally conducted through it by him and Dr. Kalckhoff.

At present the rooms are rather crowded, owing to the numerous additions made of late years; but a new building

is being erected, which it is anticipated will provide ample room to show the numerous interesting objects in the collection.

The existing excellence of the Museum is practically due to the great exertions of Mr. Lindenberg, to whom it is impossible to give too much credit for the splendid results attained without cost to the nation; as I understand that no funds whatever are placed at his disposal, and the collection has been formed by donations from foreign Governments and private individuals, and by a careful system of exchanging the duplicate stamps received at the Imperial Post Office.

It would take far more space than I have at my disposal to enumerate half the interesting objects I noticed here, but after the stamp collection (to which I refer later on) the models struck me as the next most worthy exhibits. Chief amongst these are large models, from two to eight feet in length, of the chief Post Office Buildings in the Empire, the following are a few of the finest: Bremen, Weimer, Hildesheim, Berlin, Dresden, Mannheim, Cassel, and Coblenz. Then the models of stage coaches of all nations were very interesting, also those of the mail steam ships, of which there is a large collection. Perhaps the finest models in the whole collection were two superb ones of mail trains. England was worthily represented, by a really beautiful work of art in a fine model of one of the travelling Post-offices and sorting vans of the London and North Western Railway, the nets for catching the mails while going at full speed were shown, and could be worked—every detail is there. This fine model is however, I think, beaten by the one opposite it of a similar coach of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway in the United States. The roof of this coach is arranged to wind up, so that the interior can be inspected at leisure.

All kinds of telegraphic apparatus is shown. Mr. Lindenberg had the Hughes system set to work, and a message transmitted to show us how it is done. A grand working model of the Pneumatic, or, as the Germans call it, Rohr Post, was shown, and messages sent through. This system is very much used in Berlin, where there are forty-five receiving stations for messages, which are forced through the tubes at the rate of about two-thirds of a mile a minute.

The Philatelic Collection is divided into six groups as follows:

- 1st. Adhesive Postage Stamps.
- 2nd. Envelopes.
- 3rd. Cards.
- 4th. Money Orders.
- 5th. Telegraph Stamps, Cards, &c.
- 6th. Essays and Proofs.

All are arranged in geographical order, and unused as far as possible. No daylight is admitted to the rooms containing the stamps, the electric light being used. The collection is mounted in frames swung round central revolving pillars, on somewhat the same plan as some of the frames in the Philatelic Exhibition in the Portman Rooms, in 1890.

In a hurried look at the stamps I noticed that in Roumania the 1st issue was complete, Italy had the 3 lire and 60 c. In Turkey I saw a 2 piastres, pale blue, 1st type, on thick paper, a variety that I do not think is noted in any catalogue.

The Collection of *Envelopes*, especially those of the German States, is superb; only about a couple of varieties are missing. The difficulty of the task may be gauged by the fact that £50 to £75 is not an uncommon sum to be paid for some of the rarer ones, and the number of these rarities in German envelopes is legion.

Some day the German Philatelists will wake up to the advisability of making collections of their own splendid envelopes, as well as of all their postmarks, and it will be seen that envelopes of which no more than one to two thousand were issued will then command the price of the greatest rarities.

It is to be regretted that the Curator has had but little help in the shape of donations. The movement has been well initiated in our own museum by Mr. E. D. Bacon; but, alas! that is our sole advantage.

The British Government should send a small commission to Berlin to see what has been done, and I feel sure the result of their report would be to recommend the establishment of a real Postal Museum in England's Metropolis also.

* * *

My next stopping-place was HANOVER. Here I most strongly recommend the Hotel Royal, close to the station.

The charges are moderate, and the dinner there is out and away the best given at any hotel I have stayed at in Germany.

Hanover must always, to the collector, be associated with the name of Mr. Hermann Decker, who beyond doubt is the only dealer on the Continent who holds a really good stock of the old German stamps. Mr. Decker's stock is a "dream of beauty"; every stamp is a picked specimen, and every stamp is appreciated at its true value in strict regard to condition and rarity. Mr. Decker's judgment on old German stamps and obliterations is sought by most of the leading collectors, and is found to be a correct one—a striking difference to that of a certain Mr. Hermann of Berlin, who, from numerous examples I was shown, is apparently in the habit of judging and certifying a stamp without looking at it.

I must also not forget to mention that I renewed my acquaintance with an old friend, Mr. P. A. Post. Although Mr. Post has sold his collection, he is still a keen Philatelist, and is always pleased to meet fellow-collectors visiting this city.

* * *

From Hanover I went on to *Brussels*—a busy stamp centre—but I was only able to stay a short time and see a few old friends. Of course I visited the famous "Galerie Bortier," and had a chat with Mademoiselle Jean Moens, whose reminiscences are very interesting. Fancy Tuscany 3 lire, and Nova Scotia 1s. at 4s. each, and yet this lady well remembers selling them at this price.

Just opposite the "Galerie Bortier," at No. 52 Rue de la Madeleine, Mr. M. Belin has just opened a very nice new shop, where I wish him every success. Mr. Belin is agent for Belgium for our publishers, and their Albums, Catalogues, and other Philatelic Works may be obtained here at the published prices.

We decided, as ill luck would have it, to return home *via* Ostend, and got so far all right, and found the Belgian mail-boat *La Flandre* to take us across. A rather heavy sea was on, with strong head wind, so we ran up the coast past Dunkirk and nearly to Calais before attempting to cross. About six miles from the Farelands a sudden great crash was heard, and two of the large floats of the paddle-wheels were broken right off. The wreckage knocked down the iron casing of the paddle-wheel, and partially wrecked the captain's bridge; but luckily none of the passengers were injured. The danger cones were hoisted, and after some delay a tug came out from Dover, and we got in after about four hours delay, having had a most enjoyable trip entirely devoted to stamps. Long may they flourish!

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President:

H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President:

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President:

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

At the fourteenth meeting of the season 1893-94, held at Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 19th January, 1894, the business of the evening consisted entirely of the revision of the Society's reference lists of the stamps of Cyprus, which was proceeded with and completed.

The fifteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 26th January, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. Fourteen members were present and two visitors.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President the chair was taken by Major Evans, and the minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed.

Amongst the correspondence read by the Secretary was a letter from His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch, acknowledging the receipt of the intimation of his election, and confirming the statement that he had preferred to seek election as an ordinary member. A letter from Mr. Ferrier Kerr was also read, sending for inspection of the members present a horizontal pair of the twopence stamp of Victoria (Queen on Throne) with the letters Z.C. and W.M., the first with broken stems.

Mr. J. A. Bucknill, proposed by Mr. Geldard, and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary; Mr. O. Pfenninger, proposed by the Vice-President, and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary; Mr. J. N. A. Mostyn, proposed by Mr. Joyn, and seconded by the President; and Mrs. C. M. Jervis, proposed by Major Evans, and seconded by the Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Ehrenbach then read a paper on "The Stamps of Brunswick." After acknowledging his indebtedness to Mr. Berger for much of the information contained in his paper, Mr. Ehrenbach described in detail the various issues and the points of interest in the study of these stamps, and particularly in reference to the rouletted stamps, which have been so extensively forged. A fine selection of the stamps on original envelopes was passed round for inspection by the members, and in the cases on the walls Mr. Ehrenbach had kindly arranged his collection of Brunswick stamps, which was much admired by the members present. On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ehrenbach for his very interesting paper, which, with his consent, will be published in *The London Philatelist*.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 2nd February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President occupied the chair, and thirteen members were in attendance.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the receipt from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of their recently-published book on *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, by Major Evans; and Mr. Castle announced the receipt from the publisher of Mr. Lindenbergs work on the *Envelope Stamps of Germany*, both of which were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Society's reference list of the stamps of Hongkong, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

THE seventeenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 9th February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and eighteen members and one visitor were present.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from Mr. de Coppet, enclosing for the opinion of the meeting a copy of the 17 cents stamp of Canada, apparently imperforate, and a 2½d. stamp of Vancouver Island, perforated 14 at the sides and bottom of the stamp, and 12½ on the top. After careful examination it was decided that in the case of the first-mentioned stamp there was not sufficient margin to enable a conclusive opinion to be formed, and in regard to the other stamp that there was not sufficient evidence that it had ever been issued with the perforations in question. An envelope sent by Major Evans was also shown franked by an entire 6 anna bill stamp (unsurcharged), and used with the 8 pies stamp current at the time when the surcharged bill stamps were used for postage.

Mr. Thomas P. Dorman, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. Millington; Mr. George B. Barrington, proposed by Mr. A. W. Chambers, and seconded by Mr. G. Lockyer; Mr. A. B. Slater, jun., proposed by Mr. H. E. Deats, and seconded by Mr. J. K. Tiffany; the Rev. T. S. Fleming, proposed by Mr. O. Firth, and seconded by Mr. Beckwith; Mr. J. G. Tolhurst, proposed by Mr. J. H. Redman, and seconded by the Vice-President; and Baron de Worms, proposed by the Vice-President, and seconded by the Assistant-Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

The Vice-President then read a paper on the registered stamps of New South Wales, illustrated by his fine collection of these stamps; and on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by the Assistant-Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his very interesting paper.

Mr. Ehrenbach showed a reconstructed sheet of the 3 pfennig stamp of Saxony, consisting of 20 stamps, including one strip of 5, a strip of 4, and a block of 4 of these rare stamps all in fine condition.

THE eighteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 16th February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The business of the evening consisted entirely of the revision of the reference list of the stamps of Hongkong, which was completed.—*From the London Philatelist, the Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London.*

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

AT the meeting on March 1st Mr. H. Rawson Bewlay and Miss J. Weston were elected corresponding members.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. for a copy of their new handbook on *South Australia*, a work which will certainly be indispensable to all who desire to specialize in the stamps of that country.

Arrangements for inter-society packets with the Leeds Society were left in the hands of the Hon. Secretary.

The President then gave his paper on the "Registration Adhesives of New South Wales." This was followed by a paper on the "Service Adhesives" of the same country by the Hon. Secretary. Both papers will be printed in the official journal.

ON March 15th Messrs. C. W. Kissinger and C. Weaving were elected corresponding members.

Mr. W. Pimm gave his paper on "Watermarks." After a short description of paper-making and the methods adopted for inserting the watermarks, he selected a few representative countries, and called attention to the various designs adopted to render the stamps less likely to be forged.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RT. HON. LORD HARRIS, G.C.I.E.

President—

THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

THE Annual General Meeting was held at the Society's Rooms, Church Gate Street, Fort, on Monday, Feb. 12th, at 6.30 p.m. Present—Mr. E. S. Gubbay, Vice-President, presiding, and nine members. New members elected—Edward B. Evans, Esq., London Philatelic Society (honorary). Proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by Mr. H. W. Graham. Messrs. E. F. Underwood, M. D. R. McCann, and C. D. Kettle (ordinary); the first and second proposed by Mr. W. Dobrovich, and seconded by the Hon. Treasurer; and the third proposed by Dr. Caridade F. Pacó, and seconded by the Hon. Treasurer. Capt. E. T. Taylor (corresponding); proposed by Mr. A. J. Agabeg, and seconded by the Hon. Treasurer.

Proposed by the Vice-President and seconded by Mr. A. Hazim that the Annual Report, audited Balance Sheet, Revised and Exchange Rules, and List of Members should be published at the expense of the Society (carried).

Mr. H. W. Graham showed his collection at the close of the meeting. The early issues of Ceylon, South Australia, Queensland, Sicily, &c., were well represented.

The Hon. Sec. acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a publication entitled *Stamps and Stamp Collecting* presented by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. to the Society, also the *Annual Report of the Alamo City Philatelic Society, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A.*

J. SKYMOUR SUMMERS, Hon. Sec.

33, SASSOON DOCK ROAD, COLABA, BOMBAY.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.
President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE eighth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 29th, at 7.45 p.m. Present: The President in the chair, and nine members. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Messrs. C. Neville Biggs, Hastings E. Wright, and A. Upton were elected members of the Society. The President then proposed that Mr. Pfenninger be elected Librarian to the Society. This was seconded by the Vice-President, and unanimously agreed to. Mr. Pfenninger gave a most interesting and detailed description of the numerous forgeries of the early Swiss stamps, and exhibited a large number of specimens of the many different types, several being extremely well executed, and difficult of detection. He demonstrated the difference between the forgeries and the genuine stamps by means of greatly enlarged photographs of the latter, thereby showing the most minute details. These were taken by Mr. Pfenninger himself, and were proof of his great proficiency in the art of photography. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Pfenninger.

THE ninth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, February 12th, at 7.45 p.m. Present: The President in the chair, and ten members. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following donations to the Society's library were received: *Scott's Standard Catalogue*, 1894 and *Die Postwertzeichen des Herzogthums Braunschweig*, from the President; a large number of pamphlets, journals, catalogues, &c., from Mr. Willett, and a copy of *Stamps and Stamp Collecting* from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. The best thanks of the Society were accorded to the donors for their kindness. Mr. J. W. Gillespie then exhibited his fine collection of Holland and Colonies, on which he read a long and most carefully prepared paper, dealing not only with the various issues, but giving also detailed lists of the numerous perforations, extracts from official documents, &c. He also mentioned that of the "Unpaid Letter Stamps" there were in each value several differences in the design. Among other stamps in his collection may be noted imperf. specimens of several of the later issues, a 20 c. of 1868 perf. 10½, &c. The President, in proposing a vote of thanks, observed that, as the meeting had heard one of the best papers yet read before the Society, he trusted that Mr. Gillespie would allow it to be published in *The London Philatelist*. Mr. Gillespie signifying his acquiescence, the proposal was seconded by Mr. Willett and carried.

CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

THE attendances at the weekly meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, have greatly improved since January. Dr. Bryant's paper on "Perforations," and Mr. E. J. Nankivell's discourse on the stamps of the Transvaal, have ranked foremost among recent contributions to the entertainment and instruction of the members. Mr. Nankivell could not go very deeply into the subject of the Transvaal stamps in a short paper, but he nevertheless contrived to enlighten the members of the club on a good many points. In his opinion the rarer Transvaals are much under priced relatively to their comparative scarcity.

Contributions are solicited from publishers and others for the club's reference library. The Hon. Librarian has already had the pleasure of acknowledging gifts of literature from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, Messrs. H. A. McMillan & Co., Mr. Walter Morley, the Philatelic News Agency, and the publishers of *The Philatelic Chronicle*.

Meetings of the club are now held every Thursday evening at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, at 7.30 p.m. precisely.

PERCY C. BISHOP, *Hon. Sec.*

117, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(ESTABLISHED MAY, 1890.)

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE ninth meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings on the 17th of February. Mr. Eugene Egly was voted to the chair. Also present six members and five associates. The donations to the library, for which thanks were voted, consisted of several additions to the collection of forgeries, given by Messrs. Sieber, Roebuck, and Beckwith, and the current numbers of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, Mekeel's *American Journal of Philately*, and *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*. Novelties were shown by Messrs. Roebuck (Samoa, 5d. surcharged on 4d.), Duffield (Canada, 8 cents, blue-grey), and T. K. Skipwith (South Australia, 2d., perf. 15).

Mr. W. B. Simpson gave an account of the stamps of Belgium, illustrated by his own and other members' collections, and at the close received a vote of thanks.

THE tenth meeting was held on the 3rd of March, Mr. J. F. C. Sieber being voted to the chair, and ten members and two associates being present. The donations included a copy of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' important new work on the stamps of South Australia, the current numbers of various periodicals, and a couple of lantern slides representing the very successful stamp exhibition held in Leeds in May, 1890, from which the Society dated its origin, presented by Mr. Washington Teasdale, F.R.A.S., etc. A cordial vote of thanks was passed for these welcome gifts. Novelties and interesting stamps were shown by Mr. T. K. Skipwith (Victorian Frank stamps, &c.), Rev. T. S. Fleming (full set of unpaid stamps of New South Wales, &c.), Mr. W. Beckwith (surcharged stamps of Lagos and Sierra Leone, &c.), and on behalf of Mrs. Beardsell (new local stamp for Antwerp).

The senior Vice-President, Mr. John H. Thackrah, then described the first seven types of the stamps of Victoria, copies of most of which were shown in illustration by himself and Messrs. Fleming and Skipwith, after which a vote of thanks was passed.

The discussion on Mr. M. P. Castle's circular regarding *The London Philatelist* was, for lack of time, adjourned to the next meeting.

T. K. SKIPWITH,
13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. DENISON ROEBUCK,
Sunny Bank, Leeds, }

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, ESQ.

THE eighth meeting of the session was held on the 15th of December, 1893, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by fourteen members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Several new members were proposed. Mr. Gibson reported the arrangements made by the Committee for the Annual Dinner on Friday, December 22nd.

Mr. Abbott then read a most interesting paper on the stamps of St. Helena. An exceptionally fine series of these stamps was shown, including entire sheets belonging to Mr. Abbott, and the error 6d., carmine-red, out of the President's collection.

THE Annual Dinner of the Society was held on Friday, December 22nd, 1893, twenty-six partaking of the feast. A philatelic menu, drawn by Mr. Gibson, was the only item of philatelic interest, the evening being a purely musical one after the dinner, Messrs. Petri, Gibson, Munn, and others contributing songs, recitations, &c. The dinner and musical evening were both much enjoyed by the members, who passed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Gibson, to whom the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose had left all the arrangements.

THE ninth meeting of the session was held on January 5th, 1894, fourteen members present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. A. Watson, Mr. H. R. Sant Angelo, and Mr. North were elected members

of the Society. Mr. Gibson read the first portion of his paper on the manufacture of stamps, dealing principally with the various papers employed and their method of production.

The stamps of Tuscany were then discussed, Messrs. Duerst, Petri, Gibson, and Beckton contributing to the subject, the further consideration of which was adjourned until the next meeting. A packet from the Brighton Society was afterwards passed round.

THE tenth meeting of the session was held on January 19th, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by sixteen members and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Hanmer proposed that *The London Philatelist* be forwarded post free to each member every month instead of each member having to fetch same. The Secretary proposed an amendment, to the effect that the consideration of Mr. Hanmer's resolution be postponed until the annual meeting. The amendment was carried. Mr. Blockey read a paper on "The Stamps of Holland," giving a larger list of the various perforations to be found on these stamps than has hitherto appeared.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

OLDHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE ninth meeting was held on Monday, the 14th March, the President being in the chair.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, the Secretary formally presented to the Society copies of *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, and *The Stamps of South Australia*, both of which had been very kindly sent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and the same were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. *The Monthly Journal*, and *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, were also received during the past month, with thanks.

A letter from Mr. R. Melzer, applying for membership, was read, and it was decided to admit the writer as a member.

The Secretary read a paper entitled "Stamp Collecting of To-day," and was accorded a vote of thanks for the same.

The next meeting was fixed for March 28th. The rest of the evening was spent in exchanging stamps and exhibiting novelties.

JOHN J. DARLOW, *Secretary*.

7, QUEEN STREET, OLDHAM.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE eighth meeting of the above Society was held at the residence of Mr. Clifton, Freemantle, on Monday evening, January 8th, 1894. Present: The President in the chair, and seven members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A catalogue of post cards was received from Mr. Campbell, Jersey. Mr. Barry, Perth, and Mr. I. S. Abrahams, late of Melbourne, were elected members. Several collections and also some dealers' sheets were shown. The settling of the third Exchange book was proceeded with. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed a very enjoyable evening.

THE ninth meeting was held at the residence of Dr. Hitch, Perth, on Monday evening, February 5th, 1894. Eight members present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. H. Vallentine, Perth, was elected a member. It was decided to wait for further news from the Victoria Society before entering on the subject of Intercolonial Exchanges. *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, vol. i., was presented to the Society by the publishers, Messrs. Hollick and Walton, and was ordered to be acknowledged with thanks. Several collections were shown by members. The Government Post-office collection was to have been exhibited, but the gentleman in charge of it could not get away. A vote of thanks to the chairman and Dr. Hitch closed the meeting.

ALF. J. LEONIE, *Hon. Sec.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

DEAR SIR,—I continue to read with much interest Mr. Tamsen's articles on the stamps of the Transvaal. All collectors of these stamps must greatly appreciate the information given respecting their printing and issue.

It is, however, disappointing to know that so little documentary evidence exists to tell the story of the stamps first used under British administration. For what Mr. Tamsen has been able to unearth we are greatly indebted to him, but he still leaves a wide field open for discussion. I now write to refer to only one point in respect to which he appeals to collectors.

In his article in your February number Mr. Tamsen refers to the variety in which there is a wide space between the letters "V.R." and the word "TRANSVAAL" of the overprint. He has this variety on the 1s. value, but is puzzled by it, as he has not seen it hitherto chronicled. He thinks that the existence of this variation on the 1s. stamps with black overprint is evidence that those stamps were separately printed, "and that," he says, "would account for the error *only being found in this value*." He then expresses the hope that now he has drawn attention to the variety other collectors will examine their specimens, as he will be glad to hear if other copies are "discovered."

Will you kindly allow me to say that the variety in question has been long known to English collectors of Transvaal stamps? It had been included in the Reference List of the Philatelic Society, and was referred to at the Society's meetings last year, when that list was revised with the view to its publication.

The variety—I do not think it should be called an "error"—is not confined to the 1s. value, as Mr. Tamsen supposes it to be. I have it, in *black*, on the 1d. and 6d. (one of the latter inverted), and, in *red*, on the 3d.

Yours faithfully, R. PEARCE.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. K. R.—Our own method of mounting Mulready envelopes and covers is to open them out flat, and hinge them in an album with cardboard leaves. For prices we can only refer you to our publishers' catalogue.

E. H. S.—Type 3526 represents No. 25 in the catalogue; there is no reference to this type in connection with the card to which you refer. We shall be happy to endeavour to answer in this column any questions that you may send us, except upon the subject of prices, which we cannot quote here.

E. R.—The numbers in the margins of the sheets of Colonial stamps are usually over the second stamp from each end of the top row, and under the corresponding stamps in the bottom row. As a rule there are two different numbers, on the right and left respectively; probably one is the number of the plate of that particular value and type, and the other a number in the general series of plates made by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. Nothing is known as to the date of "Graffin's Despatch," but no doubt it was not in use so late as 1873; there are no reprints, so your specimen must be either an original or a forgery.

A NOVICE.—We look upon the reprints of Tasmania as of greater interest and value than most impressions of that class; those of the 1853 stamps, in particular, have been of great service to collectors of varieties of type. We consider them worth putting into a collection, but not to take the place of the originals.

D. J. G.—We cannot give you any definite rule for distinguishing the Brussels and Athens prints; but the former are more clearly printed than the latter, and the shades also are different.

A. E. G.—We are much obliged for your letter; but such omissions as those you allude to will be found in all the Addenda. Illustrations for which we have not got the blocks are necessarily omitted. If we afterwards obtain the blocks, the illustrations appear in the next addendum, but the descriptions are not repeated.

Special Bargains and New Issues FOR APRIL.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

AUSTRIA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1894. Unpaid Letter Stamps.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	kreuzer, brown	0 1	0 8	5 0
3	" "	0 2	1 6	11 6
5	" "	0 3	2 0	15 0
10	" "	0 6	4 0	—
20	" "	1 0	8 0	—

BELGIUM.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1894. Antwerp Exhibition Stamps.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 c.	green on pink	0 1	0 9	5 6

BERMUDA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
Wmk. Crown & CC. Perf. 12½ x 14.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1s.	green	12	6	—

BOLIVIA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1894. New type. Engraved.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	centavo, brown	0 1	0 5	2 0
2	" orange-vermilion	0 1	0 6	3 6
5	" green	0 3	1 6	—
10	" brown	0 6	3 0	—

CANADA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1892-93. Post Cards. Type 48a re-drawn.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 c.	blue	0 2	1 0	6 6
1 c.	grey	0 2	1 0	6 6

EGYPT.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1893. New Colour.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
46.	20 on 5 piastres, black and green, with surcharge inverted	3 6	32 6	—
	3 millimetres, orange	0 2	1 6	—

1884. Unpaid Letter Stamps.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1888.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
352.	20 paras, vermilion, with wmk., used	0 9	6 0	—
353.	1 piastre " " "	0 6	5 0	—
354.	2 " " " "	0 6	5 0	—

1888.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1884. Unpaid Letter Stamps.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
360.	2 millimetres, green, used	0 4	7	—
361.	5 " carmine "	0 4	—	—
362.	1 piastre, blue "	0 6	—	—
363.	2 " yellow "	0 6	—	—

FRENCH COLONIES.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1894. Unpaid Letter Stamps. Imperf. Type 1033.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 c.	blue, 10 c., brown, 15 c., green, 30 c., carmine, 50 c., puce, 60 c., brown, and 1 franc, pink, set of 7	4 0	40 0	—

ITALY.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
Post Card, dated '93.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 c.	carmine on buff	0 3	2 0	14 0

NORWAY.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1872. Type 1777.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
7	skilling, brown	1 0	10 0	—

MALTA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1885. Wrappers.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	green on buff	—	1 0	7 0

PORTUGAL.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
" Provisorio." Used.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	reis, black and black, used	0 4	—	—
10	" black and green "	0 4	—	—
10	" red and black "	0 2	—	—
15	" red and green "	0 2	—	—
15	" red and brown "	0 9	—	—
20	" black and rose "	0 3	—	—
25	" black and lilac "	0 4	—	—
25	" red and blue "	0 6	—	—

1893. Type 2033. Used.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
5, 25, 50, 80, 100, 200, and 300 reis, set of 7, used		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5, 25, 50, 80, 100, 200, and 300	reis, set of 7, used	2 0	—	—

ROUMANIA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1894. Wmk R.P.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3	bani, mauve	0 3	—	—
5	" green	0 6	—	—

Post Cards.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
5 bani, black on pink		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	bani, black on pink	0 3	2 0	—
5	+ 3 bani "	0 3	2 6	—
5	bani, green on grey	0 2	1 6	8 6
10	" red on buff	0 3	2 0	14 0

ST. THOMAS.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
1887. Envelope.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3	cents, red used	0 3	2 0	—

SALVADOR.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
UN CENTAVO ON 20 c., black and orange, with surcharge inverted		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
UN CENTAVO ON 20 c.	black and orange, with surcharge inverted	7 6	—	—

SANDWICH ISLES.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
" Prov. Govt., 1893." Used.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 c.	red and green, used	0 3	2 0	—
2 c.	red and violet, used	0 3	1 9	—
3 c.	black and carmine, used	0 4	2 6	—
5 c.	red and ultramarine, used	0 6	4 6	—

SERVIA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
5 paras, green on buff, Post Card <th>s. d.</th> <th>s. d.</th> <th>s. d.</th>		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	paras, green on buff, Post Card	0 2	1 6	—
5	" green on pale blue, Letter Card	0 2	1 6	—

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
½d. on 4d., brown and green, perf. 15		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	on 4d., brown and green, perf. 15	0 9	6 6	—

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
50 cents, olive and carmine, used		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50	cents, olive and carmine, used	0 6	4 6	—

VATHY.		EACH	PER 12	PER 100
5 c., red and green		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	c., red and green	0 2	—	—
10	c., blue and black	0 3	—	—
15	c., red and blue	0 4	—	—
5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 1, 2, and 4 piastres, set of 6		3 0	—	—

SUPPLEMENT TO LIST

OF

CHEAP SETS for 1894.

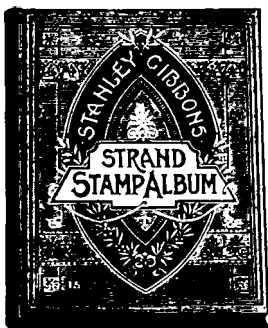
Used * Unused †	Used and Unused ‡	Post-free, 1d. extra.	Set of	s. d.
† Austria, 1894, Unpaid, 1, 3, 5, and 10 kr.			4	1 0
† Belgium, Sunday Stamps, including special issue for Antwerp Exhibition, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 25			7	1 3
† Bolivar, 1891, 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 c., and 1 peso			6	12 0
† Bolivia, 1893, 1, 2, and 5 c.			3	0 6
† Chefoo, ½, 1, 2, and 5 c.			4	0 6
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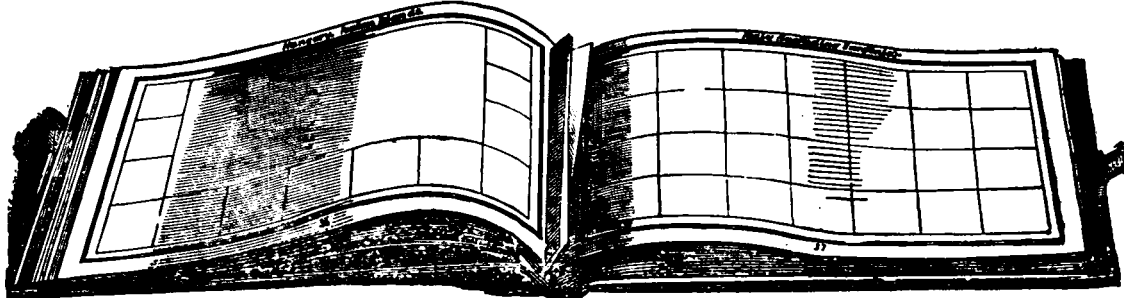
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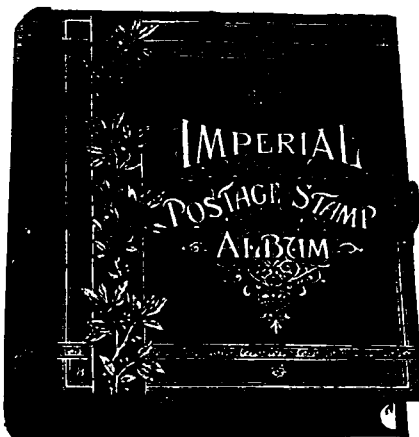
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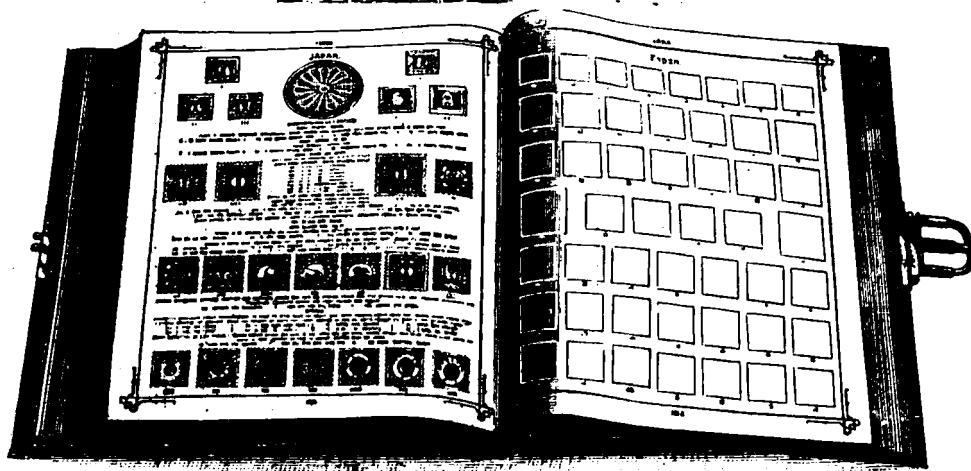
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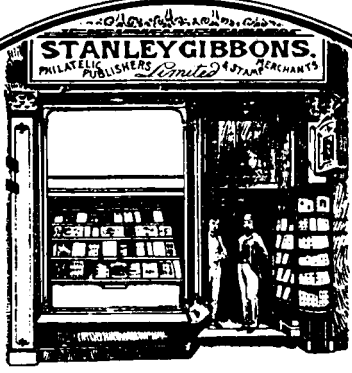
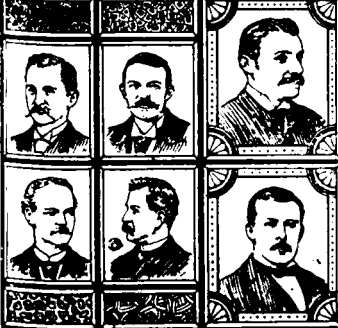
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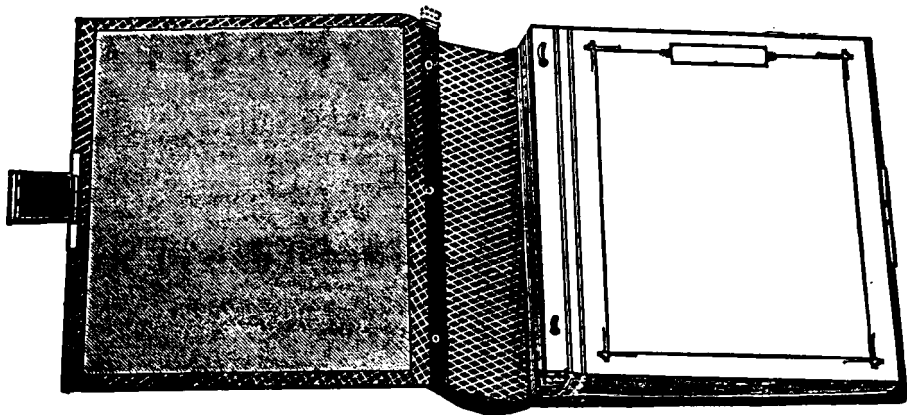
N.B.—A number of these books have been used by "The Philatelic Society, London," in compiling their Lists, and in many cases new varieties have been found in them which were hitherto unknown.

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In conclusion, we venture to assert that it is the best Perforation Gauge ever placed before the Philatelic public, and is in every respect as its name implies—

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To give some indication of the magnitude of these Books, we attach a short list of those most recently finished, together with their value at the time they were completed.

BOOK No.	CONTENTS.	VALUE.
49	Fiji and Sandwich Isles	£ 644
17	Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Christopher	£ 851
18	South Australia. Part I.	£ 919
54	Ditto Part II.	£ 341
55	Hamburg, Hanover, Oldenburg, Bremen, and Brunswick	£ 883
51	Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia	£ 703
50	Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island	£ 632
38	Western Australia	£ 1075
27	New South Wales	£ 1513
44	Brazil	£ 273
32	Ceylon	£ 508
31	Shanghai	£ 459
7	Portuguese India	£ 824
58	Mauritius	£ 1378

&c. &c. &c.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

APRIL 30, 1894.

No. 46.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

WE are very glad to be able to announce to our readers, that the London Philatelic Society has decided upon taking certain steps, which, we hope and believe, will result in meeting two long-felt philatelic wants. One of these is a definite and fairly reliable authority upon the really good and dangerous imitations, and the well-executed frauds purporting to be rare and valuable stamps; the other is a kind of registration office of known specimens of the rarer stamps, through which the history of individual copies may be traced, and which will at the same time preserve a record of doubtful types and dangerous imitations, and thus assist in preventing the free circulation of the latter.

The Society, in appointing an Expert Committee to deal with the former of these difficulties, has at the same time entrusted to that Committee the task of endeavouring to supply the second want also; and it is hoped that the arrangements made, with such modifications as may from time to time become necessary, will be found fairly adequate.

The members of the Committee, who are all men whose time is pretty well occupied, are not anxious to burden themselves with the examination of unlimited numbers of common stamps, either genuine or forged; their desire is rather to confine their attention at present to more serious matters, to deal mainly with stamps requiring both *examination* and *registration*. With this view, and to cover the necessary expenses, they have decided upon making a charge of 2s. 6d. for each stamp examined; and we think that, when all the circumstances are taken into consideration, this charge will not be found exorbitant. It must be remembered that the stamps to be examined will not, in many cases, be such as can be approved or condemned off-hand, but may

require careful examination and study by each member of the Committee, and close comparison with known genuine copies; further, the members do not propose to rely upon their own knowledge and experience—they would not have accepted office upon such terms—but they feel that they have at their backs a body of specialists upon whom they are entitled to call in all cases of doubt, and whose opinions will carry far greater weight than their own. There will therefore be no small amount of expenditure upon postage and registration.

Besides this, each specimen declared to be genuine will be photographed; one copy of the photograph will be filed by the Committee for future reference; and a second copy, with the opinion of the Committee written upon it, will be forwarded with the original to the person submitting it, who will thus obtain an opinion which at the same time forms a document by means of which the specimen examined may be identified. Where the opinion of the Committee is unfavourable a photograph will not be transmitted to the sender; but such a record of bad or doubtful types will be preserved as will, it is hoped, render the further circulation of those particular specimens exceedingly difficult. It is perhaps a question whether such a Committee should insist upon being allowed to brand, in some indelible manner, any specimens as to the falsity of which they have no doubt; the present members are not, however, inclined to assume such a position of infallibility as this would involve, or to run the risk of irretrievably damaging what might turn out to be a genuine stamp.

It only remains for us to add that the Committee, as at present composed, consists of Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle, and E. B. Evans; and that stamps for examination, accompanied by the fee of 2s. 6d. for each, should be sent to Major E. B. Evans, Longton Avenue, Sydenham. (N.B.—The receipt of the stamps will be immediately acknowledged, but there will necessarily be a delay of some days before a final reply can be given.)

* * *

WHILE upon the subject of the London Philatelic Society and its doings we have much pleasure in announcing that it has been decided to celebrate

the twenty-fifth year of the Society's existence by holding an Exhibiton, which it is hoped will even surpass in interest those previously held at Effingham House. On such an occasion it was thought best that the Exhibition should not be a specialist one, but that its scope should be more general. With this object the members of the Society have been asked to contribute the finest and most interesting of the contents of their albums, without reference to the country or countries to which they may belong, and we do not doubt that the result will be a collection of gems, brought together in a comparatively small space, such as may make the mouth even of a millionaire to water. The Exhibition will be open from Tuesday, the 8th May, to Thursday, the 10th May next, inclusive, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. on each day; and admission will be free, as on previous occasions, but only with the card of a member of the Society.

* * *

The Times of March 26th contains an excellent article of about a column and a half, entitled *Stamp Collecting and Postal Revenues*, in which the effects which the collection of, and consequent dealing in, stamps have upon Post Revenues and the production of unnecessary varieties, are most ably discussed. Lord Ripon's despatch on the subject of provisional issues, and the opportunities which they offer to Colonial Postmasters, and other officials, for making "irregular profits," is taken as a text for a serious article upon the whole question. There are none of the usual sneers of the Philistine on the subject of paying long prices for dirty little pieces of paper; stamp collecting is treated as a study or hobby like any other, and its effect upon the over-production of the varieties which form its *raison d'être* is dealt with as a curious phase of a pursuit, the interest of which is not questioned. We are very glad indeed to read such an article in a leading daily paper; the correspondent of *The Times* plainly does not consider it his business to denounce the traffic occasioned by superabundant philatelic enthusiasm (to put the case mildly); he simply points out what has happened, and what must happen, in spite of Secretaries of State and their despatches, if collectors continue to buy all the "provisional" and "celebration" rubbish that is produced for their delectation.

Perhaps the most flagrant instance of this kind that has happened lately is that of the Shanghai Jubilee issues. The municipal authorities of Shanghai, not content with issuing a special stamp for the occasion, or rather encouraged by the great success of that issue, converted the greater part of their stock into Jubilee stamps, created a demand by announcing that the supply would be limited by the orders received in advance, and ended by supplying everyone who was foolish enough to purchase—or so we learn from various letters and newspaper cuttings that have reached us—the result being a kind of stamp-dealing orgie at the local Post-office lasting several days, during which all the regular business was neglected, letters went astray, and the general public, for whose benefit the institution was

supposed to exist, was greatly inconvenienced. But this is not all; the other treaty ports are taking up the stamp business with energy; Chefoo and Hankow have already got Post-offices in working order, as far as the supply of postage stamps is concerned; we notice an issue for another of these places in the present number, and we have rumours of yet another. "Still they come," and no doubt they will continue to do so, as long as anyone will buy them, until we have to provide pages for Chinese Locals, as for those of Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, and Russia, the last-named being, we believe, the most legitimate of the lot.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, *Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E.*, or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Azores.—We give an illustration showing one of the values of the Celebration issue of Portugal surcharged for use in these islands. We rejoice to hear that these interesting pictures were put on sale in Madeira without disfigurement.



Argentine Republic.—A correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* possesses the following abnormal varieties of the current adhesives: The ½, 1, 2, and 5 centavos imperforate horizontally, the 2 and 10 centavos imperforate vertically. We can congratulate him without the smallest particle of envy!

Bavaria.—The 3 pf. card is announced with the date "94." We doubt whether these varieties of date are of much interest, except to post-card specialists.

Belgium.—We have received the two higher values of the Antwerp Sabbaticals, and find that they agree with the description given last month. The Envelope-Letter, with the label and instruction added, has, we hear, only lately been put on sale; it appears to be an article for which there is little or no demand. The new letter card is reported to exist with an error in the instruction on the back, "*Kaartbrief*" appearing as "*Kaartbrij*"; but this we hope is only due to a defective "*f*," such as we can all make with a little ingenuity and a penknife!

Bolivar.—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles the 1 peso, of 1880, on *azure laid* paper, like that upon which the lower values are known. Specimens have been found among the "remainders" of this issue, and we may fairly class this as a variety prepared for issue, but not put in circulation.

Adhesive. 1 peso, orange on blue laid; perf. 12½.

Bosnia.—*The A. J. of Ph.* reports the 5 nov. envelope in a new size, wmkd. BRIEF-COUVERT in large double-lined letters. Envelope. 5 nov., red; 137×132 mm.

Bulgaria.—We learn from *La Revue Philatelique* that in the new edition of the letter cards, which we quoted in December, the values are still distinguished by different coloured cards; but the perforation is now 9, instead of 11! The error in the inscription on the back, which consists in the first letter of the third word in the second line being "3," in place of "6," has been found in both values—of the earlier printing, we believe.

Letter Card. 5 st., green on grey; with error.

Cape of Good Hope.—We have received the 15. in the redrawn type of the 1863 issue, without the thin outer

line of colour, the series of which has taken twenty-three years to complete!

Adhesive. 1s, green; redrawn type; wmk. Anchor & Cable; perf. 14.

The London Philatelist describes, among the freaks, an unsevered pair of the 3d., one stamp of which is surcharged with a thick figure "3," while the other bears no overprint.

Cashmere.—The following is clipped from *The Statesman*, Calcutta, March 23rd: "A new issue of Cashmere postage stamps is shortly expected from England, but it is hoped that the Indian Post Office will before long take over the working of the post both in Jammu and Cashmere."

Ceylon.—The *Ill. Brief, Journal* announces a 5 c. Postal Union card, of similar type to the 5 + 5 c. of 1892, but on white.

Post Card. 5 c., blue on white; 140 x 90 mm.

Chefoo.—We have received a second edition of the ½ cent, which appears to be from an improved die, the shading and the clouds in the central view, which were somewhat incomplete before, being now very much fuller and more conspicuous. The frame is apparently unaltered. We have also the 5 cents in a new shade.

Adhesives. ½ c., green; variety of die.
5 c., orange-brown.

Chungking.—Mr. Benjamin, of Shanghai, kindly sends us a rough sketch of a stamp which appears to have been issued by a local post at this port. In the centre is a view of a creek, with Chinese junk, and a pagoda at the back; this is enclosed in a narrow, upright rectangular frame, inscribed "CHUNGKING" at top, and "2 CANDARINS" below, with the Chinese equivalents of these at the sides. The specimen seen by our correspondent was badly lithographed on thin, tough paper, and perforated on the right side only, the other sides being apparently imperforate.

Adhesive. 2 candarins, red.

Colombia.—A correspondent tells us that he possesses two varieties of type of the 2 c. of 1883; we await information as to the nature of the difference before formally chronicling a second type.

Cyprus.—We are indebted to Mr. L. Z. Pierides for a specimen of a new wrapper, issued on the 1st inst., with stamp of the type of the adhesives.

Wrapper. 10 paras, carmine on buff.

Deccan.—We give an illustration of the variety of type of the ½ a. envelope, to which we alluded last month.

Ecuador.—The following illustrations represent the stamps which we chronicled last month. In addition to the two sets of adhesives, we have also received specimens of envelopes and post cards, the former of which are embossed



with the design shown in our third illustration in the right upper corner. The cards have a representation of the adhesive stamp, perforations included, in the upper centre, surrounded by scroll-work containing the inscriptions "REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR"—"TARJETA POSTAL," surmounted on the higher value by "REPUBLIQUE DU EQUATEUR"—which seems hardly to be correct French! The lower value is also inscribed "SERVICIO INTERIOR"—"CORREOS NACIONALES," and the higher "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE"—"CARTE POSTALE"—"UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL." Each has an instruction in Spanish in the left lower corner, of which it was perhaps thought safer not to attempt a translation. The stamp and a frame of engine-turned pattern are in colour, and the scroll-work and inscriptions in black.

Envelopes. 5 c., deep green on white wove; 154 x 89 mm.

Post Cards. 10 c., carmine on straw "
2 c., brown and black on rose; 142 x 90 mm. "
3 c., blue and black on azure "

Fernando Po.—This Spanish Colony has at last been supplied with a stamp bearing the head of the young King, as shown in the accompanying illustration.



Adhesive. 10 c. de p., violet-brown; perf. 14.

Fiji.—The *L. P.* publishes the following list of the numbers issued of various provisionals during the last few years:

March 1st, 1892.	½d. on 1d., 4984.
Dec. 31st, 1890.	2½d. on 2d., 10,000.
July 25th, 1892.	5d. on 4d., 5000.
Nov. 30th, "	FIVE FENCE on 6d., 3970.
Dec. 31st "	" " " 2070.

Finland.—A correspondent, in whose judgment we have every confidence, assures us that he possesses a specimen of the 8 penna of 1866 with a serpentine perforation of smaller gauge than usual, about 10½ instead of 8.

Adhesive. 8 pen., black on green; scrp perf. 10½.

France.—*La Gazette Timbrologique* reports the discovery of a 15 c. stamp of the current type, on plain paper, without the inscription "J. A. SAGE INV." on the left below, although the lines of the frame are quite clear, and the name of the engraver, "E. MOUCHON D. & S.," is visible on the right.

Great Britain.—Mr. Philbrick, in a letter to *The L. P.*, sternly dispels all our remaining illusions as to certain recent discoveries. The 2s. plate 2 turns out, on further examination, to be plate 1; and the White Seal with two heads, "of Dec., '80," which we fondly hoped might be added to the attractions of the Crystal Palace Aquarium during the coming summer, appears to be an envelope with a colourless impression of the flap seal (not an extreme novelty), and a hardly perceptibly double impression of "Die 80" of the stamp!

Grenada.—Several of our contemporaries have reported of late the current 6d. stamp overprinted 1d. or 2d., and "Surcharge Postage." We chronicled some varieties closely resembling these in November, 1892; has Grenada been at it again, or is the news a resuscitation?

Italy.—A correspondent in this country informs us that he possesses the 40 c. segnatasse with the numerals denoting the value upside down.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 40 c., buff and magenta; numerals inverted.

Montenegro.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that the Postal Union cards are now on buff instead of blue. A fresh lot of interesting varieties and errors has been produced; the double cards having four lines of heading on the first half, and three lines on the second, the opportunity has been taken of producing single cards in each of these forms!

	<i>Post Cards.</i>
5 n.	black on buff; 4 line heading.
5 n.	" " error "POSTAR" for "POSTALE."
5 n.	" " 3 line heading.
5 n.	" " error "KAPA" for "KAPTA."
5 + 5 n.	" " error "C RTE" for "CARTE."
5 + 5 d.	" " "RESPONSE" for "RÉPONSE."
5 + 5 n.	" " "POSTAR" for "POSTALE."

The last error we copy from *The A. J. of Ph.*

We have received the new values chronicled last month, and find that the 1 and 20 novtch are perf. 11½, and the higher values 10½. The colour of the 20 novtch we should term pale chestnut, and that of the 2 florins violet-brown, it closely resembles the tint of the 30 novtch.

Nicaragua.—We have received the complete set of stationery for 1894, and give an illustration of the design of the adhesives. The same is impressed in the right upper corner of envelopes and post cards, and upon wrappers, and likewise serves for an official series, printed uniformly in orange, and surcharged "FRANQUEO OFICIAL" in black. The post cards are further adorned with the usual gorgeous



devices; there is a background, showing a view of a harbour with mountains, palm trees, &c., printed in green, while the stamp, inscriptions with elaborate scroll-work and shading, and a frame of ornamental pattern are in the first colour given below. The inscriptions are: "SERVICIO DE CORREOS"—"REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA"—"TARJETA POSTAL"—"PARA EL INTERIOR" on the lower value, and "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL" on the higher, with an instruction in Spanish below; the double cards have the words "CONTES-TACION PAGADA" at the right side on each half, they are joined at the top, and perf. along the fold.

Adhesives.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 c., orange-brown. | 25 c., yellow-green. |
| 2 c., vermilion. | 50 c., violet. |
| 5 c., deep blue. | 1 peso, brown. |
| 10 c., grey. | 2 pesos, green. |
| 20 c., claret. | 5 " red-brown. |

- Envelopes.* 5 c., blue on white wove; 159 × 91 mm.
 10 c., grey " " " " " "
 20 c., carmine " " 224 × 100 mm.
 30 c., brown " " 239 × 102 mm.
 50 c., violet " " " " " "
- Wrappers.* 1 c., blue on buff; 168 × 255 mm.
 2 c. " " " " " "
 4 c. " " " " " "

- Post Cards.* 2 c., red and green on blue; 143 × 94 mm.
 2+2 c. " " " " " "
 3 c., blue and green on straw " " " "

- Official Stamps.* 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 (25?), 50 centavos, black and orange.
 1, 2, 5, 10 pesos, black and orange.

There is also a set of telegraph stamps, with the colours differently distributed, and surcharged "TELEGRAFOS" in black.

Norway.—We give an illustration of the new variety of type; the 2 öre, orange-yellow, which we chronicled last month, should have been given as 3 öre.



Nossi-Bé.—We have received some of the values of the new series, with name in tablet, and are therefore able, regretfully, to certify its existence. We think it unnecessary to give a full list.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—We have received an addition to the list of registration envelopes surcharged for this territory, in the shape of the H¹ size with £5 and £10 regulation, duly covered with the £25 plaster.

Persia.—A correspondent here tells us of a very curious vagary—we do not know what else to call it—which has come under his notice. An oblong registration label, similar to those employed in the United States and in some European countries, is stuck on registered letters in Persia also; but, contrary to the usual custom elsewhere, a charge of ½ sh. is made for the label, so that whereas the postage and registration of a single rate letter to Europe is nominally 24 sh., the sender has to pay 24½ sh. On the 6th February, a letter from Teheran was received by a business firm in Ispahan franked by 10 of these labels, as representing 5 sh. ! This, our informant assures us, was not done for philatelic purposes, but the letter was received in ordinary course of business, and the envelope was afterwards found in the waste paper basket. The same correspondent warns us against some forgeries of the first issue of Persia, which are fathered by an official in the Postal Department. They are described as being too clearly printed to be very deceptive, and as being further distinguished by being perforated; but coming from an official source they may still be dangerous.

Porto Rico.—We have received the new series of stamps, and find that some of the colours differ from those which we gave in our February number; the following is a corrected list:

- Adhesives.* 1 mil. de p., reddish-brown.
 2 " vermilion.
 4 " chestnut-brown.
 1 cent. de p., brown-violet.
 3 " bronze-green.
 40 " dull carmine.

They are not very easy to describe.

Portugal.—We append illustrations of the three Celebration types, and sincerely trust that we may have heard the last of them. In our remark last month upon the special cancellation applied to these stamps, we did not intend to

cast any doubt upon its official nature, but only to point out that it was so applied as to disfigure the stamps in such a way as to render them of the smallest possible interest.



Roumania.—In reference to our remarks last month upon the varieties of perforation of the 1890 issue, a correspondent informs us that he possesses the whole set (except the 10 bani), perf. 11½ × 13½, without wmk., and the 25 bani with the same perforation, and with the wmk.

Le T. P. states that five values of the new issue, as shown in the accompanying illustrations, made their appearance on the 15th March; the higher values may be looked for two or



three months later. They are stated to be perf. 13 (13½?), and are, we suppose, upon the "P. R." paper.

- Adhesives.* 1½ bani, black.
 3 " yellow-brown.
 5 " blue.
 10 " green.
 15 " red.

We learn from *La R. P.* that the variety of the current type of 10 bani card, with the name given as "ROUMANIE," instead of "ROMANIA," is an essay which—with the French form of the name—was not approved, the native form being ordered to be substituted. It is added that these cards are now buff on both sides, the former edition having the address side yellow, and the reverse yellowish-white.

Post Card. 10 bani, red on buff; reverse buff.

Russian Locals.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Bogorodsk.—A long official document shows that the new issue, chronicled last month, was occasioned by alterations in the tariff, certain charges being reduced from 5 to 4 kopeks, and from 10 to 8 kopeks, which is an excuse for the lower values at all events.

Bougoulma.—The usual tinkering at the design has taken place here again, as may be seen by the annexed illustration. The latest production can, however, be more easily distinguished by its colour.

Adhesive. 2 kopeks, red; perf. 11½.

Ochansk.—The envelope, to which we referred somewhat doubtfully under *Opotchka*, turns out to belong to this district. It has the type of the 5 kopeks adhesive of



January, 1892 (2450 in the Catalogue), impressed in the right upper corner.

Envelope. 5 kop., carmine on white laid; 142 x 116 mm.

Ossa—The type of 1891 (2468) has been redrawn, and not improved. The hut or bee-hive below is now surrounded by twelve stars or bees instead of nine. There is more space between the Crown and the frame at the top, and the inscriptions and numerals are in slightly different type.



Adhesive. 2 kop., red on green; *perf.* 1½.

Ourjoum.—This district issued a new type on Dec. 14th, 1893, the design now showing Our Duck afloat instead of ashore, and unaccompanied by the Arms of Viatka.

Adhesive. 2 kop., lilac; *perf.* 1½.

Tolma.—This is a new parish philatelically, and commences its career with a very fine and large label gorgeously got up. The shields and ribbons are in red, the inscriptions in black on yellow, and the rest of the design in gold on a blue ground. *Perf.* 1½.

Adhesive. 3 kop., black, yellow, red, gold, and blue.



Salvador.—We have received the new set of stamps, &c., some of which we chronicled last month, and find that the following additions have to be made to the list. There are three high values of adhesives, the designs of which, as shown in the accompanying illustrations, are of the Columbus Celebration order, of which we are getting a little weary.



Our next illustration shows the design impressed upon the envelopes and wrappers, the central portion of which is highly embossed without colour. The envelopes are of white wove paper, the 1 c., 3 c., and 5 c. 155 x 89 mm., and the higher values, to which we add a 22 c., 159 x 92 mm. The wrappers are, as described, *whitelaid* paper, 169 x 254 mm. There are also post cards. The stamp, in the right upper corner, is of the type of the adhesives given last month, impressed in the first colour given in the list below. The inscriptions are all in black on pale green card, adorned with the Arms of the Republic, surrounded by a magnificent glory, which extends over the whole of the address side. The formula is of the usual nature, in fancy type but without any undue ornamentation; but it is worthy of note perhaps that the 3+3 c. card alone—the two halves of which are exactly alike—has the instruction in French as well as in Spanish, and while "CÔTÉ" is duly accented "RESERVE" is not! The double cards are joined at the top, and *perf.* along the fold.

Adhesives. 2 pesos, deep blue.

5 " carmine.

10 " brown.

Envelope. 22 c., deep green.

Post Cards. 1 c., brown and blue on pale green; 141 x 87 mm.

2 c., blue and brown " "

2+2 c. " " " "

3 c., claret and yellow " "

3+3 c. " " " "

Sandwich Islands.—Our publishers send us few more abnormal varieties of the well-known surcharge: A pair of the 2 c., violet, one of which shows a second impression of the overprint, struck diagonally; the 15 c. also with a second surcharge, struck diagonally, and part on one stamp, part on the next; and the 18 c. with "GOVT.—1893" at the top, and traces of the word "Provisional" among the perforations at top and bottom, in addition to a complete impression of the surcharge correctly placed. All this is, we hope, at end for the present, until Queen Liliuokalani is restored, for we have received specimens of the new issue, to which we alluded in December. The designs are those which we then described, and as we hope to give illustrations of them shortly, we need only add that the 1 c. and 2 c. are oblong, and the higher values upright rectangular in shape, that they are engraved in *taille-douce*, and *perf.* 12.

Mr. Holdsworth kindly sends us a list of the numbers sent, and adds that new 1 c. and 2 c. cards are expected shortly, the stamp on the former bearing a view of the "Executive Building," and that on the latter a map of the Pacific Ocean, showing the position of the Islands.

Adhesives. 1 c., orange-yellow; 1,250,000.
2 c., brown; 1,250,000.
3 c., carmine; 937,500.
10 c., green; 312,500.
25 c., blue; 125,500.

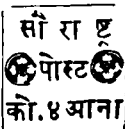
Sarawak.—The *L. P.* describes a sheet of 1 c. on 3 c., the two upper rows of which are unperforated. Our contemporary does not state which variety of the 3 c. stamp this is, but we should suppose that it is the brown on yellow, as Messrs. De la Rue & Co. are unlikely to have made such a mistake.

Seychelles.—A correspondent assures us that the 4 c. on 8 c. *Revenue* stamp was never brought into use as a fiscal, but was sold and used for postage. We are inclined to believe that this variety was never actually issued at all, and that any that have passed the post have either not franked letters or have done so by accident.

Siam.—Last month we chronicled a variety of the 4 atts on 24 atts, adhesive, with the overprint in larger type than before. The *L. P.* now tells us of a 4 atts on 1 att, card, with "the added inscription and four figures and value on the stamp in larger and bolder letters of like type to the former." We do not know whether there is any connection between these pieces of news. Our contemporary says the "recent surcharged card," so perhaps this is a fresh edition.

Post Card. 4 atts, in black, on 1 att, red on yellow; larger type.

Soruth.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has kindly shown us a very curious variety of the type-set 1 anna of this State. The design is that of the well-known stamps, of somewhat uncertain date, shown in the annexed illustration; but the type employed is that known as Gujrathi, similar to that of the Nowanuggur stamps, instead of the Marathi. The characters are not unlike, but in the latter they have a horizontal line at the top, and are more stiffly and regularly formed than in the



former. The stamp has all the appearance of being genuine, and it may be noted that the inscription in the margins of the sheets have always been in the Gujrathi type, although the stamps were in the Marathi.

Adhesive. 1 anna, black on yellowish white wove.

South Australia.—We are indebted to the Secretary of the Philatelic Society of South Australia for specimens of the new 2½d. and 5d. stamps, which he tells us were issued on the 1st March. Each has a profile of the Queen to left, on a white ground, occupying the left-hand portion of the design, while the remainder is filled on the lower value with a view showing a Kangaroo and a Palm, and on the higher by the Arms of the Colony, with a background of

palm branches, &c., and the Sun above as a crest. At the top and bottom are straight labels containing the name and the value in words respectively.

Adhesives. 2½d., ultramarine; *wmk. Crown and SA*; *perf.* 15.
5d., deep brown

Spain.—Our publishers have shown us a very curious and interesting error of the War Tax stamps of 1876-77 (Type 2903 in the Catalogue), a block of nine blue stamps, of which eight are the ordinary 10 c., while the centre stamp is 5 c.!

War Tax. 5 c., blue; *error in sheet of 10 c.*

We are glad to hear that three persons, stated to be engaged in the manufacture of forged stamps, have been arrested at Malaga. One of them is a certain Placido Ramon de Torres, who is not altogether unknown to fame; with him was found a Mr. Gabriel Jumenez, whose zeal had led him to abstract an obliterating stamp from the Post-office with which to further perfect their wares; and the third was Mr. Miguel Rodriguez, the ingenious inventor of the Melilla curiosities. Altogether a very satisfactory bag, and we trust the police will take every care of them!

Sweden.—The *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift* announces the discovery of an *imperforate* specimen of the 1 krona official stamp obliterated "21.11.1881."

Official Stamp. 1 krona, blue and brown; *variety imperf.*

Tobago.—*Le T. P.* reports that the 1s. was issued in a new colour, on the 10th February.

Adhesive. 1s., yellow-brown; *wmk. Crown & CA.*

Tonga.—We have received the ½d. on 1d. and 2½d. on 2d., with the overprint in black, instead of in red.

Adhesives. ½d. on 1d., black and blue.
2½d. on 2d., black and green.

United States.—A correspondent draws our attention to the fact that recent printings of the small 1 c. and 2 c. stamps are in richer and fuller shades than before; the plates also appear to be more heavily inked, the specimens sent us having the appearance of a solid background to the head.

Wurtemberg.—*La R. P.* states that the reduction in the postal rates here has occasioned the issue of a card of lower value still, for printed matter. It has the Arms in the upper centre, with "K. Wurttemb." on the left, and "Postgebiet. Drucksache." on the right, in German type.

Post Card. 2 pf., pearl-grey on buff; *inscription in black.*

THE STAMPS OF THE NATIONAL TELEPHONE CO., LIMITED.

By E. D. BACON.

IN looking through the album a short time since of a member of the London Philatelic Society, who is a prominent specialist of the adhesives of Great Britain, I came across a set of stamps that I had not seen or heard of before, and whose existence is, I believe, known but to few collectors. The stamps bear the inscription "NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED"; and all the information my friend could give me concerning them was that he had been told they had only been used by the Company for a few days, when their further issue was prohibited by the Post-office authorities. The striking appearance of the stamps, and the dramatic incident said to be connected with their employment, determined me to see if I could by any means elicit the true history of their origin.

With this object in view, I applied to Mr. Albert Anns, the Secretary of the National Telephone Company, Limited, and this gentleman has been good enough to furnish me with the particulars I asked him for. He has, moreover, after obtaining the permission of the Postmaster-General, very kindly presented me with an entire sheet of each of the five values for the "Tapping Collection."

The story that the stamps were only in use for a few days, like so many others of a similar kind, turns out upon investigation to be much exaggerated. The real facts are these: The stamps were first issued in December, 1884, and they

remained in circulation until the end of 1891, when Mr. Anns says "they were discontinued by request of the Postmaster-General, to prevent the possibility of their being used by the public as postage stamps. Whilst in circulation they were sold by the Company to their subscribers and the public for the purpose of affixing to forms kept at the Company's various call offices when requiring to send a message over the Company's telephone lines." The different stamps corresponded with certain fixed rates of the Company, which were based upon the distance intervening between the places people communicated with. The stamps were supplied by Messrs. Maclure, Macdonald, and Co., of Glasgow, and they were surface-printed, the sheets containing twelve stamps each, in four horizontal rows of three. The numbers furnished were as follows: 122,196, 1d.; 124,800, 3d.; 22,800, 4d.; 93,840, 6d.; and 61,032, 1s. The one penny is printed upon thin greyish wove unwatermarked paper, the fourpence on thin bluish, and the other three values on thin yellowish paper, in other respects similar to that of the one penny. All the five values are machine perforated 12. Designs: A three-quarter face portrait looking to right, on background of solid colour, of Colonel Robert Raynsford Jackson, who was chairman of the Board of Directors at the time the stamps were issued, is the same for all the values. The one penny has the portrait in an upright oval, which is enclosed within a rectangle, the corners of which contain conventional ornaments. Outside the four sides of the rectangle is the name of the Company in coloured block capitals, "NATIONAL" to left (reading upwards), "TELEPHONE" at top, "COMPANY" to right (reading downwards), and "LIMITED" at the bottom. The four corners of the stamp contain the value "1d." within a circle, and a plain outer line of colour completes the design. The portrait on the threepence is enclosed within an octagon. The name of the Company is disposed as in the one penny, and the corners of the stamp contain the value "3d." placed slanting, and enclosed within a block-shaped ornament, pointed at one end, which fits into the corners of the stamp, and straight at the opposite end. The fourpence has the portrait in an oval, which is impinged upon at either side by a much smaller one, containing the value "4d." Plain labels follow the shape of the central oval, above and below, the upper inscribed "NATIONAL," and the lower "TELEPHONE CO. L^{TD}," in small coloured block capitals. The corners of the stamp contain conventional ornaments, and a plain outer line of colour completes the design. The sixpence has the portrait within an oval, pointed at the top and bottom. Surrounding the oval is a plain band touching the four sides of the stamp, inscribed "NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED," in coloured block capitals, with a period between the second and third words, and a star at the end. The corners of the stamp contain square blocks of colour, with the value "6d." The one shilling has the portrait within an upright oval, surrounded by a plain band touching the four sides of the stamp. The band is inscribed "NATIONAL TELEPHONE CO. L^{TD}" in the upper curve, and "ONE SHILLING" in the lower, all in coloured block capitals. A star-like ornament separates the two inscriptions at either side. The corners of the stamp contain ornaments, and a single outer line of colour completes the design. The stamps are upright rectangular in shape, and measure 18 x 22 mm. The colours are:

1d., black.	6d., bronze-green.
3d., pale red.	1s., brown.
4d., ultramarine.	

For many years past several collectors of postage stamps have included telegraph issues in their albums, and as the telephone system is so closely allied to the latter branch of the Post-office, I do not see that collectors can consistently exclude telephone stamps from their attention. Besides the set described above the only other telephone stamps that are known to me are those used in France. I have seen two distinct sets of these stamps, which differ in the inscription. The first was I believe issued by the French Government early in the year 1885, and consists of three values—25 centimes, blue on yellow; 50 c., red on pale lilac-pink; and 1 franc, red on pale blue (the latter value only appearing in 1887). Of the second set I have seen 50 centimes, red on lilac-pink; 1 franc, red on blue; and 3 f., black on green. The stamp on all the values of both sets is the same type as that on the telegraph cards and envelopes, having the word "TELEGRAPHE" at the bottom.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 181.)

PART II. (continued.)

The Stamps Issued under British Rule.

THE last provisionals issued under British rule in this country were the 1 p., *red on yellow*, and 1 p., *red on orange*, issued on 26th August to the number of 54,000; and the 3 p., *lilac on green*, and 3 p., *lilac on blue*, on 5th September to the number of 52,960. This surcharge, which I call Type IV., is different to the former ones. The "V.R.," in upright capitals, are smaller letters, closer together; "Transvaal" is the same as in Types II. and III. There is only one genuine error; namely, that with the "T" of "Transvaal" smaller, and placed higher than the other letters. This occurs on four stamps on each sheet. There are a quantity of misprints due to defective inking and printing, the 1 p., *red on yellow*, showing the most of these varieties. Some stamps have only half of the surcharge, the other not having been printed. The 3 p., *lilac on green*, is second best in the race for varieties; the 1 p., *red on orange*, and 3 p., *lilac on blue*, are better printed, and apparently also in smaller quantities; at least I find them scarcer here than the other two. I have no evidence to show in what quantities each colour existed, and cannot even make a guess, but I think that the *yellow* and *green* papers were exhausted before the total number ordered was completed, and that to make up the supply the *orange* and *blue* papers were taken. All four stamps exist rouletted officially with the fine roulette. The 1 p., *red on yellow*, I have pin-perforated, and the 3 p., *lilac on blue*, is also said to exist in this state, but I have not yet met with it. There are shades and blotchy specimens, but as a rule the printing appears to have been well done.

On 31st October, 1879, a further supply of the stamps with the Queen's Head arrived, of which the 1 p. was issued on 11th November, 1879, and the 3 p. on 2nd February, 1880. This was the second and last supply of this pattern sent out; it lasted longer than was expected, and large quantities were handed over to the authorities of the second Republic, as I will show later on.

There are shades to be found of all the six values, the 3 p. changing for a time to the exact shade of colour of the 1 p. Of the latter I have shades in very dark *brown*, nearly *black*; of the 3 p. I possess two stamps which have a figure "3" impressed upon them in *black*. I think this may have been done by some official in a country office, to keep this value distinct from the 1 p. of nearly the same shade. I have imperforate copies of the

$\frac{1}{2}$ p. and 6 p. with very fair margins, a pair of 1s., a strip of five 6 p., a strip of six 3 p., and a strip of four 1 p., all unused, and imperforate vertically, which shows that some few sheets were sent out with incomplete perforation.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE. No. 76, 1879.

Whereas it has been brought to the notice of the Administrator that stamps are occasionally cut into halves, and used to denote a moiety of their value. His Excellency is pleased to direct that from the date of this notice portions of stamps will not be accepted in satisfaction of fees or duties leviable under the Stamp Regulations.

By order,

(Signed) C. E. STEELE,

Finance and Revenue Commissioner.

PRETORIA, 5th June, 1879.

This notice only refers to *Revenue* stamps, but could be stretched to cover postage stamps also. However, the practice of cutting postage stamps was still kept up. Many of these cut stamps may owe their origin to the time of the second Republic, in the beginning of which communication was far worse than under British rule, especially early in 1881, during and after the war, when hardly any mails were carried, and when supplies of stamps in many offices must have been nearly exhausted, so that postmasters were compelled to use make-shifts. I have all values cut diagonally, and used for half their value; the half 3 p. stamps generally passed as 1 p.

There is little more to say about these stamps, except that the $\frac{1}{2}$ p. stamp of the same type arrived here on 1st September, 1880, and was issued the same day. The total quantity sent out was only 12,000. This is the second scarcest stamp of this type, the 2s., *blue*, of which only 9000 were printed, being the rarest. After these comes the 1s., *green*.

As I do not treat of Revenue stamps in this paper, I will only state that some were undoubtedly used for postage, owing to no supplies of postage stamps being on hand. There is no notice of any kind to be found allowing or prohibiting this practice, but I have all values from 6 p. up to 5s. used for postage; many are defaced with the Registration stamp of oblong shape. I refer only to the Revenue stamps of Queen's Head type, which is similar to the postage type, but of much larger size. The cancellation should be of the type with a numeral in the centre, or a date stamp with the name of the office and Transvaal, or the *Registration* or *Too Late* stamp. Any specimens cancelled otherwise may, as a rule, be put down as "made for collectors."

Of the date and cancellation stamps I have said nothing so far, as I could not find out anything about them. I believe that when the postage stamps were ordered in England these were also applied for, but when they arrived I do not know. The new pattern consists of a large circle, with the name of the office above, "TRANSVAAL" below, and date in the centre. Then there is a registration stamp similar to that of the first Republic, an oblong frame with "REGISTRATION" above, "TRANSVAAL No." below, and a space in

the right-hand bottom corner for the official number to be written in; and the Too Late stamp is similar. For the ordinary cancellation of stamps the old dies of the first Republic, consisting of three rings, with a numeral in centre, were used. Potchefstroom still kept the stamp consisting of four concentric rings without a numeral.

For future reference I append a list showing the total quantities of the postage stamps of the Queen's Head type sent out here:

½ p.	1 p.	3 p.	4 p.
12,000	480,000	340,000	320,000
6 p.	1s.	2s.	
400,000	30,000	9,000	

These quantities were not all used during the British rule, as large quantities were handed over to the authorities of the second Republic, who used them up, so that practically all were employed. A small quantity—of about £60 face value—was found some years ago in one of the offices, and these were bought by collectors. I think most of my readers will be surprised to note the small numbers printed of the different stamps with Queen's Head, as well as of those surcharged "V.R.," and this accounts for the scarcity of most of these stamps, some of which are still offered at very low prices. The actual values ought to be far more than is quoted for most of the Transvaal stamps up to the current issue.

I will now say a few words on the forgeries of the "V.R." stamps, for which the Mecklenburg Bogus Reprints were taken and surcharged "V. R. Transvaal" more or less correctly. Some of the stamps printed on coloured papers are most successfully imitated, in fact so good as to deceive even leading dealers. The best I have seen are the 1 p., *red on blue*; 3 p., *lilac on buff*; and 6 p., *blue on green*, surcharged with Type II.; but by measuring the surcharge the difference between good and bad can easily be seen. Of Type III. I have seen no dangerous forgeries, the slanting "V.R." of this type being totally different from the genuine. In the case of the 6 p., *blue on blue*, and 6 p., *blue on rose*, the colours of the papers do not agree with the genuine. Of Type IV. I have seen no forged specimens as yet. It is always best to examine the stamp itself first, by means of the tests I have given in Part I. of this paper, when treating of the Mecklenburg Bogus Reprints, and, if these tests fail, then to examine the surcharge.

Owing to the dissatisfaction felt by some classes of the inhabitants of the British Administration, and to the non-fulfilment of promises made by the Home Government, the Boers took up arms in December, 1880, against the British Authorities in the country, and after several encounters, in which the former had the best of it, a treaty of peace was signed on 23rd March, 1881. This was followed on the 3rd August, 1881, by a Convention, which restored the country to the Dutch, with complete internal self-government, Her Majesty the Queen remaining suzerain. On the 12th

August, 1881, the Government offices were handed over to the new Republic, and thus ended British Transvaal after an existence of four years and four months.

REFERENCE LIST OF THE STAMPS ISSUED UNDER BRITISH RULE.

I. Stamps of the Republic printed in colour on white wove paper. Surcharged "V.R. TRANSVAAL." in capital letters, with a dot at the end. Type I.

1877, May (?). a. *Red* surcharge.

Imperforate.

3 p., lilac.

6 p., blue.

1 s., green.

Varieties.

6 p., blue; *surcharge inverted*.

1 s., green

6 p., blue; *ête-bêche*.

1 s., green

Half of 1s., green, cut diagonally or vertically, and used as 6 pence.

Rouletted,

3 p., lilac.

6 p., blue.

1 s., green.

Varieties.

6 p., blue; *surcharge inverted*.

1 s., green

6 p., blue; *ête-bêche*.

1 s., green

Half of 1s., green, cut diagonally, and used as 6 p.

Printed on *pelure* paper.

3 p., lilac. Imperforate.

Surcharge printed on back instead of front of stamp.

3 p., lilac.

b. *Black* surcharge.

Imperforate.

1 p., brown-red. | 1 s., green.

Varieties.

1 p., brown-red; *surcharge inverted*.

1 s., green

1 s., *ête-bêche*.

Half of 1 s., green, cut diagonally, and used as 6 p.

With the two portions of the surcharge $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wider apart than the usual setting.

1 s., green.

Rouletted.

1 p., brown-red.

1 s., green.

Varieties.

1 p., brown-red; *surcharge inverted*.

1 s., green

1 s., *ête-bêche*.

1877, July. Imperforate.

3 p., lilac.

6 p., blue.

Varieties.

3 p., lilac; *surcharge inverted*.

6 p., blue

6 p., *ête-bêche*.

Rouletted.

3 p., lilac.

6 p., blue.

Varieties.

3 p., lilac; *surcharge inverted*.

6 p., blue

6 p., *ête-bêche*.

NOTE.—Varieties are found in the *black* surcharge, Type I., such as *double surcharge*, *no stop after "R"* of "V.R.," *no stop after "TRANSVAAL," inverted "A" for "V"* in "TRANSVAAL." These are to be found on several values, imperforate as well as rouletted. A list of them is given in Major Evans' Catalogue, but I have not as yet met with any of them.

(To be continued.)



THE POST CARDS OF JHIND,

(Continued from page 31.)

THE CARDS OF BRITISH INDIA SURCHARGED.

The Cards of native design and manufacture were superseded, in 1885, at the same time as the adhesives, by the Cards of British India, distinguished by having the name and Arms of the State printed upon them—the name upon the stamp and the arms below it.

There are four principal varieties of this surcharge:—

1. With the name in curves, "JHIND" on the right, "STATE" on the left side of the profile on the stamp, with the arms below it inscribed "JEEND STATE," as shown in the first illustration (except that the word "STATE" on the stamp is there engraved backwards, it should read from top to bottom). The whole surcharge is in *blue*.



2. With the name in straight lines across the lower part of the stamp, and the Arms below inscribed as before, as shown in the second illustration (the stamp there given is that of the envelope, not of the post card). The name here is in *black* and the Arms in *brown*.

3. Similar to 2, but with the Arms inscribed "JHIND STATE."

4. Similar to 3, but both name and Arms in *black*.

Of each of the above there are probably numerous minor varieties; some of the varieties of those that we have examined are fairly describable, and these we endeavour to describe; others are barely recognisable, and of these we can only indicate the existence. All these varieties are of course accidental, and their differences consist in small irregularities in the lettering, and in breaks in the outline of the heart-shaped frame enclosing the Arms. We do not venture to advocate their collection, but it seems desirable that they should be noted; we may add that whenever we examined entire packets of these cards we found a certain number of varieties evenly distributed. For instance, the single cards are in packets of 16; where there are eight varieties two of each are to be found in every packet, showing that the variations, though slight, are constant, and are not due to defective printing, but to defective casts or electrotypes.

The cards, we understand, are sent out to India in sheets, eight or sixteen single cards forming a sheet; the double cards are no doubt in sheets also, either of four or eight; and we gather that both were surcharged in the sheets, before the latter were cut up.

1885. With name on the stamp in curves, and both name and Arms in *blue*.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, brown on *buff*; blue surcharge.

The varieties of this are rather puzzling, we find evidence of two distinct printings, in one of which the lettering of the surcharge upon the stamp is clear, while in the other the letters of "STATE," especially the "s" and the "E," are usually blurred or blocked up. In the first of these we can trace four varieties of the Arms, occurring perfectly regularly in the packets, four of each variety, and, as a rule, in the same order; in the other we believe there are four varieties also, one of them is quite recognisable, and occurs four

times in each packet, but the other three are so much alike as to be practically indistinguishable. The first four varieties show:—

a. A break on the left side of the semicircular projection at the bottom of the frame surrounding the Arms; there is a fine inner outline left, but the greater part of the thickness of the line is gone in this spot.

b. A break right through the line in the same place as in a, and extending further to the left into the horizontal part of the outline. There is also a very small crack or break in the frame below the right-hand scroll ornament under the Arms.

c. Two very small cracks in the frame, just to the left of the point at the top.

d. No perceptible break in the frame.

Passing to the second four we find:—

e. A distinct break in the frame $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. to the left of the projection at the bottom.

f, g, h. With no perceptible break. There is no describable difference between these three and variety d, but there are certainly the four cards in each set.

It is further doubtful whether there are not some varieties in the setting of the words "JHIND"—"STATE," printed upon the stamps, as combined with the variations in the Arms. The settings certainly differ slightly; the distance between the "s" and the "J," and between the "E" and the "D," is usually about 10 mm.; but we find them varying from this to about 11 mm. between the initials, and about 9 mm. between the finals; and the same variety of the Arms is found with more than one variety of the setting of the words, even in the same packet! It is possible that in this first issue four casts, or electrotypes, of the Arms were made, and that these (arranged at the requisite distance apart) were duplicated to surcharge a sheet of eight cards; but in the later ones we find eight distinct varieties.

The problem is a complicated and interesting one, and we recommend its study to post-card collectors as comparatively untrodden ground; for their encouragement we may tell them that we have seen a cut specimen which differs from any of those alluded to above, and that the number of varieties may be infinite!

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$ anna, brown on *buff*; blue surcharge; size, 121×87 mm.; *perf*.

Here we can trace six varieties of the Arms:

a. With a rough outline, somewhat damaged on the left side and printing heavily, but with no actual breaks.

b. With a finer outline and no breaks.

c. With a distinct break in the outline on the left side, opposite the kind of spear-head ornament below the Lion's tail.

d. The same as c on the single cards, with a break $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. to the left of the projection at the bottom of the frame.

e. With a thick but even frame and no break.

f. Similar to e, but with a distinct break 4 mm. to the right of the projection.

Of these d is certainly the same as e upon the single cards; e is probably f, g, or h of the same set; and we fancy that f is e broken.

The Arms are struck on the cards as follows:

a on both halves.

b on the first, c on the second.

c " b "

d " e "

d " f "

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$ anna, brown on *buff*; blue surcharge; size, 121×75 mm. *Imperf*.

We have only seen one copy of this, the Arms are the same upon both halves, and show two small breaks in the frame, at the right side opposite to the head of the Lion.

1886. With the name in two straight lines across the stamp, in *black*, and the Arms below, in *brown*, lettered "JEEND," as before.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, brown on *buff*; black and brown surcharge.

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$ " " " " size, 121×87 mm. *Perf*.

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$ " brown on *buff*; black and brown surcharge; size, 121×75 mm. *Imperf*.

We have only examined one specimen of each of these; the Arms upon the single card, and upon each half of the large reply-paid card, show no marked peculiarities, and, if all three impressions are not from the same type, we should be inclined to say that the one on the single is the same as that on the second half of the double. The name on the stamp on both halves of this double card is plainly the same type, showing a marked irregularity in the word "STATE," the "A" having dropped below the level of the other letters. On the small double card the Arms are evidently the same on both halves; there are two breaks in the right side of the frame, opposite the tail of the Lion, and various small cracks on the left side; the letter "s" of the word "STATE" above the Arms is also broken.

With the name across the stamp as in the last case, in black, and the Arms in brown, but the word above the Arms is spelled "JHIND," instead of "JEEND."

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, brown on buff; black and brown surcharge.

Of these we have examined a certain number, and find that there is a set of eight varieties, some of them very distinct. The following is the order in which they occur in the packets:—

a. With a large break in the right side, opposite the root of the spear-head ornament, where it joins the scroll pattern line.

b. With a small crack in the right side of the frame, just below the end of the tail of the Lion, and the impression of a kind of split, or burr, sticking out in a slanting direction about 3 mm. to the left of the projection at the bottom. The projection below the left-hand end of the scroll under the Arms is solid, instead of hollow.

c. With a large gap in the frame of the Arms, at the right side, opposite the spear-head ornament; the cast seems to have been damaged by a cut across from this point, slanting downwards and running through the scroll to a point below the right-hand side of the shield in the centre; there is also a semicircular bulge in the frame 2 mm. to the left of the projection at the bottom. This variety is a very marked one.

d. With the frame rather thick, no actual gaps in it, but the impression of a burr on the left side, just below the "j" of "JHIND."

e, f. These are very much alike, there are no gaps or cracks in the frame, but the lower part of the "j" of the word "JHIND" above the Arms is slightly broken in *e*; while in *f* there is a little irregularity in the frame just below this letter (where the burr occurs in *d*), and there is a thickening of the frame at the right side.

g. With the crack on the right, the burr below, on the left, and the projection under the scroll, as in *b*, and in addition a large break $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below the crack in the right side.

h. Very similar to *a*, but usually showing a thickening of the frame to the left of the projection below, and with a small crack in the left side close to the top point.

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ anna, brown on buff; black and brown surcharge; size 121 x 75 mm. Imperf.

We do not know of this upon the large sized card, and we have only examined one specimen of the small; the Arms are of the same type on both halves, and it appears to be a heavily inked impression of variety *b* of the single card.

1889. Similar to the last, but both name and Arms in black.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, brown on buff; black surcharge.

Of these we have found two complete settings of eight, and there are some further varieties among those that we have examined. We describe below those that are certainly different. The name across the stamp, and the Arms below, are, we think, printed together in this issue.

a. With a break in the frame between the "T" and "E" of "STATE," and a small crack $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below this.

b. With a break on the left side, opposite the root of the spear-head ornament.

c. With the small crack on the right, and the split or burr on the left below, as in *b* in the previous issue.

d. With a heavy outline, and no perceptible cracks in it.

e. Similar to *d*, but most copies show a very small crack $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. to the right of the projection at the bottom of the frame, and the "j" and "h" of "JHIND" above the Arms joined together below.

f. With two large breaks in the right side of the frame, opposite the end of the tail of the Lion, and below it, cutting out a kind of three-cornered piece of the frame.

g. Similar to *d*, but the word "JHIND" upon the stamp measures only 10 mm. instead of $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and the "H" is above the level of the other letters.

h. The "s" of "STATE" above the Arms is blurred, and touches the "T" at the top.

These form a set, two of each being found in every packet of this setting.

i. A gap in the frame below the "A" of "STATE," and a smaller break opposite the root of the spear-head ornament at the right side; the lower part of the right side of the frame is much blurred. There is also a small break in the top of the "S" of the word "STATE" across the stamp.

j. A kind of double break, or a large gap with a dot in it, just below the tail of the Lion on the right, and a large break in the top of the "S" on the stamp.

k. There is no break in the frame, but the outline is thick and blurred all round the lower part, and there is a heavy black mark opposite the tail of the left-hand Lion.

l. A break in the frame a little below the "j" of "JHIND."

m. A smaller crack in the frame below the "A" of "STATE," a larger break just beyond the "E," and a partial break just below the end of the tail of the Lion, on the same side. The right side of the "A" and the left limb of the "T" of "STATE" are broken.

n. There is a small crack in the frame below the end of the scroll under the Arms, and the outline of the frame is thickened and blurred just above this. The tail of the "j" of "JHIND" (above the Arms) is broken in two places.

o. No actual break in the frame, but it is slightly blurred and irregular at the right side. There is a large break in the top of the "S" of "STATE" (on the stamp), the right limb of the second "T" in that word is broken, and the "A" is above the level of the other letters.

p. The Arms very similar to those on *o*, but the word "STATE" upon the stamp is regular, and the upper part of the vertical limb of the "D" of "JHIND" on the stamp is defective.

These again form a setting of eight.

We have also found some other varieties, which no doubt form part, or perhaps the whole, of another set of eight, but the differences in some cases (if differences they are) are so minute that, in the absence of original packets, we cannot vouch for their existence, and only note the varieties that are easily to be recognised.

q. This appears to be *b* of the series with the Arms in brown, but with the split or burr partially removed; there is only a very slight trace of it.

r. Has the crack in the right side of the frame, as in *q*, but there is no trace of the burr, and there is another small crack in the frame below the right-hand end of the scroll.

s. Resembles *g* of the set with Arms in brown, but without the burr.

These three all have the solid projection under the left-hand end of the scroll, and we are not sure that *q* and *r* are really different. They may both be *b* of the previous set, with the burr removed; we have only seen one copy of each.

t. A small break in the frame under the "s" of "STATE," and the "IN" of "JHIND," above the Arms, much damaged.

u. The top of the second "T" of "STATE," on the stamp, is very short, and the right side shorter than the left.

v, w, x. If we have these, which we are not sure of, the differences between them are indescribable.

$\frac{1}{2}$ + $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, brown on buff; black surcharge; size 121 x 75 mm. Imperf.

This again we do not know upon the large-sized card, but we have examined a good number of the small size, and find some marked varieties in the Arms, which we deal with as in the case of the blue surcharge:—

a. This is plainly *g* of the series with Arms in brown, having the small crack and the larger one in the right side of the frame, the burr below on the left, and the solid projection under the scroll. As a rule this is combined with the broken "S" in "STATE" on the stamp.

b. This appears to be *b* of the brown series, with the burr not quite so plain as before and with a thickening of the frame on the lower right, which is very conspicuous.

c. There is a large gap in the frame just to the right of the projection at the bottom, and a smaller break about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. further to the right, forming a kind of large gap with a dot in it.

d. The lower half of the frame is very heavy and irregular.

These are combined, on the two halves of the cards, in almost all possible ways:—

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | <i>a</i> on the first half, <i>b</i> on the second. |
| 2. | <i>c</i> " " " <i>d</i> " " |
| 3. | <i>b</i> " " " <i>a</i> " " |
| 4. | <i>d</i> " " " <i>c</i> " " |
| 5. | <i>a</i> " " " <i>d</i> " " |
| 6. | <i>c</i> " " " <i>b</i> " " |

In No. 5 the Arms of variety *a* are not in combination with the broken "S."

The great majority of the packets we examined consisted of Nos. 1 and 2 evenly divided, four of each; one packet, however, from a different source, contained Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, two of each; but 3, 4, 5, and 6 were generally irregularly distributed.

We feel that we owe our readers some apology for inflicting upon them this long, and at the same time very incomplete, list of minor varieties. Our excuse must be, however, that they certainly exist, and that they are really constant, occurring over and over again with the utmost regularity; and, although perhaps very few will care to collect them, it is necessary that their existence should be recognised.

EASTERN RAMBLINGS.

By E. STANLEY GIBBONS.

(Continued from p. 183.)

ON arrival at Smyrna we were subjected to a somewhat searching examination at the Custom House, and the official happened to light on the whole of my preceding remarks, which I had written, intending to post them at the first opportunity. These, together with some letters I had prepared during the leisure of our voyage, he at once confiscated, and it was only on the intervention of the vice-consul that I succeeded in getting them returned to me 24 hours later. All the foreign Post-offices at Smyrna are within a stone's-throw of one another, and it seemed strange to be able to purchase all the current values of English, French, German, Austrian, and Russian Levant, as well as, of course, the Imperial Ottoman stamps, so easily. From what I could see I should say the French Post-office had by far the greatest custom, and was the most used by the Smyrnites.

I availed myself of a very kind invitation from Mr. Abbott, the principal collector here, and carefully inspected his beautiful collection in conjunction with his *fiancée*, whom I found to be a most serious and painstaking philatelist, as well as a very charming lady. His collection of Turkish stamps would, I feel assured, amply satisfy the most fas-

tidious, and those who hunger for microscopic varieties would simply be able to gloat over them. I was particularly interested in two separate and distinct series issued privately, prior to the usually accredited first issue, and not generally catalogued. The first of these is totally unknown, and the second is only catalogued, as far as I know, by M. Tchakidji, the well-known Constantinople dealer. This gentleman of course I visited, as well as his partner in the same business, and we had a most genial time together, talking over stamp experiences, etc.

Whilst in Constantinople we had the pleasure of receiving a most cordial invitation from M. and Madame Mertzanoff, who wished us to spend some time with them at their beautiful villa on the Bosphorus. Unfortunately we were obliged to decline, but I availed myself of the opportunity to inspect his almost unrivalled collection of Greek stamps. These, after some years of study, he has succeeded in arranging and classifying in a great many clearly-defined separate issues. This country is, as most collectors know, one most difficult to arrange, but when fairly completed the result amply repays any labour involved. One or two varieties struck me as being new; possibly they may not be so to others, but at the risk of being in error I will here note them. The 1861 20 lepta, deep blue, without numerals, is decidedly scarce; and the 1864-65 10 lepta, bluish paper, with the numerals printed on the face in lieu of the back, I believe to be a rarity. Amongst the errors of numerals on the back I noticed a 40 lepta with double numerals, and also one printed twice, 4 on 20 lepta, and in the series of unpaid letter stamps there were two values with centre inverted, viz., the 2 drachmas and the 40 lepta.

We had originally intended wending our way homewards *via* Bucharest, but the service on that route being suppressed, in consequence of the cholera at Constantinople, we had to return direct to Vienna by the Orient Express. We left, I must confess, without much regret; for what with the dirt, the incessant barking of dogs at night, and other concomitants that render life none too pleasant there, we had no desire to make a longer stay. Departing about 4 p.m. we were awoke the next morning (about 2 a.m.) by a tremendous crash and shaking, my wife being thrown out of her berth. We ascertained that we had run off the line, which skirted the bank of the river Maritza, a tributary of the Danube. This was in the neighbourhood of Tirnova. [A name which seems not inappropriate.—ED.] A considerable landslip was the cause, and it was only by a marvellous chance that we were not all precipitated into the river. As it was the engine ploughed up the ground to within ten feet of the edge, so it was an extremely narrow escape from a very serious accident. Fortunately no lives were lost, but several men were picked out of the *débris*, more or less injured. The tender was telescoped into a baggage waggon, and a sleeping-car, that luckily had only one occupant, had the front part completely smashed. The line being a single one, and blocked, we had a wait of about 24 hours before we were able to change places with the passengers in the down Orient Express. Thus we spent our Good Friday in Bulgaria. During this period we were practically in quarantine, not being allowed to communicate with the inhabitants, a force of four gendarmes keeping watch over us. This prevented my paying a personal visit to an adjacent Post-office, but I commissioned one of the officials to get some stamps for me. He could however only procure the current Bulgarian issues, and he being a non-philatelist I could not expect much success from his efforts.

Our journey upwards through Servia presented nothing at all noteworthy from the collector's point of view. Indeed in this respect I think it is about time these remarks were brought to a close, for it is difficult to infuse into them that degree of philatelic flavour which they should possess for admission into the pages of this Journal. In approaching Vienna I feel I am nearing ground familiar to the stamp collector, so that any further remarks of mine would be superfluous.

NOTES AND NEWS.

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

First Supplement to Imperial Album. Sixth Edition.—We have much pleasure in announcing the publication of this much-enquired-for book, which we hope will be ready for delivery about the middle of May. Full details and prices will be found in our advertisement columns, and it is only necessary to add that prepaid orders can now be booked, and will be executed in rotation.

Addendum No. 34.—The addendum to our catalogue, due on May 1st, will be at least ten days late, owing to the absence of the editor in France. As soon as possible all orders booked shall be attended to.

Curious Requests.—Our publishers receive many curious applications in the course of a year; but one just come from Persia about takes the cake. It is as follows:

"Would you most kindly procure me a *girl* stamp collector anywhere in the country, who would like to keep correspondence with me, and exchange stamps? I have one or two on the Continent, and would very much like to have one in England. Trusting you will not fail in procuring me one,
Yours faithfully, JAMES JOHANNES."

We presume that this young man thinks that "girl collectors" are easier as regards price than young men; but we much doubt it.

Appreciation of the Journal.—The dull routine of daily life is considerably brightened when we receive a communication like the following, which came recently to hand from a well-known New York collector:

"Your magazine is, without doubt, the best published in England, and as England leads the world in philatelic publications, it necessarily follows that it is the best paper devoted to stamp matters that is published in the world. Your serials, like Portuguese Indies, Shanghai, and Transvaal, are alone worth the price of subscription ten times over; and I do not see how you can afford to publish the paper at all, for the subscription price pays for nothing but the postage on my numbers. Were more papers like yours published at the same price, how much more benefited would we collectors be! Wishing you success,
"I am, &c. &c."

Auctions.—Still they come. The last place to take up sales of stamps by auction is the Sandwich Islands, the following being a cutting kindly sent by one of our friends in Honolulu, taken from a daily newspaper there:

TO-MORROW!

LAST CHANCE FOR STAMP FIENDS.

TO-MORROW, MARCH 2nd,

AT 12 O'CLOCK NOON,

At my Saleroom, I will Sell at PUBLIC AUCTION
all varieties of

Surcharged Provisional Government Stamps!

Also a few Old Numerals in good order.

JAMES F. MORGAN, Auctioneer.

Truth recently published the following paragraph, which we think is amusing enough to be reproduced here:

"Do any persons fit to be at large make collections of out-of-date unused deed stamps? I shall be thankful for an early answer to this question, for I understand that the next election at Northampton may turn upon it. Last week I advocated (in view of a recent revelation of the possibility of stamping a deed with a false date) that the sale of such

stamps should be stopped. This I am now told may cause a rising among stamp-collectors, and it is darkly hinted that they may probably meet any movement in the direction I proposed by starting a candidate of their own at Northampton, and, in the event of his defeat, revenge themselves by throwing bombs. I am not prepared to contest that Northampton is the political hub of Britain, and that, therefore, the stamp-collectors would be right to focus their energies there, were their privileges as citizens and stamp-collectors in jeopardy. I still live in hope, however, that the stamp-collecting interest is not in any way bound up with the ante-dating of deeds."

Portugal and Azores celebration stamps are likely to be rather scarce, as we hear that in Azores some of the values already command five times face value, and in Lisbon it is difficult to get them also.

The stamps were issued to commemorate the five hundredth anniversary of Prince Henry the navigator, the father of modern discovery and modern geography.

Prince Henry was English on his mother's side, being the son of Philippa, daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, who married John I. of Portugal. The Prince is buried in the magnificent cathedral of Batalha, one of the finest Gothic buildings to be seen in Europe, and one which is quite a wonderful "dream in stonework."

Press comments on our hobby are often interesting, but the following one appended to a report of a recent auction (taken from *The Man of the World*) is certainly unique of its kind:

"I have no doubt the learned collectors used a wise discretion in the selection of their various lots and in giving the prices I have quoted; but I must say that, to my mind, the cheapest stamp was a twopenny one of Western Australia, vermilion, rouletted, unused, 1661, which fetched only 27s. This should be unique, as postage stamps had not then been invented."

Comment on this would be superfluous.

The *N. C. Daily News*, in an article on the Shanghai municipal budget, referring to the increased revenue, says: "But the greatest increase of all came from that most laudable pursuit, the stamp-collecting mania, to which our municipality owes an excess over the estimate in the local Post-office receipts of no less than Tls. 16,317.52. Our surplus, in fact, is the glorious result of the Jubilee stamp, simple and surcharged; for the net profit earned by the local Post-office was almost exactly Tls. 13,000. So generous to Shanghai have been the followers of philately."

Afghanistan.—The next work to be published by the London Philatelic Society is to be upon the stamps of this country. The book will be written by Mr. Gilbert Harrison, whose collection of the stamps of this most interesting part of the world is considered to be the finest special collection in existence, and is valued at upwards of ten thousand pounds. The book will be fully illustrated with complete plates of all the rare varieties, including the "tablet" plate of 1293, the only constructed plate of these very rare stamps being in Mr. Harrison's collection. Afghan stamps will undoubtedly be in great demand when this book is published, and we should advise collectors to secure what they require before it is issued, if possible.

The work on the South African Colonies, which has been in preparation for many months, will probably not be issued before next year, as there is an immense amount of labour in it, and but few members who are able to give the necessary time to it.

Destruction of Ceylon surcharged stamps.—From the *Ceylon Independent* of March 21st last we are very glad to clip the enclosed cutting sent us by one of our friends. We trust that this will be the last of the issues of surcharged stamps in this country, and will also be a warning to many other places, especially in Asia, where the same thing has been going on so largely of late years. "Mr. H. Skein, of the Government Printing Office, and Mr. J. G. Weiman, Chief Clerk of the Audit Office, have been appointed a board by Government, to destroy all surcharged stamps, and will be engaged in their work to-day, which will suffice to destroy the quantity in stock."

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President:

H. R. H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President:

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K. G.

President:

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

THE nineteenth meeting of the season 1893-94, was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 23rd February, at 7.30 p.m. Nineteen members present and one visitor.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge and thank the publishers for a copy of Stanley Gibbons' *Handbook on South Australian Stamps*.

Mr. John Vidsers Painter, proposed by Mr. Gibbons, and seconded by Major Evans, was elected a member of the Society.

On the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Ehrenbach, it was resolved "That steps be taken to celebrate the twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Society in April next in an appropriate manner, and that the programme shall include an Exhibition of Postage Stamps."

Mr. Nankivell proposed, Major Evans seconded, and it was agreed, "That the publications of the Society be henceforth supplied to the trade upon the usual trade terms."

Mr. Castle then read a short paper by Mr. W. H. Brouse, calling attention to varieties in size in the designs of the 7½d., green, and 10d., blue, stamps of Canada. Mr. Castle showed specimens of the stamps described, and stated that he had measured a number of the pence issues, and found similar differences in the ½d., 3d., and 6d. stamps.

In the discussion which ensued, Major Evans suggested that the differences which had been detected were due to shrinkage of paper. The extreme variation was about 5 per cent. In experiments he got a shrinkage of 8 per cent. in bank wove paper by damping and drying it. Mr. Bacon agreed in this view, as he could not accept the other possible explanation of two dies for each stamp. Other speakers thought the variation of the shape of the oval in the 10d., blue, from an elongated oval to a near approach to a circle, almost too marked to be due to shrinkage of paper.

Mr. Bacon proposed, and Major Evans seconded, and it was agreed, "That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Mr. Brouse for directing the attention of the members to the differences which had been noted in Canadian stamps."

THE twentieth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 2nd March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., twelve members being in attendance.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. A. W. Chambers, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt of letters from Mr. W. L. Mellersh and M. G. Robinet resigning their membership, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret.

Some stamps sent by Mr. John Sparrow for inspection were passed round. Amongst them was a copy of the 2s. carmine stamp of South Australia, printed on both sides, and a copy of the 2d. stamp of the second issue of Western Australian apparently pin-perforated. The general opinion of the members present was that the perforation of the latter stamp was not genuine. The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Straits Settlements.

THE twenty-first meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 9th March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., fourteen members being present.

The chair was taken by Mr. Bacon in the absence of the President and Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Ehrenbach read a paper on "The Advantages of Collecting in Blocks and Pairs." In the course of the paper Mr. Ehrenbach drew attention to the great assistance which had been derived from the collection of stamps in the manner advocated by him in compiling the history of the postal issues of many countries, illustrating his remarks by reference to the stamps of the various countries in which it would have been impossible to arrive at the results attained without being in possession of strips or blocks of stamps.

On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by the Assistant Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ehrenbach for his most interesting paper, which, with his consent, it is proposed to publish in *The London Philatelist*.—From *The London Philatelist, the Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London*.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RT. HON. LORD HARRIS, BARON CANNING, G.C.I.E.,

Governor of the Presidency of Bombay.

President—

THE HON. H. J. PARSONS, C.S.

THE sixteenth ordinary meeting was held on Monday, the 12th March, at 6.30 p.m. Seven members present, A. Clement Trapp presiding.

Minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from S. W. C. S. Edgerly, Esq., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, intimating that Lord Harris had accepted the Honorary Presidentship of the Society. This statement was received by the members with applause.

New members elected: W. R. Fearn (ordinary), and Henry St. John Roache (corresponding), both proposed by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by A. J. Agabeg.

The Hon. Treasurer's audited balance sheet was passed *nem. con.*, and showed a balance of rs. 157 to the Society's credit.

The annual report was next submitted. The Chairman proposed and A. J. Agabeg seconded that a sum of rs. 20 be voted for publishing the report in book form. Carried unanimously.

A book entitled *South Australia*—one of the Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks, by Francis H. Napier and Gordon Smith—was placed on the table as a gift from Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391, Strand, London, and acknowledged with thanks by the Chairman.

No further business taken.

J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS, *Hon. Sec.*

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*Hon. President—*BARON DE WORMS.

*President—*M. P. CASTLE.

THE tenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, February 26th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—The President in the chair, and ten members. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President said that he had much pleasure in announcing that Baron de Worms, the Honorary President, was about to present a book-case to the Society. A most cordial vote of thanks, proposed by the President, and seconded by Mr. Willett, was unanimously carried; and the

Secretary was instructed to convey the same to Baron de Worms for his very kind gift. The President then exhibited the last portion of his splendid collection of Victoria, including all issues from 1863 to the current set, and gave a description of the principal and most interesting varieties. He said that many were very rare, unused, and difficult to obtain in that condition, especially the "Laureated" series, with errors of watermark. A vote of thanks to the President was passed.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, March 12th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Mr. W. T. Willett in the chair, ten members, and two visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. Thomas read a very interesting paper on the stamps of Roumania, and showed his collection of the same. He regretted that the first issue was not represented, and mentioned that it was perhaps the most difficult of all European countries to obtain complete. Of the subsequent issues he exhibited a large number of shades and different perforations, especially in the Paris and local printings of the 1871 type, among which was the 5 bani, blue, error of colour. Mr. Willett proposed a vote of thanks, which was seconded by the President, who showed some very fine specimens of the first issue of Roumania, including the 81 paras in perfect condition, unused. The Secretary presented, on behalf of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, a copy of "South Australia" to the Society's library, which he was requested to acknowledge with best thanks.

A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(ESTABLISHED MAY, 1860.)

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE eleventh meeting of the session was held on Saturday, 17th March, at the Municipal Buildings, Leeds. Mr. W. Beckwith, ex-President, was in the chair, supported by twelve members.

The donations consisted of the current numbers of Stanley Gibbons' and Mekeel's journals from their respective publishers.

The recently-purchased copy of Earée's *Album Weeds* was also laid on the table, and two candidates were proposed for election.

Novelties were shown by Mr. J. W. Duffield (St. Helena 2½d., Liberia, Hawaii, and Portugal) and Mr. Duncan Bennett (Liberia).

Mr. Eugene Egly, *Hon. Treasurer*, read an exhaustive paper on the "Federal Stamps of Switzerland," illustrated by his fine series of these stamps. Several other members also exhibited their Swiss stamps, and at the close a vote of thanks to Mr. Egly was passed.

A paper was then read by the Secretaries, which they had received from Mr. John Bell, in which he gave a full and interesting account of the "Postal Arrangements as they were and are in Samoa." It is contemplated to offer this paper for publication to one of the philatelic magazines, as it contains original information derived at first hand in the island. A full series of the stamps of Samoa was shown in illustration, including the surcharged 5d., and at the close a vote of thanks to Mr. Bell was unanimously accorded.

THE twelfth meeting was held on the 7th of April, Mr. John H. Thackrah, senior Vice-President, in the chair, and thirteen members.

The donations included the current numbers of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, *The Philatelic Chronicle*, and *Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, from their publishers, and the bound volume of *The Fiscal Philatelist*, given by Mr. Roebuck, for all of which thanks were voted.

Two new members were elected—Mr. Francis E. Clarke and Mr. John H. Tilletson.

Novelties and curiosities were shown. Mr. J. F. C. Sieber brought a curious case of perforation in the British penny, red-brown, small crown, perf. 16, perforated diamond-wise, the stamp showing two sides of the diamond. Messrs. Fleming and Roebuck also showed novelties.

Mr. T. K. Skipwith, one of the secretaries, then gave a continuation of the description of the stamps of Victoria, taking types 8, 9, 10 of "Oceania." Most of the stamps were shown either by himself or Messrs. Thackrah, Fleming, Duffield, Jefferson, and Beckwith, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was passed.

T. K. SKIPWITH,
W. DENISON ROEBUCK, } *Hon. Secs.*

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS.

THE eleventh meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Thursday, February 1st, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by twelve members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Munn read a paper upon the stamps of Gambia, illustrating the same with his collection of the stamps of this country, which included entire sheets of most of the values. Mr. Munn's paper was much appreciated, and caused a discussion upon the arrangement of the watermarks on the 1888 issue.

THE twelfth meeting of the session was held on February 16th, 1894, the President in the chair, supported by nineteen members and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two new members were duly proposed.

The President welcomed Mr. Castle to the first meeting he had been able to attend, and stated that, hearing that Mr. Castle was visiting Manchester, he had asked him to bring a portion of his collection to show the members, which request had been most kindly acceded to.

Mr. Castle then addressed a few words to the meeting, after which the members looked over the part of the collection he had brought with him, consisting of Western Australia, New South Wales, and New Zealand.

It is needless to add that the collection was much admired and appreciated.

THE thirteenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on March 2nd, the President in the chair, supported by the Vice-President, *Hon. Secretary*, Assistant *Hon. Secretary*, Messrs. Collett, Munn, Grunewald, Beazley, Ranck, Pemberton, Blockey, Fildes, North, Bowker, and Wallace.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. Moore and Mr. Litchfield were elected members of the Society.

The President gave an address upon the stamps of Ceylon, a very complete series of these stamps being shown by several members, including nearly all the imperforated stamps in pairs.

The Secretary showed Cape of Good Hope 3d. CC and Crown-pair, one with and the other without the surcharge, thick figure 3.

The President showed a collection of over seventy Mulready envelopes.

THE fourteenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, March 16th, 1894, seventeen members being present, the Vice-President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The *Hon. Secretary* read a paper on the stamps of Gibraltar, pointing out the two types of surcharge on certain values of the 1889 issue. All the known varieties were exhibited, including many minor varieties not mentioned in the leading catalogues, a likewise entire sheet.

THE fifteenth meeting of the session was held on Friday, March 30th, 1894, sixteen members being present, the Vice-President in the chair.

Mr. Greenhow was elected a member of the Society.

The Treasurer read a paper on the Papal States, pointing

out the manner in which these stamps were printed, and that the number on a sheet varied many times in the same values; and in addition dealt with the almost innumerable varieties of paper employed in the printing of these stamps.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—A. R. BARRETT.

THE ninth meeting of the third session was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 21st, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. Present: The President in the chair, seven members, and two visitors.

A hearty vote of thanks was recorded to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for a copy of their recently-published work on *South Australia*, presented by them to the library of the Society.

As the stamps of this colony formed the subject of study for the evening, the gift was opportune and highly appreciated.

THE tenth meeting was held at the same place on March 7. Present: The President in the chair, six members, and two visitors.

Mr. J. W. Miller was elected a member of the Society.

The Vice-President (who acted as Hon. Sec. in the absence of Mr. Levy) reported the receipt of a bound copy of the *Stamp News Annual*, 1894, from Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co. It was resolved that the Hon. Sec. write a letter of thanks to the donors.

The evening was passed in the study of "Watermarks," the subject being introduced, at the request of the members present, by the Vice-President. The watermarks of the postal adhesives of Great Britain were discussed, the members being assisted in their study by sheets illustrating the various designs, prepared and presented to the members by the Vice-President.

It was resolved that the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Vice-President for the interesting way in which he had dealt with the subject, and also for the illustrations he had so kindly provided.

It was resolved that the next meeting of the session should be devoted to a continuation of the study of "Watermarks," and that members should be invited to bring with them any stamps in their possession the watermarks of which appeared doubtful.

ASHER LEVY, *Hon. Sec.*

RANGOON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT a meeting held on 14th March—present: Messrs. Oppenheimer, Jarvis, Fraser, Heysham, Halliday, Haddock, Schrader, and Wagner—Mr. Fraser being voted to the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Rainier was elected Vice-President *pro tem.* during the absence of Mr. Dudgeon in England.

Mr. Wagner was elected Hon. Exchange Secretary in place of Mr. Fraser, going on leave, and he was authorised to engage a messenger for the delivery of letters, etc.

A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for their gift to the Society of *Album Weeds*, etc., and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the firm informing them they might send out approval sheets, and that the amount taken by members would be remitted by the Hon. Treasurer.

The following additional Exchange Rules were then passed:

Sheets not to be submitted to the Exchange Secretary after the 20th of the month.

No member shall be permitted to put in more than five sheets every month.

Sheets not to be circulated to any member who has not offered his own for circulation.

All payments of accounts to be made to and by the Exchange Secretary.

It was decided to hold a regular meeting on the first Monday on or after 5th of every month.

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Fraser for his past services, and his gift to the Society of a Cyclostyle, the meeting separated.

C. WAGNER, *Hon. Secretary.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

DEAR SIR,—In Mr. Thornhill's article on the stamps of Shanghai, in your issue of October last, is reproduced from *The Philatelic Record* an account of the 20 cash on 100 cash, resurcharged to 100 cash, which is quite incorrect. The following particulars are from an authentic source, and may be relied upon as absolutely correct.

A stranger in Shanghai repeatedly purchased 20 cash stamps (ordinary ones, not surcharged) at the Post-office, until the stock was completely exhausted. Seeing he could obtain no more from the clerk at the window, he wrote an official letter to the Postmaster on the subject, whereupon he was informed that if he would wait until the following day the Postmaster would be able to supply him with as many as he required. The new stock was at Shanghai at the time, but not landed. In the meanwhile, as there were no 20 cash stamps on hand, the 100 cash stamps were surcharged to 20 cash for immediate postal use. The man on learning that an identical issue was to be sold on the morrow (with only the difference of a watermark) made a great fuss, and ultimately succeeded in getting the council to allow him to return the ones he bought. The Postmaster then had no use for the provisionals, and they were never issued as 20 cash, but they were re-surcharged in red to the original value, viz., 100 cash.

Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. H. S.—The 8 annas of 1866-76 has a crown of the pattern of that upon the later issues, not like that of the earlier type. In *pin* perforation the holes are only pricked, not punched out clean, as in ordinary perforation.

W. B. L. W.—It is an error of perforation, but not a very uncommon one.

C. A. P.—We were not aware that the 25 c. envelope had been withdrawn. But, if so, is it not possible that you have found an office where some copies remain on hand?

F. (Rangoon).—We fear that your suggestion would not be likely to find favour with the publishers of *Parson's Weekly*, as such an extension of the time would add enormously to the number of answers, and to the labour of examining them.

LANDOUR.—1. *Granite* paper has small coloured threads in it, as in some of the fancy note papers; they are not very conspicuous in the Swiss stamps, but can be found by closely examining the white portions of the design, or the back. 2. The 1 a., "with pointed bust," is a variety of type of the 1 a., *red*, distinguished by (amongst other variations) the front end of the neck of the effigy being much more pointed than in the ordinary type. 3. The compound envelopes are only printed to order. 4. The envelope stamps with the name of a firm round them are scarcer than those without, but few collectors care much about them. We wish the Bengal Society all success, and hope to hear of its doings.

J. M. (Calcutta).—1. The Mauritius stamps issued in 1860 were unwatermarked; the watermarked stamps came out in 1863. 2. The illustration of the twopence stamp, large head with fillet, is wrongly inscribed; it should be "POST PAID"; there is no "POST OFFICE" stamp of that type. 3. The 2d., watermark, Crown and C, imperforate, is an accidental variety; the specimen you refer to is believed to be genuinely imperforate, not a clipped copy, but no date of issue can be assigned to it.

Special Bargains and New Issues FOR MAY.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

AZORES.

<i>Prince Henry the Navigator Celebration Stamps.</i>			
	RACH	PER 12	PER 100
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 reis, orange	0 2	1 6	12 6
5 " " used	0 3	2 0	15 0
10 " violet-rose, used	0 4	3 0	—
13 " brown, used	0 5	4 0	—
5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, and 100 reis, set of 9, unused	6 0	—	—
The same set, used	7 0	—	—
10 reis, black on buff, <i>Post Card</i>	0 3	2 0	15 0
10 " " used, with 10 reis adhesive stamp attached	0 6	4 6	—

BAVARIA.

3 pfennig, brown on white, <i>Wrapper</i> , two sizes, each	0 1	0 9	—
5+5 pf., green on buff, <i>Card</i> , dated '93	0 3	2 0	—

BELGIUM.

<i>Antwerp Exhibition Stamps.</i>			
	RACH	PER 12	PER 100
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., carmine on blue	0 2	1 6	11 6
25 c., blue on rose	0 5	4 0	27 6

BERMUDA.

2d., violet-brown	0 4	3 0	—
1s., brown	1 6	10 0	—

BOLIVIA.

1893. <i>Lithographed and Perforated 11.</i>			
	RACH	PER 12	PER 100
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 centavos, lilac	0 3	1 9	12 6
5 " " blue, used	0 4	3 0	—
10 " " orange	0 6	4 0	—
10 " " used	0 6	4 0	—
20 " " green	1 6	—	—

CHEFOO.

Colour changed.

5 cents, buff (not yellow).	0 4	3 3	—
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DIEGO-SUAREZ.

Name in tablet.

1 c., red and black on blue	0 1	0 3	1 6
2 c., blue and brown	0 1	0 5	3 0
4 c., blue and claret	0 2	0 8	5 6
5 c., red and green	0 2	—	—
1 c. to 1 franc, complete set of 13 stamps	6 8	—	—

MONTENEGRO.

1 nov., blue	0 1	0 8	4 6
20 " bistre	0 9	—	—
30 " brown	1 0	—	—

Post Cards.

5 " black on buff	0 3	2 3	—
5 " " error "POSTAR"	0 6	5 0	—
5+5 nov., black on buff	0 6	4 3	—

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

Registered Envelopes.

2d., blue, size F	0 9	6 6	—
2d., " " G	1 0	8 0	—
2d., " " H 2	1 0	8 0	—

NOSSI-BÉ.

Name in tablet.

1 c., red and black	0 1	0 3	1 6
2 c., blue and brown	0 1	0 5	3 0
4 c., blue and claret	0 2	0 8	5 6
5 c., red and green	0 2	—	—
1 c. to 1 franc, complete set of 13 stamps	6 8	—	—

NOWANNUGER.

Thinner paper.

1 dokra, black	0 2	—	—
2 " green	0 3	—	—

PORTO RICO.

1894. *Colours changed.*

½ mil. de peso, light brown	0 1	—	—
1 " " blue	0 1	—	—
2 " " flesh	0 1	—	—
4 " " yellow-brown	0 1	—	—
1 c. de peso, violet	0 2	—	—
3 " " olive	0 3	—	—
8 " " violet	0 9	—	—
20 " " bright rose	2 0	—	—
40 " " marone	4 0	—	—

PORTUGAL.

Prince Henry the Navigator Celebration Stamps.

5 reis, orange	0 2	1 6	12 0
10 " <i>Post card</i>	0 3	2 0	15 0

ST. MARIE DE MADAGASCAR.

Name in tablet.

1 c., red and black	0 1	0 3	1 6
2 c., blue and brown	0 1	0 5	3 0
4 c., blue and claret	0 2	0 8	5 6
5 c., red and green	0 2	—	—
1 c. to 1 franc, complete set of 13 stamps	6 8	—	—

SALVADOR.

1893 issue.

	RACH	PER 12	PER 100
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 centavo	0 1	0 6	3 0
2 centavos	0 1	0 6	3 0
1 cent. to 1 peso, set of 10	2 0	0 16	110 0
2, 5, and 10 pesos, large size, set of 3	2 0	0 16	110 0

Envelopes.

1 c. to 22 c., set of 7	2 0	—	—
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Wrappers.

1 c. to 11 c., set of 4	1 0	—	—
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Post Cards.

1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 2+2 c., and 3+3 c., set of 5	1 0	—	—
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SANDWICH ISLES.

1894. *A very pretty set of stamps.*

1 cent, yellow	0 1	0 9	6 0
2 " brown	0 2	1 6	12 0
5 " carmine	0 5	3 6	—
10 " green	0 9	7 0	—
25 " blue	1 9	—	—

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Post Cards. Type 2943.

2 cents, carmine on buff	0 3	2 0	14 0
2+2 cents	0 5	3 0	21 0

TAHITI.

Thick diagonal sur., 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 75 c., & 1 fr.	} 25 0	—	—
Thick horizontal, 15, 20, 25, 75 c., and 1 fr. the set of 12 stamps, used		—	—

UNITED STATES—COLUMBUS STAMPS.

These stamps having become obsolete are rapidly increasing in rarity, and can now only be supplied at the following rates.

1 cent, oblong, blue	0 1	0 9	6 0
1 " " " used	0 1	0 9	—
2 cents " lilac	0 2	1 6	12 0
2 " " " used	0 1	0 3	1 9
3 " " green	0 3	2 6	—
3 " " " used	0 3	—	—
4 " " ultramarine	0 4	3 3	—
4 " " " used	0 3	2 6	—
5 " " chestnut	0 5	4 0	—
5 " " " used	0 6	5 0	—
6 " " purple	0 6	—	—
6 " " " used	0 6	—	—
8 " " lake	0 8	6 6	—
8 " " " used	0 8	—	—
10 " " brown	0 9	8 0	—
10 " " " used	0 3	2 6	—
15 " " green	1 3	12 0	—
15 " " " used	0 9	—	—
30 " " orange	2 6	22 6	—
30 " " " used	1 9	—	—
50 " " blue-black	4 0	42 0	—
50 " " " used	3 6	—	—
1 dollar " rose-salmon	8 0	—	—
1 " " " used	6 6	—	—
2 dollars " carmine-red	16 0	—	—

Entirely New Sets of Post Cards.

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	Set of	s. d.
Antigua, 1880, 14, 1837, complete	5	4 0
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Austria, a grand set, including cards with inscriptions in six languages, letter and Foreign-office cards	40	9 0
Azores, including first issue and reply cards	7	4 6
Barbados, including the rare 14 provisional	7	5 0
Bavaria, 1870 to 1880, early issues only	10	3 0
" " later issues	14	3 6
Belgium, early issues, including rare 10 c., black on blue	7	4 0
" " later issues, including official and letter cards	7	2 3
Bermuda, 1880 to 1894	4	1 6
Bosnia, first issue and letter cards	4	1 3
Brazil, a fine set, including first issues and letter cards	16	7 6
British Bechuanaland, old type	3	1 3
British Guiana, including two provisionals	5	1 9
Bulgaria, 1870 to 1892	6	2 0
Canada, including letter card	7	1 0
Cape of Good Hope, obsolete issues	3	1 0
Ceylon, including three of the rare 1885 provisionals and first issues	10	6 6
Chamba, including service	3	0 9
Chili, 1872 to 1883	4	1 0
Congo, including reply cards	4	1 3
Cuba, including the rare 25 c. first issue	7	5 0
Curacao, 1876, and provisional, &c.	7	3 0
Cyprus, 1880 and 1881 issues	5	1 6
Denmark, a grand set, including early issues, letter and service cards	21	2 3
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Finland, including rare early issues	7	4 0
France, including 1873 and letter card	6	3 6

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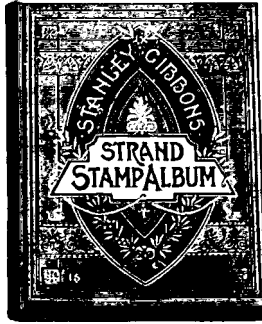
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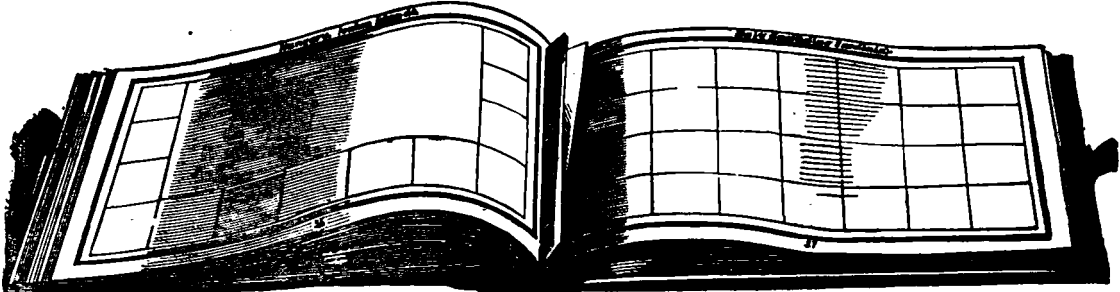
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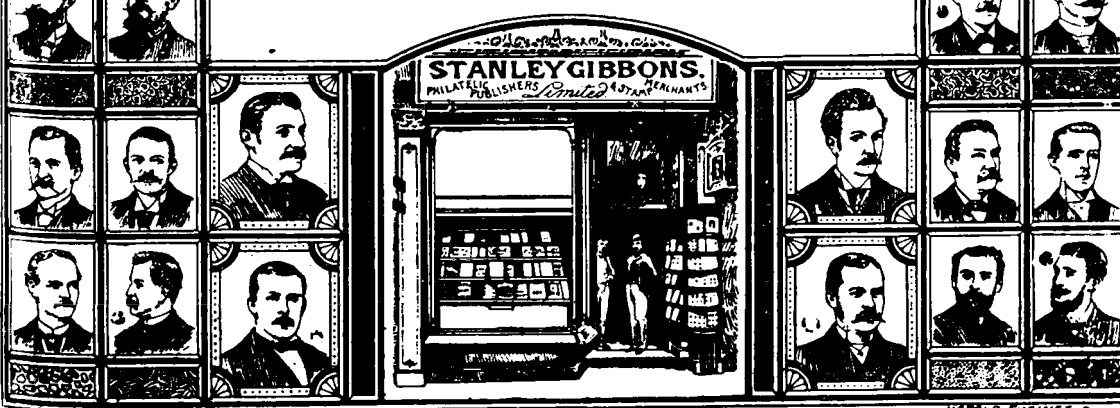
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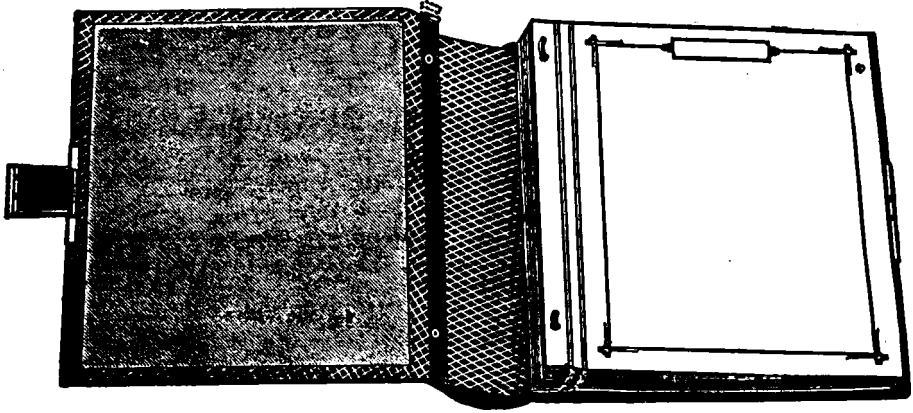
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Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

MAY 31, 1894.

No. 47.

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EDITORIAL.

THE principal philatelic event of the past month has, naturally, been the Exhibition of the London Philatelic Society, held to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Society. This event has been rendered further conspicuous by the fact that it is one of the very few anniversaries of recent times that has been allowed to pass without some special issue of stamp, post card, or letter card for the purpose of enabling the members of the philatelic public to subscribe towards some object about which they knew little and cared less. There was a great temptation for the Society to perpetrate an offence of this kind, which might have raised a good foundation for a publishing fund; but we are happy to say that the temptation was sternly resisted, and we congratulate all concerned.

* * *

ANOTHER event, of no small importance to the stamp trade, and thus more or less indirectly to stamp collectors, has also occurred within the last month; we allude to the action in reference to the removal and substitution of stamps on approval sheets, which, we are glad to say, resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed; and the great space occupied by the report of this trial must be our excuse for cutting our report of the Exhibition somewhat short, and for postponing till next month the review of some important works that we have recently received.

* * *

OF the Exhibition generally we can speak very highly; it was certainly the most interesting one that has yet taken place at Effingham House, and, containing as it did almost all the great rarities of all countries, it was of far greater interest to the general collector, and to the general public,

than were the specialist exhibitions previously held there. It would be far easier to state what was not there than to describe all that was, but this would be an ungrateful task. Beginning at the beginning, however, we did notice an almost entire lack of Afghans, and we can only suppose that collectors of these works of art are holding back for the show that should follow the publication of the Society's next book.

To come to a few of the good things that were there:

Angola. A sheet of 20 reis, rose-red, with an error 40 reis—the second stamp in the second row.

Barbados. 1d. on half of 5s.—a strip of three, and divers singles.

Bavaria. 6 kr., brown, *first* type, two unused pairs. We may state here that a magnificent case of old German States was one of the finest exhibits in the room.

Bergerdorf. A very interesting set of proofs of all the values, in blocks, printed in *green* upon one sheet.

Bermuda. 1d., rose-red, Crown and C.C., *imperfurate*, a single copy, but with fairly satisfactory margins.

British Guiana. Specimens of all the values of the circular issue, and the oblong provisionals, except the 4 c., on *blue paper* coloured through.

Buenos Ayres. A magnificent fleet of ships.

Canada. Three copies of the 12d.

Cape of Good Hope. The so-called *wood-block* errors, of course, including a very fine pair of the 1d. and 4d., *blue*, unsevered.

Ceylon. A very fine lot of beautiful copies of the earlier issues.

Colombia (Republic). Two fine copies of the 20 c. of 1863, and two of the 1 peso of the same issue, were almost the only representatives.

Confederate States Locals. There was an exceptionally fine display of these, including many unattainable rarities.

Cordoba. An entire sheet of the 5 c.

France. We noticed eight fine copies, three of them unused, of the 1 franc, *orange*, in one exhibit, which caused a visitor to feelingly remark that he

began to understand how it was that those stamps were so rare!

Great Britain. The 1d. "V.R.," two unsevered pairs, and various single copies; a complete series of all issues *imperf.*; some very interesting proofs, and several copies of the covers issued in 1840 for use at the Houses of Parliament, including one inscribed "TWO PENCE. Weight not to exceed 1 oz.," which we believe to be unchronicled.

Mauritius. The 1d. and 2d. "POST OFFICE," a fine unused copy of each; a good lot of the various native issues, including seven specimens of the 2d., large head with fillet; and an *imperf.* pair of the 6d., green, no wmk., of 1860.

Mexico. A fine assortment of the rarer varieties of surcharge.

Naples. We noticed, again in one exhibit, four fine copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese, blue, *Arms*, and *thirty-one* of the same with the Cross.

Natal. Two very fine and large specimens of the 9d., blue.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Shillings in all varieties of shade, and *five* copies of the 5 c. "Connell" in the perforated condition.

Newfoundland. A very fine card of the early issues, including used and unused copies of all shades and values.

New Caledonia. An entire sheet of the first 10 c.

New South Wales. The unused Sydney Views, and strips and blocks of the same used, were truly "a sight for sair e'en," and probably aroused as much covetousness as anything in the room.

New Zealand. An unpretending-looking item under this head, but by no means one of the least rare things on view, was a strip of three of the 1d., brown, wmk. "N.Z." A former owner of this is still, we believe, lamenting his ill-luck in not recognizing its rarity until after he had parted with it! 'Twas ever thus! "Though lost to sight, to memory dear." And the price paid was not so, by any means.

Pacific Steam Navigation Co. A very fine set of those handsome stamps was shown.

Queensland. We noticed some very fine *imperf.* pairs, both of the first issue and of some of the later ones, but a pair of the first shilling, *imperf.*, is still to be sought for.

Réunion. Some fine specimens of the first issue were shown, though not all the types.

Roumania. More than one very fine set of the circular Moldavians, and the issues of 1858-59.

Russia. Some exceedingly beautiful proofs and essays were exhibited by the Grand Duke Alexis.

Sandwich Isles. The 5 c. and 13 c. of the 1852 issue.

Saxony. A reconstructed sheet of *twenty* used copies of the 3 pfennig, red, and two unused specimens of the same.

South Australia. Some very fine *imperf.*

strips, etc., and a large number of the surcharged official stamps.

Switzerland. Double Genevas, and "4" Zurichs were in fair profusion.

Transvaal. It is unnecessary to state that the two Transvaalers of the Society were well to the fore, and only regretted that they had not all the cases at their own disposal!

Trinidad. Some very fine copies of the native lithographs were shown, besides other early issues.

United States. A very good collection of the early local issues, including those of Brattleboro', Millbury, a sheet of Providence, two types of the 5 c., and the three types of the 10 c., St. Louis, &c.

Victoria. Some beautiful specimens of the 2d., fine background, and unused blocks of the first issue.

And last, but not least, a fine copy of the 4d., *Western Australia*, with *inverted swan*, and a good lot of others of the early issues, including a beautiful 6d., with almost all the gilding still upon it.

Those of our readers who had the misfortune not to be able to visit the Exhibition must take our word for it that in the above list of gems we have only skimmed the very creamiest of the cream; a full description of all the exhibits would more than fill a number of this magazine; besides, the curtain is down, the show is over, and those who were not there can only hope to have better luck next time!

The Exhibition was very well attended, in spite of the fact that no special steps were taken to advertise it—indeed, at certain hours the rooms were quite sufficiently crowded, and many of the visitors expressed regret that it could not be kept open longer.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and the Duke of York, the Honorary President and Honorary Vice-President of the Society, visited the Exhibition on the Thursday morning, about half-an-hour before the usual time of opening, and spent nearly an hour examining the various exhibits, in which both the Royal Collectors plainly took a great interest. The Duke of York also rendered practical assistance to the Exhibition, as on a previous occasion, showing a very fine set of *imperf.* stamps of Great Britain.

His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch, of Russia, was also an Exhibitor, showing the curious proof sheet of Bergedorf, to which we alluded above, the entire sheet of New Caledonia, the Russian Proofs and Essays, as well as some fine specimens of early Spanish, including the 12 cuartos of 1865 with the head inverted.

* * *

Correction.—Mr. E. D. Bacon informs us that the number printed of the 6d. "Telephone" stamp should have been given, in his last month's article, as 93,480 instead of 93,840.

BERLIN LETTER.

IN a former letter I mentioned that a Berlin dealer had been condemned by law to take back some of the provisional envelopes of the North German Confederation, because they were proved to be of fraudulent manufacture. The case has since been before the court of appeal, where the first judgment was confirmed. Now the dealer has to pay back the money he got for the envelopes, and it is to be expected that other purchasers of these forged envelopes will also shortly bring actions against the sellers.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, the leading philatelic journal in Germany, had recently a supplementary paper, by Mr. Lindenberg, on the forged obliterations of the provisional envelopes of the North German Confederation. The author completes the information published in his *brochure* on this subject, by describing the difference between the genuine and the forged obliteration marks. It must be borne in mind that the dies for the latter are original, as far as the name and the enclosing lines are concerned, but new date figures were put in by the forgers. These figures differ in shape and position from the originals, and besides show some impossible dates. Mr. Lindenberg mentions the following towns, whose obliterating stamps are found upon the forgeries: Georg-Marienhuetten, Dahlhausen, Welver, Assinghausen, Boerssum, Hamburg, Welschen-Ennest, Hagen. This highly interesting paper is illustrated by a beautiful autotype plate, showing some of the forgeries.

Another case of philatelic interest has been before the court at Hamburg. The holder of the dies and plates of the old Heligoland postage stamps, in *Schilling* Currency, and of those of the 1, 2, and 3 pennig adhesives, also possesses the die for the 3 pennig wrapper, but not those for the 5 and 10 pennig wrappers. In order to supply this want and to save the one die, this dealer had lithographic transfers made from the latter, some of which, by altering the value, were adapted for printing 5 and 10 pennig wrappers. These common forgeries he had printed in large quantities, and sold as reprints at a low price. Mr. Hartmann, of Berlin, a member of the Berlin Club, rendered a great service to philatelists by detecting this fraud, and publishing an account of it in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*. In consequence of this, the manufacturer of the forgeries was sued, but unfortunately the experts were not able to persuade the court of the unfairness of this person's dealing, and thus he was exculpated. The principal argument in his favour was the fact that the Imperial Printing Office at Berlin had once done a similar thing, in manufacturing the so-called reprints of Alsace-Lorraine with inverted network. But it ought to be remembered that the Imperial Office acted *bonâ fide* and without special profit, and was misled as to the consequences of such reprinting, while this person only worked for his own profit and with full knowledge of what he was doing.

Private reprinting is not forbidden by law, but the conviction is gaining more and more ground in Germany that it is unfair and not to be placed on the same footing as official reprinting. The example set by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, in not selling any reprints at all, has found followers in Germany, while other dealers at least stamp the reprints sold with a special mark.

This question will certainly be largely discussed at the next German Philatelic Convention, which is to be held at Kiel, July 14-16. The members of the Kiel Society are busy preparing for this meeting, and they may expect a good attendance, not only for philatelic reasons, but also on account of the attractions of the central station of the German Navy in the Baltic, and the beauty of the country. The four Berlin Societies have already held some conferences, in order to insure unanimity in the action to be taken at the Convention.

Allow me to correct a few slight errors concerning the Berlin Postal Museum, which Mr. Phillips described in such glowing terms. Mr. Lindenberg is not the curator of the whole Museum, but only of the philatelic portion of it, and it is this part alone that he has brought to such perfection without cost to the nation. For the other collections in the Museum there is an annual grant of £1500. The rooms containing the stamps are lighted by gas.

Mr. Lindenberg has published another *brochure* of his well-known series on the German envelopes, this time treating of the envelopes of Hamburg and Bremen. In the Hamburg envelopes the reprints require some attention; the author also distinguishes two issues of the envelopes of Hamburg manufacture, differing in the *trusses* on the flaps. The Bremen envelopes Mr. Lindenberg dates back to 1853, according to an official decree fixing the issue for December 26 of that year, thus placing the date four years earlier than that given in the catalogues of Moens and others. There are two authentic types of these envelopes, but some varieties on the peculiar wavy-lined paper and others with stamp to right, only known in cut specimens, the author assigns to the printed to order class.

In the last number of your journal you had an interesting paper, by Mr. Bacon, on the stamps of the National Telephone Co., Limited. Mr. Bacon went on to say that he knew but of one other country issuing telephone stamps, viz., France. To this I may add Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Germany, Monaco with government issues, and Denmark and the United States with private issues of telephone stamps, cards, or tickets. I feel sure there are some others still flourishing in oblivion, leaving collectors a good chance of making discoveries.

FRANCISCUS.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—*Le Timbre-Poste* describes a specimen of the 1 shahi of 1872-73 (Type 10, we think, of our publishers' Catalogue), printed in *violet-brown* upon buff laid paper. Our contemporary asks if this is not a fancy impression. We have seen a copy of this variety, but are unable at present to express any opinion as to its character.

Bahamas.—We have received the G size of the Registration envelope which we chronicled in February. The stamp is of the usual circular type, lettered "BAHAMAS REGISTRATION FREE TWO PENCE," and the envelope is inscribed "THOS. DE LA RUE & CO., PATENT," in blue, under the flap.

Belgium.—A correspondent has kindly sent us a specimen of the 10 c. Letter Card, with the "kaartbrief" error, which we are glad to find is plainly due to a broken "f," as we surmised. He informs us that, from the first inst., the ordinary and the Sabbatical stamps are furnished in equal quantities to all the Post-offices, and adds that the special labels may be expected shortly on blue paper. *The American Journal of Philately* states that the 25 c. Letter Card with the Sabbatical stamp has been issued, but we have not seen it yet.

Letter Card. 25 c., blue on rose.

Benin.—*The A. J. P.* reports that the 1, 2, 4, and 20 centimes of the French Colonial type exist with the name of this place surcharged in black. We do not doubt it. We have received the new issue with the inscription changed, from "GOLFE DE BENIN" to "BENIN" alone. We presume there will be a separate issue for the Gulf, on watermarked—and perhaps waterproofed—paper.

Among the new comers we find specimens of the 75 c. and 1 fr., with the name reading "BFNIN"!

Adhesives: 1 c., black on blue.
2 c., black and brown.
4 c., black and claret.
20 c., black and red on green.

British East Africa.—A correspondent kindly sends us a copy of a letter he received from the Secretary of the Company in reference to the 4 annas, grey, stamp, which seems only to be known imperforate. The Secretary states

that the stamp was supplied in the ordinary course at the Company's offices, at the same time as the other imperforate stamps, and that it is still available for postage. He gives no explanation, however, of the reason for issuing certain values in *grey*, as well as in other colours, but says that it was found inconvenient to have the same value in two colours, and therefore the printing of the *grey* stamps was stopped.

British Central and South Africa.—The provisional 3s. stamp of these territories (which we really think might be satisfied with one series between them) has already been superseded by the same value in the permanent type. The design is printed in *light brown*, the value added in *green*, and a supply is also provided with "B. C. A." in *black*.

Adhesives. 3s., green and brown.
3s. " " with "B. C. A." in black.

Cashmere.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the following varieties of the current stamps as having been recently received. The $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and the two varieties of the 2 annas do not appear to be novelties, but the colour of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and the paper of the 4 a. and 8 a. are new to us.

Adhesives. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., grass-green on *thin white wove*.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *thin white laid*.
2 a. " orange.
2 a. " green.
4 a., grass-green on *thin white laid*.
8 a., black " "

Ceylon.—The Letter Card has appeared in fresh colours, better printed, and on better material than before. The perforation now gauges 12, instead of about 6, and the horizontal line of holes only is continued to the edges; there are also added a line of *black dots* along the fold, an instruction on the subject of *opening* at the bottom, and another, relative to additional postage, on the reverse portion. The line of dots referred to is heavily impressed; it is, in fact, a kind of blind perforation in colour.

Letter Card. 5 cents, black on *blue*; 140 x 88 mm.

We have recently been shown specimens of the 4d. and 8d., perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, in which we could find no trace of a watermark. We have little doubt that these are from sheets with the Crown and CC wmk., but fell upon unwmkd. portions of the paper.

Chefoo.—We have received from Mr. Benjamin, of Shanghai, Post and Letter Cards of the local post. Each has a stamp, of the type of the current adhesives, impressed in the right upper corner, and the inscriptions are "CHEFOO LOCAL POST," "POST CARD," or "LETTER CARD." The Post Card has also "This side for address only," at the left side, and a double-lined frame 126 x 76 mm. The Letter Card has the usual instruction below, and has the perforations crossing at the lower corners.

Post Card. $\frac{1}{2}$ c., green on *pale buff*; 144 x 95 mm.
Letter Card. 1 c., vermilion on *blue*; 140 x 90 mm.

Chili.—*The A. J. P.* chronicles the 2 c. card, of the 1885 type, upon a new colour. Also the 2 c. adhesive, of current type, re-engraved, the figure "2" being larger than before.

Adhesive. 2 c., rose; *type re-engraved*.
Post Card. 2 c., ultramarine on *pale blue*.

Colombia.—We learn from *The A. J. P.* that a special stamp has been issued here for payment of the charge for acknowledgment of delivery of a letter. The design consists of large letters "A. R.," within a circular band, inscribed "REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA," enclosed in a rectangular frame, with the value below and numerals in the upper corners.

Return Receipt Stamp. 5 c., vermilion on *blue*; perf. 13.

Congo.—*Le T. P.* describes two new reply-paid cards, differing from those of 1889 in having stamps of the type of the current adhesives, and the two portions of each card printed in different colours. It is curious that in this, as in the former issue, the first portion of the lower value has a 5 c. stamp, although it represents a reply 10 c. card. In the higher value the first portion has the 15 c. stamp, corresponding with the value of the single Postal Union Card, and the reduction on taking a return ticket is shown (correctly, we think) on the reply half.

Post Cards. 5+10 c. (1st half), green, (2nd half) carmine on *azure*.
15+10 c. " blue " " straw.

Cook Islands.—We are informed that the colour of the current 1d. is changed.

Adhesive. 1d., dark blue.

Denmark.—A correspondent kindly sends us two varieties, which seem worthy of note, though perhaps not to be catalogued. A strip of three of the 5 öre, on the centre stamp of which the right-hand figure "5" has the top stroke greatly hollowed, instead of almost flat; and a pair of the 20 öre, on one of which the word of value reads "ORF."

Diego Suarez.—We give an illustration of the new Colonial series, specially provided for this spot.



Dutch Indies.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* reports a fresh value in the type with head of the young Queen.

Adhesive. 30 c., light green.



Ecuador.—According to *The A. J. P.* the new 10 c. telegraph stamp, of the annexed type, has already been used for postage. We do not doubt that this is the case, as the good people of Ecuador must have got into the habit of using any kind of stamp that came to hand, and, except for philatelic purposes, there is probably no reason why the same stamps should not always be employed for postage and telegraph rates.

Adhesive. 10 c., green; telegraph stamp.

France.—We have at last received copies of the stamps surcharged for use in Zanzibar, which we chronicled in January, and are able to give the correct colours of the overprints. The $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and 10 annas have the surcharge in *red*, the other values in *blue*. There may be other varieties of course, but we can vouch for the existence of these. We have also received a further series of stamps, for use in the Zanzibar office, adorned with a still more ingenious and complicated surcharge in three lines: 1. The name "ZANZIBAR," 2. The value in annas. 3. The corresponding value in French currency. This will doubtless still further facilitate the *koulement*.

Adhesives. $\frac{1}{2}$ ANNA—5, " in red, on 1 c., black on blue.
" 1 " —10, " 3 c., grey on grey.
" 2 ANNAS—25, " in black, on 4 c., claret on grey.
" 5 " —55, " 30 c., red on green.
" 10 " —1 Fr. " 40 c., red on yellow.

In the face of all this, our friend Monsieur Maury, who really ought to know better, is starting an agitation in favour of an issue of stamps commemorative of Joan of Arc! This is really going a little too far. Let the Maid of Orleans be beatified by the Church which condemned her as a combination of witch and heretic, and let the nation which exhibited its gratitude to her in a somewhat peculiar fashion erect statues to her memory; but surely the poor stamp collector should not be called upon to pay the expenses. Navigators have hitherto been the favourite objects of this species of adoration, and we would suggest Noah's Ark as a more suitable subject!

We are indebted to Messrs. Cameron & Co. for a copy of *Le Petit Journal* of 14th inst., containing an account of the competition for designs for the new series of stamps, with illustrations of some of the most successful—and others. It does not appear that the judges were fully satisfied with the result of the competition, for we gather that, in distributing the awards, the highest prize has been withheld. Of the four designs selected as the most meritorious, three are merely variations of the Seated Figure hitherto employed for the French Colonial stamps, and, we believe, originally adapted from our figure of Britannia! The fourth shows the Gallic rooster, in full crow, and would be eminently suitable for an issue for Cochinchina. Some of the rejected designs appear to have been intentionally comic, notably one representing a Gorilla, attired as a blacksmith, in the foreground, with a figure of Liberty behind him (intended, we are told, for Vulcan and Venus, as representatives perhaps of Labour and Capital); and another showing a comic Russian bidding farewell to a melancholy female figure, over a 15 c. piece! The moral of the competition seems to be that it would be simpler and more satisfactory to place the matter in the

hands of a good artist, and commission him to provide a suitable design.

Another correspondent kindly sends us a cutting from *Gil Blas*, of the 17th inst., relating the discovery and arrest of some ingenious persons who are charged with counterfeiting the current Unpaid Letter stamps. It is stated that a plate was constructed, and 5000 sheets printed from it, but no details are given as to values, or of any differences between the genuine stamps and the forged. We learn from a later paper that these individuals further adorned their manufactures, and perhaps genuine stamps also, with divers Colonial surcharges. Perhaps they are the inventors of the Obock monstrosities, with Camels, Natives, &c.!

Gold Coast.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* chronicles the 20 shillings stamp in new colours. The design is now printed in *brown*, and the name and value in *black*, on *red* paper—we presume with the usual Crown and CA wmk., but that is not stated.

Adhesive. 20s., black and brown on red.

Great Britain.—One of the latest frauds appears to be the imitation of the *blue safety* paper. The 4d., wmk. Large Garter, has already been described in the doctored state. *The Stamp News* now reports that the 6d. and 1s., wmk. Emblems, without letters in the corners, have been similarly manipulated. *Verbum sat, sap.*

Mr. Morley kindly informs us that he has just discovered a used copy of plate 17 of the 4d., printed in *sage-green*, and wmk. Garter. *Adhesive.* 4d. (plate 17), sage-green.

Greece.—*L'E. de la T.* chronicles the 40 lepta first type, Athens print we presume, on *blue* paper, without figures on the back. Let our students of early Greek see to this. *Adhesive.* 40 l., violet on blue; no figure on back.

Guatemala.—A correspondent kindly sends us specimens of a surcharged variety recently issued. It is the 75 c. of 1886, overprinted in three lines, "1894," with a thin line below it, "10," "CENTAVOS"; on the block of four before us the whole surcharge is double printed, one impression nearly covering the other.

Adhesive. 10 c., in black, on 75 c., rose.

India.—A correspondent informs us that he possesses the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, of 1865 surcharged "L. F. S.," which is not given in our publishers' Catalogue. We find that Monsieur Moens catalogues this and some of the other values of that date with this surcharge. We consider all these varieties of very doubtful interest; but consistency is a good thing, of course.

Italy.—The Philatelic Exhibition at Milan would naturally have been incomplete without some small imposition upon the philatelic purse. A special post card has been provided, with a stamp of the type of the 10 c. adhesive in the right upper corner, "ESPOSIZIONE—POSTALE FILATELICA—INTERNAZIONALE," in three lines, in the upper centre, and on the left an ornamental tombstone with a suitable inscription—in memory of the Science of Philately, done to death by Celebration Issues, or something to that effect. We have not seen a copy of the card, but only the illustration in *Le T.-P.*, and it is possible that our translation of the "Writing on the Wall" may not be strictly accurate, but there is a funereal-looking cross at the bottom of the tablet which seems appropriate to the occasion. The number printed is stated, in the left lower corner, as 30,000.

Post Card. 10 c., carmine and blue on white; 140x89 mm.

Japan.—The prevailing custom is of course duly followed here, the Silver Wedding of the Emperor and Empress being the excuse for issuing two very fine and large stamps of the accompanying design. The true philatelist of the future will probably reject all stamps of large oblong shape! A correspondent informs us that 141,686 of the 2 sen and 66,605 of the 5 sen were sold at the principal cities in Japan, either on the day of issue, or within the fortnight following (it seems doubtful which our informant means). *Le T.-P.* states that these stamps were to continue



in circulation for a month, in fact during the Silver Honey-moon! *Adhesives.* 2 sen, carmine; perf. 12, 13.

5 ,, ultramarine ,,

Of the copies before us, the 2s. is perf. 12, and the 5s. perf. 13; probably both values exist with each variety of gauge.

Labuan.—The absorption of this territory by the State of North Borneo is plainly not to be the cause of any diminution in the philatelic harvest. The attractive series brought out, in January last, by the enterprising company that runs these parts, has now been issued in fresh combinations of colours and disguised by the name "LABUAN," in *sans-serif* capitals, overprinted across the top of each stamp (the bottom of the 18 c.). We chronicle these articles, as we cannot entirely ignore their existence; but we advise our readers to content themselves with the unsurcharged labels, which are far prettier! It is a pity that our leading dealers cannot combine to refuse to handle all these unnecessary and speculative productions.

The central device and the surcharge are in *black*, in all except the highest value.

Adhesives.

1 c., black and lilac.	6 c., black and carmine.
2 c., black and blue.	8 c., black and rose.
3 c., black and yellow-brown.	12 c., black and vermilion.
5 c., black and green.	18 c., black and olive-brown.
	24 c., blue and lilac.

Lagos.—The *Ill. Brief Journal* reports the receipt of the reply half of the 1½d. card, with the words "REPLY" on the card and "HALF" on the stamp, cancelled in *red* ink. We presume this is an official variety, but it is one that we can all make when we want it.

Post Card. 1d., red and brown on buff; 2nd half of 1½ + 1½d.

Liberia.—We have recently had an opportunity of examining the fine collection of the stamps of this Republic belonging to Mr. Hayman, in which we noticed, in addition to almost complete sets of all the early varieties, an imperforate specimen of the 24 c., with outer line, on thick white laid paper. A copy of the dubious 3 c., *red*, in the same collection, was marked *forgery*, and the appearance of this copy leads us to doubt very much whether it was printed from the same stone as the genuine stamps. We are inclined to believe that this curiosity is simply an imitation, and that the history which we copied from *Le Timbre-Poste* in November last is probably correct.

We have received the 5 c., both ordinary and "O.S.," provided with a very nice fine roulette. We trust that those of our friends, whose happiness depends so greatly upon the possession of varieties of this nature, will not be tempted to get their collections of Transvaal put through the machine that does this!

Adhesive. 5 c., black and carmine; rouletted.

Service Stamp. 5 c., green and lilac, black surcharge; rouletted.

Mexico.—*The A. J. P.* states that the officially sealed plaister of current type (1578 in the Catalogue) is now engraved instead of lithographed, and is perforated. The design has been redrawn to a certain extent, and the name of the engraver, "DIAZ DE LEON, SUC. MEX.," is inserted in the lower margin, at the right.

Officially Sealed Label. No value, brown; perf. 13½.

Montenegro.—A correspondent kindly informs us that he has a set of the recently issued values, all perf. 10½, except the 20 novtch which is perf. 11½; also the Jubilee set perf. 11½, the same values (except the 7 novtch, *rose*) without the surcharge, and with the same perforation, and the 7 novtch, *purple*, perf. 12. The varieties seem to be almost as numerous as those of the post cards.

Morocco.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. tell us that the 5 c. of the Mazagan-Marakech series has been surcharged "20—centimos," in two lines, in *black*.

Adhesive. 20 centimos, in black, on 5 c., green.

The same correspondents kindly inform us that the hand-stamp, which we described last November, is a Post Office mark, struck upon letters after they have been handed into a Post Office and the postage paid in cash. They are therefore upon exactly the same footing as the "PAID" marks used in England, except that the latter usually have a value expressed upon them, which these have not.

Mozambique.—We learn from *The Philatelic Record* that the surcharging business is still going on here, and that by way of variety the 40 reis is now overprinted "PROVISORIO" above, with two figures "5" of different sizes below, that on the left being 5 mm. in height, and that on the right 4½ mm. only.

Nandgaon.—*Le T. P.* chronicles the ½ anna stamp redrawn, in sixteen fresh varieties of type, and accompanied by a 1 anna of similar design. The varieties are now placed closer together than before on the sheet, and are separated



by a wavy line, which is perhaps intended to represent perforations. The block is again surrounded by a double-lined frame, with an inscription above, below, and at each side.

Adhesives. ½ a., deep yellow-green.
1 a., red.

New South Wales.—The Editor of *The S. N.* has seen the 2d. "Diadem" issue (Type 1683) without watermark; the specimen was p-rf. 12, but the perforations had disappeared from all but one side.

Adhesive. 2d. (1860), blue; no wmk.

New Zealand.—A correspondent kindly sends us the current 6d., perf. 12½ at bottom and sides, and perf. 10 at the top; also the ½d., with no apparent wmk., perf. 10 all round.

Norway.—*Le T. P.* adds the 10 öre to the list of values in the recently altered type. *La Revue Philatèlique* tells us that there are two types of the 1 kr. 50 öre, the one having the numerals "50" larger than the other.

Adhesives. 10 öre, rose.
1 kr. 50 öre, blue; variety of type.

Nossi-Bé.—We append an illustration of the new series.



Obock.—*Le T. P.* chronicles another variety of the Camel picture, as shown in the above illustration. It is printed with the centre in one colour and the frame in another, by way of enhancing its beauty and facilitating the *écoulement*; but the price is somewhat prohibitive. *Le C. de T. P.* adds three higher values still, which we gather are also of this design.

Adhesives. 5 francs, rose and blue.
10 " red and lilac.
25 " brown and blue.
50 " lilac and green.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.—We have received specimens of some of the extraordinary provisionals which we chronicled in March, and we find that the two varieties of ½d. on 2½d. have in one case the words "HALF PENNY" in *sans serif* capitals, and in the other "Half Penny" in italics. Both have the surcharge in two lines, with a bar across the original value.

Orange Free State.—*La R. P.* chronicles a variety of the card with ½d. on 2d. adhesive stamp, having the stamp stuck on upside down, and the surcharged arms presumably inverted with reference to the stamp.

Porto Rico.—*The A. J. P.* reports an entirely new value for this Spanish Colony.

Adhesive. 4 cent. de p., slate-violet.

Queensland.—In further explanation of the arrangement of the wmk. truncated stars and "QUEENSLAND," to which we alluded last month, we extract the substance of a paragraph in *The London Philatelist*. In Mr. Castle's collection there is a horizontal strip of two rows of twelve stamps (the entire width of the sheet) with this wmk. "The stars are placed on the upper portion of the stamps" (a star at the top of each stamp?), and the word commences in the middle of the fourth stamp from the left hand end of the strip and ends at the outer edge of the right hand stamp. The letters are stated to be about 17 mm. in height, and the whole word 165 mm. in length; and we gather that it extends over both the rows of stamps, leaving however the three to the left of each row wmkd. with stars only.

Roumania.—*Le T. P.* chronicles two further values of the new series of adhesives, the design of the 25 bani being shown in the annexed illustration, while the 50 bani is stated to be similar in type to the 5 bani. There are also a wrapper and a letter card with stamps of the new types.



Adhesives. 25 bani, violet.
50 " orange.
Wrapper. 1½ " black on greyish.
Letter Card. 5 " blue on grey.

Russian Locals.—Principally from *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Bijetsk.—The accompanying illustration shows the design of the stamps which we chronicled in March.

Griazovetz.—This District has already obtained a reputation for producing the same design in several different colours, and it is only a few months since it provided us with stamps of two different designs arranged side by side upon the



same sheet; now however it has fairly surpassed itself, and, we hope and believe, effectually broken the record. We have received six different designs, three of which (as far as we can gather from the sheets before us) appear on one sheet, and three upon another, there being two horizontal rows of eleven stamps each of each type, and the entire sheets being composed of six horizontal rows. Upon one sheet we find the types with the two shields surmounted by a Crown, the Croquet Stick and Hoop, and the large figure "4"; upon the other we have the type with the diagonal scroll, the Parcel Postman, and the spiral ribbon; arranged in each case in the order given. When we add that the sheets are each printed in six different colours, and that of the first three types, in red, our publishers have found horizontal pairs *imperforate* between the stamps, and of the other three, in violet, an entire sheet *imperforate* horizontally, we feel that we have said enough to show that this district is entitled to retire upon its philatelic laurels, and we trust that it will do so!

Adhesives. 4 kopecs (6 types), brown; *perf.* 11½.
 4 " { " }, green "
 4 " { " }, violet "
 4 " { " }, red "
 4 " { " }, blue "
 4 " { " }, red-brown "

The third and fourth types differ in several minor particulars from the similar designs issued last year.

Oustojnja.—The type of which we gave an illustration in February is reported upon two fresh varieties of paper.

Adhesives. 3 kopecs, black on sea-green.
 3 " " red.

Oustysolsk.—An envelope for registered letters, with stamp of the accompanying design in the right upper corner, has been issued here. It does not appear that the "Patent" bags of Messrs. McCorquodale or De la Rue are known in these parts.

Reg. Env. 3 kop., red, black and ultramarine.

Smolensk.—The stamp for this district is introduced by our contemporary in mysterious terms, which imply that not only is the date of its birth quite unknown, but that it is equally uncertain whether it is yet in the land of the living, or has gone over to that bourne from which men do not, but stamps sometimes do return. It is stated to be printed in black upon a rose groundwork, and *imperforate*.

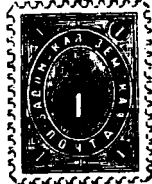


Adhesive. 5 kopecs, black and rose.

Stawropol.—This is another beginner, which has wisely patronized the Russian De la Rue, and been provided with one of the adaptable designs, instead of relying upon local talent.

Adhesive. 3 kopecs, blue; *perf.* 11½

Zadonsk.—Some changes of colour, accompanied by certain modifications of the design, as shown in the following illustrations, have taken place here. The 3 kopecs of the first type given



is stated to have been issued in October or November last, it has a smaller numeral in the centre than before, the branches at the side are shorter, and the Crown better drawn. Later the 1 kopec and 3 kopecs appeared with the type again altered, as shown in the second illustration, the numerals being heavier, and the branches thinner and shorter.

The 5 kopecs returns to the design with arms in the centre (Type 2648), but is printed in a new colour.

Adhesives. 3 kop. (1st type), orange; *perf.* 11½
 1 " (and type), violet "
 3 " { " }, red and blue; *perf.* 11½
 5 " (arms), orange; *perf.* 11½



Ste. Marie de Madagascar.—Our illustration shows the adaptable type as lately issued here.

Salvador.—Our publishers send us a pair of the 25 c. of 1892, surcharged "UN—centavo" in two lines, as previously described, but in blue instead of black.

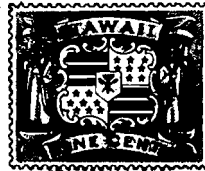
Adhesive. "UN centavo," in blue, on 25 c. maroon.

Samoa.—We give an illustration of one of the types of the provisional 5d. recently chronicled, and we are indebted to a correspondent for a proof of the design of the permanent type, which is about as primitive a one as we have often seen. It is of oblong shape, and consists of a white Cross upon a coloured ground; on the horizontal portion of the cross are the words "SAMOA POST," and on the vertical part, above the words, a Crown, and below them a large figure "5." In the left upper corner is a white Star, the right upper corner is a plain rectangle of colour, and in the lower corners "FIVE" and "PENNY," respectively, in white. The proof before us is in red, and the design thus shows as a plain St. George's Cross, lettered and ornamented as described above. *The A. J. P.* chronicles this type as issued in carmine, wmk. small star, *perf.* 11½.



Adhesive. 5d., oblong, carmine.

Sandwich Islands.—We give illustrations of the five new stamps which we chronicled last month.



We have received the new post cards, which differ from the previous issue in the designs of the stamps, which are now of large oblong shape, enclosing the devices we mentioned last month, with the value below. The inscription also is removed from the top of the frame, and the frame of the 2 c. is of a different pattern.

Post Cards. 1 c., orange on deep buff.
 2 c., green on white.

San Marino.—*Le Timbre-Foste* informs us that the authorities here are increasing the postal revenue, and facilitating the *écoulement*, by altering the colours of old values and issuing new ones, in the usual fashion, and according to the following list:

Adhesives. 2 c., blue.
 10 c., blue-green.
 15 c., red-brown.
 25 c. ☉
 65 c., orange-brown.
 2 lire, brown and yellow.
 5 " maroon and green.

Post Cards. 10 c., green on pale blue.
 15 c. " " (reply).

The colour of the 25 c. is not stated.

Shanghai.—The *A. J. P.* reports the 2 c. with the Jubilee surcharge inverted.

Siam.—We have received the 4 atts on 24 atts, with the larger type of surcharge, to which we have previously alluded. The English surcharge is in distinctly larger type, the small letters being about 2 mm. high, instead of 1½ mm. The word is not punctuated, as is the case in the smaller type, and the figure and word being closer together, the total length of this part of the surcharge is the same as before. Our publishers have shown us an entire sheet of this variety, 10 horizontal rows of 12 stamps, on which all the stamps in the 9th row are without the Siamese portion of the overprint.

Adhesive. 4 atts, in black, on 24 atts, blue and purple; larger type; without the Siamese surcharge.

Sierra Leone.—We have received size F of the Registration Envelopes which we chronicled in February. It has the usual formula, not on the side where the flap closes. The stamp is lettered "SIERRA LEONE REGISTRATION FEE. TWO PENCE," and the envelope has "THOS. DE LA RUE & Co. PATENT," in blue, under the flap. The *A. J. P.* reports sizes G and H², which are no doubt in the same form.

Soruth.—It seems as if we were never to get to the end of the varieties of the type-set stamps of this State, and we begin to wonder whether there can be a little manufactory of them somewhere. We have received from an Indian philatelist a sheet of varieties, most of which are quite new to us. All are on coloured wove paper; all also are used, and upon the portions of original letters and covers, such as have become familiar to us of late with the well-known 1 a., black on azure laid. First we find the 1 a., red on green, which we have seen before, but it is now on two very distinct varieties of paper, a yellow-green and a darker dull green; next we have a new value altogether, 2 a., black on yellow; and lastly the 4 annas, which has not, we think, been found used before in any quantity, in three varieties, red on yellow-green, red on blue, and black on pale pink or buff. We are aware that a 2 annas stamp used to be chronicled, but this was owing to one of the varieties of the figure "1" being supposed to be a "2." The stamps before us, however—a single copy and an unsevered pair—have an unmistakable figure "2"; and it seems possible that, if they are fraudulent (which we are not at present prepared to affirm), the manufacturer may have been asked for 2 annas stamps, and may have supplied a long-felt want accordingly. We are not fully satisfied about all these varieties, but at the same time we have nothing tangible against them.

South Australia.—We give illustrations of the new 2½d. and 5d. stamps which we chronicled last month.



La Revue Philatelique Belge chronicled the 3d. with the latest gauge of perforation.

Adhesive. 3d., green; perf. 15.

Straits Settlements.—*Johore.* We have received from various correspondents information as to an issue of 3 cents stamps, required on account of the local rate of postage being raised from 2 c. to 3 c., and manufactured by surcharging other values "3 cents," with a bar across the lower part of the stamp, as shown in the accompanying illustration. The first values operated upon were the 5 c., 6 c., and 1 dollar, which were all bought up in the usual fashion; but the Government appears to have been equal to the occasion, according to the following paragraph from the *Straits Times*, of April 2nd, and we trust that the "corner" may not have turned out so well as was expected:



"The new Johore stamps of 5 and 6 cents, and of 1 dollar, mostly surcharged as 3 cents, have been bought up by some Asiatic speculator or speculators, who are trying to re-sell them at a profit to collectors. The Johore Government is annoyed that all these stamps have been allowed to get into the hands of speculators. Therefore the Government, which is bringing out a new supply of these stamps, will sell these as they are printed, and also surcharged as before. Collectors are therefore warned that these stamps, even when surcharged, will not be scarce."

Later some of the other values seem to have been similarly dealt with; we have seen the 4 c., and we hear of the 2 c. Probably a specimen of this interesting overprint upon one value will be quite sufficient for most of our readers, but if not we do not doubt that there are quite enough of each to go round!

Adhesives. 3 cents, in black, on 2 c., yellow and lilac.
3 " " " 4 c., black and lilac.
3 " " " 5 c., green and lilac.
3 " " " 6 c., blue and lilac.
3 " " " 1 dollar, carmine and green.

Trinidad.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle the current ½d. stamp surcharged "O. S.," in black, as shown in the accompanying illustration, and they all agree in thinking that other values probably exist. We should prefer being assured that the surcharge upon this one is authentic before we catalogue it, as something of this kind was rumoured last year, and we received official information denying the existence of anything of the sort.



Venezuela.—Our next illustration represents another stamp, or rather two other stamps, about which *Le T. P.* seeks information. They purport to have been issued by the Sovereign State of Zulia, which however is stated to have ceased to be a Sovereign State so long ago as 1881, in which year it was reunited to that of Falcon, or so the story goes. Probably this is a celebration issue, for the thirtieth anniversary of the reunion of Zulia to her Falcon; or possibly, as there is no mention of Falcon upon the stamps, they have re-disunited or again divorced! The stamps are described as 5 c., deep purple, and 10 c., vermillion, on white paper, perf. 13½.



Western Australia.—A correspondent kindly sends us a list of the Revenue stamps which he knows have been used of late to defray postage; they are as follows:—

1. The ordinary postage stamp surcharged—"I" "R," in Roman capitals, without punctuation, and the word "POSTAGE" cancelled by a single or a double line.
1d., yellow-brown; green surcharge.
2. The 3d., postal type, printed in lilac and surcharged in black "I. R." and the value in words, all in sans-serif capitals.
1d., black and lilac.
2d. " " "
3d. " " "
6d. " " "
1s. " " "

Our correspondent had not seen the 1s. of this type postally used, but considered it probable that it existed.

3. Long upright rectangular type, with swan in centre.
1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., lilac.

Wurtemberg.—The *Ill. Brief. Zeitung* states that the following Letter Cards have been impressed to order with stamps of the current types.

Letter Cards.

5 pf., green on yellow, grey or green; stamped to order.
10 pf., rose " " " "

HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK & CO.,

v.

LOUISA H. HIME.

[From the shorthand notes of Messrs. CHERRER, BENNETT, & DAVIS,
8, New Court, Carey Street, W.C.]

ROYAL Courts of Justice, Wednesday, May 2nd, 1894.
In the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division,
before Mr. JUSTICE CAVE, without a jury,

Mr. MURPHY, Q.C., and Mr. EARLE, instructed by
Messrs. E. F. & H. Landon, 53, New Broad Street, London,
E.C., appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. BULLEN appeared for the defendant.

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, this is a very unpleasant sort of
action, and I shall perhaps have your lordship's permission,
as the matter is somewhat complicated and quite out of the
ordinary course, if I open it as I otherwise should not have
done.

It is an action brought by a gentleman who is a well-known
stamp dealer against a widow lady who lives in Lancashire.
The charge is this, that having sent very valuable collections
of stamps to her—I think it will turn out to be upon approval
terms, or sale and return—I am sorry to say, that there
has been a systematic fraudulent abstraction of valuable
stamps, carried out with the most extraordinary skill and
ranging over a considerable period. The case will take this
shape, that altogether nine books of stamps were sent. As
regards two of the books, there was an abstraction of stamps
which was not discovered until the books had passed into
the hands of third persons, making a claim impossible. As
regards two other of the books I will give you the
particulars in a moment; the fraud was not discovered
when the books came back. Suspicion fell upon two other
gentlemen against whom claims were made. They were
able satisfactorily to account for their innocence in the
matter, and so the enquiry dropped for a time. Further
books were sent, and at last one was sent at the request
of the lady, and steps were taken, as is done very often in
the case of a test letter with the Post-office—private marks were
put by independent witnesses before they were sent. The
book came back. The stamps had been abstracted, and we
shall have to ask your lordship on proof, and I think you
will be of opinion beyond all doubt, if my materials are
correct, that there was this gross fraud as to the other two,
and to saddle the defendant with the loss of the stamps from
the other four. That is the general character of the case.

Now, my lord, the lady, as far as I know, lived in
lodgings, and has done so for a good many years, in apparent
respectability in Lancashire, and I believe her son and her
sister are the only other persons who lived with her and had
access to this book. I need hardly say that the case becomes
one of a very serious character. I do not pretend to say
that A. B. or C. D. abstracted the stamps; but that they
were abstracted, under circumstances which would make her
responsible for the safe custody of them, is the case I propose
to present.

My lord, the plaintiffs entered into partnership in the year
1892. I think one plaintiff, Mr. Kirkpatrick, lived at
Bournemouth. The other carried on the business in
London, and Kirkpatrick used to come to London about
once a month and see his partner. I will give you a few
dates as I open the case in order to put your lordship in
possession of the facts that we rely upon. If my learned
friend will allow me, I think you and he will think it
convenient to take these; I have abstracted from my brief
the dates when the books came back, and several other
particulars of that sort.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: There are remarks in the third or fourth
column that were put for my convenience, and I have
no objection to your lordship seeing them in my copy.

Mr. BULLEN: I should not object, my lord.

Mr. MURPHY: I think it will save a good deal of time.

Mr. BULLEN: Yes. Let me see what sort of remarks
they are.

Mr. MURPHY: I will. (*The document was handed to
Mr. Bullen.*) You can cut out the last column if you like.

Mr. BULLEN: Oh, no, that is not necessary.

Mr. MURPHY: I will hand this copy up to your lordship,
and I will give one to my learned friend. (*Does so.*)

My lord, the business originated in the plaintiff sending
out circulars. Here is one of them of the 23rd March,
1893. It is addressed to the defendant. Perhaps your
lordship had better have a copy of the correspondence,
though I do not think there are a great many letters that
I shall have to read. "Referring to our letter of the
1st December, which no doubt you received at the time, we
should be very glad to know whether you would allow
us to send you occasionally a selection of some special
country on approval. Our stock is arranged in a scientific
way, each country in a separate book, and we feel sure
if you would permit us to send you a trial lot you would
be satisfied with our prices." That was sent, and some
dealings took place, and the character of the business was
this: the price would be attached to each of the stamps,
and the lady would take off any stamp that she proposed to
keep and would send a remittance for the amount. The
plaintiffs then would place a mark on the vacant space
to show that that stamp was gone, and in due course the
book would be again made up. My lord, this being the
origin of the proceedings, there was some little business
done in that way, and eventually it really became a question
of sale and return, stamps sent out, paid for if kept, not
paid for if returned, and then we come to the analysis, and
I call your lordship's attention to that. There was a book
which was called the European book.

Mr. BULLEN: There is no charge made in respect to
that.

Mr. MURPHY: No, I am going to explain that. It was
one of the nine books. It was sent on the 9th April, and
was kept by the lady till the 14th, you will see that in
the first column, and in the end it was found that several of
the stamps had been abstracted; but after its return it had
passed into different hands, and the matter could not be
traced, and so we make no claim upon it. The same may
be said, my lord, about the West Indian Islands; and then,
my lord, we come to the more important one, the Australia.

Now the Australia book was sent on the 25th, and it was
kept until the 4th May, and on its return there was no
special examination made of the book, but it was sent on
at once to a gentleman named Skipwith, who was a
customer of the plaintiffs, and it was returned by Mr. Skip-
with. It was then examined, and upon examination it was
found that no less than £26 worth of stamps had been
abstracted. My lord, it was done in a very skilful way.
I will hand you, if you will allow me, a copy or a specimen
of a book in order, so far as I can, to explain the way
in which this was done.

Mr. BULLEN: Yes; let me see that for one moment.

Mr. MURPHY: Certainly. [*Handing it.*] I am afraid
your lordship will be hardly able to see from where I am.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: No, I cannot see from this distance.

Mr. MURPHY: I will explain it, and then hand you the
book. This is not the original. We will have the originals
in a moment. There is a piece of paper called the mount
which is placed underneath.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Have you got a book that I could
follow—that I could hold in my hand and follow?

Mr. MURPHY: I will hand you one of the originals.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: As it is now I see nothing but a
white surface, which tells me nothing.

Mr. MURPHY: I think if you look at that I shall be able
to explain it sufficiently. That is a copy made up for the
purpose of explaining the matter. [*Handing a book.*] You
will see there is a piece of glazed sort of paper—that
is called the mount—underneath. Then the stamp is put
upon that. Now what was done was this. We shall find
that stamps of comparatively small value were purchased,
and the purchase was announced, and we shall find that
valuable stamps were in many cases taken off, and the
valueless ones that had been purchased put on the vacant
place where the valuable stamp had been taken from.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I do not quite follow that. Let me have that again, please?

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, the first thing that the persons, whoever they were, who abstracted those stamps did was this: they took off the valuable stamp. That would be done by some preparation that will be described to your lordship. That would leave the mount ready to receive another stamp; you would have to put some stamp on that that would be likely to deceive the plaintiffs, and one of the stamps of comparatively little value which had been purchased would be put in the place of the one that had been abstracted. We shall be able to show you how that was done.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: Unless some very minute examination was made—and I shall explain the character of that examination to you—this fraud would not be discovered at first; but this was done wholesale; and £26 worth out of the Australian book was abstracted. Mr. Skipwith was the gentleman from whom the book last came back, and my clients, unpleasant though it was, and as it now happens too rashly, came to the conclusion that Mr. Skipwith was responsible for it; and they wrote to him and made a claim upon him. He wrote back and he repudiated the claim. He said he had the book personally in his possession, and had shown it to some societies, and that it was exactly in the same condition when returned by him as when received by him. After making proper investigation, my clients came to the conclusion that Mr. Skipwith's account was correct. He will be a witness before your lordship to-day to prove these facts. They then thought that discovery of the fraud was impossible. They had estimated the amount of the loss before the claim was made upon him, and the book was broken up, and there was an end of the matter as far as they were concerned, and they never thought the fraud would have been discovered.

Now the next that happened was with regard to the British North America; and here again, practically, the same thing happened—the same character of fraud, the same means of concealing it; and this time the book was sent to a Mr. Pemberton after it had been received from the defendant. A claim was made upon him, and Mr. Pemberton also was able to give satisfactory explanations that he had nothing to do with it. The claim was withdrawn, but still no suspicion ever rested upon the defendant, who was considered to be a lady of position, in whose house such a thing could not possibly happen. That book is in the same condition now as when it was received back from Mr. Pemberton, and he will be a witness. Then we come to the United States of America. This book again was found, when it came back, to have had stamps abstracted, but still no suspicion fell on the defendant. The book is in the same condition now as when received from her. But we come now to the New Zealand, and on this occasion it so happened that Mr. Kirkpatrick —

Mr. BULLEN: This is not included in your particulars.

Mr. MURPHY: Is it not? I think so.

Mr. BULLEN: Yes, you are quite right.

Mr. MURPHY: Mr. Kirkpatrick, who is a well-known collector, happened to be in London at the time that the book was sent for, and he saw certain stamps with which he was familiar, and which he examined. So that, in this case, there were more than ordinary means of knowing what the condition of the book was at the time it was sent. This came back with £15 2s. 6d. worth gone.

My lord, the British Guiana was the next book that went. That was returned, I think, the same day that it went, and there were none abstracted. There would not have been time in the one day to have done such work as was necessary, because the machinery that was resorted to was machinery that would require two or three days at the least, and you will find in all cases where the stamps were abstracted that they were in the possession of the defendant at least seven days. But, my lord, the lady wrote for some Ceylon stamps, and at this time suspicion had fallen upon her, and what was done was this: There was a Mr. Tilleard, who is the secretary of one of the Societies that take an interest in these stamps, and he was a well-known collector, and his advice was taken upon the subject as to what was best to be done. There were private marks put on the back of the stamps

before the book was sent to the lady, and this was done in the presence of Mr. Hilckes, one of the plaintiffs, and Mr. Nicholson, who is an electrical engineer, and who will be called before your lordship. The book came back, and the private marks were gone, and a large number of stamps; I forget the amount; I think it was £20 9s. 9d. Thereupon, my lord, on the 1st August I think it was, my clients, after having made some investigation through the Post-office as to how long this lady had been living there, and so on, went down and saw her, and they were accompanied by a gentleman; I think he was a clerk to the magistrates, or something of that sort, and at first they could not see her. Her sister said she was ill, and could not be seen. However, the sister apparently knew what the business was upon which the plaintiff had come down, though no letter had been written at that time, and the plaintiff insisted on seeing her. He went away for half an hour, and then came back. Then the lady took up a very bold front. She said somebody was going to levy blackmail upon her; it was not the first time this had been done. She had had other claims made upon her, but she had shown a bold front, and the claims had disappeared, and she was not going to be imposed upon this time.

Then the action was brought and letters were written. I will read the way in which they were met. On the 3rd August the plaintiff's solicitors write, "Our clients desire us to inform you that they have on more than one occasion found that stamps of considerable value were missing from their books when returned to them by you, after having been submitted for your approval. From the last book sent to you, namely, that containing Ceylon stamps, we are instructed that stamps to the value of more than £20 were found, on its return, to have been abstracted. Our clients hold you responsible for all the loss that has occurred on this and previous occasions, and we would suggest that you should immediately take steps to ascertain who are the guilty parties. Our clients will be glad to render any assistance in their power with that object, as in any case they intend to follow the matter up, but we may add they see no reason for making any accusation against you of being yourself a party to this theft. As this matter is extremely urgent, it would be as well that you should at once place us in communication with your solicitors."

Then there is a letter from the defendant's solicitors on the 9th: "We have now gone into the subject-matter of your letter of the 3rd inst., We are informed that previously to its receipt Mrs. Hime had been annoyed by a personal visit from your clients or their representatives, and that they accused her of abstracting the stamps. This charge our client indignantly repudiated. We are glad to see that your letter withdraws any personal charge or accusation against Mrs. Hime; but as she believes that the suggestion is utterly baseless and without foundation, so far as anyone connected with her or her household is concerned, we are instructed to repudiate all liability in the matter, and we must leave your clients to take what steps they choose. We may, however, remind you that such a charge against whomsoever and however made is a very serious one, and our client will certainly hold your clients liable if she or anyone connected with her are subjected to further annoyance."

My lord, that is a very bold tone to have taken under the circumstances. We will see how far the facts justify it.

Now what we say is this, In the case of the Australian book we show that when it came back from Mr. Skipwith there was an abstraction of £26 worth. It is quite true a claim was made against him, and we will call him. I think he will satisfy your Lordship he had nothing to do with it, and the person who had it before him was the defendant. If we show that in July abstraction was going on in the way that I have pointed out, in the case of the New Zealand and Ceylon, we ask your lordship to say it is not an unreasonable inference that on the previous occasions she is responsible, in some way or other, for the acts of somebody in that house, which are of the same character as those which are afterwards found to have occurred in the case of the Ceylon.

Mr. HARRY HILCKES, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. You are one of the plaintiffs, and do you carry on business at 64, Cheapside?—A. Yes.

Q. As stamp dealers?—A. Yes.

Q. From December, 1892, to the end of October of last year, you were carrying on business in partnership with Mr. Kirkpatrick?—A. Yes.

Q. And since the end of October last year you have been carrying it on under the same name on your own account?—A. Yes, that is right.

Q. Now I think in the end of the year 1892 you sent a circular to the defendant?—A. Yes, amongst others.

Q. A copy of which I think Mr. Murphy read.

Mr. BULLEN: No, he did not.

Mr. EARLE: Or referred to, at any rate.

Mr. MURPHY: Do you wish to have it put in?

Mr. BULLEN: No, I do not.

Mr. MURPHY: I do not think it is important.

Mr. EARLE: Now I ask you this, Have you a number of approval books which you send to people for them to select stamps from?—A. Yes, a special series.

Q. Are those approval books books in which the stamps of particular countries are put separately?—A. Yes; countries, or groups of countries.

Q. Countries, or groups of countries, as the case may be; and your circular was asking to be allowed to send stamps in approval books?—A. It was partly to announce the fact that we had established ourselves.

Q. Now, in the approval books, are the stamps arranged chronologically according to the date of the issues?—A. Yes.

Q. And does the value of the different stamps which have the same face value—the apparent value—vary according to the particular issue?—A. Yes, according to the particular issue.

Q. And a particular issue cannot be detected without very close examination, can it?—A. In many cases it could not.

Q. But the issues vary, I believe, by reason of the watermark?—A. And the perforation.

Q. And shade of colour?—A. And class of paper.

Q. Whether it is hand-made or machine-made, and so forth?—A. Yes.

Q. All those things affect the value?—A. Of course.

Q. And in the books that you sent they are arranged chronologically, and each line in each book would be of stamps of a particular issue?—A. Yes.

Q. Now would it be the practice—I think I may take you on this point all through at once—when you send the book for the customer, the customer would take out a stamp and send you a remittance?—A. Yes.

Q. For the total number of stamps that were taken?—A. Yes, that is right.

Q. And then, when the book came back, it would be examined, I think, by one of your clerks—Miss Wicks?—A. Yes.

Q. I think she would stamp with the office stamp the vacant spaces?—A. Yes.

Q. And then add up the total sold, and see whether the number of vacant spaces were equal to the amount of the remittances?—A. Exactly.

Mr. MURPHY: May I hand your lordship the Ceylon book, which is an original? You will see the practice. [*Book handed to his lordship.*]

Mr. EARLE: That would be for the purpose of checking the amount of the remittances?—A. Yes.

Q. Then would Miss Wicks again, before it was sent to another customer, go through to see if there were any vacant spaces without stamps or without the office stamp?—A. Yes, just so.

Q. And that was all the examination that would be made in the ordinary way?—A. In the ordinary way; oh, yes.

Q. Now was the first book of approval stamps that were sent a European book?—Yes.

Q. I think that was sent on the 7th April?—A. I think so.

Mr. MURPHY: I think you may take it shortly, subject to my friend's objection.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What book did you say?

Mr. EARLE: The European book; the first on that tabular analysis.

Mr. MURPHY: We will take the tabular analysis, subject to your lordship's view.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Very well.

Mr. MURPHY: My friend Mr. Bullen thinks that is convenient.

Mr. EARLE: I see stamps are taken from that book to the amount of 2s. 6d.?—A. I think that is right.

Q. When that book was returned did you make any examination of the book at all at that time?—A. No; there was no occasion.

Q. Did you make any special examination, to see if the stamps were in the proper order according to the issues, until the 1st July, or thereabouts?—A. Or thereabouts, yes.

Q. What did you find when you made that examination then?—A. Well, I found that some of the stamps which should have been in the proper places were not there, and were replaced by vile copies of something quite different.

Q. Copies of different stamps?—A. Different stamps altogether.

Q. Cheaper stamps, or what?—A. Oh, cheaper stamps.

Mr. MURPHY: We had better get this. The two books, the European and the other, as a matter of fact had been returned to you in the middle of April, and not examined until the 1st July? They had in the interval been sent to other customers of yours?—A. Of course.

Q. You do not make any claim in this case with regard to any stamps extracted from that book?—A. No, because I cannot prove it.

Mr. EARLE: Now the next was the West India Islands. No claim is made as to that. Now the Australian book, that was returned to you on the 5th May?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any examination of it at that time?—A. Not for a few days.

Q. Before it went to Mr. Skipwith, I mean?—A. No; there was no special examination made then.

Q. And the book was then sent up to Mr. Skipwith?—A. Yes.

Q. A day or so after its return to you?—A. A few days after, I think.

Q. And Mr. Skipwith returned it to you on the 15th May?—A. Yes.

Q. Now after that did you make an examination?—A. Well, we always examine whether the remittances agree with the book, and we put the book in the safe.

Q. When, if ever, did you examine that book?—A. When Mr. Kirkpatrick came up we decided to break up that book into various books, and in breaking it up we of course examined every stamp, and then we found that certain stamps had been replaced by others.

Q. That book, as sent to the defendant, comprised all the Australian Colonies?—A. Just so.

Q. And I think you examined it with Mr. Kirkpatrick to break it up into the different colonies?—A. That is it.

Q. When would that be about?—A. I should say about eight or ten days after it was received from Leeds.

Q. From Mr. Skipwith?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you then find stamps in their wrong places?—A. Yes.

Q. Cheaper stamps inserted for more valuable stamps?—A. Eighteenpenny stamps in the place of five pound ones. In two instances at least I found it to that amount.

Q. Did you come to any conclusion as to how the alterations had been made?

Mr. BULLEN: Well, I must object to this.

Mr. MURPHY: How did they appear to have been made?

Mr. EARLE: Perhaps that would be more correct.

A. We examined the mounts very carefully, and we found that the stamp that was put originally on the mount was very carefully skinned off, so that the mount was left in the book uninjured, and then the new stamp was pasted on with gum.

Q. That was the result of your examination?—A. That was the result of my examination as to how it was done.

Q. Were the alterations made direct from the cheaper stamp to the most valuable, or were there intermediate alterations?—A. In this case I should say there were intermediate alterations, and also I believe some stamps were in the book which we never put in there.

Q. That some were taken out altogether and replaced by others?—A. Replaced by others.

Q. But by cheaper ones?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, did you estimate the total value of those stamps that were so lost in that book?—A. Well, when we went through I pencilled on a bit of paper the value of the stamps which were removed and which had disappeared, and that

totalled up to between £24 and £28 roughly, for instance, we would put 7s. down for 7s. 6d. just to get at the amount.

Q. And that came to something between £24 and £28?
—A. Yes.

Q. You have estimated it in your particulars at £26?
—A. At £26, yes.

Q. Now that book has been broken up?—A. That book has been broken up; yes.

Q. And you cannot produce it therefore now?
—A. Oh no!

Q. You wrote, I think, to Mr. Skipwith complaining, and suggesting that the stamps might have been abstracted while in his possession?—A. Yes, I did that.

Q. Then you got an answer from Mr. Skipwith, who is here?—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: That was on the 31st May, my lord?

Mr. EARLE: Your lordship will have the letters.

Q. Now the next book I will take you to is the British North America book?—A. Yes.

Q. Now that was returned to you, we know, on the 1st of June, reaching you on the 2nd June?—A. Yes, I think that is so.

Q. Was there any examination made by you of that book on its return?—A. Not by myself.

Q. Or anyone except by Miss Wicks?—A. Only by Miss Wicks.

Q. That was only for the purpose of putting the office stamp in the vacant spaces, checking the amount of the remittances?—A. Yes, and making it ready for the next customer.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Who was this person?

Mr. EARLE: Miss Wicks was his clerk—she was the clerk in the office.

Q. She checked it in the ordinary way to check the amount of the remittances with the vacant spaces?—A. Yes.

Q. That book you have here?—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: We will put that in, please.

Mr. EARLE: Now was that book [handing it] sent to Mr. Pemberton, and, as we know, it was returned to you on the 22nd June?—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: That is the book. We put it in, my lord.

Mr. EARLE: Now when, if ever, did you go through that book to ascertain any losses?—A. When it came back from Mr. Pemberton I happened to open the parcel myself, which I very seldom do, and in opening it I got hold of the first page, and I saw there a stamp which was marked "magnificent copy," and the copy I found there was what we style a vile copy.

Mr. MURPHY: Will you show to his lordship, if you please, if he will allow you, the book for a moment.

The WITNESS: I will.

[The witness explained it to his lordship.]

Mr. EARLE: That book is in the same condition as when you received it back from Mr. Pemberton?—A. In precisely the same condition.

Q. You found one marked "magnificent copy" which was a bad copy?—A. I marked it "very fine," but it was a very bad copy.

Q. Did that lead you to make an examination of the book?—A. Yes, at once.

Q. Now what did you find there?—A. I found right through the book the fine copies had been abstracted, and replaced by vile specimens.

Q. And you can point out those to his lordship, if necessary, in the different cases?—A. Oh, yes!

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Were the stamps which were replaced of the same nominal value as those that were originally in the book?—A. They represent the same stamp, but a worse specimen.

Mr. EARLE: The same nominal value—the same face value?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: The same value, but poor specimens.

Mr. EARLE: Were there any stamps altered in any other way in that book than by merely replacing?—A. I think merely replacing in that book.

Q. The stamps were not altered in any other way except by putting the cheaper for the more expensive?—A. I think in the other books it is in another way?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: It is putting poor specimens for the others.

Mr. EARLE: And you can point that out to my lord?
—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: That amounts in all to £14 11s. I will not trouble with that, because it is on the tabular analysis, which I understand is to be taken subject to cross-examination.

Mr. EARLE: I think in that case also you wrote to Mr. Pemberton?—A. Yes. Being the last person who had seen it I naturally wrote to him first.

Q. Mr. Pemberton, I think, deals in stamps himself?
—A. Yes, and he acts as my agent in Manchester.

Q. And he shows the book about to the customers?—A. Yes, to men whom I do not know.

Q. Mr. Pemberton is here too, I think?—A. Yes.

Q. Now the United States of America book is the next book; you have that book I think?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that now in the same state as it was when originally returned by the defendant?—A. Yes.

Q. It reached you, I see, on the 21st June?—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: This is the book, and I shall ask your lordship, if you will, to allow him to point out two or three instances in that.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes. [The book was handed to his lordship.]

Mr. BULLEN: Returned when?—A. Returned on the 21st June.

Mr. MURPHY: I think there is an early one there, a green stamp that caught my eye. The very first page shows this.

The WITNESS: Yes. [The witness explained the book to the associate, who explained it to his lordship.]

Mr. EARLE: When did you make an examination of that book?—A. When the New Zealand book came back.

Mr. BULLEN: When did you examine it?

Mr. EARLE: When did you examine it? That is what I want to know.—A. When the New Zealand book came back.

Q. And that apparently was on the 1st July?—A. I think so, yes.

Q. The defendant's letter will show it in a moment, the date is taken from the letter. Was it on the same day that you got the New Zealand book back, do you say, or not?—A. No, we had the United States book in the safe; it had been in the safe a few days.

Q. Yes, but did you examine the United States book on the same day that you got the New Zealand book back?—A. Yes, we examined them on the same day.

Q. Did you find then that stamps were abstracted to the value of £10 8s. 6d.?—A. Yes.

Q. Now the Cape Colony book. That is the book. [Handing it.] Is that in the same state in which you received it back from the defendant?—A. Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: When was that sent?

Mr. EARLE: That was sent on the 21st of June, and got back on the 24th.

[The witness explained the book to the associate, who afterwards explained it to his lordship.]

Mr. BULLEN: Your particulars are wrong then.

Mr. EARLE: Yes, but our answers to interrogatories are right.

Q. Can you tell me when you examined that book?—A. I examined that book when the New Zealand book came back.

Q. On the 1st July?—A. I think that is the date.

Q. That is the date on which you got the New Zealand book back?—A. Yes.

Q. And you then found stamps had been abstracted?—A. Yes.

Q. Which you can point out to his lordship?—A. Yes.

Q. I think I should ask you a question about it. Were those stamps altered only by transposition or in any other way?—A. No, these were altered in a more ingenious way.

Mr. MURPHY: Explain that to his lordship.—A. In one case there is a stamp called "error." The surcharge instead of being "THREE PENCE" would be "T H," with three E's; but here they have simply taken an ordinary stamp and

erased the "R," and thus raising a fourpenny stamp to the value of seventeen and sixpence.

Q. They have scratched out a part of the R to make the third "E"?—A. Yes.

Q. That can be seen with a microscope?—A. Oh, yes, very plainly!

Mr. MURPHY: I think we have one here.

Mr. EARLE: The fact of it being an "error" would make it a more valuable stamp?—A. Yes; the value would be about 17s. 6d.

Q. It would be a valuable stamp for that reason?—A. Yes.

Q. Now were there any other alterations in stamps in that book?—A. Well, stamps have been transposed from one place to another.

Q. Besides the transposition and the case of the error?—A. No.

Mr. BULLEN: That is the Cape Colony you are on?

Mr. EARLE: Yes.

Q. Now I will take you to the New Zealand stamps.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: You are leaving out one.

Mr. EARLE: No; that is the Cape Colony we are dealing with now.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I thought you were still dealing with the United States.

Mr. EARLE: It is my fault, my lord. That last book which contained the error is Cape Colony.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes. Then what do you say about the United States book?

Mr. EARLE: That was examined on the 10th of July, my lord, and is now in the same state as it was when returned by the defendant.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes, that is what I have got. Now No. 6?

Mr. EARLE: Is the Cape Colony book, that was examined on the 1st of July, and is now in the same state as it was when it was returned?—A. Yes.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: It is the same over again.

Mr. EARLE: Yes, my lord, except that this contains the case of the "error" stamp; it is not mere transposition in that case.

Q. Now the New Zealand stamp book—that book, before it was sent to the defendant, I think, had been sent back to you by a Mr. Lloyd, who had had it?—A. Yes.

Q. After it was sent back by Mr. Lloyd, was Mr. Kirkpatrick, your partner, in the office?—A. Yes; it was on a Saturday, and he happened to be there.

Q. But, as a rule, I think he lived down at Bournemouth?—A. Yes.

Q. And paid only monthly visits, or something of that kind, to London?—A. Yes, something like that.

Q. Now had he a special knowledge of New Zealand stamps?—A. Yes, he is a specialist in New Zealand stamps.

Q. When this book came back from Mr. Lloyd, did Mr. Kirkpatrick see this New Zealand book?—A. Yes; I showed it to him, and said, "Here is the New Zealand Book." We went over it page by page, or rather stamp by stamp, and he pointed out to me various rare stamps in it, and every peculiarity of rare stamps, and drew my attention to them.

Q. Did you satisfy yourself upon that examination that the stamp book was in order?—A. Yes.

Q. That the stamps were duly placed according to their issues and values?—A. Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: What date is that?

Mr. EARLE: That would be between the 12th of June and the 1st of July.

Q. Can you fix it more nearly?—A. It would be on the day we sent the book to Mrs. Hime.

Q. On the same day?—A. In the morning.

Q. It was sent on the 24th of June.

Mr. BULLEN: On the 23rd—which is it? I am dealing with your particulars.

The WITNESS.—It was a Saturday.

Mr. EARLE: It was on the morning you sent the book to Mrs. Hime?—A. In the course of the day.

Mr. BULLEN: It must have been on the 23rd. If you

will look at your letter of the 24th, it says, "We sent you on the 23rd."

Mr. MURPHY: It must have been the 23rd.

Mr. EARLE: Now how did you send that book? Was that book sent registered or not?—A. Oh yes.

Q. You have a receipt for it?—A. By registered Parcels' Post.

Q. They were all, every one of them, so sent?—A. Every one of our books over £1 we send registered.

Q. Now you got this book back again on the 1st of July apparently.—A. Yes; I think that is right.

Q. When it came back did you make an examination of the book then?—A. Yes, I looked through the book by accident, as I did the British North America. I happened to see it.

Q. You looked through it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you notice anything wrong?—A. Yes, at once; certain stamps that I remembered Mr. Kirkpatrick pointing out to me as being there were not there.

Q. What day did you make that examination?—A. On the day it came back. A few minutes after the postman left it in the office.

Q. Now is that the book? [*Handing it.*]—A. Yes; that is the book.

Q. Can you point out to his lordship where the alterations have been made?—A. Yes.

[*The witness explained the book to the associate, who then explained it to his lordship.*]

Q. Now after you made your examination did you send the book down in the same state to Mr. Kirkpatrick?—A. Yes, and I wrote him, and said —.

Q. Do not trouble about that; but he is here?—A. Yes.

Q. There were stamps abstracted from that to the total amount of £15 2s. 6d. which you can shew?—A. Yes.

Q. Now the next book that was sent was the British Guiana book?—A. Yes.

Q. I think that was returned by Mrs. Hime on the same day that she received it?—A. Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: How can that be? It was despatched July the 1st, and returned July the 6th.

Mr. EARLE: It was sent off too late for the Registered Post that night. It was received by Mrs. Hime on the 4th?—A. Something like that.

Q. Nothing is wrong with that book?—A. No.

Q. It was returned in the same state as it was sent?

Mr. BULLEN: We need not deal with that at all.

Mr. EARLE: No; no question arises with reference to that book.

Mr. BULLEN: No.

Mr. EARLE: Now with reference to the Ceylon book. After you had examined the New Zealand, and found stamps abstracted, did you consult Mr. Tilleard?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Tilleard is a solicitor?—A. Yes.

Q. And I think he is also interested as a stamp collector?—A. Yes.

Q. And secretary of some Philatelic Society?—A. Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: What a bad lawyer he must be!

Mr. EARLE: Now in consequence of what he said, did you on getting a letter from Mrs. Hime that she wished to see a book of Ceylon stamps, go to Mr. Nicholson, an electrical engineer?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you give him your approval book of Ceylon stamps?—A. Yes, after I had carefully examined the book.

Q. Did you examine it yourself first?—A. I examined it myself first, stamp by stamp.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What book is this?

Mr. EARLE: This is the Ceylon book.

Mr. MURPHY: It is on the Bench; I handed it up to your lordship.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. EARLE: You examined it first yourself, stamp by stamp, and then gave it to Mr. Nicholson. Did Mr. Nicholson then come to your office?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you and he go through the Ceylon book stamp by stamp?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he point out to you a certain mark on the back of the stamps?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you show his lordship the mark on some of the stamps that are left there still?—A. Yes.

[The Ceylon book was handed to the witness, who explained it.]

Q. Now did you go through the book and ascertain that there was that mark on each stamp?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you also ascertain that each stamp was in its proper place according to its issue and value?—A. Yes; we went line by line through it.

Q. Were Miss Wicks and Mr. Morgenstein, who I think was also a clerk, both present?—A. Yes, they were both present.

Q. After that, did you pack up the book and tie it and seal it up in the presence of those people?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Nicholson, Miss Wicks, and Morgenstein?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you and Mr. Nicholson go to the Post-office and register the book by Parcels' Post?—A. Yes.

Q. It was done up in this way with the seal of the firm upon the string with sealing wax?—A. That's it.

Q. That was apparently on the 13th of July?—A. Yes.

Q. Now did you get it back at your office on the 20th of July?—A. Yes.

Q. Did it come by registered post?—A. Yes.

Q. Did she return all the books by registered post?—A. Every one of them.

Q. Now who took it in?—A. I think I was present when the postman brought it in.

Q. Did you then, before opening the parcel, go and fetch Mr. Nicholson?—A. I sent my clerk over. Mr. Nicholson's office is near my office.

Q. Did Mr. Nicholson come?—A. He came after a few minutes.

Q. And did you and he then open the parcel?—A. He opened the parcel.

Q. In your presence?—A. Yes, and in the presence of Miss Wicks.

Q. Did you examine the book?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you find certain stamps were abstracted?—A. Abstracted and transposed.

Q. Cheaper ones put in the place of more valuable ones?—A. Yes; and even more so. Twopenny stamps taken first from one place and then taken to another place—four times transposed sometimes.

Q. Intermediate transpositions—all moved up a peg, as it were?—A. Something like that.

Q. You went through the book, and did you find the total abstractions would amount to £20 9s. 9d.?—A. Yes.

Q. And on certain of the stamps returned to you did you find there was a mark, or there was no mark at all?—A. There was no mark at all on a good many of them.

Q. On others of those that had been transposed was there the mark?—A. Of course, that was our own mark, because our own stamp had been tampered with in some way.

Q. Now after that did you go down on the 1st of August to see Mrs. Hime?—A. After consultation with Mr. Tilleard, yes.

Q. You saw Mr. Tilleard again, and then went down to Lytham, or Bowness was it?—A. No; Lytham at first, and Bowness afterwards.

Q. Did you call at the house in company with Mr. Thompson?—A. Yes.

Q. I think he is not a solicitor, but I believe he is clerk to the magistrates at Bishop's Auckland?—A. Yes.

Q. He is a clerk to a clerk of the magistrates?

Mr. BULLEN: How much further can you descend?

Mr. MURPHY: Do not say that.

Mr. EARLE: Now did you call at the house, and did you in the first instance see, I think, not Mrs. Hime, but a lady who was her sister?—A. Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: We had better have the whole story out. I think it would be more convenient to have the whole story out as we go on.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. EARLE: Now what was the conversation which took place between you and this lady—her sister?—A. I entered the house, and said I wanted to see Mrs. Hime. I was told I could not see Mrs. Hime, that she was out, and that "Besides, my sister is very delicate, and I do not want her to be annoyed." Then I said, "Well, I am surprised." I did not even state my business or state my name. "Oh, I suppose you come from the firm of Hilckes, Kirkpatrick, and Company, of London?" "Yes," I said, "that happens

to be my name; but I am surprised that you know it already." "Oh, yes," said the sister, "we know what you have come about; we have been accused of robbing stamps before by another London firm."

Mr. BULLEN: I am not objecting to this, though this is not with the defendant.

Mr. MURPHY: No; I asked my friend before the question was asked—

Mr. BULLEN: I did not know what you were going to state.

Mr. MURPHY: Well, we will withdraw it.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I suppose you are going to call the sister?

Mr. BULLEN: Yes, I shall.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Then she will be open to cross-examination.

Mr. BULLEN: Very well, my lord:

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: It may as well come out now.

Mr. EARLE: Yes, go on.

The WITNESS: Then I said, "I think I must request you now to let me see Mrs. Hime. It is more urgent still." And then she told me that I would have to come again in about twenty minutes or half an hour. We went away, and when we came back again we went into the presence of Mrs. Hime and her son, and I believe there was another lady present. I believe it was another sister—I am not quite sure—and before I really opened my mouth Mrs. Hime said, "How dare you accuse me of robbing stamps?" Of course she had had a consultation with her sister, I suppose. I said, "I do not accuse anybody. The fact of the matter is that certain books of ours have been tampered with, and I thought it was only fair to you that I should come down and ask you to assist me in tracing the culprit." Then I was abused a bit by the parties present, and I said, "I think it is better, after that, that I should consult my solicitor, as I do not care to be abused any longer." We were told to leave the room, and I left the room.

Q. Was anything said to you about when she received the book of Ceylon stamps?—A. Yes; the sister said, "I can prove that when the book of Ceylon stamps came my sister found it open on the breakfast table when she came down to breakfast."

[Adjourned for a short time.]

[A conference took place between the counsel.]

Cross-examined by Mr. BULLEN: Q. Now, Mr. Hilckes, just tell me, please, what you do accuse Mrs. Hime of?—A. I do not accuse Mrs. Hime of anything.

Q. You do not accuse her of anything?—A. No.

Q. Do you believe she stole the stamps?

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, is that a proper question? I submit to your lordship it is not. It is not evidence in the case. It does not go to credit. It does not go to anything except to catch a question.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: It does not seem to go very near to anything in the case, Mr. Bullen.

Mr. BULLEN: Very well, if your lordship thinks so I will not pursue that.

Q. Now you do not, as I understand, Mr. Hilckes, believe that she abstracted them, do you?—A. I have no reason to believe it.

Q. But you have sworn you do not believe it. I will just read you this. You were interrogated in this matter. "When do you say you first suspected that the defendant had abstracted stamps from the books? Do you allege that the defendant abstracted the said stamps from the books or that they were abstracted with her knowledge?" I will read to you what you have answered and sworn: "I say that I do not so allege"—that is that she has abstracted them—"I allege that the stamps were abstracted while the books containing them were in the custody of the defendant, but by whom or with whose knowledge they were abstracted I do not know and cannot ascertain." That is true, is it not?—A. That is true.

Q. Do you now allege that they were abstracted with her knowledge or not?—A. No, I do not allege that.

Q. Very well, that is all I want. Now these stamps were sent after you had written the letter, which is before my lord, of the 23rd March, 1893, in which you say this: "Referring to our letter of the 1st December which no doubt you received at the time, we should be very glad to know

whether you would allow us to send you occasionally a selection of some special country on approval. . . . Our stock is arranged in a scientific way, each country in a separate book; and we feel sure if you would permit us to send you a trial lot you would be satisfied with our prices." You received no answer to that letter, did you?—A. Not a written answer, so far as I remember.

Q. Well, not a written answer; she was living up in the North, in Lancashire. Did you then, without any request on her part, send her the first book of stamps, the European, with this letter: "In pursuance of our letter of 23rd March, we beg to send you to-day the European part of a large collection, and hope you may be able to select a few stamps therefrom." So that you sent down that book entirely unsolicited by her, did you not?—A. Yes.

A. Did she solicit you to send the Australia book?

Mr. MURPHY: The next letter, I think, answers that, April 14th.

Mr. BULLEN: Well, I will read that letter of April 14th, "I am obliged for book of stamps"—this is from Mrs. Hime—"which I would have returned before now, but have been too much engaged to attend to them; I find they are all European, a class of stamps I take little or no interest in, and have therefore taken only 2s. 6d. worth, minus 10 per cent. discount, for which postal order enclosed. The countries I make specialities of are Brazil, U.S.A., and all colonial countries, specially the early issues; so you will understand the book you were good enough to send is in a way useless to me." Now did you afterwards, without any request for any other book being sent, send the Australian book?—A. That would be a British Colony.

Q. I know; but did you, without any request upon her part to forward books, send the Australia?—A. Not without a request, because that letter was the request.

Q. Where was the request?—A. The letter which you have just read.

Q. You call that a request to send the books?—A. Yes.

Q. No; I beg your pardon.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: You need not quarrel—that is what it amounts to. He says that is what it means.

Mr. BULLEN: Very well, that will be for your lordship later. I will reserve that for your lordship.

Q. Did you send any one of the books upon any more definite request than that letter of the 14th of April?—A. I only sent the exact books which are embodied in that letter, and the Ceylon book was specially asked for in a later letter.

Q. Now I will just see how that was asked for. Is the letter to which you refer a letter of the 12th of July?—A. I believe that is right.

Q. I will read it. At that time you were negotiating an exchange of stamps with her, were you not?—A. Yes.

Q. Which eventually took place?—A. Yes.

Q. And is this the letter to which you referred? This is Mrs. Hime's letter to you: "In reply to your note received this morning, I beg to say that I have a good cash offer for the Brazil, which I prefer accepting just now in preference to whole exchange, so it leaves only the two Phillipine to offer you, and shall be glad of an exchange to the value of £4, but if you do not consider them worth that amount, will take £3 15s. in Ceylon and U.S.A., also New South Wales. If that arrangement suits you, kindly let me have a selection." It was upon that that you sent down the Ceylon?—A. Just so.

Q. Now with respect to the Australian, I understand that you made no special examination previous to sending it down?—A. The only examination page by page I made was to see whether every vacant place had been properly sealed with our office seal.

Q. But I will use your own words. You made no special previous examination, did you?—A. It depends upon what you understand by a special examination.

Q. I am taking your own words. You know you have delivered particulars here?—A. Yes.

Q. And in your particulars you say this, "The book of Australian stamps, upon its return by the defendant to the plaintiffs on the 5th May, 1893, was on the same day, without a special examination, forwarded by the plaintiffs to Mr. A. M. Skipwith." That is correct, is it?—A. Yes, it is quite correct.

Q. That is all I want. Now you sent it down, as you have told us, to Mr. Skipwith, and you found when it came

back from Mr. Skipwith that some stamps had been taken away. Now upon that you wrote to Mr. Skipwith, did you not?—A. Yes.

Q. What is Mr. Skipwith?—A. Mr. Skipwith is the Secretary of the Leeds Philatelic Society, and at the same time he is our agent.

Q. Your agent?—A. Yes.

Q. Now this is the note I believe you wrote him on the 31st May, 1893: "Dear Sir,—We are very sorry to put a somewhat disagreeable case before you. You will remember that some time back we sent you a collection of African colonials in one of our large books. When it came back we noticed, among other smaller things, a 10 piastre, Egypt, 1st issue, somewhat cut copy, put in the place of a very fine copy, which came from the private collection of our Mr. H——. The stamp has been carefully removed from the original mount, and the bad copy affixed to this mount, folding same twice. Of course, we did not say anything, as we were not sure it was done in Leeds. However, when we sent you the Australian collection we made note of certain stamps, and we find, among a good many others, a copy of the 3d., red surcharge, on 4d., blue, South Australia, has been removed, and a cut copy of a common stamp put instead. The stamp was marked 25s. As we have never sent these books out to one and the same man, and as the removal has been done in exactly the same style, and, moreover, since we had examined the Australian book very carefully before it was sent out to Leeds, and, finally, since most of the stamps in this book emanated from the very large collection of our Mr. Hilckes, we feel certain that the culprit must be in Leeds." Now is that correct? How do you reconcile that statement which you have given in your particulars, that you had made no special examination, and yet in this letter you say before you sent it to Leeds "we had examined the Australia book very carefully"? How do you reconcile those two?—A. We had examined the Australia book very carefully before it was sent out first.

Q. Do you say before it was sent out to Leeds?—A. Yes, quite right—that would be before it was sent out to Leeds.

Q. Is that what you mean? You did not mean by this letter that you had examined it very carefully after it came back from Mrs. Hime?—A. No.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What is the date of that letter?

Mr. MURPHY: The 31st May. Your lordship will find it is the forty-fifth letter. The letters to Mr. Skipwith and Mr. Pemberton come at the end of the correspondence.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: Did you think it was fair to Mr. Skipwith, whom you were accusing, to say the least of it, of negligence, not to inform him that you had not examined it since it had left the former customer's possession instead of putting this: "And moreover since we had examined the Australian book very carefully before it was sent out to Leeds," did you think that fair to Mr. Skipwith?—A. I told him so in a later letter.

Q. But writing this first letter, sir, did you think that fair to him to make the charge against him?—A. To the best of my recollection the time when I saw the book last and examined it last had been when it was sent to Leeds; but when this case happened and I remembered more severally —

Q. Then you did make a reckless statement to Mr. Skipwith?—A. At the time, it was to the best of my recollection. I suppose one may be mistaken.

Q. Your recollection was wrong?—A. It was a mistaken one.

Q. Very well; we will put it as low as that. "It is in the interest of your Society as well as of all honest philatelists and we hope that the points we give you will enable you to find out the man." You believed firmly it was in Leeds?—A. I could not believe it to be anywhere else up to that moment.

Q. Because you did not know the state the book was in when it came back from Mrs. Hime?—A. That is it exactly.

Q. "We estimate the actual loss to be about £26. We may mention that these books were not really made up to show out, but were only meant to be kept in our offices for sale. We have a complete set of quite different books, which go to our regular customers in England and abroad, and it was only the other day that a case happened of a somewhat similar character. We spotted the culprit abroad,

and demanded £25 to indemnify us for the loss, and obtained the money by post return. You will see, therefore, that it is no use to be lenient with such a person. He must see the full gravity of his offence, and only then is there a chance of curing him." Now I draw your attention to the first part of this letter. You say this: "You will remember that some time back we sent you a collection of African Colonials in one of our large books; when I came back we noticed" certain abstractions. Had that African Colonial book been sent to Mrs. Hime or not?—A. I could not say without reference to my approval book.

Q. Well, refer to it, please, and see?—A. Give me the register, please—a similar book. [Two books were handed to the witness.] No, it does not seem to have been sent to Mrs. Hime.

Q. So that those African Colonials had gone through somebody's hands before they had gone to Mr. Skipwith, and you believed that that person abstracted some of those?—A. I believed that there were some abstracted, but I found out afterwards that it was not the case.

Q. Oh! then you made another mistake, did you? Let me just follow that. I am obliged to you. You had charged somebody in your own opinion with having abstracted some stamps from the African Colonial book, and that again was a mistake?—A. I found, through my partner, that he did not put that stamp in the book.

Q. That again was a mistake of yours?—A. Yes, that was a mistake, there is no doubt.

Q. That is mistake No. 2 in that one letter. You received an answer from Mr. Skipwith, I believe, did you not?—A. Yes.

Q. I will just read it. It is the 1st of June.

Mr. MURPHY: It is on page 46, my lord.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Who sends it?

Mr. BULLEN: It is the answer of Mr. Skipwith to this gentleman.

Q. "DEAR SIRs,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 31st ult., which has caused me much surprise and pain. I had not the slightest suspicion that anything had gone wrong, all your letters leading me to conclude that everything was satisfactory to you. As regards the last book you sent down containing Australian stamps, it was never out of my possession. It was shown at our Annual Meeting after the business was concluded, and when above a dozen people were sat round the table. I also took it to the house of Mr. Joseph Scott, solicitor, one evening, who was our first President, but there it was never out of my sight. I do not see how the wholesale exchange of stamps could possibly have taken place which you speak of; to my mind it is simply impossible, and I think you will find the culprit in some other quarter. My father in looking over the selection removed a 5 c. U.S.A. (Confederate Issue), but finding the stamp slightly damaged about the centre put the stamp back again. This is the only instance in which a stamp was taken off and put back. If your suspicions were aroused by former discrepancies, why was not the same care exercised when the book was received back by you, and an immediate intimation of the loss sent to me?" Well, what is your answer? Why did you not intimate the loss at once?—A. Because, as I thought, I noticed an abstraction in that book—that happened a good time after the book came back; but, as it was proved afterwards, there was no abstraction at all.

Q. Then you do not examine your books carefully after they come back?—A. No, personally I do not; I could not.

Q. "I must entirely repudiate any knowledge or suspicion of such a practice as you allege, and hope you will be able to trace your missing property." Now then, with regard to the British North America. Did you make a special examination of that when it was returned from Mrs. Hime?—A. Not when it was returned from Mrs. Hime, but some weeks before it was sent to Mr. Pemberton and Mrs. Hime. I happened to look through it, and I then saw that it was in proper order. That was the last examination I made of it.

Q. Now the British North American was sent to you on the 1st June and received on June 2nd. I am taking it from my friend's detail.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: And it was sent by you, was it not, to Mr. Pemberton on the third June?—A. I think so.

Q. And you made an examination of the book then?—A. Personally, no special examination.

Q. Did you make an examination at all?—A. Not personally. Of course the clerks may have done.

Q. Then you accused Mr. Pemberton when the book came back, did not you?—A. I do not think I accused him. I simply said—

Q. Well, very nearly.—A. I suppose that letter will show it.

Q. We will see what the letter is. It is the 26th of June, 1893: "We are much obliged for your letter of the 24th June —"

Mr. MURPHY: Your copy is wrong.

Mr. BULLEN: The copy is supplied by you, and I will tell you what your particulars say: "And it was not until the return of that book on the 26th June —"

Mr. MURPHY: Look at the original, and tell us what the proper date is. We have the original letter here.

Mr. BULLEN: If you please.

Q. Have you got Mr. Pemberton's letter? However, I will go on reading it to save time. "We are much obliged for your letter of the 24th June, returning our selection of British North America. We are, however, very sorry to inform you that some of your clients have changed our stamps, some of the best copies on the first page having been exchanged for vile specimens. We have marked every copy we can trace with a pencil cross. You will find these running right through the book. Even common stamps have been tampered with. Our Mr. H— has personally made up this book; he can distinctly remember the various stamps —"

Mr. MURPHY: Not "the various stamps," but "various stamps."

Mr. BULLEN: Well, "various stamps. You will no doubt be able to locate the swindle, which must have been done by one of your clients." Then you refer again to your extraordinary success: "It is quite recently that we found out one of this tribe, who paid £25 damages rather than have the matter taken into court." I suppose that is the same gentleman that you had referred to?—A. Yes; there are not two.

Q. Have you had many of those gentlemen to go against?—A. There are some.

Q. There are some you have had to go against?—A. No; I had not to go against anyone except this party.

Q. "We append a list of the various stamps removed." Then you give a list, and then you go on to state: "We return the book for you to see. The sum of the stamps removed amounts to £7 10s. 8d., for which sum we are sorry we must hold you responsible. We feel sure you will do everything in your power to trace the culprit. We may mention that every book is carefully examined before being sent out, and in this particular instance we distinctly remember that every stamp now changed was in its proper place." How dare you, sir, write such a lie as that, after what you have told me?—A. That is strong language.

Q. Well, it is strong; you have made a strong accusation against my client.—A. It was in its proper place when the book was sent out first.

Q. First?—A. I do not say it was in its proper place when it was sent to Mr. Pemberton.

Q. Listen to what you say here. "We may mention that every book is carefully examined before being sent out."—A. It is by the clerks.

Q. And does not that mean that it is examined carefully before it is sent out to each individual?—A. By the clerks certainly, but not every stamp.

Q. "And in this particular instance"—that is, of course, the sending to him—"we distinctly remember that every stamp now changed was in its proper place"?—A. I do not say that it was in its proper place when it was sent out to Mr. Pemberton, but I say that it was in its proper place when the book was sent out first.

Q. Did you not intend him to believe by that that it was in its proper place?—A. When I saw the book last—yes, it was in its proper place.

Q. No, no; did you intend him to believe that you had remembered distinctly the position of all these things when you sent it to him?—A. No.

Q. You did not?—A. I do not say so here.

Q. You say you did not mean that?—A. No.

Q. Very well; what did you mean?—A. I mean that when I saw the book last every stamp was in position.

Q. When did you see it last?—A. I could not locate it to a minute.

Q. I do not say to a minute or a day?—A. It is impossible. I do not know.

Q. Do you remember when you last saw it?—A. I could not possibly remember that.

Q. Do not you remember whether you saw it when it came back from Mrs. Hime?—A. No, I did not see it.

Q. You did not?—A. No, because—

Q. One minute, please. Did you see it before it went to Mrs. Hime?—A. Some time before it went to Mrs. Hime.

Q. How long before it went away?—A. I do not know. It might have been the morning before I sent it, or it might have been two or three days.

Q. In examination-in-chief did not you state how long before it had been sent to Mrs. Hime that book had been examined?—A. I did not quite catch the meaning of the question.

Q. Well, that is what you say. Now then, you went down, as you say, on the 1st August?—A. I think that was the date—yes.

Q. Before going down, had you written to the Post-office at Lytham to enquire what was Mrs. Hime's address?—A. I do not know whether it was Lytham; I believe it was Bowness.

Q. I will see.—A. Which was her address?—either Lytham or Bowness.

Q. To the Post-office at Lytham is my copy.—A. I see.

Q. Is that so? [No answer.]

Q. On the 20th of July did you write this letter to the Postmaster? "Dear Sir,—Be good enough to tell us whether the following address is the correct one—Mrs. L. H. Hime, Stone Cliffe, Bowness-on-Windermere. We have been informed that the lady is living there temporarily, but as we wish to send a valuable parcel we do not care to do so without being sure of the address." Did you write that letter?—A. What date was that?

Q. The 20th of July.—A. Yes.

Q. And on July the 25th did you receive this letter from Mrs. Hime? "Much to my surprise, I have this afternoon had a call from the Windermere Postmaster, consequent upon some enquiry you have thought fit to make regarding myself from the Lytham Postmaster. Allow me to say I consider you have cast a great reflection upon me, and must ask you to explain the reason for your enquiry. I am not aware that you have had any reason for suspecting either myself or my actions, and must certainly demand the name of your correspondent in Lytham, who must have some object in suppressing any knowledge of my address. I admit that I am not a householder, but for the last seven years have occupied a suite of rooms with Mr. Kerr, the Manor House, and am perfectly well known by every one in the village, my position being above suspicion. Needless to say, I am intensely annoyed, and shall await your reply before proceeding further. Had you enquired, or had reasons for your enquiry, in a straightforward manner, I could have given you a satisfactory answer, which would have dispensed with this underhand way of going about the matter. I conclude you received my reply yesterday to your note which I received on Saturday." Did you receive that letter?—A. Yes.

Q. You did. Having had that correspondence with her —?—A. Of course there is my answer to that letter.

Q. There is your answer. I will read it, sir, if I have got it.

Mr. MURPHY: It does not matter, unless you want it.

Mr. BULLEN: "26th July, 1893. We are obliged for your letter of yesterday. The reason we enquired at the P.O. is simply because enclosed circular was returned to us three weeks ago—unknown, of course. Through some sort of blunder, we asked the postmaster to explain, but as yet received no reply." And in answer to that you got a letter: "Sirs, I accept your explanation, but to say the least I can it is a paltry one, as I cannot think that any letters or circulars would be returned from the Lytham Post Office marked "unknown." I have certainly never known it to be done, and I repeatedly (in fact as often as not) receive letters addressed to me Lytham, the name of the house being immaterial, and I am sure our obliging Postmaster

would be glad to give you any information if he considered it to be necessary. I hope you will understand that I did not object to the enquiry, but to the way in which it was done." Now, having received that, you went down to Lytham—to Bowness, I should say?—A. To Lytham first.

Q. Was it at Lytham or Bowness that you had the interview with these ladies?—A. At Bowness.

Q. Were you surprised that they should know that you had come down about something, after they found you had been making enquiries at the Post-office as to whether they were living there or not?—A. Very surprised indeed.

Q. Now, I will just ask whether this is really the conversation which took place. First of all you saw Miss Wolfenden?—A. I do not know the name.

Q. Well, Mrs. Hime's sister?—A. Yes, that is the lady I saw. That is how she came and introduced herself to me.

Q. Did you say that the person who was with you was your solicitor?—A. No, I did not.

Q. You did not?—A. No, I said he was a legal friend of mine.

Q. A clerk to a solicitor. He was your legal friend?—A. I did not happen to know at the time what position he held. I only knew he had something to do with the law.

Q. He was a friend of yours?—A. He was a business friend of mine—yes.

Q. How long had you known him, sir?—A. Oh! two years.

Q. And he was a business friend of yours? Does the clerk to a clerk of your solicitor transact your legal business generally?—A. I do not say he was transacting legal affairs. He was a business friend so far as stamps were concerned.

Q. I beg your pardon; he is your legal adviser on the stamp laws!—A. No; he certainly is not. I have had dealings with him in stamps as a business friend. I am a stamp-dealer, and my business friends are stamp-dealers.

Q. Very well; and when you got there, did you say you had come about an unpleasant matter?—A. Oh, no.

Q. Nothing of the kind?—A. No. I said I wished to see Mrs. Hime.

Q. But after having spoken of the wish to see Mrs. Hime, did you say you had come about an unpleasant business?—A. No; I never said that.

Q. You have had four or five books out of which stamps had been taken, but you hoped that Mrs. Hime would be able to explain that whilst in her hands she had passed them on to somebody else. Did you say that?—A. I said that —.

Q. Did you say that?—A. I said words to that effect when I saw Mrs. Hime at the second interview.

Q. I ask you whether you said that to Miss Wolfenden, the sister?—A. No.

Q. Did you say it was a matter of criminal prosecution?—A. No.

Q. Did she tell you that her sister was not well, and that you had better let her have time to put the matter into her solicitor's hands?—A. No; I do not remember that she said that.

Q. Do you say she did not say that?—A. I do not remember so far as the latter part of your question goes.

Q. Did you say this: "Oh no, I have come here from London with my solicitor to settle the matter privately if I can?"—A. Oh no.

Q. Never?—A. Never.

Q. Did you say that you did not wish to proceed to any lengths in the matter, and did you mention any sum which you were willing to take?—A. No.

A. No amount of money was mentioned?—A. No; not a word.

Q. Now how long after you had been in the house did you see Mrs. Hime?—A. I was told to come again in about twenty minutes, and when I did come again I had to wait a few minutes, and then I was ushered into a different room, where Mrs. Hime, her sister, and her son were present.

Q. Now the three were present at the interview which took place—the next interview?—A. Yes; the last interview.

Q. Now did you say this that you had come down to lay a charge against her for having abstracted stamps from the books sent to her? You will swear you did not say anything of the kind?—A. I will swear I did not say that.

Q. And that you had got your solicitor too when in the presence of those three?—A. No; certainly not.

Q. And did you say that your suspicions had been aroused before about them?—A. No.

Q. Nothing of the kind?—A. Nothing of the kind.

Q. Now we know that on the 1st of July you had grave suspicions about someone else other than the defendant, had you not?—A. On the 1st of July?

Q. Yes?—A. Well, I could not say without looking at the tabular analysis.

Q. No; I am dealing with the letter you wrote to Mr. Pemberton?—A. Ah! as far as that goes, yes.

Q. You had?—A. Yes; I was under that impression.

Q. Now either that person was Mrs. Hime or not—eh?—A. Which person?

Q. The person that you gravely suspected, as you said you had grave suspicions—that was either Mrs. Hime or it was not Mrs. Hime?—A. I do not recollect.

Q. You do not recollect what was passing in your mind then? Will you tell me why, when the Ceylon book was returned—that would be on the 20th of July—you made no complaint till the 1st of August?—A. Because I was consulting with Mr. Tilleard about the matter.

Q. When did you consult Mr. Tilleard?—A. Before sending—

Q. When did you first consult Mr. Tilleard?—A. I was just going to say before I sent the book of Ceylon out.

Q. Before you sent it?—A. Yes, before I sent it.

Q. That is not the question I am asking you. The book of Ceylon was returned on the 20th of July?—A. Quite right.

Q. Why did you make no complaint to her until the 1st of August?—A. Because I was consulting with Mr. Tilleard.

Q. All that time, from the 20th of July to the 1st of August?—A. I suppose I could not go down for a day or two; I cannot always leave my business.

Q. You do not know why?—A. I could not say.

Q. You did not, at all events, let her know that you at once suspected her, but left the matter? Is that so?—A. Oh, no, I did not tell her!

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I suppose you would not naturally do anything without taking your solicitor's advice, and that the explanation of your failure is due to your having acted without consulting him. But these are rather small criticisms, are not they?

Mr. BULLEN: If your lordship thinks so. Of course, I want to fight the case on the broad question clearly. I cannot help myself in a matter of this importance, as your lordship sees.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: You are perfectly right to fight it, but you can very well drop it at this point.

Mr. BULLEN: I will follow your lordship's suggestion at once.

Re-examined by Mr. MURPHY, Q.C. Q. I have only one question to put to you. You have been asked about the terms on which these books have been sent. There is a letter here of the 2nd June at page 12 in which the lady seems to show what she understood. She writes to you on the 2nd June: "I am much obliged for stamps on approval, and regret not having returned them yesterday. With the exception of those I have taken, I have almost all the stamps at present in my collection; otherwise should have been pleased to take more. My indebtedness will be 13s. 7d., having deducted your usual ten per cent. discount."

Mr. WILLIAM BOYD KIRKPATRICK, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. You live in Bournemouth, I think?—A. I live at Bournemouth, yes.

Q. Were you in partnership with Mr. Hilckes until the end of last year?—A. From the 1st of December until the 31st October last year; the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent.

Q. As a rule, I think you did not attend the London business, but you resided at Bournemouth?—A. Yes, I resided in Bournemouth all the time.

Q. Now do you recollect being in London in May—about the Australian book?—A. I could not fix the date, but I was in London every month—about once a month.

Q. Now I will ask you about this Australian book. Do

you recollect a book of Australian stamps which contained stamps of all the Colonies?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you recollect that book being broken up?—A. I broke it up myself.

Q. Can you fix the date when it was broken up?—A. No, I could not; it was done gradually.

Q. When you came to break it up, what condition did you find the stamps in as to arrangement?—A. I found that many of the stamps were not the same that were put in when I first arranged it.

Q. Had you originally arranged it?—A. I had originally arranged it.

Q. And many of the stamps, when you broke it up, were not the same?—A. I found, as I gradually transferred the stamps into fresh books, they were not the stamps that were in the book originally.

Q. Were they stamps of equal or of less value?—A. Oh! of less value.

Mr. BULLEN: My lord, I might remark that I have not cross-examined in the least as to this. I have not put questions as to this.

Mr. MURPHY: I think my learned friend is quite right.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I think it does not in the least assist the matter.

Mr. BULLEN: My lord, if I had been going to make any comment, I should not have said what I have said.

Mr. MURPHY: That is quite enough, I know that. I may deal in the same way with the New Zealand book.

Mr. BULLEN: Certainly. What I have not cross-examined to I think you may take as admitted. The only thing I shall rely upon is the substantive evidence of the lady herself, of course.

Mr. MURPHY: I think I must call Mr. Pemberton and the other gentleman, Mr. Skipwith. I do not know whether my learned friend would relieve me?

Mr. BULLEN: I do not know what they are going to prove.

Mr. MURPHY: To prove the contents of their letters. I am only going to prove that the statements in their letters are correct.

Mr. BULLEN: I should not doubt Mr. Pemberton for one moment.

Mr. MURPHY: And Mr. Skipwith.

Mr. BULLEN: I should not doubt both of them.

Mr. ARTHUR NICHOLLS SKIPWITH, sworn.

Examined by Mr. MURPHY, Q.C.

Q. Do you remember receiving these books from the plaintiffs?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you got a letter of the 31st May. Do you remember that or not?—A. I do not.

Q. Well, I had better read it to you. Do you remember getting a complaint from the plaintiffs about some stamps being abstracted from the book?—A. Yes.

Q. You wrote back to them this letter on the 1st June: "I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ult., which has caused me much surprise and pain. I had not the slightest suspicion that anything had gone wrong, all your letters leading me to conclude that everything was satisfactory to you. As regards the last book you sent down containing Australian stamps, it was never out of my possession. It was shown at our annual meeting, after the business was concluded, and when about a dozen people were sat round a table." I will only ask you generally, Was it possible that the stamps were abstracted while the book was under your custody?—A. No. We all sat at a table just about the size of *this* one here; so it would be quite impossible for it to be done.

Cross-examined by Mr. BULLEN.

Q. How long have you been agent to the plaintiffs?—A. I could not say definitely.

Q. About?—A. From the end of 1892, I should say.

Q. From November, 1892?—A. From the end of 1892.

Q. How old are you?—A. 18.

Q. So you were their agent at 16. Now tell me, how long had you the book in your possession?—A. I should say about six days. I could not be sure.

Q. And where was it kept?—A. In my—in our house.

Q. Where?—A. In our dwelling-house.

Q. Your private house?—A. Yes.

Q. Your private house; and where was it kept in the private house?—A. It was kept in a desk.

Q. In a desk, locked?—A. Which was locked, yes.

Q. Always locked?—A. Yes, always locked.

Q. Never shown to anybody?—A. I do not remember showing it.

Q. I mean to say, you are the agent; it is part of your business to show it about?—A. I showed it at meetings of the Society.

Q. Do not you ever try to get rid of anything else except at meetings?—A. I have another business.

Q. You are in another business?—A. Yes.

Q. What is that?—A. I was in business as a clerk then.

Q. Where?—A. A clerk.

Q. Well, did not you show the book to anybody else at all?—A. I only took it to Mr. Scott, a solicitor, as I stated in my letter.

Q. How long did you leave it there?—A. I was there for the evening.

Q. What?—A. I was there in the evening.

Q. And you took it there and brought it back again?—A. Yes.

Q. Just tell me, you only showed it to the meeting and to Mr. Scott?—A. Yes.

Q. And kept it six days?—A. Yes.

Q. Very well.—A. Might I explain that?

Mr. MURPHY: Yes. What do you want to explain?—A. That there is a Sunday intervening, and sometimes I got down the books on Thursdays to show at the Saturday meetings.

Q. What I want to know is, that those are the only two places that you showed it at?—A. Yes.

Mr. PEMBERTON, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. Do you remember receiving a book of stamps—it would be the British North America book, I think—from the plaintiffs?—A. Yes.

Q. You were their agent, I think?—A. Yes.

Q. And after you had returned that, did you receive a complaint from them?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you got the letter?—A. I have not it with me.

Q. You cannot tell us what the date of it is?—A. No, I do not remember.

Q. You sent this answer to their letter, did you not? I will just read it to you: "Dear Sirs,—Your letter informing me that some stamps in your approval book have been changed reached me here, where I have been staying for a few days, to-day. In reference to it, I can positively affirm that I returned the stamps to you in precisely the same condition as I received them. I have not lent the book to anyone, and it has not been out of my hands at all. I remember distinctly, on first opening your book, the vile copies of pence Canadian of which you particularly complain, especially a 10¢ Canada, marked 'Splendid Copy,' which surprised me very much. How this lamentable occurrence could possibly have happened I cannot imagine, unless you forwarded the book to me, after getting it back from one of your clients, without carefully examining it. Perhaps it would be better to try and locate the damage somewhere else; but if you still think me responsible, I must respectfully decline to think with you. Hoping to hear soon that you have traced the culprit, I am, Yours, &c." Now are the statements in that letter true?—A. Yes.

Q. You had not parted with the possession of the book while it was in your custody?—A. No.

Q. And had not let the book go out of your hands while you had it?—A. No, not at all.

Q. Is the book there? Have you seen it since?—A. Yes, I have seen it.

Q. Can you say whether it is now in the same state as it was when sent down to you?—A. Yes, I think it is.

Mr. BULLEN: I have no question to ask.

Miss WICKS, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. Are you the shorthand or typewriter clerk employed by the plaintiffs?—A. Yes.

Q. And it is part of your duty before books are sent out to examine them?—A. It is.

Q. Do you examine them for the purpose of seeing that

there are no blank spaces, either without stamps or the official stamp of the office?—A. Yes.

Q. Then when the books are returned, is it your duty again to look through the books for the blank spaces?—A. Yes.

Q. And then you add up the value of the stamps taken from the blank spaces and put the official stamp down there?—A. Yes.

Q. And is that the only examination that it is your duty to make?—A. That is all.

Q. I think you have no special knowledge of stamps yourself?—A. No.

Q. Did you do that with reference to these books?—A. Yes.

Mr. EARLE: That is all.

Mr. BULLEN: I have no question to ask.

Mr. FREDERICK NICHOLSON, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. I think you are an electrical engineer in Cheapside?—A. Yes.

Q. And were you asked by Mr. Hilckes, in the way that he has described, first of all to examine and mark stamp by stamp a book of Ceylon stamps?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you do that?—A. Yes, I did, every stamp.

Q. And did you afterwards take it to be registered?—A. With Mr. Hilckes.

Q. And when the book came back did you see it and examine it again?—A. Yes, I saw it opened.

Q. Did you find that the stamps had gone that had been marked?—A. Yes.

Q. I think you have a knowledge of stamps too?—A. I have been a collector for a good many years.

Q. And could you say whether certain of the other stamps had been transposed?—A. Yes, I am sure I could—they could be quite easily shown.

Mr. MURPHY: Do you ask anything, Mr. Bullen?

Mr. BULLEN: No.

Mr. EARLE: Now there is a gentleman from the Post-office to prove that the Ceylon book was received the day after it was sent from London. There is a gentleman from the Post-office to prove that—I mean that there was no delay in the post.

Mr. FLEETWOOD, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. Are you a second-class clerk employed at the General Post Office?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you produce the receipt for a parcel delivered at Bowness?—A. Yes, I have the receipt here.

Q. What is the date it was delivered?—A. 13th July, it was registered at the General Post-office and sent away by the 5.55 despatch.

Q. Now can you tell me when it was delivered at Bowness?—A. No, I cannot tell you that, because there is no special time for parcels.

Q. But have you got the receipt to show what day it was delivered?—A. No, I have not. The parcel only concerns me as being registered.

Mr. MURPHY: What office would that receipt be in, because we understood that that was to be produced by you too?—A. Do you mean as being delivered or as being received?

Q. As being received at the destination?—A. I cannot tell you that. At Lytham I should say. If that was the post town it would be received there.

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, I am told that this very witness actually produced the receipts when he was subpoenaed—not this witness, but a witness.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I should not think there would be any dispute about that point.

Mr. MURPHY: No.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: However, you shall have a further opportunity if you need it.

Mr. MURPHY: If your lordship pleases.

Mr. THOMAS HENRY THOMPSON, sworn.

Examined by Mr. EARLE.

Q. Are you a clerk employed by the clerk to the magistrates at Bishop Auckland?—A. Yes.

Q. And are you also a collector of postage stamps and a dealer?—A. Yes, and a dealer.

Q. You have had dealings in stamps with the plaintiffs?—
A. Yes, repeatedly.

Q. Now on the 1st of August did you go with Mr. Hilckes to Bowness?—A. I met Mr. Hilckes at Bowness about that time; I could not speak to the date.

Q. And did you go to Mrs. Hime's house and ask for Mrs. Hime?—A. Yes.

Q. I think you saw a lady there who, I understand, is Miss Wolfenden, Mrs. Hime's sister?—A. That was on my second visit, I think. If I remember rightly, we saw the servant first.

Q. You saw who first?—A. We saw her servant first.

Q. Then you went back again and saw Mrs. Hime's sister?—A. We saw the lady, yes.

Q. Now will you tell us what took place at the interview with Mrs. Hime's sister?—A. I think Mr. Hilckes asked if he could see Mrs. Hime, and she said she was ill or not well. Probably that was what she said; she was not well. "She is in a very delicate state, and I should not like her to be annoyed with any unpleasant business." Then Mr. Hilckes said, "How do you know that my business is unpleasant?" And she says, "Well, I suppose you come from the firm of Hilckes, Kirkpatrick and Company, of London?" And he said, "Yes, I am Mr. Hilckes." There was a good deal more said relating to these stamps, and Mr. Hilckes told her that from certain books of stamps which had been sent to Mrs. Hime, on their return they found certain stamps had been abstracted, and he wanted to get at how they had been abstracted, and he thought Mrs. Hime would be able to assist him, and he wished particularly to see her. Ultimately we were asked to call again, when we might see Mrs. Hime. We returned in the space of a quarter or half an hour, and the interview took place as Mr. Hilckes mentioned.

Q. When you saw Mrs. Hime?—A. But as to Mr. Hilckes or anyone else talking of me as a solicitor, such a thing was never mentioned.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What!

Mr. BULLEN: He resents, my lord, being called a solicitor; he does not like it.

Cross-examined by Mr. BULLEN.

Q. Is that why you put that in, you do not like being called a solicitor?—A. Well—

Q. You would rather be called clerk to a solicitor?—
A. Yes.

Q. Clerk to the clerk to a solicitor. Just tell me this, Did not Mr. Hilckes say anything about solicitor?—A. He said she would probably—this is as we were leaving—Mr. Hilckes said that Mrs. Hime would probably hear from his solicitor.

Q. Did not he say "I have come here from London with my solicitor?"—A. Oh, no!

Q. Nothing of the kind at all?—A. I am certain; I should have denied it.

Q. Did he say it was a matter for criminal prosecution?—
A. I do not remember him saying that.

Q. Well, think?—A. He might, I cannot say that he did not.

Q. Did he say so or not?—A. I could not say. I cannot remember him saying it.

Q. You cannot say?—A. I think if he had I should have remembered it.

Q. Eh.—A. I think I should have remembered it if he had said it.

Q. Did he say when he saw Mrs. Hime that he had come down to lay a charge against her for having abstracted stamps?—A. When he first saw Mrs. Hime, Mrs. Hime said something to him, addressing him "You are" (something) "to lay a charge of this sort against me." Mr. Hilckes immediately said, "I beg your pardon, madam, I lay no charge whatever."

Q. I ask whether he said, "I have come down to lay a charge against you for having abstracted stamps"?—A. He did not.

Q. From the books sent?—A. He did not.

Q. Did she ask for your name?—A. She did.

Q. What did she say? "I want to know your solicitor's name here"?—A. Oh no. She said to me, "What is your name, sir?" I said, "I do not think my name would be of any value to you." We were then just leaving the door, Mr. Hilckes said "My friend's name is Thompson."

Q. The famous London solicitor, eh?—A. I do not know what you mean.

Q. Did she say, "I cannot think why you should make such a claim upon me, and if it be so why did you persist in sending me book after book to select from"?—A. Yes, I believe she said so, something about "Why did you send me books after you discovered it."

Q. Something to the same effect as I have put?—A. Yes. "After you had discovered the stamps had been changed."

Mr. MURPHY: That is the case, my lord.

Mr. BULLEN: Now, my lord, I wish to take your lordship's opinion upon a point here, and it is this: the statement of claim alleges that "the defendant has detained and has converted (it is the third paragraph) to her use certain postage stamps taken from the said books; and in the alternative, that those stamps were lost whilst in the possession of the defendant by reason of gross negligence." Now, my lord, in answer to the interrogatories they state this. I do not know whether your lordship has a copy before you?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: No; I have not a copy of the interrogatories, but I daresay I can follow it from what you say. [A copy was handed to his lordship.]

Mr. BULLEN: In answer to this interrogatory—the seventh—"When do you say that you first suspected that the defendant had abstracted stamps from the books? Do you allege that the defendant abstracted the said stamps from the books, or that they were abstracted with her knowledge." The answer is, "To the seventh of the said interrogatories, I say that I do not so allege. I allege that the stamps were abstracted while the books containing them were in the custody of the defendant, but by whom or with whose knowledge they were abstracted I do not know and cannot ascertain." Then comes the eighth interrogatory: "What are the respective acts and omissions, specifying them in detail, constituting gross negligence and want of care alleged by you in paragraph four of the statement of claim?" Then, "To the eighth of these interrogatories I say that the acts and omissions referred to were allowing the stamps to be abstracted, and omitting to exercise any care or supervision in or over the custody of the books of stamps entrusted to the defendant." Now, my lord, upon that it is clear that there is no charge here of her having abstracted them; and further, in that seventh answer they state that they do not charge her that they have been abstracted with her knowledge. Now, from the correspondence, and from the evidence which has been given, I submit to your lordship that she was a gratuitous bailee, certainly in respect of the greater number of these books.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What do you say?

Mr. BULLEN: A gratuitous bailee in respect of the greater portion of these books, if not of all; and that being so, it is incumbent on them to prove gross negligence, and if they fail in proving gross negligence, then, my lord, I am entitled to have a nonsuit. That is the position I assume in this case, that they have failed to prove any gross negligence on her part, she being a gratuitous bailee. I do not know if your lordship wishes me to quote the leading cases on the subject?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Oh, no; whatever may be the authorities, this is a case which I should not decide until I have heard all the evidence.

Mr. BULLEN: Very well, if that is your lordship's view of the case; but I am submitting, my lord, on the strength of *Giblin v. McMullen*—I am not pressing your lordship—but upon the strength of that it is for the judge, upon the plaintiff's evidence, to decide the nonsuit—whether they shall be nonsuited.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I know; but I will only decide that I will not give an opinion till I have heard both sides. I think that is the safest plan.

Mr. BULLEN: After your lordship has said that, I will at once proceed to call the witnesses. Your lordship sees from the facts it is quite useless for me to make a speech in the matter, therefore I will call the witnesses.

Mrs. LOUISA HELENA HIME, sworn.

Examined by Mr. BULLEN.

Q. You are the defendant in this action, and you are the widow of Mr. Charles Frederick Hime, of Liverpool, who was a cotton broker, are you not?—A. Yes.

Q. And who has been dead for some years?—A. Yes.

Q. And for some years you have resided at Lytham, at the Manor House?—A. Yes.

Q. With you you have your son, a young gentleman of about twenty years of age, have you not?—A. Yes.

Q. Has he any occupation?—A. None.

Q. No occupation?—A. No.

Q. And you live there upon your means?—A. Yes.

Q. Does your sister, Miss Wolfenden, live with you, or not?—A. No.

Q. Where does she live?—A. Bolton, in Lancashire.

Q. Now for some years back has your son been collecting stamps?—A. For many years.

Q. And have you superintended the correspondence in the selection of those stamps for him?—A. At all times.

Q. And have you received books of stamps from various dealers?—A. Yes, many.

Q. Now, prior to receiving the circular or the letter of the 23rd of March, 1893, from the plaintiffs, had you dealt at Bournemouth with a firm with which Mr. Hilckes was connected?—A. Yes.

Q. And had you had many dealings with them?—A. Oh, several.

Q. On the 23rd of March you received the letter which has been read; and subsequently, upon the 7th of April, 1893, you received a letter also, with a specimen book?—A. Yes, I suppose so.

Q. When the specimen books were sent down to you what did you do with them?—A. I took them and put them under lock and key.

Q. Did you invariably keep them under lock and key?—A. Always.

Q. Now at this Manor House do you and your son both occupy the same sitting-room?—A. Oh, yes!

Q. And during the period after the 23rd March up to this complaint did you occasionally take stamps out of the book and pay for them by remittance?—A. Whenever a stamp was taken it was always paid for in full.

Q. There was always a remittance. In many instances you sent by postal order, and in others you sent by cheque?—A. Yes, principally by cheque, I think.

Q. I think you will tell me if I am correct (my learned friend will not dispute this). It appears by the correspondence you sent up cheques on May the 4th, 1893, June the 1st, June the 20th, June the 23rd, June the 30th, July the 4th, and July the 18th. My learned friend will take those dates, my lord.

Mr. MURPHY: Oh, yes!

Mr. BULLEN: Now did you, Mrs. Hime, at any time ever take out of any of those books any stamp, and retain it without paying for it?—A. Never.

Q. To your knowledge, did anybody ever take stamps out of that book?—A. No one could have done without my knowledge.

Q. Has your son a large collection of stamps?—A. Oh, it would be considered so for his age!

Q. Have your books of stamps, those which are at the house, since this charge has been brought, been inspected by anybody from the other side?—A. By the plaintiffs?

Q. Yes?—A. No.

Q. They have not been inspected?—A. No; they have never been out of my possession. I have had it under lock and key ever since the first charge.

Q. I mean, you have never been requested to show it, so that it might be examined?—A. No.

Q. Because we have heard the New Zealand stamps had been peculiarly marked, or rather the Ceylon, I should have said. Now you found out, did you not, from the postmaster that enquiries were made as to where you were living?—A. Yes.

Q. And you wrote the letter which has been read by me to-day?—A. Yes, the entire correspondence.

Q. Now some short time after that, namely, on the 1st of August, did you have an interview with Mr. Hilckes and Mr. Thompson?—A. Yes.

Q. You had an interview?—A. Yes.

Q. Now will you tell us, please, in your own words exactly what took place at that interview? Speak out to my lord, please.—A. When first Mr. Hilckes entered he said— I was up at the station when they called. As I came back my sister said, "We have had two men making enquiries after you." I said, "Who can they be?"

Q. Just tell us, please, what took place when you saw Mr. Hilckes and Mr. Thompson, and they were there. Just tell my lord what took place then.—A. In about half an hour I came back, and these men I found in my drawing-room. I suppose they came into my drawing-room about half an hour afterwards. Mr. Hilckes introduced himself

instantly, "I am Mr. Hilckes; this is my solicitor." I said, "Kindly tell me what is your business?" He said, "I have come on an unpleasant affair"—as far as I remember the words—"to charge you with having abstracted stamps from this book." I was taken greatly aback. I said, "Surely, Mr. Hilckes, you can make no such claim against me?"

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Surely what?

The WITNESS: "Surely, Mr. Hilckes, you can make no such claim against me." After that he said it had been going on for a length of time. "Under those circumstances," I said, "Why did not you accuse me before; why did you let it go on, sending me book after book and acknowledging my remittances, and never informing me that I was a dishonest woman?"

Mr. BULLEN: What did he say to that?—A. It was unpleasant to lay a charge of that kind against a lady.

Q. That is what he said?—A. That is what he said.

Q. Did you use any abuse to him? He has told us that, among other things.—A. Well, he said that he should follow it up. If he calls this abuse, I certainly said to him, "If you do not punish me I shall punish you for having laid this charge against me;" and he turned to me and he said, "Oh, madam, that is what you mean to do." I said, "I cannot fight it myself, Mr. Hilckes, but I must lay it in the hands of somebody who will." Our interview ended there. If he calls that abuse, that is all that passed.

Cross-examined by Mr. MURPHY, Q. C.

Q. Have you got a collection of your own as well as your son's?—A. No, I have not.

Q. Well, but when I see the letters that passed I find you write on your own behalf?—A. I do at all times,—I have done. He began as a child of nine years of age. I have always written for him.

Q. But I suppose he can write now?—A. Oh, certainly.

Q. And whenever I find you write that you want this and you want that, you mean your son wants it?—A. Certainly, merely I communicated as his secretary.

Q. Did it ever occur to you that people might like to give credit to you and not to your son?—A. Well, I do not know that it ever did occur to me.

Q. Then he has got a collection also?—A. He has a collection; I have not.

Q. You have got none, and you draw cheques in your own name?—A. At all times; that was the reason why the correspondence was conducted in my name.

Q. When I find the words, "I have an unusually large collection," that means, "My son has got one"?—A. Certainly.

Q. Have you any reason for writing in that way?—A. I beg your pardon?

Q. Have you any reason for carrying on the business in that way?—A. None whatever, only that I commenced when he was a child, and I never altered my plans; not for any other reason.

Q. Let me understand. When these books came down you locked them up?—A. At all times; I was the first to receive them.

Q. And never allowed him to have them in his possession?—A. Oh, he saw them.

Q. No, no. That is not my question; not in his possession?—A. Not in his possession.

Q. He never had them in his possession?—A. He never had them in his possession.

Q. He had the collection, but you had the possession of the books?—A. Yes.

Q. Why was that?—A. Because whenever he wanted the stamps I brought them out; he took what he required, and I put them away again.

Q. Who took them out of the book?—A. He took them, but I was always at the table.

Q. He used to take them out of the book?—A. Yes.

Q. But you were present?—A. I was present at all times.

Q. And where did he put them?—A. Well, he put them in his book.

Q. Where did he keep his book?—A. I suppose he put his book away.

Q. But do not you know?—A. Well, I could not say for certain.

Q. Now do you really mean to tell his lordship that you do not know where your son kept his valuable collection?—A. Well, in my wardrobe. Of course he had it out. When you are in lodgings—

Q. Had he any other place except your wardrobe to keep his book in?—A. He had not; he had not another place to keep it in. We are in lodgings, and our accommodation is limited.

Q. I am coming to that in a moment. You kept these books for six or seven days at a time?—A. Sometimes it might not be convenient to have them out.

Q. It is so easy in a small place—where was the wardrobe; in one room?—A. Yes, in one room.

Q. But where was the desk that you kept those books in?—A. Those were always put away in the same wardrobe.

Q. Always together?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Your son's and this one?—A. Yes. Mr. MURPHY: You recollect that somebody else had made a charge of this kind against you?—A. Yes.

Q. When was that?—A. I cannot remember the date.

Q. How long before?—A. As far as I remember, it would be about three years ago. It was the first charge I had, and my boy then—

Q. First? Was it the only one besides this one?—A. I beg your pardon?

Q. Was it the only charge besides this?—A. There have been two.

Q. You are unfortunate?—A. Very unfortunate with stamp dealers, but never with anyone else.

Q. I suppose the stamp dealers are not a very good lot of people—two charges against an innocent lady?—A. Yes; but only with stamp dealers; never with anyone else.

Q. Did you write to those other stamp dealers on behalf of your son, or on your own behalf?—A. I did.

Q. Just in the same way?—A. When I wrote to one my boy was almost on the point of death, and I sent for them to interest him; they were never off his bed.

Q. I will come to the last one?—A. And the last one he took a few stamps, for which I sent a cheque, and that cheque was never acknowledged.

Q. Did he make a charge against you? What was his name?—A. Stanley Gibbons.

Q. He made a charge against you?—A. Yes, but that cheque was never cashed. It was sent to him, but never cashed.

Q. And that was in 1891, was not it?

Mr. BULLEN: 1891—a cheque for 19s. 8d.

Mr. MURPHY: 11s. 9d. I am told—April 24th, 1891.—A. Oh, I thought it was more than that! I could not say for certain what the amount was; I thought it was for 19s. 8d.

Q. Have you got the letter he wrote to you?—A. I think it is there. I think Mr. Bullen has it.

Mr. BULLEN: I have not seen it.

Mr. MURPHY: Has your solicitor got it?—A. I think he has, the one from Stanley Gibbons.

Q. I think this is what you wrote to him: "I am much obliged for collection, from which I have taken stamps to the value of 11s., and enclose cheque for 11s. 9d., which includes postage of parcel. . . . I am, yours truly, L. H. HIME." How many stamps was it suggested you had taken on that occasion?—A. That I could not remember, but it fell through directly.

Q. I will not go over this matter again; your son could not have taken them out of those books?—A. Without my knowledge, impossible.

Q. Well, that may be; then your sister could not have done it?—A. Certainly not; she was not there.

Q. Then the servant could not have got them?—A. No one could have got at them but myself.

Re-examined by Mr. BULLEN.

Q. Have you got the letter there with that cheque? You do not mind me handing it up to my lord, because it is better that his lordship should see it?

Mr. MURPHY: No.

Mr. BULLEN: Was any charge whatever in that case made of your son having stolen the stamps?

Mr. MURPHY: Not the son.

Mr. BULLEN: I understood you to say so.

Mr. MURPHY: I never suggested it.

Mr. BULLEN: Was there any charge of those stamps having been stolen?—A. I never heard it.

Mr. MURPHY: Let us have the letter.

Mr. BULLEN: I have not got it.

The WITNESS: Merely a charge by Stanley Gibbons that the stamps had been abstracted whilst in my possession. Nobody could have taken them but myself or my son.

Q. That is what they stated?—A. That is what they stated. Mr. MURPHY: I have got a copy here, and I will ask you when you have done.

Mr. BULLEN: We have had no notice to produce it, you know.

Mr. MURPHY: I know.

Mr. BULLEN: If we had the solicitor would have made search for it.

Q. Now about the other charge, that was in 1890, was not it?—A. I could not remember the year.

Q. At that time you say your son was seriously ill?—A. Dangerously ill.

Q. And had he the stamp book on his bed during his illness?—A. He had for perhaps a few minutes at a time. It was as much as he could do to look at them.

However, he had them on the bed there to amuse him?—A. On the bed when I was there.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Did you ever sell any stamps to anybody?—A. As all collectors do, I have sold occasionally.

Mr. BULLEN: She exchanged, my lord, with these very people.

The WITNESS: £4 worth.

Mr. BULLEN: We have got that in evidence?—A. Out of the Ceylon book, for which they are now coming down upon me for stamps that I purchased in July. They are claiming for stamps that I paid for.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Do you mean that you have paid them for, or someone else for?—A. I paid them for—Hilckes, Kirkpatrick & Co.

Q. Did you sell stamps to or exchange them with any fixed persons or with a number of people?—A. Oh, no! I think that was almost the only one, except one through *The Exchange and Mart*.

Q. One other. When was that?—A. Just about the same time or just before that.

Q. With whom?—A. Mr. Walter Lathom, who offered a good price for certain stamps, and my boy responded to that, having duplicate stamps.

Q. Have you got the stamp books here?—A. Oh, yes, he has only one.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I should like to see it, if you have it. [*The defendant's son's stamp book was handed to his lordship.*] There is a date here, October 20th, 1890. Is that the date he began the collection?—A. Oh, no! he began earlier than that; that was a new book given to him at the time he was seriously ill.

Q. I see at the top of the index there are a lot of particular dates.—A. I suppose there would be. I do not know how that is. I do not understand the arrangement of that, of course.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: November 1st, 1890, 2043; January 1st, 1891, 2547; April 4th, 1891, 2771; October 20th, 1891, 2872; and October 25th, 1892, 3200. [*His lordship perused the book.*]

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, may we see that book for a moment?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Certainly. [*It was handed to the learned counsel.*]

Mr. BULLEN: Do you wish to ask this lady anything more?

Mr. MURPHY: No, nothing further.

Mr. FREDERICK HIME, sworn.

Examined by Mr. BULLEN.

Q. Are you a son of Mrs. Hime, the defendant?—A. Yes.

Q. What is your age?—A. 20.

Q. Have you ever abstracted any of these stamps from this book, or taken them, except those which your mother has paid for?—A. Never.

Q. Have you heard your mother's account of the conversation with Mr. Hilckes and Mr. Thompson?—A. Just now, yes.

Q. You were present, were not you?—A. Yes, I was at the time.

Q. Is what she stated correct as having taken place?—A. Yes, it is.

Mr. BULLEN: That is all I ask you.

Cross-examined by Mr. MURPHY.

Q. Do you ever dispose of stamps?—A. Yes, when they are either duplicates, or countries I have not been interested in.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What do you say?—A. When they have been duplicates, or belonged to countries I do not take any special interest in. I prefer some countries to others.

Mr. MURPHY: How do you dispose of them?—A. Well, by exchange with my friends; or, if I see (I have only done this in one case) an advertisement wanting certain stamps, then I have offered them in exchange. I have done that in one case.

Q. What paper?—A. *The Exchange and Mart* in this case.

Q. Where do you keep your book?—A. Sometimes in the wardrobe, and more often simply about the sitting-room—my own book.

Q. What do you mean by "your own book"?—A. My collection—the books that come on approval—

Q. There is no other book there except yours?—A. Yes, unless a friend lends me one.

Q. What friend?—A. Friends—no connection with this case.

Q. What friend? Does any friend lend you any other book?—A. His own collection.

Q. Who is it?—A. Mr. Needham; he is a friend of mine and Mr. Lambert. I have got stamps from both those.

Q. I mean, have you got their books?—A. Oh dear, no! not at the present time. I have had them in my possession.

Q. When the plaintiff's books came down, was it you that used to take the stamps out or your mother?—A. I did.

Q. How did you take them out?—A. By merely withdrawing them.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What do you say?—A. They are only put in there lightly; that is, with very thin paper, and you just pull them out.

Q. What is called the "mount" you mean is thin?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you take the stamp off the mount, or the mount off the book?—A. The mount off the book; the whole thing together.

Mr. MURPHY: Now I want to give every fair play to you. Do you mean to say that none of the stamps that came down from Mr. Hilckes in the books, and which are now said to be missing, have found their way into this book? What do you say? Is it possible that any of the stamps which came down in my client's book, and which are now claimed for, found their way into that book?—A. It is quite possible, but those that have found their way have been bought and paid for.

Q. Now look at that? [*Book handed to the witness.*] Just look at that Ceylon?

Mr. BULLEN: What is the value of it?

Mr. MURPHY: 9d.

Mr. BULLEN: Yes; we bought three.—A. Those are three I bought from Messrs. Hilckes.

Mr. MURPHY.—With reference to that just look at that stamp please. [*Handing a book.*]—A. If it is a ninepenny stamp, I bought it from Hilckes.

Q. Look at that stamp?—A. Which one?

Q. The ninepenny star watermark stamp?—A. There are three of them.

Q. Look at the one in the corner there, the first one?—A. The one turned back here, yes.

Q. Did you buy that?—A. Yes.

Q. From my clients?—A. Yes.

Q. And paid for it?—A. Yes.

Q. How much?—A. There are three —.

Q. No; take that one if you please?—A. Either 9s. 6d. or 11s. 6d. or 12s. 6d.; I bought three of them. Those are the three prices; I cannot remember which it was.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: How much?—A. I think it was 9s. 6d., 11s. 6d., or 12s. 6d. It is within a shilling or two, at all events.

Mr. MURPHY: Now, sir, was not the stamp you have pointed out as a 9s. 6d. stamp a 15s. stamp? Was not it marked as such?—A. I think not; but I will not be sure, because I say it is within a shilling or two.

Q. A shilling or two?—A. If it was, it was paid for as 15s.

Q. 9s. 6d. was all that you paid?—A. I say, if it was a 15s. stamp, it was paid for as such.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: He says either 9s. 6d., 11s. 6d., or 12s. 6d.

Mr. MURPHY: My lord, he will not say that there was not a 15s. stamp in that book when it came down.—A. For this reason, it might be one of the three prices. I paid for all three. I do not know which of the three was the most expensive.

Mr. MURPHY: Well, I do not know how to get this

conveniently; those are details that I cannot follow. I do not know if your lordship would allow the question to be put by my client to the witness, but I cannot follow this?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I do not know if you object to that, Mr. Bullen?

Mr. BULLEN: I will do whatever your lordship thinks is right in a case of this kind.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Well, I do not see any objection to it.

Mr. BULLEN: I will do anything that your lordship suggests.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: We will let your client do it, and, of course, if I see it is objectionable I will stop it.

Mr. MURPHY: I think there is another way. My client, having seen this book, might now give evidence about it, and the witness can be heard in reply. Perhaps that would be better.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Perhaps that would be more convenient, I should say.

Mr. MURPHY: Of course, I shall have an opportunity, now that we have seen the importance of the book, of examining it again.

Mr. BULLEN: Why did not you have discovery of it?

Mr. MURPHY: Why, discovery against a gentleman who is not a defendant? It was in his mother's possession. We only knew that the mother was the defendant in this action. We will have an examination of it; but in the meantime, just in the few minutes that are left, I think my client should be re-examined about this stamp, and one or two more that he has discovered since.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes, very well.

The WITNESS: Shall I leave the album there?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes, you had better leave it.

Mr. HARRY HILCKES, recalled.

Further examined by Mr. MURPHY, Q.C.

Q. Have you discovered, in the short time that you have been here, any stamps that have not been paid for?—A. Yes, I see one; at least, I see two.

Q. Which are they?—A. It is a ninepenny Ceylon.

Mr. BULLEN: What year?—A. Perfect copy, star watermark.

Q. What year?—A. I could not remember the year. Of course, the second issue of that.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: "I see two stamps in this book which have not been paid for"—A. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: You mean which came out of your book?—A. Yes, they came out of my book.

Q. Now will you describe them, please?—A. The ninepenny Ceylon in this album was originally in a place marked 15s. in my book.

Mr. BULLEN: Do not these stamps bear the year, Mr. Hilckes?—A. No, they do not.

Q. And you cannot tell the year of issue?—A. Yes, I could if I referred to my books of reference.

Q. You cannot tell now?—A. Not by heart; of course not. In the place of this 15s. stamp in my book, I find a stamp which was originally marked 9s. 6d., being an inferior copy. Now this 9s. 6d. stamp has been placed in the place of the 15s. one, and of course 9s. 6d. was paid. This 15s. stamp has been placed in this album, paying 9s. 6d. for it.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Is there any list of the stamps that were purchased on each occasion, shewing the names and the prices, or was it simply a statement that "I have taken so many stamps"?

Mr. MURPHY: No. I think I can shew you each stamp that was taken, with the price of each stamp in his book.

The WITNESS: Yes.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I mean rather when Mrs. Hime paid, did she say, "I send so much for the stamps that I have taken"?

Mr. MURPHY: No; it would only be shewn by the vacant spaces in our book.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I see; quite so.

Mr. MURPHY: Now do you see any more?—A. Now I see another stamp here. It is a very fine copy of the first issue Ceylon 5d., "imperf." Star watermark; that means unperforated. At page 1 in my book I find row No. 4. The second stamp, which is now marked 10s. 6d., does not bear my secret mark.

Mr. BULLEN: Just wait one moment. You say the next that you find there is a fivepenny one?—A. A fivepenny, imperf., Star watermark. I find that the stamp which is

now in my book has not my secret mark, but the stamp which is in *this* book has the secret mark. No stamp in this row has been paid for by the defendant. Simply, she has obtained the stamp that has been in my book against the one which is in my book now.

Mr. BULLEN: What value do you put on that?—A. The same as marked in my book, 10s. 6d.; and the copy in my book now is worth about 5s.

Q. 5s.?—A. It was originally marked 10s. 6d., and the copy I find here is not worth 5s.—hardly that.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Let me look at the one you have just been speaking of. [*Handed to his lordship.*] I see the mount here has got your name on it.—A. Oh, yes; we sell those as a matter of advertisement, my lord. We sell those gummed mounts, and put our names on as an advertisement.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Very well. I am afraid I must go now, Mr. Murphy. These had better remain in the custody of the officer of the Court.

Mr. MURPHY: May there be facilities for examining them? I do not know whether it is possible to do so before to-morrow morning.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Well, there might be a difficulty about that; but you can examine them to-morrow morning, if you like. I will take another case, and give you both an opportunity of examining them.

Mr. BULLEN: If your lordship pleases, that will be satisfactory.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: My lord, might I ask, it is rather personal, what time you would take this case, or before what time you would not take it?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: What time would you like?

Mr. BULLEN: If it is only fixed, I shall be content.

Mr. MURPHY: Anything that is convenient to my friend will suit me.

Mr. BULLEN: If you will say not before 12, I shall be much obliged.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Very well.

[*Adjourned till to-morrow.*]

THURSDAY, 3rd MAY, 1894.

[*At the sitting of the court at 10-45.*]

Mr. MURPHY: My Lord, some difficulty has arisen as to the investigation of these books. Is there any officer of the court, your lordship will allow to be present at the examination, as I understand the defendants object to their book being examined by other people, and of course it is quite reasonable that that should be done?

The DEFENDANT'S SOLICITOR: No, there is no objection, Mr. Murphy.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes, an officer of the court will be present then.

Mr. MURPHY: If your lordship pleases.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: And you may take your own time over the examination.

Mr. MURPHY: Yes.

[*An examination of the stamp album of the defendant's son was then made, out of court, in the presence of the associate.*]

[*Adjourned till to-morrow morning.*]

FRIDAY, MAY 4th, 1894.

Mr. BULLEN: My lord, your lordship may perhaps remember that I appeared for the defendant in this case, which was before your lordship the day before yesterday.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes.

Mr. BULLEN: Since it was heard I have had an opportunity of considering the whole of the case, and my client has placed herself in my hands unreservedly, so that I may do what I consider is the best in this case. Under those circumstances, I consent to a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

Mr. MURPHY: What is the amount?

Mr. BULLEN: I forget now.

Mr. MURPHY: Judgment for the plaintiffs for £94, with costs, my lord, I ask?

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: Yes, the amount claimed is £94, and there will be judgment for the plaintiffs for £94, with costs.

Mr. BULLEN: If your lordship pleases.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE: I may say I consider that the learned counsel for the defendant has exercised a very wise discretion.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

By EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 196.)

II. The same stamps printed on coloured paper.

a. Black surcharge. Type I.

1877, Aug. 31. Imperforate.

6 p., blue on rose.

Varieties.

6 p., blue on rose; surcharge inverted.

6 p., " " tête-bêche.

Half of 6 p., " " cut diagonally, and used as 3 p.

Rouletted.

6 p., blue on rose.

Varieties.

6 p., blue on rose; surcharge inverted.

6 p., " " tête-bêche.

NOTE.—Moen's chronicles a variety of this stamp without the black surcharge, but I have not met with it.

b. Black surcharge. Type II.; "Transvaal" in small letters with capital "T."

Imperforate.

1877, Oct. 24. 3 p., lilac on buff.

Nov. 27. 6 p., blue on green.

Dec. 6. 1 p., red on blue.

Varieties.

1 p., red on blue; error, "Transvral."

1 p., " " no stop after "V" of "V.R."

1 p., " " "R" of "V.R."

1 p., " " surcharge inverted.

3 p., lilac on buff " "

6 p., blue on green " "

6 p., " " stop before the "R" instead of

cut; thus, "V.R."

Half of 6 p., blue on green. Cut diagonally, and used as 3 p.

Rouletted.

1 p., red on blue. | 3 p., lilac on buff.

6 p., blue on green.

Varieties.

1 p., red on blue; error, "Transvral."

1 p., " " surcharge inverted.

3 p., lilac on buff " "

6 p., blue on green " "

Very likely the other varieties exist also in the rouletted state.

1878, January 18. Imperforate.

1 p., red on orange.

Varieties.

No stop after "R" of "V.R."

" " "V" of "V.R.," and letters closer together.

" " "V" or "R." " "

Rouletted.

1 p., red on orange.

I do not know whether the varieties given above exist in this state.

1878, May 13. Imperforate.

6 p., blue on blue.

Varieties.

6 p., blue on blue, surcharge inverted.

6 p., " " no surcharge.

6 p., " " no stop after "R" of "V.R."

6 p., " " tête-bêche.

6 p., " " without surcharge.

Half of 6 p., " " cut diagonally or vertically, and each half used as 3 p.

Rouletted.

6 p., blue on blue.

Varieties.

6 p., blue on blue; surcharge inverted.

6 p., " " tête-bêche.

c. *Black surcharge.* Type III.; "Transvaal" as in Type II., but the letters "V.R." are italic capitals.

1878. April 15, for 1 p. and 3 p.
May 13, for 6 p.

Imperforate.

1 p., red on orange.
3 p., lilac on buff.
6 p., blue on blue.

Varieties.

1 p., red on orange; no stop after "R" of "V.R."
6 p., blue on blue; inverted surcharge.
6 p. " " tête-bêche.

Rouletted.

1 p., red on orange.
3 p., lilac on buff.
6 p., blue on blue.

Varieties (?).

III. Type with head of the Queen. Coloured impression on greyish-white paper. Perf. 14½.

Received July 24, 1878. Issued:

Aug. 26.

1 p., red.
4 p., olive-green.

Nov. 25.

3 p., lake. | 1 s., dark green.
6 p., grey-black. | 2 s., blue.



1879, April 18. Provisional Issue. Printed from the old plates in colour on coloured paper.

A. Surcharged in black with Type II.

Imperforate.

3 p., lilac on green.

Varieties.

3 p., lilac on green; inverted surcharge.
3 p. " " no
3 p. " " with stop after "R." of "V.R."
1½ mm. higher than usual.
3 p. " " with both stops 1½ mm. higher
than usual.
3 p. " " with "Transvaal" above and
"V.R." below.
3 p. " " with defective surcharge owing
to careless printing.

Rouletted.

3 p., lilac on green.

I do not know what varieties exist in this state.

B. Surcharged in black with Type III.

Imperforate.

3 p., lilac on green.

Varieties.

3 p., lilac on green; inverted surcharge.
3 p. " " with "Transvaal" above and
"V.R." below.
3 p. " " no stop after "V" of "V.R."
3 p. " " both stops 1½ mm. higher than
usual.
3 p. " " with defective surcharge owing
to careless printing.

Rouletted.

3 p., lilac on green.

I do not know what varieties exist in this state.

1879, April 22. Provisional Issue. The 6 p. of 1878 surcharged "1 Penny."

A. Surcharged in red in seven types. See page 180.

1 Penny, in red, on 6 p., grey-black.

B. Surcharged in black in 7 Types.

1 Penny, in black, on 6 p., grey-black.

Varieties exist due to careless printing.

1879, Aug. 26, for the 1 p. stamps.

Sept. 5 " 3 p. "

Provisional Issue. Printed from the old plates in colour on coloured paper. Surcharged in black with Type IV., "Transvaal" as before, but the letters "V.R." smaller and closer together.

Imperforate.

1 p., red on yellow. | 3 p., lilac on green.
1 p. " orange. | 3 p. " blue.

Variety of the surcharge, the "T" of "Transvaal" smaller, and placed too high.

1 p., red on yellow. | 3 p., lilac on green.
1 p. " orange. | 3 p. " blue.

Varieties exist due to careless printing.

Rouletted.

1 p., red on yellow. | 3 p., lilac on green.
1 p. " orange. | 3 p. " blue.

Variety of the surcharge as described above.

1 p., red on yellow. | 3 p., lilac on green.
1 p. " orange. | 3 p. " blue.

Varieties (?).

1880. Type of July, 1878. Head of Queen. Col. Imp. greyish-white paper; perf. 14½.
½ p., vermilion.

REVENUE STAMPS USED POSTALLY.

Type similar to the postage stamps of July, 1878, but much larger; "TRANSVAAL REVENUE" in a curve above; head of Queen in centre; value below. Col. Imp. white paper; perf.

6 p., red. | 2/-, brown.
1/-, blue. | 2/6, vermilion.
1/6, grey-green. | 5/-, light-green.

(To be continued.)

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President:

H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President:

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President:

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

THE twenty-second meeting of the season 1893-94 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 16th March, 1894, at 7.30. Twelve members present. The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Straits Settlements, which was continued.

Amongst other stamps shown at the meeting was a block of six of the three cents City Dispatch Post stamps, kindly sent for inspection by H.R.H. the Duke of York.

THE twenty-third meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 30th March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., fifteen members being in attendance, the Vice-President in the chair.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the receipt from M. Barbarin of his *Nouveau Catalogue Général* was directed to be acknowledged with thanks, as also the receipt from Mr. Siewert of photographs of the recent forgeries of the rare Moscow and St. Petersburg stamped envelopes.

Mr. David Benjamin, of Shanghai, proposed by Mr. Gibbons, and seconded by the Vice-President; Mr. G. L. Toppan, of Chicago, proposed by Mr. A. L. Holman, and

seconded by the Vice-President; and Mr. Edward P. Collett, proposed by Mr. W. D. Beckton, and seconded by the Vice-President, were duly elected members of the Society.

The Vice-President read a paper entitled "Notes on the Design of the Sydney View," and on the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his interesting contribution.

Major Evans produced for inspection two blocks, each containing 28 stamps of the 2d. value of Queensland, showing the arrangement of the watermark in "script" capitals. He also presented specimens of the perforation of the Queensland stamps from the various machines used by the postal authorities of the Colony, obtained by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and sent by them to the Society for reference.

One of the recently discovered 9 kreuzer stamps of the first issue of Baden, printed on green, was also shown. This stamp, which was used, and on the entire letter sheet, was inspected with much interest by the members present.

THE twenty-fourth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 6th April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. Nine members present.

The Vice-President took the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of Labuan, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, sent for the inspection of members present a used specimen of the 5 cents on 8 c., orange, Hong-kong stamp, with inverted surcharge.—*From The London Philatelist, the Monthly Journal of the Philatelic Society, London.*

BENGAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE have received a copy of the rules of the Philatelic Society of Bengal, the meetings of which are held, as at present arranged, in Calcutta, on the first Thursday in every month. We wish the Society every success, and hope to hear of its proceedings from time to time in the future.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

ON April 5th a debate took place, the subject being "Specialising" (Mr. W. G. Walton) *versus* "Generalising" (the Hon. Sec., in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Vaughton).

The debate was vigorously sustained by most of the members present; but although "Generalising" was allowed to include the collection of all minor varieties of each country, the majority voted for "Specialising."

This was followed by a paper on "The Letter Covers, Wrappers, Envelopes, and Post Cards of New South Wales," by the Hon. Secretary. Copies of the letter covers, also reprints of the same, and specimens of most of the varieties of the other entires, were shewn.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD HARRIS, G.C.I.E.,
Governor of Bombay.

Honorary Vice-President—

THE HONOURABLE H. J. PARSONS, C.S.,
Judge of the High Court of Judicature.

President—

ARTHUR CLEMENT TRAPP, ESQ.

THE seventeenth ordinary meeting was held on the 16th April at 6.30 p.m. Ten members present; K. Ramchundra, Hon. Treasurer, presiding.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting were read and confirmed. The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Major Edward B. Evans, London Philatelic Society, thanking the members for electing him an honorary member of the Society. The letter was duly recorded.

Mr. J. Rebeiro stated, in writing, with reference to *The Indian Philatelist*, a journal which he intended publishing, that he purposed giving a copy of the paper to each member gratis, and was also willing to publish the Society's reports free of expense, provided the committee would agree to a reduction in the annual subscription for ordinary members from rs. 12 to rs. 5. After some discussion the question was postponed for final settlement to the next meeting.

The Hon. Secretary intimated that copies of the Annual Report of the Society for the session 1892-93 had been forwarded to the principal Philatelic Societies abroad, to all corresponding and honorary members, and to many of the chief commercial houses and leading newspapers in Bombay.

Proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by C. W. Bond, that the Hon. H. J. Parsons, c.s., be elected to the Honorary Vice-Presidentship of the Society. Carried unanimously.

Proposed by K. Ramchundra, and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, that Mr. Arthur C. Trapp be elected President of the Society, *vice* the Hon. H. J. Parsons, c.s. Carried unanimously. J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS, *Hon. Sec.*

33, SASSOON DOCK ROAD, COLABA, BOMBAY.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.

President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE twelfth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Wednesday, March 28th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Eleven members and two visitors. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. Willett took the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed Mr. H. Davis was elected a member of the Society. Considerable interest was taken in inspecting Mr. Woodman's collection of United States, comprising nearly all issues complete, the 1869 series and the "Departmentals" being specially fine. Of the former he showed the whole set unused, besides several good specimens of each value used.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, April 9th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—The President (in the chair) and ten members. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Messrs. S. H. Cotton, G. F. Gordon, D. M. and W. E. Hughes—all proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by Mr. P. de Worms—were elected members of the Society. The Vice-President then read a long and interesting paper on "The Stamps of Belgium," in which he gave a very concise description of each issue. He illustrated the same by exhibiting his fine collection, containing most varieties, unused as well as used. The President also showed some very fine specimens of the earlier issues unused, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his paper, which was seconded by Mr. Willett, and carried. A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*

27, ADELDAIDE CRESCENT, BRIGHTON.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE fifty-eighth meeting was held on Saturday, 21st April, 1894, at the Municipal Buildings, Leeds. Mr. J. F. C. Sieber presided, and ten other members and one visitor were present.

Novelties were shown by Mrs. Beardsell and Mr. W. B. Simpson.

On the motion of Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. Eugene Egly, Hon. Treasurer, the fourth rule was amended, so as to make a written resignation necessary for the termination of membership, and also to put more clearly the position of the associates or junior members.

The subject for the evening was the middle period of the stamps of Brazil, or the issues of large stamps bearing the head of Dom Pedro II., which were to have been described

by Mr. A. N. Skipwith. In his absence the task was undertaken by Mr. Roebuck, whose remarks were illustrated by Mr. Skipwith's collection, and those of Messrs. Duffield, Jefferson, and other members. At the close a vote of thanks to Messrs. Skipwith and Roebuck was passed.

Note.—The Leeds Philatelic Society have arranged to have an Exhibition of Revenue and Fiscal Stamps of all Countries, including stamps available for both postage and revenue, but excluding stamps used solely for postage. The exhibition will be held during the last week of June in the Leeds Museum, Park Row, close to the railway stations. The lighting is perfect, and the direct rays of the sun cannot reach the exhibits. The use of the museum cases secures the double advantage of facility of examination behind plate-glass and the security of lock and key. In addition to this the exhibits will be insured, and every precaution taken. The admission will be free to all who pay the ordinary penny admission fee to the museum. Communications may be addressed to the Hon. Secretaries,

W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.L.S., Sunny Bank, Leeds.

JOHN F. C. SIEBER, Guiseley, Leeds.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—J. H. T. COTTIER.

THE fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday, April 25th, Vice-President, Mr. L. Marks, in the chair.

During the evening Mr. F. B. Bradbury read a very interesting paper on Watermarks, Paper, and Perforations, which Mr. T. Ridpath beautifully illustrated with the aid of limelight, showing to perfection the various details explained to the numerous company present.

Both gentlemen must have gone to great trouble to provide this lecture, which was of a kind well calculated to stimulate members to study this important branch of philately.

The Liverpool Society is making rapid progress, its members now being forty-nine, twenty of whom have joined this year, and it is hoped that the same interest which is now being shown in the Society will continue.

WM. HALFPENNY, *Hon. Sec.*

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTH HANTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—GEORGE CHURCHER.

THE last meeting of the present session was held at the Star Chambers, Gosport, at 7 p.m., on Wednesday, 9th May, when there was a good attendance of members.

The stamps of Mauritius were considered, the President giving an address on the earlier issues, illustrating the different states of the plates by photographs from some magnificent specimens in own collection.

A hearty vote of thanks was recorded to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for the following works: *Stamps and Stamp Collecting, South Australia, and An Exhaustive Catalogue of the Adhesive Postage Stamps of the British Empire.*

C. J., E. MUMBY, *Hon. Sec.*

TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A LARGE number of Stamp Collectors assembled on Thursday night, April 18th, at Handel House, Y.M.C.A. Buildings, with a view to the formation of a Philatelic Society. Mr. A. A. Osborne was elected chairman, and proceeded to lay the Constitution before the meeting. After certain modifications and amendments had been ruled, it was adopted. The election of officers resulted in the following: Hon. President, Isaac van Alphen (Postmaster-General, Pretoria); Hon. Vice-President, Emil Tamsen; President, A. A. Osborne; Vice-President, J. Schuler; Secretary, Sallo Epstein; Assistant-Secretary, S. A. Klagsburn; Treasurer, A. Landau; Librarian, Samuel Epstein; Superintendent of Exchange, M. Z. Booleman; Executive Committee, L. Graumann, H. H. Nelson, W. A. Nellist, Glen Donovan.

Mr. Osborne then addressed the meeting at some length on the objects of the Society.

Mr. Emil Tamsen, well-known in Philatelic circles, in a few well-chosen words thanked the meeting for the compliment paid him in electing him Hon. Vice-President.

Mr. Lewis Graumann hoped that those present would do their utmost to introduce new members, and so increase its power. There were many aspects, he said, to Philately, and there was a catalogue value for stamps which well repaid the enthusiastic collector. Among distinguished men they could boast of the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of York, Professor Napier, and a host of others too numerous to mention.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, and to Messrs. Landau and Lichtenstein for kindly placing their room at the disposal of the Society, and the meeting was adjourned.

Those desirous of joining should communicate with the Secretary, Mr. Sallo Epstein, P.O. Box 582, Johannesburg. —*The Standard and Digger's News, Johannesburg.*

WEST AUSTRALIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MINUTES of meeting held in Perth on Monday evening, April 5, 1894. Seven members present. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, kindly presented their new publication on the *Stamps of South Australia* to the library, which was highly appreciated by all members, and a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded. The Secretary was instructed to write and acknowledge the donation. *The London Philatelist* was duly received, with a request that the Society should subscribe to the same, which was proposed and carried. It was decided that all philatelic works belonging to the Society should be lent out to members for one week at a time. Several collections were shown by various members, also a novelty in the shape of a good collection of forgeries, exhibited by Mr. Abrahams, including some very good Australian imitations. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a very enjoyable evening.

ALF. J. LEVINE, *Hon. Sec.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. H. S.—The Athens print of type 1091 can only be distinguished from the Belgian by the inferiority of the impressions, and in some values by the shades.

E. H.—Inverted watermarks are not of very uncommon occurrence among the Australian stamps. We do not know of any complete list of them, as they are not usually catalogued.

A. W. P.—1. The details of the postal arrangements at Samos are probably not known to collectors generally; but we should have guessed that there was a local transmission of letters. 2. Handstamps denoting postage paid in cash are not usually collected or catalogued. 3. Therefore we do not propose to provide a space for this one in the *Imperial Album*. 4. A Supplement to the 6th edition is now ready. Questions should be addressed to the Editor, either to his private address, or to the care of the Publishers.

HAITI.—The words "Post Card" do not necessarily imply an embossed or other impressed stamp. We believe that the cards of Haiti are supplied by the Post-office, although only provided with an adhesive stamp. The stamp of Buenos Ayres, about which you enquire, is a Revenue, not a Postage stamp.

F. E. R.—The two stamps you enquire about have no doubt been chemically changed—the German from *green* to *blue*, and the Prussian from *vermillion* to *black*.

J. O. V.—The variety you mention appears to be due to a broken letter or defect in printing.

G. R. D. H.—Accidents will happen. The omission you allude to was noticed just too late for correction.

J. S. C.—Many thanks for your note; the stamp was described twelve months ago.

C. W.—We do not know the Bhopal on *light brown* paper; possibly the paper has been discoloured. Venezuela 1871. All of these should have the surcharge you mention. 1879. The large figure "3" is either a postmark or a humbug. 1882. The stamps surcharged with Coat of Arms are in the first Addendum to the current Catalogue.

J. F. F.—We are much obliged for your letter, but we should suppose the varieties of Puttialla to be due to broken letters only; the inverted wmk. are not usually catalogued, their number is infinite.

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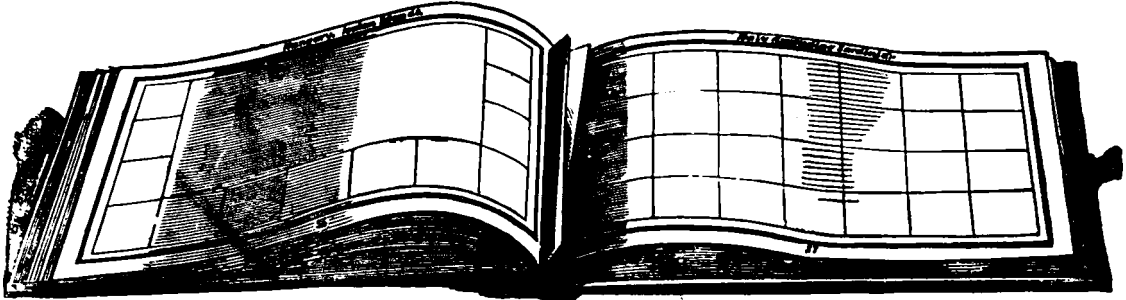
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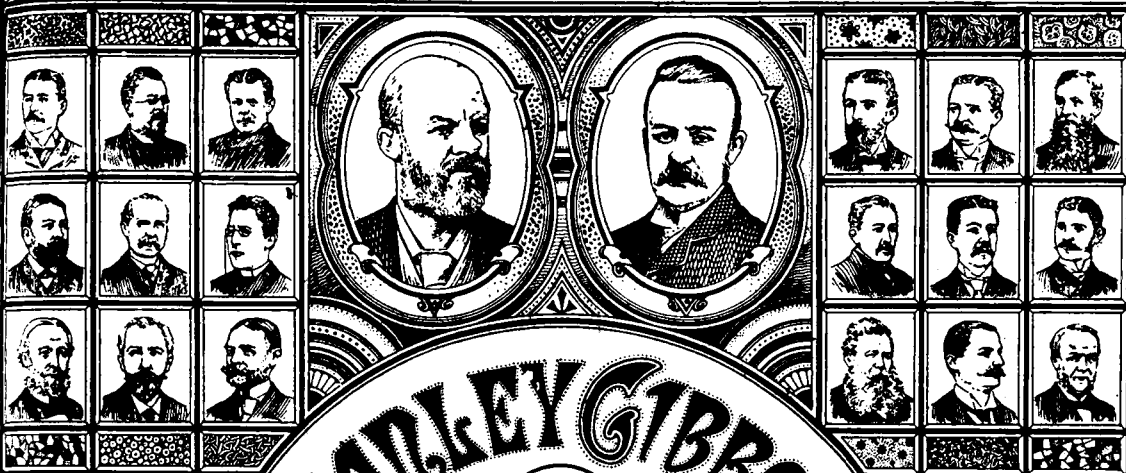
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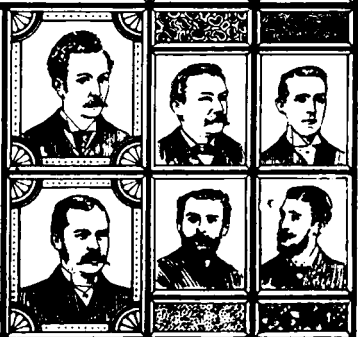
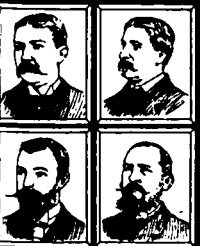
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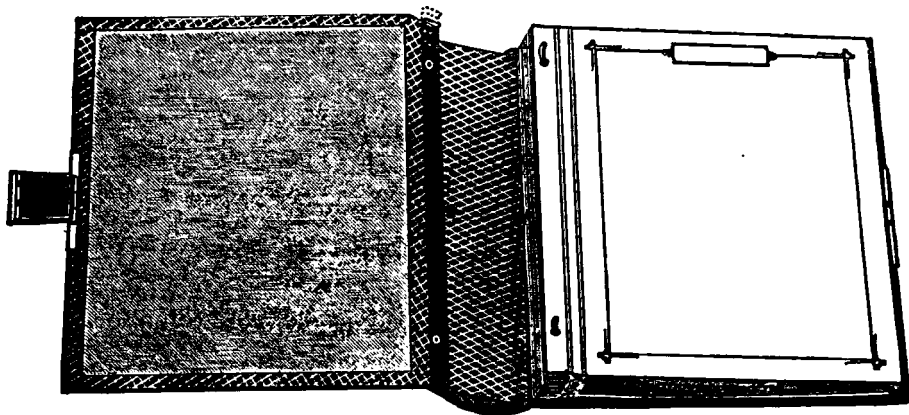
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To give some indication of the magnitude of these Books, we attach a short list of those most recently finished, together with their value at the time they were completed.

BOOK No.	CONTENTS.	VALUE.
49	Fiji and Sandwich Isles	£ 644
17	Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Christopher	£ 851
18	South Australia. Part I.	£ 919
54	Ditto Part II.	£ 341
55	Hamburg, Hanover, Oldenburg, Bremen, and Brunswick	£ 883
51	Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia	£ 703
50	Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island	£ 632
38	Western Australia	£ 1075
27	New South Wales	£ 1513
44	Brazil	£ 273
32	Ceylon	£ 508
31	Shanghai	£ 450
7	Portuguese India	£ 824
58	Mauritius	£ 1378

&c. &c. &c.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, STAMP IMPORTERS, 391, STRAND, LONDON.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

VOL. IV.

JUNE 30, 1894.

No. 48.

NOTICE.—The Publishers desire to draw attention to their removal to No. 391, Strand, London, where all Letters, &c., should be addressed. The Branch at 435, Strand, has been closed, and a new and large shop opened at 391, Strand.

NOTICE.—Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with this "Journal," are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

It has been our custom on reaching the end of a volume, which we do with our present number, to indulge in some kind of retrospect, glancing at the principal philatelic features of the past twelve months. The period in question has, however, been singularly uneventful from a philatelic point of view; there have been no great sensations—if we except the fact that early in the year a pair of "POST OFFICE" Mauritius fetched the highest price ever yet given for two stamps; no great discoveries, and no case of strict philatelic interest in the Law Courts. But we are happy to be able to report that Philately is still progressing, the number of serious collectors is still increasing, and philatelic study shows no sign of diminution.

Philately is still exposed to the dangers created by its own popularity; the Celebration Stamps and other unnecessary issues still flourish, but so far the popularity seems likely to survive the ill-effects that it has produced. The surcharging mania is, we think, gradually dying out, and a little firmness on the part of collectors and dealers would probably kill the Celebration Hydra, and scotch the other superfluous rubbish. These things are a real danger to stamp-collecting, and the sooner those who have invested money in stamp business recognise that fact, the better it will be for Philately.

* * *

ANOTHER healthy sign is the increasing favourable notice of our pursuit taken by the non-philatelic press—for we of course divide all literature into philatelic and non-philatelic. It is but seldom now-a-days that we hear the old nonsense about "dirty little pieces of paper," and

a Rip-van-Winklisch article, published last month in *The Fortnightly Review*, quite reminded us of old times. It was amusing to see all the fine old-crueted jibes of twenty or thirty years ago trotted out afresh, and it was evident that Mr. Roberts had not collected old books for nothing; but if his collection had only included a file of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, he would have been saved from the foolish mistake of founding a jest of the most venerable order, upon the supposition that the first number of that Journal was dated April 1, 1863! The writer is careful, however, to exhibit his ignorance of his subject in other ways; from the fact that an Exhibition of the Stamps of India and Ceylon was held early in 1893, and another of the Stamps of the West Indies in October last, whilst a long price was given for two Mauritius stamps a month or two before the last-named date, he jumps to the conclusion that "fashions in stamps vary as often and as rapidly as fashions in other things. The other day the rage was for stamps of British India and Ceylon; now old and scarce Europeans, especially unused, and early Colonials, particularly those of the West Indian Islands, the Cape of Good Hope, and Mauritius, are all the rage." The smallest possible amount of enquiry would have shown him that British India and Ceylon, the West Indies and the African Colonies, have formed, during the last three years, the subjects of study of the members of the London Philatelic Society, who are gradually taking all the principal groups of countries in their turn; that the Mauritius stamps in question have long been among the *desiderata* of the majority of the wealthy collectors, and that therefore whenever a specimen comes into the market it is certain to command a high price, and that fine unused copies of old Colonials and Europeans have been steadily rising in price for years past. Such fashions as there may be are easily accounted for; a country the whole of whose issues are obsolete, or which continues to issue stamps for business purposes only, is naturally a favourite with those philatelists whose one object is not merely to fill as many pages of an album as possible; if, on the other hand, a state floods the market with reprints, Celebration issues, and constant un-

necessary changes, collectors are apt to drop it altogether, and then even its older and rarer stamps lose some of their value. But the laws of supply and demand regulate the prices of stamps, as they do those of other things; and when we hear of 300 guineas being given for the empty shell of an egg of an extinct bird, of which egg-shells we are told some sixty-eight specimens exist, £200 does not seem an extravagant price for a British Guiana stamp, of which perhaps half-a-dozen copies are known. Neither egg nor stamp is a thing of great beauty; neither the one nor the other has any possible intrinsic value. The study of an egg-shell will teach us as little as the study of a stamp. And the Stamp Collector has at least the satisfaction of knowing that his pursuit has never caused the extinction or destruction of bird or beast. Who, we wonder, are those "best philatelic authorities" that "are of opinion that the V.R. is a genuine postage stamp"? By which we presume is meant that it was genuinely issued and used for postage. We thought that all philatelic authorities agreed in exactly the contrary opinion!

* * *

In the first number of this volume we gave a list of the blocks for Mulready covers and envelopes that we had been able to identify up to that date; since then we have had a fair number of additions to our list sent us by correspondents, to whom we would express our thanks. We give below the results of the information we have obtained during the past year, and we hope to receive the further assistance of our readers with notes, both as to numbers and arrangement. Illustrated envelopes of all kinds we are likewise glad to hear of. Our collection of these increases, we regret to say, very slowly.

Supplementary List of MULREADY numbers.

COVERS.—ONE PENNY.

A. 37, 40, 42, 70, 80, 81,
247, 254.

ENVELOPES.—ONE PENNY.

A. 131, 140, 142, 173, 187, 193,
302, 305.

It will be seen that we have evidence that a second series of 1d. envelopes, in addition to that of 1d. covers, and with still higher numbers, was produced, and no doubt No. 275, of which a proof impression only is known to us, might be added to the list of envelope blocks. We have also details of an almost entire sheet of 1d. envelopes, the numbers upon which are as follows:

133	134	173	141
132	135	138	142
131	136	139	

One corner of the sheet is missing, and if we suppose this to have been occupied by 140, we have a series of numbers from 131 to 142, but with 173 substituted for 137. As 137 is known to exist also, we might almost put this down to an error in making up the setting.

BERLIN LETTER.

THE season is becoming dull. Had not the weather been cold and rainy for the last few weeks, still less people would have been seen at the meetings of the philatelic societies and at the bourse. The Annual Convention of the German Philatelists, to be held at Kiel on July 14-16, will be the official end of this season. The programme of the Convention, sent out by the committee, is very promising. Of the papers announced two will be of special interest to the visitors. Mr. Lindenberg will read a paper on the stamps of Heligoland, based upon the official records of the Imperial Printing-office, where these stamps were manufactured, while Mr. Haas is going to treat of the stamps of the Suaheli Sultanate. Some other papers will be read on matters of general interest; but many of the visitors will no doubt prefer the part of the gathering given to pleasure and recreation, and they may expect a lively time with the kind hosts of the great seaport.

While the one season is dying the next one is already prepared. It is to open with an auction of stamps, held by the Dealers' Association at Berlin. It is curious that auctions have not met with favour in Germany, while they abound and flourish in England and the United States. A few years ago the Dealers' Association made a start with two auctions, but they were not successful. Let us hope that the new trial will have better results, and lead to the introduction of this kind of philatelic sale into the German capital.

In spite of the late season, philatelic publishers are busy. Messrs. Senf Brothers have just brought out the third edition of their standard catalogue. Mr. Heitmann, of Leipzig, is going to publish a rival to this work, from the pen of Mr. Lietzow. Let us hope that this rivalry may not tend to the fleecing of collectors, by an alternate but continuous raising of the prices; or it may happen that collectors will join a general strike, and leave the speculators alone, as the happy possessors of all the rarities they have taken into stock.

Besides these two general catalogues, another work must be mentioned, edited by Mr. Reinheimer, of Frankfurt. This author has made a speciality of the study of German obliterating marks. Some years since he published two catalogues of all the obliterations known to exist upon German postage stamps. Though but of small use to collectors of postage stamps, such a study was not without interest. But now Mr. Reinheimer has left the dry study, and has turned to the practical application of his labours. His latest work is the task of pricing every variety of obliteration on any postage stamps, as far as the German States are concerned. I may not apply to such an undertaking the term it really deserves. It is to be hoped that Mr. Reinheimer's catalogue will open the eyes of collectors, and demonstrate the absurdity of placing postage stamps and obliteration marks in the same collection. If any one cares to accumulate the latter he is at liberty to do so, but then he must not take any notice of the postage stamp that happens to be cancelled by a particular obliteration. Mr. Reinheimer's system must lead to the ruin of postage stamp collecting. English collectors, beware of imitating it!

There is another work in course of publication which promises to become the most detailed and reliable philatelic handbook of the world. It is edited and published by Mr. Kroetzsch, of Leipzig, with the aid of several prominent collectors. So far the German States have appeared, in alphabetical order, up to the North German Confederation. This work gives the fullest information on, and the most exact description of, all adhesive stamps, their reprints, forgeries, and cancellation marks. Unfortunately this latter part has taken too much room in the parts most recently published, and we should advise the editor to restrain himself in this direction, with the view to rendering his work more accessible to the general collector. Putting aside his too great concession—at least in my opinion—to the modern German style, Mr. Kroetzsch's work deserves great praise. It is full of new information and discoveries; special features are the autotype plates, not only of all the types of the stamps, but also of the obliterations. These plates are exceedingly useful to all who wish to compare any doubtful mark, but do not possess the originals. Mr. Kroetzsch's splendid series will match the celebrated editions of the London Philatelic Society, and the handbooks of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and with these will form a library of standard philatelic literature.

FRANCISCUS.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged if our readers will send, for description herein, any new issues or new varieties they may become acquainted with, addressing them to MAJOR EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., or to THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY JOURNAL, care of MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

Angola.—The *Ill. Brief Journal* reports that a stamp of the annexed design, previously chronicled as an *Essay for Portuguese Congo*, has been issued for this Colony, and if this be so it is probable that this is the new type adopted for use in all the Portuguese possessions.

Adhesive. 30 reis, blue; *perf.* 12.



Argentine Republic.—A few curiosities have been discovered among the obsolete envelopes, which have recently had their stamps cancelled, and are used as official stationery. *L'Annuaire Timbrologique* states that a copy of the 10 c. was found with the stamp on the left, while one of the 12 c. had concealed its stamp inside, in each case plainly in order to avoid the disfigurement.

Envelopes. 10 c., brown; stamp on left.
12 c., blue; stamp inside, in the middle.

Belgium.—The *Philatelic Record* reports the receipt of the 5 c. Antwerp Exhibition stamp on white paper.

Adhesive. 5 c., green on white; Antwerp type.

Bermuda.—The *Post Office* announces the discovery of the 3d., *perf.* 12½ × 14, with the surcharge "One Penny." If the surcharge is genuine, this would show that some portion of the supply of 3d. stamps sent out in 1874 was perforated in that manner, but the first specimens of the 3d. *perf.* 12½ × 14 that were chronicled were, we believe, some copies that we ourselves purchased in Bermuda at the time that the colour of that value was changed; the 1s. also, with compound *perf.*, is a recent discovery among stamps found at the post-office, all of which seems to indicate that this variety of perforation is of comparatively late date.

Several of our contemporaries are chronicling as a novelty a ½d. post card, in blue on buff; is there a new ½d. card, and, if so, in what respects does it differ from the issue of 1885?

British Central Africa.—The 3s. on 4s. stamp, given in the last Addendum to our publishers' Priced Catalogue under "British South Africa," only exists surcharged "B. C. A.," and therefore should be under this heading. The annexed illustration shows the type of the surcharge upon this stamp, and upon the 4s. on 5s. which preceded it.



British Guiana.—The following extract from *The Official Gazette*, of April 21st, may be of some interest:

"GENERAL POST-OFFICE,
"19th April, 1894.

"On and from the 1st of June the SURCHARGED STAMPS noted below will not be available for the prepayment of postage, viz.,

" 1 dollar, green, surcharged one cent.	
2 " " " " one cent.	
3 " " " " one cent.	
4 " " " " one cent.	

"Postage stamps which by this notice will become obsolete can be exchanged for current issue stamps of equal value on application at the public counter of the General Post-office up to 31st May, proximo.

"F. W. COLLIER, Postmaster-General."

Bulgaria.—*La Timbre-Poste* announces the 5 st. with the latest varieties of paper and perforation.

Adhesive. 5 st., green on picture; *perf.* 10½.

Cape of Good Hope.—Our publishers have shown us a specimen of the "THREE PENCE" (on 4d.), black and lilac-rose, surcharged with a thick figure "3," identical in type with that found upon the later 3d. stamp. It is possible that a sheet of the "THREE PENCE" on 4d. may have been accidentally overprinted in this manner, with the other 3d. stamps of the same colour.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste chronicles the ½d. wrapper in a new colour.

Adhesive. THREEPENCE (on 4d.), black and lilac-rose;

surcharged "3."

Wrapper. ½d., green on buff.

Ceylon.—We have received the 2 c. wrapper with the impression in a new colour, and with a new form of inscription; the latter is now enclosed in a plain double-lined oblong frame, and reads as follows:

"WRAPPER FOR PRINTED MATTER.

"Printed matter includes all documents in writing or print not in the nature of a personal communication, and must be posted open at both ends so as to admit of the removal and inspection of the contents without breaking the seal or fastening, and without injury to the wrapper."

The paper is yellowish wove, with the upper corners tapered, and the specimen before us shows no trace of gum.

Wrapper. 2 c., violet on yellowish; 125 × 315 mm.

The following cutting, from *The Times* of Ceylon for April 6th, shows, we hope, that the surcharging of stamps in this island has been definitely stopped:

"THE SALE OF STAMPS.—Several complaints have, we hear, reached the Treasurer from stamp vendors with regard to the failure of the supply of 30 cent postage stamps. The stamp office has run out of these, and stamp vendors have been requested to await the arrival of a fresh supply expected in a few days. Under the old system the deficiency would have been at once supplied by the process of surcharging stamps of other values, but that practice has now been discontinued under instructions from Government."

Chinkiang.—We learn from *Whitaker's Almanack* that there are twenty Treaty Ports in China, and three in Corea, and it seems not improbable that, inspired by the financial success achieved by Shanghai, each one of these will start an issue of stamps on its own account, and that the Chinese Locals will rival in number those of Russia. We have received a photograph of the design adopted by Chinkiang (not to be confused with Chungking), which represents the "Golden Island" lying off that port, with the Pagoda-shaped landmark upon it, within a circular band inscribed with the name above and "POSTAL SERVICE" below, the two parts of the inscription being separated at each side by a tablet bearing a numeral; this is enclosed in a rectangle, with the value in words in a scroll at the bottom, and a Chinese inscription at the top. The series, which is to be ready for issue on July 1st, is as follows:—

Adhesives.

½ c., red.
1 c., blue.
2 c., brown.
4 c., green.
5 c., orange.
6 c., yellow.
10 c., mauve.

Chunking.—We have received from Mr. D. Benjamin some of the stamps of this Treaty Port, which we chronicled in April. They appear to be printed in horizontal strips of ten, and show that number of varieties of type of the central design, but the frame and inscriptions seem to be identical in type for the whole row. They are roughly perforated, about 12½ or 13, vertically, and the end stamps of each strip are perforated at one side only.

Colombia.—We give an illustration of the Return Receipt stamp which we chronicled last month.



Djibouti.—We have received two values of a special series of oblong stamps, considerably larger than those showing the family party of Obokof, for this village. In the centre is an oriental view, surrounded by a deep frame, inscribed at top "PROTECTORAT--DE LA--CÔTE DES SOMALIS," in three lines, between the letters "R.F.," and below "DJIBOUTI 1893-94" to show that this is an

annual, not a perennial. At the sides are native warriors, with lances and shields, the value in figures in the upper corners, and the words "SERVICE-POSTAL" in the lower. But what are all these extraordinary labels? There is, we believe, a regular issue for Obock of the ordinary French Colonial type, and we should be glad to know whether these oblong and triangular monstrosities are anything better than a private speculation.

Adhesives. 1 c., claret centre, black frame, on quadrill.
2 c., black " " claret " " "

Ecuador.—*Le T. P.* gives a long list of varieties of the surcharge "5 CENTAVOS" on the 50 c., and 1 and 5 sucres of the last issue. It appears that there are three varieties of the Roman letters, two of which occur on the 5 sucres, and all three on the 1 sucre postage stamps, besides the *sans-serif* surcharge which is found on the three values of postals and on the 5 sucres telegraph. The surcharges are also to be found in various positions, which add to their variety and interest.

Roman type, 25½ × 2½ mm.
5 CENTAVOS, in black, on 1 sucre, blue.
5 " " on 5 sucres, purple.

Roman type, 24 × 2½ mm.
5 CENTAVOS, in black, on 1 sucre, blue.

Roman (or fancy?) type, 24 × 2 mm.
5 CENTAVOS, in black, on 1 sucre, blue.
5 " " on 5 sucres, purple.

Sans-serif type, 25½ × 3 mm.
5 CENTAVOS, in black, on 50 cent., maroon.
5 " " on 1 sucre, blue.
5 " " on 5 sucres, purple.
5 " " on 5 " " black and carmine; telegraph.

France.—We give illustrations of two of the surcharged stamps, chronicled last month as issued for Zanzibar.



French Colonies.—We learn from *Le T. P.* that 25 c. envelopes, in three sizes, are added to the lists of stationery of the score or so of French possessions.

Envelopes. 25 c., red and black on rose; three sizes.

The latest of these (up to time of going to press) to be provided with a full set of stamps, &c., is Kerguelen Island. *Le T.-P.* objects that this place is uninhabited, but that is of no consequence, some one might be shipwrecked there, and might want to write letters or collect stamps—and it is a kindly and hospitable act to provide for such an emergency! Besides, the stamps, &c., will doubtless sell well in Paris.

French Congo.—We give an illustration of the 25 c. French Colonial stamp, with a variety of surcharge which we described in November 1892, and which *Le T.-P.* informs us exists reading downwards as well as upwards.



The same authority tells us of two types of the "15 c." vertical surcharge, shown in the two following illustrations, of which the smaller type has been found on the 25 c. only, and we may take this and the 10 c. given above to be Nos. 11 and 11a in our publishers' current catalogue. The larger type exists on several values, as follows:

Adhesives. 15 c., in black, on 5 c., green on green
15 c. " " 10 c., black on lilac.
15 c. " " 15 c., blue.
15 c. " " 25 c., black on rose.
15 c. " " 1 fr., bronze-green.

The surcharge upon the third item in the list seems a little superfluous, but perhaps is not more so really than the others.

French Soudan.—We have received a set of adhesives for this locality, with the name "SOUDAN FRANÇAIS" inserted in the tablet, and we understand that there is the usual full series of stationery. Pending the receipt of these in the territory for which they are intended, the French Soudanese have found it necessary (?) to surcharge some of the previous colonial stamps, with the name in capitals above, and a fresh value below, in black.

Adhesives. "0.15," in black, on 75 c., rose.
"0.25," " " 1 fr., bronze-green.
Also new series.

German East Africa.—*The Ph. R.* assures us that the 5 + 5 pesa on 10 + 10 pf. card has not yet been issued.

Germany.—*The Ill. Brief. Journal* states that the current stamps are protected by a design of crowns, eagles, and posthorns, printed in invisible ink, which turns violet on the application of an alkali.

A correspondent draws our attention to the fact that we have omitted to notice the change in the Pneumatic Envelope, which has borne, we believe since 1889, a 30 pfennig stamp of the type of the current adhesives. The envelope, grey on the inside, which we chronicled in April, 1893, and which appears in the first Addendum to our publishers' current Catalogue, bears a stamp of Type 1067, not 1065, and the same exists on ordinary rose coloured paper.

Great Britain.—*Le T.-P.* denounces a fraudulent specimen of the 40 paras on 2½d. envelope with inverted surcharge, which franked a letter to the editor of that journal from a clerk in an English post office in Turkey. The letters of the word "PARAS" resemble, more or less, those of the original, but the figure "4" does not. We would warn our readers to be on the look-out for curiosities of this nature.

Mr. Morley informs us that he has recently found the 3d., rose, embossed stamp, with "INLAND REVENUE" surcharge in green, perf., 12½. This value has not been hitherto chronicled perforated, and what is still more curious is that Mr. Morley's specimens (Dies C and D) are dated 1860 and used in 1860 and 1861, though it has been generally supposed that none of these embossed stamps were perforated until 1871! This forms another addition to the long list of Revenue stamps that can be used for postage.

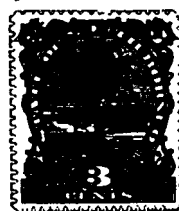
Fiscal Postal. 3d., green and rose; perf. 12½.

Hong Kong.—*The London Philatelist*, which adds to the eccentricities of its classification by banishing Hong Kong from the British Colonies, chronicles the following curiosities:

20 c. on 30 c., black and green; pair with Chinese surcharge on one stamp only.
50 c. on 48 c., black and violet ditto ditto.
1 dollar on 96 c., black and brown on red; with Chinese surcharge at both sides.

Kewkiang.—Mr. Benjamin sends us news of an approaching issue for this port, the design of which we will describe when we have seen the stamps, as there is no object in going out of our way to meet trouble!

Labuan.—We give illustrations of the North Borneo stamps, as disfigured for the benefit of this territory.





Malta.—We hear that an unperforated sheet of the current 4d. has turned up here, and that specimens are being offered at long prices, but we have not seen them, so cannot vouch for the truth of the rumour.

Mauritius.—Our publishers have shown us a copy of the *green* Britannia stamp, with a distinct double impression of the "FOUR-PENCE" surcharge.

Mexico.—We have received some new post cards, the constant minor changes in the pattern of which are getting monotonous. The design is a modification of that of the issue of last year, the wavy scroll bearing the inscription, "SERVICIO • POSTAL • MEXICANO" is more curved, so as to allow more room for the Arms above it; the inscriptions at the ends are barricaded off by a row of shaded balls, and the stamp space is enclosed on two sides by a double scalloped border. The cards before us are for the Postal Union. We have also the official stamp in a new colour, printed on paper which might be either laid or wove, and with the watermark of the current adhesives.

Post Cards. 2 c., carmine and green on straw.
3 c., vermilion " "

Official Stamp. No value, blue. " "

Nevis.—A correspondent kindly sends a specimen of the 4d., engraved, perf. 15, wmkd. with large letters "S" and apparently part of "U"; no doubt a portion of some manufacturer's mark, such as has been noted in other cases, but not, we believe, in these stamps hitherto.

Nicaragua.—Our publishers send us a strip of the 10 c., of the early oblong type, perforated horizontally, but imperf. vertically; they have also found, among some of the remainders of the 1893 issue, the 2 c. printed in the exact colour of the 1 peso! The remainders also include a 25 c. value of the official set, which was not chronicled while the stamps were in circulation, and which does not appear in the series for ordinary use. There is also a 4 c. Wrapper to be added to the list, and we find that the 5 c. and 10 c. envelopes are 149 x 86 mm., and the 1 c. Wrapper 165 x 265 mm., instead of as stated in Feb., 1893.

Adhesives. 10 c., vermilion (1860); imperf. vertically.

2 c., brown (1893); error.

Wrapper. 4 c., green on salmon (1893); 203 x 267 mm.

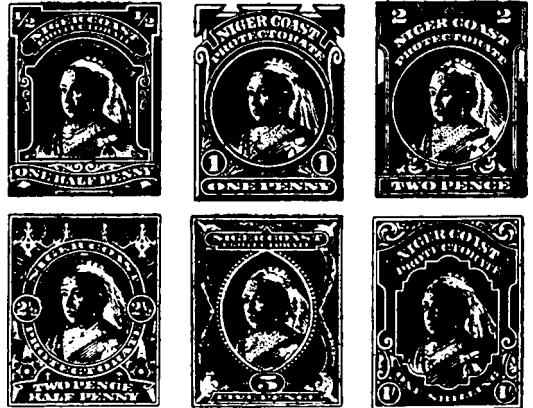
Official Stamp. 25 c., red and slate (1893).

We find that we chronicled the 1 peso last year as *dark blue*, and having never seen the stamp till now, we did not discover our mistake; the colour is *brown*.

Niger Coast Protectorate.—Mr. Homewood kindly sends us specimens of the new issue, the designs

of which need no description, as we append illustrations of them, and we have only to add that they are finely engraved, in *taille douce*, and perf. between 14½ and 15.

Adhesives. ½d., green.
1d., vermilion.
2d., carmine.
2½d., blue.
5d., violet.
1s., black.



Obock.—*Le C. de T.-P.* informs us that a full set of envelopes and cards, with the oblong stamp, have been added to the stationery for this department.

Envelopes. 5 c., green and brown on green.
15 c., blue and carmine on bluish.

25 c., black and blue on rose.

Post Cards. 10 c., black (and green?) on pale green.

10 + 10 c. " (") on blue.

Letter Cards. 15 c. " (and carmine?) on grey.

25 c. " (and blue?) on rose.

Peru.—*The Philatelic Journal of America* warns its readers against some forgeries of the various provisional issues of 1884-85, which are being offered from Arequipa, and we would repeat the warning here. The same magazine gives a long list of the obsolete stamps that the Peruvian Government have on hand, showing the quantities of each, the stocks in not a few cases being very considerable.

Philippine Islands.—The new issues for the Spanish colonies appear to be printed in colours that are very hard to describe. We copy the latest version from *The Ph. R.*, which adds that there is said to be a 2 c., *carmine*, for Manila, and a 2 c., *brown*, for other parts. The latter certainly exists, for we have received a copy from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives. 2 c. de peso, brown.
6 " brick-red.
8 " red-brown.
20 " violet-brown.

Portuguese Indies.—*Le T. P.* reports the issue of a stamp of the accompanying design, which may be seen to be the same as that previously chronicled for Angola and Portuguese Congo.

Adhesive. 1 tanga, rose.



Queensland.—Some most interesting notes, by Mr. E. D. Bacon, on another page of this number, set, we hope finally, at rest the vexed question of the existence of the first Shilling stamp of this colony in the imperforate condition.

Roumania.—We have received the new set of adhesives, up to 25 bani, and find them all to be perf. about 13, and wmkd. "P. R." The wrapper is on the same *yellowish granite* paper as before, and measures 472 x 42 mm. The Letter Card measures 137 x 84 mm., and like the 15 bani of 1892, is perforated before being folded; the 5 bani card of 1891 was perforated after folding, and varies considerably in size, three copies before us measure 128 mm. in width with 111 mm. between the side lines of perforations, 134 mm. with 116 mm. between the lines, and 138 mm. with 120 mm. between the lines of perforations; all three are about the same depth, 84 mm.

Russian Local.—From *Le Timbre-Poste*:

Charloff.—The stamp of this district appears with figure of value upon a solid ground, as shown in the accompanying illustration. *Adhesive.* 5 kop., ultramarine; *perf.* 11½.



Samoa.—Above we give illustrations of the second of the provisionals, and of the permanent (?) 5d., which we described last month.

We have received copies of the latter, and find that it is not printed in *carmine*, but in *red*, with a very slight *rosy* tinge, and that the *wmk.* is "N. Z." and small Star, and the perforation 11½ × 12. Messrs. Cameron & Co. send us a block of the "FIVE PENCE" on 4d., on several of which the second word reads "PENOE," the ends of the "c" being joined by heavy inking.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us an entire pane of 60, of the same provisional, on which we note great irregularity in the distance between the words "FIVE PENCE" and the bars which cancel the original value. The bars fall fairly evenly on the words "FOUR PENCE" in each case, but the word "PENCE" in one instance actually touches the thin top bar, and in one other is 6 mm. above it. In no case do we find the thin bar below the thick one, as shown in the illustration. The last stamp in the third horizontal row has no bars at all, and the word "PENCE" falls where the bars should be. These, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us, were issued in November last. The "5d.," in *red*, on 4d. followed three weeks later, the first variety not being considered satisfactory, and the new type appeared on January 26th.

Adhesive.

"FIVE PENCE," in black, on 4d., blue; *variety without the bars.*

Serbia.—*Le T. P.* chronicles a new Postal Union Card, with stamp of current type on right and Arms on left; the heading is in three lines, the two upper of which extend across the card above the Arms and stamp; the left portion of each line is in Serbian, and the right in French, as follows: "CARTE POSTALE"—"UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE"—"SERBIE." There are four dotted lines for the address, the third being underlined, and an instruction in French at the left side and in Serbian in the left lower corner. *Post Card.* 10 paras, red on buff; 147 × 95 mm.

Seychelles.—We learn from a letter, kindly forwarded to us by Messrs. Cameron & Co., that this colony proposes to celebrate the centenary of its capture by a British ship, in 1794, by the issue of a special stamped envelope. We could almost regret that these islands were ever captured at all, if this is their idea of celebrating the event!

Sierra Leone.—We give an illustration of the stamp upon the Registration Envelopes.



A correspondent in this colony tells us that, during a recent dearth of 1d. Bill Stamps, a quantity of the 6d. long rectangular "Stamp Duty" labels, with the original value cancelled, were surcharged "ONE-PENNY," in one line, in black, and that "postage stamps also were used for bills and *vice versa*," but without any authority for such use. We

gather however that some of these surcharged bill stamps did pass through the post on letters, and were permitted to frank them, owing to some uncertainty as to whether they might be thus employed or not.

Adhesive. "ONE-PENNY," in black, on 6d., lilac; *value* in green.

Sirmoor.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* reports the receipt of the 3 pies, orange, with a fresh setting of the "O S. S. S." surcharge, one of the types having a narrow "O" and another all the letters "S" inverted; there is also entire absence of punctuation on both of these.

South Australia.—The *Ill. Brief. Zeitung* chronicles the current post card with the "O. S." surcharge in the narrow type.

Service Card. 1d., brown on buff; "O. S." in black.

Straits Settlements.—*The American Journal of Philately* announces that the 12 c. is now printed in *claret* instead of purple; the colour of this value, since it ceased to be blue, has always been a rather doubtful one, but we presume a distinct change of tint has now taken place.

Adhesive. 12 c., claret.

Swaziland.—Our publishers send us a portion of a sheet of the 5 shillings, the stamp in the left lower corner of which shows the error of surcharge "SWAZIELAN," without the final "D." This error has been already chronicled on the 2d., in the same position on the sheet. Does it not exist on some of the other values also?

Adhesive. 5 s., black and grey; *error* "Swazielan."

Switzerland.—Our publishers have shown us a specimen of the 15 rappen, of 1852, large figures, with a very clear impression on the back. *The Stamp News* chronicles the 15 rappen of 1854 without the silk thread.

Adhesives. 15 rp., rose (1852); *printed on both sides.*
15 rp. " (1854); *no silk thread.*

Tolima.—Our publishers send us a portion of an imperforate sheet of the 5 c., brown, of 1886 (Type 3088 in the Catalogue). It consists of a block of 20, five horizontal rows of four, the third stamp in the second row and the second in the fifth row being 10 c., thus:—

5	5	5	5
5	5	10	5
5	5	5	5
5	5	5	5
5	10	5	5

The lithographic transfers, with which the stone was made up, are irregularly placed throughout.

Adhesive. 10 c., brown; *error in sheet of 5 c.*

United States.—The current small 2 c. has appeared in some curious varieties of type, which seem to be due to a touching up of the die or one of the plates. The figures "2" have a slight projection, or cap, on the top, which is found sometimes on one figure, sometimes on the other, and sometimes (more commonly, we believe) on both. What is the cause of these "caps," and of their eccentricities of appearance, we are quite unable to say.

The Ph. J. of A. announces the discovery of a specimen of the New Haven envelope stamp in blue, instead of red. It is stated that three original specimens of the red stamp are known, and that this is the only blue impression yet discovered. The signature, we presume, is in black; the paper is buff. *New Haven Envelope.* 5 c., blue on buff.

Uruguay.—A correspondent sends us the following cutting from *The Montevideo Times* of May 15th:—

"A new issue of 1 cent stamps will be put in circulation from to-day. They are of the design of 1830, and printed in sky-blue. Ninety days are given for the withdrawal from circulation of the 1 cent stamps now in use, after which time they will be of no value for postal purposes. We presume the new issue of other values will follow shortly."

He adds, however, that up to the 23rd May he had not been able to obtain a specimen at Buenos Ayres. A correspondent at Montevideo was more fortunate, and enclosed copies in a letter dated the 15th; but probably there was a run upon the new stamps at first, and only persons on the spot could get them. The stamp we have seen is not, as we had expected, the type of 1892 in a new colour, but the type of 1890 in a shade resembling that of the 5 c. of 1892.

Adhesive. 1 c., dull blue; *perf.* 15.

Western Australia.—In reference to some of the doubtful dates given in Mr. Phillips' reference list in November last, a correspondent tells us that he has found with *wmk.* Crown and CA, *perf.* 14, the 1d., *bistre*, dated Feb., 1886, and the 2d., *yellow*, May, 1889. He has no doubt, however, that the latter was in use before the date quoted.

Vindin's Philatelic Monthly states that the postage and revenue stamps of this colony, of one shilling and under, can be used for either purpose, but that revenue stamps of higher values cannot be employed for postage.

Zululand.—We have received an official notice, of which we give a copy below, relating to a new issue of stamps for this territory. We have seen the 1d., which is of the same type as the high values of Gold Coast, and has the usual *wmk.* and perforation.

[ZULULAND, No. VIII., 1894.]



PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency the Honourable SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Natal, Vice-Admiral of the same, and Supreme Chief over the Native Population, Governor of Zululand, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS under, and by virtue of the provisions of Zululand Proclamation No. II. of 1887, the Law No. 2, 1869, of the Colony of Natal received, and now has the force of Law within the territory of Zululand, and whereas it is expedient to amend the Law in force in the said territory by depriving certain provisions of the same of legal force, and to make other provision instead thereof:

And whereas Section 3 of the said Natal Law, No. 2, 1869, in force in Zululand, empowers the Governor by Proclamation to direct, appoint, define, and describe the colour, inscription, or other distinguishing mark of Stamps to be used as Postage Stamps:

And whereas it has been deemed expedient to provide for the issue of Stamps, to be available for both Postage and Revenue purposes:

Now therefore, under and by virtue of the powers in me vested, I do hereby proclaim and make known as follows:

1. Sections 1 and 2 of the Natal Law, No. 2, 1869, in force in Zululand, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed, but such repeal shall not affect, alter, or apply to any act or thing done, or left undone, any legal right accrued, or any legal liability incurred or imposed under the provisions of the said sections, before the date of this Proclamation.

2. The Stamps defined and described hereunder may, after the date of the issue of this Proclamation, be used and shall be deemed available for both Revenue and Postage purposes, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any Law hitherto in force in Zululand.

3. And I do hereby direct, appoint, and define that from and after the date of these presents the following Stamps may be used, and shall be deemed available for both Postage and Revenue purposes, that is to say:

Lilac coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "3d.," in letters of green, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Lilac coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "1d.," in letters of red, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Lilac coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "2d.," in letters of light blue, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Lilac coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "3d.," in letters of bronze, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Lilac coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "6d.," in letters of black, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Green coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "1s.," and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Green coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "4s.," in letters of red, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Red coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "1l.," in letters of lilac, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

Red coloured adhesive Stamps, bearing the inscription "Zululand," "5s.," in letters of black, and having the words "Postage and Revenue" printed thereon.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

Given under my hand and Seal, at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, this the Eighteenth day of April, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-four.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor of Zululand.

By command of His Excellency the Governor of Zululand.

J. WINDHAM,
Secretary for Zululand.

THE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL.

BY EMIL TAMSEN.

(Continued from page 229.)

[The following note belongs to Part II., but was unfortunately received too late for insertion in its proper place.—Ed.]

FROM the Postmaster-General's report for 1879, which I have lately received from Mr. Jøppe, I note the following:

We have still a rate of postage different to that of the other colonies in South Africa, and the increase of work shows daily how inadequate the buildings used for several post-offices are.

The postal regulations have not been revised yet.

New dies and stamps have been ordered and may be expected daily.

I am sorry to have to report that for various reasons the suggestions and recommendations I made last year have not yet been complied with.

STATEMENT SHOWING STAMPS ISSUED DURING THE YEAR 1879.

Transvaal Stamps.					
1 p.	3 p.	4 p.	6 p.	1s.	2s.
191,089	131,854	32,501	65,816	7,583	430
Cape Colonial Stamps.					
½ p.	1 p.	4 p.	6 p.	1s.	
14,882	16,347	7,922	11,584	490	

The balance of the report is of no particular interest to collectors. From the above it will be seen that the Cape Colonial stamps were still used in 1879, and in considerable quantities. I had always been under the impression that after 1878 no more were used, but I see now that this was not the case. I came into the country early in 1880, but do not remember ever having seen any Cape stamps used in connection with the Transvaal stamps. I am positive that I myself never used one, although I had a large correspondence, and if the regulations for the use of both had still been in force I would have had to comply therewith.

PART III.

The Stamps of the Second Republic.

THE history of these stamps is for the most part uneventful, nor are the stamps (with a few exceptions) rare. The statistics which I will give of the different issues show a great increase in the sale of stamps, due to the opening of the several goldfields which attracted people and capital to the country, and occasioned a corresponding increase of correspondence.

The first mention of any postal matter that I find is the Convention entered into by the Royal Commission representing England, and the Triumvirate representing the Boer Government, drawn up after the war, in Pretoria, is Art. 30 of the Pretoria Convention, entered into and signed on 3rd August, 1881. It reads as follows:

All unused postage or revenue stamps issued by the Government since the annexation shall remain of value, and shall be accepted by the coming Government against the amount expressed thereon.

When the British officials left the country on August 11th, 1881, they handed over to the new authorities the following postage stamps, all of the Queen's head type:

1 p.	3 p.	4 p.	6 p.	1s.	2s.
90,160	150,080	224,000	159,010	7	4,000

At the same time the revenue stamps of similar type were handed over. Of some values of these enormous quantities must have been on hand, as some of them are still in use.

The supplies of some values of the postage stamps lasted for a long time, and were only exhausted by surcharging large quantities with the values mostly required. The first stamps to run out were the 1 p., then came the 3 p., followed in 1883 by the 4 p. The 2s. were used up in 1886 for telegrams in Johannesburg; and the 6 p. lasted till the new permanent type arrived from Holland in 1885.

The last batch of 15,000 1 p. stamps was issued on July 4th, 1882, and these were sold out in the beginning of August, when 120,000 of the 4 p. were overprinted "EEN PENNY," in black capital letters. The first lot of 12,000 of these was issued on August 11th, 1882, and the last batch on hand, consisting of 30,000, was issued on February 20th, 1883, and lasted till April, so that they had a currency of about eight months. This stamp is also chronicled with a larger type of surcharge, but in this I do not believe; the printing took place on one day, and was done with one machine, I therefore see no possibility of two different surcharges existing, and I have never come across a satisfactory specimen of the second type. There exists an inverted variety of the regular type, it is scarce, and apparently very few sheets were so misprinted; many specimens show faulty surcharges, owing to defective ink and printing, and have "EEN PENNY E," "EEN PENN," "Y EEN PENN," "NY EEN PEN"; a pair, the first of which has "EEN PENN," the second "Y EEN P," the rest having failed to print; another pair where the "N" of "EEN," and "Y" of "PENNY" are missing in the first, and "E" of "EEN," and "NNY" of "PENNY," in the second; also some specimens on which the surcharge is so faint as to be hardly visible. No doubt similar curiosities exist of which I have not heard.

The following Government notice shows the date of reduction of the Inland postal rate from 4 p. to 3 p., which is the cause for the subsequent demand for the lower value:

NOTICE.

For general information it is published that, according to Legislative Council Resolution art. 286, dated 25th August, 1882, from and after 10th October next the undermentioned postal rates will come into force:—

(1) Within the borders of the Republic.

Letters per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or part thereof	... 3d.
Newspapers not heavier than 4 oz.	... 1d.

On letters which are delivered at the office where they were posted.

For each $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or part thereof	... 1d.
--	---------

For Book or Sample Packets.

For every 2 oz. or part thereof	... 1d.
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(2) In South Africa, outside the borders of the Republic.

On letters per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or part thereof	... 4d.
On each newspaper as above	... 1d.
On book or sample packets, per 2 oz. or part	... 1d.

The postage on letters, newspapers, and book packets for foreign countries is the same as the postage which is to be paid in the Cape Colony or Natal, with the addition of the postage to those places.

On January 27, 1883, the last lot of Queen's head 3 p., 11,400 in number, was issued, and on February 20, 1883, a supply of 23,520 was printed from the old plates and issued the same day. These stamps were printed in black, on the remainder of the red paper, part of which had been used for the 6 p., blue on red, of 1877. They are perforated 12. The printing is well done, but shades may be found owing to light or heavy inking of the plates when printing. This stamp is scarce, but the printer of the German forgeries has flooded the world with an imitation. The copies I have seen differ in colour from the genuine; the paper also is thinner, and the gum is thin and smooth. I have only seen them unused, but no doubt they exist also defaced by the imitation of the cancellation of the first Republic.

I find in the *Official Record* that on February 22, 1883, a second printing of 47,995 3 p. stamps took place, the first of which, however, were only issued on May 7, 1883. These I believe to have been the red on white paper, the same type as before; the *Official Record* gives no colours. These 3 p., red on white, appear to have only been noticed at the end of 1883 in Europe, and are then chronicled as having been issued in September, 1883.

It was stated in *The Philatelic Record* for April, 1883, that the red paper was exhausted by the printing of the 23,520 stamps, and this appears to be confirmed by the comparative scarcity of the 3 p. on this paper; but in that case it is certainly curious that the 3 p., red on white, which must have been issued in May, was not heard of in Europe till several months later.

Three further printings of 3 p. stamps took place before the end of September, 1883; 8000 were printed on July 5 and issued on August 27; 8000 on August 5, issued September 6; and 24,000 on September 21, of which 2000 were issued the same day. The discovery of a specimen of the 3 p., red on white, used prior to August, 1883, would therefore prove that at least some of those printed on February 22 of that year were on white paper.

Owing to the different printings of the 3 p., red on white, there are numerous varieties of shade. The original red varies from a very pale light red to vermilion, red-brown, and even dark brown. I have one copy of this stamp with the sides imperforate, but perforated horizontally; to my mind it is satisfactory, whereas I strongly doubt the imperforate copies I have seen and possess, I believe them to have been made by cutting off the perforation, and therefore do not chronicle them.

The last batch of 30,000 of the 1 p. on 4 p., green, Queen's head, issued on February 20th, 1883, did

not last long. I find in the official stamp record that on April 5th, 1883, 56,000 1 p. stamps were printed from the old plates, and that 24,000 of these were issued the same day. These are printed in *black* on ordinary white wove paper, and are perforated 12. There were some twenty printings of this stamp, consequently distinct shades can be met with. I have them from a *light grey* to *deep jet-black*. Some sheets must have escaped perforation, as I have pairs and strips imperforate, some pairs with sides imperforate and perforated horizontally, others horizontally imperforate and perforated vertically.

The next item of interest in the official stamp record for 1883 is July 19th, 48,240 1s. stamps printed from the old plates: the first lot of these issued was 8000 on August 3rd, 1883. This is the 1s., *green*, on white wove paper, the same as that used for the 3 p., *red*, and 1 p., *black*, perforated 12. Shades can be found, but they are only light and dark, owing mostly to the quantity of ink left on the plates when printing. I know of no errors of perforation, but the stamp in the left upper corner of the right hand portion of the double sheet is upside down. There was only this one printing of the 1s. stamps, and of these nearly 10,000 were still on hand in August, 1885, and were then overprinted "HALVE PENNY," and used for prepayment of postage on newspapers.

The total quantities of the stamps printed from the old plates were:

	1 p., black.	3 p., black on red.	3 p., red on white.	1s., green.
1883 . . .	192,240	23,520	148,395	48,240
1884 . . .	358,320	...	286,080	...
1885 . . .	107,840	...	60,000	...
	658,400	23,520	494,475	48,240
Of these were overprinted with ½ p. in 1885 . . .	...	...	52,080	9,840
There were thus really used	658,400	23,520	442,395	38,400

It will be seen that the official stamp record mentions no 6 p. stamps being printed from the old plates. I thought formerly that the reason for this was that the plates had been damaged and thus rendered useless for printing purposes, and it was only when I saw the large quantity of Queen's head 6 p. stamps handed over in 1881 that I understood the real reason for there being no further printings of that value. Most cataloguers have up to quite lately chronicled a 6 p., *blue*, as belonging to the 1883 issue, and on the strength of this the German printer included that value in his sets. The non-issue of the 6 p. stamp is so far good, as its presence condemns at once the sets of the 1883 stamps, in which a 6 p., *blue*, perforated, is included.

The German impressions of the 3 p., *red* on white, are fairly well done, and come nearest to

* It will be noticed that I only allow one printing for the 3 p., *black on red*. Should I be wrong here then the totals of the two 3 p. stamps must be altered.

the originals, far nearer than any of the others of the set; the paper, however, is too thin and fine, not so coarse as that of the genuine. The perforation is the same as in the originals. The colours of the other values are not like the originals, in fact the bogus affairs are too good and too well finished. The genuine 1 p. and 3 p. are plentiful enough, and every collector ought to be easily able to get them: they come in very handy for comparison with forgeries of the stamps of the First Republic and "V.R." issues. The tests for the forgeries are exactly the same as those I have mentioned in Part I. I have not yet seen any obliterated copies, but the low prices quoted by European dealers lead me to believe that they exist, as it is impossible to sell a genuine 3 p., *black on red*, at 3 p., or a non-existent *genuine* 6 p., *blue*, at 9 p. (as it would be cheap at any price); the 1s., *green*, also is certainly cheap at 3 p. All the stamps printed from the old plates, the 1 p., *black*, 3 p., *black on rose*, 3 p., *red on white*, and 1s., *green*, used from 1883 to 1885, were printed by Mr. T. F. Celliers, Printer and Proprietor of the *Volkstem*, a bi-weekly Dutch newspaper, who held the Government printing contracts, and who supplied all Government stationery and printing, which included postage stamps; in 1889 the Government bought his whole printing establishment, and converted it into a State Printing Office, in which all the necessary printing is done, and where also all surcharges on postage stamps, overprinting Transvaal stamps with "Swaziland," &c., are executed.

Owing to infrequent communication—generally only once a week—between the outlying offices and the capital, Pretoria, some offices were often out of certain values of postage stamps, and then the plan of cutting stamps and using each part as a special stamp, was allowed, and very often adopted, by the Postmaster; sometimes the letters were sent without stamps to the next office, together with postage in cash, and the note "no stamps on hand," and were then franked there, or sent on again to the head office.

I have the 3 p., *black on rose*, cut in half, and used with an entire stamp as 4 p.; also the 3 p., *red on white*, used in a similar manner, and a half of a 1s. used as a 6 p. I believe that many of the cut Queen's Head stamps were used in the time of the Republic. Moens catalogues a 3 p., *black on rose*, with vertical perforation and horizontal rouletting. I cannot at all account for this variety, and do not chronicle it.

In Law No. 3 of 1884, regulating the Telegraph Department, under Art. 20, it is enacted that postage stamps are always to be used for the prepayment of telegrams, and the officials are strictly instructed to deface them before sending off the telegrams; as the rate for a 10 word telegram was 1s., the 6 p. Queen's head and 1s. First Republic Type were used till the new stamps arrived in 1885. There were, in February 1885, only two telegraph lines, with one hundred and eighty miles of wire, and three offices open; the Department was thus not much patronized. I find

that in the whole of 1885 only £1528 13s. 6d., and in 1866 £3503 7s. 6d. worth of postage stamps were used by the Telegraph Department in the whole country, whereas the stamps used for postage in the same years amounted to £5107 1s. 1½d. for 1885, and £4767 6s. 3½d. for 1886. The Telegraph Service used only the higher values of stamps, whereas the Post-office required principally the lower values.

By decree of Volksraad, dated 3rd November, 1884, Art. 1166, the Government was empowered—

- (a) to enter into a postal convention with the Cape Colony.
- (b) to reduce the inland postal rates in the Republic, so that they agreed with the above convention.
- (c) to enter into similar conventions with the Governments of the Orange Free State and Natal.

The instruction under (a) was soon carried out, with the result that the new convention was to come into force on January 1st, 1885. The public got thereby the benefit of a cheaper rate of postage, newspapers were reduced to ½ p. each, and the ordinary letter rate of 3 p. per ½ oz. was reduced to 2 p. These rates for inland postage have been in force ever since. It is now however very desirable to have a 1 p. inland rate, as it is certainly unfair to pay 2 p. for a distance of ten miles inland, and same amount for a letter to Cape Town, a distance of over 1000 miles.

NO. 368. GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

In accordance with Government notice No. 367, dated 15th December, 1884, and with decree of Volksraad, Art. 1166, of 3rd November, 1884, it is hereby made known for general information that, in consequence of the postal convention between the Government of the Cape Colony and of the South African Republic, the inland postal rates shall be, from 1st January, 1885, as follows:

1. Letters per ½ oz. or portion thereof ... 2d.
2. Book and sample packets per 2 ozs. or part thereof ... 1d.
3. Parcels per 4 ozs. ... 3d.
4. Registration per each article, no matter what weight or destination ... 6d.
5. *Government Gazette* and other newspapers, if not weighing more than 4 ozs. each ... ½d.

In accordance with the above tariff for *Government Gazette* and other newspapers, notice is herewith given that a supply of postage stamps of the value of one halfpenny has been ordered, which are expected soon, and that during the time that may elapse till the ½ p. stamps have arrived, the rate will be 1 p., and not ½ p., for every newspaper.

By order. W. E. BOCK,
State Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
PRETORIA, 17th Dec., 1884.

When ordering the ½d. stamps in 1884, the authorities had not foreseen the great demand that would arise; thus when the supply of 24,000 arrived they were sold out in less than two months, and, pending the receipt of a second lot, the authorities had to take refuge in surcharging other values.

(To be continued.)

NOTES ON THE EARLY ISSUES OF QUEENSLAND,

By E. D. BACON.

THOSE who have read the earlier chapters of Mr. A. F. Basset Hull's history of the Stamps of Queensland, which is now in course of publication in *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, will at once recognise the great value of the work. Like the well-known monograph by the same author on the *Stamps of Tasmania*, published by the Philatelic Society of London in 1890, the work is remarkable for its complete character, and once more evidences the painstaking and careful manner in which Mr. Hull has collected his materials, and the lucid way in which he presents them to his readers. As in the former instance, Mr. Hull was allowed access by the Colonial authorities to all the postal records that could be found in the Government Offices, and he has been enabled to unearth a mass of official information, upon the various issues of stamps, that is entirely new to collectors, and is of the greatest value in elucidating the history of the stamps of one of our Australian Colonies, about which little was previously known. The very complete account furnished by Mr. Hull leaves but few points unsettled; but there are still some questions connected with the early stamps upon which further particulars are desirable. The present notes, which are for the most part written from information kindly given me by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., Ltd., will set at rest some of the questions I refer to.

It will simplify matters if I first give a complete list, shewing the numbers of the stamps that were printed and sent out by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., and then make what few comments I find necessary.

The list is as follows:

1860.		<i>Imperforate.</i>	
June 20 . . .	144,000	One Penny.	
July 17 . . .	28,800	Two Pence.	
" . . .	48,000	Six Pence.	
		<i>Perforated.</i>	
July 17 . . .	56,000	One Penny.	
" . . .	19,200	Two Pence.	
Aug. 16 . . .	24,000	"	
" . . .	120,000	Six Pence.	
" . . .	15,000	One Shilling.	
" . . .	18,000	Registered.	
Sept. 17 . . .	138,000	Two Pence.	
" . . .	82,000	Six Pence.	
" . . .	12,000	Registered.	
Dec. 15 . . .	15,000	Three Pence.	
1861.			
April 15 . . .	120,000	One Penny.	
" . . .	240,000	Two Pence.	
June 12 . . .	120,000	One Penny.	
" . . .	240,000	Two Pence.	
" . . .	15,000	Three Pence.	
" . . .	120,000	Six Pence.	
" . . .	30,000	One Shilling.	
" . . .	30,000	Registered.	

1. Mr. Hull gives a copy of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s invoice of the stamps forwarded in June, July, August, and September, 1860; but the invoice, beyond stating that 484,200 of the stamps were perforated, does not mention which values were in this condition, and which imperforate. Mr. Hull, from particulars contained in the letters of the London Agents to the Colony (copies of which he gives), comes to the conclusion that the values and quantities of the imperforate stamps were the same as those I note in the above list. It will be seen that Mr. Hull's deductions are completely accurate, and the list, which is taken from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s books, finally settles the question.

It is equally clear, as Mr. Hull argues, that the One Shilling value was not sent out imperforate, and collectors may henceforth expunge this variety from their "list of wants."

2. Mr. Hull was unable to find any record of the further supplies of stamps forwarded by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. in 1861, beyond the letters to the London Agents ordering quantities corresponding to those found under the dates of April 15th and June 12th, 1861, in my list. In the absence of this information, Mr. Hull thinks that the second order, as regards the One Penny and Two Pence values, "was merely intended as a repetition of the first." This was not so, as Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s list shews that both orders were duly executed.

3. It will be noticed that the dates in my list do not correspond exactly with those Mr. Hull gives as the dates of forwarding. Mr. Hull has taken his dates from the letters of the London agents. These dates do not differ materially, except in the case of the Three Pence, the supply of which was forwarded on December 15th, 1860, although it appears the Agents did not remit the invoice before January 26th, 1861, consequently the date of issue of this value, which Mr. Hull has based upon the Agents' letter, may be put back at least one month.

4. It is stated that "the plates were engraved on steel by William Humphreys for Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co." All Mr. Humphreys (as the name should be spelt) did was to engrave the dies. The plates were made by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s workmen, on the well-known principle employed by the firm. While on the subject of the plates, it will be convenient to mention that a second plate of the Two Pence was applied for, and sent out to the Colony by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. on August 26th, 1872. The first Two Pence plate, and those of the One Penny, Three Pence, Six Pence, One Shilling, and Registered, together with twenty reams of star watermarked paper, were despatched from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s establishment on February 1st, 1862.

5. Mr. Hull was unsuccessful in finding any records referring to what is called the "script" watermarked paper, and he thinks that this paper was probably furnished by Messrs. T. Saunders and Co. This was, however, not the case. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. received the order, and the paper was manufactured by them at their own mill. The invoice states that "1 pair (2 sheets) Postage moulds," and "an engraving for printing a marginal scroll," were specially made for it. The supply, which was forwarded on June 18th, 1863, consisted of 109 books of 100 sheets (2 each), equal to 10,900 double sheets, say 21 reams 16 quires. This paper had a vertical scroll printed upon it at the left-hand side, and was perforated to facilitate detachment from the books. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. tell me the object of printing the scroll was to evade the paper duty, as the books were thus able to enter the Colony as printed matter. This marginal scroll was probably similar in design to those found on the paper made by the same firm for the New South Wales "large square" stamps of 1854 and 1855, and also for the first Five Shillings of the latter Colony, and the scrolls were doubtless added to the paper for these stamps for the same cause. The *raison d'être* of these scrolls has hitherto puzzled collectors, but Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s explanation is apparently the true one. It seems from Mr. Hull's remarks that a large proportion of this "script" paper was used for printing Treasury bills and notes.

6. And in conclusion I add a list of proofs of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co.'s stamps which have come under my notice. Die proofs exist in *black* on white card of the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., and the Registered stamp. Plate proofs may be met with in *black*, on plain white wove paper, of the 2d. (second plate), both before as well as after the plate was hardened, the 1s., and the registered. A plate proof of the 3d., on the same paper, but printed in *blue*, is also known.

REVIEWS.

We have before us several philatelic works of interest, some of which have been lying on our table so long that many of our readers probably know quite as much about them as we can tell them. Such a rush of philatelic literature is a healthy sign, and the present additions to our library cover a wide field, and are of much value in the different departments to which they belong.

Commencing with a couple of works upon the stamps of our own country, we have first a *Handbook of the Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*, compiled by Mr. F. G. C. Lundy, for which we are indebted to Mr. Morley, its publisher, and about the subject of which we may frankly confess that we know but little. This work is stated to be "In Commemoration of the Bi-Centenary of the First Stamp Duty Act, 29th June, 1694," and is the only thoroughly justifiable Commemorative Issue that we have met with. None but a captious critic would complain that no stamps of 1694 are catalogued in it (at least we have hunted diligently through the book, and have not been able to find them), but it may be well to mention that fact. We believe, however, that the stamps employed under the Act of 1694 were *impressed* stamps, and we gather that the work before us deals only with adhesives, though we cannot find this expressly stated. We are probably only exposing our own ignorance when we remark that we are also unable to find any allusion to Hat Tax, Horse Tax, or Playing Card labels. As a matter of curiosity, we looked for the earliest date at which adhesive stamps are known to have been used in this country, and found that, with the exception of an Irish stamp to which the date "1st Jan. 1465" is assigned, but which we fancy owes its apparent priority to a misprint, the well-known Patent Medicine labels head the list, with the date 1783; these were followed, three years later, by the "Perfume Duty" stamps, the use of which was abandoned in 1800. We must place these first and second, and the rest "nowhere," for the next issue we find is that of "Sea Policies" stamps in 1850. The other dates that we have quoted, however, effectually dispose of any question as to the invention of Adhesive Stamps in 1833, or thereabouts. We have only one suggestion to make for the improvement of a work, which we are sure will be of infinite use to collectors of fiscal stamps, and that is, that in any future edition the English word "colour" should be substituted for the nondescript Latin or American "color."

The second work upon British Stamps is *A Complete Priced Catalogue of the Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of Great Britain*, "Compiled and Edited by Harry Hilckes, with the assistance of Walter Morley and H. Ewen," kindly sent us by Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick, & Co. In his Preface Mr. Hilckes says: "It has often been remarked as a curious fact that comparatively few English philatelists devote themselves exclusively to the stamps of their own country. This is not really a curious fact at all. It is, in my opinion, fully explained by the fact that there has hitherto been no proper catalogue of English stamps." Opinions, of course, may differ as to what constitutes a *proper catalogue*; but if it be a fact that English Philatelists in any way neglect the study of British stamps, we hardly think that it is for want of comprehensive and carefully written books upon them; and the existence of certain works, that we have in our mind's eye and an adjacent book-case, seems to us to prove that the study of those stamps has not been altogether neglected. However, we may let that pass, and we can fairly congratulate Mr. Hilckes and his fellow-workers upon having produced a catalogue of British stamps that is probably more comprehensive and complete than any that has been previously published. The object has plainly been to include all possible varieties, and that being the object, we should not perhaps complain if it seems to have been somewhat too liberally carried out; still we would venture to raise a humble protest against the inclusion of *Postmarks*. We never protest against things of this kind as *uncollectable*: everything is *collectable*, and if a person wishes to collect postmarks we have nothing to say against it; but surely there are enough varieties of stamps, without trying to make out that a stamp used in London is different to one used in

Birmingham, and that both differ from others used in Edinburgh and Dublin. At this rate a man might purchase a sheet of penny stamps in London, and, going on a tour through the United Kingdom, might convert them into 240 distinct varieties! There is no surer way of killing a Hobby than riding it to death!

In regard to "SPECIMEN" stamps we agree with Mr. Hilckes, for the most part, but it should be pointed out that such copies cannot always be depended upon as early impressions. Still they are, in our opinion, the subject of unreasonable prejudice, and we have always, personally, looked upon them as the next best to absolutely unobliterated copies. The lists, as far as we have been able to test them, appear to be accurate, as well as very full and complete, and the book is of convenient size and very nicely printed and got up. The prices we do not feel competent to give an opinion upon—in a work of this kind they must be in many cases experimental—but we believe that for the most part they are a fair guide to the relative rarity of the varieties catalogued. We should add that the Post-office Telegraph stamps are included in these lists, as they are also, for some unknown reason, in Mr. Lundy's *Revenue Handbook*.

The next book on our list is one that, we fear, is unlikely to receive from the general body of collectors the recognition that it deserves. It is entitled *Alphabets et Chiffres Orientaux*, and is the work of that veteran Philatelist Dr. Legrand, published by Monsieur J. B. Moens, a combination which is a sufficient guarantee of excellence. The research involved in the preparation of a work of this kind, though it consists of but thirty pages, may perhaps be best impressed upon our readers by stating that it contains no less than twenty-two distinct tables of letters and characters, commencing with the Greek alphabet and concluding with the Hira Kana of Japan, accompanied by valuable explanatory notes. It is unfortunate that the greater part of these characters are found only upon stamps which most collectors appear to consider extremely uninteresting. We can only hope that the publication of this most valuable book will be the means of arousing a little more interest in these neglected issues.

Manuale di Filatelia, Guida del Collezionista di Francobolli, by Teofilo Gay, Vice-President of the Italian Philatelic Society, published at Florence by G. Barbera. This is a little handbook of somewhat primitive appearance and arrangement, but which we do not doubt will be of great use to the younger Italian collectors. The introduction treats of Philately as an Amusement, a Science, and a Speculation! And gives a History of the Postage Stamp, in the course of which we are introduced to one *Tommaso Chalmers*, a member of the family with whom we had not previously acquainted—James we know, and Patrick we know, but who is Thomas? This gentleman, according to the history, declared in 1837 that he had printed adhesive stamps in 1834, whereas James never made any statement of this kind at all, and Patrick only made it, on James' behalf, some 40 or 50 years later. Probably it was this same Thomas—called Dubious, or of doubtful veracity—who informed our author that the Mulready envelopes alone were put on sale on May 1st, 1840, and the adhesives not until May 6th! Following the history are some useful notes upon the formation of a collection, and upon the varieties of watermark, paper, shade, and perforation that may be found; but when we come to the lists, that form the greater part of the book, all these distinctions are abandoned, and the system of our philatelic forefathers is reverted to. The date upon the title-page is 1894, and we find that the lists are brought down to 1890, but they are modelled upon those of thirty years ago, the arrangement being identical with that of Mount Brown, Bellars & Davie, and other early authorities. Conservatism, however, is an excellent thing, and not to be lightly spoken against; we would wish that it had extended to the exclusion of a dreadful word "blu," which we believe to be a recent, and which is certainly not an ornamental, addition to the Italian dictionary.

Last, but by no means least, we have an Italian work of a very different class—*I Francobolli del Ducato di Modena e delle Provincie Modenesi*, &c., by Dr. Emilio Diena. This book is well worth of the high reputation of its author as a scientific philatelist, and will be found invaluable by the

philatelic student who wishes to understand the history of his stamps, and is not content with merely knowing them by sight. It is illustrated with three heliotype plates, two of them showing some very interesting essays, and the third giving the types of the stamps issued; these are followed by four plates of postmarks and cancellations, which will be found extremely useful for the identification of genuinely used specimens. The history of the various issues is given in the fullest possible detail, and supported by copies of official correspondence and notices bearing upon them. In the descriptive portion the arrangement of the sheets and the various printings of the different values are fully dealt with, certain of the errors being shown to exist in one printing and not in another, and the positions of the varieties on the sheet being explained in each case. The theory that the errors, some of which are still catalogued at low prices, come for the most part from waste sheets, rejected on account of these errors, is shown to be untenable, and there appears to be no doubt that all these varieties existed upon the various editions of the issued stamps, and that those which are comparatively plentiful were among the legitimate remainders. We hope to return to this most interesting book in a future number, and to give some extracts from its contents, but we strongly recommend all of our readers who collect Italian stamps to get it and study it for themselves.

NOTES AND NEWS.

BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

The Winzer Collection.—We have much pleasure in informing our clients that we have purchased the well-known collection of Mr. Ernst Winzer, of Dresden, who, we believe, has been occupied for something like twenty-seven years in forming it. The collection is a general one, and is reputed to be one of the finest in the whole of Germany, containing, as it does, almost every stamp in a used and an unused condition. The European stamps are practically complete, with the exception of one or two unattainable things here and there. Several of the German Philatelic Journals are deploring the fact that this fine collection has been allowed to leave the Fatherland, and it was only by prompt action on our part that we were able to secure it, a buyer from another large house being actually engaged in valuing the collection the morning that our deposit money arrived.

The following is a translation of a note that appeared in a Dresden paper, *Der Philatelist*: "The stamp collection of Mr. E. Winzer, senr., in Dresden, known as one of the finest German collections, was acquired on the 10th inst. by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co., Ltd., of London, at the price of M. 60,000. It is regrettable in the highest degree that this magnificent collection goes out of this country, and that none of the numerous German dealers could persuade himself to invest the same amount as the English firm. It must not be a matter of surprise, under such circumstances, if in future the better-class collections are sold to foreign parties, if German dealers will not make up their minds to give better prices."

The collection is the largest that has been sold since that of Messrs. Caillebotte, nearly ten years ago, and the purchasing price is £3,000 cash. The stamps are all in exceptionally fine condition, and are arranged on a novel plan, each country being in a separate portfolio, so that we shall be able to send to advanced collectors just those countries that interest them. The English Colonies are not nearly so strongly represented as Europe, but still in every colony there are rarities among the unused stamps.

A catalogue of this collection is being prepared, together with the prices of all the rare stamps above £1 each in value. This catalogue will be very carefully written by a well-known philatelist, and the condition of each stamp will be accurately described, as so much depends on the margins, the original gum, the obliteration, etc. This will be a special guide, and will give the actual market selling prices at the present time of hundreds of rare stamps that are not found priced in any catalogue, or where they are priced ar-

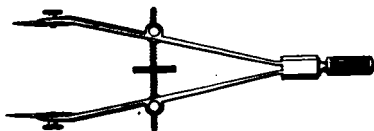
generally at such absurd figures that it is recognised that they are priced for purposes of purchase, and not for purposes of sale. This list of the Winzer collection, together with a few other rarities we have added, that we had in stock from another collection, will be ready in a week or two, and orders may now be booked. Special attention should be drawn to the fact that it will give the prices of such rarities as unused Wurtemberg, Baden, Thurn and Taxis, and other stamps of this nature, of which no reliable guide as to value exists at the present moment. The price will be 2s. 6d., post-free.

As this is a special collection, made by a well-known philatelist, we have been much interested in comparing what we found in it with what would be found in a collection of similar standing in this country. The number of forgeries contained in it was simply appalling—a list of them would fill several pages of this magazine. We believe the forgeries alone number over 400, of reprints there were fully 100, and as Mr. Winzer was in the habit of placing under every stamp the source it was obtained from, we have been able to learn some very curious particulars of certain firms, about which it will perhaps be best not to say more. Collectors, however, may learn from this that it is most advisable to purchase only from a firm that has a reputation to maintain, and will maintain it by only selling genuine originals.

* * *

Philatelic Accessori.—We have recently been having a few articles of constant use made for our customers, and after some consideration have decided to keep the following in stock, which are the best of their kind that can be obtained.

SURCHARGE MEASURER.—The accompanying illustration will give the best idea of what this is. It consists of a pair of



needle-pointed spring compasses, capable, by means of an adjusting screw, of measuring with the greatest accuracy all surcharges up to 40 millimètres in length. In addition to the measure a millimètre gauge is obtained by running the head of the screw along a piece of paper, a series of lines exactly a millimètre apart being thus indented in the paper. For measuring surcharges on such stamps as Natal, Straits Settlements, &c., this will be found invaluable, and also in the detection of forgeries—a forgery, or forged surcharge, very seldom being *exactly* the same size as the original. The price is 7s. 6d.; post-free, 7s. 9d.

POCKET MAGNIFYING GLASSES.—After examining some scores of different sorts, we have been able to get one combining the greatest power with the largest field obtainable for pocket use. These glasses are mounted in handsome vulcanite frames, and are very compact. There are two lenses in each, which may be used singly, or if a very strong power is desired may be combined. Price 7s. 6d.; post-free, 7s. 9d.

TWEZZERS FOR HANDLING STAMPS.—These are invaluable to every Philatelist. They are of the best obtainable quality, with points very slightly milled, so as not to damage the stamps. They can be put into water without rusting, and can therefore be used in soaking stamps. Price 2s. 6d.; post-free, 2s. 7d.

* * *

First Supplement to Imperial Album, 6th edition.—In drawing out a list of these supplements it was found that no distinction had been made between those of No. 7 and No. 8 Album, but we had overlooked the fact that No. 7 has red edges, and No. 8 gilt edges. We are therefore preparing another supplement with gilt edges for No. 8 Album, which will be lettered No. 46a, and the price of which will be 8s. 6d.; post-free, 5s. 2d.; abroad, 9s. 10d.

* * *

Reports of Philatelic Societies.

NOTE.—If the Secretaries of all Societies will kindly send us short accounts of their meetings we shall be happy to insert them under this head.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Hon. President:

H. R. H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

Hon. Vice-President:

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

President:

THE EARL OF KINGSTON.

The twenty-fifth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 13th April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and 21 other members were present.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. William Herrick, of New Jersey, U.S.A., proposed by Mr. Henry Clotz, and seconded by Mr. William Thorne, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Nankivell then read a paper on "The Essentials of an Ideal Album," in which he explained at length his views as to the requirements of the advanced collector, and the questions to be considered, and the difficulties to be overcome in the mode of arrangement of his collection. In illustration of his views Mr. Nankivell handed round specimens of the album and sheets which had recently been prepared from his designs for his own collection. A long discussion ensued in which many of the members present, including the late President, took part. Although no general consensus of opinion was arrived at on this difficult question, in which so much depends upon individual tastes and requirements, it was acknowledged on all sides that the paper which had been read had distinctly advanced the subject on which it treated, and on the motion of Mr. Philbrick, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Nankivell for his valuable and interesting paper.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, Esq.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchford Road, Birmingham.

ON May 3rd Mr. W. T. Wilson gave his paper on "New Zealand, to the end of the Star Watermarks." It was illustrated by a large number of stamps on the originals, in order to elucidate as far as possible when certain shades and varieties of paper were in use.

The average value of each packet sent out during the past three months was £106 6s. 7d. The sales were very satisfactory, some of the sheets being returned with every stamp sold. In addition to the above amount a supplementary packet from the Leeds Society was sent out with one of them.

A vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Morley and Lundy for their handbook of the *Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*.

May 17th. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. for a copy of their recently published "Stamps of the British Empire," by H. Mackwood Millington.

H. L'Estrange Ewen (Swanage) was elected a corresponding member.

Proposals were carried unanimously *re* A. Weisz (Buda-pest).

Mr. R. Hollick then gave a very interesting paper on the "Overprinted Stamps of England and her Colonies." Included in these are stamps thus altered: (1) for special purposes, as our "I.R. Official," "Govt. Parcels," etc.; (2)

for use in other countries than those for which they were originally printed; (3) to provide values that have been exhausted, whether legitimately or otherwise, by overprinting those values on others. Special attention was paid by Mr. Hollick and other members to the varieties which had been printed and never reached the country for which they were ostensibly intended; or if they were ever sold there, only after the lapse of a considerable period, and even then in very small numbers.

The next meeting will be the Annual General Business Meeting, on October 4th, on which date all subscriptions should be renewed.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.

President—M. P. CASTLE.

THE fourteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, April 23rd, at 7.45 p.m. Present—The President (in the chair) and ten members.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary stated that, as there was a somewhat large balance in favour of the Society, he proposed that £5 should be granted to the Librarian for the purpose of purchasing philatelic books. Mr. J. W. Gillespie seconded the proposal, which was carried after some discussion. The Secretary also read some notes on the stamps of Mauritius, and illustrated the same by his collection, in which each issue was well represented, with the exception of the first, of which he showed photographs. The President proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary, which was seconded by Mr. Stafford-Smith and passed.

THE fifteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Saturday, May 5th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Mr. J. W. Gillespie (in the chair) and six members.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, copies of *The Stamps of the British Empire*, from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and *The Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*, from Mr. W. Morley, were received as donations to the library, and accepted with the best thanks of the Society. The Secretary read some notes on the stamps of British Guiana, and showed his collection of that country, which contained fine specimens of the early issues and the provisionals of 1862. He also showed a large number of forgeries, kindly lent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Mr. Gillespie proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary, which was seconded by Mr. Thrupp and carried.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, May 21st, at 7.45 p.m. Present—The President in the chair, nine members, and one visitor.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from the Vice-President, regretting his inability to read his promised paper on the stamps of Luxemburg. After a discussion with regard to business for the next session, it was decided to follow the precedent of the last, and to invite members to read notes and papers on special countries; with a view to a more complete and closer study of their stamps, it was held advisable to restrict the number of issues to be discussed each evening, and the Secretary was requested to call attention, when forwarding notices, to Rule No. 12—"That every member attending any meeting of the Society must bring his collection of the stamps named for study at such meeting." The Secretary stated that as the list of members had not been sent for publication this year he proposed doing so at the end of the present session, which was agreed to. It was arranged that members wishing to use books in the Society's library during the recess between the sessions could do so by communicating with the Librarian, Mr. O. Pfenniger, 79, West Street, Brighton. The Secretary

presented to the library a copy of the catalogue of the Philatelic Exhibition of 1890, which was accepted with thanks. The President showed a large number of very fine specimens of the Swiss Cantonal stamps, including all the varieties unused.

A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*

27, ADELAIDE CRESCENT, BRIGHTON.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

THE fourth Annual Meeting was held at the Leeds Municipal Buildings on Saturday, 5th May, 1894. Mr. John H. Thackrah, senior Vice-President, occupied the chair, and was supported by ten members and associates. The retiring President (Mr. O. Firth) and the Rev. T. S. Fleming sent apologies for unavoidable absence.

A hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. for the gift of their newly-published work on the *Stamps of the British Empire*, and to Mr. Walter Morley for the new *Handbook of Revenue Stamps of Great Britain*, was passed.

It was also resolved that the Secretaries congratulate the London Philatelic Society on the attainment of its twenty-fifth year of existence.

The Annual Report was then read by Mr. T. K. Skipwith, one of the Secretaries, and was of a very satisfactory character, the Society being in a flourishing condition. The membership has increased, and is now twenty-six—twenty full members, and six associates or junior members under twenty-one years of age, and the attendance at the meetings has averaged a little over eleven, as compared with eight during the two previous sessions. The library has been materially added to by purchase or donation, and the Hon. Librarian reports that the members make good use of its contents. The Exchange Club had been carried on with much vigour and success, and the Society has been under great obligation to Mr. A. N. Skipwith for his efficient discharge of the very onerous and laborious duties of Exchange Manager. The Report concluded by stating that the Secretaries had practically completed the syllabus for the session of 1894-95, and that the Committee recommended that an Exhibition of Revenue and Fiscal Stamps of all nations, and particularly of the British Islands, be held during the last week of June, to celebrate the bi-centenary of the passing of the first Stamp Duty Act during the reign of William and Mary, on the 29th of June, 1694.

The Balance-sheet was read by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Egly, and both it and the Report were unanimously adopted.

In the course of the discussion the members present approved of the proposed holding of an exhibition, and offered their best support to the Committee in making the arrangements.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Mr. T. K. Skipwith was chosen President; Mr. John H. Thackrah and Mr. W. B. Simpson were re-elected Vice-Presidents; Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., was re-elected Hon. Secretary, and Mr. J. F. C. Sieber was chosen as his colleague; Mr. Eugene Egly and Mr. F. J. Kidson were re-elected as Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Librarian respectively.

Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring President and to Mr. James Yates and the Leeds Public Library Committee, after which the evening was devoted to the exhibition of stamps and comparison of collections.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS, ESQ.

THE sixteenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, April 13th, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by seventeen members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Vice-President gave notice that the Committee at their meeting next week would fix the date of the Annual General Meeting, and if any member wished to bring any-

thing forward at the Annual Meeting, he must forthwith notify the Secretary.

A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for presenting a recently published book to the library.

The Hon. Secretary then read a paper on the Stamps of British India, of which a fine assortment was exhibited, including the first issue in blocks and strips unused, and a pair of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red, out of the collection of Mr. Abbott.

THE seventeenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, April 27th, 1894. The President in the chair, supported by nineteen members and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

A hearty welcome was given to Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, who caused the members much pleasure in allowing them to go through a very large number of stamps which he had with him.

Several members brought their collections, and all seemed to enjoy a very pleasant evening.

W. DORNING BECKTON, *Hon. Sec.*

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

NATAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of local philatelists was held on Wednesday evening last, in a room kindly lent for the purpose by Mr. Burne, of the Natal Drug Company, when it was decided to form a society, to be called the Natal Philatelic Society, with the following objects:—(1) To facilitate the interchange of stamps, and open communication with various parts of the world; (2) to assist members to detect forgeries, and to obtain new issues; (3) to promote friendly intercourse between philatelists in South Africa. It was resolved to ask His Excellency to become the President of the Society. Mr. F. H. Hadfield was unanimously elected Vice-President, subject to his consent; Mr. Ferranti being elected Secretary *pro tem.* A Provisional Committee, consisting of the Vice-President, the Secretary, and Mr. J. H. Bunn, was appointed to draft the rules of the Society, to be submitted at the next meeting. The annual subscription fee was fixed at half a guinea, with an entrance fee of 5s., the subscription for corresponding members to be half the foregoing. Intending members are requested to communicate with Mr. Ferranti, who will furnish any information that may be required.—*Natal Advertiser*, Durban, May 4th, 1894.

WEST AUSTRALIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS of a meeting held (?). Present: Mr. Clifton, in the chair; Messrs. Wade, Abrahams, Snellgrove, and Levine.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The following rule was added to the exchange rules: "That the Exchange Superintendent has the right of first selection from the exchange books, in return for his services."

Mr. Clifton showed his magnificent collection of Western Australia stamps, arranged according to Mr. C. J. Phillips' reference list, including the 2d., chocolate; 4d., oct., blue; and 1s., rouletted; also a complete set of the imperial official stamps with holes.

The two albums from the G. P. O. were kindly lent by the P. M. G., and were much admired. The post cards and envelopes to be shown at a future meeting.

The 2d., yellow, C. A., perf. 12 at top and sides and 11½ at bottom, were shown by Messrs. Levine and Snellgrove, measured by Lincoln and Vindin's gauge. Some other collections were also shown.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a very enjoyable evening.

ALF. J. LEVINE, *Hon. Sec.*

[NOTE.—No place or date of meeting was given in the copy of the proceedings forwarded to us.—Ed.]

THE FISCAL & POSTAL EXCHANGE CLUB.

WE have received a copy of the rules of this Club, the object of which is stated to be: "To provide facilities whereby collectors of postage stamps may obtain suitable exchange for their fiscals, and *vice versa.*" The idea is, therefore, not to encourage the inclusion of fiscal and postage stamps in the same collections, but rather to bring together collectors of the two classes for their mutual benefit. The rules appear to be carefully framed, and we should only suggest provision being made for two separate circuits of exchange sheets, one to contain fiscals only, and the other postals. The Secretary's address is A. PRESTON PEARCE, 8, Clarendon Place, Citadel Road, Plymouth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Journal."

DEAR SIR,—In your April 30th number I see a letter from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., stating that the history of the 100 cash on 20 cash on 100 cash, yellow, Shanghai stamp, as given in *The Philatelic Record*, and repeated by me in your number for October last, is incorrect.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s story and the *Record's* story differ certainly; but they both account for the surcharges in question, which in Shanghai surcharges is something. I do not remember having seen it stated that the 20 cash on 100 cash, yellow, was *issued*, though *The P. R.* says the local postmaster surcharged them. I have seen *one* copy without the original value resurcharged; so *all* were not returned by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s "stranger." After all, as stories go, the two are fairly alike.

Yours faithfully, W. P. THORNHILL.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

IMPERIAL ALBUM.—We do not know the Dominican envelopes you mention. The Bulgarian was omitted by an oversight. The St. Lucia 3d., green and lilac, is provided for under No. 110, as this is not known to us as a fiscal used postally. The German envelope has never got into the Catalogue!

W. D. (Bombay).—The Belgian stamps can all be obtained with the Sunday label at the top; it is merely a question of which way you tear them from the sheet. We have them also with the label at the top and bottom! Inverted and misplaced wmk's, we do not attempt to chronicle; their name is legion.

E. J. G. P.—No 2½d. wrapper was ever issued, but the 2½d. and other embossed stamps are struck to order upon paper of any shape that is sent in for stamping.

G. B.—The two stamps you mention will probably be omitted from the next edition. We suppose that either the Parcel Post stamps should come out, or the cards should go in; we hardly know which would be preferable.

F. C. S.—We are much obliged for your note; we do not chronicle fiscals, but have forwarded the information to the Editor of *Le Timbre-Fiscal*.

H. St. J. M.—Many thanks for your card, also for note of "Philatelic Congress"; but we can only publish reports of meetings sent us by the Secretary, or some other authorised person.

W. F.—The Victoria printed on both sides is quite new to us, and is no doubt a rarity. The 8d. with broken "O" in the wmk. is also new to us, but not a variety of great interest.

Special Bargains and New Issues FOR JULY.

All unused unless otherwise mentioned.

	BACH	PER 12	PER 100
BELGIUM.			
<i>Sunday Post Cards.</i>			
5 c., green on buff	0	1	..
5+3 c., green on buff	0	2	..
10 c., brown on bluish	0	2	..
10+10 c., brown on bluish	0	4	..
BOSNIA.			
20 nov., green	0	9	..
CHEFOO.			
<i>Post Card.</i>			
½ cent, green on buff	0	2	..
1 cent, vermilion on bluish green	0	3	..
CUBA.			
20 c. de peso, violet-brown	1	0	..
CYPRUS.			
<i>Wrapper.</i> 10 paras.	0	2	..
DJIBOUTI.			
<i>Large oblong with view of village and Somali natives.</i>			
1 centime, claret and black	0	1	..
2 centimes, black and claret	0	1	..
FRENCH SOUDAN.			
1 centime, red and black	0	1	..
2 centimes, brown and blue	0	1	..
1 c. to 1 franc; set of 13, complete	6	0	..
GERMAN EAST AFRICA.			
2, 3, 5, 10, and 25 pessa; set of 5	3	0	..
HONDURAS.			
1893.			
1 centavo to 1 peso; set of 11	2	0	..
<i>Envelopes.</i> 5, 10, 20, and 25 c.; set of 4, cut sq.	0	6	..
<i>Wrappers.</i> 1, 2, 5, and 10 c.; set of 4, cut sq.	0	6	..
<i>Cards.</i> 2, 2+2, 3, and 3+3; set of 4	0	6	..
LAGOS.			
5d., lilac and green	0	9	..
7½d., lilac and carmine	1	0	..
10d., lilac and yellow	1	6	..
MONTENEGRO.			
<i>Envelopes.</i>			
5 nov., vermilion on buff	0	4	..
7 nov., mauve on white	0	6	..
NICARAGUA.			
1893.			
1 centavo to 1 peso; set of 10	2	0	..
1 centavo	0	1	..
2 centavos	0	1	..
<i>Official Stamps.</i>			
1 centavo to 1 peso; set of 11	2	0	..
<i>Envelopes.</i>			
5, 10, 20, 30, and 50 c.; set of 5	1	0	..
<i>Wrappers.</i>			
1, 2, and 4 centavos; set of 3	0	6	..
<i>Post Cards.</i>			
2, 2+2, 3, and 3+3; set of 4	0	6	..
OBOCK.			
5 fca., rose and blue (new type)	7	6	..
PHILIPPINE ISLES.			
½ de centavo, pale brown	0	1	..
ROMANIA.			
1894. <i>New Types.</i>			
1½ bani, grey-black	0	1	..
3 " red-brown	0	2	..
5 " blue	0	3	..
10 " green	0	4	..
15 " red	0	6	..
25 " violet	0	9	..
<i>Letter Card.</i>			
5 bani, blue on grey	0	3	..
<i>Wrapper.</i>			
1½ bani, grey-black on straw	0	2	..
RUSSIAN LOCALS.			
BELOZERSK.			
2 koeps, carmine	0	3	..
BIEJETZK.			
3 koeps, black on blue	0	4	..
3 " " pink	0	4	..
3 " " white	0	4	..
3 " " carmine	0	4	..
HOGORODSK.			
2 koeps, dark blue	0	3	..
4 " blue	0	6	..
8 " green	0	9	..
20 " pale blue	1	6	..
8 " orange; unpaid	0	3	..
4 " red; unpaid	0	6	..
8 " carmine; unpaid	0	9	..
20 " pink; unpaid	1	6	..

5 koeps, deep blue and flesh	BRONNITZI.	EACH	PER 12	PER 100
		0	6	..
3 koeps, vermilion	GADIATZSCH.	0	4	..
3 " blue		0	4	..
GRIAZOVETZ.				
4 koeps; set of 30 different colours and types, with figures in corners and figures in centre	12	0	..	..
LOUGA.				
7 koeps, blue		0	9	..
MORSCHANSK.				
5 koeps, red and blue		0	6	..
OCHANSK.				
2 koeps, green		0	3	..
ORGUIEFF.				
3 koeps, blue		0	4	..
6 " carmine		0	6	..
OURJOUR.				
2 koeps, violet		0	3	..
OUSTIOUJNA.				
3 koeps, black on blue-green		0	4	..
PEREJASLAV.				
5 koeps, blue and rose		0	6	..
RJEFF.				
2 koeps, grey and red		0	3	..
SARAPOUL.				
3 koeps, blue		0	4	..
SCHADRINSK.				
3 koeps, blue and rose		0	4	..
SOLIKAMSK.				
4 koeps, brown		0	6	..
STAROBYELSK.				
2 koeps, blue on green (two varieties) each		0	3	..
TSCHERDINA.				
2 koeps, yellow		0	3	..
ZADONSK.				
1 koep, violet		0	2	..
3 koeps, red and blue		0	4	..
5 " yellow		0	6	..
SAMOA.				
5d., vermilion		1	0	..
URUGUAY.				
1894. <i>New Colour.</i>				
1 centesimo, blue		0	2	..
WURTEMBERG.				
2 pfennig, grey; used or unused		0	1	..

New Sets of Envelopes and Wrappers.

ALL ENTIRE, UN CUT, AND UNUSED.

	Set of	s. d.
Argentine Republic, including provisional and wrappers	11	4 6
Austria, including Foreign Office and wrappers	7	1 9
Bahamas, with two rare provisionals	3	3 6
Bahados, with first issue, registered and wrappers	6	2 9
Bavaria, including wrappers	5	1 6
Brazil, including first issue	4	2 3
British Bechuanaland, regd. envelopes and wrappers	10	6 6
Ceylon, including registered and rare provisionals	10	5 6
Ecuador, first and second issue	6	4 0
Egypt, including envelope letters and wrappers	8	2 0
Germany (Southern States), 1862, 1, 2, 3, 6, and 9 kr.	5	9 0
German Empire, including 20 paras. black on rose	6	3 0
Gibraltar, including four rare registered envelopes	9	6 6
Gwalior, including registered	7	3 6
Hungary, with first issue and wrappers	7	1 6
India, registered and early issues	6	2 6
Japan, including wrappers	7	2 6
Jhind, surcharged on Indian envelopes	5	3 3
Liberia, with registered and new issues	7	2 0
Lubeck, 1865, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, and 4 sch.	6	15 0
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, small size, 1, 2, and 3 sgr.	3	2 6
Mexico, first issue and wrappers	9	13 6
Monaco, including first issue envelopes and wrappers	7	1 6
Newfoundland, envelopes and wrappers	5	1 6
New South Wales, grand set, including rare service and provisional registered	16	9 6
Nicaragua, 1838 and 1890 envelopes, complete	9	9 0
Peru, including five of the first issue	7	10 6
Prussia, 1853 and 1861	6	5 0
Russia, including two of the rare provisional	8	6 6
Switzerland, 2 and 5 c wrappers only	7	2 3
United States, a grand set, including Centennial and Columbus issues	26	17 6
Victoria, a superb set, including rare envelopes and wrappers on coloured papers	28	12 6

SPECIAL OFFER!

The superb series of 32 Sets of Envelopes and Wrappers, comprising 287 varieties, sent post-free at the reduced price of £7 10s.



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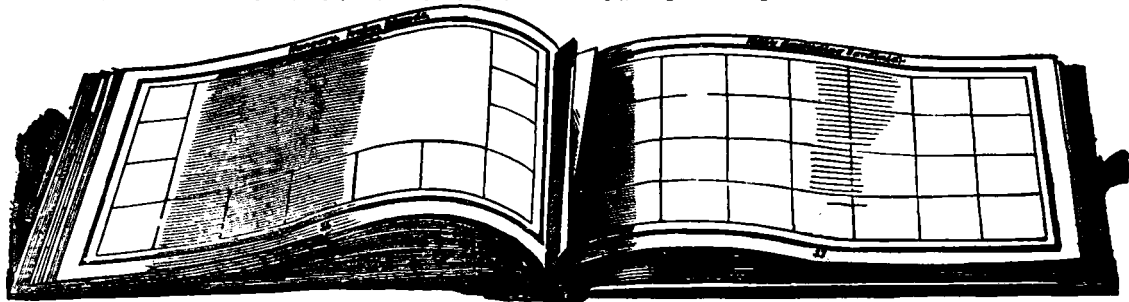
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