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TO

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VOL. XIII.

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Well-known Philatelists.

No. 37.—Mr. J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Mr. J. C. Sidebotham was born in 1840. Stamps first began to attract him at the age of eighteen, that is to say in 1858, which was four years before the pursuit of philately became fashionable; he may therefore be considered one of our very oldest active collectors. At that time he remembers that the stamps of Great Britain were not considered worthy of much attention, and did not trouble to include them in his album. The first collection was continued for 23 years, but in 1880 he parted with many of his best stamps through a dealer, who sold them on commission, and he still possesses the album with the prices marked over the remaining stamps; naturally these have shown a very great advance in price. He much regrets having parted with the Connell essay and the Triangular Cape 1d. red C. and C. C. which he was the first to note, and for which after it was gone he was offered 100 fr. by Mr. J. B. Moens.



From this time he ceased to take any further interest in his collection until the year 1890, when the fascination was again aroused by a visit to the Philatelic Exhibition which was held in the Portman Rooms, Baker Street. The new collection which he then started did *not* exclude British stamps, and, in fact, he was then, and remains until this day in spite of all temptations, a general collector. The only limit which he recognises is the year 1896, when, on account of the large number of new issues, he decided to confine his attention entirely to stamps issued up to that date, and he is glad to be spared the exciting worries of the V.R.I. Orange River Colony with their raised and depressed stops, etc., and we should not like to say here what he thinks of Mafekings, Pietersburgs, and stamps of that ilk.

In arranging his collection, Mr. Sidebotham adopts a plan which might well be followed more generally, and which, we believe, has already found favour with several other prominent collectors. He mounts his stamps on the entire left edge, for by this plan the stamps close with the album, making it much easier

to examine watermarks, as if normally applied they do not appear inverted. With long oblong stamps, however, such as the United States Columbus issue, he hinges at the top, as possessing the longer edge, and therefore fastening the stamp more securely.

He is not a collector of pairs, strips, or blocks (unless accidentally imperforate) but prefers single stamps, paying regard to shades, perforations, thickness of paper, etc. He does not mind mixing used and unused, mounting each stamp in an outlined square, in albums first designed in the early days, when he had the pleasure of working with the late Sir Daniel Cooper, Rev. Mr. Stainforth, Mr. Hughes Hughes, Mr. Pauwels, and others now departed.

He is a member of the Philatelic Society, and is on the Committee of the International Philatelic Union and Herts Philatelic Society.

He has also been active in other fields of recreation, having joined the First Surrey Rifle Volunteers in 1859, and holds the twenty years' long service medal, is fond of boating, and has carried off some first prizes in swimming.

Benadir.

ARE THE STAMPS BOGUS?

WE have received the following communication from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., from which it appears that a swindle of some kind has been perpetrated on stamp collectors. (Our publishers state that they have neither stocked nor sold any of the so-called stamps of Benadir):—

"No doubt you have seen or heard of so-called postage stamps for Benadir (Italian Somali Coast), which are being sold by a trading firm at Milan. Having in mind certain past experiences with Brunei, Nyassa, Sedang, and other bogus stamps, we have always looked upon these labels of Benadir with suspicion, and have up to the present refused to buy them. We have, however, been making enquiries by writing letters direct to the place, all of which remained unanswered until we sent an Italian bank note to purchase the stamps. This note has just been returned to us with a letter, from which we extract the following:—'There are no postmasters here, and it is forbidden to us officials to have anything to do with postage stamp dealers; the stamps can only be obtained from the Company's office at

Milan.' We think this is quite sufficient to condemn these labels. 'We may add that the letter we received had on it a stamp of British East Africa, and was posted at Kismayu. If any additional evidence was required it is furnished by our envelope which was returned to us. It has been sent to Mombasa, Djibouti, and Aden, and is endorsed in French 'no postal service with Benadir.'"

The stamps referred to were supposed to have been issued last year, and are referred to by us in our number for June last (page 93) in the following paragraph:

"*Benadir.* A set of stamps in the accompanying designs have been issued in this Colony. As there are no post offices in this place it will apparently be necessary to provide some, as it is obviously absurd to issue stamps where there are no post officer. The colony is administered by the Italian Trading Company, under whose auspices these new stamps have been printed."

The wording of these remarks show how sceptical we were about this issue from the start, and our ideas on the subject have received confirmation from the interesting communication received from Messrs. Whitfield King. Illustrations of the designs appeared in our number for July.

What Kind of Minor Varieties should be Included in a General Collection?

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION, ON DECEMBER 16TH, 1902.

BY L. W. FULCHER.

THE answer to the question which stands at the head of this paper will, in practice, depend to a great extent upon the idiosyncrasies of the owner of the general collection in question. To every collector some particular style of variety appeals in a greater or less degree, and each one will doubtless pay particular attention to such as attract him. It is impossible, and certainly not desirable if it were possible, for any one to lay down rules or dictate to a collector what he *shall* collect, and it is not my intention to attempt the impossible. The object of this paper is to endeavour to find a rational basis for the inclusion or rejection of a minor variety—the term being defined for the purposes of this paper as any small variation of not too obvious a character—and to elicit

a discussion on the validity and application of a general principle which I have to suggest.

The fact that a discussion of the minor variety question is necessary is an eloquent testimony to the enormous vogue of philately at the present time. The philatelic press now scrutinizes each new issue with microscopic exactness, and every variable line or dot on a sheet of stamps, even on the margins of sheets, together with small differences of shade, paper, watermark, and perforation are all carefully recorded with a minuteness which must be exceedingly bewildering for a novice. Even the advanced collector is sometimes embarrassed to know what to collect and what to reject. Cannot some guidance be afforded by laying down a general rule by which the relative importance of a variety may be gauged? To find an answer to this question let us ask ourselves what is the object of making a collection of stamps. The mere collector will answer "Why, amusement. It is for me a simple distraction from the worries of the work-a-day world, and a relaxation of mind." The mere collector will therefore probably not bother about varieties. An album with spaces marked is sufficient for him, and all he has to do is to fill them up. The mere collector, then, need not be considered. For the philatelist who collects postage stamps, apart from the historical, geographical, ethnographic, linguistic, or artistic aspects of the study, the object of making a collection is to illustrate the postal history of a country, at any rate as far as the stamps designed for the purpose are concerned. He wishes his stamps to show fully the issues of a particular country as they succeed each other, and to illustrate the method of the preparation of the labels, and the different processes which may have been employed at different times for different reasons. He wishes to show how a lithographed set, like the first issue of Hungary, gave way to an engraved set for more permanent use—how circumstances which prevented the regular supply of an engraved issue gave rise to a hurriedly prepared lithographed set for temporary use, as in the case of the Bordeaux issue of France. In the particular case of line engraved stamps he finds it necessary and most interesting work to endeavour to record the process of recutting when a die or plate became worn, and in the case where a number of labels are separately engraved on the same sheet to endeavour to build up the sheet as originally issued from single specimens, and further, in

the event of some of the stamps on such a plate having been retouched to trace their positions on the sheet and to illustrate the recutting process. If there are several printings of a stamp which are distinguishable, he likes to show the fact by specimens of each printing; and if more than one die is used he endeavours to obtain specimens from each die. He likes to illustrate the different colours employed for the same stamp, and does not neglect the chief shades of any stamp, due to want of experience in mixing the ink for fresh printings or arising from the length of time for which it has been in use. His collection will record the introduction of means to facilitate the separation of stamps by the adoption of perforation and the allied methods of rouletting, serpentine perf., saw perforation, and the like. He even likes to show the introduction of fresh machines, gauging differently, as they are found necessary—how forgery is safeguarded against by the introduction of a watermarked paper or by other means as silk thread in the paper, or a burélé or other design printed on the back. The various reasons—too numerous to indicate—for overprinting stamps have a great fascination for him, and he is very partial to varieties and errors which arise by this process either through inexperience or carelessness.

Now, in the process of printing quantities of stamps it is difficult to make all exactly alike, and small differences—"minor varieties"—will arise. These now threaten to overwhelm the collector, and the cry goes up for relief from the burden of them. What can be rejected?—that is the question.

Bearing in mind the objects of a philatelist as I have endeavoured to indicate, can we not apply the following process as the basis or a rational method of collecting. Given a minor variety, let us ask "Does this variety illustrate any solid fact in the history of the stamps of the country?" If the answer is affirmative, then take it—if not, then reject it. Avoid the casual, keep the permanent or what we may call the evidential varieties.

Let us try this method on some well-known minor varieties:—

- (a) In connection with the design and process employed for the production of a stamp.
- (b) In connection with the paper on which it is printed.
- (c) In connection with the method of separation.
- (d) In connection with anything added to the design, such as a surcharge.

(to be continued).

New Leaves to Cut.

THE NEW SCOTT.*

THE Standard American Catalogue is the one of all the principal catalogues that, from a cursory examination, seems to be changeless with each succeeding edition. It certainly grows imperceptibly stouter under the burden of new issues, but from present appearances it will continue to hold the adhesive stamps of the whole world for some few years to come without the necessity of being split into two volumes. But when that time does come, as come it must eventually, it will be interesting to see whether the publishers will adopt the English system of putting Great Britain and Colonies in one volume. Probably the best plan will be to include United States and Colonies with the British, as this would make the two volumes more equal in bulk, and so divide the catalogue into English-speaking countries and—the rest.

But these speculations have nothing to do with the subject in hand; so we will dip into the new volume at once. We find that it contains forty more pages than the last, the illustrations and the letter-press throughout being, as always, beautifully clear and distinct. There does not appear to have been any re-arrangement of the lists of any countries such as we have been accustomed to find in Gibbons', nor is revision necessary, as "Scott's" does not go in for listing all varieties of perforations separately, only the main ones being separated, and the publishers are saved the entanglements in which (to take a single instance only) the recent issues of New South Wales have landed the British publishers. America is the happy land where V. R. I. *ieties* have (almost) ceased from troubling, and chalky paper is at rest.

It is true that most of the V. R. I. varieties of Orange River Colony are listed, in the small type to which the publishers wisely relegate all variations from the normal, but the spirit in which these are regarded by our cousins may perhaps be gathered from the fact of the 6d. "E. R. I." being given with a thick "V" variety. Is this subtle irony or accident?

With regard to the prices, so far as we have been able to judge, there are no very startling changes. The prices for United States stamps are identical throughout with those of the last

edition, with the exception of the 30c. and 90c. used, of 1869, which have each been advanced 2/6. Even such classical things as Guams remain line for line the same.

The British Colonies, however, show a distinct general advance, and in many cases the prices are higher than those ruling on this side. For instance, the first 10/- of Gold Coast is quoted at 50/-, while Gibbons' price is 30/-, and there are many such cases which could be quoted. This shows that the demand for British Colonials in the States is very keen; some time we presume it will be replaced by a sudden rush for Americans such as was witnessed eight years ago, and then we shall find this deserving class of stamps on the up grade again.

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

DENMARK.

The Postal Service of Denmark was in a chaotic state until the year 1851, when indemnities were paid to the several private companies and individuals who had conducted the postal business, and the service became, for the first time, a Government institution. This was immediately followed by the issue of postage stamps, at first only two values being employed. These were: 2 and 4 rigsbank skilling, the former for the local letter rate, and the latter for letters from one town to another. This was a very low rate, as the rigsbank skilling was only equal to a fraction over 1/4d.

On May 1st, 1851, the postal system was extended to the Duchy of Schleswig, and, on the first of July, 1853, to Holstein.

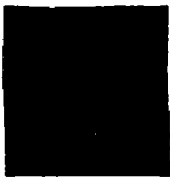
According to an official work on Danish stamps, published in 1901, the original die of the 2 skill. was engraved on steel by an engraver named Ferslew. A matrix was made in plaster from this die, and 10 small plates of 10 stamps in five vertical rows of 2 stamps each were then cast by the



stereoscopic process in type metal and soldered together to make the plates of 100 from which the stamps were printed. There are several minor varieties of type which were no doubt caused in the process of transferring by means of plaster, but the only one which is

* New York: The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., 18, East 23rd Street, New York. 725 pages. Price 50 cents. 21). (Post free 2/4 from our publishers.

at all distinct is one in which the tail of the "2" is pointed where it joins the body of the figure. The four R.B.S. has the value expressed as "FIRE R B.S." The original die of this



value was also engraved by Ferslew but on copper, and the 100 reproductions forming the printing plate were made by a process which prevented any variations of type. These two stamps

were printed on paper covered with a burélé pattern of feint lines in pale yellow, and are watermarked a Crown. The figures in brackets in the following list represent the number of each stamp printed including all shades and varieties.

1851.—Imperf. Wmk. a Crown.

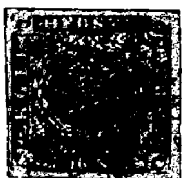
	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 R.B.S. blue (479,300)...	—	—	10	0
a. variety of "2" ...	—	—	—	—
4 R.B.S. chestnut brown (11,788,600)	25	0	4	—
a. dark brown ...	10	0	1	—
b. yellow-brown ...	—	—	2	—

Note.—The 4 R.B.S. is known perf. 12, unofficially. Both stamps have been reprinted on plain paper and on paper with an imitation of the burelé pattern on the face, but both without watermark or gum. The plate of the higher value had been defaced, so the reprint was made from the mother die. We illustrate the watermark on the stamps of this issue.



In 1853 the currency was changed from rigsbank-skilling to skillings. 96 sk., equalling 1 rigsbank-thaler (2/3). This necessitated a new issue, and stamps of the same design as the 4 r.b.s. appeared in that

year with the necessary alterations, and the inscription in the left-hand border abbreviated. This work was done by Alfred Buntzen—Ferslew having died the previous year. The design of the two skill. was made uniform with this value, and two higher denominations, 8 sk.,



green and 16 sk. lilac, were added in 1857. The stamps of this issue have the spandrels composed of dots; but in August, 1857, the 4 sk. and 8 sk. appeared with these dots replaced by wavy lines, the altera-

tions having apparently been made on the plates themselves. Many of these stamps were perforated or rouletted by private enterprise, but early in the year 1863a rouletting machine was procured by the Government, and the 4 sk. with wavy-lined background was first sold rouletted in Copenhagen



in March, 1863, over 12,000,000 stamps being

so operated upon. This was followed in June of the same year by the 16 sk. lilac, of which there were 100,000 specimens issued in all. These were the only two values which were perforated officially. All the stamps of this issue found perf. 12 were perforated unofficially.

1853-63.

DOTTED SPANDRELS.

	Imperf.		Rouletted.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 sk. blue (7,968,400) ...	—	10	3	—
4 sk. chestnut (19,405,900)	—	—	1	—
a. pale chestnut ...	—	—	1	—
8 sk. green (1,336,600) ...	8	0	6	—
16 sk. grey-lilac (565,100)	20	0	2	6
a. mauve ...	—	—	12	0
				13 6

WAVY SPANDRELS.

	Un-used.		Used.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
4 sk. brown (50,596,700)	3	6	1	—
a. pale brown ...	7	6	3	—
b. chestnut ...	2	0	1	—
8 sk. green ...	15	0	1	0

In the following year, 1864, the rouletting machine being found inconvenient, it was decided to have, at one and the same time, a proper machine perforation and a new design, and it was further decided that the latter should be in the more general upright rectangular shape. Accordingly, a new stamp of 4 sk., in the accompanying design, made its appearance in May, 1864.



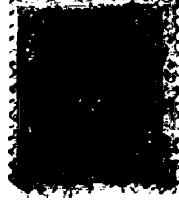
It was printed on thinner paper than before, but still with watermark crown, though somewhat altered in shape. The perforation was 13. It was followed at intervals by the 16 sk., 2 sk., 3 sk. (a new value), and 8 sk., all in the same design.

1864-68.—Perf. 12, 13.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 sk. blue (7,533,600) ...	—	—	2	0
a. pale blue ...	—	—	2	0
3 sk. mauve (5,019,700) ...	—	—	3	0
a. red-lilac ...	—	—	3	6
4 sk. vermilion (47,742,800)	—	—	2	6
a. red ...	—	—	2	6
b. pale-red ...	—	—	—	—
8 sk. brown (2,005,000) ...	—	—	25	0
16 sk. grey-green (1,800,000)	—	—	16	0

NOTE.—All values are known imperf., both as errors and as proofs. The set was reprinted in 1880 on unwatermarked paper, imperforate and ungummed, and, therefore, like all other Danish reprints are easily detected.

On the approach of a more utilitarian age, in 1870, it was thought advisable to have a new sign



with the value showing more plainly, and, consequently a beginning was made with a new value, 48 sk., in the type here shown. This was in May, and in October of the same year the 4 sk.

issued was in the same type. The 2 sk. and 3 sk. came in January, 1871, and the 8 and 16 sk. in April of that year. The central portion of the design is printed in one colour, and the remaining part in grey with the exception of the 48 sk., where it is brown. Consequently, two sets of plates were required to print the two colours, and it speaks well for the care with which they were produced that no inverted centres are known. The perforation was at first 12½, and the first values issued, the 48 sk., 4 sk., and 2 sk. are found so perforated, and though at one time and another the 3 and the 16 sk. have been announced in the same gauge, the reports have never been confirmed. Almost immediately after their issue the 2 and 4 sk. appeared perf. 14 x 13½, like the rest of the set, but the perforation of the 48 sk. was never changed, the original stock evidently lasting out the issue.

1870-71.
WMK. A CROWN.

	Perf. 14 x 13½.		Perf. 12½.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 sk. blue and grey (23,167,300)	1 0	1	—	23 6
a. bright blue and grey	4 0	1		
b. dull blue and grey	1 3	1		
3 sk. violet and grey (4,534,200)	3 0	4		
a. mauve and grey	1 9	4		
4 sk. carmine and grey (54,959,200)	2 6	3		
a. rose-red and grey	2 6	1 10 0	2 0	
8 sk. brown and grey (3,858,600)	4 6	3		
a. dark brown and grey	3 0	3		
16 sk. green and grey (1,983,800)	—	6		
a. bright green and grey	1 6 0	8		
49 sk. lilac and brown (4,200)			40	8 6

NOTE.—All values are known, as in the last issue, imperf. Reprints were also made on unwatermarked paper, un-gummed and imperf.

On January 1st, 1875, the old *skilling* coinage was finally abolished, and the *ore* and *krona*, of Scandinavia, were brought into use (100 öre — 1. krona — 1/11). This necessitated an alteration in the stamps, the old numerals in the centre and the values below being altered to the new currency. They were printed as before in two colours, and perforated 14 x 13½.



The paper first used was thin and semi-transparent, but after a few years a thicker paper was made use of. The stamps of this type have remained in use until the present day, nearly thirty years; but in 1896 they began to appear with a new perforation, gauging 12½, and naturally a large range of shades is found in nearly all values. There is a well-marked variety of the 5 öre blue and carmine, in which the ball on the lower loop of the central figure "5" is missing, while other varieties are the 3 öre, grey and blue, on thick paper, with the first "A" of DANMARK missing, and the 8 öre with dots

missing over the "0." These are only found on stamps with the earlier perforation.

The gums used is yellowish on the thin paper stamps, but on the thick paper it may be found either yellowish or white.

1875-79.
WMK. CROWN.
Perf. 14 x 13½. Perf. 12½.
Thin Paper. Thick Paper. Thick Paper.
Un-used. Un-used. Un-used.
s. d. s. d. s. d. s. d. s. d. s. d.

3 ore. grey and grey-blue	10 3	—	1		1
a. grey and blue	8 3	3	1	1	
4 ore blue and slate	1 6	1 3 6	3	1	
a. lilac-blue and grey	8 3				
b. pale blue and slate	3 6	2 1 0	3		
c. ultr. and slate	—				
5 ore blue and rose	1 6	4			
a. variety of 5	7 6	7 6			
8 ore rose and pale grey	1 9	1			
a. carmine and slate	2 6	1 10	3	2	3
12 ore lilac and grey	3 3	1			
a. mauve and slate	6 0	1 10	1	—	1
b. purple and drab	—	1 3	1		
16 ore, brown and grey	4 0	1 10	1		
a. brown and slate	—	10	1	3	1
20 ore grey and carmine	—	2			
a. grey and rose	3 6	2			
25 ore green and grey	2 6	2 9	2	5	1
50 ore violet and brown	6 6	6			
a. dull purple and grey	—				
brown	3 9	— 1 6	2		
b. purple and brown	—	3 0	2	9	1
100 ore yellow and grey	4 6	3 2 9	1 1 6	1	

NOTE.—2,310,500 of the 5 ore were printed, and 10,051,800 of the 20 ore. All the other values are still in use.

In 1882 a further advance in materialism suggested that it would be cheaper to print the values most used in one colour, and so a new design was made for the 5 öre and 20 öre stamps, which permitted of this. In 1885 a 10 öre was added in the same design. These three stamps are all found in two types differing in the size of the numerals in the corners, the smaller numeral being the earlier variety. In 1896 the perforation was changed from 14 x 13½ to 12½, and in 1901 a new value was created which was in the same type.

1882-1901.
WMK. CROWN.
Perf. 14 x 13½. Perf. 12½.
Un-used. Un-used. Un-used.
s. d. s. d. s. d. s. d.

5 ore green	6 1	1	1
a. with small figures	1 9	2	
10 ore rose	8 1	2	1
a. with small figures	16 0	13 0	
b. rosine	—	1	2 1
20 ore dull blue	7 1		
a. with small figures	5 0	2	
b. pale blue	7 1		
c. blue	—	3	4 1

Last year (1902) the internal postal rates for letters, and the salaries of post office officials were raised at one and the same time. The rate for local letters was raised from 4 to 5 öre, and that for letters sent from one town to another from 8 to 10 öre. A new stamp of 1 öre was therefore issued, which is used with

the 4 and 8 öre to make up the new rates. At the same time, the rate for parcels under 2 lbs. was reduced from 16 to 15 öre, and a new stamp of the latter value was issued.

1902.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 öre orange	1	1
15 öre violet	3	2

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Stamps for official correspondence were first issued in 1871. They consisted of three values, 2, 4, and 16 sk., and were in the accompanying design. Though not issued till April (the same month as the 8 and 16 sk. ordinary stamps, which were perforated 14 x 13½), the 4 sk. and 16 sk. were perforated 12½ and though the 2 sk. is not known other than perf. 14 x 13½, it is quite likely that it will turn up yet with the larger gauge.

1871.

WMK. CROWN.

	Perf. 12½.		Perf. 14 x 13½.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 sk. blue	1	6
a. bright blue	—	—
b. ultramarine	4	6
4 sk. rose-carmine	3	0
16 sk. green	2	6

NOTE.—All three are known imperf., but it is very doubtful whether these are anything but proofs. They were reprinted in 1886 on unwatermarked paper, ungummed and imperf.

When the currency was changed in 1875 the alteration had to be shown on the official stamps as on the ordinary, and the opportunity was taken to extend the issue to four, instead of three values. The 4 and 8 öre appeared perf. 12½ in 1899, and the 3 öre in 1902.

1875-1902.

WMK. CROWN.

	Perf. 14 x 13½.		Perf. 12½.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 öre mauve	2	1
a. violet-mauve	9	2
4 öre bright blue	—	1
a. greenish blue	—	1
b. ultramarine	9	2
c. cobalt	—	1
8 öre rose-carmine	3	1
52 öre green	7	—
a. deep green	—	2

In September, 1902, when the changes in the postal rates, which we have already referred to were made, three new values were added :

1902.

WMK. CROWN.

	Perf. 12½.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 öre orange
5 öre green
10 öre carmine



January, 1903, Report.

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above :—

Mr. Noel Lake, 7, Cranley Place, London, S.W., proposed by Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E., seconded by T. H. Hinton; John W. Spowart, 90, Market Hall, Southport, proposed by W. G. Walton, seconded by T. H. Hinton.

NEW MEMBER.

Captain N. J. Hopkins, R.E., Monmouth.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations during the past

year are notified with regret:—Captain A. M. Hoffmann, Trieste; Signor Lusy, Trieste; Mrs. J. C. Knight, Hastings; L. H. Waterhouse, Birmingham; F. S. Cooper, Manchester; F. J. Winkley, London; J. J. Simons, Glasgow.

EXCHANGE SECTION.

The value of stamps circulated during the year 1902 was £4,652. The packets sent out during the first eight months, which have returned from circulation, amounted to £3,326 of which amount stamps were sold for £187 14s. 8d. The largest sale was in February, viz., £37 0s. 11d. of £322, or about 12 per cent., though the percentage was even greater in January.

All members of the I.P.U. who have not joined this section are advised to do so without delay, as the packets contain many desirable bargains; and according to the regulations now in force, those who either purchase or sell largely are sure to receive always an early view of the packets.

E. F. MARX, Ph. D., M.A., Lond.

Exchange Superintendent.

Rolandseck School, Ealing, W.

1st January, 1903.

NOTICES.

The third meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall on Wednesday, January 14th, when there were present: Mr. H. R. Oldfield (President in the Chair), Messrs. W. Schwabacher, J. C. Sidebotham, L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, H. Thompson, J. E. Joselin, W. Hadlow, W. S. King, Dr. Marx, M.A., Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E., and the Hon. Sec. Mr. W. Schwabacher read a paper on fiscal collecting, and gave a display of a portion of his collection including a fine selection of United States Revenue, Match, Medicine, Tobacco, and proprietary stamps, Argentine, and several other countries. A discussion followed, and an interesting meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Schwabacher.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 11, at Exeter Hall, at 8 p.m., when the President will read a paper on "What is Limited Specialism." All members and any visitors will be cordially welcomed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions for 1903 are now due, and should be forwarded to the Hon. Sec., who will duly acknowledge same. Those members who have not yet forwarded last year's subscriptions, are finally requested to do at once, or will be dropped next month for non-payment.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.

5, Paultons Square, Chelsea, London, S.W.

Jan. 22, 1903.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

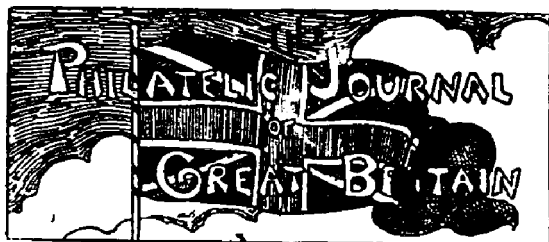
EXHIBITION AND CONVERSAZIONE.

The Sheffield Philatelic Society held its 5th exhibition on the 21st January at the Cutler's Hall, and was an unqualified success. Among the things shown were a fine lot of Europeans and a scarce selection of Colonial stamps by the President, Mr. J. H. Chapman. He also showed a complete set of the interesting frank stamps of Dr. Thebussem. Mr. J. E. Bartlett showed a fine collection of English, almost complete. Mr. A. T. Nixon exhibited many nice stamps of Gambia, Newfoundland, Seychelles, Niger Coast, etc.

The collection shown by Mr. J. F. Peace, comprising nearly all the European countries, were also on view, and proved exceedingly interesting. Mr. H. Hawley showed a number of rarities of Queensland, Newfoundland, Virgin Islands, Hawaii, etc., and two fine copies of the 1/- Nova Scotia. Mr. R. Sneath also showed a fine collection of early issues of many of the Colonies, the Pence issues of Ceylon being especially admired. A large number of visitors from the neighbouring societies at Leeds, Bradford, and Manchester were in attendance, and the evening was enlivened by some excellent music rendered by Mr. Charles Callum's Orchestra.

A STOLEN COLLECTION.

Philip Herbert Scott, 26, veterinary surgeon, was charged, on remand, with stealing a collection of foreign stamps, value about £50, the property of his late employer, Mr. L. Savournin, veterinary surgeon, of Long Lane, West Smithfield. During the prosecutor's absence on the Continent the accused called at his premises and gained access to his private room, from which he took the collection of stamps, which he subsequently sold to a dealer in the Strand for £7 10s. Mr. Savournin stated that the accused had been his dispenser for about fifteen months. He left at the end of October last, when witness discharged him for embezzlement. The stamps produced were his property and were worth £50. He missed them on the 21st November. Prisoner had no right whatever to go into his premises. The prisoner pleaded guilty. The prosecutor said he had traced £10 defalcations. Sir Horatio Davies sentenced the accused to three months' hard labour.—From *The Standard*, January 19, 1903.



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British Colonial Reprints.

THE list of British Colonies which have made reprints of early issues of their stamps is a much longer one than is generally supposed, but fortunately these re-impressions, with the exception of those of Heligoland, do not—nor were they intended to—trouble collectors in the least degree. The exception just mentioned is truly an awful example of the effect of printing plates getting into private hands. In this case it has made the erstwhile British Colony quite the most unpopular country of all with stamp collectors. Reprints of the

stamps of some of the Indian Native States have also undoubtedly been made with a view to deceive collectors, but though included in the British Empire, the stamps of these States are not in the same class with the Crown Colonies, self-governing States, Dependencies, and Protectorates, which are more popular with stamp collectors.

With these exceptions the reprints of British Colonies have only been made in very limited quantities, and nearly always for private distribution or for supplying the various Postal Administrations throughout the world. Though these private distributions have in many cases been fairly liberal and free none of the reprints are at all common, while some are of the greatest rarity, and they cannot be confused with the genuine stamps even if they do happen to fall into the hands of collectors. There is no case in which any intelligent attempt has been made to imitate the original stamps exactly in every particular—paper, watermark, perforation, gum and colour, except perhaps in the first issue of Natal, and those of the 1868 and 1879 issues of Queensland, and these would be troublesome if they were at all plentiful—which they are not.

Other Australian colonies which have indulged in reprints are South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and New South Wales, most of which are only found with the word "Reprint" plainly surcharged on the face of the stamp—a precaution which might be recommended to other Governments—but which in this case is hardly necessary. Western Australia has made one solitary reprint, namely, that of the "half-penny" surcharge in red and in green on the 3d. brown, in 1895. It is said that this reprint was made for the express purpose of spoiling the little game of a speculator who had laid in a good stock of the original stamp, but this rather spiteful act was nullified by the fact of the reprints being watermarked Crown and CA while the original stamp has the CC watermark.

Among the Colonies which have reprinted their stamps for the purpose of presenting specimens to other postal administrations are Cape of Good Hope, British Guiana, India, and New Brunswick. The first-named reprinted the 1d. and 4d. wood blocks in the year 1883 in quite the wrong shades and on wove paper. British Guiana reprinted the 1852 and 1853 issues, together with the 1c. rose of 1860. The first two issues are readily betrayed by the fact of the reprints being perforated, while the last is on thin paper, perforated 12½, instead of on thick paper and perforated 12. The ½, 1, 2 and 4a. stamps of the first issue of

India have been reprinted several times with various kinds of paper and shade, and also with perforations. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. was reprinted in red, not from the original plate but from an essay. The long "Service" stamps of 1867 were officially imitated, the surcharges differing materially from those on the original stamps.

* * * *

A reprint of a somewhat different kind is the well-known one of the 1d. black, two or three sheets of which, each containing 240 stamps, were struck in 1864 for members of the Royal Family. These were printed from the plate then in use, which is known as Die II., and on the paper of that period, watermarked large crown. The watermark on these reprints is always inverted.

Another reprint of a special character was that of certain values of the 1880 to 1887 issues of Newfoundland, which took place in the year 1896. These re-impressions were made in very large numbers to supply orders from dealers, but as they were not all cleared they were re-issued, and so take their place as a regular issue and lose the stigma attaching to reprints.

* * * *

There is no doubt that this almost total immunity from dangerous reprints, and the equal certainty that the British Government will not at any future time permit reprints to be manufactured for money-making purposes, is one of the principal reasons why British Colonials are so popular, unused, both with collectors and speculators. This is no reason, however, why all unused stamps of foreign countries should be looked upon with suspicion—an error which most young collectors begin with, and which often takes a surprisingly long time to shake off. In fact, the Reprint Bogey is not half so black as he is painted, and the number of reprints, even among European stamps, which do not bear, on the face of them, unmistakable signs of their character; is extremely limited, while, as we have shown, the British Empire is almost totally free of them.

PICTURE POST-CARDS.

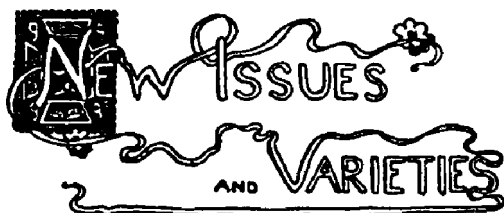
THE collecting of picture post-cards is popularly supposed to have some connection with philately (though we are unable to say where it comes in), and as some of our readers may be cartophilists, it may interest them to know that a Picture Post-card Exchange Society has been started by Mr. Harry Law, of Westgate, Wakefield. The subscription is only 2/-, and Mr. Law will be pleased to forward particulars of his scheme on application.

An Interesting B.C.A. Stamp.

SOME collectors, especially beginners, look with much suspicion upon the provisional 1d. stamp of British Central Africa issued in July 1898, on account of its very fiscal appearance. As a matter of fact, it was a provisional made by impressing the ordinary oval cheque stamp in red into a space formed by an upright rectangular frame of blue lines, with the words "Internal" above and "Postage" below. Twenty-four such frames were made to fill a sheet, and the cheque stamps were afterwards impressed with a die press, one at a time. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that the top row of one sheet (and one only, as far as we know) received these central impressions upside down, an unused copy of one of these errors being now on offer by a well-known firm at £75. The reason this ingenious provisional was made was because a case of stamps of certain values, *en route* from London to South Africa, was lost at a place called Chinde, and before a further supply could be received in British Central Africa the stock of ordinary 1d. stamps ran out. At first the demand was met by surcharging the 3½-green stamp "one penny," but when these were all used up there was nothing else for it but the issue of the stamps just described. They were not sold to the public, letters had to be handed to the Postmaster who stamped them himself after payment of the postage; this accounts for the scarcity of the stamps unused. It is said that when people made an effort to obtain a large quantity of these provisionals by sending a number of letters all addressed to one person and at one place, the Postmaster tied all the letters together and affixed stamps of high value (of which there were plenty in stock) to the bundle to pay the postage of the lot. After being used for some time in an imperforate condition they appeared perf 12.

NOTICE.

Readers of the P.M.R. who have paid their subscriptions for 1903 to the late publishers—Messrs. J. T. Bolton and Co.—will receive the Ph. J. of G.B. for nine months (January-September), as the subscription to this journal is 2s. 6d., whereas that to the P. M.R. was only 1s. 6d. Full particulars of the competition referred to last month will be given in our next.



BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain.—It may interest specialists in British to note that the sheets of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps now bear the marginal letter B.

The *London Philatelist* is informed by Mr. A. B. Creeke, junr., that the 1d. as well as the 6d. and 9d. King's Head stamps have now received the surcharge "GOVT. PARCELS."

Official Adhesive. 1d. carmine, surch. black.

Australia (Commonwealth).—Mr. Boyes, of Eudunda, has sent us the 1d. unpaid letter stamps with ornamentation, covering the space formerly left white at the bottom. We have already chronicled the 5d., 1/-, 2/-, and 5/- in this type.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 1d. emerald green (2nd type).

Bahamas.—We have received the new issue for this colony bearing the head of the King. It is a departure from the regular Colonial type, and is a decided improvement. We hope to illustrate it in our next. The stamps are printed in one colour.

Adhesives. 1d. carmine.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue.
4d. orange.
6d. ochre.
1/- grey and carmine.
5/- lilac and blue.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ /- green and black.

British Honduras.—The following new King's Head stamp and postcards are chronicled by a Continental journal.

Adhesive. 2c. brown on red.
Post-cards. 2c. carmine on cream.
2c. plus 2c. " "

Canada.—A 7 cent. stamp has been issued in the maple leaf type, to conform with the rest of the set. We have heard a lot of new issues lately being described as "the last new stamp to bear the head of Queen Victoria," but still they come! This seven cents. stamp of Canada has been issued for convenience of paying the single-letter rate postage, with registration for inland and Imperial use. It is described officially as "yellow," but is in reality in a shade very difficult to name. "Olive-yellow" is the nearest we can get to it, a description with which we do not expect all to agree. On one point, however, there will be no two opinions—it is uncommonly bilious looking.

Adhesive. 7 c. olive-yellow.

Cape of Good Hope.—King's Head stamps from this colony have an especial interest, as on none of the postal issues of this colony

hitherto, save on the wrappers and envelopes, has the Sovereign's head been portrayed. We have to thank Miss Killick, of Cape Town, for the first specimen of the 1d. and 1/- stamps, which were the only ones issued when the mail left early in December. The 1d. has the head of the King in a frame similar to that round the late stamp, showing a standing figure of Hope. The 1/- is different, having the head in the centre with the value "1s." repeated four times around it, and the inscriptions "Cape of Good Hope" above and "Postage—One Shilling" below.

Adhesive. 1d. rose, wmk. anchor.
1/- ochre. " "

Fiji Islands.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. greenish black, perf. 12, which is new in this shade.

Adhesive. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. greenish black, perf. 12.

Ewen's Weekly reports that the new set with head of King Edward is now ready, and consists of the following values:—

Adhesives. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green.
1d. black on red.
2d. lilac and orange.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " blue on blue.
3d. "
4d. " black.
5d. " green.
6d. " carmine.
1/- green and carmine.
5/- green and black.
£1 black and blue.

Jamaica.—The following King Edward postcards are reported:—

Postcards. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green on cream.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. plus $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " "

Mauritius.—According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* the recently issued 5 cents. stamp, lilac and violet on buff, does not please the authorities, as it is so easily mistaken for the 2 cents Arms type which is still in issue, especially in artificial light. For this reason no more will be printed. The total number issued was 19,000, and these were all sold out in two days.

The two new stamps which we mentioned in our last number are chronicled by *L'Echo* as having appeared.

Adhesives. 3 c. green and red on yellow.
6 c. brown and red on rose.

Natal.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles the 2d. in the King's head design, while the *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* describes the high values from £1 to £20, which are all in the type of the 5/- stamp already chronicled

Adhesives. 2d. olive and rose.
£1 blue and grey.
£1 10s. violet and green.
£5 dark grey and violet.
£17 green and orange.
£20 green and red.

New Zealand.—We have two more values on the paper watermarked single line N.Z. and Star, close.

Adhesives. 4d. brown and indigo, wmk. N.Z. and star.
1/- vermilion " "

Orange River Colony.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles a variety of the 1/- on 5/- V.R.I. in which the three lowest rays of the 8-rayed star obliterating the old value are missing, making it look like an open fan.

South Australia.—We have the long 15/- stamp, inscribed Postage and Revenue, perf 11½, large holes. This has only been noted perf. 10 hitherto.

Mr. Boyes has kindly sent us several more values in the type of those recently chronicled, and illustrated in our November number.

Inscribed "POSTAGE AND REVENUE."

15/- yellow-brown, perf. 11½ (large holes).

Inscribed "POSTAGE."

3d. olive.

4d. brown-orange.

10d. orange-buff.

11/- pale brown.

Sierra Leone.—*Die Post* describes the new issue of stamps for Sierra Leone. They consist of the same values as before, ½d. to £1, with the exception of the 2/-, of which there is no mention. The stamps have arrived in the colony but will not be issued until the stock of Victorian stamps still in hand has been exhausted.

Trinidad.—Messrs. Bright and Son inform *The London Philatelist* that of what is known as type 2 of the 1d. Trinidad lilac and rose, a printing of 1½ millions was sent out to the colony, and they presume that a large proportion remained on hand when the stamp was issued in black on red, but they do not say upon what grounds they base this assumption. We are able to add to the little that is known about these stamps, as we have specimens dated as early as September 7th and 19th, 1900, both used in Port of Spain. We have also a specimen used in Tobago dated March 11th, 1901, and the only other post-office which appears to have used this stamp, judging from examination of nearly 100 used specimens, is Princetown. We should think that if 1½ millions of these stamps were sent out about the middle of 1900, very few of them would remain on hand at the end of 1902, when the 1d. black on red came into use.

St. Lucia.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles a new 2d. stamp that has been issued to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island. It is a pictorial effort, showing a view of the Pitons, which is 3,700ft. high.

Adhesive. 2d. green and brown (oblong).

Owing to pressure on our space this month, the chronicle of new issues for Foreign Countries is held over till next month.

THE ANCIENTS' LOSS.

What, then is philatelic? What?
Or should one ask what is it not?
Anatomized 'tis understood
As somewhat differing from food—
Save food of fancy to the eye
That's tickled by modernity.
Take Dr. Johnson's dictionaire,
It has no trace or seeming there.
Yet 'tis a living thing to-day;
In fact, not fiction's airy way,
Though Ancients taught and learn't o'er much
Had they a philatelic touch?
Or, looking to a later day.
Had Dryden, Crabbe, or dainty Gray?

In philatelics some delight,
Amazingly and then unite
To Journalise as they well can
The scient work of happy man.

GREX.

THE latest thing is chocolate for Stamp Collectors! We have been forwarded the cover of a packet of this condiment (unfortunately the chocolate was removed before it reached us), on which is printed "Boisselier's Chocolate for Stamp Collectors—Valuable set of Foreign Stamps—1d." But we are informed that the contents of the packet appeal more to the alimentary than to the philatelic instincts of the purchaser, the set of stamps which were shown to us proving to be four common Continentals and one reprint of the Argentine Republic.

1840.—WRITTEN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE PENNY POSTAGE.

1.
Hail, joyous day! The Postage Bill
Brings blessings great and many;
And, best of all, say what we will,
It only costs a penny.

2.
From John O'Groat's to Eng-land's end,
From Norfolk to Kilkenny,
A letter now may reach a friend,
And only costs a penny.

3.
The dying miser writes:—"Dear Son,
My days will not be many."
The youth exclaims:—"God's will be done!
The news is worth a penny."

4.
Dame Nature will her rights pursue,
Fond Jack woo smiling Jenny;
A note brimful of love—if true,
Is surely worth a penny.

5.
Hurrah! Hurrah! May Rowland Hill
Ne'er want "the ready penny";
To him we owe the Postage Bill,
And blessings great and many. R.
The Globe, Jan. 20, 1903.



January 25, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* for December presents a somewhat different appearance from that to which we are accustomed, as this issue is to all intents and purposes filled with paragraphic items rather than articles of deep philatelic research. True, there is a lengthy and detailed account of the "African" Exhibition, but that is all. Not that we wish to undervalue the contents of the number—on the contrary, its interest is quite up to the average.

To begin with, we gather from the editorial that, in spite of whatever may have been said or thought to the contrary, the co-operation of the leading Australian philatelists and societies will be welcomed in the production of the new "Oceania," which Mr. Basset Hull is undertaking for the London Philatelic Society. With such assistance the work should be indispensable to every collector of colonial stamps and we wish Mr. Hull every success in his undertaking. We are referring to this matter again in our review of the *Australian Philatelist*.

Mr. Castle has another note about those wonderful Moldavian "first issues," from which there appears to be a certain amount of doubt as to whether the so-called "reprints" should not rather be called forgeries. After quoting a letter received from an "Able Philatelist" tending towards the latter theory, Mr. Castle goes on:—

I understand that other communications have been received in London tending to impugn these stamps. As I have written, the whole thing is most suspicious and disquieting. That these "reprints," for which large sums are now asked, have been allowed to lie dormant for ten or twelve years is highly improbable, nor could I see any good argument in defence of that theory among my correspondents' letters. If, however, they should be forgeries, I can only say that if printed with care on paper similar to the originals I do not see how they are to be detected. The paper, however, may, as it has so often proved, be the stumbling-block. In any case I feel sure that we have by no means got to the whole truth of the matter.

Which must be "grateful and comforting" to collectors of these stamps.

Mr. Bacon writes warning collectors about some very dangerous forgeries of the early Chili stamps he has just recently seen. They are the first 10 c. with forged watermarks "20"

and "5" (large numeral with long neck), and the 5 c. with forged watermark "1." These forgeries emanate from Paris, and are very skilfully done.

There is an interesting note on the Russian Levant issues of 1865. According to M. Moens' theory, which has hitherto been accepted without dispute, the number of types of each value has been taken to be sixty-three in nine rows of seven. Now, however, it appears from discoveries made by Mr. F. Breitfuss, of St. Petersburg, in the collection of Herr Mertens of that city, that the plates probably consisted of only twenty-eight stamps, in four rows of seven.

The Monthly Journal has a further instalment of Mr. Basset Hull's article on the "Stamps of Tonga," together with the first instalment of a paper by Mr. Emil Tamsen on the "Stamps of the New Republic." Major Evans continues his chronicle of native Indian stamps, some of the Jammu and Kashmir issues being described in the present number, and illustrated with six reproductions of complete sheets of various types. In "The Wide, Wide World" "Philologos" is even more than usually entertaining. Only considerations of space prevent us from quoting the majority of the amusing and interesting paragraphs of which the contribution is composed. As it is, our readers must be satisfied with the following two samples:—

Gebrüder Sent's attention is drawn by a French client to the fact that there are five French possessions which do not possess their own stamps. They are—the Kerguelen Islands, in the Southern Indian Ocean; Sheik Said, at the entrance to the Red Sea and on the Arabian Coast; the Clipperton Islands, in the Pacific, off Central America; Adelle Land and Louis Philippe Land, in the Antarctic Ocean; and, lastly, the islands St. Paul and New Amsterdam, in the Southern Indian Ocean.

We very much doubt the wisdom of either Gebrüder Sent in publishing this information or of "Philologos" in spreading it still further. We may be wrong, but we should not like to lay long odds against each and all of these "colonies" being shortly provided with special sets of stamps, and meanwhile being equipped with some fearful and wonderful provisionals. Possibly some of these places are practically uninhabited by persons able to write—that won't matter.

The next note may interest those arithmetically inclined.

We are always hearing of rural postmen who have walked so many times to the moon and back, etc., but justice has not been done to their shoe-leather. The error has been put right at last. It is announced that a Russian post-boy, Peter Derengoffski, celebrated on August 15th his "silver wedding" as a letter carrier. He has calculated that the cost of his boot-leather used during these twenty-five years amounts to 1,000 roubles, or £110.

Given the above details, find first, how long a pair of boots lasted Mr. P. D. (&c.), and second, who was his bootmaker.

We have received the first number of what is undoubtedly meant to be called the *Philatelic Punch*. Through some inexplicable accident it appears in the cover of "*The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*," as the Christmas number of which it attempts to pose. But that won't do. We know that our Birmingham contemporary has occasionally dropped into verse, and we have never thought any the worse of it for that. (We do it ourselves sometimes). In the number before us the "Chronicle" is represented by a column of "new issues" and the *Advertiser* by something less than half a dozen pages of advertisements. As for the rest, well, here is a list of the contents:—"The Editor's Story," a poem of five verses. An Anecdote of Sir Rowland Hill—possibly "well authenticated." Then comes "The Haunted Specialist,"—a sort of illustrated Ingoldsby Legend with a moral. On the next two pages are "Suggested Designs for Picture Stamps," the last of which is considerably labelled "For the Frivoller," as a set off against the terrific earnest characterising the others. Then comes a Philatelic Fable, and lastly a piece of "Correspondence" culled from the *Philatelic Journal of India*. We have not attempted to go into details of any of these things—we frankly own we are unequal to the task. All we can say to our readers is, "get the number and judge for yourselves whether our notice is exaggerated."

From the "Editorial Notes" wherewith the December number of the *Philatelic Record* opens we receive a gratis lesson in German. The note deals with the proposed new issue of stamps to carry the official correspondence of the Empire. The side heading of the note is "Jahlmarken" and the paragraph itself is interesting enough to be worthy of reproduction *in extenso*. Here it is:—

Because the official correspondence in Germany is not franked with postage stamps, a general belief exists that it is carried by the Post Office free of charge. This assumption is, however, erroneous. The position is that the Treasury pays a fixed sum to the Post Office each year. This sum was some time ago

Jahlmarken. 7,500,000 marks annually, but the Postal Department were dissatisfied, and it was raised to 8,800,000 marks a year. The Postal authorities still think the amount too small, and, being unable to agree, have arranged with the Treasury that all official mail matter during the coming year shall be franked. A special series of stamps is to be issued for the

purpose, the values to correspond with those of the current issue up to 50 pf. The design is also to be the same, except that in lieu of the figure of "Germania" there will appear the inscription "Frei durch Ablosung Nr. 21." or "Free in accordance with arrangement No. 21." The stamps are to be employed from the 1st of January next to the 31st of December, when an account of the total number used is to be taken, and the sum of money so arrived at is to be the basis of the future annual payments by the Treasury to the Post Office for official correspondence during the next few years. This is a sensible arrangement, and one we commend to the attention of our Postmaster-General. It would stop the senseless overprinting which has become so prevalent of late.

The stamps locally are referred to as "Jahlmarken" (number stamps), though for what precise reason we do not quite follow. Our German contemporaries are discussing whether these stamps are collectable. We have no doubt upon the subject ourselves. They appear to be exactly in the same class as the Departmental Stamps of the United States, I.R. of Great Britain, and hosts of others. So long as collectors take these they will have to include the "Jahlmarken," though they are only to be in issue a year, and will probably be difficult to obtain unused.

What we cannot understand, however, is the word "Jahlmarken." In the far distant period of our school days we were taught that the German for number was "Zahl." But that, we presume, is "another story."

In place of the ordinary "philatelic biography" we have this month a portrait and notice of the late Rev. W. Bell, M.A., who recently met with his death in tragic circumstances already referred to.

The number contains the concluding instalment of Lieutenant F. H. Napier's article on Griqualand stamps, written with the philatelic knowledge and thoroughness characteristic of all his work. The illustrative plates are excellent.

As regards the following paragraph we can only agree with the *Philatelic Record*, and wonder greatly.

Mr. Champion objects to the notoriety he is obtaining by the continual reference to his doings in the *Philatelic* press, and is therefore bringing an action for libel against one of our continental contemporaries to suppress further references to his little ways. The action, we understand, is to be heard in Switzerland. Mr. Champion has every reason in the past to be obliged for the leniency of the Swiss law in reference to forged stamps, but it seems unwise on his part to presume too much.

To those philatelists whose interest in things postal is not bounded by the sides of a stamp, the January number of *St. Martins-le-Grand* should prove extremely interesting, as the following list of a few of the more distinctly "postal" articles proves.

"Life on a South African Army T.P.O." (illustrated). "The New Postmaster-General at Work." "The Bristol Post Office" (illustrated), "Across the Continent with the Indian Mail," Queen Elizabeth's Posts," and a number of shorter notes under the general heading of "St. Martin's Letter Bag." We quote one note relating to "The Postal Union Monument," though we strongly deprecate the lumping together under the same heading, collectors of monuments, pictorial post-cards, and postage stamps, and entirely disagree with one variety at any rate being called a "human weakness."

In connection with this subject it is necessary to hark back to the year 1900, when the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Postal Union was celebrated at Berne by means of an international Congress. This meeting as we reported at the time, utilized the occasion not merely in discussing the good things provided by the Swiss Government, but in deciding to arrange for the setting up of a monument to commemorate the international silver wedding. We know that in some continental countries the craze for erecting monuments is second only to that for collecting postage stamps and pictorial post-cards; and we are inclined to place both pursuits in the same category of human weaknesses. However, after reading the following words from the International Bureau report on the subject of the Postal Union as an institution, we have come to the conclusion that in this case the suggestion to spend a little money on a monument is not unworthy of praise:—

“On a pu dire avec justesse que l'Union postale a réalisé pour son propre compte les États-Unis du globe et qu'un congrès postal est un parlement du monde. L'Union postale est en effet la seule institution qui soit parvenue à se faire accepter par le monde entier. A ce point de vue, elle offre un exemple de ce que peut l'humanité lorsqu'elle se laisse guider par une haute question d'intérêt général et qu'elle s'applique sincèrement à réaliser une œuvre de progrès, d'harmonie et de paix universelle.”

The international band of postal representatives, among whom figured Mr. H. Buxton Forman, C.B., and Mr. C. A. King, as the British delegates, before leaving Berne, entrusted the Swiss Federal Council with all the measures necessary for carrying out the scheme for the monument. This Council selected a jury of eminent artists (Mr. H. H. Armstead, R.A., is the British representative), and under its sanction has formulated a competition open to all the artists in the world, regardless of their place of residence and nationality, for designs for the commemoration monument, which is to be erected on the Steinhauerplatz in Berne. The competitors have absolute liberty as to the nature of the monument, provided that it clearly symbolizes the foundation of the Postal Union and is well suited to the site selected. The maximum price of the monument completely executed is not to exceed 170,000 francs, inclusive of all fees and charges. The amount at the disposal of the jury for rewarding competitors is 15,000 francs (£600), the value and the number of the prizes being left to the discretion of that body.

If any of our readers are desirous of entering for this competition, they will be furnished with copies of the conditions upon application to the Swiss Federal Department for Posts and Railways, or the International Bureau of the Postal Union at Berne.

Philately Abroad.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for November is another unusually interesting number. The following extract from the Editorial notes is worthy of consideration:

Double prints of several countries, such as the 2 annas blue of India, and the 4d. yellow of Tasmania are catalogued, but it is wonderful how many double prints may be found if carefully looked for. We have recently seen very distinct double prints of the 3 Kr. pale-blue Baden, the 5 reis C.W. issue of Portugal, the 10d. octagonal G.B., and the 1c. black of Holland. Surely retouches and double prints are more worthy the attention of collectors than missing dots in a surcharge. Still “*chacun a son gout.*”

In the “Notes from Australia” G.F.N. refers to the articles on “South Australian Varieties Simplified” which appeared in the *P.J.G.B.* some two or three years since, and draws some interesting distinctions between what he considers the major and minor varieties of perforation found in the stamps of South Australia. Mr. E. W. Wetherell has a short continuation of his article on “The Stamps of Bosnia,” and the “Scrap of History” dealt with refers to Sarawak, concerning which we read—

The independence of Sarawak was recognised by England in 1863.

Although nominally a perfectly independent State, yet the alliance with England gives the idea that in some

measure there is a British Protectorate—felt, if not declared, and in the event of an invasion of Sarawak the British Raj would lend its aid to the British Raja.

The stamps of Sarawak are unique for two reasons: firstly they illustrate the only instance of an Englishman as absolute ruler over an Eastern State, and secondly, they are the only stamps in the world which cannot be definitely relegated to Vol. I. or Vol. II., for they are not truly “British Empire” and certainly not “Rest of the World.”

Mr. Wilmot Corfield this month's “Philatelic Star in the East”; the notes on Austrian Fiscals are continued, and A. J. H. S. labours to prove the close relationship between Cricket, the “King of Games,” and “Philately, the King of Hobbies.” We have long known that it was possible to get together a team of cricketing philatelists which would be almost up to county form, but, we confess that the other view of the case had not hitherto struck us. However, we reproduce the paragraph, and leave our readers to judge for themselves.

Point, India, one anna, pointed bust; cover point, ditto with heavy obliteration; slips (long and short), errors, grave and trifling; extra slip, an additional inverted surcharge; cover slip, India, ½ anna envelope, uncoloured; mid on, a finely centred stamp; mid off, a badly-centred stamp; long on, the “On” of the big type Sirmoor surcharge; long off, Heligoland, etc.; long stop, Queen's Heads; over 6½ years; long and short leg, the kangaroo on 1/- N.S.W.; doubtful delivery, forgeries, etc.; wide, Omaha and Columbus issues; maiden, the Cape of Good Hope lady; cut, most of the 4s. India, 1st issue; run, aniline dyes; short run, usually made by a provisional (*professional* not meant); Yorker, Newfoundland, ½ cent., 1897-99; “ston waller,” a collector of “blocks” (the portrait of Stonewall Jackson on the Confederate issues would also illustrate this point); Run out, Seebecks; not out, India, 6 annas; leg before, in the 4c. Federated Malay States the tiger has his leg by 4c. (leg before, see?); retired hurt, the S.S.S.S.; thrown out, the late Bhor issue; stumped, the projectors thereof; caught and bowled (bold), purchasers of the above who want to get rid of them now; played on the “Simon Pures” of Philately; “100 up,” N.S.W. Centenary issue; a boundary, jubilee lines; sawdust (Soardust), the material ejected from the volcano depicted on Salvadorians; drawn, the original design for a stamp; score, a pane of twenty; caught, the man who stole the Hamburg Consul's collection; crease, a stamp spoiled by fiddling; baills, the money supplied by friends to let people of the “Bauche” type out of jail; last man in, Edward VII Long may he keep his end up!

The “Opener Up” of the World dealt with this month is Vasco Da Gama, of whom it is said that

The great discoveries of Da Gama did for Portugal what those of Columbus had done for Spain, they enriched the country and raised her to the front rank of nations, and opened the civilization of the East to the traders of the West. Very few of those prolific stamp-issuing colonies were brought under the crown of Portugal by other men than Prince Henry and Da Gama; these two are therefore indirectly responsible for over 1,000 spaces set aside in our albums for the unlimited productions of Portuguese Colonies in Asia and Africa.

Dāk's “New Issues and Mere Memoranda” are, as usual, both amusing and interesting. Here are a few of them:—

I very recently found myself simultaneously in possession of nine lots of approval sheets from as many senders. Some of them I passed round to personal friends who complicated matters by taking stamps. By the time they had squared up with me, and I had returned all the sheets with remittances to their owners, I had had quite enough for a time of the financial aspect of philately. The remittances were in four different currencies, the “50 per cent. off” business created its customary irritating entanglements, one sender asked me to pay him in 3 pie King's head Indians. I did so, and there were a lot of them. When all was over I felt like Sir Michael Hicks-Beach felt after his resignation of exalted but exacting office—“really

relieved." The day may perhaps arrive when "a philatelic clearing house" will make our little settlements for us. That day is far distant, though in the meantime I think writers of handbooks and articles might sometimes take as their subject "The Philatelist as an Accountant." The collector who does business with many men in many lands and carries his dealings to a satisfactory finish must possess sound ability as an accountant and a knowledge of commercial methods likely to be of great service to him through life.

Poor Dāk. But apparently his philatelic troubles were not yet over, since he writes in a further paragraph:—

A few days ago I sent an Exchange Club packet to the post nicely sealed up in wax-cloth and marked "Registered." It came back with a note from the post office, "Sender must state if this parcel contains soiled linen, rags, or waste paper."

After all this worry we can perhaps pardon the atrocious pun in the following note on the proposed new French stamps.

A report is going the rounds that a new series of postage stamps is about to be put in circulation. Design, "The Sower," as on the coinage, by the engraver Roty. The Colonies will probably follow in "rotyation."

The *Australian Philatelist* for December, in an editorial note follows up the general protest against the manner in which "collecting" is done nowadays.

The craze, we call it nothing else, is for aggregation. Where a pair or a block satisfied a collector up to a few years ago, he now wants a half-sheet or a whole sheet if within the reach of his pocket. And should there be shades in colour of a particular stamp nothing short of a half or whole sheet will satisfy him. And it may thus happen that a collector will show you sheet after sheet, of one authorised value. Is this *bona fide* collecting? We are not of that opinion. It is nothing but wholesale gathering. This system of philately does more harm than good, for should a stamp become scarce, the certainty is discounted to a great extent by the knowledge that there are sheets of it to be found in certain collections. We would certainly not recognise this system were we called upon to give an award for the best collection at a philatelic exhibition."

In view of the increased interest that has recently been taken in Australian stamps, we think that the following note of warning from the same number is most timely, since it is more than probable that some of the stamps referred to will find their way to London shortly, if, indeed, they have not already done so.

"We have to warn collectors to be on their guard against certain stamps with forged perforations which have been placed in circulation in Sydney for some considerable time. Chief amongst these, in order of supposititious value, are the Queensland perf. 9½ x 12, 1d., 2d., and 1½. These stamps are very close imitations of the originals, being of course genuine specimens of the ordinary stamps, perf. 12, with the horizontal perforations removed, and a larger gauge substituted. The large holes of the 9½ gauge are somewhat irregular in shape, there are also other variations from the genuine article. The imitation is so close that a very careful examination is necessary to detect the fraud, but the point we refer to will aid detection.

Amongst other stamps which have been treated by the same hand are the 6d. black Victoria, "postage stamp" at sides, which has had the usual wide margin on one or more sides carefully perforated to match with the other sides, thus converting a badly centred stamp into a well centred one. There are also the 2d. bottle green and 4d. blue Van Dieman's Land; 6d. and 1½. Tasmania all perf. 12½, postmarked, made from imperforate specimens; 2d. blue New South Wales (1862 type on small N.S.W. Crown paper) perf. 12½ unused; 3d. yellow-green wmk. 3, perf. 12; 6d. orange wmk. 8, perf. 12; 6d. registered wmk. 12½; 1d. blue and 2d. green (V.R. in monogram) Fiji, perf. 10 x 12½ and 12 x 10; 4d. and 5d. perf. 10; also some South Australians and others, including even common stamps of various denominations, which could scarcely pay for the trouble of manipulation.

Besides the faking of perforations, other stamps have been cleaned, and in some cases postmarked or re-gummed, and passed as unused; notably the Fiji 5½."

From the correspondence column of the paper we gather some interesting facts concerning the new "Oceania." Mr. Basset Hull writes that the first volume of the work will include only the stamps of the six States included in the Commonwealth as constituted on January 1st, 1901, those of New Zealand and the British Protectorates in Oceania being reserved for a second volume. Mr. Hull continues:—

"To include the latter countries in my first volume would render such a work too bulky, would make the price almost beyond the reach of the average collector and would also delay publication for far too long a period."

We are further informed that Mr. Hull has secured the co-operation of Messrs. David H. Hill and W. R. Rundell with regard to the stamps of Victoria; Messrs. G. Blockey and F. Krichauff in the matter of South Australian issues; Mr. W. F. Petterd for Tasmania; and Mr. Maney Lake, President of the Philatelic Club, for New South Wales.

Since Mr. Hull has furthermore invited the assistance of advanced philatelists in the compilation of complete and accurate lists, and is returning to Australia to complete the work, we may undoubtedly expect that when it is completed we shall know all that is to be known of the stamps of these colonies up to the issue of publication.

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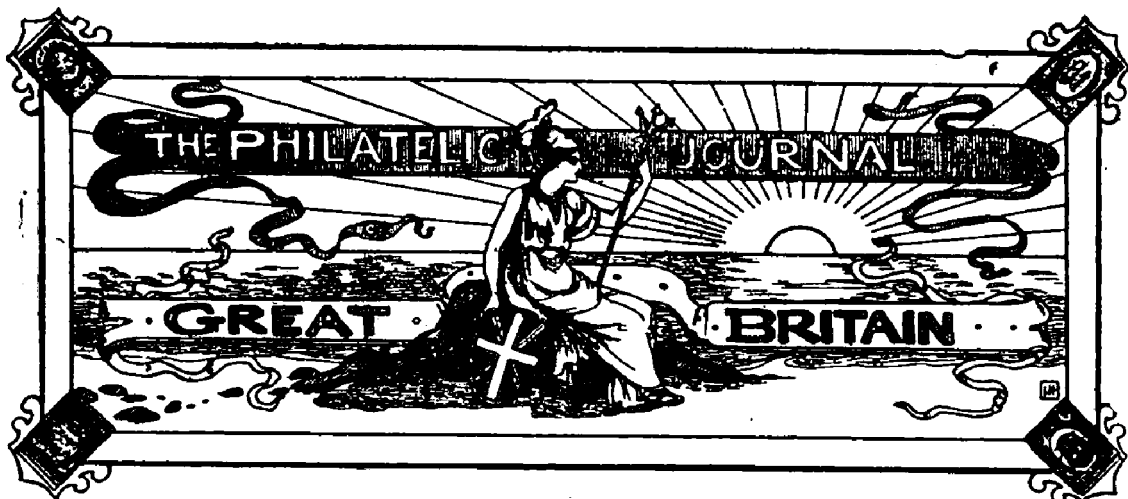
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No. 146. VOL. XIII.

FEBRUARY 28, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 38.—MR. WILMOT CORFIELD.

The Philatelic Society of India has made for itself a strong position since its formation early in 1897, and we have pleasure in including Mr. Corfield in our series. He is among the oldest continuous philatelists living, and has been either honorary treasurer or honorary secretary of the Indian Society throughout the whole of its course.

In response to our invitation Mr. Corfield writes:—

"I am very pleased to be honoured with a place in your interesting series, but as we are several thousand miles apart, and a personal interview is therefore impossible, perhaps the better way will be for me to dip for once into autobiography, promising at the same time to be brief.

What *am* I to say? I am told readers of articles like this expect to hear of a man's stamps and not of himself, but a glance at the heading that will denote this one leads me to infer just the contrary, and if I am wrong I hope my editor will be blamed for the mistake.

If readers expect an article on Mr. Smith's Alaskan stamps they should see that their editor heads it "Mr. Smith's Stamps of Alaska," and not with the name of Mr. Smith only.

So I am jotting down a few leading philatelic facts about myself. I was born in Birmingham, and educated chiefly at King Edward's School there. Birmingham always has been a busy "stamp" centre. It was the home of the "Apostle of Philately," the late Mr. E. L. Pemberton, whom I well recall going about on a philatelic crusade making converts in all directions. Among others whom he brought in was my brother, Winter Corfield, who died in 1865, leaving, for those days, an excellent little collection; Pemberton, however, is best remembered by me by reason of the part he played in the famous



"Pendragon" controversy, in which he advocated the wider study of the Stamp for its characteristics, apart from design or colour, and, of course, carried his views to a successful issue.

It was in Birmingham, too, that Sir Rowland Hill lived in his earlier days, and there

pondered over his great postal-reform scheme:

The *nucleus* of my collection was formed in November, 1865—my brother (who was, as I have said, under the personal influence of Pemberton) started me with some stamps a few days before his death from an accident. I well remember the occasion, and still possess one at least of some Hong Kongs he gave me, for my collection has gone on steadily ever since (I was then about six years old) and is now a very large one. My brother's collection (in a Lallier album) came into my possession in or before 1870, and thus my own dates back some thirty-seven years, and with my brother's added probably several years longer. I am most particular as to condition and arrangement, using the Army and Navy Stores' albums, with moveable leaves. I draw the line at nothing which is really a Government issue (whether postal or fiscal), and, though I have my preferences for some countries over others, believe that the *general* collector, in the long run, is likely to get the most pleasure out of his pursuit. Financial gain does not concern me in the least; a stamp once included in my album remains there, unless replaced by a better specimen. I love *all* stamps and not merely those that are costly. I laid the scheme of my collection down on broad lines, when little more than a child, and have never since regretted the course then decided upon. I notice with sorrow how others dig for a while only in a corner of the great field of philately and then sell their holding at a profit or loss. They may call themselves Philatelists (with a very big P) or Specialists, or whatever else they like, but the generalist resents their dubbing any earnest lovers of our hobby "magpies," and talking in a superior way of "wallpaper" and "drawing-room lots."

I remember once being on the flat roof of a house; a servant brought up a cup of tea and placed it on the parapet. A crow (magpies are not common in Calcutta) came along, and catching up the tea-spoon sailed away a few yards into space. He then dropped his treasure, and on looking down far below I was just in time to see the durwan at the gate hiding it under his mat. For "crow" read "specialist"; for "durwan" "purchaser." The parallel is weak in many respects, but "twill serve." The crow had, at any rate, a lot of trouble for very little. The parallel is also unfair—but not more unfair than is the everlasting "magpie" sneer on the general collector.

My advice to young collectors is, "regard all real stamps as worth attention, cut yourself off from none, thus leaving yourself free to obtain and study all as opportunity admits, and think

and speak of none as 'rubbish' because they are cheap and therefore plentiful." The "magpie" sneer has probably killed off its tens of thousands of philatelists. Translated into English it means, at its best, "I am now a prosperous man and can plank down pounds where you can only plank down pence, so I am going to try and spoil your pleasure for you by ridicule." "Plan on the broadest lines and build on them. Life is before you." The specialists' stamps are few in number, often the ingathering of a month or two and here today and gone to-morrow; the general collector's become almost part and parcel of himself (if he starts and continues with the fixed idea of making a permanent collection for pleasure—not for sale), and he cannot imagine himself without them. His childhood, youth, manhood, and age are epitomised in his stamps. He reveres them not for what they will fetch but for what they are, and still more, perhaps, for what they have been to him.

I went to London in 1882 and to Calcutta in 1886, and joined the Philatelic Society of Bengal shortly after its formation, and then the Philatelic Society of India (in which the smaller society was merged). I was secretary for a couple of years of the Kasauli Stamp Club and for a short time of the Dum-dum Stamp Club, both very successful concerns, and have contributed my fair share of copy to philatelic journals—in fact, as long ago as 1877 I won the first prize offered by the *Philatelic Quarterly* for an essay on "The Benefits Arising from Stamp Collecting."

I edited the *Philatelic World* for two years and the *Philatelic Journal of India* for the best part of 1898, and have frequently written for its pages (chiefly above the signature "Dâk"). Just at present I am again editing it. I was the Indian society's first hon. treasurer for the first two or three years, my profession as a member of the Society of Accountants and Auditors commending me, I suppose, for the position, and have been its hon. secretary since January, 1900. As I have seen myself described in print as "hardworked" I suppose my efforts have been appreciated by some at any rate. The Philatelic Society of India has from the first taken a high position among the societies of its kind. It began well and for more than six years has maintained the lofty standard it set for itself, and I am proud to have been associated with its success. I am a member of the London Society and the Fiscal Society. Fiscals are getting a great hold upon me and are charming subjects for study. It is my belief that fiscal philately will rightly become increasingly popular. I am also a member of the Dum-dum and Bangalore

Exchange Clubs, and am forming an interesting philatelic library. I have exhibited at four Calcutta Exhibitions, and remember, as among the pleasantest of my philatelic experiences, visits paid in 1890 and 1899 to those at London and Manchester respectively.

As already said, I have written about myself because I was invited to do so. I think the custom followed by several of the best-known philatelic journals of publishing portraits and articles of a personal nature is a very pleasant one. It is well to know what the men of thought and action attaching themselves to our pursuit are like and also what they have done. A clergyman with a great heart for stamps once remarked to me of Philately "it is so humanising." It is indeed humanising, and in this attribute lies much of its charm. To bring a knowledge of the personal characteristics of some of its devotees the world over to their fellow-collectors is an aim worthy of good journalism, which I am pleased to do my part in furthering."

Moldavia.

REPRINTS OR FORGERIES?

By GEO. B. DUERST.

IN the Philatelic Press I have lately seen various articles dealing with some Moldavian stamps, all of which have lately come into the market and have been offered as reprints. A credible story, why and when they were done, was added, and to all intents and purposes the matter was straightforward enough.

Being a specialist of the stamps of Roumania, I took, of course, a very great interest in these stamps, as my researches had convinced me that reprints of the round Moldavians had never been made, and I believe this opinion was shared by most collectors.

Suddenly we find in the *Echo de la Timbrologie* (No. 232—August 31st, page 979) a letter from M. Paul Paulescu in Bucarest stating that he *daily* receives *several* letters, whether reprints of these stamps exist! In the first instance, these stamps are much too rare and costly to be in so many hands, and, secondly, the few that can afford such stamps knew perfectly well that reprints did not exist. Therefore, *ab initio*, the matter starts very badly. He then proceeds to say that the original dies, engraved on steel (?), were enclosed on November 1st, 1858, in an iron box and deposited in the Ministry of Finance; where they were re-found in 1882. This box contained the dies of the 27, 54, 81, and 108 parales (!), round

shape, and five other dies—one of 5, three of 40, and one of 80 paras, engraved on steel and eaten into by rust.

As we shall see later on, the box was in existence in 1882 in Bucarest, but the writer leads us to understand that the dies were taken there in 1858. This is not correct; they were only removed to Bucarest in 1862, when the Administration of the Moldo-Wallachian Post was removed there from Jassy. Moreover, they were then deposited in the Museum of the Mint.

We now come to the principal part of the letter. On the occasion of the Jubilee of the King in 1891, the late Colonel Gorjau, Director of the Post, wished to reprint them, but, as the majority of the dies were in bad state, he only reprinted a small number of the following values:—27, 54, 81, 108, and 5 paras. The other dies were absolutely useless.

Here Paul Paulescu contradicts himself again. He says the majority of the dies were useless, yet the Colonel uses five dies out of nine!

After describing the colours of the impression of the papers and giving some information about the appearance of these reprints, of which the 81 and especially the 54 paras have come out splendidly, he continues that Colonel Gorjau, seeing that reprinting was not successful, has destroyed the majority of these stamps after having distributed a small number to his friends and acquaintances.

The workman, John Popp, who made these reprints, has sold last year a few copies to two or three collectors.

According to information given by this Popp, only fifty copies of the 27, thirty copies of the 54 and 81, twenty copies of the 108, and one hundred copies of the 5 paras were printed.

The Directors of the Post have declined to make a second reprint, because the dies were entirely eaten away by the rust.

I must say I am greatly surprised at this, because only a few weeks ago at the most they were good enough to be used for reprints, and not bad ones, to judge from the copies just come to light.

The above letter, from which I give only the principal items, was reproduced in several philatelic journals, and the more or less open doubts expressed as to the genuineness of this reprint led a certain Captain C. M. Morvin to write to the *Echo de la Timbrologie* (No. 235—October 15th, pages 1040 and 1041). In his letter he affirms the genuineness of these reprints made by General Gorjau (he was only a Colonel according to P. Paulescu); he also adds that he was very friendly with him, and then proceeds to correct some errors which

M. Paulescu has made. He says "the stamps have been reprinted by hand." So did Paulescu. Then he says the dies are deposited at the stamp manufactory. Paulescu says they are at the Ministry of Finance. We shall see later on where they have been and where they are. He then details the shades of the printing ink, the colours and quality of the papers used for the reprints better than Paulescu did. Then and now we come to a curious part. He warns collectors from buying forgeries which are very well done, and gives as a certain proof of genuineness that all the originals have a diameter of 20mm. His reprints may all have a diameter of 20mm., but the originals have not, only the 81 paras having this measurement. (This being the rarest stamp of the set, forgers would naturally take the diameter and the details of this value for their model.)

The same No. 235 of the *Echo* contains two further letters from M. G. Matheesco and P. Paulescu confirming the genuineness of the reprints, and giving a few more details which are of no importance.

I have read these letters very carefully, and was struck with a certain similarity. The style and grammar of all are defective in exactly the same manner, the faults are identical, and this seemed to me very curious, and made me a little suspicious. Letters written to these last two gentlemen have been returned through the Dead Letter Office. Collectors in Bucarest write they have never heard of two collectors of those names. I then began to read up old histories—old if we consider the few years stamps have existed, especially in regard to Captain Morvin.

As we have seen before, the Administration of the Post was transferred in 1862 from Jassy to Bucarest. This was in consequence of Prince Couza being elected Hospodar of Wallachia in addition to Moldavia. The original dies, in fact everything connected with the headquarters, was transferred, and we may take it for granted that the dies of the first Moldavians, if still in existence (and we shall find the proof of this later on), were taken to Bucarest.

I shall now give an extract from a letter written in Galatz early in 1889. A certain C. M. Morvin in Bucarest (here follows street and number), who is known as collector and dealer in philatelic circles, has been discovered to be a forger. He has not only forged current stamps but has made reprints of the old Moldavian stamps of 27, 54, 81, 108, 5, 40, 80, 3, 6, and 30 paras of the 1858 and 1862 issues, for which he had purloined the original dies from the museum of the mint.

The police searched his house, found a

quantity of clichés and arrested Morvin, who admitted his guilt.

Before this, Morvin visited Vienna, Berlin, and many other towns, and sold stamps in large quantities as remainders. In one of his advertisements in the *General Auzerger* (No. 4, page 78), he describes his firm as being "in liquidation."

From Roumanian newspapers of the same period I learn that the Roumanian police discovered a gang of forgers, who had manufactured forged stamps, principally old Roumanians, for years, and that several high officials in the post office are implicated in the matter. Upon a visitation at the house of Captain Morvin, the leader of the gang, the whole technical apparatus for the manufacture of stamps was found. Captain Morvin is said to have stated that he was a collector of stamps and had only sold these stamps to foreign collectors, and, as the Roumanian laws did not contain anything about this, he had not done anything wrong.

From the above two extracts we can deduce the following distinctive and important points:—

- (1) In the letter we find a C. M. Morvin; in the newspaper we find a Captain Morvin; in the present correspondence in the *Echo* we find a Captain C. M. Morvin. Are they the same?
- (2) More than one person knew of the existence of these dies, as Moëns mentions in the *Timbres Poste* that the clichés were re-found in 1882 in Bucarest. But evidently only one man took them away and used them.

The police, after finding the dies at the house of Captain Morvin, deposited them at the Ministry of Finance, this being a safer place than the Museum of the Mint. They were, however, used once more, and that was when Captain Morvin was tried. Copies of the stamps were struck off in black and pinned to the brief of the prosecuting counsel for the Crown. Whether any copies were supplied to the defending counsel is not known to me. Several copies must have been printed then and are undoubtedly those referred to in the Philatelic Press.

In the October number of 1891 of the *Timbrofilul*, a Roumanian philatelic journal of "rather suspicious nature," I find a long article about a quantity of Moldavian stamps being found amongst the papers of the lately deceased M. Manovarda, a high official in the postal service. The paper itself was edited by C. M. Morvin, and he has admitted to have written the article.

We now come to a letter written by the

Secretary of the Societatea Filatelica Romana in Bucarest, under date of August 12th, 1892, in which he announces the expulsion of Captain Morvin on account of certain irregularities.

His name appears in at least one "Black List," and collectors have been warned over and over again. Moëns had a long squabble with him and even called him hard names in his paper, and Morvin did nothing to defend himself.

We now come to the year 1897, when the Roumanian police again discovered a nest of Moldavian forgers. At a house visitation hundreds of such stamps, used, unused, and on old original letters, were found. Strange to say, the accused made use of the same defence as Captain Morvin, namely, that the Roumanian laws did not contain a paragraph forbidding the sale of imitations of old stamps to foreigners. It is not proved that Captain Morvin had anything to do with this matter, though the forgeries were very much like those he sold formerly. To show how lax the Roumanian laws are, I may mention that the leaders of the gang were condemned to imprisonment of six months and one day and a fine of 100 lei, or £4.

We now come to last year, and here again a Captain C. Morvin appears upon the scene, trying to sell Moldavian reprints. Moreover, the whole matter is again launched with some sort of plausible foundation for their origin and giving them a kind of official background. I believe I can leave the matter in the hands of my readers, and I do not think that their conclusions will vary much from mine.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PERFS.

—O—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *P. J. G. B.*

DEAR SIR,—I notice that G. F. N. in his "Notes from Australia," in the November number of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, when referring to the articles I wrote for your paper on "Some South Australian Varieties Simplified" (March—June, 1900), says that I "did not make it quite clear which perforations were major and which were minor varieties."

May I be permitted to point out that this was a matter that I deliberately and carefully refrained from dealing with in any way? To have attempted to distinguish between major and minor varieties would have necessitated giving a list of both kinds—a proceeding I considered entirely out of place in articles written primarily for the general collector.

After pointing out that I myself had collected practically every variety, major and minor, I stated that the conclusion I had arrived at was

that no good end could be secured by following my example. I then continued as follows:

"The course I would advocate, both for the general collector and the specialist, is the inclusion of the following typical varieties, which, indeed, show all that is really needed, viz., stamps gauging respectively $11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2}$ compound with $12\frac{1}{2}$, 10, 10 in compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$, 10 in compound with $12\frac{1}{2}$. To these may be added if desired a specimen of each value showing the three gauges in combination."

In spite of G. F. N.'s able article, which I have read with much interest, I must still adhere to my opinion that *typical* varieties of perforation are the things to be sought after in cases where several machines are known to have been employed simultaneously.

I do not know on what authority G. F. N. apparently traverses Gordon Smith and Napier's statement that there was a distinct machine perforating $12\frac{1}{2}$, and should want very convincing proof that such was actually the case. It is undoubtedly true that blocks of the later perforated stamps with both kinds of star watermark are to be found showing $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{2}$ in the same horizontal or vertical line. But, besides some of these, I had in my collection so many stamps of the very earliest printings with a clear cut $12\frac{1}{2}$ perforation on one or more sides, that I still believe, failing fresh evidence, a regular $12\frac{1}{2}$ machine to have been really employed. Should I be proved wrong, the typical varieties I would then advocate taking would be, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 10, 10 in compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$, and one stamp or block showing the transition from $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12\frac{1}{2}$.

In my mind, this multiplication of varieties of perforation, etc., is one of the chief hindrances to the popularity of stamp collecting, and every effort should be made when writing for "popular," journals to avoid increasing them. For in spite of all that may be said, the ordinary collector will usually attempt to get every variety he finds listed, with the result that he is apt to become disheartened and throw up the whole business.

Such matters are all very well when dealt with in periodicals of the class of the *Philatelic Journal of India* or the *London Philatelist*, which appeal rather to the advanced philatelist than to the "mere collector." It was for the benefit of the latter that I wrote my articles.

Yours faithfully,

M. Z. KUTTNER.

LANTERN SHOW AT THE I.P.U.

---O---

Members of the International Philatelic Union should not fail to turn up in good time at Essex Hall on Thursday evening, March 11th. We hear that an excellent programme has been arranged, and a most interesting series of stamps will be shown on the screen. All that is needed to insure the success of the evening is for members to come in force.

What Kind of Minor Varieties should be Included in a General Collection?

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION ON DECEMBER 10TH, 1902.

By L. W. FULCHER.

(Continued from page 3.)

And if the following remarks appear to be too dogmatic in form, I beg to plead the exigencies of space and the condensation necessary to survey the various aspects of a big subject.

(a) In connection with the design of a stamp we may first take stamps separately engraved on a plate so that every stamp on the sheet is different one from the other, as it brings up a principle which the *general* collector will be bound to observe, and not only in this connection, for we shall see I advocate its use in the case of surcharges which vary unduly. It will be impossible for him to collect all the stamps on such a sheet and so make up the original plate. For example, he will find it difficult enough to get one example (with differences of paper and shade) from every plate of the Sydney views, and will not expect to plate the early Mauritius. In cases like this, then, he should take but one stamp from a plate, together with any prominent variety. A MS. note in his collection will suffice to indicate the missing illustration. I am glad I need not further consider this matter as it has been excellently explained by our president in his paper on "How to collect Bolivia."

The employment of different dies for the same stamp is a very important fact in the philatelic history of a country. Take for example, the two dies of the first De la Rue Colonial type. Here a couple of lines in the background, a white space in the coil of hair above the curl on the Queen's head, and a line of colour in front of the throat form a very "minor variety," but one of capital importance in point of view of postal history. Therefore, the general collector should certainly take specimens from the two dies. We may observe with interest, and possibly the fact is new to some of my audience—that the existence of two dies of the second De la Rue "POSTAGE-POSTAGE" type as used for the Seychelles has now been confirmed by Mr. Ehrenbach. This type has also been employed by some other Colonies, like St. Helena and Turks' Islands. Here the chief differences are a line and three small strokes in the second compartment of the band round the Queen's head—very minor varieties—but on the principles laid down a general collector should take these. The two dies of the second issue of Austria and of the recent 1d. and 2½d. of New South Wales,

and the retouch of the 1876 issue of Spain are further cases in point.

All recuts or retouches of line engraved stamps I think are necessary even for the general collector, e.g., the 1d. red-brown Great Britain no one would think of rejecting. The various stages of the plates of the 5c. Bolivia and the more recent discovery of the recutting of the Sicilian stamps, details of which are now anxiously awaited by the philatelic world, are valuable and highly interesting from a philatelic point of view.

The removal of certain portions of the design as in the 1861 issue of the United States may, perhaps, be considered a retouch, and specimens should certainly be in a general collection—if they can be got.

Sometimes we have a case in which a portion of the design—usually the part denoting the value—is inserted separately into the die, which is thus used for all values by suitably altering the movable part. A recent interesting case of this, which has been thoroughly worked out, is that of the straight label issue of Portugal, the figures of value in these stamps being inserted on plugs separately, and consequently vary in position, slightly. In such a case I should think it would be sufficient for the general collector to get one or two examples which differ, as a record of the fact. The general collector would however, probably take the "figure" varieties in the first issues of Austria and Austrian Italy, viz., the 9 kr. and the 15 and 45 centesimi.

I am also of opinion that varieties due to a change of printer, with or without a change in the place of printing, should be taken, as this illustrates an important fact in the history of stamps. Thus the London and local printings of New Zealand, the Perkin-Bacon and De la Rue printings of the triangular Capes, the Paris and Athens and Brussels and Athens prints of Greece, and the American Bank Note Co.'s and Continental Bank Note Co.'s printings of the U.S. stamps are hardly likely to be neglected by even the general collector.

With regard to small errors in a design and flaws and cracks, the general collector must first consider whether they arise from imperfect inking or from the accidental presence of a bit of dirt on the plate. If they do, by all means reject them. Sometimes, however, they are of interest and importance. A case I have in mind is that of the 1881 and successive issues of the 1 piastre of Turkey. As collectors are aware, the 1 piastres stamp of the type in question was first issued in 1880 with the value engraved as "1 PIASTRES." An effort was made after the first printing to delete the "s"

from the *plate*. This, no doubt, being extremely hard caused slipping of the cutting tool, with the result that there are a dozen or so flaws on the "1 PIASTRE" which are constant throughout all the subsequent printings of this stamp in blue and grey till this type was given up, and this proves conclusively that the same plate was used for all the printings of the 1 PIASTRE stamp of this type. The small break in the "T" of "Posta" in the 2 paras black Servia of 1873 serves to distinguish this stamp from the one issued from a new plate in 1879 where the "T" is perfect. Such minor varieties as these are necessary for the general collector.

(b) To illustrate the application of the principle I advocate to the varieties of paper on which certain stamps may be found, let us take the case, first of all, of the line engraved stamps of Great Britain. They are printed on hand-made paper which varies markedly in thickness, and practically no two sheets could be exactly alike. The so-called "pelure" is merely a very thin variety, and though there is no objection, in fact it would be well for the general collector to show a thick and a thin specimen, yet this variety might be ignored on the principles laid down. Another case is the so-called "laid" and "wove" papers of the first issue of Japan. This "laid" paper isn't laid, and the wove appearance is only accidental. It is not necessary for the general collector to make two sets. The case is, however, different in the second issue; here the wove paper is entirely different and both sets are essential. Some of the values of the 1876 issue of Japan vary extremely as regards paper, wove paper of all sorts of textures—thick, thin, hard, smooth, rough, etc., apparently having been employed indiscriminately. The general collector would only take a few well-marked varieties.

(c) As regards perforation, I am of opinion that a specimen of the work of each machine of different gauge employed should be taken by the general collector. Of course this is rather trying, and of not much importance in the cases where several machines are used at the same time as in the case of the present and last issue of Austria and the recent New South Wales and New Zealand. I know that it has been strongly denied that these varieties of perforations are of any importance whatever, but I fail to see that we can reject them logically. On the other hand, I do not attach any value to part perforated or doubly perforated stamps, unless there exists some very good reason for the existence of such a defect other than that of a casual error, and I think these should certainly be rejected.

(d) The overprinting of a stamp for any pur-

pose is the most fertile source of "minor varieties" which vex the soul of the righteous collector, and of late years there can be no doubt that in many cases varieties are intentionally made for the purpose of raising funds out of the collectors' pocket. This appears very strongly in such flagrant cases as the 1885 issues of Ceylon, French Colonies, recent Portuguese Colonies, Salvador, etc., and I strongly suspect our recently popular Orange River Colony V.R.I.s, with all the dotty and other varieties, to have been produced with an eye to the collector. I have recently examined a pane of sixty stamps of the V.R.I. with raised stops, 3d. blue, surcharged in addition "B. D." with level stops, a Bank draft stamp for fiscal purposes. On no stamp of this pane, though there are five full stops in the surcharge on every stamp, is a single stop misplaced, and is it not strange that on the fiscal stamps of the same Colony, a series of ten values from 6d. to £5, all surcharged V.R.I. and value, on only two of these values, the 6d. and 5/-, are any stops misplaced, while on a second printing of the surcharge on the 5/- there are again no stop varieties. Moreover, as far as is known, there are no errors of overprint—not even *thick V's*—except that on two stamps in the 6d. value there is a wider space than usual between the "V" and the "R." of "V.R.I." It appears to me that on the fiscal stamps, which would have a very limited sale to collectors, it not being worth while to make varieties, practically none exist, and it strongly favours the conclusion that the varieties of surcharge on the postage stamps are done on purpose.

It is very difficult to decide what the general collector should do in such a case as this. I think, however, that all essential facts might be represented by the following series:

- (1) A series with level stops.
- (2) Two or three of the *commonest* errors showing different kinds of error, say with no stop after "V," one with a letter or all three of V.R.I. wanting and one with value omitted or only partially present.
- (3) A series with raised stops.
- (4) A series with thick "V."
- (5) Two or three specimens—the *commonest* varieties—to show "mixed" stops or other kinds of error.

I have taken a concrete case to illustrate how very variable surcharges might be treated in order to avoid the length of a general discussion, and I urge the application of the principle I have set out as a means of deciding the collectability of disputed varieties. If the general collector will bear them in mind I

believe he will find no need of troubling himself with varieties due to broken letters, slight differences in spacing, or even in the size of letters, or with many so-called "double prints." All such varieties are far less interesting than the slight differences in the overprint on the stamps of St. Helena, for example; yet no general collector would attempt to take all the varieties of all the settings of the surcharge on the different values of the country. From the general collector's point of view I would even go a step further. With some few exceptions I do not see why he should take inverted surcharges. Very few people advocate the collection of inverted watermarks, and there is but the accidental distinction between these two classes of variety that the former affects the design while the latter does not. They both arise in the same way from the sheet being accidentally put into the printing press the wrong way. In the vast majority of cases I fail to see any particular fact that an inverted surcharge illustrates in the postal history of a country except that somebody made a mistake.

I must now bring my paper to a conclusion, I am painfully aware that my rapid survey of portions of a wide subject—though it may be exhausting—is yet not exhaustive, but I hope that some usefulness will accrue, and that my efforts may afford some help for guidance through a tangled maze of "minor varieties."

The Delhi Durbar Postal Guide.

—o—

The following, which is cut from an account of a meeting of the Philatelic Society of India, which appeared in an Indian newspaper, has been sent to us by Mr. Corfield:—

"A souvenir of interest to Philatelists to be issued with the Delhi Durbar Postal Guide was announced. It consists of a complete collection of the whole of the adhesives (both Victorian and Edwardian) now on sale at the post offices throughout India. The stamps (of all values from 3 pies to 5 rupees) bear an official overprint (it can hardly be termed a postmark) indicating the special circumstances of their appearance. The guide will only be procurable at Delhi at noon on the 1st January, 1903, and its issue should aid very considerably in reducing the stock of remainders of the stamps of the last reign."

The souvenirs have, of course, since been issued, and there were 5,000 in all. Of these, we are informed, one well-known collector in India acquired two-thirds. Naturally, much speculation was indulged in, and copies very soon changed hands at absurdly high prices, ranging from 10 to 50 rupees. Past experience with postal souvenirs has always shown that the first price is the highest, and the lowest price may be expected in the future.



February, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above :—

Philip P. Brown, Bishop's Hall, Great Leighs, Chelmsford, proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by Dr. Marx.

NEW MEMBERS.

Mrs. Noel Lake, London, S.W.; Mr. J. W. Spowart, Southport.

NOTICES.

The fourth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Wednesday, February 11th. Present: W. H. R. Oldfield, President (in the chair), Messrs. W. Schwabacher, H. Thompson, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarte, W. S. King, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, J. C. Sidebotham, Major J. de C. Laffan, and the Hon. Sec. The President read an able paper on "Limited Specialism," which was illustrated by a display of his collection of Servia, formed on the lines suggested by the paper. A discussion followed in which he was heartily supported by all present, and the meeting closed with a unanimous vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Fulcher, and seconded by Mr. Joselin.

LANTERN DISPLAY AT ESSEX HALL, STRAND.

On Thursday evening, March 12th. 7.30 p.m. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Admission on production of card of membership, or tickets obtainable from the Hon. Sec. Visitors and members of other societies cordially welcome.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions for 1903 should be forwarded to the Hon. Sec., who will duly acknowledge same. List of members dropped for non-payment is held over until next report to afford members in arrear one more opportunity.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,
5, Paultons Square, Chelsea, London, S.W.
Feb. 21, 1903.



SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting was held on Monday, January 12th. Mr. Adam Smail (President) presided, and there were also present Messrs. Bonnar, Douglas, Jack, Kerr, MacGregor, W. B. Walker, Winkler, and M'Intyre, Hon. Sec.

It was decided to circulate amongst those home members desirous of seeing them the three journals subscribed to by the Society in the same way as the *Exchange Packet*. The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* was again adopted as the official organ of the Society, ordinary members receiving a copy regularly at the expense of the Society. The Secretary intimated that the publishers had signified their willingness to charge a reduced subscription to all members subscribing through the Secretary.

Exchange Branch.—The Secretary reported that the November packet returned from circulation on January 5th. Many sheets with remittances were returned to members the same day, and all had been returned by the 8th. The total sales amounted to £15 9s. 6d. net. The December packet was still in circulation, and was expected back by the end of the month. The January packet, with forty sheets, value £166 7s. 3d. net, was despatched on January 1st.

The subject for the evening, "Forgeries and their Characteristics," afforded most of the members an opportunity for display, and much interest was taken in the many copies exhibited. Mr. C. M. Pelham Burn kindly forwarded his remarkable collection for use at the meeting, including an apparently genuinely used copy of the famous Great Britain 1871 1-green, plate 5. The early Swiss issues were strongly represented, and included many very fine imitations of the Zurich and Geneva rarities. Most of the British Colonials were very crude productions, the most numerous and dangerous forgeries being the early Europeans. The meeting was unanimously of opinion that details of forgeries should be published as widely as possible for the guidance of collectors.

It was suggested that the Society should form a Forgery Collection for reference purposes, and the Secretary will be glad to receive contributions.

It was decided to have at the next meeting a display and discussion of the stamps of the United States.

Benadir.

The information which we gave last month about the so-called stamps of Benadir, on the authority of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., has brought forth quite a number of protests from various members of the stamp trade, who point out that the stamps were printed by the Italian Government Printing Office, and that though the stamps never came to be issued, they were prepared with the best of intentions.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us another communication on the subject, which runs:—"In our last letter concerning these labels we omitted to state that the letter we received from Kismayu was sent by the Italian Resident for Jubaland. We have since received a letter from the Societa Anonima Commerciale Italiana del Benadir informing us that the entire stock of Benadir 'postage stamps' has been sold to an Italian stamp dealer, whose name and address they give us."

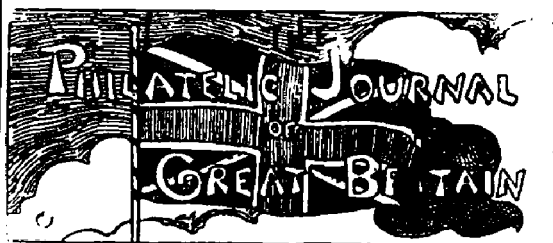
From this the facts seem to be that the stamps were prepared for use in the ordinary way, but on the authorities finding that there were no post offices and no postal service in the district of that name they decided to deprive the inhabitants of the nicely-printed labels and sell them to stamp collectors instead. Stamp collectors have not proved very thankful up to now, and after this they will doubtless be so ungrateful as to look upon them as,—if not bogus, the next thing to it

TWO MORE POST OFFICE MAURITIUS.

---O---

Two more of these "desirable" stamps have come to light at Bordeaux—a town which has brought to light quite a large proportion of the known specimens, which now number twenty-two in all. Of these thirteen are 1d. (two unused) and nine are 2d. (three unused). The latest ones are both on the same envelope, the 1d. and 2d. side by side, and in this condition they are unique.

We are informed that they have been purchased by Mr. T. Lemaire for something over £1,000.



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All communications to be addressed to—

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Griqualand Revised.

IT is only a few months since we remarked in this column upon the fact that one of the greatest charms of Philately is the obscurity still surrounding the history of many of the older issues of stamps, and that the unravelling of mysteries connected with them has ever attracted the best class of collectors. It has been alleged that all sorts of virtues and a variety of talents are fostered by the study of stamps, but we have never insisted upon the educative side of the hobby in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, because we know several ardent collectors who do not know where Niue and Penrhyn Island are. There is, however, one fact that is undeniable, and that is, that one must start with a very clear and analytical brain (and get it very much sharpened in the process) to produce an article like Mr. Napiér's "Notes on the Stamps of Griqualand West."

* * *

This work, which ran through the pages of the *Philatelic Record*, has now been pub-

lished in pamphlet form as a Philatelic Handbook, and to this title is added the significant symbol—No. 1. This, we hope, is prophetic of many good things to come. The Notes do not contain anything that can be called a "discovery" in the popular meaning of the word, but for students of these stamps it means, so far as the history of the first printing goes, a considerable revolution of ideas. In part this is effected by simple means, but it is made convincing by the subtle deductions and incisive reasoning which we have already alluded to. The work should be read by all students of Philately, as an example of how important the smallest peculiarity in connection with a stamp may be, and of how one apparently trivial point may be considered with advantage in the light of another.

We will presume, dear reader, that your knowledge of the stamps of Griqualand is bounded by the information given in Gibbons' catalogue. In that list the stamps are arranged by, and the notes based on, the information contained in the London Philatelic Society's work on Africa, Part II, where we are told that of the first printing of the stamps with large "G" there were two settings of the overprint. It should be explained, for the benefit of those who do not know, that by a "setting," is meant the arrangement of the type in the printing forme from which the overprint is made—a matter which is always of great interest to Philatelists, when, as in this case, a variety of type is used.

It was believed, until the discovery of large portions of two panes of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black, unsevered, by Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, that each setting was repeated four times to print each entire sheet of four panes; but Mr. Beckton's find shows that what were considered to be two settings of sixty stamps each are really found on the same sheet, and form one setting of 120. The right-hand pane corresponds with the first setting as given by the London Philatelic Society's List, and the one on the left with the Society's second setting. Thus the settings referred to in Gibbons' catalogue and in the London Society's List are shown to be parts of one setting, which covers two horizontal panes and appears twice on each sheet. But, as will be seen below, Mr. Napier brings forward evidence of another and hitherto unsuspected setting of the red overprint.

Mr. Beckton has in his collection an unique block of thirteen unused $\frac{1}{2}$ -, all of which are overprinted with the same type of G—namely, type three of Gibbons' catalogue. The block

has the extended margin on the right, which shows that it belonged to a left-hand pane, but neither on that pane nor the other can a block of thirteen of the same shape be found all with the overprint of type 3. It is therefore quite evident, as Mr. Napier says, that there was a second setting, of the $\frac{1}{2}$ - value at least. There is also very strong evidence to show that this second setting was applied to the $\frac{1}{2}$ - value as well. Owing to the great demand for the high values, for payment of postage and insurance on parcels of diamonds from Kimberley, it is easy to understand that more printings were required of these two values.

Though the portion to which we have just referred is perhaps the most interesting part of the "Notes," the pages dealing with the small "G" issues are also full of information which has never been given in print before, and will be found of great assistance in collecting and arranging these stamps. In fact, it may safely be said that few who read the pages through (accompanied as they are by some of the finest illustrations that have ever appeared in a stamp journal) will be able to leave the subject without feeling a desire to make a study of the stamps for themselves. One point is made very clear, and that is, that Mr. Napier and the gentlemen who have assisted him in compiling this work, have made it quite impossible for a forger to imitate these stamps with any chance of success, without himself becoming an expert in the stamps.

Notes by the Way.

Our publishers are justly proud of the fact that they never use the reading columns of this journal for advertising their own business, or for any other sordid purpose whatever; but there is one matter to which we are asked to call attention, and we feel that, as it has to do with the *Ph. J. of G. B.*, some excuse may be urged. In short, we are asked to say that one gentleman, whose subscription expired in December last, has not yet forwarded his modest $\frac{2}{6}$ for the year 1903. We trust that when he reads these lines he will repair the omission without further delay. It would be a very great help to us if readers would always renew their subscriptions as soon as they become due, or send us a postcard with a few harsh words asking not to see the journal more.

After [an unsoiled career which has lasted ever since stamps were first introduced into

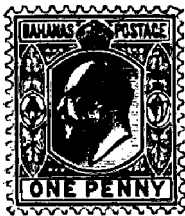
the islands, the Bahamas only recently fell from their high estate by the issue of a very feeble bicoloured pictorial 1d. stamp. This offence was soon redeemed by the appearance of a set of King's Head stamps, which are a welcome break in the monotonous appearance of the new stamps of nearly all the other colonies. The set consists of the same values as before—namely, 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 5/-, and 20/-, the shortest set of any British Colony. It is noticeable that Bahamas is the only British Colony which has never issued a ½d. stamp. In fact, from a Philatelic point of view, it has been about the best behaved colony, only issuing just those stamps which are actually wanted. We are grieved, therefore, to have to record the appearance of three new pictorial posters, uniform in design with the 1d. abortion mentioned above. The values are 5d. (which, no doubt, is useful, but might easily have been in the King's Head design) and 2/- and 3/-, denominations which most civilised countries can do very well without.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain. We are informed that the stamps for use in the Navy, concerning which we gave a cutting from the *Sunday Times* in November last, will not be overprinted OHMS as then stated, but with the words "Admiralty Official," and they will be issued on April 1st.

Bahamas. Three new values in the design of the pictorial one penny stamp of last year have been issued as follows. We illustrate the design of the King's Head type.



Adhesives. 5d. orange and black.
2/- blue and black.
2/- green and black.

Bermuda. A correspondent in this colony writes to inform us that our description of the little scene on the one penny stamp, as given by us, is incorrect. It is a reproduction of the Arms of Bermuda, and not a representation of the Floating Dock.

British South Africa. *Ewen's Weekly* chronicles two new stamps of the modest face value of £20 and £100 each. They are in the design of the current £1. New values in preparation are of £30, £50, and £100. When completed this will be a nice set for the collector of new issues in blocks and pairs, but

we do not think we need chronicle them here, as they must be purely fiscals.

Canada. It is announced that the King Edward stamps for the Dominion are in preparation, the head of the King being a different portrait from that on any other stamp. They will not be issued until the current stocks are exhausted, which will probably be about the end of the present year.

Cape of Good Hope. The ½d. value has



now appeared with the King's Head. We illustrate the design and also



that of the 1/- already chronicled.

Adhesive. ½d. green.

Ceylon. The accompanying illustration shows that in the forthcoming new issue a new line will be struck. Indeed, on many of the latest stamps the head of the King, though always from the same portrait, appears to get smaller and smaller; but as all genuine philatelists are provided with a magnifying glass, it does not matter very much.



Adhesive. 5c. lilac.

Cook Islands. Besides the value already chronicled on the paper watermarked single-line NZ and star (close) there are the following:

Adhesives. 1½d. reddish mauve.
10d. green.

Cyprus. The King's Head series has been inaugurated by the issue of the ½ pi in a design which is but a slight variant of the regulation De la Rue pattern.

½ pi green and carmine.

Hongkong. Mr. W. Corfield sends us the new 1 cent, with head of the King. It is quite a new departure in the matter of design. It shows a microscopic portrait of the King in purple in a circle in the centre. Chinese inscriptions appear at the sides. Name above and value below. Watermark Cr. and CA, perf. 14.

Adhesive. 1 cent. purple and brown.

India. The accompanying illustrations show



the designs of the new 2 and 3 a. stamps. They are not yet issued,



but will appear very shortly.

Adhesives. 2c. lilac.
3a. orange-brown.

Bussahir. This State, which for the past eighteen months has not had a separate postal administration, and in which only the Imperial stamps can be used, is still figuring, every now and then, in the new issue columns of our contemporaries. Thus, the *Monthly Journal* gives a list of new varieties of the ½a. Surely, under the circumstances, these are not worth noting.

Gwalior. We have been shown the following three stamps with head of the King surcharged for use here:—

Adhesives. ¾ pies grey, surch. black.
¾a. green, "
1a. carmine, "

Mauritius. *Le Timbrophile Belge* fears that the surcharging mania here will only stop when there is nothing left to surcharge, but personally we think this would be no deterrent, as the authorities in the island have shown in the past that they have no compunction in re-surcharging stamps which had already been operated upon. It appears that the cards are now engaging the attention of the Government printers. Each half of the 8 cents reply-card has been surcharged "2 cents" with a line through the old value. In the reply half the word "reply" has been obliterated with a thick line, and the cards are sold separately as singles. There are two varieties of the line that obliterates the old value, which is sometimes thin and sometimes thick.

Post-cards.

2c. on 8c. black and carmine on cream, first half.
2c. on 8c. " " second half.

Newfoundland. There seems to be something "fishy" about the perforation of the current Newfoundland stamps. The 2c. and 3c. have already occurred imperforate, and now we learn from the *American Journal of Philately* of the existence of the 1c. green imperf. vertically.

Adhesive. 1c. green. Imperf. vertically.

New Zealand. *Ewen's Weekly* mentions the discovery of a specimen of the 1/- brown-red of 1882-97, perforated, 12½ by 10.

Adhesive. 1/- brown-red, perf. 12½ by 10.

The same journal has also received the current 2d. on the new paper with watermark single-lined N Z and star close together. The perforation, like that of the ½d. and 1d. values, is 14.

Adhesive. 2d. lilac, with wmk., perf. 14.

Sierra Leone. The Postmaster-General of this colony has sent a circular to members of the trade calling attention to the fact that the King's Head stamps are ready for issue, and that the dies for the current issue have been destroyed. But the King's Head stamps will not be issued until the stock of the current issue has been exhausted. That this will take

some time may be gathered from the following list of the stamps still in stock:—

¾d. stamp,	1534 sheets of 120 each,	at 5/- per sheet.
1d.	862 "	10/- "
1½d.	755 "	15/- "
2d.	780 "	20/- "
2½d.	2850 "	25/- "
3d.	1166 "	30/- "
4d.	109 "	40/- "
5d.	248 "	50/- "
6d.	249 "	£3 "
1/-	511 "	£6 "
2/-	503 "	£12 "
5/-	114 "	£30 "
20/-	703 "	£120 "

South Australia. We have been shown a used specimen of the 2d. orange, perf. 15, with tall "O S" inverted. The surcharge was undoubtedly genuine, and we do not think it has been chronicled before.

Official Adhesive.

2d. orange, perf. 15, tall "O S" inverted.

We find we have not yet chronicled the 6d. of the new set of long stamps with "POSTAGE" at the top.

Adhesive. 6d. blue-green.

Straits Settlements. We have received the registration envelope of the King Edward design. The stamp is round, with the King's profile in the centre, "Five Cents" above, and "Straits Settlements Registered Letter Post" around.

Reg. Env. 5 cents, blue.

Sudan. The 1 pi. and 10 piastres stamps have been changed in colour, and are printed on the paper watermarked with Star and Crescent.

1 pi black and red.
10 pi brown and in use.

Tasmania. *The London Philatelist* is informed by Messrs. J. H. Smyth and Co. that stamps have been issued by the Tasmanian Government Railway. We are told "the necessity for this stamp has been made apparent by reason of the Federal Postal Authorities declining to allow newspapers to be carried free through the post. It is evidently a stamp for local use only, and has nothing to recommend it so far as the design is concerned." There are three values—½d., 1d., and 2d.—and, the *L.P.* says, the design appears to be lithographed, the stone being made up from a type-set impression reading—

T.G. RYS

1D.

NEWSPAPER
STAMP.

Ewen's Weekly says that a 9d. stamp on V and Crown paper is expected shortly. The same journal chronicles the current 2d. perforated with a large "T," which is used for official correspondence. Other values are to be treated in the same way.

Trinidad. The 1/- has appeared in new colours. It was so announced nearly two years ago, but has only just arrived. A speci-

men is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive. 11- black and blue on yellow.

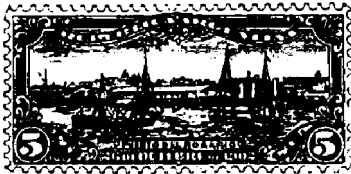
Western Australia. The 2d. yellow has appeared on the V and Crown paper, and with the inscription in the lower label altered from "Two Pence" to "Postage Two Pence."

Adhesive. 2d. yellow, wmk. V and Cr., perf. 12.

Uganda. *Le Timbrophile Belge* states that, of the stationery for this colony surcharged on British East Africa, which has been chronicled, they find, from inquiries made through a correspondent on the spot, that only one 1 anna post-card has any existence in fact.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Argentine. The annexed illustration shows the new stamp described in December.



We have the news wrapper with stamp in the same design as the envelope chronicled last November.

Wrapper. 1c. blue on buff.

Belgium. The *Monthly Journal* says that, before the new series of Parcel Post stamps was issued last year, the following values in the old design, with figures in black, were brought into use:—

Parcel Post Stamps.

- 30c. orange-red; figures in black.
- 40c. blue-green " "
- 70c. blue " "
- 90c. rose-red " "

Colombia. The accompanying illustrations depict four values of the "Arms" type which we have already described.



It is a little confusing to the chronicler when two or three different sets of stamps are used in one country at the same time, and we may be excused for clinging to

the belief that the pictorial series, of which we have listed several varieties, is peculiar to one or other of the Colombian States. But we find most of the other journals now attribute the stamps to the Republic, and so we now follow suit. There are several other varieties to be added:—



- Adhesives.*
- 10c. scarlet, imperf.
 - 2c. blue, perf.
 - 10c. scarlet, perf.
 - 10c. carmine, perf.
 - 20c. dark purple, perf.
 - 20c. blue, perf.

The *Monthly Journal* has received another



new set of stamps, which, as they seem to be less crude than the other two sets, and are properly perforated, may turn out to be a regular issue. The design is the same for all values, and bears a strong family likeness to other Colombian issues, having the arms in the centre

and being replete with heavy, ordinary-looking scrollwork and ornamentation. They are lithographed by J. L. Arango at Medellin, and are perf. 12. The set is accompanied by the inevitable oblong Registration stamp, which is also perf. 12, but is on white laid paper, the ordinary stamps all being on tinted wove paper.



Adhesives.

- 1c. green on azure.
- 2c. red on salmon.
- 5c. blue on bluish.
- 10c. brown on yellow.
- 20c. mauve on salmon.
- 50c. red on bluish.
- 1p. black on bright yellow.
- 5p. dark blue on azure.
- 10p. brown on salmon.

Registration Stamp. 10c. purple on laid.

Denmark. *Iceland.* The official stamps have now been changed to a design which is precisely the same as that for the ordinary stamps, with the exception that the word FRIMERKI in the frame on the right hand gives place, in the officials, to PIONUSTA. There is a curious error in the 20 aur, as in the sheets of ordinary stamps of that value there occur two with the word PIONUSTA.

Error.

20 aur. blue PIONUSTA.

Officials.

- 3 aur. orange and black.
- 4 aur. dark green
- 5 aur. orange-brown "
- 10 aur. dark blue "
- 16 aur. carmine "
- 20 aur. green "
- 50 aur. mauve "

The *Monthly Circular* illustrates the new post-cards, which have stamps in the same design as the new adhesives. The second colour is that of the frame.

Post-cards.

- 3 plus 3 aur. orange and grey on white.
- 5 aur. yellow-green, and grey on white.
- 5 plus 5 aur. " "
- 8 aur. brown-violet " "
- 8 plus 8 aur. " "
- 10 aur. claret " "
- 10 plus 10 aur. " "

After this *Ewen's Weekly* takes up the tale with a list of the old stamps surcharged "1 GILDI-'02-'03," of which the only value which we have recorded so far is the 6 aur. grey, with the overprint in red. *Ewen's* gives the perforation as 12½, but we query those values which were not known *unsurcharged* with that perf.

Adhesives.

- 3 aur. yellow, surch. black, p. 12½.
- 10 aur. carmine, " " "
- 20 aur. blue, " " " "
- 25 aur. blue and brown, surch. carmine, p. 12½.
- 40 aur. lilac, surch. black (?), p. 14 by 13½.
- 50 aur. red and blue, surch. black, "

Officials.

- 5 aur. brown, surch. black (?), p. 14 by 13½.
- 10 aur. ultramarine, surch. black, p. 12½.
- 20 aur. green, " " (?), p. 14 by 13½.
- 50 aur. lilac, " " (?), "

Post-cards.

- 8 aur. lilac, surch. black.
- 10 aur. carmine, surch. black.
- 10 plus 10 aur. " " "

Egypt. The *Monthly Journal* has received the 5 mils on "chalky" paper, but in other respects unchanged.

Adhesive. 5 mils. carmine on "chalky" paper.

France. We hear a good deal about the appearance of some of the stamps of the design of the current high values with the little piece of blue sky missing, but we have not seen them, nor can we find out whether the variety is supposed to have been caused by accident or by design.

Madame Veuve Marmin has kindly sent us two new Pneumatic Letter Cards. We have not the old ones at hand to compare them with, but the design of the stamp appears to be the same as that used on other stationery "pneumatique" with which we are familiar. One is printed in black on pale grey-blue, while the other is in red-lilac on pale blue. The former was the first to be issued—in January of this year—and the latter superseded it on February 7th; so the black one ought to be rare.

Pneumatic Letter Cards.

- 30c. black on greyish blue.
- 30c. red-lilac on pale blue.

Consular Offices. Madame Veuve Marmin informs us of the issue of the following thirteen stamps for the offices in foreign countries. They are all in the corrected Mouchon type, with the words "Poste-Francaise" at the top and the name of the country at foot. Our correspondent very kindly sends specimens of most of the stamps. The illustrations show the types of the other values of these stamps, which were chronicled in November.



ALEXANDRIA.

- 10 centimes carmine.
- 20 centimes brown-purple.
- 30 centimes lilac.

CHINA.

- 20 centimes brown-purple.

CRETE.

- 10 centimes carmine.

LEVANT.

- 10 centimes carmine.
- 15 centimes pale red.
- 20 centimes brown-lilac.
- 1 piastre on 25c. blue.

MOROCCO.

- 10 centimes on 10c. carmine.

PORT SAID.

- 20 centimes brown-lilac.
- 25 centimes blue.
- 30 centimes lilac.

Madagascar and Dependencies. The *Monthly Journal* says that the 50c. of Diego Suarez was also surcharged "0.10" like the same value on the Madagascar stamp; while the 5fr. of Madagascar has been surcharged "0.10" with both figures "0" narrow.

Adhesives.

- 0.10 on 50c. rose of Diego Suarez.
- 0.10 on 5fr. lilac of Madagascar.

Germany. Official stamps are now being used in the Fatherland. The *Philatelic Record* gave, last December, the following explanation of their use:—"A special series of stamps is to be issued for the purpose, the values to correspond with those of the current issue up to 50pf. The design is also to be the same, except that in lieu of the figure of 'Germania' there will appear the inscription 'Frei durch Ablösung Nr. 21,' or Free in accordance with arrangement No. 21. The stamps are to be employed from 1st January to the 31st December, when an account of the total number used is to be taken, and the sum of money so arrived at is to be the basis of the future annual payments by the Treasury to the Post Office for official correspondence during the next few years."

The values and colours being precisely the same as those of the ordinary issue, we will not repeat them.

Guatemala. Our illustrations show the designs of the 6c., 75c., 1 peso, and 2 pesos of the new issue.



Hayti. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that the stamps surcharged "Provl. Govt." were withdrawn from use on December 21st last, and that the same stamps without any surcharge are again in use.

Honduras. According to the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, several values of the 1898 type (locomotive) have appeared, printed on the back, with the arms of the country in an inscribed circle. The design is struck in the centre of each block four, so that a section of it appears on each stamp. It is printed in dull violet.

TYPE OF 1898 PRINTED WITH ARMS ON THE BACK, IN VIOLET.
 1 centavo brown.
 2 centavos rose.
 5 centavos ultramarine.
 6 centavos lilac.
 10 centavos blue.

The above-mentioned curiosities may have been occasioned by the fact of a set in an entirely new design making its appearance. This set is described as being the work of the American Bank Note Company. It bears a portrait of ex-President General Santo Guardiola, and the date "1903" above. *Mekeel's* gives the following list of values:—

Adhesives.

1c. green.	10c. brown.
2c. carmine.	20c. light blue.
5c. dark blue.	50c. vermilion.
6c. dark violet.	1 p. orange.

Holland. Dutch Indies. A new set in a new type is, or soon will be, issued here. The design is rather unusual, and bears a profile of the Queen to the left on a lined ground in a circle. The value is below, in white, on a coloured tablet.

Adhesives.

10c. grey-blue.	20c. dark olive.
12½c. blue.	25c. violet.
15c. brown.	30c. red-brown.
	50c. carmine-brown.

Italy. Benadir. As will be seen from our article in another column, the so-called stamps for this Italian colony are very little better than those of Sedang and Brunei.

Liberia. Mr. Hayman has shown us the following novelties:—In the 75c. surcharge there is a variety in which the "c" is taller and narrower than the others. Of this there is one on each sheet. The new 3c. has a head of Liberty and the Registration labels, which are printed in different colours for different towns, bear a portrait of President Gibson, with the name of the town below. Both are beautiful examples of the engraver's art.

Adhesives.

75c. on 81 black and blue.
 75c. on 81 " with tall "C."
 3c. black.

Official Adhesive.

3c. green, "o s" in red.

Registration Labels.

10c. violet and black	(Monrovia).
10c. green	(Harper).
10c. blue	(Buchanan).
10c. lilac	(Robertson).
10c. orange	(Grenville).

Mexico. A new value has been added to the current set—viz., 4 centavos. It is described as being very similar to the other low values.

Adhesive. 4c. red.

Norway. The 35 øre now appears in the latest perforation—14½ by 13½.

Adhesive. 35 øre blue-green, perf. 14½ by 13½.

Paraguay. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us two more surcharged varieties which have recently been issued—viz., the 1c. on 14c. and the 5c. on 28c. The surcharge reads, "Habilitado—en un—1 cent. 1," or "5 cent. 5," and reads vertically upwards. *Ewen's* also chronicles another—namely, 5c. on 80c.—a similar surcharge, reading upwards.

Adhesives. 1c. on 14c. brown.
 5c. on 2c. orange.
 5c. on 10c. blue.

Persia. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the lower values of a new issue in what we hope will prove to be a more or

less permanent type. The lion occupies the place of honour in the centre, and the words "Postes Persanes" appears in a scroll below. The numeral of value is on one side and "ch" the other. The whole design is wonderfully ineffective, and the colours are poor and washed out. We are informed that the values from 1kr. to 50kr. are larger and finer, and bear a portrait of the Shah.

Adhesives.

1ch. pale mauve.	12ch. blue.
2ch. grey.	1kr. purple.
3ch. green.	2kr. blue.
5ch. rose-red.	5kr. brown.
10ch. light brown.	10kr. vermilion.
	50kr. green.

Peru. The 10 soles stamp has been surcharged "Deficit—un centavo" in two lines, diagonally, for use as an unpaid letter stamp. It will be remembered that a similar 2c. provisional appeared last year.

Unpaid. 1c. on 10 soles blue-green.

Portugal. Mozambique Co. The *Monthly Circular* says that a 65 reis stamp has been issued in the same type as the other values.

Adhesive. 65 reis blue.

Portuguese Indies. Three new values in the current type are also reported for this colony.

2 reis orange and black. 6 reis green and black.
 1 real grey and black.

Russia. The set on vertically laid paper is gradually becoming complete. This month we have to add the following:—

Adhesives. 1k. orange, wmk. vertical lines.

14k. blue and rose,	" "
20k. blue and carmine	" "
35k. violet and green	" "

Spain. Spanish Morocco The stamps which have been expected for some time are reported by *Ewen's Weekly* on the authority of *Der Philatelist*, and are described thus:—

Adhesives. Stamps of Spain surcharged "Correo Espanol-Marruecos" in script, reading from lower left to upper right-hand corner.

In carmine on 4¼c. green (on each quarter).
 5c. green.

In black on 10c. red.
 In carmine on 25c. blue.

United States. The new 1c., 2c., 5c., and



8c. have been issued, and also the 10c. special delivery stamp. The 1c. and 2c. are adorned as before with portraits of Franklin and Washington. The 5c., however, now has a portrait of Abraham Lincoln and the 8c. of Martha

Washington. Like the 13c. reported in December, all these stamps are beautiful productions, each being in a different design. The special delivery stamp shows a messenger on a bicycle instead of on foot. We illustrate this and the 8c.



Adhesives. 1c. green, perf. 12.
 2c. carmine red, perf. 12.
 5c. blue, "
 8c. grey-violet, "



February 28, 1903.

Philately at Home.

Short but very significant is the Editorial on "Insular Collecting" with which the *London Philatelist* begins. Taking as his texts the preface to Messrs. Bright's catalogue and the display of the stamps of Luxemburg and Belgium, with which the London Society opened this year's meetings, Mr. Castle bewails the present fashion of collecting "the British Nation" stamps, to the neglect of other countries that are of equal interest and importance. With the concluding portion of Mr. Castle's remarks we are most cordially in agreement:—

We are confident that with far less outlay many a collector would reap a far greater enjoyment than by falling down and grovelling before the beloved idol of Great Britain and Colonies. It is as strange as true that with two or three well-known exceptions there is hardly a member of the London Society who takes an interest in or collects aught but the British Empire stamps. This is indeed insularity in its least-loved form, and we would fain see the reproaches removed by some attempt at cosmopolitanism in collecting.

May we venture to point out, likewise, that a little more "general" interest in Philately would go far to upset the efforts of the speculator, as distinct from the Philatelist, since, with anything like a demand spread over the whole of the respectable stamp-issuing countries, this gentleman would find his "cornering" operations too risky and uncertain to make the game worth his while.

Mr. T. W. Hall, in some "Further Notes on the 1858-67 Issues of Peru," adds point to the above remarks by the announcement that he has discovered at least two retouches of the un dinero of 1860 and one of the una peseta of 1860, besides two stages of the retouched plate of the un dinero.

The differences between the original and retouched plates of the un dinero are as follows:—

In the original plate the lines in the outer framework are continuous and unbroken, the letters of equal height, and the groundwork back of the cornucopia is composed of thirty-six vertical lines, which latter in about a year had worn away almost entirely, thus necessitating the retouches. These Mr. Hall calls first

and second retouches, and distinguishes as follows:—

In the first retouch the lines behind the letters have all been redrawn for their entire length, with the exception of the fifth line from the outside on the right, which has not been redrawn beyond the second "R" of "CORREOS" (although traces of the original line may be found in the lower corner of all the retouches; this redrawing of the lines has given the letters a blurred appearance in most cases). The lines behind the cornucopia have all been carefully removed except in the infinitesimal space between the base of the tree and tail of the cornucopia. This cornucopia on white ground must not be confounded with the one mentioned above, for that is from a badly worn plate with many partly obliterated lines, while this stamp has all its lines more clearly impressed, although both original and retouch may be found showing various stages of wear in the labels.

In the second retouch the lines are redrawn the same as in the first retouch, but the letters have also been retouched, relieving the blurred appearance, and making the "O" of "PORTE," the "CO" of "FRANCO," and the "OS" of "CORREOS" a trifle larger than the other letters, and extending them a bit above the line of the others in height; the letters are all somewhat thicker and more rounded than in the original. The background of vertical lines has been restored to the cornucopia, only there are but thirty-three lines as against thirty-six in the original. The breaking at the angles of the zigzag lines of background, I think, has been caused by wear. I believe that the entire plate, or a large portion of it, existed for a time in the condition described as the first retouch. I have in my collection both vertical and horizontal pairs, which proves that the stamps are more than errors occurring at odd places in the plate. I have also distinct shades, showing that there was more than one printing. Unfortunately all the copies of the first retouch which I have seen, with few exceptions, have design cancellations; the date cancellations are indistinct, but are, I think, 1861 or 1862. The earliest date cancellation which I have been able to find upon the second retouch is 26th January, 1862.

What I have called the second retouch, with the zigzag lines not meeting, is, I think, unquestionably a retouch, for the relative position of the vertical lines of the side labels is different, and they are stronger, while the short diagonal lines that do not meet and replace the zigzags are also sharp and clear, giving the stamp the appearance of having eight horizontal white stripes drawn across the ground. The small ornament in the second arch down on the left side of the stamp, in the original and the first retouch, is of a semicircular type, whilst in the second retouch it forms a particularly sharp triangle.

There are other varieties of this second retouch, showing—

- (a) The ground behind the llama white,
- (b) The entire ground of the shield white,

which are probably impressions of the second retouch when the stone was badly worn.

Concerning the 1 peseta Mr. Hall writes:—

In the original plate of the 1 peseta the lines of the outer framework are all clearly drawn, and the letters are of uniform height. There are thirty-five vertical lines in the background of the cornucopia. This plate, after about a year's time, showed even more traces of wear than the plate of the 1 dinero, the lined background of the letters and cornucopia disappearing entirely, as well as the shading of the flags. The plate was then retouched to correspond with the second retouch of the 1 dinero. The lines of the frame were redrawn and at the left an extra line added, making ten fine lines between the thick inner and

outer lines of frame, as against nine in the original. The letters were redrawn exactly the same as in the original, and the lined background restored to the cornucopia, the lines being thirty-three in number as against thirty-five in the original. The flags were not retouched, and as the rest of the design was made stronger in comparison, they appear much whiter than in the worn state of the plates.

This stamp also comes on a pelure paper, as may be seen from the sheet I exhibit. It is possible there are other retouches on this plate, as the head of the tree in some copies appears round instead of pointed, the letters heavier, and the llama without ears, in addition to which the zigzags of the background appear differently arranged. The earliest date I have of the retouch is 12th February, 1862, and on pelure 23rd April, 1862.

We have quoted these remarks in detail, as showing what may be discovered even now by earnest Philatelists. Surely such discoveries as these and Mr. Bacon's among Chilian stamps are at least as interesting as the compilation of an exhaustive (and exhausting) catalogue of "dotty" Orange River stamps. Space forbids us to refer to others of the many interesting points in Mr. Hall's paper.

Mr. Castle again returns to the subject of the "First Issue of Moldavia," and the recent discoveries concerning the exact status, of which so much doubt exists. For the present we can only repeat our previous advice—that these novelties should be approached with *extreme* caution—at any rate until the specialists and authorities have decided what to call them.

Much space is devoted in the "Philatelic Notes" to proving that Mr. W. T. Wilson was wrong in speaking of a "retouch" of the 1841 1d. of Great Britain. It is still, however, a fact that certain specimens show a deepening of the outer lines. Exactly how and wherefore this arose is the mystery.

The Rev. P. E. Raynor has discovered two types of the Crown and N.S.W. watermark. Says he:—

The first type of watermark is generally rather indistinct, and its blurred appearance makes it difficult to trace the outlines quite accurately. It appears that the Crown in Type I. is smaller in size and differs in drawing from that of the second type; the letters "N.S.W.," again, are thicker and more compact in the first type, besides being closer to the Crown. In Type II. the blunt angles of the letters are especially noticeable, and suggest the bending of the wires used to form the watermark.

To settle the question as to the date of employment of the two types would require much time and research; I therefore leave it for a future occasion, or for some other investigator to solve. Meanwhile I append a table of measurements in millimètres:—

	Space					
	Total height of wmk.	between Crown and letters.	Height of Crown.	Width of Crown.	Height of letters.	Width of letters.
TYPE I.	17½	1½	10	10	6	14½
TYPE II.	19½	2	11	11	6½	13½

In the *Philatelic Record* Mr. E. D. Bacon makes a contribution to what may almost be called "microscopical philately." He has discovered that the stamps of Gambia issued in June, 1880, were perforated by two distinct machines, both gauging 14, one being a single line and the other a comb machine. We are informed that, although pairs at least are necessary to show which machine was em-

ployed, the stamps also vary in shade. As, moreover, this issue has the watermark (Crown and C C) both upright and sideways, the up-to-date collector of Gambias has a treat in store. Nor is this all, for the stamps with watermark Crown and C A sideways (1886-87) are found perforated by two varieties of comb machine, each gauging 14, entire sheets being necessary to distinguish between them! Also all the values of the issue exist, with both varieties of gum—white and yellow.

Mr. Bacon evidently considers that his researches may be considered too minute, for he adds:—

Some collectors may ask why trouble about the different perforating machines of the Gambia stamps in use from 1860 to January, 1895, when the gauge is always the same? The answer is that it is only by careful attention to details, such as those of perforation and watermark, that the specialist can separate the various printings of stamps of a country like Gambia, where the same design was in use for a number of years without change.

Perhaps so; but then why not apply the same method to distinguish between all the plates and printings of our own 1d. of the original "Queen's Head" type? Surely the very first design of stamp issued ought to be worth at least as much attention as these Gambias. But possibly "that way madness lies."

Mr. Dorning Beckton has been endeavouring to find a way out of the difficulty apparent at stamp exhibitions, at which, time after time, the few big collectors are able to sweep the board of prizes, etc., at their own sweet will. The handicap method suggests itself.

Can a system of handicapping be devised? If so, it would certainly add to the excitement, it would introduce that sporting element which is so prominent a feature in our national character, and, provided the penalties imposed were not prohibitive, it would not prevent these large collections from figuring in an exhibition held under such conditions. I believe the owners of fine collections do not care very much about showing them at all, but it is natural that when they do exhibit they like to win. A handicap would not debar them from often doing so, and the additional pleasure derived from winning, in spite of the handicap, would wipe out any disappointment which some of them might experience. It would sound so odd to read that Mr. Cape had been successful in spite of the extra 7lbs. incurred by reason of his success at Manchester, or that Baron Ceylon had been beaten on the post carrying an extra 14lbs. consequent upon his two wins at London and Manchester. Yet how can this be done? I have thought it carefully over, and have to confess myself beaten. Here is the suggestion—perhaps some of our sporting fraternity may be inclined to elaborate and work it out.

The limit of stamps to be shown per country meets with equally little favour in Mr. Beckton's eyes. Finally he says:—

The only way in which I think the difficulty might be got over is by providing a class at the next exhibition, or perhaps two classes, one for British Colonies and the other for the rest of the world, in which all gold medal collections of the past would have to be entered for competition with one another, and to debar such collections from being entered in the other groups. I would give three gold medals in each of these classes varying in size, a large, a smaller one, and a little one, the last the size of a florin. I would reduce the number of gold medals in the other classes very materially, and only have them the size of the small one in the principal groups. I should also name the number of silver and bronze medals, and add a few diplomas, which would rank after the bronze medals. In the other classes I would not limit the gold medals to any particular group, but give a fixed number to be

awarded to the best exhibits displayed, no matter where they were shown. I should not allow one exhibitor to take more than one gold or two silver or bronze ones.

Which he leaves to the consideration of Philatelists generally.

Oh, those Moldavians! Here they are again in the Editorial of the *Monthly Journal*. But in spite of the importance of the subject, and the able way in which it is handled by Major Evans, we hereby give notice that we will *not* refer to it again in the "Review of Reviews" until we know definitely what has been decided as to the status of these stamps.

M. L. Hanciau commences an interesting series of articles on "The Stamps of Lombardo-Venetia." Concerning the first issue (1850) he says:—

These stamps were printed on hand-made and on machine-made paper. In the former there may be found a watermark, composed apparently of large capital letters, extending in part over a few rows of stamps on the sheet. This watermark has never been reconstructed, in spite of the efforts that have been made; even the reward of 1,000 marks, offered by Mr. Schwartz, of Vienna, to any one who should succeed in piecing together the watermarked inscription failed to produce the desired result.

Failing any proof of the contrary, I believe that there was no watermark, properly so called, but that the letters are only portions of a manufacturer's mark.

Yet another new discovery. This time it is of two dies of the 5 reis of the 1880 issue of Portugal. The discoverer is Mr. Robert Ehrenbach, who thus distinguishes between the dies:—

DIE I.—The dotted lines of shading from the temple to the collar are almost continuous and nearly cover the cheek. The hair is indistinctly delineated, and becomes a confused mass at the back of the head. The white of the collar ends at the back of the ear. The white portions of the ear are badly drawn, and the moustache merges into the shading in the cheek.

DIE II.—The dotted lines of shading are interrupted by a white space to the right of the eye, which is continued into the cheek. The hair is better drawn, and is clearly delineated to the back of the head. The collar goes across to the back of the neck. The white portions of the ear are more clearly marked. The moustache is more clearly shown, and the whole appearance of Die II. is much clearer than that of Die I.

Mr. Tamsen continues his articles on "The Stamps of the New Republic," and Mr. Basset Hull has a further instalment of his papers on "The Stamps of Tonga."

In the "Notes and News" we hear that Mr. Nankivell has at last parted with his famous collection of Transvaal stamps, which has gone the usual way. It is now offered as a whole for a shade over £5,000 net. Now, then, who wants? Don't all speak at once.

The *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* has not the courage of its contributor's (Mr. Sexton's) opinions. In place of following his suggestions and bringing out the perfect album, it refers its readers elsewhere.

In a later number we learn that Mr. Charles Nissen has discovered some fine forgeries of the Great Britain 10/- and £1, with anchor watermark.

The forgeries of the 10/- and £1 Anchor would at first glance appear to be complete imitations of those stamps—paper, print, perforation, and watermark. But as to this there is a doubt, because it would be practicable to a

skilled forger to secure sheets of some of the penny lilac Inland Revenue stamps, drive out all the colour, and then print the spurious 10/- and £1 stamps on the sheets thus "albinoed," so to speak. The fiscal stamps referred to, as is well known, bear the Anchor watermark, and are of the same perforation as the rare postage stamps which have now been counterfeited.

Whatever may be the truth as to the process of production, it is certain that these imitations are marvellously well done. So far as we know, they are all in the uncancelled state, and an idea of the fidelity with which the originals have been copied may be gathered from the fact that at least one philatelist, usually able to take very good care of himself, has been "let in" for a substantial amount for a specimen of the £1.

Should the above explanation be correct, the manufacturer of these novelties would appear to have taken a hint from a predecessor in the "faking" art, who produced 18kr. Baden in a very similar manner.

The *I.P.R. and Collector's News* is decidedly original. Having got as far as No. 3, the proprietor, Mr. F. O. Bauer, decides to part with the "control" of the paper to Mr. W. H. Regan, but at the same time agrees to publish the paper from its original address, and, furthermore, to manage and conduct it under Mr. Regan's supervision. Coming to the number before us, we notice that in a "Practical Talk," entitled "What to Collect," we receive the following advice:—

In the matter of shades, I advise an example of each of the extremes: the same with perforation. Thickness of paper, and mode of manufacture of paper I should be inclined to ignore except in rare instances. Watermarks should be carefully noted, but inverted and sideway watermarks can be omitted altogether. As to surcharges, with one or two exceptions these also might be overlooked in a general collection, especially by beginners.

Whereat the present writer marvels greatly. For to his mind it appears that the "beginner" who is prepared to tackle such difficulties as the finding of the numeral watermarks on the Russian stamps, the varieties of the various "stars," and the difference between large, medium, and small "garters," and the distinguishing between the C C or C A watermark on any and every colonial stamp found with both watermarks is fully capable of dealing with nearly all ordinary varieties of surcharge and paper. But with the general trend of the advice—not to go too deeply into minor varieties—we agree most heartily.

Here is a useful hint communicated by Mr. P. C. Gillard:—

IDENTIFYING WATERMARKS.—I daresay that a good many stamp collectors have a camera and the tip will come in handy for those who possess one. When a watermark is difficult to find, as sometimes watermarks are, a good plan will be to clean all the superfluous paper off the back and place in a printing frame, and then cover the stamp with sensitised paper and print a fairly good light, when sufficiently printed take it out of the frame and fix it, and you will find that the postmark will be white and the watermark black. This done the prints thus taken should be numbered and kept for reference.

Another original feature is the publication of a serial story, *not* of Philatelic interest, by the late Grant Allen. Yet another is the award of

Free advertisement space awarded for the best criticism of any advertisement in the "I.P.R." of December 17th, 1902.

Immediately beneath the winner's free advertisement is printed his criticism, which takes the form of a very warm appreciation of the efforts of a friendly trade rival.

Yet another originality—the last to which we have space to refer—is the insertion of advertisements of Board and Residence under the general heading, "For Sale and Exchange" (the italics are ours).

In the *Stamp Collector* Mr. Ernest Heginbottom writes on the vexed question of "Used versus Unused," his object being to place collectors of Used stamps on an equality with their richer brethren who take only unused specimens. Mr. Heginbottom makes out a strong case for his side, and we cordially agree with his suggestions that at exhibitions the two classes should be considered separately. His further remarks are well worthy of attention:—

We have the numbers on our side, when the young collectors are taken into account, and if we have not the money or the leading Philatelists, still we ought to make a better figure in the philatelic world than we do. One way to do this is to combine better together, and to have special medals at exhibitions for used stamps.

By earning these prizes Used collections also get the "admiration." The fact that Unused collections gain nearly all the prizes is a proof, to my mind, that our worthy judges consider unused, generally speaking, better than used. Why they do I utterly fail to see, because unused may look cleaner and may be worth more; why they should be better philatelically than used I am at a loss to know, and always have been. Rowland Hill brought out postage stamps for POSTAL USE, and not to be placed in albums in mint state. Further, if any one replied to me that Hill did not intend used stamps either to be thus treated, I would reply he did not care one jot what became of stamps after they were obliterated, or in other words after they had done their work—namely, franking letters; but I am not laying special stress upon this now; all I say is, used stamps are as much Philately as unused, yet at present they don't seem so among the "upper ten," as it were. No one has greater respect for some of our leading Philatelists than myself, but I think some "new blood" is required to work along with them, if they will have it; if not, then the large and increasing number of used collectors must put themselves on a more satisfactory basis. At present the latter seem to be lying low for sake of some public champions of their cause. Now is a chance for these champions to come forward; there is plenty of room for them as well as for our present Philatelic Men. Let the present adherents of unused stamps by all means continue to flourish, but let there be some existing also of used stamps, because in the ordinary course of events Philatelists of to-day must "retire" from this mortal strife, and naturally the present young generation of collectors will grow up, and from them it is hoped will be chosen some leaders who will take up the cause of used stamps, alongside their brethren of the unused order.

In other words, what we may call the more humble collectors—those with limited means who collect used stamps—should have their champions along with the wealthy, who already have theirs out of all due proportion to the relative number of collectors of used and unused. There will always be more poverty than wealth, especially in "stamp collecting." For this reason alone the collectors of used stamps should be thought of more than they are and encouraged more, and have more chances of showing their collections, and further meet with much more encouragement than they do at present from our leading Philatelists.

At the risk of appearing egotistical the present writer ventures to add a little experience of his own. Until recently he was the possessor of a well-known special collection of a certain colony, which gained a special medal at one of the large exhibitions and also realized a large sum when sold. From what

Mr. Heginbottom would consider a purely Philatelic point of view, this collection was practically complete some four or five years since. Nevertheless, several hundreds of pounds had to be spent on it in order to provide sufficient unused varieties to enable it to compete against others with any chance of success. Furthermore, but for these unused specimens, it is very doubtful whether, in spite of the money and labour expended on its formation, the collection would have had any chance whatever of fetching a reasonable price as a whole.

We have received the first number of the *Register*, a journal for photographers, bird fanciers, stamp, coin, postcard collectors, &c., register of all wants, sales, and exchanges, which rather staggers us, advertisements and reading matter relating to all or any of the above items being intermingled on each page in most erratic fashion.

Furthermore, on page 3, under the heading "What Stamps are Worth," we read—

1d. Post "Office," Mauritius (1847), £1,000.

And on page 8—

The German Postal Museum has just paid £1,875 for the 2d. blue Mauritius.

This great difference between the values of (presumably) the two rarest stamps of the above colony will surprise many of our readers. But possibly the "i o u" varieties are not to be judged by ordinary standards.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The **The UNIVERSAL STANDARD**
Fourth **CATALOGUE of the POSTAGE**
Edition **STAMPS of the WORLD.**
of

Completely revised and brought right up to February, 1903, will be ready on March 1st, and prepaid orders can now be booked for delivery on date of publication.

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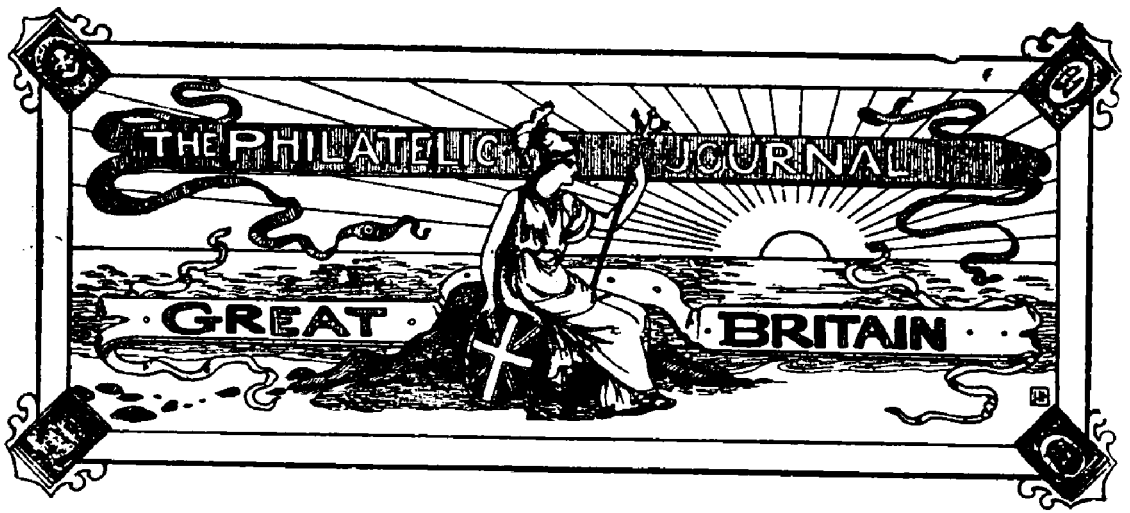
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The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the Northern, Sheffield, and Scottish Philatelic Societies, and the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 147. VOL. XIII.

MARCH 31, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 39.—MR. B. W. WARHURST.

Mr. Ben Webster Warhurst is proud of his title of "a Manchester man," which apparently he well may be, as he was born in Every Street of that smoky city close on sixty years ago. He left school in 1855, when stamp collections were unknown, beginning to work for his living soon after, and, as he puts it, being conservative in habit, is still engaged in the same pursuit. The methods and place have varied from that of office boy or "junior," to private secretary to various M.P.'s and a Peer, and from a cotton-mill to West End mansions or Government offices, with a few City places thrown in. He has also occupied positions as secretary to two, and director of another limited company.

Early in 1862 the Cotton Famine in his native town drove him to London, and into the offices of the late Sir Joseph Paxton in Pall Mall, where horticultural engineering and Metropolitan improvements were his chief studies. At that time his recreations were singing and

statistics! This latter sounds rather a curious hobby, but young Warhurst had a natural bent in this direction, and figures and calculations were literally child's play to him, for by the age of ten he had been three times through Montrose's arithmetic.

His first introduction to Philately was also brought about in 1862, when an American exhibitor at the 1862 Exhibition who happened to be staying in the same boarding-house gave him his first postal stamps, which included such trifles as the black on white Philadelphia and other carrier stamps, which are still in his possession, along with others obtained the following year from a Peruvian Admiral who came over here to buy ships. It is Mr. Warhurst's boast that he never parted with a single stamp once it had been put in his collection until two years ago,



when he was induced to *exchange*, for sundry banknotes amounting to a three-figure sum, accompanied by a cheque, his *Transvral error se tenant* with the normal one, which cost him 3½d. in 1878!

Collecting seems to have come natural to him, for he has letters sent to him from 1851,

books given him in the two years before that, and among his curios may be seen coins, over 1,000 autographs, shot and shell from Balaklava and Alexandria, spears from Abu Klea, knobkerry from a Zulu, pieces of first Atlantic cable, one of Gordon's Khartoum medals, and other interesting things.

His collection of stamps was fostered by shilling to half-crown packets from the Smiths of Brighton and Bath, and others up to a guinea from Stanley Gibbons, who then conducted his business from Plymouth. It was also added to by selections from the early catalogues of the dealers named and from that of Young and Stockall, of Liverpool, by pickings from the w.p.b.'s of India and Colonial offices in the 'sixties, followed in the 'seventies by purchases at Mrs. Smith's little shop in Nicholas Lane, where he met, and exchanged with, Mr. de Ysasi and other noted collectors. Following the fashion of those days he ignored unused stamps as not having developed into postage stamps proper, and it was only in despair of getting used specimens that he began, about 1880, to go in for mint pairs and blocks, with the result that, out of the remains of the sixes and twelves then bought he has long since repaid the cost of the 15,000 varieties (up to 1890) that he still holds. Since 1892 he has confined his attention almost exclusively to entires, as he found it impossible to keep up with the increasing number of new issues. This collection is now one of the finest in England and was considerably strengthened in 1895 by the purchase of half T. Buhl and Co.'s (formerly Pemberton, Wilson and Co.'s) stock of entires, including about 3,000 varieties. The collection now numbers over 12,000 different cards, envelopes, and wrappers. Over three years ago he started the "Chelsea Entires Exchange Club," which has been of considerable assistance to himself and others engaged in this neglected branch of Philately. Mr. Warhurst is now one of the foremost authorities on "Entires" and is always ready to use his knowledge for the benefit of others. Two years ago he brought out an album, ingeniously arranged for mounting entires, which is about the best attempt yet at solving the very difficulty which has been, more than anything else, the cause of the unpopularity of entires.

At the I.P.U. exhibition at Effingham House he was awarded first place in the entires class for his (I.F.S. cards.

As every collector worthy of the name knows, Mr. Warhurst has always made a particular study of colours and the colour names applied to stamps. His Colour Dictionary,

published some years ago by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, is the standard work for Philatelists. He has written much on this and other subjects for the Philatelic journals at home and abroad. He was the editor of *Stamps* from February, 1890, to its recent decease, and always conducted it on very independent lines, making it one of the most readable Philatelic journals. Its decease was due to lack of advertising support—a misfortune, we fear, which has attended many other Philatelic efforts in the same direction.

As a journalist he has had wide experience in writing on all sorts of subjects, from horticulture to social questions. An article from his pen on the Navy appeared, about fifteen years ago, in the *Universal Review*; he also published a pamphlet on "Naval Supremacy," was formerly on the *New Review*, and was part proprietor and publisher of a weekly paper for a year. His active brain has also found an outlet in mechanical inventions, and he holds half a dozen silver and bronze medals for such things as boilers, garden seats, gas stoves, and glasshouses.

After all that we have said it will come as a painful surprise to most people to learn that, since 1878, he has had to walk with a crutch through chronic rheumatism and an injury to his knee. On the top of this came the shock of the news of his only son's loss at sea eight years ago, which was such a cruel blow that, enfeebled as he was by nearly twenty years of suffering, he lost almost all muscular power and has not been able to leave the house or dress himself for nearly six years. Under these calamities he bears up with wonderful fortitude and strength of purpose, and is never idle for an instant, being busily engaged with his one hand and pen (as he says) as a necessity of existence since the loss of several investments. Indexing is now his favourite occupation, his experience for two sessions as sole indexer of Hansard serving as a stimulus.

In concluding this sketch of one of our most thorough Philatelists we will conclude with his statement of the limitations which he observes in collecting: "While considering fiscals as equally collectable with postals under the general term of Philately, I do not consider 'unpays' or official stamps as issues that need be collected, as they do not pay for postage in the same way as those purchasable at every post office. In the same way I reject postcards and envelopes stamped to order, though retaining a few scarce types found in collections bought from time to time."

Commemorative Issues.

WE have much pleasure in publishing the following interesting letter from Mr. W. Corfield criticising our action in excluding Commemorative Issues of Stamps from our European Catalogue:—

"Calcutta, 21st February, 1903.

"The Editor, The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

"Dear Sir, — I am following with great interest your 'Descriptive Catalogue of European Postage Stamps,' now appearing in monthly instalments in the Journal, but regret to see this remark on page 196:—

"We may say that commemorative issues of all countries issued at the time that ordinary stamps were in use, and used concurrently with them, appear to us to have filled no actual postal needs, and will therefore be omitted from this catalogue."

"With all deference to your judgment, I think this decision is one to be regretted. There are very many who take an interest in 'commemorative' issues, and those of the European countries have, relatively speaking, been neither numerous nor objectionable.

"It is to be borne in mind now that philatelists collect and study fiscal and other as well as postal issues, and that their operations cover all issues of stamps of all kinds made by responsible Governments.

"I do not see on what logical principle any catalogue-compiler can pick or choose, select or discard. He always seems to me to be somewhat in the position of a magistrate who has to administer an unpopular law. He may disapprove of the provisions of the law personally. He may in his private capacity join in an agitation for its repeal—but so long as he sits upon the bench as an administrator of the law so long must he faithfully and impartially administer it, though it may cause him personal dislike to do so.

"The 'miserable commemorative issues' referred to on page 196 are the actual issues of a European State. They were (or are), for a time at any rate, postage stamps. It seems to me highly inconsistent to have dropped them out of a list professing to be one of the 'Postage Stamps of Bulgaria,' and I say this though personally regretting the fact that they ever appeared.

"It is also to be remembered that catalogues are made for the far future as well as for the immediate present, and with this in view it is only fair to those that come after us to record the leading facts known of the stamps of a

country up to the date of publication. There are instances, too (the Olympian issues of Greece are a case in point), of commemorative becoming in course of time recognised as permanent issues.

"'Commemoratives' must in the nature of things be always appearing. It is no good attempting to keep back the tide with a broom, or to pretend it isn't there by turning the back on it; but, to my mind, easier, safer, and fairer to list the lot under the sub-head of 'Temporary Issues' at the tail end of a country—neither abusing them as 'rubbish' nor expressing regret at their appearance.

"May I suggest that for the future you will re-consider your decision and list all *postage* stamps, even if avowedly only issued for temporary use.

"The countries which have used them that you may have already passed will possibly issue further stamps during the course of the publication of your series. If they don't, other countries will; and, as it may be presumed that before finally shutting down your lists you will add a supplemental one of omissions, corrections, and additions, it would be easy hereafter to thus include 'the miserable commemoratives' of Bulgaria (none regret them more than I do), which undoubtedly, in justice to Philately, ought to be recorded under a suitable sub-title.

"With the remark that your Catalogue of *European Postage Stamps* should include those of Cyprus (long ceased to be regarded as an Asiatic island), and that Cyprus is not to be found between Bulgaria and Denmark in the lists that have reached me.

"I am, yours faithfully,

"W. CORFIELD."

We should be very pleased to hear the views of our readers on the matter raised by our correspondent, who, we will not deny, has made out a good case in favour of cataloguing commemorative issues.

Our position in the matter, however, is quite simple. We believed that in framing the rule to which exception is taken we were suggesting a plan which might be followed with advantage by other cataloguers. If such unnecessary issues were ignored by the catalogues which lead collectors in the way they should go, they would very soon be cast into oblivion, and their fate would undoubtedly prejudice any further issues of the kind that may appear. We believe that every serious philatelist, like Mr. Corfield himself, dislikes unnecessary issues of stamps, and we also think that every collector should do all in his power to discountenance them. The effort of each individual may be very small, but the sum

of all these protests would be a powerful one. We may not be quite logical in framing our rule, but it is practically the same one that guided the late Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, which failed, not from lack of support from thinking philatelists, but from the large preponderance of the unthinking. We shall, however, be pleased to accept the suggestion that a list of Commemorative Stamps of Europe should be included together in an appendix at the end of the series, in order to make the history philatelically complete.

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

—O—

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

FINLAND.

The first stamps issued by the Grand Duchy of Finland appeared nearly two years before adhesives were first used in Russia—namely, in 1856, though many years before that time stamped envelopes had been introduced both into Russia and into its vassal State. The design of the first adhesives was identical with



that used for the envelopes, and, indeed, was from the same die. It consists of the Arms of Finland within a large single-lined transverse oval, with the value "5 kop" or "10 kop" in Slavonic characters on each side. Sometimes there is much difficulty in deciding whether a specimen has been cut from an envelope or is an adhesive. On this subject we cannot do better than quote from Mr. Westoby's work:—

"All the envelopes of 5 and 10 kopecs issued prior to February 12th have no white dot or pearl in the opening of the horn. There was a sort of tradition that these pearls were occasioned by a small hole made for pinning the casts on to wood blocks; but this appears to be only a theory unsupported by facts, for the holders of this notion went on to say that all specimens of adhesives were found with pearls, and that a copy without pearls must have been cut from an envelope, while one with pearls might either have been used as an adhesive or have been part of an envelope. But

the facts will not bear out this theory. The pearls were not introduced for any such purpose, nor do they appear to have been inserted until some days after the first printing of the adhesives, and copies of these, it is said, have been found without them, though they are excessively rare. Absolute reliance cannot therefore be placed on this, nor on traces of gum, as any "faker" will arrange this. The great majority of the adhesives are postmarked very distinctly, and few of the envelopes are so, but are generally pen-marked. The most reliable specimens are those found on original envelopes." Specimens found on diagonally laid paper must be cut from envelopes, but the 10 kopecs is known on vertically laid paper as an original. Both values occur *tête-bêche*. In 1858 a slight alteration was effected in the 5 kopecs by which the pearls in the posthorns were made larger. Both stamps are very scarce unused, especially the lower value.

1856-58.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 kop., blue (shades)	—	—	—	—
a. 5 kop., blue, larger pearls ...	—	—	—	—
10 kop., bright rose	50	0	5	6
a. 10 kop., bright rose on vertically laid paper	—	—	—	—

Reprints.—Both values have been reprinted three times. The colours of these are generally paler than in the originals. They are found on white or slightly bluish paper also on vertically laid paper.

Stamps in a more ambitious design made their appearance on January 1st, 1866. This consisted of the Arms, surmounted by a crown (but without the posthorns) in colour, on uncoloured, oval ground, the whole enclosed within a rectangular frame, with Greek key pattern at sides, and the value 5 (or 10) KOFI at top and 5 KOP below. The spandrels were filled in with vertical lines. The framework and spandrels were evidently inspired, like so many other early Europeans, by the first French stamps. Owing to the fact of these stamps being printed, apparently from wood blocks, on paper strongly tinted with the same colour as the design, the latter does not stand out very clearly. This, combined with the curious perforations, gives the stamps of this and the next issue a somewhat bizarre appearance.



The perforations would be more properly

called roulettes, and are termed by Philatelists serpentine roulettes. It should be mentioned that roulettes differ from machine perforations in that no portions of the paper are cut away as in the case of the latter, but perforation is formed by a series of cuts or slits made in the paper at intervals. In the commonest form of roulettes the slits are straight, but in this case they are curved or serpentine.

If an unsevered pair be examined it will be found that each tooth fits into a corresponding indentation on the other stamp, and that no portions of the paper have been cut away.

There are three distinct sizes of the teeth measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$, $1\frac{3}{4}$, or $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm. in length.

1860.

	Perfs. $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm.		Perfs. $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm.		Perfs. $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.	
	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used
5 kop., grey blue on bluish	20	4	4	0	—	—
a. 5 kop., deep blue on bluish	25	0	4	6	—	—
10 kop., rose on pale rose	7	0	4	—	1	3
a. 10 kop., deep rose on pale rose	—	6	25	0	—	—

Owing to a change of currency a new series was introduced in 1866. The new coinage consisted of *penni* and *marks*, 100 of the former equalling 1 mark. The design remained very much the same, though it was apparently entirely

withdrawn. Only four values were issued in 1886—namely, 5, 10, 20, and 40 penni, but further values of 8 penni and 1 mark were added in the following year. The design of the last value differs from the others in having the shield in a



rectangular instead of an oval frame. On the 5 and 10 penni the shield is larger than on the 20 and 40 penni, and there are eight stars, whereas on the latter there are only seven. The design of the 8 penni differed in detail from all the other values.

All values were printed on tinted papers, except the 1 mark, which is on white. The 5 and 10 penni first appeared on vertically laid paper, of which there are two marked varieties, one thick and one thin, but



in 1870 they were issued on wove paper, like the rest of the set, and so remained until the end of the issue. In making up the printing formes a curious error occurred, one of the sides of the 5 penni being inserted among the

10 penni and *vice versa*. Consequently, each value is known in the colour of the other, but these errors are very rare, as they only appeared on the first few sheets. Two varieties of perforations, namely the serpentine perforation, gauging $10\frac{1}{2}$ on the 8 penni and $12\frac{1}{2}$ on the 40 penni, were possibly only experimental, and it appears doubtful whether they were ever issued in the ordinary way.

The 8 penni and the 40 penni are frequently found on paper very finely ribbed, and these were formerly included in most catalogues, but as the ribbing was proved to have been only accidental they are now very properly omitted.

1866.

On Laid Paper.

	Teeth $1\frac{1}{4}$.		Teeth $1\frac{3}{4}$.		Teeth $2\frac{1}{4}$.	
	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used
5 pen., lilac-brown on lilac	—	—	15	0	19	6
a. 5 pen., lilac-brown on lilac, thick paper	17	6	—	3	3	—
b. Error, 5 pen., black on buff	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 pen., black on buff	—	—	20	0	—	3
a. 10 pen., black on buff, thick paper	—	—	8	6	2	9
b. Error, 10 pen., lilac-brown on buff	—	—	—	—	—	—

1867-70.

On Wove Paper.

	Teeth $1\frac{1}{4}$.		Teeth $1\frac{3}{4}$.		Teeth $2\frac{1}{4}$.	
	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used	Un-used	Used
5 pen., red brown on lilac (shades)	—	—	—	2	6	6
8 pen., black on blue-green	—	5	6	7	0	2
a. 8 pen., black on yellow green	—	—	—	—	12	6
10 pen., black on yellow	—	—	—	5	6	20
a. 10 pen., black on buff	—	—	—	—	20	0
b. Error, 10 pen., purple brown on lilac	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 pen., pale blue on blue	—	—	—	8	6	10
a. 20 pen., blue on blue	—	—	—	7	0	1
40 pen., rose on pale rose	—	—	—	9	30	0
a. 40 pen., rose on lilac	—	4	6	—	—	1
1 mark, brown	—	—	—	25	0	—

Owing to a change in certain postal rates a new value—32 penni—was required, and this, which was printed at Copenhagen, was from a new design, as shewn in the accompanying



illustration. It will be seen that this design was more convenient and compact than that of the former issues, the value being repeated in plain figures in each corner. This value was also machine perforated 14 by $13\frac{1}{2}$, which must have been considered a great convenience by the inhabitants of the country. In fact, the whole thing was found to be such an

improvement that in a few months three of the other values appeared—viz., 5, 8, and 20 penni, all in the same design, but these were printed at Helsingfors. A comb perforating machine was purchased at the same time, gauging 11, which was used on the new stamps. With the values last mentioned, another printing of the 32 penni took place, which can be distinguished from the Copenhagen printing by the different perforation, and at the same time a 2 penni value was added. The 1 mark was not altered to the new design until 1877, and the 10 penni until 1881. In the meantime (in 1879) the 32 penni had been withdrawn from use, and a stamp of the value of 25 penni substituted. The 8 penni was also withdrawn at the same time.

About the year 1882 a new comb machine was introduced, which perforated with a gauge of 12½. For a very short time during the transition period all values then in use—namely, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25 penni and 1 mark—appeared with a perforation compound of 11 by 12½, but these are all very scarce, and it is probable that only a few sheets with these perforations were issued. *Tête-bêche* varieties of the 5, 10, and 20 penni can be found.

1875.

Printed at Copenhagen.

	Perf. 14 x 13½.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
32 pen., carmine	—	12 0

Printed at Helsingfors.

	1875.		1882.		1882. P. 11½, 12 Com- pound. s. d.
	Perf. 11.		Perf. 12½.		
	Un- used.	Used.	Un- used.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
2 pen., pale grey	5	4	4	1	—
a. 2 pen., grey	—	3	—	—	—
5 pen., orange	1 6	3	—	2	—
a. 5 pen., pale red	—	4	—	4	—
b. 5 pen., yellow	2 0	3	—	—	—
c. 5 pen., orange, tête- bêche	—	—	—	—	—
8 pen., dark green	3 6	2 6	—	—	—
a. 8 pen., blue-green	—	4 3	—	—	—
b. 8 pen., yellow-green	—	2 9	—	—	—
10 pen., brown	—	5	10 0	5	—
a. 10 pen., yellow- brown	—	—	—	3	—
b. 10 pen., brown, tête- bêche	—	—	—	—	—
20 pen., ultramarine	8 6	2	5 0	2	—
a. 20 pen., deep ultra- marine	11 6	2	—	—	—
b. 20 pen., Prussian blue	—	2 9	—	—	—
c. 20 pen., ultramarine tête-bêche	—	—	—	—	—
25 pen., lake	—	2	—	4	—
a. 25 pen., rosine	—	3	—	3	—
32 pen., carmine	10 0	8	—	—	—
b. 32 pen., rose	8 0	10	—	—	—
1 mark, lilac	—	1 9	—	5	—

Reprints.—Reprints of the 8, 10, 20, 25, and 32 penni were made in the early 'nineties. They were perforated 12½. As they are so scarce they are worth more than the originals.

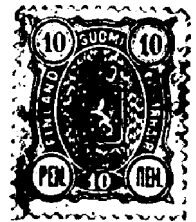
In the year 1883 all values were changed in colour, with the exception of the 2 penni, and at the same time higher values of 5 and 10 marks were introduced. The 1, 5, and 10 marks all have the groundwork behind the Arms in the central oval printed in rose and the rest of the stamp in another colour. The perforation remained 12½ as before.

1883.

Colours changed.

	Perf. 12½.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 pen., emerald-green	—	1
a. 5 pen., yellow-green	—	1
10 pen., carmine	—	1
a. 10 pen., rose	—	1
20 pen., yellow	2 0	1
a. 20 pen., orange	2 0	1
b. 20 pen., orange, tête-bêche	—	—
25 pen., blue	—	1
a. 25 pen., ultramarine	—	1
1 mark, grey and rose	4 0	5
5 marks, green and rose	—	12 0
10 marks, brown and rose	35 0	16 0

The next change took place in 1890, when a new series appeared in a design very similar in general, but containing many different details. The principal difference is seen in the lower corners, where, instead of the numerals of value, the white discs are inscribed PEN. on one side, and the same, but in Russian characters, on the other. Two very distinct sets can be made with reference to the perforation—one in which they are "clean cut" and the other quite rough, both gauging 12½. Whether the latter is due to the machine becoming defective, or, as has been suggested, to the fact of their being perforated while the sheets were damp it is difficult to say.



1890.

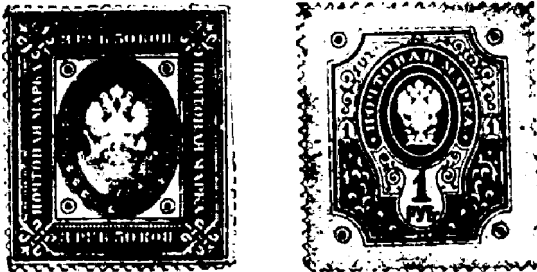
	Clean-cut.		Rough.	
	Perf. 12½.		Perf. 12½.	
	Un- used.	Used.	Un- used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 pen., grey (shades)	2	1	—	3
5 pen., green	—	1	—	2
a. 5 pen., yellow-green	—	1	—	2
10 pen., rose	—	1	—	3
a. 10 pen., deep rose	—	1	—	6
20 pen., orange-yellow (shades)	—	1	—	3
25 pen., ultramarine	—	1	5 0	—
a. 25 pen., blue	—	2	—	—
1 mark, grey and rose	—	2	—	1 0
a. 1 m. pearl grey and rose	—	10	—	—
5 marks, green and rose	—	4 6	—	—
10 marks, brown and rose	—	5 6	—	—

The next new issue of stamps will always be memorable as marking a distinct phase of the gradual Russification of Finland. They were issued as the direct result of a decree made by the Czar ordering the amalgamation of the postal services of Russia and Finland. Accordingly,

stamps were issued in 1918, which were identical with those used in Russia, but were distinguished by having little circles, each enclosing a dot, added in some part of the design. In the lowest values there are no less than twelve of the dots, six on each side, as shown in the illustration :



The higher values have them in various positions, and for the 3½ and 7 roubles the ornaments, which, on the Russian stamps, appeared in the four spandrels, were removed to make room for the dotted circles. These



stamps were all printed in St. Petersburg at the Russian Government Printing Works, and, like the Russian stamps, on horizontally laid paper.

(To be continued.)

Moldavia.

A CORRECTION.

Owing to a proof-reader's mistake in our article under this heading last month, the name of the principal figure in the case of the doubtful Moldavian first issue was wrongly printed. The gentleman's name is *Moroiu*, not *Morvin*.



March, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

NEW MEMBER.

Philip P. Brown, Great Leighs, Chelmsford.

NOTICES.

The fifth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, March 12th, when an enjoyable evening was spent. Amongst those present were Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E. (who ably occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of the President), Mr. and Mrs. Schwabacher, Mr. and Mrs. Schwate, Miss Cassels, Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham, P. L. Pemberton, W. S. King, H. Thompson, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, J. E. Joselin, W. Silk, H. Athurley, E. P. Airlie Dry, E. J. Bridger, P. P. Brown, G. S. Godden, Mr. and Mrs. Stiles, and many other friends and visitors. An interesting programme was gone through, including King Edward's Stamps, Mr. Pemberton; Interesting Marks on Stamps and Bogus Stamps, Messrs. A. B. Kay and L. W. Fulcher; Fiscal Stamps, Mr. Schwabacher; and Historical and Zoological Stamps, Mr. T. H. Hinton. On the conclusion of the display a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and exhibitors was proposed by Mr. Joselin and carried unanimously. In his reply, the Chairman briefly referred to the Prize Essay Competition, and reminded members that *all Essays should reach the Hon. Sec. by April 13th.*

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Wednesday evening, April 8th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. H. L. Hayman will give a display of the stamps of British East Africa, and Mr. Joselin a display of India States surcharged issues. All members and visitors are cordially invited to attend.

PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION.

Circulars have been sent to all members giving full information, but can be repeated on application to the Hon. Sec. It rests with members to send in, and make this a good Competition. It would form a nice holiday task for the coming Easter holidays if not already written. All should be in the Hon. Sec.'s hands not later than April 13th.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions for 1903, due on Jan. 1st last, should be forwarded to the Hon. Sec., who will duly acknowledge same. There are still some few members who have not replied to applications *re* 1902, who are again urged to do so without further delay.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.

5, Paultons Square, Chelsea, London, S.W.

March 26, 1903.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

—:O:—

The usual monthly meeting was held on March 9th, and was devoted to matters of local interest only. The Exchange Branch continues to work smoothly, special attention being paid to the prompt despatch of packets and return of sheets. The January sheets were returned, with remittances, early in March, and the February sheets were returned to owners on the day of the return of the packet from circulation. It was decided to make the April meeting the last of the present session, resuming in September. The exchange packets will be circulated monthly, *except* in July and August.

Messrs. D. W. Fleming and S. Söderberg were unanimously elected members.

Members joining after March 31st have the benefit of the half-yearly subscription. The rules and constitution of the society will be gladly sent on application.

T. A. MCINTYRE,
Hon. Sec. and Treas.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

The usual monthly meeting was held on February 9th, when a display of the stamps of the United States was given by Messrs. John Walker and Henderson. The old issues *unused* were strongly represented in the former's collection, together with very complete sets of the various departmentals. Mr. Henderson showed superb *used* blocks of the \$2 and \$5 recent issues and a complete set *used* of the Periodical Stamps up to \$100.

The Exchange Branch December packet returned from circulation on February 5th, all sheets being returned to members with remittances the same day. The sales amounted to £5 12s. 2d. net. The February packet started on February 1st, with twenty-two sheets, value £123 10s. 10d. net.

At the next meeting it was decided to have a display of the stamps of Barbados, Nevis and St. Vincent.

The Secretary will be glad to forward copies of rules to applicants.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: T. A. MCINTYRE.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

CORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held in the board room of the Commercial Buildings on Monday, the 2nd ult.

The report of the Secretary and Treasurer was read, which showed the affairs of the Society to be in a satisfactory state.

All the members have keenly felt the great

loss sustained by the lamentable death of their late President, the Rev. Wm. Bell, who was recognized generally as one of the ablest authorities on all matters pertaining to Philately in the United Kingdom. A letter was read from Mrs. Bell thanking the members of the Society for their kind message of sympathy (passed at a previous meeting) on the death of her husband.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. G. F. Hodder; Committee, Messrs. T. J. Babington, A. C. Maltby, F. J. H. Stopford; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. John Dixon, 1, Mardyke Villas, Cork.

ANTARCTIC "STAMPS."

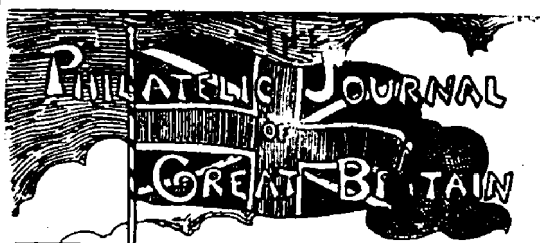
The following paragraph appeared recently in the *Globe*; it was headed "Exploration and Philately":—

"One curious outcome of the present National Antarctic Expedition promises to be a philatelic treasure, which will surely be much sought after by the numerous body of stamp collectors. A special label has been prepared, to be affixed to letters by members of the expedition as soon as they are able to communicate with their friends from the nearest point in the Antarctic regions. A number of these 'stamps' have been dispatched to New Zealand for delivery to the *Discovery*. An application to the Postmaster-General that they might be used in prepayment of letters was unsuccessful, but the explorers will no doubt remember their philatelic friends at home by using the labels to 'frank' letters to the nearest post office, where stamps of the ordinary kind can be added."

According to *Smith's Monthly Circular*, the *Annales S.F. de Chile* arranges the stamps of the 1900-1902 issue of Chili as follows:— (Printed in 1900) 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 50c., original die; (printed in 1901) 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 30c., retouched die. Gibbons' catalogue gives the 30c. as from the original die, but is wrong as it only exists as from the retouched die.

It appears that of the 1c. provisional stamps of Cuba, chronicled in November, three-quarters of the entire issue were bought by speculators—150,000 in all. All sorts of "errors" were manufactured, the surcharge being struck vertically, inverted, and on the blank margins of the paper. It is very unlikely that these varieties were ever issued to the public, so are unworthy of any attention. It is said that the Cuban Philatelic Society made a successful appeal against the issue of another provisional which had been prepared!

In a note in our last number we said that Bahamas was the only British Colony which had never issued a half-penny stamp. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. point out that this is not correct, as the peculiarity is shared by British Central Africa.



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Speculation in New Issues.

It is now more than two years since we published our article on "The Importation of New Issues," and called attention to the dangers threatening our hobby from the unhealthy spirit of speculation which was being fostered by the apostles of the new issue cult. Though the articles attracted a great deal of comment and our opinions were endorsed by many leading philatelists at the time, our warning was practically as a "voice crying in the wilderness." We spoke as prophets, and prophets are seldom of much account until their vaticinations have had a chance of maturing. We are pleased to see, therefore, that within the last few months *The London Philatelist* and *The Philatelic Record* have both published articles embodying arguments calculated to greatly discourage the speculator in new issues, and repeating the very points which we insisted upon in 1900.

Since our previous warning there have been several isolated cases of stamps suddenly becoming obsolete and rapidly increasing in value

—or, rather, in price. Among these, to mention extreme cases, are the 5d. and 10/- Trinidad, the 10/- Niger Coast, the 9d. South Australia, wmk. Crown and SA, the 2d. Gold Coast, etc. These have been a huge comfort to speculators, and have urged them on to greater plunging; but they are in reality only extremely isolated cases, the sort of instances which fire the gambler's imagination. At present attention seems to be directed to the obsolete King's Head values of the Transvaal and the Queen's Head Northern Nigerias, for which large advances on face value are being asked. Yet we would venture with confidence to assert that there are quite sufficient of these stamps in the hands of speculators to supply the legitimate demands of all collectors who are willing to pay a slight commission over face value for them, and the law of supply and demand will ultimately prove the value of these stamps to be very much less than those now being asked, though it must be admitted that their prospects, financially, are far brighter than those of most recent issues.

The *London Philatelist* not only protests against the speculative spirit but shows that already several investors have found the game unprofitable. "We know," says the *London Philatelist*, "instances of investments made—with great inner knowledge of the market—during the past few years, in which the investors have struck no reefs, and have candidly confessed that they would have done far better to have invested in the sweet simplicity of Consols." We have no doubt that there are many others who have had a similar experience. We doubt if any private speculator has gathered in any harvest worth mentioning during the last two years.

Even across the Atlantic the cry is being taken up, and the *American Journal of Philately* has a few words to say on the subject, though speculation in new issues is nothing like so freely indulged in there as it is over here. The *American Journal of Philately* in the course of its remarks says:—"The knowledge that forty years ago we might have bought for pennies things that now cost pounds is neither useful nor entertaining. It does not aid us to distinguish among the common stamps of to-day the rarities of the future, and it does not please us to know that things that are now among the unattainables could once have been purchased for almost nothing." It seems to please some people however, as many of the speculators of to-day are wildly plunging at almost everything in the way of current British Colonials, forgetting that by their own actions they preclude the possibility of anything they touch becoming rare.

Entirely about Entires.

AT the meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society on March 21st, at Clapham Hall, a paper was read for Mr. Warhurst by one of the members, with the above title, and was received with evident interest. Among the specimens for examination after the reading of the paper were such novelties as stamped lettersheets of Italy authorised in 1813, and one of 1838 issued by New South Wales. an unused Mulready, a 7 by 4 halfpenny newsband of 1878, a packet with unbroken band of first halfpenny cards of Great Britain as sold in 1870 at 24 for one shilling, an unbroken packet of 24 pink embossed Queen's heads (for 2s. 2d.), with dated die of 1876, and many other interesting entires. We are able to give the substance of Mr. Warhurst's paper as follows:—

"You will not need to be reminded that entires, in the form of our Mulready covers, are as old as adhesive stamps for postal purposes, but few are aware that the postal authorities of New South Wales issued lettersheets bearing an embossed stamp as early as 1838, specimens of which are rare, and also impressed the stamp on envelopes brought to them for that purpose. In Italy, however, similar sheets were issued twenty years earlier, with colourless stamps of 15, 25, and 50 centesimi value embossed thereon, after a provisional series with coloured impressions on plain paper, while the special paper with an elaborately designed watermark was being manufactured. These are sufficient evidence of entires being older than stamps, but a discussion in 1839 on the then coming penny post here revealed the fact that such a post was instituted in Paris by Mons. de Velay as far back as 1653, and that he issued, for two sous, certain sheets with a printed form of words for the use of those who did not wish to pay cash to the carriers employed to clear letter-boxes that he placed at corners of some streets.

"The philatelic use of the word entires, as applied *only* to envelopes, wrappers, and cards with impressed stamps *sold at public post offices*, was explained, and that some countries at first issued them with adhesives attached as provisional issues. It is curious that in France plain type-printed cards with adhesives were officially sold and used for five years before the engraved series appeared in 1878. These cards, however, are not so cheap or numerous as might be expected, because they were no lower than letter rates, and consequently few were actually used, and there are a large number of varieties in setting. Great Britain did not originate this cheaper

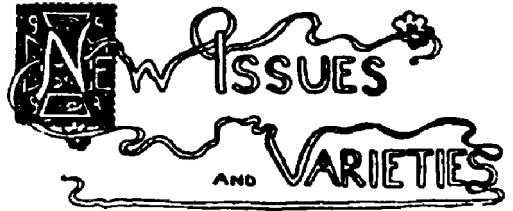
method of communication, as it was not adopted here till October, 1870, Austria being the first just twelve months before. Many do not recognise or remember our first 1/2d. card, about the present 'Court' size, printed in violet with a neat frame round; and the peculiar value of 1 1/4d., issued in 1875, seems still more curious, but was the arranged "half letter rate" agreed on for use in Europe. Later on we had 1 1/2d., 2d., and even 3d. cards for sending to Australia. In the older section of entires the well-known pink Queen's head may take rank as the oldest stamp in continuous use, the dies of two years ago showing almost exactly like those first appearing sixty years earlier.

"There were trifling differences, and there had been dates introduced in the lower part of oval for twenty years, but it was practically the same design all the time. The only values that rank as entires, under definition given, are the early 2d. issue, 1/2d., 1d., and 2 1/2d. issue of later years; all other values, 1 1/2d. to 1/-, with compound combinations up to 5/-, being stamped to order only for large firms or private use. That there are varieties enough in the officially issued envelopes, wrappers (1/2d. and 1d. only), and cards may be gathered from the fact of my small collection of British, including registration envelopes, totalling about 600.

"Post-cards of all countries are most sought after nowadays; and among the finest specimens of engraving may be mentioned the early cards of Canada, Newfoundland, Guatemala, and Sweden. Many of the Central Americans are very elaborate, but, having been prepared on similar lines to the unpopular Seebeckian adhesives, are very similarly treated by collectors who object to unnecessary issues.

"Among the most harmonious as a series may be reckoned those of Hawaii, which, being well produced and combining various portraits and views, were popular: and the set of thirteen can still be had for a small sum, though all remainders were destroyed after the United States entered into possession of the Islands.

"Mexico takes first place for greatest number and variety of cards, about 200 being catalogued, and there is the possibility of finding 1,000 in all, with minor varieties of eight to a sheet in several issues. Any one disposed to give up adhesives because of the impossibility of obtaining so many issues may still keep up the philatelic connection by turning to entires, which are barely one-fifth in total number, and of which a fine collection can be obtained for one-tenth the money, taking them all round."



BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australlan Commonwealth. The 2d. and 3d. unpaid letter stamps are now reported with the tablet at foot, filled in as on the 1d. value already chronicled.

Unpaid. 2d. emerald green.
3d. "

Bermuda. We have received 1/4d. and 1/2d wrappers, printed with stamps in the design of the 1d. Dockyard type of last year. We believe this is the first wrapper of the low value of 1/4d. to be issued in the British Empire. A postcard in the same design is also issued.

Post-card. 1d. green on buff.
Wrappers. 1/2d. brown on buff.
1/4d. green on buff.

Cape of Good Hope. Mr. G. Killick has kindly sent us the new values—4d., 5/-, and 6d. of the King's Head set, in the order named. All the designs vary, and we hope to give illustrations of the first two shortly. The 4d. and 5/- are shewn herewith.

Adhesives. 4d. sage green.
6d. red-violet.
5/- orange-brown.



Cayman Islands. The 1d. of the King's Head set has reached us.

Adhesive. 1d. carmine.

Cyprus. Several more values of the King's Head set have been issued, but it seems doubtful whether they have been actually issued. We illustrate the design. The 1/2 pi. has already been chronicled.



Adhesives. 30 paras lilac and green.
1 piastre carmine and blue.
4 piales olive-green and lilac-red.
6 " olive-brown and green.
12 " red-brown and black.

Fiji. The King's Head set for these islands was issued on February 1st. The design is

the ordinary De la Rue key pattern, and is inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE. We have only seen values up to 1l.

- Adhesives.* ½d. green.
 1d. black on red.
 2d. lilac and orange.
 2½d. " and blue on blue.
 3d. " and lilac.
 4d. " and blue.
 5d. " and green.
 6d. " and carmine.
 1l. green and carmine.
 5l. " and black.
 6l. black and blue.

Gibraltar. *Smith's Monthly Circular* chronicles a King Edward Registration Envelope.

Reg. Env. 2d. red on white.

Hong Kong. We illustrate the design of the new issue, of which we chronicled the 1c. last month, The 8c. and 12c. have since appeared. They are in the same design.



- Adhesives.* 8c. grey-black and mauve.
 12c. green and red-brown on yellow.

India. *Bhopal. The Monthly Circular* says that "all values of the new issue have an unframed embossing of native characters, except the 4 annas, which has an entirely new embossing, consisting of inscriptions arranged in a conventional pattern within a double-lined circle, including the date 1320 in native characters."

Chamba. The 2 anna violet Queen's Head of India is chronicled by *Ewen's Weekly* surcharged "Chamba-State," and the same stamp with the additional surcharge "Service."

- Adhesive.* 2a. violet, surcharge black.
Official Adhesive. 2a. violet, " "

Gwalior. The three King's Head stamps have been issued surcharged in the usual manner, as shown in the illustration, for use in this State. The Queen's Head ½ and 1 anna have also made a tardy appearance, surcharged for use as Service stamps.



QUEEN'S HEAD INDIAN STAMPS.

- Official Adhesives.* ½a. pea-green, surcharge black.
 1a. carmine, " "

KING'S HEAD INDIAN STAMPS.

- Adhesives.* ½a. grey, surcharge black.
 1a. green " "
 2a. carmine " "

Malta. The King's Head set for this island has begun with the ½d. and 2d. values, which were issued about March 12th. The design

for both values is modelled on that of the old ½d., and the 2d. is printed with the centre in violet and the frame in grey.

- Adhesives.* ½d. green.
 2d. violet and grey.

New South Wales. *Le T. Belge* chronicles the 5d. on chalky paper and perforated 11½ by 12—which, we presume, is the No. 2 comb-machine (perforated 12 by 12) of Gibbons.

Ewen's Weekly chronicles the 9d. on 10d. in bright orange-brown (two shades) instead of the dull red-brown shade of the old one.

The Monthly Journal says:—"Our publishers have shown us a curious sheet of the current 2d., No. 366 in the catalogue. Of the two panes of sixty of which it is composed, the right-hand one only is perforated, the other being entirely imperforate. It is evident that, owing to the space between the panes being narrower than the width of a stamp, the comb machine (which perforates the top, bottom, and one side of the stamps in a row) has to work upon each pane separately, commencing with the row next to the central space. When one pane has been finished the sheet should be turned round and the other pane perforated, but in this particular case the second half of the work was omitted."

We have therefore to chronicle:—

- Adhesives.*
 5d. green on "chalky" paper, perf. 12 by 12.
 9d. orange-brown " " 12 by 12.
 2d. ultramarine " variety imperf.

New Zealand. The 4d. has now appeared, perforated 14, still on the watermarked paper. The 8d. has been issued on the watermarked paper, but still perforated 11. Apparently it is the intention of the authorities to issue all the stamps on the watermarked paper, only changing the perforation to 14 after they have been in use for a short time with the larger gauge. It is said that the 4d. on watermarked paper and perforated 11 will be a very scarce stamp.

Another novelty is to hand in the shape of a "special delivery" stamp. It is the same shape as the U.S. special delivery, but not so big. It is a pitiful-looking object, printed in violet, with the value "6d." in red in the centre. It is inscribed "Express Delivery" in the centre, "N — Post Office — Z" at top, and "Secures immediate delivery at a special delivery office" at foot.

WATERMARK "N Z AND STAR."

- Adhesives.* 4d. brown and blue, perf. 14.
 8d. deep blue, perf. 11.
Special Delivery. 6d. violet and red, perf. 11.

Orange River Colony. The 1d. of the King's Head type has at last been issued. It proves to be quite an interesting design. The King's Head appears in a small oval in the centre, with the name of the colony above in

a fancy shaped band. Below the portrait appears a little local colouring in the shape of a springbok and a wildebeeste. The whole is printed in red.

Adhesive. 1d. carmine, Cr. and CA, perf. 14.

South Australia. The 2/6 of the current type ("POSTAGE" only at top) has appeared in a totally different shade—instead of lilac it is now deep violet.

Adhesive. 2/6 violet.

Straits Settlements. We have received the new registration envelope. The stamp, bearing the head of King Edward, is in the circular type. The words "two-pence" at top are divided by the crown, and the rest of the frame is inscribed "Sierra Leone Registration Fee."

Registration Envelope. 2d. blue.

Sudan. The *London Philatelist* gives several novelties. First, there is the 3 mils with the new watermark, and a set of five stamps overprinted "O S G R," which are presumably officials. No doubt the initials stand for "On Sudan Government Service." The 3 mils, 5 mils, 1, 2, and 5 piastres are list, but as there seems to be some doubt as to whether the surcharges are on the new or the old stamps we await further particulars before chronicling them.

Adhesive.

3 mils green and purple, *wmk. stars and Crescents.*

Tasmania. Several more values of the current stamps have appeared perforated with a large "T," for use on official correspondence. They are the 1/2d. orange and violet, the 2 1/2d., 3d. and 6d. pictorial, and the 1d. pictorial, watermark V & Cr.

Transvaal. The 3d., 4d., 1/-, and 2/-, in altered colours, which we chronicled in December, were not actually issued, it seems, until the beginning of February. Two higher values are to be issued shortly:—

Adhesives. £1 violet and black.

£5 violet and dark orange.

Victoria. The 1d. has appeared, perforated with the letters "O S," for use on official correspondence. This perforating idea is apparently to be adopted in all the States of the Commonwealth. It makes us sigh for the time when all Australia will have one set of stamps.

Another novelty is the 1/2d., perforated 11; and it is said that the 1d., and possibly other values, will shortly appear, with the same gauge, as a new machine is now being used in Melbourne. The change will probably also extend to the Western Australians and Tasmanians, which are being supplied from Melbourne.

Adhesive. 3d. green, perf. 11.

Western Australia. *Le T. Belge* describes a new letter card of 2d. It is similar to that used in Victoria, having four lines of instructions at the back.

Letter Card. 2d. blue on grey.

Uganda. Messrs. Alfred Smith and Son write:—"Referring to your note under *Uganda* (in the February number), all the surcharged cards and the reg. env., size F, chronicled in the *Monthly Circular* for May and June, 1902, really exist. We have not had the H 2 size of the reg. env., but no doubt it exists." The stationery referred to has all been chronicled in the *Ph. J. of G. B.*

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Argentine. Quite a bunch of new stationery has recently been issued. All the items of this new issue have ordinary surface-printed stamps instead of the magnificent embossed designs which have for so long been a feature of the "entires" of Argentine. The new 4c. card has views on the back otherwise, and with the exception of the altered stamp, the card is exactly like the old one. The 15c. *Memorandum Postal* of January 1st has been surcharged "5" in red; there is also a new letter card of 4c., and news-wrapper of 1/2c. and 2c., all with unembossed stamps. We have already chronicled the 5c. red envelope and the 1c. blue on buff wrapper.

Memorandum Postal.

5(c.) on 15c. blue on white, surcharge red.

Post-cards.

4c. green on buff.

4c. " white.

Letter Card.

4c. vermilion on buff (white inside).

Wrappers.

1/2c. orange on buff.

2c. slate on buff.

Austria. Our publishers have found in their stock some varieties of perforation which do not appear to have been chronicled. They are the 12kr. of 1890-91, perf. 10 1/2 by 12, and the 5 and 10 kreuzer unpaid letter-stamps perf. 12 1/2.

ISSUE OF 1890-91.

12 kreuzer lake, perf. 10 1/2 by 12.

UNPAIDS OF 1894-95.

5 kreuzer brown.

10 " "

10 " "

Crete. On January 1st two of the current Austrian stamps were surcharged in centimes for use in Austrian Post Offices in Crete. The *Monthly Circular* adds a reply post-card.

Adhesives.

5c. on 5h. deep green, perf. 13.

10c. on 10h. rose, "

Post-card.

10 plus 10c. on 10 plus 10h. rose.

Bulgaria. The *Monthly Circular* states the 5st. post-card is now printed on thin greenish card instead of cream.


Post-card. 5st. green on greenish.

Colombia. The *Monthly Journal* has received the 10 pesos blue in the last perforation—13¹/₂.

ISSUE OF 1892-97.
10 pesos blue, perf. 13¹/₂.

The same journal describes two more novelties, described as follows:—"We have received two more provisional stamps, very roughly drawn and lithographed (?)—a 1 peso with a supposed portrait of General Prospero Pinzon in the centre, and a 10 pesos with the Arms of the Republic."

Adhesives.

1 peso brown (General Pinzon), imperf. 
10 pesos green (Arms), "

A correspondent informs the *Monthly Circular* that the pictorial stamps which have been attributed to Barranquilla, Bolivar, and also to the Republic as a whole really belong to Cartagena; but our contemporary remarks that his own letter was franked, and infers from that that the stamps must be in general use, as is now popularly supposed.

Corea. A large stamp of the value of 3 cheun has been issued, presumably in commemoration of something. In the centre is a quaint-looking object within a diamond-shaped frame. We cannot say what this object is, but as it appears to have a skewer through it, it may be a native joint dressed for table.

Adhesive. 3 cheun orange.

Costa Rica. We hear that several values of the current issue are now surcharged OFICIAL in black. The 2c. is surcharged PROVISORIO—OFICIAL in two lines, in green. There is an error of the latter in which the first word is spelled PROVISIORO.

Denmark. *Danish West Indies.* We have received an envelope franked with the half of a 4 cents stamp, cut diagonally and used as 2 cents. The issue was authorised owing to the stamps of 2 cents having temporarily run out.

Adhesive.

Half a 4 cents blue and brown, perf. 12¹/₂, used as 2 cents.

Iceland. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us a set of the "1 GILDI" stamps chronicled last month, and we find that the 40 and 50 aur. stamps are perf. 12¹/₂ and not 14 by 12¹/₂, as we supposed. So far these values are not known in the former perforation without the surcharge. The *Monthly Circular* lists the

following additional values of the old official stamps surcharged 1 GILDI in black.

Official Adhesives. 3 aur. ye'low.
4 aur. grey.
16 aur. carmine.

Ecuador. A fiscal stamp of 25c. is reported to have been surcharged "CORREOS — UN CENTAVO" in two lines in black, for use as a postage stamp.

Adhesive. 1c. on 25c. orange (fiscal).

France. Madame Veuve Marmin has sent us the 15 centimes stamp in the new type, of which we gave a description in our December number. It represents the well-known figure of The Sower (La Semeuse) scattering seeds. The design is already used on some of the French coins of low value. The stamp is certainly very uncommon in appearance, but is not very finely executed. It is printed in a deep dull green.

Adhesive. 15c. deep green.

Consular Offices. We have seen several of the following stamps, but most of them are given on the authority of different Continental exchanges. *Ewen's Weekly* has been shewn the higher values of the recently chronicled Cretan stamps surcharged with new values in piastres, so either the unsurcharged ones are obsolete or have never existed. With those mentioned below the new sets for Alexandria and Crete are completed, but all the other offices still lack one or more values.

ALEXANDRIA.

25 centimes blue.

CAVALLE.

10 centimes rose.
15 " red.
20 " brown-violet.
1 piastre on 25c. blue.

CHINA.

10 centimes rose.
15 " red.
25 " blue.
30 " lilac.

CRETE.

20 centimes brown-violet.
1 piastre on 25c. blue.
30 centimes lilac.
2 piastres on 50c. brown and lavender.
4 " 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
8 " 2fr. slate and deep buff.
20 " 5fr. deep blue and buff.

DEDEAGH.

10 centimes rose.
15 " red.
50 " brown-violet.
1 pi on 25c. blue.

MOROCCO.

10 centimos on 10c. rose.
15 " 15c. red.
20 " 20c. brown-violet.
25 " 25c. blue.

PORT SAID.

10 centimes rose.

French Colonies. Somali Coast. Madame Veuve Marmin has sent us specimens of the remainder of the set of the new issue. The 4c. is in the same type as the 1, 2, 5, 10, and 15c. already listed. The values from 20c. to 75c. are in another design—upright rectangular in shape, shewing a camel carrying two natives in the central oval, which is printed in one colour, while the frame is in another. The franc values are large and long in shape, and depict three native warriors with shields and spears. Though we have already chronicled several values we think it better to give the complete list here, especially as it embodies slight corrections in the names of the colours. The centre is in the second colour named.

- Adhesives.*
 1c. violet and orange.
 2c. brown and green.
 4c. blue and carmine.
 5c. green and yellow-green.
 10c. carmine and orange.
 15c. chocolate and blue.
 20c. purple and green.
 25c. blue and pale blue.
 30c. red and black.
 40c. orange-yellow and blue.
 50c. green and red.
 75c. orange and lilac.
 1fr. orange-red and lilac.
 2fr. green and carmine.
 5fr. orange and blue.

Germany. Wurtemberg. *Ewen's Weekly* states that the official stamps are still in use, and in fact have been augmented by two new values—viz., 30 and 40pf. The type is the same as for the other values, but the numerals of value and words "Amtlicher Verkehr" are in black, while the rest is in colour.

- Official Adhesives.* 30pf. black and orange.
 40pf. " carmine.

Guatemala. A set of officials, which appear to be type set. They are very simple in design. The highest value is printed "20," according to the *Monthly Circular*, but has the value corrected to 25 in black.

- Official Adhesives.* 1c. light green.
 2c. carmine.
 5c. blue.
 10c. brown-violet.
 25 on 20c. brown-orange.

Hayti. According to the *Philatelic Record* the surcharged stamps have been withdrawn since December 21st last.

Liberia. We illustrate the new 3c. and the



type of the Registration labels, which we chronicled last month.

Luxemburg. The postcard of 5 centimes has been modified by the deletion of the lines beginning "Le côté . . ." and "Pour l'intérieur." This is owing to a new arrangement, by which the cards of that value may be sent to Germany.

Post-card. 5c. yellow-green on cream (modified).

Mexico. The accompanying illustration shows the design of the new 4c. listed last month.



Nicaragua. There is a new issue here. It succeeds the volcanic issue which was issued under the auspices of Dr. Aseujo. It will be remembered that Dr. Aseujo made a contract

with the Nicaragua Government at the end of 1899, by which he was to supply stamps of a new design each year, his payment being the remainders of the previous issue, which were to be handed over to him at the end of each year in an obliterated condition. Presumably this arrangement fell through, for, except for some dozens of provisionals, no novelties have come from Nicaragua since the issue of 1900. The stamps which are now appearing shew a portrait of a gentleman with a very noble forehead, and the date "11 de Julio 1893" underneath. The portrait is in black and the rest of the design in colour.

- Adhesives.* 1c. green and black.
 2c. carmine "
 5c. blue "
 10c. orange "

Paraguay. There are several minor varieties of the surcharges recently chronicled. Of the 1c. on 14c. the *M.J.* mentions varieties with comma after "cent," without stop after "cent" and without accent on the "u" of "un." The 5 on 28c. orange also shews the first two varieties. Another provisional is now to hand, surcharged in the same way as the others.

Adhesive. 5c. on 10c. rose-red.

Persia. The flood of surcharges continues unceasingly. It seems likely that the new issues were only created because everything else in stock had been surcharged upon and something fresh was required. At any rate, several values of the new series have been surcharged with new values.

ON ISSUE OF 1902.

- 1ch. on 3ch. green, surch. black.
 2ch. on 3ch. green, " blue.
 12ch. on 10kr. carmine, "
 2ch. on 1kr. carmine-red, surch. violet.
 2 tomans on 50kr. green, " blue.
 2 tomans on 50kr. " " black.

The new issue is also reported with the surcharge "Service" on all the ordinary values and the 2 tomans on 50kr.

Portugal. Inhambane. A set of stamps in the annexed type has been issued for this colony. Specimens are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.



Adhesives.

2½ reis grey.	75 reis lilac-rose.
5 " yellow.	100 " blue on azure.
10 " green.	115 " orange on rose
15 " dark green.	130 " brown on yellow.
20 " violet.	200 " mauve on rose.
25 " carmine.	400 " blue on yellow.
30 " chocolate.	500 " black on azure.
65 " slate-blue.	700 " slate on yellow.

Roumania. The *Monthly Journal* give the following varieties, which have hitherto been un-noted.

Adhesives. Unwmkd. paper, tinted pink at back.

5 bani emerald, perf. 13½.
15 " drab, perf. compound.
40 " green, " "

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

30 bani emerald, wmk. Arms, perf. 11½.
50 " " " "PR," " 11½.

Salvador. A series in a new type is chronicled by the *American Journal of Philately*. We have not listed the innumerable varieties of surcharge which have emanated from this Republic during the past two years; but we hail this new issue with pleasure, and hope it will be the beginning of a more settled era.

Adhesives.

1c. yellow-green.	12c. slate.
2c. red.	13c. brown.
3c. orange.	24c. red.
5c. dark blue.	26c. yellow-brown.
10c. lilac.	50c. yellow.
	100c. light blue.

Serbia. The 1 dinar has appeared in the new type in which we have already chronicled several lower values.

Adhesive. 1 dinar lustre-brown.

United States. Four more values of the new issue have reached us. The engraving is



well up to the standard of the other values already listed. We illustrate the 1c. and 2c.

Adhesives.

3c. violet.
4c. orange-brown.
6c. lake.
10c. orange-brown.

Philippines. We have received the 10c. in the yellow-brown shade, surcharged for use here.

Adhesive. 10c. yellow-brown.

Venezuela. We quote from the *Monthly Journal*:-

"*Le T. Belge* chronicles a series of stamps stated to have been issued by the Revolutionary Government at Guayana in October last, which appears to have been formed from various stamps of 1899 and later by surcharging them with a large circular hand-stamp in violet, and with the signature "Carrasco" in black. The circular mark is much larger than the stamps, and must have covered more than one at a time, in such a way as to look more like an obliteration; it has a coat of arms in the centre, and the inscription 'FISCALIA DE INSTRUCCION PUBLICA-ESTADO GUAYANA.' Some of the stamps are also overprinted with a fresh value in violet, and if any of them received a postal obliteration on the top of all this, there can be very little of the original design to be seen."

5c. green.
10c. red.
25c. blue.
50c. orange, with surcharge "1900."
1b. black.
25c. on 5c. green.
50c. on 5c. green.
1b. on 5c. green.

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March 31, 1903.

Philately at Home.

THE *London Philatelist* starts off with an Editorial, followed by a short article by Mr. E. D. Bacon, both dealing with the Tapling Collection and the facilities for viewing it that will shortly be afforded to all. In "A New Collection; or, The Evils of Immersion," Mr. Dendy Marshall advocates two rules to be observed in forming collections. They are as follows:—

1. For unused stamps: Take, where possible, corner stamps or blocks, with the marginal paper attached.

2. For used stamps: These must be taken on a piece of the original cover, cut so as to show the whole postmark.

In defence of the above Mr. Marshall takes up nearly three pages, which we commend to the perusal of those interested. For our own part, though we are not by any means opponents of Mr. Marshall's views, we must confess that we do not think his suggested rules are of such vital importance to Philately as he tries to make out.

In the "Philatelic Notes" we hear that two more "Post Office" Mauritius have turned up. At this rate we shall all soon be able to have a pair—at, say, £1,500 or so.

The *Monthly Journal* opens with a cheerful Editorial on "Forgers and Fakers," dealing mainly with recent happenings in the United States and Australia, the latter *affaire* having already been alluded to in this journal. After giving details Major Evans moralises as follows:—

Now are we to point the usual moral? It should be unnecessary, for these stories seem to carry their own moral with them. The great majority of collectors cannot expect to be able to recognise these forgeries, &c., at sight; experts require to make very careful examination of some of them before deciding upon their character. If a collector buys these things at bargain prices, he must take the risks; he probably gloats over the idea that he has "bested" someone else, and he can hardly complain if now and then he finds that the other party has got the best of it. If he gives a fair market price, then he should take care to buy only from persons who can be relied upon to return the money if the goods turn out not to be what they seem.

Which needs no further comment on our part.

Mr. C. J. Phillips apparently thinks that specialising in Transvaals, as at present carried on, is far too simple; so he has written a paper pointing out the practicability or possibility of "plating" the Penny Black of 1883! That is to say, he gives a picture of a sheet of these stamps and an elaborate description of the minute differences in printing, &c., to be discovered on each of the 80 stamps thereof.

Further instalments are given of Mr. Tamsen's article on "The Stamps of the New Republic," and Mr. Hancian's paper on "The Stamps of Lombardo-Venetia." The varieties of types and paper referred to in the latter article are well worthy of study.

The *Philatelic Record* has for its "Notable Philatelist" this month Mr. H. J. Dureen, of whom a good portrait is given, as well as some interesting details of his wonderful and famous collection. Mr. H. R. Oldfield contributes the paper on "An Ideal Philatelic Exhibition," which he read at the Herts Society's meeting on February 27th.

In the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* we have quoted a very interesting report in connection with an inquiry instituted some time since by the Belgian Academy of Medicine. Although the primary object of the investigator, Professor Bruylants, was to investigate how fraudulent alterations are carried out on business papers, and how such trickery may be detected, his remarks possess much value to philatelists, especially in view of the number of stamps about from which fiscal cancellations have been removed.

"What is Doing in the Stamp Trade" appears to be a kind of replica of an article entitled "A Day with London Dealers," written by Mr. Percy Bishop for *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. The latter title will sufficiently indicate the scope of both articles.

Philately on the Continent.

Our commercially-minded readers may be interested to know that Mr. C. Lindenberg, in his article on "Philately in 1902," considers that an improvement has taken place in the position of our hobby during the past year. In Germany, next to the stamps of the German Empire (constituent states and colonies), Great Britain and colonies are most in favour. The stamps that showed the greatest advances in price were those of the "better middle class," single specimens of which from time to time got into great demand but could not be supplied—with the usual results. Entire series are still to be had cheaply, the great factor in depressing the prices of them being space considerations.

The *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* quotes particulars of a new invention for "cancelling" postage stamps, which, if adopted, should have far-reaching and revolutionary effects on our hobby. The inventor points out that in spite of all methods yet known considerable time is wasted in cancelling stamps, owing to the various sizes of the envelopes, &c., and the different positions occupied by the stamps themselves. This he proposes to obviate, in part at any rate, by the following device. The stamps, before issue, are to receive a coating or surcharge of a chemical totally invisible under ordinary conditions. But after the stamps have been affixed to letters, &c., the latter are to be placed in a receiver and subjected to the action of certain gases which have the power of bringing out anything printed in the above chemical and of rendering it indelible without destroying the stamp.

The Australian correspondent of the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* tells an amusing story. Says he:—

One day I was informed that a communication, on which I had to pay 2d., was awaiting me at the post office. Out of curiosity I took the necessary coins and repaired forthwith to the building in question. "I have a card for you," said the Postmaster, with the intimation "2d. to pay." I looked and saw that it was a 15c. Guadeloupe letter card. "I don't understand the object of this card," continued the official, "since nothing is written on it. Perhaps you know what it means." "A friend has sent it to me for my collection." "Oh yes," he concluded, "now I know why it bears no communication. Had it done so 5 centimes would have been sufficient; as it is, there are 15 centimes and 2d. to pay in addition. Well, I'll let you have it without further payment."

We have before us two numbers of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, which, as usual, contain much interesting matter. The number for February 15 starts off with an interesting article on the origin of the postal service and the first "postage paid" mark of New South Wales, based mainly upon the "Year Book of New South Wales for 1892." From this we

gather that the first post office was established at Sydney in 1810 by the then Governor (Macquarie), who authorised the postmaster, one Isaac Nichols, to levy a charge of eightpence on each letter for Great Britain or abroad, fourpence for one delivered within the colony, and one penny for letters between soldiers and their families, in each case irrespective of weight. The rate for parcels was 1/6. After the death of Mr. Nichols in 1819, his successor, Mr. George Panton, started a regular postal service in the colony, and on March 15, 1825, the limits of charges for letters within the colony were fixed at 3d. to 1/-, according to weight.

Three years later the then Governor of the colony (Brisbane) started sub-postmasters at Bathurst, Campbelltown, Liverpool, Newcastle, Penrith, and Windsor, and organised for Sydney itself a local post with a reduced charge of 2d. per letter.

In 1834 a fresh law regulated the postage of letters according to the distance. Four years later the celebrated Sydney lettersheets and envelopes were started.

Then follows an interesting note explaining why stamps issued for the British "sphere of influence" in Crete are frequently found cancelled with French postmarks. The reason is simple. During the winter of the joint occupation the means of communication through French sources were frequently interrupted by the inclemency of the weather, and so an arrangement was made that letters should be sent through the British postal service—the cost of such letters being defrayed by "British Cretan" stamps, which were on sale for that purpose at the French post offices. For a while this international arrangement, effected by the military authorities concerned, worked most satisfactorily. Then, however, the French postal agents protested, and the service was dropped.

The more notable articles in the number for March 15 are a continuation of a paper on the little-known French cancellations and an article dealing with the secret marks on the U.S. stamps.

L'Annonce Timbrologique has a paragraph dealing with the recently-discovered 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius, as well as an illustration of the envelope bearing these rarities. For this, we are told, M. Lemaire paid 40,000 francs (about £1,600). The specimens are said to be in the best possible condition. This fresh find brings the total number of known specimens of both values up to twenty-two. Of these, five (two 1d. and three 2d.) are unused and seventeen (eleven 1d. and six 2d.) are used. These are said to be distri-

buted as follows:—Eleven in France, nine in England, one in Russia, and one in Germany.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres Porte starts off with the continuation of a somewhat elementary article by Arthur Maurey on Africa and its postage stamps, which is, however, somewhat spoilt by its Anglophobe tone. Surely philatelists should be able to drop politics and suchlike when meeting on the neutral ground of their hobby or science.

Der Philatelist has the continuation of an interesting article by O. Rommel on "Scandinavian Periodical Philatelic Literature," the countries dealt with being Norway, Sweden, and Finland.

We congratulate the *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten-Zeitung* on its removal to its new home, a picture of which adorns the first page of the number before us. Surely, however, the artist was unduly modest in showing only three persons outside the "Philatelistenheim." Perhaps, though, these were the only ones who had not sense enough to step inside to see the beauties of the place.

P. Watrain has a useful illustrated article on Luxemburg obliterations, which "M. C. M." follows with an authorised translation of various decrees, &c., relating to the stamps of Modena, taken from Dr. Dilna's well-known work.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* has a highly interesting article by C. Lindenberg on the use of the various postage stamps, &c., in the German Empire in 1901. We extract part of an interesting tabulated statement comparing the numbers of stamps, &c., used in 1899, 1900, and 1901:—

	1901	1900	1899
Postage stamps value 2 Pf.	201402493	146461118	—
" " " 3 "	442200431	432768828	420927024
" " " 5 "	843239643	76636807	653785240
" " " 10 "	554403643	843610610	850502361
" " " 20 "	154146746	154813679	187415093
" " " 25 "	54194376	5,091,500	52512622
" " " 30 "	35777606	28904507	1468
" " " 40 "	15676720	13460147	683
" " " 50 "	78548650	77729521	97111423
" " " 80 "	4795867	4650278	578
" " " 1 M.	5434648	3902777	—
" " " 2 "	959798	941621	891224
" " " 3 "	1-9689	95283	—
" " " 5 "	71329	5272	—
Postcards value 2 Pf.	96626320	69034629	—
" " " 2 (reply)	1340958	1213202	—
" " " 5 "	231897153	289313805	299340736
" " " 5 (reply)	5665297	5629707	55905.7
" " " 10 "	5221146	5328182	5300394
" " " 10 (reply)	137834	153628	117378
Lettercards ...	2625509	3065668	4299136
Pneumatic post envs. val. 20 Pf.	220160	215644	213983
Pneumatic postcards val. 25 Pf.	358677	347473	320177
" " " 25 Pf. (reply)	4161	4422	4008

Somewhat distinct from similar publications is the "Filatelia" Almanac for 1903, which hails from Buenos Aires. We regret that our knowledge of Spanish is not sufficient to enable us to do justice to the letterpress

accompanying the numerous photographs of its correspondents, &c., all over the world, wherewith the number before us is adorned. One thing, however, strikes us as being remarkably "up-to-date"—if we are correct in our assumption. On the same page as the photographs of two gentlemen, whom we take to be the Editors and Proprietors of the paper, is that of a sharp-looking youngster of about twelve years of age—presumably the office-boy!

Philately in the States.

The December number of the *American Journal of Philately* is, as usual, full of interesting matter. From Mr. Weatherell's Indian Letter we extract the following items:—

The Delhi Durbar is the great subject for the newspapers now, and it came quite as a shock to read that the Indian Post Office intended to bring out as a souvenir a directory with a set of stamps bearing the Emperor's head and duly postmarked 1.1.02 (*s/c*), which might be bought for the sum of one rupee. This is the first time that the Imperial Post Office has "obliged" collectors, and we all devoutly hope that it will not occur again.

The following is one example of the note which usually encloses the sheets from the small native dealers:—

"Your humble petitioner having been informed that your honour is desirous of stamps both on the cover and without, prayeth that your honour will entertain the *petition* of his servant that you will be pleased to make order for some of the most desirable stamp which your petitioner supplies with to great amount for which act of charity he will ever pray for your honours long life and prosperity as is his bounden duty so to do. I have put up them now only and your honour will pay at once and beg to remain in your honours mind.

P. Poonisawmy, dealer in all curiosities."

And here is another:

"Most honoured and respected sir:

I beg respectfully to hand to your honours kind consideration five sheets of superior stamps all of which are scarce occurrence, all are marked very cheap for cash. If your honour will take them I will give 10 per cent. off which is another attraction, the list with them of which your honours orders will receive kind attention from the undersigned who will ever pray for a continuance of satisfaction in all branches.

Your honours humble petitioner,

Sayed Yussouf,

Dealer in Stamps."

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for January 24th gives some interesting details of a speculation in unused West Indian stamps that seems to have resulted in a loss of about 30 per cent. to the speculator. Mr. Willard O. Wylie continues:—

But what of the man or men who speculated? It's the same old story, the story that man does not care to learn. Josh Billings' philosophy contains this quaint device: "Don't profess unless ye know." He might have given similar advice to the man who takes entire panes of Queen's heads and lays them in as an investment. Too many are doing this very thing.

In the same number C. A. Howe has a highly interesting article on the "Stamps of Trinidad," and Charles H. Fowle writes of the adventures of "Undooley Abroad," from which we gather that the staid and solemn members of the L.P.S. do occasionally unbend—or else are *Fowlely* libelled.

From *The Adhesive* for January:—

Note from "A Visit to a Great Stamp Dealer's House in 1905": "In the catalogue room a short-sighted individual resembling Sherlock Holmes, turned out to be the man who discovers minor varieties. Each new issue of a stamp that comes out is handed over to him and he is required to find at least one error in each. The error must be one that can be found on only a few of the issue, so that the firm can set a fancy price on it."

In *Mekeel's Stamp Collector* for December 17th Mr. Nankivell replies in characteristic fashion to the accusation made by "Oliver Crinkle" on pages 466-8 of the October number of that paper, that he was the high priest and prophet of the speculative school. It is difficult to quote from Mr. Nankivell's breezy paper, in which, as might be expected, he proves that his remarks were intended for the guidance of collectors and not for speculators. These latter he refers to in the following manner:—

Your reckless bounders who are given to plunging cannot be kept out of stamp collecting. Their presence irritates the genuine collector, but it does not drive him out of stamp collecting. Too much by far is made out of the mere speculator. Poor devil! even he has his uses. He can lay up common stamps by the thousand (as he does when the dealer cannot) that he may unload them years afterwards, in mint state, without fee or reward of profit, for economical distribution amongst needy collectors.

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for March 7th appears in a very elaborate cover emblematic of "World-Wide Philately." On the first page we have a plate labelled "A Bouquet of American Beauties," consisting of the following:—

No.	DESCRIPTION.	OWNER.
1.	Tête-bêche, France (15c. Empire unused) ...	M. H. Lombard, Mass.
2.	Pair Hawaiians (1c. numerals unused, the right-hand stamp having only HA of the inscription "Hawaiian Postage") ...	F. M. Crehore, Mass.
3.	Pair Newfoundland ...	Alex. Hoiland, N.Y.
4.	Livingstone, Ga. (all on) ...	D. N. Pickman, Mass.
5.	Baton Rouge, 5c. en- ...	Sam. Schenker, Texas.
6.	Baton Rouge, 2c. (tires) ...	F. C. Foster, Mass.
7.	Straits Settlements ...	W. H. Randall, Mass.
8.	Rhodesia, ½ ...	C. A. Howes, Mass.
9.	N. S. Shilling ...	J. N. Luff, N.Y.
10.	South Australia (4d. blue—i.e., without surcharge 3 pence) ...	G. H. Worthington, Ohio.
11.	British Guiana (1856, 4c. black on rose unused) ...	P. F. Bruner, N.Y.
12.	Millbury (on entire) ...	F. J. Dutcher, Mass.
13.	New Brunswick (5c. "Connell" unused) ...	L. I. Green, Mass.
14.	Canada, 12p., unused pair ...	W. H. Sussdorff, N.Y.
15.	Madeira, 5c., 1d. issue unused ...	E. M. Carpenter, Mass.
16.	Ceylon, 8d. imperf. unused ...	C. F. Rothfuchs, Mass.
17.	Canada, 6p. block of 4 unused ...	H. J. Crocker, Cal.

Truly a nice lot, and well calculated to inspire kleptomaniac desires in the most virtuous philatelist.

Mr. C. A. Howes has an interesting article dealing with "Political Changes Shown by South African Stamps," in which he compares a map of Africa published in the middle of last century with one of the continent as it is at the present time.

"Undooley en Route" is as amusing as ever. We quote a few of his remarks on kings in general. Speaking of Berlin he says—

Finn, it's a glorious place, an' the beer is most as good as Milwaukee. It's jist hivingly! You should see the gardens here, not market gardens, me boy, but the beer gardens. Ye sit down at a table, hav' ye drink, hear the concert by the finest musicians in the wurruuld, hav' several more drinks, see all the style of the village, foine dresses, big min in uniforms, general's an' kerneis an' iverything grand for an hour or two, an' whin ye pay ye bill ye hav' spent, if ye are rale divilish, about a quarter of a dollar. The same thing in Ameriky wul cost ye dollars, an' somebody wud pinch ye watch before ye got out.

I met the Kaiser in Berlin, but he did not know it. I hav' his photygraf wid his autygraf on the back ov it. I bought it in wan of the stores, an' the clerk writ the autygraf for me. It will be a foine thing to hand down to posterity.

Again—

The Durbar was a sort of cross between the Wurruld's Fair an' a St. Patrick's Day parade.

The following is rather hard upon the current Afghan stamps, which are called

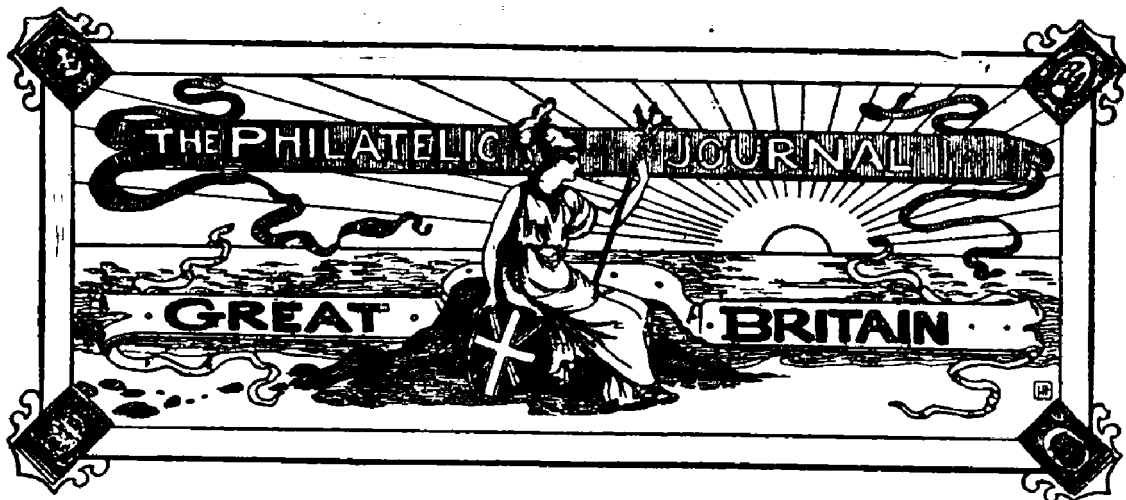
Native Indian shtamps which look as if they were made with a broken stencil by a cross-eyed Hindoo, who was a worshipper at the shrine of St. Vitus during one of his worst spells. They are very valuable as examples of what a good engraver should avoid.

"A Day with London Dealers" has already been referred to.

Mr. S. C. Marcuse has an article advocating "The Collecting of Original Covers," which he apparently thinks are more desirable if they have been addressed to him. While there is undoubtedly much to be said in favour of leaving the stamp on the cover, we fear that Philately would not be the eventual gainer were most collectors to follow Mr. Marcuse's example and to worry people all over the world for stamps.

Among the many other interesting articles special mention should be made of Mr. T. H. Hinton's "Philately in England, Past and Present: A Retrospect and a Review," and Mr. Alex. Holland's notes on "The Reconstruction of Plates." It is a pity Mr. Holland has omitted to give the name and address of the dealer referred to in the following anecdote:—

A rather amusing and profitable experience some years ago may amuse some of the readers of the WEEKLY, in connection with the Great Britain 1 penny black, 1840 issue. I was looking for certain letters to complete my plate, and in going through a dealer's stock I noticed he had a small envelope containing six or eight in the large packet which held his stock. This small envelope was marked "O rare," and on examination I found that all the stamps had an "O" in the lower left-hand corner, but were not especially fine specimens. I asked what was meant by the "O rare," and he explained that all those stamps with "O" on were rare, and he wanted double catalogue for them. Even when I offered to supply him a large number at a little over catalogue he still held to his faith in "rare O's," but I explained to him that, so far as the number printed was concerned, there were just as many O's as N's or P's, and it was hardly to be supposed that the greater part of the stamps bearing the letter O in one corner had been destroyed, leaving all the surrounding stamps fit for use. He finally admitted the O's to be as common as the others, and picked out of his little envelope the best specimen, gave it to me with his compliments, put the rest with his other 1 penny blacks, tore up the envelope, and would hardly accept my thanks for the one he had given me; and even when I showed him it was a dirty copy of the rare V.R. he said it was mine. It cleaned up into a very pretty copy.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the Northern, Sheffield, and Scottish Philatelic Societies, and the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 148. VOL. XIII.

APRIL 30, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 40.—MR. M. Z. KUTTNER.

I started collecting at the age of four or five, and my earliest recollection is of a green glass vase, in which I carefully rammed down twenty or thirty Continentals which then formed my collection. This vase, by the way, is still in my possession, though the rarities have departed. The next thing I can remember about my collection is that it was contained in one of those small, square, blank books with ruled squares, which most old collectors will recollect. In this the stamps were firmly fixed till they numbered about 280. A big investment of 5- yielded sufficient varieties to bring the collection up to about 550, when it was thought worth being transferred to an Oppen's Album. I may say here that, although my people are German and my name is German, I consider myself thoroughly English, as I was born in Fleet Street, and, except for about three years, when I lived at Streatham, I have always lived well within the four-mile radius. At the first



school I went to—Stationers' School, then situated in Bolt Street, Fleet Street—I well remember obtaining two stamps which I reckoned among my greatest treasures. One was the 15 bani Roumania of 1869, the value of which was not at the time lessened in my eyes by the fact that it had most of its corners off. The other stamp was the 1 scudo Papal States, which I kept for about ten years with the utmost care, only to find that it was a forgery. Soon after going to the City of London School I found that I must have had the finest collection in the school, and you can imagine my joy when the editors of the School Magazine spoke of offering a prize for the best collection of stamps; but nothing further was, however, done. About the time I left the school I had a joint collection with my cousin, and we sometimes spent as much as 1/6 at a time. Finally, I bought him out for 30/- About 15 years ago my collection was a very fair one for that period, containing about 4,000 varieties altogether, exclusive of shades and watermarks. Many of my rarer stamps had been obtained from a collection which a friend of mine had bought for about five pounds and

allowed me to pick over. At 1/6 each I got stamps such as the 5/- Barbados, India 4 annas, first issue, unused, showing all the rosettes, both varieties of the 1/- Virgin Isles, and many others equally good. For the 96 cents British Guiana I had to pay 3/-, as its unused face value appeared to be more! Afterwards I decided, for health's sake, to give up stamp collecting and go in for athletics, so I sold a great part of the stamps, thinking myself very lucky to get about 3/6 each for those that had cost me 1/6. I have been connected with various athletic clubs, including the South London Harriers and the London Athletic Club. Walking races of about seven miles was the branch of athletics in which I was most successful. I have represented the South London Harriers at one time or another in most, I believe, of their matches except the Southern Counties Cross-Country Championship without very much success. On the other hand, I had the distinction (?) of finishing last in the National Cross-Country Championship for two years in succession.

About 1885 I was induced by a friend of mine, Mr. A. Hogan, to start collecting again, and we collected together for some time. After that I continued collecting on my own account and eventually devoted my energies for about seven years to specialising in the stamps of South Australia, of which I believe I had the most complete collection in existence. I received a silver medal at the Manchester Exhibition. But I was obliged a year or two ago to dispose of them, the collection realising a sum nearly approaching four figures. Since then I have done comparatively little. I have a small special collection in common with my friend Mr. Hogan, and I have a small general collection, which I use mainly for journalistic purposes.

I have written a number of articles and notes on stamps for Messrs. Cassell and Co., notably for *Cassell's Saturday Journal* and *Chums*, in which latter paper an illustrated series of mine is running at the present time. I have also had the distinction of running the ill-fated *Auction Reporter* in connection with Mr. F. A. Wickhart. About three years ago a series of articles which I wrote on the Stamps of South Australia was published in this journal, while recently I also had the honour of editing the *P. J. of G. B.* for a few months.

[The above data were extracted in piecemeal from Mr. Kuttner when he called on our publishers recently on other business. When we heard all the facts of his philatelic career our victim could hardly withhold the photograph.—Ed. *P. J. of G. B.*]

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

FINLAND.

(Continued.)

The stamps of this issue were used for foreign correspondence, while for domestic use the issue of 1890 continued in issue.

1891.

Perf. 14 by 14½ for the 1 kopec to 50 kopecs, and 13½ for the 1, 3½ and 7 roubles.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 kopec, orange yellow ...	1	1
2 " yellow green ...	1½	2
3 " rose ...	2	3
4 " " ...	3	3
7 " indigo ...	5	4
10 " " ...	10	5
14 " blue and red ...	1 3	6
20 " " ...	1 3	9
35 " purple and green ...	3 3	—
50 " " ...	2 9	2 0
1 rouble, brown and orange ...	6 0	2 9
3½ " grey and black ...	25 0	—
7 " yellow and black ...	40 0	—

1897.

ERROR.—The 3½ roubles printed in the colour of the 7 roubles.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3½ rouble, yellow and black	—	—

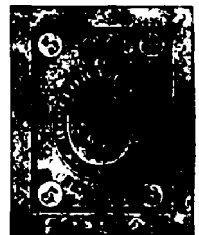
As mentioned above, the issues of 1890 and of 1891 were used concurrently, and in 1895 several values of the former type were issued in an altered perforation—viz., 14 by 13.

1895.

Types of 1890. Perf. 14 by 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 penni, green ...	—	3
10 " rose ...	—	3
20 " orange-yellow ...	—	3
25 " ultramarine ...	—	6
25 " blue ...	—	8

Another issue, modelled on the current issue of Russia, was made in 1901; but with the values expressed in penni and marks instead



of kopecs and roubles. The 2 and 5 penni are in the same type, having the amount of value

in the four corners; the 10 and 20 penni are as shown, and the 1 and 2 mark values have separate



designs, the latter being large, rectangular in shape, and so much like the 3½ roubles of Russia that it might easily be mistaken for it.

1901.

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

FRANCE.

Stamps were adopted in France nearly nine years after their first appearance in England. They were issued during the time of the first Republic, and the design, which is beautiful, simple and effective, was a head of Ceres, emblematic of Liberty. It was engraved by M. Barre, of the Paris Mint, and the stamps were manufactured and printed by M. Hulot. The printing plates were made by the electrotype process, which had already been effectively employed by M. Hulot in the manufacture of the French Bank notes. The plates were rather large, consisting of 300 stamps, and it is curious that on that of each value, except the 40c., there is one inverted die, and therefore the stamps are found *tête-bêche*. It is not known whether this was done by accident or design, but it was most likely the former, as, when a new plate for the 20c. was prepared in 1850, no less than three inverted dies crept in. The stamps were issued in the following order:—the 20c. and 1fr., orange, on January 1st, 1849; the 40c. in February, 1850; and the 10c., 15c., and 25c. in 1850. At the end of 1849, to prevent clashing with the 40c. which was about to be issued, the colour of the 1fr. was changed from orange to carmine or deep red.



Early in 1850 the authorities found that the colour black was unsuitable for a stamp, as the postmark did not

show up well on it, and it was decided to change the colour of the 20c. to blue. For this purpose a new plate was prepared, as is evidenced by the fact of its showing *three tête-bêche* varieties. This stamp, however, was never required, as, owing to a serious falling off in the postal revenue, the rate for letters in France was raised from 20c. to 25c. by decree of May 18th, which came into effect on July 1st, 1850. Then, as we are authoritatively told by Count Paul Durrieu, in a note over an entire sheet of these stamps in his collection, "the printing of the 20c. blue was stopped, and the sheets already printed were destroyed, with very few exceptions, without having been put in use." Notwithstanding this, copies of these stamps, which are frequently referred to as errors, are known with apparently genuine postmarks, and it seems reasonable to suppose that a sheet or more may have been accidentally mixed with the 25c. blue which was subsequently issued. The alteration in the postal rate gave rise to another variety, which was prepared but never issued.

A few sheets of the 20c. blue were surcharged "25c." in vermilion, as it was feared that the new stamps of 25c. would not be ready by the 1st of July. However, as it turned out the stamps were ready and the provisionals not required. Only one original copy of this surcharged stamp is known to exist, and even the reprints which were made in 1862 are of extreme rarity.

There is a variety of the 40 centimes in which the figure "4" is wider than in the ordinary specimens. This occurs twice in the bottom row of the left-hand portion of the sheet.

1849-50.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 centimes, bistre (shades)	9 0	4 6
15 " green	—	10 0
a. 15c., yellow-green	—	10 0
20 centimes, black	—	3 3
a. 20c., black on yellowish	2 0	3 3
25 centimes, dark blue	—	3 3
a. 25c., dull blue	—	3 3
b. 25c. blue	—	3 3
40 centimes, orange	—	2 6
a. 40c., deep orange	16 0	2 6
1 franc, orange (shades)	—	—
1 " carmine	—	5 0
a. 1fr., deep carmine	—	5 0
b. 1fr., carmine-brown	—	5 0

Reprints.—All values were reprinted in 1862, including the 20c. blue and the 25c. on 20c.,—the two stamps that were never issued. The reprints were all on white paper, with white instead of yellowish or brownish gum, and printed in colours that were in use at that time, which vary considerably in tone from those of the original stamp. The 20c. was reprinted on buff as well as on white paper.

The *tête-bêche* varieties were corrected for the reprinting.

Early in January of the year 1851, Prince Louis Napoleon having been installed as President of the Republic in the previous month, a law was passed allowing the head of the President to displace the head of Ceres, and later in the year the 15c. and 25c. appeared with this alteration, the frame of the design remaining unaltered. The new head was drawn by M. Barre, and his initial can generally be plainly seen beneath the bust.



1852.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10c., bistre (shades)	—	—	8	0
25c., blue	—	—	—	3
25c., deep blue	—	—	—	3

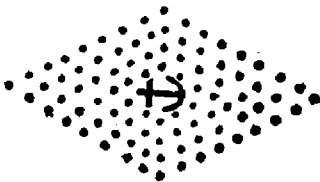
Reprints.—Both values were reprinted in 1862 at the same time as those of the first issue. The colours were the same as those then used for the stamps in use and differ from the originals. Printed on white paper, with white gum.

After the proclamation of Louis Napoleon as Emperor in December, 1851, the inscriptions on the stamps were altered from "Empire Franc" to "Répub. Franc," but the stocks of the old stamps were first used up, and so it was not until the latter part of the year that the 10c., 40c., and 1fr. appeared with the altered inscription, and the other values were not issued till some time later. In 1854 the rate for *prepaid* letters sent from one town to another was again reduced to 20c., while that for un-

paid letters was raised to 30c. Consequently, a new stamp of 20c. had to be issued, and the 25c. value was, at the same time, withdrawn. Other values were added to the set as follows:—5c. (for printed matter) in 1854 and 1c. (for circulars) in 1859.

The diamond-shaped postmark, formed of dots, with an anchor in the centre, was used for letters posted on board vessels of the Imperial Messageries. Many collectors of French stamps make special collections of specimens obliterated in this manner.

(To be continued.)



Correspondence.

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Ph. J. of G. B.*

Dear Sir,—You ask for reader's views *re* Mr. Corfield's letter on this matter. Mine are here, but they cannot be stated clearly in a few lines, as one must consider first principles. As there is no actual or written law (I wish there was), the cataloguers can hardly be placed in the position of magistrates administering what does not exist.

What are stamps? Are they not paper money to use for payment of the postage of letters, &c., for any part of the world, which was formerly paid in cash; and are they not used in millions to pay small accounts every year? If so, they ought to bear on their face an indication of authority in the form of a Ruler's head, Arms, or other national emblem, as used on the coinage. Next—what are commemorations? Do they not usually take the form of a statue, tablet, building, or other solid, permanent memorial, erected in the country of origin by voluntary subscriptions, aided in some cases by Government grants? But commemoration of a local event by bits of paper distributed the world over, which the receivers have to pay about a million per cent. over cost for, is ridiculous. The subject being peculiar to the country that wishes for it should be paid for by, and confined to, the inhabitants thereof. If this rule were acted upon, does any sane person suppose the Bulgarians would have bought enough stamps to pay for the cost of engraving and printing? Is there one in 1,000 Bulgarians that has such stamps in his possession as a memorial? I trow not.

Is there the slightest ground for supposing that in the six days those labels were authorised to pay *local* postage, that six per cent. of the numbers printed were so used, or even retained in the country? I say—No. Will they pay postage now? No!

Lest anyone should retort on me that England was one of the first to make a commemorative issue, I will say that is no justification. If the principle is wrong, the fact that my own country has done a wrong thing does not make it right for others to do likewise. But did we do any such thing? Decidedly not. A card was issued, also a fancy

envelope six weeks later, to commemorate fifty years of penny postage stamps. The stamps printed thereon were those *in use at the time* for paying postage and are *still valid* for that purpose. The buyers paid 1d. for postage, and 5d. or 11d. extra for a charitable purpose. If they did not use the stamps, that was their affair. The official authority did not make money out of the commemoration for postal revenue. The bulk of them are still in this country; they were not shipped by millions or even 100,000 to all parts of the world to make money out of stamp collectors, and speculators cannot now obtain original cost.

A philatelic publisher or stamp dealer is no more bound to catalogue Commemoratives than he is to buy or sell them, or local stamps, Borneos or Seebecks—the latter, in fact, are genuine postal emissions compared with the others, as no others were in postal use at the time, and they were available for postage to any part of the world.

Yours faithfully,

B. W. WARHURST.

Chelsea. April 9th, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *P. J. of G. B.*

Dear Sir,—I have read Mr. Corfield's letter published in the March number with much interest, as I am following your "Descriptive Catalogue of European Stamps" with keen appreciation. I must say that I agree with all the points referred to by Mr. Corfield. I specialise, and am particularly interested in, the stamps of Bulgaria, and although I abhor with contempt all commemorative issues, I feel bound to admit those of Bulgaria; though who, for instance, wants to remember the struggle depicted on those miserable commemorations of last year? But they represent an issue, necessary or not, temporary or otherwise, and no country could be called complete without specimens of them. So, too, with regard to the Catalogue, it cannot be regarded as complete unless some notice is taken of them. It would indeed be very easy and much fairer, I think, to adopt Mr. Corfield's suggestion and put all the commemorative issues together at the end of their respective countries under a sub-heading of "Temporary and Unnecessary Issues."

Speaking of Unnecessary Issues, I am inclined to think that there are many other, besides commemoratives that could be listed under the same head, for many stamps are issued, perhaps for a few months only, and then the colour is changed or some other slight alteration made; and thus we have another

stamp which might very well have been avoided, I think, if a little more consideration and forethought had been exercised. Take, for instance, the 1/- and 2/- King's Head Transvaal

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE R. SMITH.

Redhill, April, 1903.

A PECULIAR CASE FROM NEW ZEALAND.

—:O:—

After a hearing of three days, in the Supreme Court of New Zealand, Walter E. Rose, a stamp dealer, of Wellington, New Zealand, was last month sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for stealing stamps from another dealer, Mr. C. G. Fryer. The case presented some peculiar features. Rose was a personal friend of Fryer's and abused his confidence to the extent of taking a wax impression of his latch-key. With the new key thus obtained he entered Fryer premises in his absence and took stamps to the value of £150, together with a gold watch and a gold seal.

The lost stamps were afterwards traced to Rose, but the question of their identification in Court took up much time. The case was, however, proved to the hilt, with the result as stated above.

THE ANTE-STAMP PERIOD.

—:O:—

Memory tells of old ante-stamp days,
Postal exactions on letters a craze,
And frenzied joy-bursts that hailed a new
scheme,
As old ways vanished, dissolved like a dream.

Weighty imposts on intelligence flown:
Brisk were the budgets of village and town.
The known world was plied with flow'rs of
romance,
Home news, the fashions, and throes of
finance.

Whither, weary wanderer, will you find now
Ante-stamp mortals whose works they'd
avow?

For once and ever the dear system slept,
Forgiven, forgotten, unhallowed, unwept.

THEN AND NOW.

GREX.



April, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

NOTICES.

The sixth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Wednesday, April 8th, when there were present H. L. Hayman (in the chair), W. Schwarte, J. C. Sidebotham, W. S. King, J. E. Joselin, L. W. Fulcher, Dr. Marx, M.A., the Hon. Sec., and one visitor, (Mr. W. V. Morten). Mr. Hayman gave a display and description of his superb collection of British East Africa. Mr. J. E. Joselin followed with a display and paper on Indian States Surcharged Issues. Both displays were much appreciated by all present, and a hearty vote of thanks to both gentlemen was unanimously accorded.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting and election of officers and committee for the ensuing year will take place at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Wednesday, May 13th, at 8 p.m. At this meeting the result of the Prize Essay Competition will be announced, and the successful essays read. It is hoped that all members, who can possibly do so, will attend and show their interest in the Society and its work.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The attention of those members who have not yet forwarded their subscriptions is again called to the notice in last report.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.

5, Paultons Square, Chelsea, London, S.W.
April 29, 1903.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

—:O:—

At the usual monthly meeting held on April 13th, the Secretary reported having received from Mons. Paul Mirabaud, Paris, a copy of his monumental work on the stamps of Switzerland as a gift to the Library. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded M. Mirabaud for his handsome gift, and on the motion of the President, seconded by the Vice-President, he was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of the society.

Gifts of Forgeries to the society's collection, including many entire sheets, were received from Mr. F. Leake, Scarborough.

Mr. J. P. Hardie, Edinburgh, was unanimously elected an Ordinary Member.

Mr. John Walker gave a fine display of the stamps of Barbados, Nevis, St. Vincent, &c. The St. Vincent provisionals were exceptionally attractive, and included the rare 1d. on

half of 6d. blue-green and several copies of the 4d. on 1/- vermilion, the latter on parts of originals.

Exchange Branch.—The February packet had been received back from circulation, and all sheets with remittances had been returned the same day. The April packet was despatched on the 1st inst., with twenty-two sheets value £99 9s. 2½d. net.

The meeting adjourned till the second Monday in September.

T. A. MCINTYRE,
Hon. Sec.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

—:O:—

The members of this society met at the Wharncliffe Hotel on Wednesday evening, April 1st, to listen to papers on Holland and Turkey by Mr. J. B. Chapman and Mr. J. Nowill, the President. Mr. Chapman, in commencing, expressed a warm regard for Dutch people and their country, and said that on his various travels in Holland he had sometimes found himself in some quaint old town to which an air of mediævalism still seemed to cling. To the philatelist, however, Holland commences its history in the year 1852, when its first postage stamps were issued. The first issue bore the effigy of the King, and consisted of three values—5, 10 and 15 cents: watermark, a horn. After various changes, in 1891 the stamps bearing the effigy of the young Queen Wilhelmina appeared, and in the last issue of 1898 are found values from 1/2c. up to 5 gulden and of exquisite design. Mr. Chapman referred to the *TE BETALEM* stamps and the colonial stamps, and exhibited a collection which contained, with very few exceptions, every known stamp issued by Holland.

Mr. Nowill then gave some very interesting information on Turkey, a country which he has visited. Turkey is unique amongst European countries in allowing other nations to establish their own offices for the transaction of postal business; but, as Mr. Nowill explained, this is a boon to business people, as there is no suspicion of despatch in the postal arrangements controlled by the Turkish authorities. The first office for the transmission of letters was established by an Austrian company in 1835. Mr. Nowill exhibited a copy of the first postage stamp, designed and produced in France, which when submitted to the Turkish Government was refused and never adopted. Postage stamps were introduced in 1855 during the Crimean War, but it was not

until 1863 that they were adopted throughout the empire. The interest in Mr. Nowill's subject was enhanced by a large number of photographs. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to both lecturers.

New Leaves to Cut.

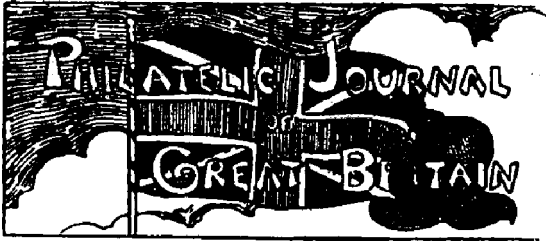
WHITFIELD KING & Co.'s NEW CATALOGUE.

The fourth edition of this popular catalogue arrived too late for notice in our last number.

In the preface we find the key to the alterations and improvements which have been made as compared with the previous edition. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.'s catalogue is beloved of all collectors who do not care for varieties of perforation, the only differences which find expression in the lists are "imperforate," "perforated," and "rouletted." We sometimes wonder which variety we should get if we ordered a set of the first issue of Gold Coast; apparently it would be a mere matter of chance whether they would be perf. 12½ or 14! The publishers are a trifle more expansive on the subject of watermarks and surcharges, and in this edition, as explained in the preface, it has been found necessary to extend the lists in some cases, with the result that Bavaria, Belgium, Brazil, Newfoundland, New Republic, Oil Rivers, Switzerland, and other countries have been entirely re-written.

In accordance with their custom Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. publish a compilation of the number of varieties of stamps which have been issued in the entire world up to February of this year. The grand total is 17,382, of which 4,758 are apportioned to Great Britain and Colonies and 12,624 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 3,917, Asia 3,120, Africa 3,342, America 4,214, the West Indies 1,411, and Oceania 1,378. The Republic of Salvador has issued the greatest number of varieties, and Boyaca, Poland and Wadwham the smallest. Of course, these figures refer to standard varieties only."

The prices throughout the book seem moderate, and there is a price affixed to almost every stamp, though "in the case of great rarities the prices are merely given for the information of the collector desirous of knowing the value of any particular stamp." Unfortunately, in the case of some of these and also of many of the medium rarities the prices are very misleading, and this, we think, is the weak point of the catalogue. In all other respects we can strongly recommend it to the notice of every general collector.



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Concerning Official Stamps.

OFFICIAL stamps are very much in the public eye just now, and the question as to how they will be regarded by the collectors of the future is an interesting one. If official and departmental stamps only increased in the same ratio as up to the beginning of this century they would be accepted by general collectors without inquiry and without hesitation, but the multiplicity of varieties during the last two or three years in this country and in other parts of the world have set many people thinking. For specialists the numerous departmental stamps of Great Britain will always be interesting, and their collection will be necessary to a complete show of our country's stamps, but many general collectors and even "limited specialists" will soon, we imagine, regard official stamps as an offshoot of philately which they can conveniently ignore without detriment to their collections.

The list of British officials has just recently been lengthened by the addition of the six lowest values of the current set, surcharged

"Admiralty—Official." This is the initiation of a seventh group of official stamps for use in Great Britain, and goodness knows how much further the system will be extended. Why should any department of the State be left out in the cold? Why not officials for the Boards of Agriculture and of Trade, for the Treasury, for the Law, for his Majesty's prisons, and for Colony Hatch? It is true that the Board of Trade has already used stamps *perforated* with the initials of the department, but by an unwritten law varieties of that nature are ignored by collectors.

Much activity is being displayed in a similar direction in Australia, but it is said that the stamps will be made official by the perforation of initials, as in the case of the Board of Trade mentioned above, so collectors, presumably, will not trouble about them. Their status will be the same as that of the old Western Australians, which were punched so as to leave a circular hole on each stamp for official use.

A study of the official stamps of the world reveals many curiosities and contradictions, and taken by themselves would be found sufficiently interesting to make them worthy the attention of a jaded specialist who is sighing for some field of study which has not been overrun by others. From the table published below it will be seen that there are over 1,200 main varieties of all countries, though if perforations, small variations of type, errors, and inversions of overprints were taken into account they would add up to two or three hundred more. The total number of those given in Gibbons' Catalogue is 1,581. The numberless departmental stamps of South Australia are not included in this total; their inclusion would bring the number much nearer to 2,000. In the majority of places no officials have been found necessary, but forty-eight different countries have contributed to this number, though this includes ten of the native States of India, which between them contribute 110 varieties to the total. Nicaragua with 111 and Salvador with 107 varieties have more than their fair share. Luxemburg also figures boldly in the list, while the United States, considering all the stamps were issued at the same time and were not in use a long time, shows up very well with ninety-two different varieties. On the other hand Egypt sets a very good example with only one official stamp which has served the country well for a number of years. Denmark, Sweden and Iceland hold very respectable records in this respect. Among the first countries to adopt official stamps, they have continued to use them ever since, yet without requiring a large

number of varieties, Denmark for over thirty years being content with but ten different kinds.

The black "VR" English stamp ought to have been the first official, but as it was never issued, or used, it hardly attains to that dignity which was therefore conferred upon Spain in 1854, when the four quaint-looking labels with values expressed in *avoirdupois* were issued. This set was superseded by one in a different type the following year, but when that was dropped the world did not again gaze upon official stamps until the ball was set rolling again by India in 1866. South Australia then took up the tale, in 1870, followed by the North German Confederation in the same year. After this date other countries began to follow suit more frequently—Great Britain did not start until 1882, and was then content for many years with only a few varieties. It was not, indeed, until within the last two years that the expansion became at all remarkable. It is easy to see that at the present rate the official stamps will in a few years outnumber the ordinary ones in this country, for every new issue will bring five or six times as many officials in its train.

The following list shows which countries have issued official stamps, and the dates when they first appeared, with the number of main varieties. Most of the stamps are distinguished by a surcharge, though the fashion in recent years seems to be to issue entirely separate designs.

Those countries which have ceased to issue official stamps are marked with an asterisk:—

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Name of Country.	Date First Issued.	No. of Varieties.
Great Britain ...	... 1882 ...	67
*British Guiana ...	... 1875 ...	10
Ceylon ...	... 1895 ...	11
India ...	... 1866 ...	37
<i>Chamba</i> ...	12	
<i>Faridkot</i> ...	9	
<i>Gwalior</i> ...	6	
<i>Jhind</i> ...	11	
<i>Nabha</i> ...	15	
<i>Puttialla</i> ...	16	
<i>Hyderabad</i> ...	20	
<i>Kashmir</i> ...	6	
<i>Poonch</i> ...	5	
<i>Sirmoor</i> ...	10	
	110 ...	110
*Jamaica... ...	... 1890 ...	5
New South Wales ...	... 1880 ...	34
New Zealand ...	... 1887 ...	14

†South Australia ...	1874 ...	31
† Includes O. S. varieties only.		
*Perak ...	... 1890 ...	11
*Tonga ...	... 1893 ...	10
*Trinidad ...	... 1894 ...	7

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Argentine ...	... 1884 ...	28
*Costa Rica ...	... 1883 ...	25
Denmark ...	... 1871 ...	10
Iceland... ...	... 1873 ...	21
Dominican Repub. ...	... 1902 ...	4
Ecuador ...	... 1886 ...	60
Egypt ...	... 1892 ...	1
German Empire ...	... 1903 ...	9
*Guatemala ...	... 1899 ...	1
*Hawaii ...	... 1896 ...	6
*Honduras ...	... 1890 ...	22
*Italy ...	... 1875 ...	8
Liberia ...	... 1892 ...	39
Luxemburg ...	... 1875 ...	83
Mexico ...	... 1884 ...	32
Nicaragua ...	... 1890 ...	111
North German Confed. ...	1870 ...	9
Paraguay ...	... 1886 ...	34
Persia... ...	... 1902 ...	15
Peru ...	... 1889 ...	21
Salvador ...	... 1896 ...	107
Spain ...	... 1854 ...	13
Sweden ...	... 1874 ...	16
*United States ...	... 1873 ...	92
Uruguay ...	... 1880 ...	80
Venezuela ...	... 1898 ...	12
Wurtemberg ...	... 1875 ...	20

Grand total ... 1,228

The last named still uses official stamps, though its ordinary stamps have given place to those of the German Empire.

Notes by the Way.

THE *Weekly Philatelic Era*, a trans-Atlantic contemporary, has heard the report that the current British stamps are to be altered because the portrait of the King is not considered satisfactory. We do not hear so much about the rumour in England just at present, but that the design will be altered *sometime* (unless the millennium intervenes) there can be no doubt. We do not remember to have seen a new issue of any country about which the same rumours have not floated, and we are getting so used to them now that we take no notice. But the *W. Ph. Era* is much perturbed and fears that all the British Colonial sets will be changed again too. In the course of the remarks the

Era says that though at one time British Colonials were thought a great deal of by collectors, now that such mole-hills as Grenada, Gold Coast, St. Helena, and St. Vincent have started catering solely for collectors (!) they have fallen to the level of Portugal, French Colonies. What a wonderful knowledge of philately the writer of these remarks must have!

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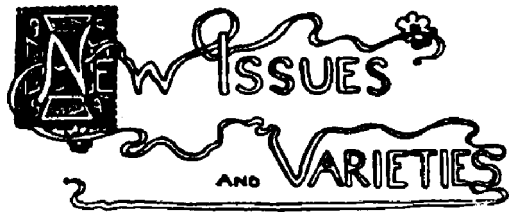
Here are some good tests for distinguishing the lithographed and typographed 15 centimes unpaid-letter stamp of France. Even fairly advanced collectors are frequently at a loss to tell the difference between the two. The principal difference is in the shape of the figure "5." In the typographed stamp the upper and lower curves of the figure are well apart, but in the lithograph they appear to touch. In the former stamp the word CENTIMES is in smaller letters than in the litho, while on the other hand the words POSTES on either side are in larger letters. Another good test is in the accent on the word "à" in the central inscription. If this is nearly vertical the stamp is typographed, but if it is nearly horizontal it is lithographed. Too much reliance cannot be placed on the latter test unfortunately, as the accent is very small and can easily be altered in ink by an unscrupulous person, while in very many cases it is covered by the post-mark.

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"G. H." sends us the following specimen of English as written by a Danish inventor:—"Stamp-hinges of my own fabricate, they are thin, strong, flexible, and good gummied with clear innocent gum. My stamp-hinges are surely the best and the most equitable, who ever have existed.—I seek salers for my stamp-hinges." An admirable example this of the Best Danish. So buttery.

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A warning is issued by the Stamp Trade Protection Association against forged stamps of Zululand—surcharged on English. These have been made in quantities on the Continent and are finding their way across the Channel.



BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain. The "Admiralty Officials," with the overprint in two lines, made their appearance on April 1st, as announced by us in our February number. Six adhesives have been issued, and, so we learn from the *London Philatelist*, the Registration envelope and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. postcard. From the number of used specimens of the adhesives that we have seen we should think these will be among the commonest of the British official stamps.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	$\frac{1}{4}$ d. green.
	id. scarlet.
	$\frac{1}{4}$ d. purple and green.
	2d. green and scarlet.
	$\frac{2}{4}$ d. ultramarine.
	3d. brown on yellow.
<i>Reg. Env.</i>	3d. brown.
<i>Post-card.</i>	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. green.

Aitutaki. A rumour is current to the effect that an island bearing this name—one of the Cook Islands group—is to be supplied with a set of the current New Zealand stamps, surcharged with the name, as in the case of the Niué and Penrhyn Islands. So long as stamp dealers import these sort of novelties we may expect to see most of the Pacific volcanoes and coral reefs issuing stamps of the sort; but the absurdity of the thing will, we hope, some day bring collectors and dealers alike to regard such unnecessary surcharges in the proper light.

Bermuda. A correspondent kindly sends us a new registration envelope which has just been issued. The centre of the design of the stamp bears the Arms of the colony (as on the current 1d. adhesive), embossed.

Reg. Env. 2d. blue.

Bardados. The 2/6 has been changed in colour, so we learn from *Der Philatelist*, but as the copy from which this is chronicled was a specimen sent to the Postal Union it may possibly be some time before it is issued.

Adhesive. 2/6 lilac and green.

Canada. Mr. Nankivell describes the design of the forthcoming new stamps in the *Connoisseur*. He says:—"The general design is very much the same as the current series—severely simple. The figures of value also appear, as before, in the lower corners,

but in a slightly more elaborate setting. The portrait, which is the real item of import in the design, is a very pleasant presentation of the King, with shoulders draped in Coronation robes. The view of the face is very much the same as that of the Queen on the current Canadians. The portrait is effective and true and at once recognisable. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., of Fleet Street, E.C., have engraved the die, but they are not to be the printers, for the Canadian Government has a contract with the American Bank Note Company of New York. That company designed the double portrait jubilee issue for Canada, and to secure the printing of the stamps agreed to erect and equip a stamp printing factory in Canada, and they have ever since 1897 been the specially appointed printers of Canadian stamps."

Ceylon. *Der Philatelist* chronicles the following new King's Head stamps, but we understand that they have not yet been issued:—

Adhesives. 3c., green.
12c., olive-green and carmine.
15c., blue.
25c., buff.
30c., dark lilac and green.

Hong Kong. The following further values of the King's Head set are announced, but presumably they will not be issued until the present stocks of the various values are exhausted. The Head is in the second colour named.

Adhesives. 2c., green.
4c., brown on salmon.
5c., orange and green.
10c., blue and mauve.
20c., brown and black.
30c., black and light green.
50c., lilac and light green.
#1, olive-green and purple.
#2, red and dark grey.
#3, blue and dark grey.
#5, blue-green and mauve.
#10, brown and grey-black on pale blue.

Post-cards. 1c., green on cream
1c. plus 1c., green on cream.
4c., carmine on cream.
4c. plus 4c., carmine on cream.

Envelopes. 2c., green on white.
4c., carmine on white.
5c., pale lilac on white.
10c., ultramarine on white.

Reg. Env. 10c., violet.

Wrappers. 2c., green on buff.
4c., carmine on buff.

India. Chamba. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 3 pies, King's Head, surcharged for use in this State. It is also stated that the right-hand stamp of the last row of the upper pane has a very wide space between the "A" and "T" of "STATE."

Adhesive. 3 pies, grey.

Gwalior. The three King's Head stamps which we chronicled last month have now been issued with the "Service" overprint. With regard to the Queen's Head 1/2a. and 1a.

in pea-green and carmine, which were also listed last month, a correspondent in India informs us that practically all the issue was bought up by one or two speculators.

Official Adhesives. 3 pies, grey.
1/2 anna, green.
1 anna, carmine.

Malta. The *Philatelic Record* records a very notable triumph gained by philatelists over the speculative instincts of a certain class of postmasters. The Postmaster of Malta has been placed on the retired half-pay list owing to his peculiar behaviour with regard to the manipulation of the recent PNEY error and for causing the 2½d. stamps subsequently sold to be ticked with red ink, as described in our issue for October last. It appears Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. wrote to the Colonial Secretary calling his attention to the matter, with the result that an inquiry was held. The matter would, however, have fallen through had not Mr. J. C. North, of Manchester, who happened to be on the spot, attended in person at Valetta and given evidence. This is the first time that a protest by the stamp trade has been attended with such signal success, and we hope the warning will be taken to heart by any other postmasters who may contemplate the accidental issue of errors.

In the meantime two more values of the King's Head set, in the same design as those already chronicled, and illustrated herewith, have made their appearance. The colours of the stamps in this set are more striking than artistic.



Adhesives. 3d., mauve and grey.
1d., violet and grey.

Mauritius. The 5c. has been changed in colour from dull lilac and violet to dull violet and black. It is also reported that the 4c. is to be changed to grey-green and purple.

Adhesive. 5c., dull lilac and black on buff.

Newfoundland. Yet another freak has been found in the current set. We chronicle this on the authority of the *Philatelic Record*.

Adhesive. 1/2c., slate-green, imperf.

New Zealand. *Ewen's* describes the new King's Head letter-card which has recently been issued. It has views on the left side and also on the back. Printed on thin card, tinted green outside.

Letter Card. 1d., chocolate on greenish.

Niue and Penrhyn Island. The sets for these two places have each been enriched by three new values, surcharged in dark blue on current New Zealand stamps. So far as we

can discern, the only error is that made by the printer in repeating the overprint on every stamp on the sheet without making any mistakes. This is surely an achievement?

NEW ZEALAND STAMPS OVERPRINTED.

"Niue" or "Penrhyn Island" in dark blue.
3d., yellow-brown, wmk. NZ and star, perf. 11.
6d., rose
1/-, red

Orange River Colony. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* lists a new value with the head of the King, but does not say whether it is in the same type as the 1d. value which has already appeared.

Adhesive. 4d., greenish-bistre and scarlet.

Seychelles. As will be seen by the accompanying illustration, the new set for these islands shews no variation from the Queen's Head issue beyond the portrait and the insertion of the crown. Though the stamps have not yet appeared, the colours are given as follows:—



Adhesives.

2c., red-brown and green.
3c., blue-green.
6c., rose.
12c., blue-green and dark drab.
15c., ultramarine.
18c., yellow-green and carmine.
30c., green and violet
45c., chocolate and carmine.
75c., violet and orange.
R 1.50, black and carmine.
R 2.25, mauve and green.

Southern Nigeria.—The King's Head set, the design of which we gave an illustration last October, has only just been issued. The values and colours are as follows:—

Adhesives. ½d. grey-black and green.
1d. " carmine.
2d. " orange-brown.
4d. " olive-green.
6d. " mauve.
1/- green and black.
2/- grey-black and brown.
5/- " yellow.
10/- " brown-red on yellow.
20/- green and violet.

Straits Settlements.—Last month we chronicled the King Edward registration envelope as "2d." blue, it should, of course, have been "2 cents." The following post-card is also now in use with the King's head.

Post-cards. 1c. plus 1c. green on cream.

Tasmania.—The perforation of the 1d. and 2d. current issue has been changed from 12 to 11.

Adhesives. 1d. red, perf. 11.
2d. violet, per 11.

Victoria.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles a freak which shows what the new perforating machine can accomplish. It is the ½d. green perforated 12 on three sides and 11 on the fourth.

Western Australia.—More novelties have arrived from this part of the world. There is the 2d. yellow, perf. 11 (which is the gauge of a new machine now in use in Melbourne), and the three new values 8d., 9d., and 10d., which have been expected for some time. The 8d. is in the design of the 1d. West Australia, the 9d. in the same type as the 1/-, and the 10d. is in that of the 2½d. current. These three are all perf. 12½, but it seems very probable that after the first supply is exhausted they will be perforated with the new machine which gauges 11. All are on paper watermarked V and Cr. We understand that all these stamps, together with the 1d. and 2d. of Tasmania, are reproduced by the zinc-etching process, which accounts for their rough appearance.

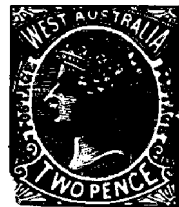
Adhesives. 2d. yellow, perf. 11.
8d. pale green, perf. 12½.
9d. orange, "
10d. vermilion "

Several new articles of stationery have also been introduced recently. They consist of an envelope of 1d. with stamp in the swan type. Registered envelope with stamp of 3d. in

the type here shown. Two wrappers of ½d. and 1d.; a 1½d. reply letter-card with stamp of the design illustrated. We also show the design of the new letter-card mentioned last month. No doubt when new adhesives of these values

are required they will be issued in these designs:—

Envelope. 1d. carmine.
Reg. Env. 3d. claret.
Wrappers. ½d. green.
Post-card. 1½d. plus 1½d. blue.



[Owing to pressure on our space this month the chronicle of New Issues for Foreign Countries is held over till next month.]





April 30, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens with an article on "Collectors and Catalogues," in which the editor considers that—

The time is approaching when catalogue publishers will be utterly unable to issue an all-varieties catalogue, adaptable alike for the printed album collector and the specialist. In the dealers' own interests and to preserve the general collector from decay, we earnestly counsel such an arrangement of the catalogue as shall clearly indicate what stamps the latter has to take.

Mr. A. B. Creeke, Jun., in "A supplement to 'British Isles,'" gives a lot of information which will be gratefully received by the numerous collectors of British stamps.

The latest phase of the Bavarian "reprint" question is summed up in the following extract from a letter from the "General Direction of the Royal Bavarian Posts and Telegraphs," and signed by the head of the department, Herr Bredauer:—

1. The postal authorities are unable to accede to receiving a deputation, it being against official regulations, &c.
2. As the Society, failing the acceptance of their proposals, declined any further discussion, the authorities state that they consider the affair closed, and limit themselves to the following remarks:—
3. The entire stock of stamps sold to Herr Phillip Kosack, of Berlin, were taken from the remainder stock, and are therefore "originals in the technical sense."
4. With respect to a few single specimens sold to Herr Kosack, there were probably a few of the 1 kr., 1867, and 7 kr. (1868), to which the term of original could not apply. The authorities understand that some years ago a small number of these two stamps were reprinted for official purposes, therefore it could not be denied with any certainty that a few of these reprints had become mixed with those sold.
5. It should, however, be expressly pointed out with regard to these reprints that they display a marked difference in shade and gum to those of the "other undoubted remainders of original stamps."
6. Under these circumstances there can be no foundation for statements that "Herr Kosack was putting on the market large quantities of reprints," and in view of these facts all the Bavarian Society's further remarks fell to the ground.

In the *Philatelic Record* Lieutenant F. H. Napier has an article on the Costa Rican stamps overprinted "Guanacaste." The paper deals with the subject in Mr. Napier's well-known thorough manner, and the plate of autotype illustrations is equally excellent.

The notable Philatelist of the month is Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

Mr. J. H. Abbott has a paper on the "Competitive System at Exhibitions," in which he advocates the creation of a Second Division from which all stamps over £2 should be removed from the various exhibits.

Mr. Abbott apparently means "catalogue value," though he does not distinctly say so. This opens a very large question: Which catalogue is to be used? And if one particular dealer's catalogue is employed to the exclusion of others, are we to suppose that this dealer knows the exact values of stamps just on the limit arranged better than every one else? Furthermore, condition surely counts in fixing monetary values.

Philatelic humour is not dead. We have received Nos. 291 to 293 of *Bric-à-Brac*, totalling for the three numbers eight small pages. The chief article appears to be a review of "One & All Gardening, 1903," edited by Edward Owen Greening, whose portrait shares the front page with two smaller ones of the celebrated J. W. Palmer himself.

Alfred Smith and Son's Monthly Circular for April contains an "appreciation" of the late Mr. H. Stafford Smith, written by Mr. Overy Taylor, who, as Mr. Smith's friend since 1856, is particularly qualified to write on the subject.

The *Monthly Journal* opens with another editorial on the everlasting Moldavia case.

Messrs. T. W. Hall and E. D. Bacon commence an extremely interesting article on "The 1861 and 1863 issues of Columbia," which is illustrated with a plate of varieties, &c. Mr. L. Hanciau continues his article on the stamps of Lombardo-Venetia. Mr. H. R. Oldfield publishes a paper on "What is Limited Specialism?" to which Mr. C. J. Phillips appends an "Answer in favour of Unlimited Specialism." We refer our readers to the articles themselves, but quote the concluding paragraph of Mr. Phillips' article:—

It is true that many such collections have been sold, but why? Not because the owner has found his system wrong, but, generally, because *unfortunately* all our leading specialists are not millionaires; and after spending their spare money and perhaps many years in forming a col-

lection that they have got practically complete, there comes a time when nothing new can be found to add to their pet subject, and they are tempted to sell, generally at a handsome profit; and almost at once, as a rule, search for a new subject to study.

The last paragraph I quoted above ran:—
"And how many more [hold their collections] because they cannot dispose of them?"

Very, very few, is my answer. I know that a highly specialised fine collection is about the best property in the stamp line, and many dealers are willing buyers of such; but we do know of cases where the unlimited specialist—when he wishes to sell his pet country—at the last moment goes right through it and picks out all the jewels and gems to start a general collection with, and then, finally, when he offers to sell, finds a difficulty—*hinc illae lacrimae*.

Mr. Phillips, of course, has special opportunities of judging, but we wonder how many collectors (not collector-dealer or speculators) who have attempted unlimited specialism with less than unlimited cash will be found to agree with his remarks in their entirety.

The following paragraph appears in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* dated April 11th:—

We regret to have to hold over to our next issue certain interesting revelations regarding the "placing" of the "remainders"—if one may dignify them with such a name—of certain rubbishy local issues of Madagascar.

That ridiculous issue of stamps known as the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar was exposed in the *Fortnightly* as long ago as 1895—the year when the "stamps" made their appearance. Largely on account of the *S.C.F.'s* exposure, the labels were condemned by the *S.S.S.*, whose headquarters were at 391, Strand, W.C.—also the headquarters of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

It seems almost unbelievable that Messrs. Gibbons, in face of that condemnatory circular of 1895, issued from their own premises in the Strand, should now list all this rubbish in their Catalogue—and in their "British Empire" Catalogue, too! We have yet to learn that any part of Madagascar ever belonged to the British Empire.

We shall have a few terse and telling remarks on this subject in the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

We may mention that some time since we were shown a copy of *Hobbies* in which this question is raised in greater detail. We have no doubt that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons will be able to justify their action in listing these stamps and we hope that they will lose no time in doing so.

Philately on the Continent.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for March 31st opens with an extremely interesting article on the postal rates and the early stamps of Jamaica, by J. B. After giving particulars of the postal rates and the decrees on the subject, the writer goes into details of the various times at which the stamps of the first issue (watermarked pineapple) made their appearance. The first to appear were the 1d., 4d., and 6d. (printed August 1st, 1860). Then followed the 2d. (decreed in October, 1861). Then came a reduction in postage, necessitating the use of a 1/2d. stamp, which, however, was not actually issued until October 29th, 1872, the difficulty being got over meanwhile by the use of halves of the 1d. blue, cut diagonally.

Lastly, the 3d. and 1/- stamps (the completion of the pineapple watermarked series) appeared on September 10th, 1863. It is noteworthy that the watermark in the shilling stamp measures 18 1/2 by 22 1/2 mm. as against 18 1/2 by 22 mm. in the other values. Lastly, we give a table of the comparative rarity of the various stamps and shades of this issue, the whole lot used, being said to be worth about 75 francs. We give this in French, as we do not feel justified in trying to translate the exact colour shades.

1. 1/2 penny bleu.	7. 4 pence orange.
2. 2 pence rose.	8. 6 pence lilas.
3. 1 shilling brun-violet.	9. 6 pence lilas foncé.
4. 2 pence rose.	10. 1 shilling brun.
5. 2 pence rose foncé.	11. 3 pence vert.
6. 4 pence vermillon.	12. 1 penny bleu.

Leal Sandor has a short article on some post-cards that have been round the world and the various times taken by them over the journey.

In the number for April 13th, "J. B." has an equally interesting article on the Hong Kong postal service and the first postage stamps of that colony. We notice that he calls the variety of perforation of the 4d. grey, watermark C. C., 12 instead of 12 1/2. We do not quite understand this, as we always thought that this stamp was undoubtedly 12 1/2, the specimens that we saw generally having the somewhat rough perforation so frequently seen in C. C. 12 1/2 varieties.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres Postes starts off with a lively article, by Arthur Maury, on "Forged Objets d'Art, Forged Stamps, Swindles." Of course, we commence with the famous tiara of Saitaphaines, after which, of course—Moldavia! Then M. Maury has a turn at the Post Office Mauritius stamps, hinting very obviously that a very large discount for cash must be taken off from the prices recently reported as having been paid for these articles. Then he speaks of the lithographic reprints from the retouched dies of the Post Paid and "Large Fillet" stamps. Lastly, he tells an astonishing story of Dr. Legrand's two "Post Office Mauritius" having been borrowed for a short time by the Keeper of the Berlin Postal Museum, who is said to have exhausted all the resources of modern science to make perfect forgeries of them. It is said that only four specimens were actually printed, but it is added that the blocks or plates may still be in existence and consequently dangerous!

In M. Maury's concluding paragraph—

"Isn't all this very funny?"

Les Archives des Collectionneurs has an article by M. Victor Flandrin on the Stamps of Monaco. Some curious details are given of a collection, the maker of which has just died.

The collection consisted entirely of tramway tickets from all parts of the world collected by the late globe trotter himself.

The *Szekula Briefmarken-Verkehr*, in spite of its name, does great things. Thus in the March number before us it has a nice little paragraph about a land wherein no stamps may be used. The name of this place is Neutral-Moresnet. The "Neutral" is new to us, but for the rest look up the *old* philatelic magazines (of the 'sixties or thereabouts), or, better still, M. Moens.

Dr. Szalay commences a very useful article on "What Should be Known about a Stamp?" We have not space to mention all that he recommends, but we may say that he refers to such matters as the postal rates in the country of origin, the various postal, telegraphic, &c., obligations, all about reprints, errors, &c.

The following number has this terrible joke:—

PHILATELIC DENTIST (to prospective victim): There, there, don't make such a fuss. Just pay up your sovereign and I'll provide you with a jaw as finely toothed as—the old Finian's stamps.

The *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* begins with "Mecklenburg: A Study for Specialists," by Dr. F. S., which it follows with an article on "Luxemburg Cancellations," by P. Watrain. The number is remarkable for a curious cartoon, entitled "From Philatelic Olympia." Herein we see a mighty tug-of-war going on either side of an ordinary red 1d. English, labelled "Philatelic." The stamp, which seems about to part in twain under the treatment it is receiving, is being vigorously tugged at on the left side by Chalmers and his adherents (each hanging on to the other), while Rowland Hill and his friends tug equally hard on the right side. The latter party appear to be far more numerous and to be having the best of the tug.

For the information of many philatelists we mention that the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* is running a series of papers on "De Ideaal Catalogues, het Ideaal Album en Ondergeschiede Varieteiten." We should be pleased to give extracts, but with shame we confess it—we do not know sufficient Dutch.

Philately in the States.

In *Mekeel's Stamp Collector* for February 16th. Mr. Charles E. Jenney has an article entitled "A Lowering of Ideals," which is mainly devoted to blaming us for "the muddy course through which now runs that once pure fountain-head of Art, the English Colonials." And a very strong case indeed Mr. Jenney makes out. But what does he know

about the commercialism that prominently distinguishes every one of our Colonial post office officials? Waste an extra penny per thousand by printing handsome stamps instead of atrocities! Why, it's absurd! Picture stamps are good enough for poor little States who try to get a few pounds from the collector. But, of course, each and every British Colonial postal official is far superior to such practices.

In the number for March 16th, C. F. Rankin tells this story:—

Opinions differ as to the number of stamps contained in the largest collection, and I am not, at the present moment, prepared to state who owns it. I have discovered, however, who owns the smallest one. It belongs to a seven-year-old boy named John. While looking through a well-filled album one day last summer, he suddenly announced, in all sincerity, that he, too, had a fine collection of stamps. Of course, I was immediately interested.

"How many stamps have you?" I asked.

"Three," was the grave reply.

C. W. RANKIN.

We have also before us the two magnificent magazine numbers of *Mekeel's Stamp Collector*, dated respectively January 26 and February 23.

As a kind of indication of their contents we propose to quote the index of each, excluding the numismatic items:—

JANUARY 26.

Louisville Carrier Stamps, Wharton's U.S. P.O. Despatch (Full-plate Illustration [Frontispiece]); Historical Sketch of the Wharton and Brown and Magill Carriers, by C. H. Mekeel; Cuba Provisional 1c. on 3c., 1902 (the Havana Philatelic Society, Cuban Post Office Department); That Catalogue for Collectors, by B. W. W.; The First Postage Stamp Issued in Porto Rico Under the American Dominion; U.S. Series of 1902; Boston Philatelic Society's Resolutions (Linen Registration Envelopes); From the Editorial Chair; Department of Review, by L. G. Quackenbush; Department of Foreign Relations; Chronicle of New Issues (Illustrated); General Notes; Trend of the Times (Editorial); Answers to Queries; Henry Flachskamm (Standard Stamp Co. of St. Louis) on Trial in U.S. Court for Fraud.

FEBRUARY 23.

Mauritius, 1848 (Illustration [Frontispiece]); From the Editorial Chair (Wharton's Louisville Carriers—First Porto Rico Provisional—U.S. Series of 1902); Entire Envelopes and Postal Cards, by B. W. Warhurst; Philatelic Sights and Insights, by Oliver Crinkle; The Philatelic School Room, by Louis G. Quackenbush; Department of Foreign Relations; Foreign Stamp Notes; Inverted Pan-American Stamps; Department of Review, by Louis G. Quackenbush; Chronicle of New Issues (Illustrated); General Notes; Stamp Collecting as a Pastime; Scott's View; Notes; Purple and Lilac as Colour Names, by B. W. Warhurst.

In "That Catalogue for Collectors" B. W. W. sums up his views in the following quotation from the *Philatelic Journal of India* of three years ago:—

The collectors' catalogue should, can, and will be attempted. It should be the result of private commercial enterprise. It should not perpetuate the fatal mistake of pretending to price stamps. Were a catalogue published to-day with every stamp's value properly recorded, it would be misleading by next Saturday afternoon, so what is the use of wasting time even in talking of a standard priced catalogue? A priced catalogue is an utter impossibility except as a false guide to values, but a catalogue that records to the best of its compiler's ability and opportunity, ascertained facts about stamps relating to their colour, shape, perforation, design, watermark, date of issue and other points of interest is another matter entirely. This could be easily produced, though its

promoters must not expect to attain full success by the first or even the second edition. Philately is a lively pursuit, and needs a living catalogue. A shut-down catalogue is like a closed collection—of little further interest to its owner." Though prices are unadvisable in such a book, it would be no detriment to add in parenthesis (15) or (125) etc., after each stamp listed as the average price in cents taken from the United States, British, and German catalogued at date of publication, which would give some approximation to the values, and let the reader know whether the stamp was a valuable or a very common one. A guaranteed subscription list of at least 10,000 copies would be necessary, however, to ensure the production of such a book at a reasonable price for the general collector.

The last paragraph, however, contains the whole *crux* of the matter. WHEN ten thousand collectors can be found of sufficient disinterestedness to subscribe to a book that will cost a fair amount and will not without some trouble enable them to fleece their less experienced brethren—then will the millennium be at hand.

The *Department of Review* has only one failing. Mr. Quackenbush will keep on making remarks about us of such a nature as to risk spoiling the usefulness of the *P. J. G. B.* by reason of its editor and contributors falling victims to "swelled head." This being so, we are most loth to disturb the harmony, but while we have found the following paragraph :

On another page, we find considerable attention given to the COLLECTOR'S editorial of a month or two since on the shortcomings of philatelic magazines. As our contemporary's comments have suggested to us some further points bearing on the subject—which we think belong more properly to the editorial than to the review columns, we refer our readers to the editorial pages for our further views on this topic.

we have not been able to trace the further reference.

Mekeels Weekly Stamp News for March 14th has the following, on which we do not comment:—

The following clipping is from a Cleveland paper: it tells how an Englishman had himself sent by express. If a person wants to travel first-class in this country he must have himself sent as a letter—2 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof:

LONDON, Feb. 15.—A city man discovered yesterday one of those hidden resources of the London post-office which has hitherto been suspected by very few people. The city man called at the general post-office to consult the directory as to a certain private address of a customer, who lives in a remote part of Balham.

He mentioned casually to the man in charge of the express parcel counter that he did not know the locality, but it was necessary for him to see the customer immediately. He received this reply: "I will send you there if you like, sir; the fee is threepence per mile."

The city man accepted the offer, and in telling the story says: "Then in response to a bell a smart youth came to my side and tapping me on the arm, said: 'Are you express for Balham, sir? This way, please.' The youth carried in his hand a small printed slip with a description of myself under the heading of an article to be delivered. I was detained on the street through meeting my partner. The youth, saluting me respectfully, said in a reproachful voice, 'You are express, sir, and thereupon I resumed my journey. The youth delivered me safely, and my customer signed a document testifying to the safe receipt of the article consigned."

In the same number there are some interesting "Notes on the Stamps of Prince Edward Island," by Donald A. King, from which we learn, among other things, that only five specimens are known of the 2 pence rouletted, and these all come from the same correspondence.

The following comes from the *Weekly Philatelic Era* of January 10th:—

A small boy recently entered one of our stamp shops and desired to purchase some of those popular Nyassa stamps with the picture of the giraffe upon them, but he could not think of the animal, so he asks for those stamps with the picture of ostriches eating trees upon them."

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* for December 6th contains a somewhat novel and interesting list of the portraits appearing on postage stamps. Though not professing to be complete, the total amounts to close on 200 names.

In the number for January 17th there appears a typical advertisement, which we quote, as an example of American methods:—

A FEW "THATS."

Tennyson could take a sheet of paper, write a poem on it worth £1,300 or about \$6,500—

—*That's Genius.*

Rockefeller can write a few words on paper and make it worth \$10,000,000—

—*That's Capital.*

A mechanic can take a piece of metal worth \$5 and make it into watch springs worth \$1,000—

—*That's Skill.*

A hod-carrier can work ten hours and handle some tons of earth for \$1.50—

—*That's Labor.*

A man can run a business and not advertise—

—*That's Foolishness.*

Some people depend for success on everything but hard work—

—*That's Bankruptcy.*

Stamp dealers advertise in the *METROPOLITAN*—

—*That's Common Sense.*

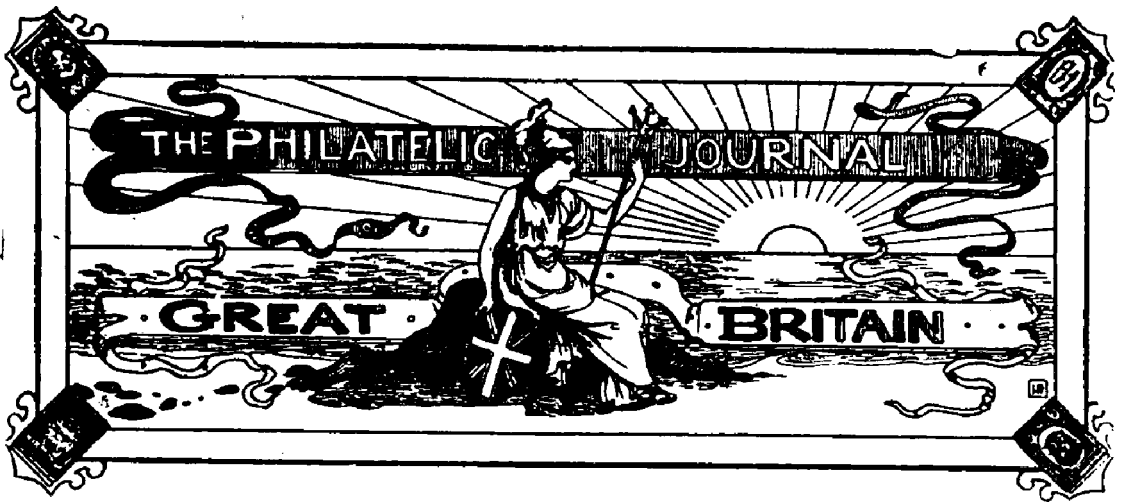
Philately in India.

We have before us several numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, which, for one reason or another, have not hitherto been reviewed. From the December number we get the following bit of humour:—

PLAYS ILLUSTRATED BY PHILATELY.

Trilby...	...	...	The figure on the id. universal N.Z.
The Silver Falls	...	...	Present pictorial British Guiana.
The Degenerates	...	...	Modern British Colonial stamps.
The Sign of the Cross	...	...	The shield on Swiss stamps.
Under Two Flags	...	...	Head of Sultan of Zanzibar.
Morocco Bound	...	...	Stanley Gibbons' Imperial Album.
The Tinted Venus	...	...	Princess Likelike (Hawaii).
As in a Looking-glass...	...	...	The backs of stamps printed on Pelure paper.
Little Christopher Columbus	...	...	The small head of C. C. on Chilean stamps.
Patience	...	...	The gauger of perforations.

In the February number appears the first instalment of an extremely interesting article on "Roumania," by Mr. E. W. Wetherell.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the Northern, Sheffield, and Scottish Philatelic Societies, and the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 149. VOL. XIII.

MAY 30, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

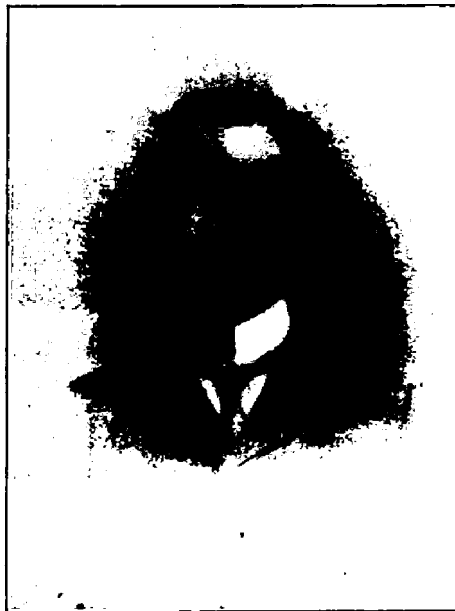
Well-known Philatelists.

No. 41.—MR LOUIS E. BRADBURY.

Mr. L. E. Bradbury may be said to have inherited a philatelic tendency when he began his career in life forty years ago this month, for both parents, sisters and brothers are happy in the possession of separate collections—two of his brothers being classed among the mainstays of the Liverpool Philatelic Society. The tendency induced him to spend most, often all, of his pocket-money in stamps while at school and entering his teens, some of his purchases not being at all bad investments. A 6d. bronze West Australian in fine condition, bought for the extravagant sum of 2d. at a time when Alfred Smith catalogued it at 7/6 and 3/6, and a 4d. blue provisional British Guiana of 1862 obtained for the proportionate outlay of 4d., indicate a business instinct as well as a philatelic one, especially when we hear that sixteen years later these were disposed of for £10 and £12 respectively.

It was not until 1885 that Mr. Bradbury took

seriously to stamp collecting, and then on "general" lines, as every man does at first (as a training) if he intends to keep up collecting. Five years later he gave up most of the countries, and turned his attention in particular to British Colonials, principally the Leeward and other West Indian Islands, as well as those of the opposite coast of West Africa, and got together fairly complete lots of these, both used and unused.



A pleasure trip down South in 1896, lasting fifteen months, afforded him ample opportunities of securing Australian and New Zealand stamps which he was specially attracted to, having failed to find the West Indians out there that he hoped for. An inspection of some good collections when visiting determined him to take a greater interest in this continent, seeing what

scope and variety there was in the different issues, and on his return home he cleared out most of the West Indians to make room for his new treasures. That he did not entirely desert his first love may be assumed from his receiving a special bronze medal of the Herts Society for his Nevis exhibit last year.

Latterly Mr. Bradbury has not been able to spend as much time with his stamps as he would wish, owing to weakness of sight, often caused by overstudy and detailed examination of such puzzling varieties as are to be found in these Australians. This does not affect his willingness to look at the collections of any country and talk over with others interested in the hobby any points that may be worth considering in special issues. In the *Philatelic Record* for May, 1901, there is an article by the then Editor, Mr. Nankivell, in collaboration with Mr. Bradbury, who supplied elaborate lists of the very complicated series of perforations as applied to the later values and colours of the New South Wales stamps.

In 1898 Mr. Slade approached him about the formation of a society for St. Albans, Herts, and their first meeting was held in October at the Inns of Court. The following month he was appointed a member of committee—an office he continues to hold, and has rarely missed attending a meeting since, whether general or of the committee. The members of the society have increased from eleven to 150 in the period. The *London Philatelist* for June, 1901, gives Mr. Bradbury's name as a member of the Philatelic Society of London; he is also in the Birmingham Society, and last year joined the International Philatelic Union. His favourite recreation is understood to be that specially approved by the present Prime Minister, as practised at the Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club.

**DINNER OF THE HERTS
PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

—:O:—

A very enjoyable event in the Herts Society's calendar was their annual dinner, held on May 19th at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C. About fifty members and their friends partook of an enticing *menu*, and subsequently a musical programme was gone through, with the usual loyal toasts sandwiched in between. There was no display of stamps, but short speeches of a humorous kind were given. Mr. Oldfield in his capacity as chairman dispensed words of wisdom and was supported by Baron P. de Worms, Mr. J. C Sidebotham, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. George Haynes and others.

We think Messrs. H. A. Slade, L. E. Bradbury and their sub-committee are to be highly congratulated on the success of the arrangements on this occasion and also with the rapid growth of this popular club.

**Descriptive Catalogue
OF
European Postage Stamps.**

—O—

(NOTE. The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

FRANCE.

(Continued.)

Perforation was not introduced officially until 1862, but for a year or so previously several private perforating machines were purchased and used by commercial undertakings. Of these, the best known is that of Messrs. Susse Frères, which made large perforations with a gauge of 7 to 2 centimetres. These they sold to their customers without any extra charge. The accompanying illustration shews how these perforations appear. The other unofficial perforating machines were roulettes or pin perforations. In the year mentioned above the Government invested in a



comb-perforating machine, which was imported from England at a cost of £400. This gauged 14 by 13½, and it is a curious fact that French stamps have had the same gauge without any change until the present day.

1853-62.

	Imperf.		Perfs.		P. 14x13½			
	Un-	Used.	Un-	Used.	Un-	Used.		
	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.		
1c., deep bronze-green on blue	1	9	2	—	10	0	3	1
a. pale bronze-green on blue	1	6	2	—	—	—	3	1
5c., green on greenish (shades)	8	0	3	—	10	0	8	1
a. green on blue	—	—	10	—	—	—	2	3
10c., bistre on cream (shades)	6	6	1	—	6	0	5	0
a. 10c., deep bistre	—	—	3	—	—	—	6	0
b. 10c., yellow buff	15	0	3	—	—	—	—	—
c. 10c. ochre (shades)	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—

	Imperf. "Susse"				Perf. 14 x 13½				
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
20c., blue on bluish (shades) ...	4	0	1	—	2	0	1	6	1
a. 20c., deep blue on bluish ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
b. 20c., dull blue on bluish ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
c. 20c., bright blue on bluish ...	4	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
d. 20c., blue on green	—	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
e. 20c., blue on pale rose ...	—	—	—	4	0	—	—	—	—
25c., blue (shades) ...	20	0	3	3	—	4	0	—	—
40c., orange	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	0	1
a. 40c., orange-red ...	26	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
80c., carmine	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
a. 80c., carmine-orange ...	30	0	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
b. 80c., carmine-rose ...	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
80c., rose (shades) ...	25	0	2	—	8	0	8	0	2
a. 80c., rose on pale rose ...	30	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
1fr., deep carmine (shades)	—	16	6	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Empire having covered itself with glory in the Italian campaign of 1860-61, the head of the Emperor on the coinage was at the latter date adorned with a laurel wreath. In 1863, when new stamps of 2c. and 4c. were required, this embellishment was brought into use for



them; at the same time the frame was altered, the numerals of value at the bottom being in much larger figures than before, this being done to prevent confusion. It was not until 1867 that any other values of the set were issued with

the laureated head, and then the 10c. and 30c. appeared. The latter was a new value, and for this several other alterations in the design were made, the most noticeable being in the number and size of the pearls in the circle, these being fewer and larger. These two values were followed during the succeeding two years by the 10c., 80c. and 40c. with the laureated head, while in November, 1861, a 5 francs stamp was issued. This was an oblong, rectangular stamp with the laureated



head of the Emperor in a circle in the centre. The value "5 — F"—the numeral to the left and the letter to the right of the head—was

printed separately and consequently is generally found in a slightly different shade to the rest of the stamp. The symbols also differ in size, varying from 3¼ to 4 mm. in height. This issue was completed by the appearance of the 1c. in the same design as the 2c. and 4c. The 4c. is known *tête-bêche*. All these stamps were printed by M. Hulot as before, and the alterations to the head were the work of M. Barre.

1863-70.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1c., deep bronze-green on greyish blue	2	—	1	—
a. pale bronze-green on greyish blue	2	—	1	—
2c., red-brown on straw (shades)	3	—	1	—
a. 2c., chocolate on straw	2	0	3	—
4c., grey on greyish	1	0	2	—
a. 4c., pale grey on greyish	1	0	2	—
b. 4c., lilac grey on greyish	3	0	3	—
10c., bistre on straw	1	9	—	—
a. pale bistre on straw	2	0	—	—
20c., blue on bluish (shades)	2	0	—	—
30c., brown (shades)	5	0	1	—
a. grey-brown	5	6	1	—
40c., orange	7	6	1	—
a. 40c., orange-vermilion	8	6	1	—
80c., rose (shades)	6	0	1	—
5fr., grey-lilac	27	6	3	6

For the convenience of cataloguing, the Bordeaux issue is always described next, but as a matter of fact the three values—10c., 20c. and 40c.—printed in Paris during the siege (in October, 1870) from the old plates of the first issue, and perforated 14 by 13½, preceded the issue at Bordeaux by some weeks. We will conform to the usual practice and refer to these stamps with the rest of the same issue after we have finished with the lithographed set.

During the investment of Paris the provinces ran short of stamps, and it was decided to have some prepared and printed at the Mint at Bordeaux. This was done at the instance of M. de Roussy, the representative of the Treasury at Tours. M. Delabecque, ex-Director of the Mint at Strasburg, was entrusted with the arrangements. The design of 1849 having been re-adopted in Paris, this was copied as closely as possible at Bordeaux. In the execution of this work the aid of various engravers was enlisted, notably MM. Augé-Delile, Leopold Yon and Dambourgez. The 20c. was the value most urgently wanted, and the design known as Type I. of that value (which was drawn by M. Dambourgez) was the first to appear. But this was not adopted until after many other fruitless efforts at reproduction had been made. These stamps of Type I. were not at all satisfactory, and a new design, engraved on stone by M. Leopold Yon, was immediately adopted. By means of lithographic transfers two large stones, each containing 150 impressions, were prepared, and from these the sheets of 300 stamps were printed. These plates, before they were used

for printing, were touched up by M. Dambourgez, who corrected any little defect that may have occurred in the transfer. Later on the frame was altered and the letters of the inscription made larger, this constituting what is known as Type III. There is a variety of this type in which the front of the bust is not the same distance from the circle of pearls. This is Type IV. To sum up, the main differences in these four types of the 20c. are as follows:—

Type I.—The lettering in the frame is small and indistinct. There is little shading on the head; the shading on the neck is composed of dots, and the space between the top of the circle containing the head and the frame above is much greater than in any of the other types.

Type II.—Lettering small, but more distinct. Shading on neck is composed of lines.

Type III.—Lettering taller; rather more shading under the eye.

Type IV.—As last, but the front of the bust is 1 mm. from the circle of pearls.

With regard to the other values of the set, it appears to be doubtful whether a new die was prepared for each, or whether the same matrix was made to reproduce all the values. Certainly, if the former is the case, as is averred by some authorities, the copies were remarkably correct, as scarcely any difference can be detected between the various values.

The 1c., 2c. and 4c. stamps were in the design of 1863, but with the head of Ceres replacing that of the Emperor (as here shewn), and the 5c., 10c., 20c., 30c., 40c. and 80c. were all similar to the design of 1849. An interesting discovery was made about eighteen months ago by M.



Maury—namely, the signature of the engraver "YON" on the right lower extremity of the vine leaf, just above the bunch of grapes in the head-dress. The signature is necessarily in very small letters and cannot often be deciphered, even with a glass, as the printing is generally so indistinct. This signature is found on all values except the 20c.

Nearly all the stamps of this issue can be found unofficially pin-perforated, but none were issued from the post office in any but an imperforated condition.

The plates and dies were destroyed on August 12th, 1871, and a few years later the whole stock of remainders of the Bordeaux issue was burnt, although offers of large amounts had been made for them by dealers.

The following are the numbers of the various values manufactured:—

1c.	24,471,375
2c.	8,882,475
4c.	4,233,975
5c.	6,393,825
10c.	17,801,075
20c.	62,445,175
30c.	2,935,875
40c.	3,296,025
50c.	2,338,575

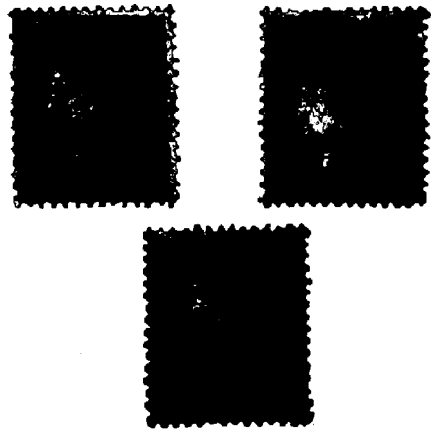
These stamps have never been demonetized.

1870.

Lithographed at Bordeaux. Imperf.

	Unused.	s. d.	Used.	s. d.
1c., deep bronze-green on greyish blue	8		8	
a. 1c., pale bronze-green on greyish blue	5		7	
2c., brown-red on toned	3 3		3 3	
a. 2c., brown-red on yellowish			5 0	
b. 2c., brick-red on toned	8 6			
c. 2c., Venetian-red on toned	15 0		7 6	
4c., grey (shades)	2 0		3 0	
a. 4c., lilac-grey			3 0	
5c., yellow-green on greenish	2 0		4 6	
a. deep green on greenish	2 0		6 6	
10c., bistre on yellowish			5 6	
a. bistre-buff on yellowish			5 5	
b. bistre-brown			6 6	
c. ochre			9 9	
20c., blue on toned	Type I.			
a. 20c., deep blue on toned				
b. sky-blue				
20c., blue on toned (shades)	Type II.	8 6	4 3	
a. 20c., pale blue on toned			3 3	
20c., deep blue on toned	Type III.		2 2	
a. 20c., blue			3 0	
b. ultramarine on toned			2 2	
c. deep blue	Type IV.	12 6	2 2	
d. blue			2 2	
e. ultramarine			1 3	
30c., pale brown		2 0	1 6	
a. 30c., brown		2 0	1 6	
40c., scarlet-vermilion			1 0	
a. 40c., orange-vermilion			1 0	
b. orange		2 6	2 0	
c. orange-yellow			2 9	
80c., bright rose		2 6	2 9	
a. rose-carmine				
b. dull rose				

As mentioned above, three values printed from the original plates used for the first issue were issued in Paris during the siege, these being the 10c., 20c. and 40c., and after



peace was made the issue was gradually completed in the same design, with the exception

that the values 1c., 2c., 4c. and 5c., which were used for newspaper postage, had the large numerals of value as had been adopted for the lowest denominations in the previous two issues.

In order to raise revenue after the war a law was passed on August 24th, 1871, raising the rate on inland letters under ½oz. from 20c. to 25c., and on letters in Paris under ½oz. and local letters in the country of under ½oz. 15c. instead of 10c. was demanded. This law came into operation on September 1st, 1871, and new stamps of 15c. and 25c. were issued. These were printed in the colours of the stamps they superseded.

In January, 1873, the 10 centimes was re-issued in bistre, but on rose paper, in order to distinguish it from the 15c.

1870-73.

Perf. 14 by 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1c., bronze-green	3	1		
a. 1c., olive-green	3	1		
2c., red-brown	4	1		
a. 2c., pale red-brown	4	1		
4c., grey	6	1		
a. 4c., slate-grey	8	1		
5c., blue green	4	1		
a. 5c., yellow-green	—	—		
b. " pale green on green	—	—	3	1
c. " green on blue	1	0	3	5
10c., bistre	1	3	5	1
a. 10c., bistre-brown	—	—	5	1
10c., bistre on rose	1	6	1	1
15c., bistre (shades)	—	—	1	1
20c., blue	10	1	1	1
a. 20c., bright blue	10	1	2	1
25c., blue	10	1	1	1
a. 25c., bright blue	10	1	1	1
40c., orange (shades)	1	6	1	1
a. 40c., deep orange	—	—	1	1

At the end of the year 1872 the two values, 30c. and 80c., had been issued, but they differed from the other high values of the set in having the numerals indicating the value in the lower label in larger figures. In 1874 the 10c. bistre on rose was altered to the same type, and was followed in 1875 by the 15c., with the same alteration. An error occurred in the construction of the sheet of 10c., one of the dies of a 15c. stamp being placed in it by mistake. The mistake was not discovered until some of the errors got into circulation, when it was at once corrected.

1872-75.

With large figures of value.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10c., bistre on rose	—	—	1	1
a. 10c., bistre on pale rose	2	0	1	1
15c., bistre	6	0	1	1
30c., brown (shades)	3	6	1	1
80c., rose (shades)	8	6	1	1

(To be continued.)

TRAVELLING THROUGH THE GREAT UNKNOWN.

Fascinations of Virgin Ground, or Fiscal Stamp Collecting.

[A PAPER READ BEFORE THE I.P.U. BY MR. W. SCHWABACHER ON FEBRUARY 11, 1903.]

I MUST plead guilty to having chosen a somewhat pretentious title for this paper, but the reason for it is that, notwithstanding the broadmindedness and liberality of your committee in granting me a whole evening for fiscals and not restricting me to the 500 words of the competitive essay, I am afraid that it will be a material impossibility to tell you many things which I should have liked to tell you. I therefore try to convey to you in a few lines what I really believe to be the main attractive points of fiscalism.

Shall I confess to you why, having for a long time led a double life (nothing to make you blush, gentlemen)—I mean that of postalism and that of fiscalism—I have gradually become entirely fascinated by the latter, discarding entirely postalism—at least for a certain time I must add, for, as the song says—

“ On revient toujours à ses premières amours.”

Having for years been a fervent adept of postage stamp collecting, and having become what is generally known by the term of an advanced collector, I found to my great dismay that even able as I was to spend on my hobby what I considered a large amount, this amount was only a mere drop in the ocean. Little to be learnt, everything being cut and dried, very little to be added to my collection—as it was now always a question of big sums for every new addition to it—I came to the conclusion that postage stamp collecting, unless even when specializing some exceptionally favoured country, is reduced to this:—Obtain the possession of the Standard Catalogue, which tells you everything that you can acquire for your money, giving you the minutest details of every variety; then, having at your bank the big balance required for the purpose, to go and, like a Man(n), buy a Castle Collection. Otherwise, you can remain with your Standard Catalogue and your moderate cheque before the wall, behind which there is something to be seen, and you must content yourself with obtaining now and then some stamp from the Morganised trade—if you have the patience to wait until your pet country is no more

for printing, were touched up by M. Dambourgez, who corrected any little defect that may have occurred in the transfer. Later on the frame was altered and the letters of the inscription made larger, this constituting what is known as Type III. There is a variety of this type in which the front of the bust is not the same distance from the circle of pearls. This is Type IV. To sum up, the main differences in these four types of the 20c. are as follows:—

Type I.—The lettering in the frame is small and indistinct. There is little shading on the head; the shading on the neck is composed of dots, and the space between the top of the circle containing the head and the frame above is much greater than in any of the other types.

Type II.—Lettering small, but more distinct. Shading on neck is composed of lines.

Type III.—Lettering taller; rather more shading under the eye.

Type IV.—As last, but the front of the bust is 1 mm. from the circle of pearls.

With regard to the other values of the set, it appears to be doubtful whether a new die was prepared for each, or whether the same matrix was made to reproduce all the values. Certainly, if the former is the case, as is averred by some authorities, the copies were remarkably correct, as scarcely any difference can be detected between the various values. The 1c., 2c. and 4c. stamps were in the design



of 1863, but with the head of Ceres replacing that of the Emperor (as here shewn), and the 5c., 10c., 20c., 30c., 40c. and 80c. were all similar to the design of 1849. An interesting discovery was made about eighteen months ago by M.

Maury—namely, the signature of the engraver "YON" on the right lower extremity of the vine leaf, just above the bunch of grapes in the head-dress. The signature is necessarily in very small letters and cannot often be deciphered, even with a glass, as the printing is generally so indistinct. This signature is found on all values except the 20c.

Nearly all the stamps of this issue can be found unofficially pin-perforated, but none were issued from the post office in any but an imperforated condition.

The plates and dies were destroyed on August 12th, 1871, and a few years later the whole stock of remainders of the Bordeaux issue was burnt, although offers of large amounts had been made for them by dealers.

The following are the numbers of the various values manufactured:—

1c.	24,471,375
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50c.	2,338,575

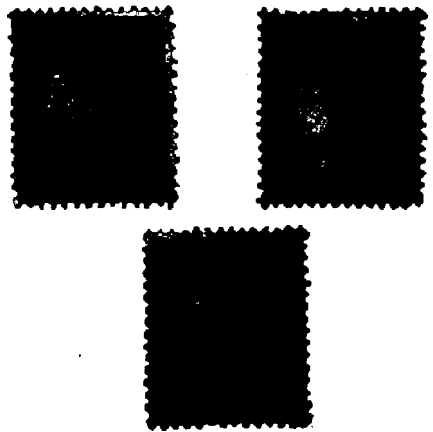
These stamps have never been demonetized.

1870.

Lithographed at Bordeaux. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1c., deep bronze-green on greyish blue	8	8
a. 1c., pale bronze-green on greyish blue	5	7
2c., brown-red on toned	3 3	3 3
a. 2c., brown-red on yellowish	—	5 0
b. 2c., brick-red on toned	8 6	—
c. 2c., Venetian-red on toned	15 0	7 6
4c., grey (shades)	2 0	3 0
a. 4c., lilac-grey	—	3 0
5c., yellow-green on greenish	2 0	4
a. deep green on greenish	2 0	6
10c., bistre on yellowish	—	6
a. bistre-buff on yellowish	—	5
b. bistre-brown "	—	6
c. ochre "	—	9
20c., blue on toned	Type I.	—
a. 20c., deep blue on toned	—	—
b. sky-blue	—	—
20c., blue on toned (shades)	Type II.	8 6
a. 20c., pale blue on toned	—	3
20c., deep blue on toned	Type III.	—
a. 20c., blue	—	2
b. ultramarine on toned	—	3 0
c. deep blue	Type IV.	12 6
d. blue	—	2
e. ultramarine	—	2
30c., pale brown	2 0	1 3
a. 30c., brown	2 0	1 6
40c., scarlet-vermilion	—	—
a. 40c., orange-vermilion	—	1 0
b. orange	2 6	1 0
c. orange-yellow	—	—
80c., bright rose	2 6	2 0
a. rose-carmine	—	2 9
b. dull rose	—	—

As mentioned above, three values printed from the original plates used for the first issue were issued in Paris during the siege, these being the 10c., 20c. and 40c., and after



peace was made the issue was gradually completed in the same design, with the exception

that the values 1c., 2c., 4c. and 5c., which were used for newspaper postage, had the large numerals of value as had been adopted for the lowest denominations in the previous two issues.

"In order to raise revenue after the war a law was passed on August 24th, 1871, raising the rate on inland letters under ½oz. from 20c. to 25c., and on letters in Paris under ½oz. and local letters in the country of under ½oz. 15c. instead of 10c. was demanded. This law came into operation on September 1st, 1871, and new stamps of 15c. and 25c. were issued. These were printed in the colours of the stamps they superseded.

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1870-73.

Perf. 14 by 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1c., bronze-green	3	1
a. 1c., olive-green	3	1
2c., red-brown	4	1
a. 2c., pale red-brown	4	1
4c., grey	6	1
a. 4c., slate-grey	8	1
5c., blue green	4	1
a. 5c., yellow-green	—	1
b. " pale green on green	—	3
c. " green on blue	1 0	3
10c., bistre	1 3	5
a., 10c., bistre-brown	—	5
10c., bistre on rose	1 6	1
15c., bistre (shades)	—	1
20c., blue	10	1
a. 20c., bright blue	10	2
25c., blue	10	—
a. 25c., bright blue	10	—
40c., orange (shades)	1 6	1
a. 40c., deep orange	—	1

At the end of the year 1872 the two values, 30c. and 80c., had been issued, but they differed from the other high values of the set in having the numerals indicating the value in the lower label in larger figures. In 1874 the 10c. bistre on rose was altered to the same type, and was followed in 1875 by the 15c., with the same alteration. An error occurred in the construction of the sheet of 10c., one of the dies of a 15c. stamp being placed in it by mistake. The mistake was not discovered until some of the errors got into circulation, when it was at once corrected.

1872-75.

With large figures of value.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10c., bistre on rose	—	1
a., 10c., bistre on pale rose	2 0	1
15c., bistre	6 0	1
30c., brown (shades)	3 6	1
80c., rose (shades)	8 6	1

(To be continued.)

TRAVELLING THROUGH THE GREAT UNKNOWN.

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[A PAPER READ BEFORE THE I.P.U. BY MR. W. SCHWABACHER ON FEBRUARY 11, 1903.]

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under the influence of the combine, syndicate, trust, or whatever name you like to give.

Well, the aim of the collector ought not to be to stand still; his motto must be—"Always forward."

How different a scene if we now turn our eyes to fiscalism. There you will have the full enjoyment of the collector, that is to say, the ferreting after stamps, the constant discovery not only of stamps to add to your collection but which are so far unknown stamps or varieties. Notwithstanding the magnificent pioneer work done by Moens, of Brussels, and the late Mr. Charles Roussin, of Paris, notwithstanding Mr. Walter Morley's constant and able efforts in the same direction, the catalogues so far published are still very incomplete. The Fiscal Philatelic Society is working earnestly at compiling further lists, but even when these are in our hands our knowledge of fiscal stamps will have only advanced one step further, leaving us much more to study and learn than we know already. This want of a complete guide through the meanders of fiscal philately appears as a drawback to some people, but I am convinced that to the majority it will appeal as an additional attraction and an incentive to collect. There comes the fascination of what I termed virgin ground. The climbing of the tree of knowledge is the pleasure, and not the idea that if you had or wanted to spend the necessary amount you could acquire your treasures, and have your knowledge quite prepared and labelled ready for use as a patent medicine.

One great point in favour of fiscalism, especially for beginners, is the fact that they need not fear to come across forgeries, the few that are known being, to my idea, collectible, as having been made—and that successfully—in order to defraud the Treasury of the respective countries, and have been genuinely used. I submit for your inspection all those, I believe, so far known—viz., Argentine, Great Britain medicine stamp, and Philippines.

So far, only one forgery to deceive collectors is known, it being the recent counterfeit of the rare Cretan provisionals by some Eastern thief. He was, however, at once found out by Mr. Preston Pearce, of Plymouth, and myself, and the needful done to prevent too much harm being done.

Fiscal stamps are, as a rule, far superior in printing to postage stamps, and appeal, therefore, also to our artistic feeling. Take, as an example, those Revenue stamps which everybody has come across, and which, having been listed and priced by Scott's, of New York, have found a more numerous

following of collectors. I am alluding to the U.S. fiscals, of which I show you a very advanced selection, rich in varieties of shades, errors, and different modes of cancellation. What a splendid artistic treat to look at these stamps, as effective by the choice of colours as by the design! This is a country that must appeal to the specialist, the issues being so well defined and subdivided, the shades being numerous, the paper showing absolute varieties, and certain stamps being of such rarity that the collector finds the amount of work, study, research, and hunting after treasures, which are the pleasure of the true philatelist.

The magnificent work published in Boston will give the key to the interesting U.S. proprietary stamps for the sale of matches and medicines.

If we go over now to another country most enticing to collectors, that is, Buenos Ayres, we find there amongst other rarities of interest the scarce issue of 1869, for stamps to be used on bills and documents, which remained in use for only a few months. According to the official records giving the number of those stamps issued and those sold, the remainders having been burnt, we find, taking as an example, the 300 pesos, of which only 300 were printed and only ninety sold. I am showing you the 750 pesos, of which only 121 were sold. Now the famous P. O. Mauritius was as well, if my recollections are right, printed only to the extent of 300 specimens and were all used, and the stamps which have been found and changed hands in the last few years have all fetched over £1,000. Some of those Buenos Ayres must be at least as scarce, but I do not know of any specimen having changed owners at much over 50/- for some and £5 for the rarest.

The comparison is, perhaps, somewhat far-fetched you may think, but collecting these stamps will demonstrate to you that I am right; and do you not consider, as a conclusive argument in favour of collecting fiscals, that you can acquire a rarity *di primo cartello* at the expense of only a few pounds?

English fiscals are, if not amongst the prettiest, certainly amongst the very attractive ones. The great difficulty, not to say the absolute impossibility, of obtaining some of the earlier issues will always be a hindrance to their being universally collected, as would be the case if the intending collector knew it would be only a question of patience to obtain the coveted specimen missing amongst his treasures. It is not a question of money, but most of the few stamps used have either been

destroyed or they are attached to documents which are filed, never to re-appear. Of the four stamps I am showing to-night the one for Chancery fee fund and the other one for glove tax are, so far as I know, the only specimens known. The other two stamps are rare, but not to the same degree.

To those whom the little game of measuring perforations appears as a pastime I would recommend Austria. Here, again, the printer has shown elaborate taste and talent in the confection of the stamps. This is a rather inexpensive country, accessible to every purse.

As I do not want to trespass on your courteous patience in listening to my remarks I will only draw your attention to the beautiful issues of two more countries.

Peru. These stamps are amongst the most interesting, on account of their having been, in the earlier issues, surcharged for use in the different provinces. Only trying will show the difficulty of obtaining certain overprints and the high values. Hence the pleasure in becoming their lucky possessor.

Russia. How complicated (they obliging you to learn a new alphabet), but how tasteful and varied, are these stamps.

Last, but not least, I must mention India and its native States, which can offer ample and agreeable work to the collector. You will find there importance in number, charm in design, taste in colouring and shades.

I have not spoken of English colonies, as we shall have soon the result of the work of the Fiscal Philatelic Society, which will facilitate their collecting.

In concluding this paper, I beg to express my sincere opinion that anyone taking up the hobby will find that it will afford him the enjoyment he was looking for, on account of his being able to build up a large collection at a moderate expense, with the pleasure of making constant discoveries and of having a large field open to his study, besides having a collection much more artistic and pleasing to the eye than a postalists's.

I hope my bad English has not tried your ears too severely, and I must also apologize for having spoken so much of myself, but in the absence of any complete guide most of the knowledge acquired is forcibly the result of personal research and experience.



May, 1903, Report.

—o—

Honorary President—

His Honour Judge PHILBRICK, K.C.

Honorary Vice-Presidents—

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President—

H. R. OLDFIELD.

Vice-Presidents—

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W. HADLOW, 12, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Hon. Solicitors—

Messrs. OLDFIELD, BARTRAM & OLDFIELD, 13, Walbrook, E.C.

MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting was held at Essex Hall, on Wednesday evening, May 13th, when there were present Mr. H. R. Oldfield (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, H. Thompson, Dr. Marx, M.A., W. Schwarte, Major Laffan, R.E., P. P. Brown, J. E. Joselin, J. C. Sidebotham, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, E. W. Wetherell, P. L. Pemberton, and the Hon. Sec. The Hon. Sec. presented the report and balance sheet for the year ending December 31st, 1902, which showed 114 members on the roll, and a balance of £2 18s. 2d. in hand on January 1st, 1903. It was moved by the President, seconded by Mr. Pemberton and carried unanimously, that the report be received and adopted, subject to audit, Messrs. H. Thompson and J. C. Sidebotham being elected auditors. The Exchange Superintendent (Dr. Marx, M.A.) then read his report on the year's working of the Exchange Packets, for which, on the motion of Mr. Schwabacher seconded by Major Laffan and supported by the President, he was unanimously accorded a hearty vote of thanks. Dr. Marx next moved that in future a commission of 5 per cent should be charged on the amount of excess of sales over purchases by members in the Monthly Exchange Packets. This was seconded by Mr. Joselin and supported by Mr. Thompson, and after some discussion was carried. The President then announced the decision of the judges (Major Evans, R.A., and E. D. Bacon, Esq.) on the two sets of essays sent in for the Prize Competition, which was that the first prize be withheld, the second prize of £1 1 0 worth of stamps be awarded to the writer of the set signed "Alpha," and a further prize of £1 1 0 of stamps to the writer of the set signed "Tancred." The best thanks of the Society were unanimously accorded to the Judges, and the President called upon the Hon. Sec. to read the essays. On conclusion of the reading it was moved by the President, seconded by Major Laffan and carried unanimously, that the essays be published in the official organ. On the proposal of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. Joselin, Mr. H. R. Oldfield was unanimously re-elected president for the ensuing year. Mr. Oldfield then having to leave, the chair

was taken by Mr. W. Schwabacher. The Hon. Sec. having read the list of committee meetings and attendances for the past year, the whole of the officers and committee were re-elected for the ensuing year. Mr. S. C. Skipton being unanimously elected to fill the vacancy of hon. vice-president, caused by the lamented death of the late Rev. W. Bell. It was resolved that the committee meet on Wednesday, June 10th, at Essex Hall, at 7 p.m., to make arrangements for next season. At this meeting Mr. Wetherell has kindly promised to give a display of a portion of his collection. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chair concluded the proceedings. Appended are the balance sheet and Exchange Superintendent's report for the year, and on another page the set of prize essays by "Alpha" (Mr. A. B. Kay). The set by "Tancred" (Mr. E. Wetherell) will appear next month.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.
5, Paultons Square, Chelsea,
April 25, 1903.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION.
ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET, 1902.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
1902.	£ s. d.	1902.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1, To balance in hand	7 9 0	Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, Official Organ	12 15 0
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, To Subs. and Entrance Fees	28 14 10	Rent Essex Hall, etc.	2 0 0
		Hallkeeper	5 0
		Stationery & Printing	4 10 9
		Postages, hon. sec.	2 0 6
		Clerical assistance	5 5 0
		Stationery, printing & postages, Exchange Supt.	3 13 6
		Lantern display expenses	2 15 11
			33 5 8
		Balance to 1903	2 18 2
	<u>£36 3 10</u>		<u>£36 3 10</u>

Examined, compared with vouchers, and found correct.

H. THOMPSON
J. C. SIDEBOTHAM } Auditors.

THOS. H. HINTON, Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.

EXCHANGE SECTION.

During the year 1902 ten Exchange Packets were sent out, viz., one in each month, except in August and September.

The aggregate value was £4,233 17s. 10d., of which amount stamps to the value of £282 14s. 4d. changed hands, being 6.67 per cent. The exchange was largest during the winter months, viz.:

January,	£30 14 6	...	11.9 per cent.
February	£37 1 0	...	11.4 per cent.
December	£60 1 9	...	21.1 per cent.
and lowest in			
July	£8 18 9	...	2.15 per cent.

As only about one-third of the members of the I. P. U. take part in this Section the amount of business done must be considered as very satisfactory, and if, as is to be expected, a larger number of members will join, there is no reason why the figures quoted above should not be trebled. It may be of some interest to members who have not yet joined to know that a single vendor cleared as much as £22 cash in December, and that correspondingly large purchases were made by members who know the value of stamps.

Colonial stamps continue to be first favourites, and among them Australians are now more sought after than Africans.

E. F. MARX, Ph. D., M.A., London.

Rolandseck School, Ealing, W.

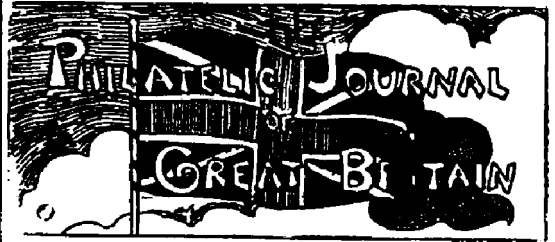
May, 1903.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The members of this society met at the Wharncliffe Hotel on Wednesday evening, April 22nd, to listen to a paper by Mr. J. F. Peace on the Stamps of Belgium. Mr. G. H. Hunt occupied the chair. Mr. Peace said that the volume of correspondence between Belgium and our own country could be appreciated from the fact that mails are despatched from London four times daily. He estimated that a fine collection of about 200 varieties could be made for about £6. In 1893 were first issued the stamps with labels attached, on which is printed in French and Flemish "NOT TO BE DELIVERED ON SUNDAY." It is said that this device has been the means of lightening the Sunday labours of the Belgian postal officials, although it was much ridiculed when introduced. Mr. Peace showed his collection of about 300 stamps, including many fine specimens, and a collection containing varieties of shades was shown by Mr. J. H. Chapman. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the lecturer.

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Hon. Sec.

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Collecting in Continents.

THE difficulty of obtaining each new issue in advance of our friends was one of the pleasurable excitements of stamp collecting in our youthful days; the difficulty now is of a more depressing nature, being that of deciding which we shall reject of the multitudinous issues perpetually prepared for our pleasure—or, shall we say, choice. Some of those old friends remind us that if we had kept to the habit of obtaining only genuinely used stamps, there would probably not have been half the total number of issues now existing; the prices of lightly cancelled copies would have been higher, and unused copies would sell at little more than face, merely as specimens. In 1870 about 2,000 adhesives was the total catalogued for thirty years' issues—in the same period since there were 13,000 additions according to the simple classification of King's catalogue, or nearer 30,000, as given in the more detailed Gibbons. It is obvious that if this rate of increase is maintained, another thirty years will see the

decline and fall of stamp collecting, as even a millionaire will not care to go on accumulating valuable bits of paper which have ceased to be of general interest owing to the difficulty of storage and of allowing friends to look over half a million stamps.

Specialism—whether of the Limited or Unlimited brand—cannot in the nature of things be followed by 1 per cent. of the collectors, and to 90 per cent. will be most uninteresting. Its practice, by those wealthy men who were able to follow it fully, has been of benefit to all philatelists as a study where the results have been made public; though to the average collector—the backbone of philately—it (or the bloating section of it) has unnecessarily increased the price of thousands of stamps, the original circulation of which is counted in hundreds of thousands only. Speculative gambling by individuals has run up prices of many stamps at various times, and the same vice in some States has increased our difficulties through the supply of needless issues made for sale rather than use.

The question now arises for the general collector who has passed his noviciate—*What stamps shall I go on with, as it is utterly impossible with my limited means to keep up with all countries?* Many old collectors settled this at the Jubilee of Penny Postage—many more are stopping short with the end of the century, coinciding as it does with the end of the great Queen's reign—while others will altogether avoid such prolific countries as France, Portugal, and Salvador, &c., have developed into during the last ten or fifteen years. Sectional collecting will thus become more and more of a necessity—not the specialising of one country or colony, but a return to the Continental divisions, as arranged in old albums and some catalogues. Such a descriptive list as that now appearing in our pages is bringing many to return to the almost discarded issues of Europe, while others will take up those of Africa, Asia, &c., pure and simple. In the recent past, exclusive patriots have limited themselves to the issues of the British Empire, but have latterly found the sameness of the De la Rue types unattractive, and do not feel inclined to add hundreds of pages of similar issues with one type of a popular King's head; though the distributing of these among the foreign types might come as a relief. The latest division by Stanley Gibbons Limited in their Imperial Album will doubtless lead some to take up one of these three books to the exclusion of the others, until it becomes fairly full, when the owner may then try another volume of a later

edition. It is tolerably clear, however, that calculations as to what issues will be most sought for in future must become more uncertain, as all the chief countries have been specialised, and not even the production of that long-talked-of catalogue for collectors by collectors (with or without prices) will aid us much in making choice for the future. If the difficulty of calculating certainties leads to the check of speculating propensities, something will have been gained.

(British?) Madagascar.

—:O:—

IN the *S. C. Fortnightly* there has been a melodramatic working-up of a "Challenge to Messrs. Gibbons" (*sic*), calling on the firm to "at once and publicly" destroy every "British" stamp of Madagascar (that is virtually what it means), as well as the lists in their catalogue; and, further, "give an undertaking" to the *S.C.F.*, Archbishop of Philately, not to do so again; the editor piously "thanking Heaven for gifting him with a sense of humour." On April 11th he said "a few terse and telling remarks" would appear in the next number as to "the rubbishy and ridiculous issue of stamps," and that he had "yet to learn that any part of Madagascar ever belonged to the British Empire." On the 25th two letters are printed from Messrs. H. L. Ewen and John Wallace in favour thereof. In the following number "the whole story" is promised *next time*, after the style of "three more and up goes the —," and on May 23rd the story resolves itself into a letter received by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. eight years ago (of which we have heard before), with an added intimation that anyone collecting these stamps must be insane, which is immediately stultified by stating "we never have denied them the status of a genuine local issue interesting to collectors." Here *is* humour! He further appeals to an American catalogue for a condemnation of the earlier Consular Mail series.

Editors, even of the philatelic order, alas! cannot know everything, but the publications of the Philatelic Society of London ought to be known to the *S.C.F.*, and in Part II. of their work on the "*British Possessions in Africa*," Madagascar stamps are described and recognised as philatelic issues. It is there suggested that both of the last issues referred to were probably "made with the idea of selling to collectors"—adding, "but a number were undoubtedly used for paying postage." Some

such practice and result is known, we believe, in Borneo, Central States of America, and a few British Colonies. Are the firms who list and sell these to be banned too?

Most ordinary people are aware that the Consular offices at Alexandria; Port Said, Crete, Zanzibar, &c., issue stamps which are listed regularly in the *S.C.F.* as *bona-fide* emissions for collectors; yet they are just as much a "private speculation" of the French—being absolutely unnecessary—as are those which the *S.C.F.* condemns. As also with Madagascar, the legal fiction is "that the Consulate is the territory of the country from which the Consul is sent, and deeds and acts done within it are done in England."

Up to 1884 there were no postal arrangements in Madagascar, so the British Consul planned a service to the ports where British or French ships called, issuing stamps with which the merchants could prepay their letters (deposited at the Consulate) to any part of the world. The machinery matters not; but so far as the sender of a letter was concerned, those labels franked the letters to their destination—what more can any stamps do? Whether the carrier of the mail used Colonial, French or German stamps (as in China) to pass the letters on beyond his own jurisdiction matters nothing to anybody. Some of the merchants exported their surplus stamps at a profit, and in 1887, to avoid the suspicion of the *official* trading in them, the stamps were suppressed, the handstamp (as used on the labels) when applied to the letters (for which *cash* was received) franking them as before. (Of course, the Consulate reaped a benefit from the stamps sold and not used; the English P.O. is not above doing that for millions of stamps it sells for collectors all the world over.

Later on a British "syndicate" arranged to work the inland mail, and it published this notice:—"BRITISH POST.—Notice is hereby given, that the monthly subscription to the British Post now expires. For the future the correspondence must be paid in advance by means of stamps procured from the Postmaster of the British post, Antananarivo. January, 1895." The rates were 4d. an ounce for letters and 1d. for papers, &c. This issue may be more strictly local, as the stamp itself says "Inland Mail"—to which the above-quoted remarks of Mr. E. D. Bacon for the Philatelic Society will apply; but they have franked letters to Europe.

Though the letter to Messrs. Whitfield King given in the *S.C.F.* as from the British Consul at *Tamatave* (nearly 300 miles from the

capital) appears to condemn the stamps in question, he merely says that the service was a private speculation, during the transitional state of affairs following the destruction of the Malagasy Government by the French. It is curious that the Consular handstamp should have been allowed as a cancellation or authoritative mark—as the same stamp appears on papers seen by the present writer in 1892-3—if it was not at least sanctioned or approved of by the Consul at the capital, who may have left before the French took formal possession in the summer of 1895. In any case there seems some clashing of phrases when the *S.C.F.* writes of them as "rubbishy local issues" one month, and in the next says they are "a genuine local issue interesting to collectors." The Philatelic Society's book is sufficient justification for listing by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., and surely that firm cannot be responsible for a recent flooding of remainders.

—:0:—

WE fondly thought that some of our interviews with, or biographical notes of, philatelists were decently well done; but our Indian namesake for April shows us how to do it with a concise directness that must be an effect of the wonderful climate out there. In March of last year we tried our hand at describing the new editor of that journal, but this is how the present Editor describes his predecessor (editors are hardy annuals out there), and we humbly take a back seat:—"PROFESSOR ERNEST WILLIAM WETHERELL collector of postage stamps, fiscal stamps, Early Victorian visiting cards, *ditto* playing cards, coins, scorpions, igneous rocks, autographs, minerals, books bearing on the Napoleonic period, fossils, invitation cards of last century, shells, and a few other odds and ends, as well as doing the duties of 2nd State Geologist to the Government of Mysore, Assistant Secretary to the Government of Mysore, and Professor of Geology is a chameleon of the most pronounced type. How he gets all this into 24 hours a day is a puzzle to all his friends and, perhaps, to himself. How he ventured to ask his much-enduring wife to share his leisure, and how he manages to devote himself to his two-year-old son, is beyond us altogether. . . . Truly a giant among philatelists; . . . he has now about 50,000 specimens and is mad keen on fiscals as well. . . . Now he is off to take a holiday in the home country. Well has he earned it, and right well may he enjoy it." And so say all of us.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Cape of Good Hope. There is a pleasing variety in the designs of the frames as drawn for most of the Colonial stamps now being issued with the King's Head, but that profile is unchangeable. We illustrate the 6d. value described in March last for Cape Colony.



Ceylon. The stamps chronicled last month have not yet reached us, but from the illustration of the 3 cents herewith the designer has not disposed of that crown so successfully as in many other cases.



Gibraltar. The new type has been received, inscribed "Postage & Revenue," with "Gibraltar" below, all in a white circle surrounding the King's Head, and slight differences in detail; paper with Crown C A watermark. The colours are a puzzle to fit appropriate names to, and it would save conscientious chroniclers a lot of straining of eyes and twisting about in different lights if the printers would just add the correct or assumed names of the printing ink in the margins, especially when used on coloured papers. The higher values are double the size of those from halfpenny to one shilling. The Queen's Head values are said to be withdrawn.

- 3d., dull grey-green, with green value.
- 1d., purplish on red paper.
- 2d., grey-green and rose.
- 2½d., violet on blue paper.
- 6d., purple and violet.
- 1½., black-brown and rose.
- 2½., grey-green and blue.

India. Three more of the new series are announced as on the way, the general types being similar to preceding ones of same value, as will be seen from the 2½ annas here represented; 4 and 8 annas to follow.



Malta. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send

us the 1/- value of the King series, all of which, so far, appear to be of one design, which gives the idea of a locket, as shown last month. The present one is an effective combination of colours.

- 1½., grey-green oval in violet frame.
- 1d. red.

Mauritius. We have received from the same firm the large size 2½ rupees of Arms type, with value in black, on Crown C A (side-ways) watermark paper.

- 2r. 50c., green on light blue.

New South Wales. Having had stamps of 5/- and 10/- for some time, the postal authorities have just discovered that a half-crown stamp was equally a necessity, as the time approaches for abolishing all these "local" issues in the Commonwealth. The Lyre-bird, being thought an attractive type, has been utilised by reducing the oval frame in which it stands, removing the "eightpence" at foot, and adding 2/6 in ovals at bottom corners. The paper is of the kind called chalky, or—as we said in our young days (possibly erroneously)—enamelled, watermark Crown N S W, and perforation about 11³/₄.

- 2/6, bluish green or deep emerald.

New Zealand. The Express Delivery stamp described in March is here illustrated. We have also the 4d., with single-lined N Z and star watermark, perf. 14, and the 6d., on same paper, perf. 11.



- 4d., chestnut and blue, perf. 14.
- 6d., rosy red, perf. 11.

Niué. There seems to be some rare excitement down under over the recent overprints on the 1/- New Zealand stamps, owing to a misspelling of the native word for "One," which should be "Taha" or "Taha e," but was set up as "Tahae," which is Niuéan for thief! The inscription, then, of "Tahae Sileni" means Thief Shilling. It is said that less than 100 copies had been sent out before the mistake was found out, and a hue and cry set up to find who had them. *Ewen's Weekly* says, too, that an Australian dealer is advertising one for 45/-, but £5 to £10 is considered a fair value, as only ninety-six copies were printed.

St. Lucia. The stock De la Rue type of Postage and Revenue stamps for the smaller colonies has appeared with the King's head

in two values sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

- 2d., lilac and blue, C A. 14.
- 3d., " " yellow, "

West Australia. Another adaptation of the V and Crown (sideways) paper has been received here in the 4d. value, and the *Monthly Journal* gives in addition a 9d. stamp in same Swan type, with "Postage" and value in line at foot. Also a 10d. in the swan and flowers arrangement, but with name above and value, &c., below.

- 4d., brown, V. crown watermark.
- 9d., orange.
- 10d., red.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Colombia. The accompanying illustration is of the lowest value of what seems likely to be of a more permanent issue than the many crudities of last year or two. The stamps were listed in our February number.



Ecuador. We have not yet been able to obtain further information as to the surcharged fiscal, 1c. on 25, for postal use, or whether there are others employed, since the fire which destroyed so many of the regular issues. The one illustrated was chronicled in our March issue.



France. In addition to the 15 centimes already chronicled of the new "Sower" type here illustrated, we have the 25c. in light blue from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. and also from Mme. Veuve, Marmin, who also forwards a 10 centimes.



- 10c., rosy red, perf. 14 by 13½.
- 25c., light blue, " "

Consular Offices. The sets of new type issued for these places must be reported as received, we suppose, but why they are made, except to sell, in places where a regular British, or shall we say Anglo-Egyptian, service exists, is more than we can understand. We now have for

- PORT SAID—**
- 10c., rose-red.
 - 15c., pale red.
 - 20c., purple-brown.
 - 25c., blue.
 - 30c., lilac.

and for LEVANT the same series, with the exception that the 25c. is overprinted 1 PIASTRE 1.

German Empire. Messrs. Whitfield King forward us used sets of the peculiar Official stamps described in February, the values being 10, 15, 20, 25, and 40 pfennig, in usual colours.

Italy. Eritrea. The whole set of current stamps of Italy have been overprinted with the usual "Colonia Eritrea" in black, and similar treatment bestowed on the Segnatasse or Unpaid issues, as shown to us by our Ipswich friends, the high values being badly perforated.

POSTAGE.	UNPAID.
1c., brown.	5c., orange.
2c., orange-brown.	10c., "
5c., green.	20c., "
10c., red.	30c., "
20c., orange.	40c., "
25c., blue.	50c., "
40c., brown.	60c., "
45c., olive-green.	1 lira "
50c., mauve.	2 lire "
1 lire, green and brown.	5 " "
5 " rose and blue.	10 " "

Nicaragua. The portrait on accompanying block of the stamps in our March list is said to be that of General Santos Zelaya, who has held the office of President of the Republic since July 11th, 1893, which explains the date below the head.



Paraguay. An imposing series has recently been sent out (Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. sending us specimens), the main feature in which is a very well-fed lion with a good stiff tail slightly hooked. The colours are not those of the U.P.U., though these letters are at the top, and quite overshadow "Republica del Paraguay" in the circle, partly surrounding the noble animal, so another change of colours may be expected in due course.

- 1 centavo, drab.
- 2 " blue-green.
- 5 " blue.
- 10 " chestnut.
- 20 " rose.
- 30 " deep blue.
- 60 " violet.

The tenders were officially asked for in January only, and are for 150,000 to 450,000 of each of the values; the hurry of producing them so quickly will account for their relatively poor effect, as they look like very cheap lithographs.

The same values are also overprinted in black, with OFFICIAL in upright letters, placed to rise diagonally, giving the effect of italics.

Portugal. Nyassa. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have shown us specimens of the 15 and 25 reis (Giraffe) overprinted "PROVISORIO" in black, 17mm. in length; also three others, reduced in value, overprinting in black. They are said to be few in number—at present.

15 reis, surch. "Provisorio."
 25 " " " "
 "60 reis" on 80, puce. "
 115 " " 150, brown.
 130 " " 300, green.

Portuguese India. Accompanying the above were the low values of large head type for this possession.

1 real, pearl-grey.
 1½ reis, dark slate.

Servia. Two more of the new small head types are to hand.

5p., light green.
 20p., orange.

United States. These blocks complete the illustrations of the lower values of the 1902 Commemorative Series—3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 cents.



San Marino. Mr. C. de Grave Sells kindly sends us specimens of some, and a description of others, of a new issue. The lowest value consists of a large "2" with decorations, the remainders with the three fanciful volcano chimneys topped by ? marks, as if the design itself queried what it professed to represent. They were printed at the Italian office at Torino, so we have still the curious anomaly of the postage stamp of a Republic water-marked with a crown. The colours as given to us differ from those in a contemporary, so

we give both, in the vain hope of pleasing all.

2c., light purple, or	— rose.
5c., green,	— blue-green.
10c., carmine	— lake.
20c., yellow-brown	— orange-brown.
25c., blue	— ultramarine.
30c., red	— carmine.
40c., vermilion	— orange-red.
45c., yellow.	
65c., brown	— chestnut.
1 lira, olive-green	— olive.
2 lire, violet.	
5 " dark grey	— steel-blue.

Our correspondent adds that the 10c. and 30c. are practically the same colour, and that the 45c. is of such a shade that the design cannot be seen by gaslight!

About Entires.

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SOUTH AFRICANS.

THE abstract of a paper read before "The Juniors" in South London, as given in March last, will serve as a general introduction to this subject, which we propose referring to from time to time, and will give a list here instead of with the new adhesives, as collectors of entires are becoming a group by themselves.

The fact is, that the closing of the century has been a parting of the ways for many collectors, who cannot continue on the old lines, and there are increasing numbers who now go in for entires, fiscals, or some other division of all-embracing Philately, not because they are weary of the old postal adhesives, but they do not like taking up small districts or special countries alone.

Having acquired a general knowledge of the stamps of the world, it is an easier matter for the new collector of entires to take up groups of colonies or countries at once, and concentrate his attention on them, especially if he has felt a preference for their adhesives previously. As one very interesting series of cards has been completed by the close of the late war, a group of South Africans would now form a nice little collection of itself, numbering about 500 pieces. The most diversified—and, in some respects, difficult to get in a complete form—are the cards of the Orange Free State. In the Gibbons Catalogue twenty-three are listed, but there are a few other varieties of provisionals, and two or three settings of some types as there given, making with the V.R.I.'s a possible hundred of this colony alone. The Transvaals had no old provisionals, but there are a few of the Cape and Bechuanaland, &c.

Two new varieties just received call for a brief reference to the O.F.S. in particular. Following those in catalogue came a British overprint on the engraved cards, three of

which had only been in use a year, consisting of V.R.I. in four varieties (as on adhesives), followed three months later in heavy block or sans serif type. When these were used up, some Cape cards were utilized, including a provisional looked upon as scarce, now scarcer still, which must be described. The 1½d. Cape (No. 4) being superseded, the stamp was surcharged "ONE PENNY" in two lines, with three curved bars across old value, with the words "Union Postale Universelle" (two settings) as a new heading at top in centre of card, all in black, at one printing, called No. 10. The No. 9 card had this heading already on the card in usual grey colour, so its stamp only was overprinted, making No. 11. Both these are with and without a stop after Penny.

In April, 1901, a quantity of these surcharged cards of 1897 were turned out to undergo another printing, consisting of O. R. C. on the stamp, and "ORANGE RIVER COLONY" above two rules 2mm. apart, which barred out the old name, followed by "POSTCARD" and two longer lines over the French name. The inscription was 51mm. long on both old types, the first O of Colony being oval instead of round, and on the *all* grey card (No. 11) this was also 52mm., both O's being round, with the bars only 1½mm. apart.

Another printing received last month is on the scarce No. 10 type (black headline), with full stop on stamp, and *smaller* O. R. C.; the chief inscription (now 50½mm.) being *below* the bars, and "Postcard" below the long lines or "rules." As newly-engraved cards with King's Head are on the way, the ½d. being already before us, these latest overprints must be scarce.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

½d., King, green on white, small size.
1d. on Cape No. 10, different inscriptions, as above.

Cape Colony. A new series of cards now being issued has the lettering on a stamp of oval form, "Cape of Good Hope" reading downwards on left side of the King, and "Halfpenny" reading upwards on the right, towards the crown in centre over the head, the effect being curious. Inscription in usual four lines, the third being "(INLAND SERVICE)."

¾d., green on pinkish white card, 140 x 89.

Transvaal. Both post and letter-cards are in use, with an adaptable type of stamp (as used for several colonies elsewhere)—with usual inscriptions and Royal Arms. The colour on letter-card looks crimson because of the blue colour underneath.

Post-card. 1d., carmine on buff, 140 x 89.
Letter Card. 1d., " " " blue " "

Bahamas. Precisely same setting and stamp, with name only changed.

Post-cards. 1d., carmine on buff.
1d. reply, carmine on buff.

Various other cards and registration envelopes and wrappers are also to hand, which must stand over another month.

Prize Essay Competition.

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The three essays (for I.P.U. Members) were to be on the following subjects:—

1. What advice would you give generally to anyone proposing to form a specialised collection, and more particularly from any one of the following countries:—
France, Greece, Holland, Japan, Persia, Siam, Egypt, Natal, Orange River, Argentine, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Queensland, and West Australia.
2. Describe the differences in the various methods of printing stamps, and indicate how specimens printed by different processes may be distinguished.
3. The third paper is to be written on one or other of the undermentioned subjects, but not both:—
(a) The advantages of stamp collecting.
(b) Whether it is desirable to describe and illustrate forgeries.

No essay to exceed 500 words in length.

QUESTION 1.

In forming a specialised collection, attention should be given to condition of the stamps. Specimens to be bright, clean copies and well centred. The unused, with original gum, if so obtainable, and the used with clear post-marks. Imperforate stamps, with as good even margins as reasonably possible, and perforated ones with only perfect perforations. Pairs and blocks, especially of imperforate issues, should be included, but not to too great an extent. Reprints, proofs, essays, forgeries, and such-like, would add to the interest of the collection. Colour shading of specimens not to be carried too far, but various printings, if possible, shown. With perforations, the results of different machines should be the main point, errors and curiosities being but of small importance.

Plates should be reconstructed where possible, and sheets or blocks included, where necessary, to show different arrangement of dies, position of types and varieties.

With surcharged stamps, inverted and double printed specimens should be shown but broken and missing letters, flaws, &c., unless occurring as a variety throughout a printing, are but of minor importance.

Having special regard to Holland. The first issue can be reasonably shaded, and the brown and white gums shown with unused specimens, but the thickness of the paper, which is hand-made, is of little importance. In the 1867-8 and later issues the catalogued types, perforations and papers can be fully shown, but imperforate specimens are hardly actually issued stamps. Any values of all

issues found on bluish paper should be included, also ribbed paper varieties, but the latter are hardly necessary. The perforation variety of 11½ by 12 should be obtained in pairs with the normal specimen where possible. Two distinct sets, on different papers, should be made of the 1891-7 issues. With the unpaid stamps, sheets showing the position and arrangement of the four and three types in the 1881-87 issue, and the settings of the 1894-02 issues, would be an interesting addition where necessary.

QUESTION 2.

The methods of printing stamps are:—

(a) *Engraving (taille douce*, line engraved, steel plates).—The design is either cut into a metal plate, each stamp then differing (e.g., Sydney Views), or an original die is made and from this a metal plate constructed (e.g., 1d. 1840 Great Britain). Owing to wear, &c., the original plate, die, or constructed plate is sometimes recut (retouched), making fresh varieties (e.g., Sydney Views, 1d. Great Britain, Die 2, Naples cross).

In the process of printing, the ink is held in the incised lines and the design appears raised in the impression.

(b) *Typography (épargne*, surface printing, &c.).—A design of one or more types is made in metal or wood, and by means of electro-types in most cases a plate is constructed, showing as many types as original dies (e.g., current Great Britain, 1882 Queensland). The original die is sometimes recut (India ½a. 1874), or, in a few instances, the constructed plate altered (Turkey 1 piastre 1880).

In the process of printing, the ink is retained on the raised lines, and the design is impressed (though generally appearing flat) on the paper.

(c) *Lithography*.—A design (single stamp, stamps, or whole sheets) is drawn (e.g., Peru 1860, Bolivar 1863, New Caledonia 1858), or impressions made from an engraved design, in lithographic ink (e.g., Uruguay 1c. 1877), transferred to a lithographic stone and impressions taken therefrom. Sometimes transfers are made for different parts of the design (Argentine 1888), or portions inserted separately on each stamp on the stone (Victoria 2d. 1854).

In printing, the ink is retained on the drawn lines, and the impression is quite flat and dull.

(d) *Type Set*.—The design is set up from ordinary printing type, and sometimes electro or stereotype plates made therefrom to construct the sheet (e.g., Hawaii numerals, Cook

Islands 1882). Varieties occur through dropped and broken type.

The impression is as with ordinary printing.

(e) *Embossing*.—The stamps are either printed and embossed at one operation (from single dies or in sheets), the design being made on the paper in relief (e.g., Peru 1862, Bavaria 1867), or an embossed design impressed on an ordinary printing (Bhopal).

Stamps are also produced by impressions made by hand, from a die, similar to postmarks (Guadalajara), photography (Mafeking 1d. and 3d.) and typewriter (Uganda).

QUESTION 3 (b).

The chief argument against the illustration and description of forgeries is that publication of the details of difference from the genuine would aid the forger to perfect his work. Certainly, this is a great point, but the disadvantages of such a course much outweigh the advantages.

Take, for instance, that a good forgery comes upon the market, and information to that effect is published, but no details as to the difference from the original is given. The stamp, for a time, falls into disrepute. A few leading dealers, whose names are a guarantee of their wares, and their customers possibly are in no way affected; but even the greatest are liable to err. However, with the majority of dealers, and collectors, it is merely known that a forgery is in circulation. Dealers fear to buy the stamp in case they are "taken in," whilst their clients, even though the stamp is offered with a reliable guarantee, feel very doubtful of taking what may turn out to be bad.

On the other hand, supposing that the details of difference are published. All classes interested are in no way likely to be deceived, at any rate by that particular forgery. Even supposing the forger hides the tell-tale point with a cancellation, it merely serves to cast immediate doubt upon the specimen. The only course left open to enable the forger to dispose of his wares is to alter or make a fresh die for the stamps. But the days of cheap lithographic productions deceiving philatelists are gone; and taking into account the expense of production, the rare likelihood of a forgery possessing practically no difference from the genuine, and the few copies that can be sold before the fraud is generally known—if full particulars are promptly published as discovered—the forger's work and trouble is hardly likely to pay.

Therefore, it is urged that the illustration and minute description of forgeries is necessary and desirable.



May 30, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens with a short editorial regretting the small amount of discussion that frequently takes place when important papers are read before the London Philatelic Society. Mr. Castle goes on to say:—

It is far easier to diagnose the complaint than to prescribe the remedy, but we feel convinced that it would greatly add to the interest of the meetings, and certainly to the philatelic knowledge of the less advanced members, if a fuller discussion could be arrived at. In order to attain this end two things are obviously requisite—more time and more knowledge. With regard to the former point, it would seem possible, on the nights devoted to a paper of any length or importance, to take only such formal business as might be absolutely necessary, leaving matters of minor importance to another meeting of less philatelic import. Beyond this it is quite feasible that the meetings could be commenced a little earlier—say a quarter of an hour.

As regards the second consideration—more knowledge or acquaintance with the subject of the debate—the only remedy that occurs to us is the duplication, by multiple typewriting or some similar inexpensive process, of the paper to be read. If this could be accomplished, and a copy placed before each member, he would obviously have a far better opportunity to study and reply to any particular point on which he would wish either to dilate or be more fully informed on.

May we be permitted to add that there is yet another difficulty, which Mr. Castle apparently overlooks? In these days of exhaustive specialism, what proportion of any given philatelic meeting is in a position to discuss a specialist's article with anything like a fair knowledge of the subject? Possibly one or two may have a few words to say, but the very fact of their speaking will tend to silence the rest. At least, so it seems to the present writer.

Yet another paper on the famous Moldavian question, concerning which we learn "that the final judgment as to the status of these reprints must be withheld"!!

Mr. A. B. Creeke, Jun., has another interesting instalment of his "Supplement to 'British Isles,'" and Mr. W. T. Wilson defends himself with regard to his claim to the discovery of a retouch of the 1d. of Great Britain, which he now declares to have taken place on the plate and not on the roller.

According to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., the total number of stamps issued to the date of their new catalogue (end of February, 1903) is 17,832. A note commenting on these figures adds:—

These figures are colossal, and apply, of course, only to the main varieties catalogued by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. When amplified by minor varieties they would probably be trebled, and when shades are added this total might well again be doubled, which would represent an approaching total of over 100,000 varieties! Well may the general collector refuse to consider the necessity for collecting "inverted stops," and the specialist entrench himself behind his favourite philatelic stockade!

The *Monthly Journal* opens with an editorial on "Specialism and Exhibitions." Major Evans's views may be summed up in the following two extracts:—

Collectors must be allowed to collect what they please, and as they please; if they decide to devote their attention and their money to the accumulation of duplicates, we may regret it, especially if the duplicates are rare stamps, which are thus rendered scarcer (for a time) and more uncertain in permanent value than they otherwise would be. But we cannot prevent it, and we have no real right to attempt to do so. From an Exhibition point of view, these duplicates should add nothing to the value of the collection, and if they are allowed to do so, it must be the fault either of the rules of the Exhibition or of the judges who administer those rules. But, as a matter of fact, we have never seen a prize awarded to a collection which depended for its supremacy upon a multitude of actual duplicates.

The fact is that, in some stamps, real *duplicates* are by no means easy to find; pages might be filled with Sydney Views, without including any duplicates, and the same may be said of the early Mauritius and Bolivia, and indeed of many stamps which show varieties of type on the sheets. It is quite true to say that it is no longer necessary, for the benefit of Philatelists in general, that everybody, or anybody, could accumulate any of these for purposes of plating, because the work has been done; but the varieties exist, and a collection which contains plates of these stamps is more complete than one that does not.

His remedy for the state of things at present complained of is the following, which is certainly worthy of consideration—especially as regards its conclusion:—

In exhibitions of stamps, as in exhibitions of all other kinds, wealth will tell; so long as stamps have a market value at all, the rich man can always make a better collection than the poor man. But something might certainly be done by introducing competitions in which the catalogue value of the individual stamps is limited to a small sum; under such conditions a less wealthy collector, who has plenty of leisure time to hunt for varieties of the lower-priced stamps (some of which are by no means easy to find), could compete with far wealthier rivals; and if he is careful not to limit his specialism too strictly, and regards his "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," he will find that a page of varieties of a common stamp is quite as interesting to look at as a similar lot of rarer ones, and that he will have had a better run for his money.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for April 25th has an instructive letter from Mr. J. B. Neyroud concerning specialism.

My opinion (writes Mr. Neyroud) is that specialising pays if only perfect specimens (used or unused) of the older issues of certain countries are collected. Specialists of new issues (especially in blocks and sheets) will be disagreeably surprised in years to come, when they wish to dispose of their accumulations, as there will be no demand for many varieties of which millions have been printed. It is, of course, to the interest of certain dealers to boom these new issues (which can be supplied to order in any quantity), but it is the collector who will eventually be the loser. My advice (based on thirty years' experience) to all collectors, advanced or otherwise, is (1) to collect only perfect specimens (used or unused), (2) to avoid blank albums, which only lead to bloating, and (3) to mount their stamps in one of the leading printed albums in which sufficient spaces are provided for shades, watermarks, perforations, plate numbers, pairs, &c. A collection formed on these lines will at any time find a ready purchaser.

And yet it seems to the writer that it is not so very many decades ago since Mr. Neyroud was known as one of the leading specialists of English stamps with varying *postmarks*—which uncharitable people might call bloating of the worst kind.

In the next number of the *Fortnightly* we are given some more information about the Madagascar "stamps." Certain other dealers' names are mentioned, and we are promised that "the whole story shall be told in full in the next number," which should make most interesting reading.

The *Collectors' Gazette and Photographic Review* is a new periodical "devoted to Stamps, Photography, Coins, and Picture Postcards."

Here is one of its "Things Worth Knowing":—

The Prince of Wales has a complete set of unused Australian stamps; they are worth over a thousand pounds.

The italics are ours. H'm. Just so; especially as they must include all the recent high values of Victoria, South Australia, &c., as well as every variety of the Sydney Views, Laureated South Australian Departmentals, and the like, not to mention such trifles as early New Zealand (with all kinds of perforations), Queensland, &c.

Another gem is the following:—

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE HOBBY OF STAMP COLLECTING.

STAMP collecting is a splendid hobby, and a hobby that is greatly interesting and instructive, as, for instance, the Pan-American which illustrated the invention, and the growth of modern times in comparing them with the Omaha issue of the same country.

The beginner usually starts with the common issues, by buying a few packets of mixed stamps. When his collection increases he then buys stamps singly. Some collectors just collect for a few months and then sell them, but very few get more than what they paid in the first instance, and are, to my mind, lucky if they get their money back. The only way to gain by stamp collecting is to collect for a time and then keep them till the prices go up, and then sell them while the market is high.

Now, kind reader, you know all about it. Go right on and make your fortune. Eh? What

do you say? Suppose the prices of the stamps you have don't go up! What are you to do? Give it up.

The *Philatelic Record* has some interesting editorials this month. The first, which we reproduce in its entirety, should doubtless arouse mingled feelings in the mind of the person chiefly concerned.

THE *Connoisseur*, which was started at the end of 1900 to minister to the pleasure of Collectors of all kinds, has not had long to wait for the inevitable rival. The *Burlington Magazine* has just come to hand. With their rivalry we are not concerned. But it is a curious fact that both started with the same editor. The first editorial in the *Connoisseur* was disfigured with a sneer at Stamp Collecting. The writer thereof did not long occupy that editorial chair. Now he sits in the editorial chair of the new magazine, and once more the poor man vents his little spite on Stamp Collecting. Why, we know not, unless it be that in his case Stamp Collecting plays the same part in his little life that King Charles's head played in the life of another afflicted one.

* We are told that "the desire to collect in the abstract—the mere collecting for the sake of collecting—is one of the crudest of instincts inherited from the less reasonable of our animal ancestors." Apparently the present editor of the *Burlington* will have to rewrite Natural History. And then he goes on to say that "the man who collects old masters as another collects railway tickets or postage stamps displays his affinities." Ah, well. There are affinities and affinities, editorial and otherwise, and we fear the new magazine is not to be congratulated upon the peculiar affinities of its present editor.

The *Connoisseur* learnt to its cost that it does not do to collect editors of the sneering type. At best they are an expensive luxury, especially if they happen to be descended from "the less reasonable of our animal ancestors."

In the next, which deals with the questions raised by Mr. Oldfield's views on limited specialism and Mr. C. J. Phillips's reply thereto, there is, in addition to much of the recognised talk on the subject, an utterance which strikes us as being of particular importance—we refer to the words which we have italicised at the end of the following paragraph:—

A veritable Pendragon controversy arises before our eyes. Who would have thought that after nigh upon forty years this bone of contention would once again loom on the horizon? Yet surely this is what is actually taking place, making due allowance for the different conditions under which collections are made to-day as compared with the late sixties. The effect of the decision which was arrived at during the period we mention has proved of inestimable value to Philately. The system of collecting it encouraged as being the correct system, and which at the time was referred to by some of the "French School," has unquestionably turned mere stamp collecting into philately.

No one would dream of returning to the order of things which existed in those days, but the question is whether the success and distinction which certain prominent philatelists have gained by the study of large quantities of stamps has not turned their heads, and made some of them go considerably too far in the best interests of philately, knowing that the further they go the further the common herd will follow.

These words, in our opinion, contain the key to the situation. The great majority of present day "philatelists" is only too ready to follow with sheep-like obedience anyone who claims to lead them. It only needs a little independence of character to enable any man of average intelligence to judge for himself whether such or such a variety is collectible or not and to act accordingly. Meanwhile,

why should we blame the specialist, who, after studying closely great quantities of stamps, finds that certain minor varieties are much scarcer than others, and duly announces the fact, after having first thoughtfully provided himself with a duplicate or two for exchange purposes?

A very interesting paper is that by Mr. J. C. North on "Morocco Agencies," the varieties of overprint, &c., being noteworthy, whether one considers them all collectible or not.

The greater part of the rest of the number is occupied with a detailed account of the Mulhausen Exhibition.

Philately on the Continent.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres Postes has an extremely interesting article by M. Arthur Maury on the postal arrangements during the siege of Paris, with special reference to the balloons employed. Of these a tabulated list is given, containing all imaginable particulars, such as the date, hour and minute of departure, the name and cubic capacity of each balloon, the names of the aeronauts and passengers, the number of pigeons carried, the place and time of descent, the distance covered and the duration of the voyage.

In *Les Archives des Collectionneurs* for April M. Victor Flandrin has an article on the rarest stamps in the world. Starting out with the intention of disproving any claims of the "Post Office" Mauritius to that title, and presumably ignoring all minor varieties as well as surcharged stamps, he places the three rarest stamps in the following order:—1. British Guiana 1856, 1c., black on red, of which he says that only one specimen is known; 2. Brattleboro 1846, 5c., black on chamois—of this, according to M. Flandrin, three specimens exist; 3. British Guiana 1851, 2c., black on rose, ten specimens of which have been found—viz., four singles and three pairs. So far as the writer knows, M. Flandrin is probably right as regards the British Guiana stamps, but it is very doubtful whether there are not numerous American Locals that are said to be unique. Also, there are probably more than three Brattleboro stamps in existence. Two, at least, have come up in the London auctions during the past eight or ten years, and it seems hard to believe that only one other was in the United States during that time.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for April 30th has the conclusion of the article on the stamps of Hong Kong, ending with the tabular summary of the different postal articles received and sent in 1880.

In the number for May 15th we have the continuation of an illustrated article on the little-known French postal obliterations, which should prove interesting to those who care for such things.

The *Revue Philatelique Belge* for April has a most elaborate article on the two types of the French stamps of the 1876 issue, in which any number of other minute differences are described.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* for April has an interesting article by Hugo Krötzsch on the types of surcharge on the San Marino stamps of 1892, with two plates of illustrations representing the surcharges of 5 and 10c. respectively.

The *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung* has hit upon a grand idea for a permanent postage stamp album, which, incidentally, would improve philately off the face of the earth. The idea is simplicity itself. Collect one specimen of each issue and there you are!

The *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* for May has the commencement of an article, by "Dr. F. S.," for specialists in the stamps of the two Mecklenburgs, which should be of use to those who take up these stamps.

Philately in the States.

The *New York Philatelist* has an article on "Double Perforations—What are they?" which apparently proves that these varieties are not always accidental or made by postal employees. Fortunately, comparatively few collectors pay much more for such varieties.

We quote the following with fear and trembling:—

It is no fault of the publishers that this issue is late. The MSS. has been in our hands for over ten days, but owing to several 100,000 runs on presses could not go to press until the large runs were finished. We write this so blame will be placed where it belongs, on

THE PRINTER.

Here is a note from the *Adhesive*, which seems to have a certain amount of common-sense in it:—

IMPERFORATE v. UNPERFORATED.

A friend of mine who is inclined to be a critic as well as a philatelist complains that collectors are too careless in the way in which they use imperforate and unperforated. The former, he says, should be used to designate stamps whose normal condition fails to show intention of separation on the part of its makers, while the second should be applied to specimens usually separated but failing to normal. Thus the 1847 and 1851 U.S. issues would be imperforate, while non-perforated specimens of any other issue would be unperforated. While I fail to see any reason for the distinction yet it would be convenient if the general usage of the two words in this manner could exist.

The *Philatelic World* has achieved a unique distinction in two of its March issues. On

page 65 of the number dated March 18 appears the following:—

Some time ago the English Parliament passed a Bill authorizing the post office in the Isle of Man to sell fourteen penny stamps for a shilling. This lasted until the average number of stamps bought by each inhabitant passed the 1,000 mark each day, and then investigation showed that the English merchants were sending up to the Isle of Man to get their stamps

Although this number ends with page 68, we have to wait till March 25 for the continuation of the paragraph, which ends as follows on page 70:—

at the reduced rate. After this the Manxman bought his stamps at face.

And, after all, the whole thing is utterly (say) inaccurate!

According to *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for April 11th the lot of the American dealer must at times be even less happy than that of the Gilbertian policeman. Listen to his latest "tale of woe":—

A dealer says that he sent a good lot of stamps on approval to an applicant who returned the lot after substituting practically every specimen on the sheets with worthless trash, and he added insult to injury by writing to the dealer: "The enclosed sheets contain the poorest lot of truck that I ever saw and a dealer disgraces himself by sending them out."

Still, the trade has its humours, as witness the following from the issue of May 2nd:—

A small boy visitor to a stamp shop asked the dealer how much those "stamps with devils on"; he referred to the early issues of China.

Lastly, here is "A Philatole" from the May 9 number, with moral and all complete:—

Once there was a Man who collected Stamps for Three weeks and knew it All. He created a Class for Himself as befitting a True Aristocrat and turned down all Friendly Tips with a Vitreous stare. At the end of six months, he placed his Collection in an exhibition where the prizes were 99 per cent. fine, and came under the Wire sixth; whereupon, he made a Mighty Roar and asked the Heady main Guy of the Committee on Awards for an Explanation, and quick, too, of the Rank Discrimination. The Chairman went over the Collection with the Wise Boy and spake this way: "You will note that this inverted Pan was made with a pair of Shears, also that this imperforate is suffering from a close shave, while your Bermuda surcharges were created Free and Equal via a rubber Stamp. These Abyssinians have dropped in value and no Prizes are being paid on Them at Present; also"— "Enough," shrieked the Wise One, "The whole Thing is Yours with a Dollar Bill to take it away. Give it to your Youngest." Then he fled.

Moral.—Wisdom sometimes goeth before a shock.

A Philatelic Dissertation.

BY THE POSTMAN.

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PHILATELIC RIP VAN WINKLES.

(From the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*.)

FROM time to time some eminent philatelist discovers the existence of different types of watermark in the 1870—1887 issue of

New South Wales—really, very few facts in philately have been discovered so frequently as this unfortunate Crown and N.S.W. watermark. Some few years ago—to be exact, in April, 1895—the *London Philatelist* discovered that a contributor to the *Australian Philatelist* had discovered the varieties of this watermark and condescendingly pats the said contributor on the shoulder "for the careful and conscientious study he has made of these watermarks, forming as it does, an addition to previous knowledge on the subject."

Now the boot is on the other leg—the *Australian Philatelist* (April, 1903) has discovered that a contributor to the *London Philatelist* (January, 1903) has discovered these same distinctions. Strange to say, the Scott Stamp Company, of New York, also discovered this matter some years ago, and duly listed it in their "Standard Catalogue," and previous to that Messrs. Collin and Calman listed, and we believe illustrated it in their "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors"—in fact, the occasions of its discovery have been almost as numerous of late years as the discoveries of POST OFFICE Mauritius stamps.

It would be interesting to note the different discoveries of these varieties; they are as follows:—Messrs. Collin and Calman, July, 1894; Mr. Weightman, *Australian Philatelist*, January, 1895; Scott Stamp and Coin Co., "Standard Catalogue," 1895; *London Philatelist* (first occasion), April, 1895; *London Philatelist* (second occasion), January, 1903; *Australian Philatelist* (re-assertion of discovery), April, 1903; the *Philatelic Chronicle*, February, 1894.



The *Philatelic Chronicle* gave a fully illustrated description of the three, not two, varieties, and showed the salient features more correctly than has been done since, the credit for which belongs to Mr. G. Johnson, and Messrs. Collin and Calman reproduced the information by permission.

In the dim abyss of futurity I can see the *London Philatelist* yet again discovering these varieties of watermark, and perhaps then the British catalogues will awake and behold and believe.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the Northern, Sheffield, and Scottish Philatelic Societies, and the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

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[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 42.—MAJOR J. DE C. LAFFAN, R.E.

The subject of our present sketch is still a young man, having started life at Bonchurch in the Isle of Wight so recently as July, 1865, yet it is 30 years since he began collecting with a dozen stamps presented him by another boy, which were promptly relegated to the usual receptacle—an old copy book. From this time onwards the collection was increased or kept going with varying degrees of interest, but never entirely dropped.

At the time when his father (General Sir R. M. Laffan, R.E.) was Governor of the Bermudas a collection was being made for the Post Office there, and various governments, as is usual, were written to, and supplied specimens of their stamps in duplicate sets. Many of these duplicates naturally found their way into the youth's unofficial collection, including some old West Australians. In 1877 some fine treasures were obtained when at school in Switzerland, such as a fine set of the older Swiss stamps—Basle,



Zurich, &c., which were the pride of his collection for a time; but having invested in a copy of Earée's *Album Weeds*, these beautiful desiderata were thenceforward allotted a place of honour in his "Chamber of Horrors." Entires also took his fancy in 1878, and were continued for twelve years to 1890, that fateful year of the Jubilee Exhibitions, which ended many interesting collections of various kinds of stamps elsewhere. It was about 1882 that he began to take more serious interest in collecting, and studied watermarks, perforations, and papers, &c.

Having joined the Royal Engineers as a Lieutenant from the Military Academy in July, 1884, he arrived in Ceylon in 1888, where he stayed for three years. Being on the best of terms with the Postmaster at Trincomali, who brought out his stock periodically for inspection, Mr. Laffan discovered one day an error in the Ceylon Telegraph stamps which subsequently found its way into our publisher's possession. "It caught my eye (he says) in the middle of a complete sheet of the 80 on five rupees, its "00" making it very conspicuous." This error

"00" instead of 80, surcharged on 5 rupees orange, was in the centre of a strip of three unused stamps, and is probably unique in that condition; it now rests in the collection of a well-known collector in Paris.

The Ceylon people had very exaggerated ideas of their stamps, he considers, and asked absurdly high prices for them. They also knew how to invent and multiply overprints, not only on adhesives but on envelopes and post-cards, horizontally, inverted, reading upwards or downwards, in which decorative art they were even at that time "past-masters," and, in fact, still hold the record.

On his return from Ceylon in 1891 he was struck with the progress made in philatelic collecting from the time he went out there. "When I went out in 1888 auctions were a rarity, exchange clubs seldom heard of—when I returned auctions were in full swing, exchange clubs everywhere, and about every other person one met was a collector." Captain Laflan (promoted in October, 1892) went out to Jamaica in 1897, staying 3½ years, and so obtained the nucleus for a specialised collection of that island, which he started after his return, in 1901, in which year he attained his majority. He considers that the Jamaicans, equally with their Cingalese brethren in almost the same latitude, have absurd ideas of the value of their stamps; and he was much amused by a letter in the local paper in which the writer abused Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and other firms for cutting down prices, and said that when he asked for a shilling pineapple they were unable to supply it. Pineapples were not easy to obtain locally in good condition, the insect population of the island had a fondness for them, though they never quite got through one, but left pieces.

The Major is more interested in the British Empire stamps than in those of foreign countries. He was a general collector to the year 1892, but the Seebecks and Commemorative issues, &c., which arrived in shoals about that time made him decide not to collect later issues. He joined the International Philatelic Union in 1893, is a life member, and was elected a member of Committee at the annual general meeting of 1901, and takes a most active interest in the work of the Union, but is not a member of any other philatelic society at present.



ALLEGED ILLEGAL DEALING IN OFFICIAL STAMPS.

—:0:—

A serious charge has been brought against W. J. Richards, a principal clerk in the Postal Branch at Somerset House, and his two sons; also A. B. Creeke, solicitor, and A. Waterhouse, an Admiralty clerk, of stealing and receiving official stamps. Mr. R. D. Muir, the prosecuting counsel for Inland Revenue Department, explained, on June 9th, how the charge originated, and that some of the stamps had been sold to Mr. Field and other dealers, including Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose shop manager and another assistant gave evidence of having bought some sets of the Office of Works stamps from Percy Richards on May 5; and a week later a further purchase was made by the same firm.

Mr. Moore, a stamp dealer, also gave evidence as to his dealings with Henry Richards, whom he sent on to Mr. Field, who paid £20 for some of these overprinted stamps. Richards called again and asked Moore if he had any official stamps in stock, and on getting the reply, "No," said: "That's a good thing; there's been a row at Somerset House about them. Edwin Healey and Co. have written the authorities asking permission to buy these stamps, saying they could get them within a mile of Somerset House." On being asked how he got them, he said: "Through my father being at Somerset House." Waterhouse had also sold Moore four Government Parcels stamps for 10/- and said he could get more by substituting ordinary stamps for them. Later on, 120 twopenny parcels stamps changed hands for £2, and on another occasion Waterhouse said that stamps had been missed, but written off as used; also adding, "My conscience is perfectly clear, as I am so miserably paid."

On June 20th, the senior Richards was arrested, and brought up on the 22nd at Bow Street charged with stealing 400 official stamps, which were in his care jointly with another clerk, each having a separate key of the safe for concurrent use when it was required to give out the stamps for use in the departments. Mr. Creeke is stated to have had some stamps in his possession, he having access to the officials for the purpose of studying and writing about British stamps; also with trying to induce Mr. Healey to buy the stamps after he had refused to have them from Mr. Moore.

All the accused were remanded, bails for £100 to £200 being allowed.

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

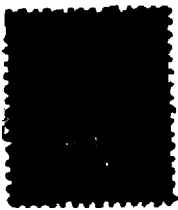
—O—

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

FRANCE.

(Continued.)

Up to now all the changes that had been made in the designs of the French stamps were occasioned by political events, but in 1876 another change was made for utilitarian purposes entirely. All the stamps of the previous issues (except the lowest denominations) had the values expressed in very small figures, and it was decided to get a new design in which the values should be shewn in large figures and which would bear the words "République Française" and "Postes" in full. Accordingly, as the result of a prize competition, the well-known design with allegorical figures of Peace and Commerce, as illustrated herewith, was adopted. The drawing was the work of M. Jules



Sage, and it was engraved on steel for the matrix. From this a plate of 300 impressions, in twelve panes of twenty-five, was constructed, for each value; the printed sheets were cut in half before being perforated

and were issued to the post offices in sheets of 150. There are two types of nearly all the values, easily distinguishable by the position of the inscription—J. A. SAGE INV—which appears in very minute characters in the left lower part of the stamp under the word REPUBLIQUE. In the first type the letters INV are under the "B" and in the second they are under the "U." The second type was the result of an accident to the matrix, which, after several casts had been taken from it, cracked across the left-hand lower corner. It must be remembered that a cavity was left in the matrix for the insertion of the numerals of value as the different plates were made, and this, no doubt, contributed to the accident. It was found impossible to mend the matrix, so the damaged corner was removed and, the remainder of the design having been transferred to a new steel die, the missing corner was re-engraved. A complete set of plates for all values was constructed from the

casts taken from the first die, but new plates were soon required for most of the values and these were reproduced from the mended die, known to collectors as Type *b*. The 25c. blue is known in a pair shewing both types, so it would seem that the plate of this value was renewed twice, if not oftener, and that in one plate a cast from the first die was used—probably by accident. All this time the oblong 5fr. stamp with laureated head had remained in use, owing to the very large stock that was still on hand.

1876.

	Type a.		Type b.	
	Un-used. s. d.	Used. s. d.	Un-used. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1c., green	1 6	6 6		
2c., green	—	1 0	3	2
4c., green	6	5 6		
5c., green	8 6	9	2	
<i>a. blue-green</i>			3	
<i>b. yellow-green</i>			5	
<i>c. deep-green</i>			5	
10c., green	2 9	1 1/2	—	2 0
15c., grey	8 0	1 1/2	1 0	1 1/2
<i>a. grey-lilac</i>	—	1 1/2	1 0	1 1/2
20c., red-brown on pale yellow	2 3	1		
25c., ultramarine	—	1 3	1 3	1 1/2
<i>a. blue</i>			2 6	1
<i>b. brown</i>	4 3	1	1 0	1 1/2
<i>a. yellow-brown</i>			8	1 1/2
40c., red on pale yellow	12 6	2	10	1 1/2
75c., carmine	3 6	2		
75c., rose			10 0	4
1fr., olive-green	6 0	1 1/2	1 3	1 1/2
<i>a. pale yellow-green</i>			2 6	2
<i>b. grey-green</i>			1 3	1

NOTE.—There are many more shades of this and the following issues than we have space to mention. We have only listed the most important ones.

It was very soon found that confusion resulted in having so many stamps in the same colour, so it was decided at the end of the same year (1876) that the colours of the 1c., 2c., 4c., and 10c. should be changed. It was also resolved to change the colours of the 15c. to yellow on yellow, 20c. to blue on bluish, and 25c. to black on red; and to add a new value—35 centimes. For some reason the first two changes were not made, and though a supply of the 20c. was printed in blue it was never issued. Copies of it, however, have got into the hands of collectors in fair numbers, and at one time the stamp was always included in the catalogues as an "error"—but is now omitted. The other proposals were carried out in the years 1877-78, and at about the same time the 5fr. with the head of the Emperor was withdrawn and the stamp in the new type, printed in lilac, was substituted. During the ensuing ten years the following other changes were made. A new value of 3c. was added to the set; at first this was printed in brown-ochre, but was afterwards changed to grey. The 15c. was changed from grey to blue; the 20c. to brick-red on green;

the 25c. altered to bistre on yellow and afterwards again to black on rose.

In 1890 the 35c. stamp was withdrawn from use and a 50c. substituted, while at the same time the 75c. was changed in colour from rose to black on yellow.

Early in 1892 the 15c. stamp appeared on paper covered with crossed lines printed with a dull white composition, shewing an indistinct pattern of squares. This paper is termed *quadrillé* by philatelists. The change was intended both as a safeguard against forgery and against cleaning. Just previously the stamp had been forged in large quantities and used on letters.

It was a great surprise to philatelists when, in 1898, the 5c., which then appeared in bright yellow-green, was printed from a plate partly composed of *clichés* from the original matrix and partly from the mended one, shewing both Types *a.* and *b.* This was followed by the 10c., printed in sheets, also containing stamps of Type *a.*; and, finally, in 1900 a new plate was constructed for the 50c., containing stamps of Type *a.* At about the same time a new value—2 francs—was introduced, all in Type *a.* The following is a list of the stamps of this series, only the most marked shades being given:—

1877-97.

	Type a.		Type b.	
	Un-used. s. d.	Used. s. d.	Un-used. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1c., black on grey-blue ...			1	1
<i>a.</i> black on azure ...			1	1
<i>b.</i> black on Prussian blue			60	0 10 0
2c., deep red-brown on yellow ...			1	
<i>a.</i> pale red-brown on yellow			1	
3c., ochre on yellow ...			9	3
3c., grey ...			2	1
4c., purple-brown on grey ...			6	1
<i>a.</i> brown-lilac on grey ...			4	1
<i>b.</i> plum on grey-blue			2	1
5c., bright yellow-green ...	2	2	1	
10c., black on grey-lilac ...			4	
<i>a.</i> black on reddish lilac	3	2	3	
15c., blue ...			6	
<i>a.</i> dark blue			2	0
15c., blue on <i>quadrillé</i> ...			3	
20c., red on green ...			8	1
<i>a.</i> red on deep green ...			5	1
25c., black on deep red ...			3	0 1
25c., ochre-brown on yellow			1	3 1
<i>a.</i> pale ochre-brown on yellow			1	0 2
<i>b.</i> pale ochre-brown on saffron ...			1	3 1
25c., black on rose ...			4	
<i>a.</i> , black on pale rose ...			4	
35c., black on yellow ...			3	6 2
40c., orange-red on yellow ...			8	1
50c., rose ...	9	1	1	6 1
<i>a.</i> deep rose ...			1	0 1
<i>b.</i> carmine ...			8	1
75c., brown on orange ...			2	0 3
<i>a.</i> deep brown on orange			2	0 5
<i>b.</i> brown on orange-yellow ...			3	6 3
2fr., brown on pale blue ...	2	9	8	
5fr., lilac ...			12	0 1 9
<i>a.</i> bright mauve ...			15	0 6
<i>b.</i> pale mauve ...			6	9 9
<i>c.</i> violet ...			—	2 0

In the early 'nineties there were rumours that a new issue of stamps was to be made, and

the rumour recurred at frequent intervals for years, but it was not until December, 1900, that new stamps put in an appearance. The set consisted of fifteen different values; of these



the five lowest denominations are in the type shewing an angel with a pair of scales balanced over the heads of two cupids. The five values—10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., and 30c.—are in the type which shews a seated female figure holding on her

knee a tablet inscribed "Droits de l'homme."

All these stamps were printed in sheets the same size and divided in the same manner as those of the previous issue. The five highest values of the set, however, are double the size and oblong. The design is difficult to describe, but is shewn in the accompanying illustration. These stamps are printed in



sheets the same size and shape as the other values, but as the stamps are twice the size of the lower values the panes each contain 25 stamps only. The body of the stamp is printed in one colour, and the small patch of sky in the centre of the design, which shews between the branches of the tree, is in another colour. This second colour, however, is so pale in some of the later printings as to have given rise to the statement that the second printing has been omitted; but on all specimens which we have examined so far faint traces of the colour can always be seen. Each of the three designs was the work of a different artist—that for the middle values being by M. Mouchon, who engraved the die of the previous issue. Of this type there are two varieties, one (the earlier) in which the body of the stamp was printed first and the figures of value afterwards, and the other in which the whole stamp was printed in one operation. In the former the numerals are not always exactly in the centre of the tablet and are generally slightly different in tint from the rest of the stamp, while in the latter they are

always exactly in the centre of the tablet and are exactly the same in colour. The 20c. and 30c. are found only in the first printing and the 15c. only in the second; while the 10c. and 25c. may be found in either.

1900.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1c., grey	...	1	1
2c., claret	...	1	1
3c., orange-red	...	1	1
4c., brown	...	1	1
5c., green	...	1	1
10c., carmine	...	4	4
a. carmine (second printing)	...	2	3
15c., orange	...	3	2
20c., brown-purple	...	3	1
25c., blue	...	5	4
a. blue (second printing)	...	4	3
30c., lilac	...	5	6
40c., red and pale blue	...	6	7
50c., cinnamon and lavender	...	7	1
1fr., lake and yellow-green	...	1 0	2
2fr., slate and dull green	...	2 0	—
5fr., blue and buff	...	5 3	—

During the year 1902 modifications were made in the design of the five values of the Mouchon type—10c. to 30c.—the tablet containing the value was altered in shape and the word POSTES inserted at the top of the stamp. As a matter of fact, the whole design was re-drawn, but these are the differences, which are at once apparent. The 15c. was the last to appear with this alteration and at the same time the colour was changed to pale red.



1902.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
10c., carmine	...	2	1
15c., pale red	...	3	1
20c., brown-purple	...	3	1
25c., blue	...	4	4
30c., lilac	...	4	1

Even in its altered form the *Droits de l'homme* type did not give satisfaction, and an entirely new design, representing the well-known figure of the Sower (*La Semeuse*) as it appears on some of the French coins, was introduced. The 15 centimes was issued in February, 1903, and was shortly afterwards followed by the 10c. and 25c. No doubt the other two values—20c. and 30c.—will follow suit in due course.



1903.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1c., rosy red	...	2	1
15c., deep green	...	4	1
25c., blue	...	4	1



June, 1903, Report.

—o—

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NOTICES.

The Committee met at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Wednesday, June 10th. Present—Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E. (in the chair), W. Schwarte, W. S. King, J. E. Joselin, J. C. Sidebotham, P. L. Pemberton, and the Hon. Sec. Encouraged by the success of the monthly meetings held during the past season, it was decided unanimously to hold meetings during next season from October to May, on the second Wednesday in each month, including a Lantern Display to be held in February next, the Hon. Sec. being instructed to make arrangements as far as possible and submit proposals to a further committee meeting to be held in September next. Mr. E. W. Wetherell then gave a very interesting display of his collections of the stamps of Austria and Holland, and also of a newly-discovered die of the small lilac 1d. Receipt stamps, in which members were much interested, and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Wetherell and good wishes for his return journey to India.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Members who have not yet forwarded their subscriptions are requested to do so as soon as possible to

T. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treas., Inter. Phil. Union.

5, Paultons Square, Chelsea, S.W.,

June 15th, 1903.

Mr. Wetherell, in the *American Journal of Philately*, says that the "On H.M.S." on Indian stamps is not fully understood outside that country. It is only a glorified penmark, most stamps out there being cancelled by the senders to prevent their being taken off and sold. Officers of certain grades can buy the overprinted stamps at same rate as ordinary ones, but when using them must write their names and official designation on the envelope. Manuscript surcharges of the same letters or "Service" are occasionally used, when printed ones have run out. This ought to make our collectors see there is no more reason in collecting such so-called Official stamps than in obtaining the thousands of different caligraphic specimens obtainable from the millions of used Indian issues that can be easily had.

Competitive Essays.

—:0:—

The second set of three essays, for which award was made, sent in by "Tancred" (Mr. E. W. Wetherell), as here given, complete the series. (For particulars, see May number, or present editorial.)

QUESTION I.

My advice to your budding specialist—the only variety of your genus to need a guiding hand—is: Select a philatelically respectable country—preferably one which has not been too thoroughly investigated, one which will not make too great a demand on your purse, and one in which discoveries may yet reward the industrious seeker after truth.

Such a country is Holland.

Do not buy the stamps until you have collected all the available literature on the subject, from which you should compile a list of all the known varieties. This list should be arranged in four columns—(1) For the actually different stamps ordered by Government; (2) For those variations of type, colour, perforation, &c., which have long been regarded as major varieties; (3) For those minor varieties which deserve a place in a specialised collection. Column 4 is reserved for curiosities, flaws, &c.

Each stamp in these columns should have a number attached. You can then decide to what extent you will carry your specialization.

Do not purchase single copies until you have a large collection; buy small wholesale lots, or exchange in bulk; attend a few auctions and buy the Dutch "lots."

When you have amassed some two or three thousand stamps, go through them with a perforation gauge and sort into oblong envelopes, marking each envelope with the date of issue and perforation, and keep the envelopes containing each issue together by an elastic band.

Obtain a dozen small collecting books, reserve one for each issue, and at first mount every stamp, whether a duplicate or not. Reserve one page for each perforation and a row or more for each value.

Pencil notes freely above the stamps, and place the number corresponding with the stamp in your list above each one.

Keep your unused stamps severely apart from the used.

Do not be in a hurry to mount permanently.

When you have at least three-quarters of the stamps mentioned in your list you may commence arranging in an album.

Remember that each issue requires special treatment.

First select the very best specimen of each stamp mentioned in Column 1. This will give you a complete collection of the stamps authorised by Government; a similar collection unused should also be arranged.

Then go systematically through your collecting books; reserve your first page of each issue for a row of shades of each value, and the second page for variations of paper, gum, and condition of die, and subsequent pages for perforations, remembering that these are numerous, and that not only are there different gauges, but different sizes of holes in the 12½x12 machine, and two variations—11½x12 and 12x12.

Mount the third issue with vertical line, to keep the types apart.

Carefully examine the collecting book residue for minor varieties, flaws, curiosities, and obliterations.

Fill in your blanks from club sheets and dealers' stocks.

Lastly, never imagine that your collection is even approximately complete, lest you be grievously disappointed.

QUESTION II.

When issuing stamps a State has several factors to bear in mind—suitability of design, combined with a protection from fraud at a minimum cost being the most important; alas! that so many, including Great Britain, should sacrifice the former to the latter.

It is a far cry—a veritable philatelic "Dan to Beersheba"—to compare the beautiful but valueless creations of Seebeck with the much-sought-for smudges called water-colour Kashmirs, but as all States are not equally happy in their Exchequers, different methods of production are employed in different countries. Those most frequently employed are *epargné* or surface printing, *taille douce* or line engraving, and lithography.

There are two distinct points in the subject of manufacture—the plate and the method of printing therefrom.

The artist's single die may be transferred many times to a flat plate by means of a roller; every stamp on this plate is exactly similar to every other one.

On the other hand, a plate may be formed by taking a number of single, separately engraved dies and fixing them together; in this case every stamp will differ more or less from its neighbours. Sydney Views and old Japanese were printed from such plates. In some cases the design for different colonies is

the same, the labels alone being changed; this is called a key plate.

A very few States do not manufacture a plate but print from single dies, and in this case the dies are usually handstamped on to the paper and are consequently blotchy, such as the circular Moldavians.

Taille-douce engravings are prepared by squeezing the ink into the incisions in the plate, wiping the ink off the raised portions and pressing damped paper on to the plate; the paper takes up the ink, and this stands out slightly from the surface of the paper. Perkins Bacon, Waterlow, and the American firms produce by this method, and the stamps are very clear and distinct and show all the fine lines, thus making them very difficult to forge.

Epargné is exactly the reverse; the raised portions take the ink and impress it on the paper, thus slightly embossing the white portion, which, as in Gambia and Portugal, may be deeply embossed by another process. De la Rue is the chief exponent of surface printing, current colonials are the example.

Lithographs are produced by drawing on a stone with lithographic ink, and the stone is acted upon by acid where there is no ink, water is applied and then printing ink, which adheres to the lithographic ink, and the plate is ready for printing. All lithographs are flat and usually shiny.

Some countries have employed the typewriter, such as Uganda, and that Protectorate has also produced stamps from printer's type.

Bermuda (Hamilton), Falkland Islands, and British Guiana have fallen back on hand-struck postmarks.

In some cases electrotype *clichés* have been employed for producing surface-printed stamps, and the celebrated Cape provisionals were engraved on wood instead of steel.

QUESTION III.

The controversy which has raged for some time on the advisability of publishing detailed descriptions and illustrations of forgeries has produced more forcible expressions of opinion than any other philatelic subject. The *American Journal of Philately*, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and the *Philatelic Journal of India* have all had their say, and their editors were frequently at cross-purposes.

One side claimed that the illustration of forgeries was essential to effectually guard collectors against these weeds; the other side declared that such a proceeding would show the forger his errors, with the result that

in his next attempt he would correct these little discrepancies and produce a result which would baffle the most expert judges.

We have, therefore, a question of prime importance to the well-being of our hobby and two absolutely antagonistic opinions.

Let us summarise the pros and cons.

Firstly, there are forgeries and forgeries. We are all familiar with the dreadful lithographic imitations of the beautifully engraved stamps of Nicaragua and St. Lucia which figured in all old collections; these stamps would not deceive a baby nowadays, so no description is needed. The second class of forgery is a good lithograph or even an engraving; it is a copy of lithographed, surface-printed, or even engraved stamps. These forgeries are well executed and require a certain amount of familiarity with the genuine stamps before they can be detected with certainty—such forgeries are those of some of the old German States. These, however, always differ in some particular from the genuine, since it is impossible for one man to exactly imitate the work of another. If, therefore, these forgeries are minutely described and illustrated what will happen? Will the forger be benefited—will he be able to correct his faults? No; because he must be the first to note the deficiencies of his handiwork, and to correct them he must make a new plate, which is equally certain to show other defects. Consequently, nothing but good can come by describing these forgeries in great detail.

But, alas! there is yet another class of forgery, far more dangerous than the preceding, produced by photography. Under certain circumstances the camera can tell no lies, hence the photo forgery is exact; but the forger has not only the design to copy, but also the colour, paper, watermark, &c., and on one of these rocks he is almost certain to be wrecked—his ink is too bright, his paper too soft, his perforations of a wrong gauge, or he may spoil his work with an incorrect postmark. In this case the forger has the *correct* plate, and if obliging people describe exactly wherein his mistakes lie, all he has to do is to profit by the information and change the ink or the paper or what not: so in this case no details should be given; when a forgery is discovered an announcement should appear in the Philatelic Press, thus putting collectors on their guard.

For similar reasons it is bad policy to illustrate surcharges lest the unscrupulous profit thereby.

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Prize Competitions.

—:o:—

IT has been a long-standing reproach against stamp collectors that, though keen enough to get good collections, they are not anxious enough to meet together and publicly assist each other by comparing notes or discussing interesting papers. Barely 4 per cent. of the great body of middle-class collectors are members of the various philatelic associations, and but one-tenth of these attend the ordinary gatherings. Many attractions have been tried—displays of special countries with notes by the owners, lantern shows of good and bad stamps (with light refreshment after the darkness), "At Homes" or meetings at members' houses—but with all these efforts scarcely a dozen—or at most a score—of actual members attend. The greatest successes in London (judged by numbers) have been the local exhibitions at Effingham House by members of The Philatelic Society, and, by their kindness, the competitive shows of the I.P.U. and Herts Society. Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds have done good work and secured fair attendances latterly.

On another page will be found the second set of essays for which the I.P.U., trying new ground, offered prizes last winter. The subjects chosen by the Committee were not difficult:—(1) Advice as to specialising certain countries; (2) Different methods of printing stamps; and (3) On the advantage of collecting, or, The desirability of illustrating forgeries. No. 2 being a technical subject, not directly affecting the *collecting* of stamps, might prevent some modest collectors from competing, who would be able to tackle the others successfully; while the fact of five or six members occupying editorial chairs (now or recently) would possibly make others think they had no chance. In our opinion, two essays would have been ample, if of greater length; 500 words are too few in which to give information of much value in the respective subjects, except as a *précis* of a fuller article. The result has been that there was no real competition, which, incidentally, may be taken to indicate a belief that literary efforts are not appreciated, and therefore we, individually, feel quite humbled at the possibility that our endeavours are equally unsuccessful in attracting the attention of readers.

The surest means of exciting interest is the display of two or *more* collections at ordinary meetings, or local competitive exhibitions open to the public, if only for half a day. For the larger and international exhibitions, such as were held at Baker Street in 1890, Piccadilly in 1897, or Manchester 1899, the attendance of philatelists was good, but the general public did not attend in sufficient force to ensure financial success. Recently there has been discussion in the *Philatelic Record* and elsewhere as to the rules and regulations, and the division in classes, because it is found that the highest awards usually go to the same persons, and it is contended that this must always be so, if mere numbers or value is to be the governing consideration. The great mistake appears to be the giving of gold and silver medals, which carry with them an exaggerated impression of the importance of the exhibits, measured by the intrinsic value of the metal used, and leads others to remark on the winners as "pot-hunters." A gold medallist should be barred from competing again in same special class, though his treasures will be desirable to see if *hors concours*, or shall we say sent *con amore*. Bronze medals only were given in the Great International Exhibitions of 1851 and 1862, and these with diplomas or certificates should be sufficient for stamp collectors who wish to encourage or benefit their fellow-hobbyists rather than to glorify themselves.

Unused Official Stamps.

—:o:—

WHEN referring two months ago to the Official stamps of the world, we ventured to say that general collectors will soon regard official stamps as an offshoot which they can conveniently ignore. In the last *Monthly Journal*, the managing director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., writes on "Stamp Speculation in Government Departments," while admitting that they and other dealers have dealt largely in the Official stamps of Great Britain. Why collectors should seek for *these*, except in a used condition, is a mystery, seeing that unused copies must be, in the majority of cases, at least "substituted," if not actually stolen, property. The United States Departmentals were stopped years ago partly for this reason, and prosecutions commenced against holders of them in an uncancelled condition, and the sooner such steps are taken in this country the better for our general reputation for honesty. In India the overprint "Service," or "On H.M.S." is chiefly to prevent stamps being stolen, just as ordinary persons who put their initials on or write "stamped" across them. Some years ago a departmental handstamp was thought to add to their value, and such were catalogued "Bengal Secretariat," "C. W.," "High Court," &c., but have been dropped, as all such overprints of ordinary issues ought to be.

For the good of Philately and stamp-collecting in general, it is becoming more and more necessary to reduce various offshoots and unnecessary issues—to prune the tree for its benefit and more excellent growth and fruitage in the future. Official issues, such as those of Ecuador, Nicaragua, and Salvador, &c., as with most of their ordinary stamps, are simply made for sale to dealers for collectors; and these, with "Unpaid" stamps, should be dropped from a standard catalogue of postal stamps, or the lists printed as separate supplements: collectors making it a rule to obtain only stamps issued for general use by the public and on sale at the post offices of the country of origin. It is not a question of dictating: "You must not get this or that"; let every man collect what he likes or can get honestly, even to parcel post labels, match boxes, or tram tickets. There are some we know who have for years collected not only I.R. Officials but departmental envelopes, plain or franked, from Income Tax to Returned Dead Letter covers; others fancy the engraved headings of commercial letter paper as better than monograms or crests, or will go in

for specimens of watermarked papers, and so on.

With respect to these departmental issues, it is just as reasonable to ask that the official letter paper and printed or embossed envelopes should also be sold to the public, as it is that the stamps overprinted for these offices should be sold. It would be an encouragement to dishonesty in either case, for even if the stamps could be bought publicly at Somerset House at nominal values, the clerks in charge and messengers using them would find there was a premium of 50 to 100 per cent. obtainable by selling them; so that it would be cheaper for the Government and far simpler for the officials to obtain ordinary stamps and risk their being stolen, as they now do for the pens and pencils. Mr. Phillips suggests perforating the initials on the stamps, but those collectors who now demand the overprinted ones would equally desire them if perforated, as Mr. Morley, in his *Journal*, has been listing those perforated for business firms, for the guidance of collectors fancying these "offshoots." If public announcement was made of its being a punishable offence to possess such stamps without a cancellation or other mark, or a signature on the back of stamp by the official who has given them away, the demand for, and supply of, these unnecessary issues would soon cease.

[The above was written (as a continuation of previous articles) before seeing the report in daily papers of proceedings which are summarised on another page, and as to which, comment must be deferred.—Ed.]

From *Capital*, a Calcutta paper sent by Mr. Corfield, we learn that the Philatelic Society of India is preparing its *magnum opus* in the form of a "Handbook on the Stamps of India"; Mr. Hausburg, of the London Society, and Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, of the Indian Society (Postmaster-General of the Punjab), are the authors. Postal and Telegraph stamps are to be fully gone into, and a Fiscal section may follow. The society is also bringing out in book form Mr. Masson's able articles on the stamps of Afghanistan, which have appeared in the *P. J. of India*.

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The *Australian Journal* for May tells us of an official announcement in February that "complete sets of Postage Due stamps may be had lightly postmarked," which we cannot coolly comment on this warm weather. The *Sydney Daily Telegraph* in April explained why Australia cannot join in penny postage within the Empire. The Federal Government offered to deliver letters if sent with 1d. stamp on from England without charging the extra amount on delivery, but cannot stand the annual loss involved in penny postage outwards, which is calculated at £200,000.



BRITISH EMPIRE.

ADHESIVES.

Bermuda. A correspondent in Bermuda writes, under date May 29th, 1903, as follows:—"I have just made the interesting discovery of the 6d. stamp on sale now in the Hamilton Post Office, is of the same perforations as two of the obsolete Bermuda stamps—namely, the 3d. buff and the 1/- green, 14 x 12½. The colour is also a brighter mauve than the 6d., 14 all round. The stamps are kept in the Treasury, and given out to the Post Office as required. Very few 6d. stamps are used, so the stock in the office is seldom replenished. The 6d., 14 all round, are all sold out, and this new lot, 14 x 12½, has just been received from the Treasury, where they have been lying for years. I was attracted by the change in shade and so came to examine the stamps, especially as I noted they were all well centred, a thing the 14 all round had never been famous for. The postmaster told me they a pretty good stock in the office—that is, of course, for postal purposes—but he could not say or find out how the stock in the Treasury was. I understand the 3d. are beginning to run short, and in all likelihood the ¼d. will be the next stamp to be issued here in the 'Arms' type." Our correspondent kindly sent us a small supply of this interesting variety, and we find that, as he describes it, is rather darker and richer than those of the stamps perf. 14. The watermark is, of course C. C.; it hardly seems likely that there is a large stock of this stamp, as in all probability it was printed nearly thirty years ago, and when it is remembered that the stamps then in use, perf. 14, have lasted until the present time, the stock must have been so large that a large printing with this perforation was not likely to have been thought necessary.

6d., bright mauve, watermark Cr. and C. C., perf. 14 x 12½.

British Somaliland. The *Monthly Journal* quotes from a letter received, "the Field Post Offices in Somaliland use British Indian postage stamps," which, no doubt, is correct. The overprinted stamps intended for use there had not got beyond the preliminary stage of being sent to the Universal Postal Union office at

Berne, before they were denounced as forgeries. Ewen's Stamp Market has now received sheets up to one rupee, watermark star, perf. 14, Queen's head type.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1a., pea-green. | 3a., brown-orange. |
| 1a., carmine. | 4a., slate-green. |
| 2a., pale violet. | 8a., mauve. |
| 2½a., ultramarine. | 12a., brown on red. |
| | 1 rupee, carmine and green. |

Cyprus. The 30 paras illustrated in March has now been received through Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. Its colour would be more correctly described as violet-mauve, the lettering at top and bottom being green.

Gibraltar. The accompanying illustrations give a good idea of the bolder effect of this



type over those usually supplied for our Colonies. There are higher values of the large type not yet received.

India. We give illustrations of the 4 and 8 annas of new type, though the actual stamps have not reached us to give correct colours.



The 3 annas is not expected to be on sale for some months; new issues of 10 annas and 1½ rupees are expected shortly for revised parcel rates.

Chamba. The low values of India have been overprinted with the usual two lines "Chamba—State."

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 3 pies, slate-grey. | |
| 1a., green. | 1a., rosy-carmine. |

Hyderabad. With the above the Ipswich firm send us a new type (similar to others) of the farthing stamp, with what look like pin perforations.

½ anna, dull blue.

Sudan. These stamps have been overprinted "O.S.G.S." for official use, in following

values, according to the *Monthly Circular*.

- | |
|------------------------------|
| 2 millimes, green and brown. |
| 3 " mauve and green. |
| 5 " carmine and black. |
| 1 piastre, black and red. |
| 2 " black and blue. |
| 5 " brown and green. |
| 10 " brown and mauve. |

West Australia. The three new values of Swan type on V crown paper are to hand, perforated 12½, which we repeat to describe colours.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 8d., light or yellow-orange. | 9d., orange. |
| 10d., dull vermilion. | |

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Austria. We give the following lists from the *Monthly Journal*, for the benefit of patient searchers after curious combinations of perforations:—

- ISSUE OF 1867.
 2 kr., perf. 10½ x 8½, 10 x 11, 11 x 9½.
 3 kr., " 10½ x 9½, 11 x 9½.

- ISSUE OF 1890-91.
 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15, 20 kr., perf. 12½.
 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 kr., perf. 13½.
 1, 2 kr., perf. 10 x 12½.
 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 kr., perf. 13 x 12½.
 2, 3, 5, 10 kr., perf. 11½ x 10½.
 2 kr., perf. 13 x 12½.
 3 " " 12 x 13, 12½ x 12, 13½ x 10½.
 5 " " 11½ x 13½, 13½ x 11½.
 10 " " 10½ x 11½, 12 x 12½.

- HUNGARY.—ISSUE OF 1874.
 5 kr., in red and in rose, perf. 11½ x 13.
 10 kr., perf. 13 x 11½; also 13 at bottom and 11½ on other three sides.

- BOSNIA.
 5 (nov.), red, perf. 12 x 13, 11½ x 10½.
 10 " perf. 13 x 12.

Cuba. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the Express Service label or oblong stamp of the orthodox kind for this purpose. There is in the centre a very youthful rider on a bicycle, the circular band round it being inscribed DIEZ CENTAVOS on each side, with the figures "10" on each side in the ornamentation, and two lines of Spanish inscription along the bottom. The watermark is arranged to read

S C U
 C U S
 U S C

10 centavos, Express, deep orange.

Iceland. Mr. W. M. Berrie, of Leith, writes us as to recent Icelandic issues. Those marked have not been previously chronicled by us:—

"The 3 ore of last issue from new plate.—In the October, 1902, issue of the journal you say that this stamp has appeared in a new shade and from a new plate. I do not think, however, that the colour differs from that of the first plate. The only difference, as far as I can see, is that the plate appears to have been cleaned, as the background of the stamp is much lighter than in those from the first plate. Otherwise the information you give is correct.

"The 20 ore blue error of the new issue.—These stamps are very scarce. Only about

200 sheets had been issued when the error was discovered, the authorities destroying the remainder, so that only about 400 of these stamps are in existence. It is probable also that a number of these have been used for the postage of letters to people who take no interest in stamps and have been destroyed.

"In February you gave the colour of the new 10 aura official as *dark blue* and black. The shade of blue, however, is more of a bright ultramarine.

"The following is a list of the old issue with the provisional surcharges. This is made up from copies of the stamps in my possession.

3 ore, re-engraved plate, surcharged in black, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13.			
*4	ore,	surcharged in black,	perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13.
*5	"	"	red " "
*6	"	"	red " "
10	"	"	black " "
*16	"	"	black " "
20	"	"	red " "
25	"	"	red " "
40	"	"	black " "
50	"	"	black " "
*100	"	"	black " 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$.
OFFICIAL.			
3 ore, surcharged in black, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13.			
4	"	"	" "
5	"	"	" "
10	"	"	" 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, first print blue.
*20	"	"	" "
*50	"	"	" "

You will notice, therefore, that all the ordinary postage stamps with the surcharge have the later perforation except the 100 ore. With regard to this perforation it seems to me that this should be 13 and not $12\frac{1}{2}$, as you state, but you will be able to satisfy yourselves on this point from copies in your possession. Judging from the gauge you sent me the perforation is certainly 13. [As a matter of fact, the perforation is $12\frac{1}{2}$ by barely $12\frac{1}{2}$, but it is more convenient to say $12\frac{1}{2}$.—ED. *P. J. of G.B.*]

"There are one or two errors in the surcharge. When the stamps were first surcharged by the postal authorities it was discovered that the sixth stamp in the first and sixth rows had the "i" of "i GILDI" omitted. This error was noticed very soon, but, still, a few sheets with the mistake had got into circulation. I have in my possession sheets of the following values with this mistake—viz., the 3 and 16 ore ordinary, and the 3 and 10 ore official. There may, of course, be others, but I only mention these cases of which I am certain. There are also one or two instances of the surcharge having been inverted. These inverted surcharges are very rare, however, as the officials were very careful in the matter of the overprinting. The only ones I have are the 100 ore ordinary with inverted surcharge. Of these, there are only 75 in existence.

"I have not been able to get information about the number of stamps of each value

surcharged, but the following values are very scarce:—4 and 16 ore ordinary and the 3, 4, and 16 ore official, while the 3 and 5 ore ordinary are rather scarce. The others are more common.

"I notice I have made a note of two other cases of inverted surcharge—viz., the 16 ore ordinary and the 4 ore official, but I have not seen copies of these.

"With regard to the old issues unsurcharged and unused, several of the values are now very rare, such as the 25 and 100 ore ordinary and the 50 ore official. The latter used will also be rather scarce."

From the *Philatelic Journal of India* we add the following notes by Mr. W. T. Wilson:—The error "i" omitted (before Gildi) occurs on some sheets. On ordinary 5 aur, sixth stamps of top and sixth rows only. On Officials, 3 aur in same positions, and on 4 and 50 aur in sixth row (but whether the whole row or only one stamp is not clear). He adds: "Sheets of all values probably exist free from errors, but I have not seen full sheets of 5, 6, 10, 20, 25, 50, and 100 aur ordinary, or 5, 10, 16, 20 aur official. The 5 aur ordinary is found with surcharge inverted, and the 50 aur ordinary with surcharge printed doubly. The 40 aur exists perforated both 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$."

Paraguay. The new lion (or pet lamb?) type of stamps described as received last month is here illustrated.



Roumania. An extraordinary series, or rather two or three, have appeared, sets of which have been forwarded by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. They are supposed to be the fulfilment of a promised or threatened commemorative issue intended for two years ago, in connection with Coronation day or a new building, equally good as an excuse. What may be considered the better set, possibly permanent (*pro tem.*) is an upright oblong, full of elaborate ornamentation and pictures. In the upper part is what might do for an ordinary stamp, with a portrait



of the King inscribed exactly like a coin, and "MCMI" above it, this framed portion supported by flashes of lightning, crossed over the roof of a building with two towers, which may be a new Post Office. If the design had stopped here, it might have passed as a decent or appropriate one for its purpose, but below this commences another design (like the Sunday issue of Belgium), with "ROMANIA" above a miniature representation of the other series, and the value as "2 LEI 2," the figures "2 L" appearing also at topmost corners of the whole stamp. These are on good wove paper, perf. 13½ x 14. The other series are on thinner paper, which has a faint pinkish surface, with a greyish tint showing on margins caused by the stickfast on the back permeating it. Some letters appear as part of paper-maker's watermark. This is an oblong picture of what may be a four-wheeled mail carriage out there with four horses and a postilion dashing along at break-neck speed away from a suburban villa with two occupants of the vehicle, one of whom appears to be holding a bayoneted rifle, unless it be another flash of lightning. The value is at top and "Romania" at bottom left corner.



KING'S HEAD.

- 15 bani, grey-black.
- 25 " blue.
- 40 " green.
- 50 " orange.
- 1 lei, bark brown.
- 2 lei, deep orange.
- 5 " deep lilac.

POSTILION.

- 1 ban, light brown.
- 3 bani, purple-brown.
- 5 " light green.
- 10 " rose.
- 15 " black.
- 25 " blue.
- 40 " dark green.
- 50 " orange.

Servia. The murder of the King of this turbulent State will doubtless lead to the stoppage of further issues with his portrait. We now have the

10 par, rosy-red.

Spain. Morocco Offices. A diagonal overprint of "CORREO ESPANOL—MARRUECOS" in two lines, also received from Whitfield King and Co.; apparently a new printing, judged from the figures at back.

- 5 centimos, deep red on green, 000,021.
- 10 " dark blue on red, 000,070.
- 25 " crimson on blue, 000,010.

in one row of the figures of last value the first "0" is missing.

ENTIRES.

Several new envelopes and cards, as chronicled in the *Monthly Circular*, have not been

mentioned here, so we give a brief summary, as several of these have lately been received.

Bahamas. The King's head replaces that of the Queen in similar frames.

Env. 2½d., blue on white laid, 150 x 88 mm.
Registration. 2d., red stamp, blue inscription, G size.

Ceylon. New die for Registration envelopes has the value at top, divided by crown.

Reg. Env. 10 cents, rose, F size.

Great Britain. New size of envelope, replacing the old C size, which was almost the same as "Commercial" size, this latter being supplied now in an intermediate quality of paper and price.

Env. 1d., King's head, red, 230 x 102 mm.

Levant Offices. The Registration envelope is now surcharged "REGN FEE" above, and "40 PARAS" below the head.

India. The post-card is of the last type, with Arms at left of first line; the Service card also as before, but with "ON H.M.S." above the new stamp.

Post-card. ½ anna, brown.
Official Post-card. ½ " blue.
Reg. Env. 2 " "

Lagos, Leeward Islands, and Malta.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue.
Post-cards. 1d., carmine; also reply cards.

Natal. The first issue of envelopes for this colony only appeared two years ago, after the Queen's death, and can scarcely have been used up, yet the King's head issue is now reported.

Env. ½d., green on white, 137 x 84.
" 1d., carmine on white, 120 x 24.
Registration. 4d., blue, G size.

St. Vincent. Stock colonial type.

Post-card. 1d., carmine.

Sudan. M. Maury lists an envelope with current stamp type.

Env. 5 millimetres, rose on white, 145 x 112.

Italy. Mr. de Grave Sellis kindly sent us at the end of February the new King's head card, only just out, though dated "902," and has since sent the 7½c. reply "03." The 5c. letter card has appeared with stamp of new type on it.

Post-card. 10c., lake red.
Reply Card. 15c., red on rose.
Letter Card. 5c., green.

Eritrea. We have also from same source, the "902" single and "03" reply cards with same head, and the usual "Colonia Eritrea" line in black at top, sent from Genoa.

Post-card. 10c., red on 903 cream card.
" 15c., or 7½c., reply on 03 rose card.

Albania. The 902 old type card has been received, with "ALBANIA" in curve above stamp, and "20 Para 20" in curve below.

Postcard. 20 para, black and red on cream.



June 30, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens with a note on the eternal "Collectors' Catalogue" question, in which Mr. Castle takes exception to the remarks made in the April number of the *Philatelic Record*. The whole paragraph is quoted, but the part which specially rouses Mr. Castle's indignation appears to be the following:—

According to Mr. Castle, in the *London Philatelist*, "the final stages of discussion have elicited the general opinion as to the excellence of the idea and the utter impracticability of putting it into execution." What a confession! If an idea is excellent and there are not brains enough, or enthusiasm enough, to carry it through, then are we poor indeed.

To this replies Mr. Castle: "It is not a question of brains or enthusiasm at all; it is a question of expense," and proceeds to justify his statement. He concludes:—

It will therefore be readily seen that the issue of such a catalogue is primarily a matter of dry business, involving a large outlay and a permanent expenditure—i.e., practically carrying on a publishing business. Unless and until the money for this is forthcoming it seems to us, therefore, a waste of words to discuss the matter either at the meetings of our philatelic societies or in the pages of our journals. There is no question of doubt that the collector's head is under the heel of the dealer, both as to varieties listed and prices affixed, but the former can only supersede the latter by producing a better article, which spells money, although it may probably turn out a good investment!

Mr. J. N. Marsden commends an interesting article on "The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal," giving full particulars concerning the first issue and the reprints of it. It is worth noticing that—

The first engraver to the Mint, Senhor Francisco Borja Freire, was entrusted with the arrangements for the first issue, after the use of stamps for prepaying correspondence had been officially decided upon, and was sent on a special mission to England to study the question. The result was that two machines for printing and embossing stamps at the same time were ordered from Messrs. Dryden Brothers, Lambeth, the same firm that supplied the English Government with machines for producing the early English embossed postage stamps. These machines are still to be seen in the Lisbon Mint, and were used for printing all the relief issues of Portugal and the Colonies up to a comparatively recent period.

Senhor Freire was evidently deeply impressed with our methods, since we are further informed that—

It is interesting to note that the colours employed for the first issue were the same as those in vogue in England at the time, but allotted to different values. A red stamp for

official use was authorised, Senhor Freire probably hearing of the existence of the id. V.R. in England, but the die was never prepared, and consequently no stamps were ever printed for this purpose.

Mr. Creeke concludes his "Supplement to 'British Isles,'" which we are informed is to be issued in separate book form. In view of current happenings, the work should be eagerly sought after. Mr. Dendy Marshall apparently gives the "quietus" to Mr. Wilson's alleged "retouch" discovery in the following note:—

Mr. Wilson is very game; he fights to the last. Unfortunately for him, the quotation of Plate 77 cuts both ways, because it is a solitary instance of a slight alteration to a plate, and, be it noticed, the plate was re-registered, and numbered 77B. Consequently, the inference is that if other retouches had taken place, similar evidence would be forthcoming.

But I am in a position to remove the discussion from the realm of theory. By the courtesy of the Secretary for Inland Revenue, I have been allowed to look through the registration sheets, and find that on Plate 90 every stamp has an added outline. I had not time to make a detailed examination of every sheet, but I feel fairly safe in saying that this peculiarity does not occur on any other sheet except that of Plate 88, on which there are about a dozen stamps with outlines, some on one side only. The stamps "KG" and "LG" have it on the right only, and the adjacent ones, "KH" and "LH," on the left side only.

This proves what I said before, namely, that it is not a retouch, but a minor variety issued in 1849.—C. E. DENDY MARSHALL.

It is consoling to learn from another note that the Queensland 6d, current type, but with figures in lower corners only, is simply a post-marked proof and not an error.

The *Monthly Journal*, in addition to the continuation of its serial article on the stamps of Lombardo-Venetia, contains some noteworthy papers.

"Stamp Collecting as an Investment," by Mr. C. J. Phillips, is professedly based on the following:—

What are the safest stamps to buy? What stamps are likely to give the best return for one's money? These or other similar questions are continually put to our publishers, and are not easily answered within the scope of an ordinary business letter.

Before giving my opinion on investments in stamps, I will mention shortly a few classes of stamps that the collector will do well to avoid, and afterwards consider how he can take up a pleasant and interesting hobby, combined with a reasonably good investment for his money at the same time.

The article, from its nature, does not readily admit of adequate review in the space at our

disposal, so the present writer will content himself with saying that he finds much to agree with and much to disagree with in Mr. Phillips' remarks. Mr. Phillips advocates, above all things, special as distinct from general collections, and gives a fine array of figures to prove his contention. It would be of interest to know how many of the collections referred to belonged to the "inner circle," who are able through the Philatelic Press and by other means to start "booms" or "boomlets" of particular countries and so to create a demand for their stamps. Our own view is that, provided a collector has *really* studied his stamps, a general collection, or, at any rate, one comprising the stamps of all the *respectable* stamp-issuing States in *fine* condition, will in the long run prove not only more saleable but also a better investment than a large special collection, which may be practically impossible to realise on at the time needed. Of course, quality, as well as quantity, should be studied in forming such a general collection, since it goes without saying that little profit can be expected from an accumulation of common varieties only.

L. Hanciau has an extremely interesting article on "The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Denmark and the Danish Colonies," the only fault in which is that in some cases the secret marks are too secret to be found out by ordinary people!

A note by Mr. Phillips on "Stamp Peculation in Government Departments," forms interesting reading in view of present developments. We deal with this in another column.

Another noteworthy paper is what purports to be Mr. D. A. Vindin's true account of the "Laureated Reprints" mystery. According to Mr. Vindin, Mr. Van Dyck, the original owner of these curiosities, discovered the plates in an old curiosity shop in Sydney, and had the paper made and the printing of the "reprints" done in Europe. After the *exposé*, we are told that Van Dyck, at Mr. Vindin's request, brought the plates to his office one evening and, concludes Mr. Vindin,

In the presence of a leading Sydney collector and myself the plates were completely destroyed with chisels, files, and a small plane. The remains were dropped over South Head, Sydney, into the Pacific Ocean, after which Van Dyck and I had a nice supper and another bottle of Heidsieck. I can safely affirm that my action in this matter effectually prevents there being any second edition of New South Wales "Laureated Reprints," and so I have done *something* to earn the gratitude of Philatelists.

The *Philatelic Record* has a curious expression of opinion concerning the recent Australian "Provisionals," aroused by Mr. Bassett Hull having suggested that they should be classed under "Australia," and not under the

various States that have issued them since the formation of the Commonwealth. The article continues:—

If the eminent authority we have quoted be correct, then the task of the old collectors, many of whom have determined to stop at the inauguration of the new period, is complete. This is certainly not the view at present taken by them, but no doubt if only they were able they would be delighted to accept it as correct; as to Philatelists who have revelled in the beauties of their favourites in the past, the current issues are positively painful.

What about the new collector who is looking forward to commencing upon Australia with the first issue of the Commonwealth? Will he have to begin with these current issues? We fancy not. To the new collector the prospect of obtaining them even to-day is almost hopeless, and if he waits to commence until the end of the five years, the task will be positively appalling. Theoretically, no doubt Mr. Bassett Hull is correct, but practically, from a purely philatelic point of view, we incline to a different opinion. After all, the stamps are neither one thing nor another. They are a species of hybrid which in another hobby would be named Australia X Victoria, Australia X New South Wales, and so on. A curious condition of affairs will be brought about if these stamps in the future are, for the reasons stated, neglected both by the present and future schools. It is certainly nothing more than they deserve, but present holders need not take serious alarm, for even under such conditions there would always be some demand, however small, amongst the peculiar class who collect anything which is out of the beaten track and in which few others have any interest, and where, consequently, plenty of bargains to their way of thinking are to be had.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell has an interesting article on "The Third Issues of Holland," from which we learn, among other things, that Bright's, and not Gibbons', illustrations of the two types of each value is correct.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* has hit on a grand idea in its May 23rd number. Here it is in all its beauty:—

WANTED A "WHITE LIST."

If we have "Black Lists" for the black sheep of the flock, is it not a reasonable proposition that there should also be a "White List" for those whose ways are straight, and whose intentions, in business matters, are honourable and above board?

We have often thought that some scheme similar to the excellent "Reference Book" of our contemporary, the *Bazaar*, might with great advantage to all of us be adapted to the philatelic community as a whole, and we are glad to find from recent letters that the idea has also commended itself to several readers of the *S.C.F.* Everyone will admit that some sort of recognized guarantee of a philatelist's reliability and integrity would come as a great boon, not only to each individual philatelist who supported the system, but to Philately as a whole. "It is all this petty swindling more than anything else that drives so many stamp collectors out of the hobby," says one of our correspondents, and we feel that there is a great deal of truth in his declaration.

In the first place, the *Bazaar* reference system has not proved altogether infallible—at any rate, so far as philatelic swindlers are concerned, several of these gentry having, we believe, made it their practice to behave honestly until they were able to get on the "List," after which —. But the chief charm of the idea is its sweet simplicity. The well-known philatelists are approachable by practically everyone; so that the "List" is not wanted for them. Does anyone, then, seriously imagine that the dealers will give up the names of their special customers of whose purchases they have practically a monopoly? We think not: the millenium has not yet come.

Philately on the Continent.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for May 31st appears to be mainly an echo of the *American Journal of Philately*; its two articles dealing respectively with the stamps of "La Union" (Philippine Islands) and the secret marks on the United States stamps, and both being avowedly suggested by papers in our American contemporary. Needless to remark, both subjects are dealt with in the usual interesting manner.

Dr. Juliot has a short paper on the post journal stamps for Austro-Hungary.

In the following number, *L'Echo* makes a new departure, starting off with an article on the French match stamps and covers, created to collect the tax levied on matches after the Franco-Prussian war. We commend this article, with its quaint and interesting illustrations, to the special notice of our fiscal-collecting friends. Collectors of Locals (if such there yet remain) will find much useful information in Dr. Juliot's article on the Morocco stamps, while philatelists of an antiquarian turn of mind are catered for by Leal Sandor in a paper dealing with the postage on letters (in France) since 1653. As this number has also a long note on the new surcharges of Tahiti, it can certainly claim to have variety as well as quality.

In *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* M. Arthur Maury recalls some interesting chapters of history by his paper on an essay engraved by M. Joubert in 1869 with the head of the late Prince Imperial. Another noteworthy paper deals with the postal arrangements of Strasbourg and Metz during the siege of these towns.

Les Archives des Collectionneurs, after starting off with an article by M. Victor Flandrin on the first stamps of Natal, quits philately for a long extract from the *Revue Française de la Carte Postale Artistique* on the Salons of 1903. The six differently-coloured illustrations accompanying it make this paper a somewhat pleasant change, we confess, from the usual strictly philatelic journals that come under our notice. *Le Timbrophile Poidevin* for June 15th is, we should think, unique. It starts off with barely two pages of New Issues. Then follow "Used or Unused from" from the *Stamp Collector*, "Miss Lloyd's Misfortunes" from the *Canada Stamp Sheet*, "A New Catalogue of Indian Stamps" from the *Philatelic Journal of India*, "On Reconstructing a Sheet" from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, "On Philately in General" from the *New York Tribune*, concluding with two anecdotes taken from *Le Matin* and *Le Petit Journal*

respectively. In the circumstances we can congratulate our contemporary on its honesty in acknowledging the sources of its information and on its original non-originality.

The *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* has an extremely interesting illustrated article on the various Post Office Mauritius stamps that have been found up to date. The adventures of each one, so far as is known, are duly and separately chronicled, as well as its present abiding-place.

Philately in the States.

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for May 16th, has another amusing "Philatela." We reproduce it, merely remarking that we hope the gentlemen referred to are not to be taken as typical American philatelists.

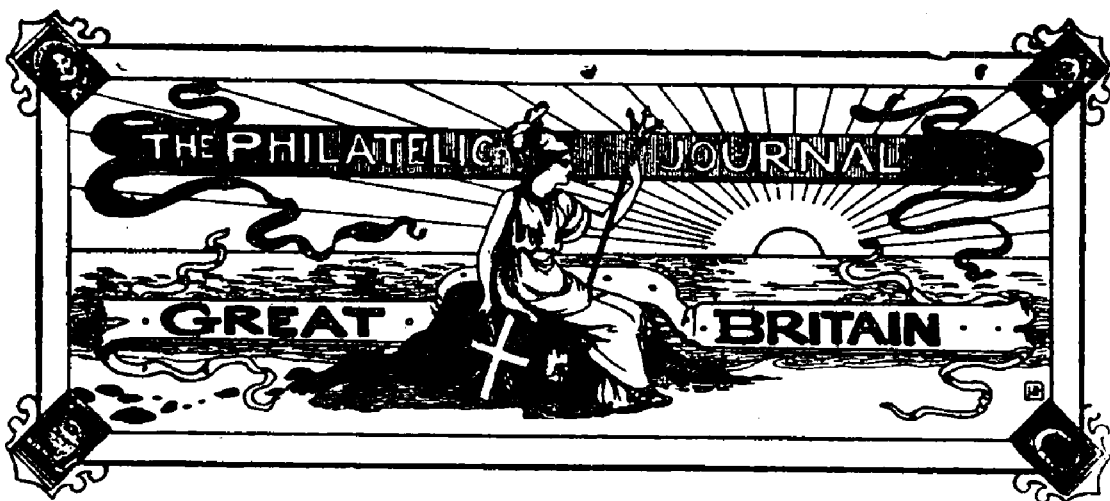
Once there was a Stamp Gatherer who had Coin and attended Conventions. On one occasion he took with him a Bunch of Choice Stuff and Displayed it Freely to Strangers. A Bright Light among the assembled Multitude cast Envious Glances at some Select Specimens and formed a One Man Plot to secure them at a Large Discount. He drew the Owner to One Side and made Friends with him, and Ten Hours later he had him changed from a Sober Collector into a Bad Example of the Drink Evil. They adjourned to the Hotel and the Bright Light inaugurated a Stamp Exchange and did both the Buying and Selling himself. The Bright Light then took a Late Train without leaving his Card, and when the Stamp Gatherer came to in the Morning and surveyed the Wreck of his Choice Assortment he Signed the Pledge and has Carried a Brick in his Pocket ever since.

Moral: A Stamp Fizz is an Expensive Drink.

The same number contains a reproduction of the first certificate issued by the expert committee of the American Philatelic Association. This body works on very similar lines to the committee of the London Philatelic Society, except that the fee per stamp is rather higher (\$1), and is apparently not refunded, either wholly or partially, in the case of forged or doubtful stamps.

In its next issue (May 23rd) there appear some "Answers to Correspondents," which we append, as this is not a feature of the *P. J. of G. B.*, and if it were, we could not conduct it in the manner of our able American contemporary.

SYLVIA.—No, the line in the advertisement: "A new golden yellow Malta cat. \$4.50," etc., should not have read, as you think: "A new golden yellow Maltese cat," etc. GRIEF.—If, as you say, you kept the dealer's stamps to the value of \$900 for over seven months, finally returning them with a remittance of 14c., the dealer certainly did wrong in writing you a sarcastic letter in response to your request for more sheets. He should have addressed a letter of congratulation to himself that he got the stamps back. DULL DAVID.—You ask who has the largest stock of stamps in the world. There are more large stocks of stamps in the world than there are war-clubs that killed Captain Cook. SUSPICIOUS.—The reason that you get the stamps that you bid on at auction sales at exactly your limit, almost with exception, no doubt is because you gauge beforehand with wonderful accuracy the true value of the stamps. FLOSSIE.—We have no space for "The Language of Stamps, and, besides, it is not philately. EASY-GOING.—You say: "A page of my new catalogue is turned over at the corner and a part of it is blank in consequence. This is very annoying. Please advise me." Do not blame us: we did not make the catalogue.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the Northern, Sheffield, and Scottish Philatelic Societies, and the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

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JULY 31, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 43.—MR. JOHN N. LUFF.

Arriving in this world of cares, scares, stamps, and shares on or about the 16th day of November, 1860, Mr. J. N. Luff considers that we are capable of figuring out the horrible details of his age, but that he does *not* feel to be on the wrong side of forty, though the calculations referred to may seem to imply it. Having been born, he was brought up and educated in the State of New York, which evidently fixes his nationality, coupled with the fact that after he came of age he moved on to California, with the undoubted anticipation of becoming exceedingly wealthy in the shortest possible time. The grape vines and other property invested in did not, however, turn out the El Dorado fondly expected, and in process of time he found the bulk of the little fortune planted out there was not so readily realisable, and it was left for the benefit of the next comer.

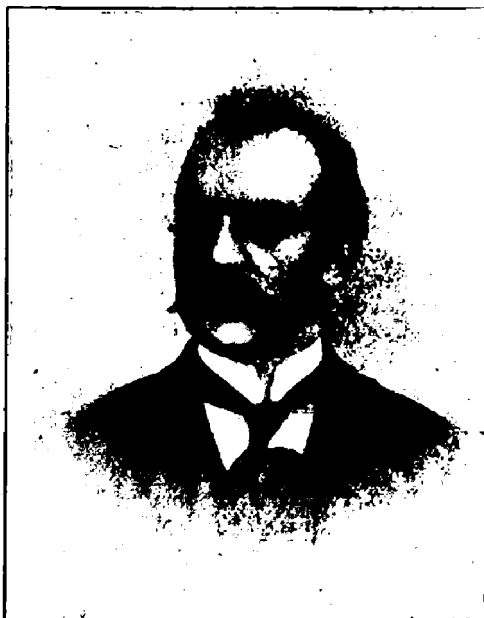
While his prospects were about at their

worst, some advertisements in a magazine attracted him, and he fancied that the collecting of stamps would be a pleasant change from the monotony of his lonely life, and at least an inexpensive amusement, having done a little that way as a school boy, which little had been dropped because he found no friends to

encourage him, or other boys to swap with in that particular direction. To become at all successful even in collecting stamps, he believes now that it cannot be done without some outlay in hard cash, and that the best time to take it up is decidedly *not* when one is getting short of money, but when there is a fair abundance of it. Before enriching his golden west with his patrimony, it had occurred to him to take up stamps again, and there is no doubt that a little investment in that way in those days

of low prices would have turned out very profitable, or have laid the foundation of a wonderful collection, if followed up with the enthusiasm of later years.

Mr. Luff says: "Whenever I think of my early days as a collector, I am reminded of my indebtedness to Major Evans. When I



began collecting, the dealers' catalogues paid no attention to shades, perforations, and watermarks; but early in my career I came across a part of Major Evans's catalogue. It at once struck me that if he took the trouble to list these varieties, there must be people who collected them, and I decided that collecting on these lines would just suit me. I was then living in the mountains about nine miles from everywhere, with no one to talk to on matters philatelic." Having bought the catalogue and carefully studied it, he promptly wrote the Major a number of letters, with many questions which would now seem foolish, but all of which were answered with much courtesy and kindness. For other information he was dependent on a few philatelic publications he got sent out there, and occasionally he plucked up courage to write to others whose names he found in print. From the beginning he had collected shades and watermarks, and perforations to a certain extent, and by this early personal observation secured many very good stamps, the true character and worth of which was not found out for years after. Two years later he moved to San Francisco, and there fell in with the band of energetic and well-posted philatelists that constituted the Pacific Philatelic Society. From that time his friends say that he does not seem to think about anything but stamps, as he devotes every spare moment he can find to the pursuit, and pleads guilty to even dreaming of them.

In the autumn of 1893 he accepted an offer of a position with Mr. R. F. Albrecht, then in the stamp business in New York, and the following spring joined the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, with which firm he has been ever since. Though nominally manager of their approval business, Mr. Luff devotes most of his attention to expert work and editing the *American Journal of Philately*, for which he has written a great many articles since 1894, as also for other philatelic publications. His valuable work on the postage stamps of the United States, now published in book form, originally appeared in the journal named, and more recently most interesting articles on the numeral issue of Hawaii.

As a collector, the stamps of the United States naturally take first place in his estimation, and this portion alone of his collection would catalogue to nearly £5,000, so there is not much to be desired, though he is still wanting some of the rare Postmasters stamps, and has not mounted his Confederates as not being sufficiently satisfactory to him. The British Colonies are gone in for on the lines of

limited specialism—a reasonable number of shades and not too many perforations, confining these in a general way to the work of the various machines, neglecting the very minute sub-divisions. Though not possessing the Post Office Mauritius or circular British Guianas, he is happy in having obtained most of the stamps that catalogue at £10 to £20 each.

The Asiatic countries and Pacific Islands have had great attractions for him, and he has a specially fine collection of first issue of Shanghai, numbering about 225 copies at present: with good lots of Korea, Japan, Siam, and China, in which last he is, or is not (?), ashamed to say, are included the Treaty Port issues. But his Hawaiians make the mouths of many who look upon them water, though he has no Missionaries to show, and only about 150 Numerals, including a number of restored sheets. Reprints, also, he finds very interesting, and starting with a collection for reference purpose, has since made so much of a speciality of them as to have filled half-a-dozen large volumes. At the same time, he does not recommend the collecting of these by everybody; but to a specialist, or any one who has expert work to do, such a collection is useful.

As an exhibitor he has often appeared, and his U.S. secured for him the gold medal in Paris, 1900, and in Chicago last winter. Two years ago he entered a series of competitive exhibitions of the Boston Philatelic Society, and carried off silver and bronze medals for various exhibits sufficient to entitle him to the gold medal at the end of the series which was given to the winner of the most points. He also holds other medals won in New York City, San Francisco, &c., receiving also Mr. C. J. Phillip's second prize for 100 fine Australians, as to which he modestly says:—"I don't deserve it, but others failed to compete."

It is not often that one's everyday work is so attractive as to be continued as a hobby or recreation of our spare time; but in this case, Mr. Luff's appetite as an all-round philatelist seems to increase with feeding. His name is, of course, well known in the country of his birth, and last year he was elected President of the leading American society; while over here he is well acquainted with many of our leading philatelists, with whom he corresponds frequently.



White, Yellow, or Black.

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IN the last number of the *World's Work* is an account of the French *couturières* and their business arrangements, from which it appears that they have most minute reports upon the solvency of their clients both in Paris and abroad. The same kind of "report" is exercising the minds of some of our smaller stamp-dealing friends—the larger, old-established dealers have their own methods of obtaining and keeping such valuable information—but the question of a "White List" is getting quite exciting in its *pros* and *cons* as commented upon in our Fortnightly paper.

In Paris, we learn that the Kings of Costume do an average annual business of over £300,000 in renewing the wardrobes of about 4,500 clients, who have running accounts, some being very small, others fabulously high. The connection between French frocks and foreign stamps is possibly not very evident or at all close, but one point of resemblance can be found in the statement that a large quantity of the "pieces" of the former goods are sold at reductions of fifty to sixty per cent. from regular prices, which may comfort our kings and princes of philatelic supplies, as also the further statement that fifteen per cent. of the business is charged to profit and loss account.

The "White List" there, is of prompt-paying women of assured fortune; a "Yellow List" is of less fortunate clients of whom it is necessary to "pull their ears" from time to time, and the "Black List" is of insolvents, who have managed to get fine collections or confections with which to dupe fresh salesmen. Now there is a more definite connection here, and our "Protection Associations" have, no doubt, similar lists in their possession. Why, then, do we hear so much of stamp thieves being arrested, and of far more who cannot be got at? Partly because so small a number either of dealers or collectors support the organizations originated for their particular benefit. There is something more than this, though, to be considered.

The majority of those that are swindled are not *bonâ-fide* dealers at all. They consist of men and women who have a comfortable means of living, sufficient even to admit of their being hobbyists; but they are not content; they must dabble in trading—become amateur dealers, in fact. So they buy (after beating down the prices for) small collections offered by some poorer brother or sister who cannot afford to keep them going, and with a few dozens of the cheapest unused stamps

they can buy from the most cutting of the wholesalers they start with approval sheets, or resell small collections from which they have extracted the plums, and commence advertising. Some two or three others on the prowl write for these sheets or books to different vendors, giving grand names and addresses, obtain the goods and disappear; or, if they think it worth while, are virtuously honest for a time, buy a few stamps—"they are so cheap"—and, like Oliver Twist, ask for more; after that —

On the other hand, there are many good collectors who have accumulated duplicates from buying dealers' packets, or collections at auction sales occasionally, who wish to dispose of their stamps. If they advertise a few times they are liable to be pounced upon by the wolves, or have the minor pleasure or honour (?) bestowed upon them of appearing in a list of dealers or a directory of philatelists, and be pestered for years after with approval lots they do not want, and which they have the trouble and expense of returning. A friend reports that having advertised four to five years ago for entires only, there were sent to him several pounds' worth of *adhesives* from Morocco, Egypt, India, &c., which cost him shillings to return. A few months ago, he had sent him, unasked, a lot of entires, which, to save being "Black-Listed" if not returned to the States, he had to send an exchange lot for; all owing to his old advertisement address being copied into a Continental lists of philatelists and dealers.

If people who are earnest or genuine collectors want a simple and advantageous method of buying and selling duplicates, let them join one of the philatelic societies, such as the I.P.U., Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, and Scottish Societies, or a high-class stamp club, and they will find ample and safe opportunities of realising cash or exchanging for good additions to their collections by the exchange arrangements of these societies. Certainly, neither a white, yellow, blue, or black list will secure them as safely from fraud as their joining such associations.

POSTAL STATIONERY.—Advance proofs of a little illustrated book—"All about Post-cards"—now in the press, have been received from the author, Mr. J. W. Scott, of Leeds. It will treat of picture stationery in general, and post-cards in particular, both officially issued and by private enterprise, with a list of post-cards brought up to date for the collectors of entires.

Possible Undiscovered Varieties of Watermark of the Laureated Series of Victoria.

BY CHARLES B. DONNE.

In the "Australian Journal of Philately."

In choosing the above subject for this short article, my argument is that where one value of the series has been found on paper of a stated watermark, there is every reasonable chance that the remaining values may have been printed on paper with a similar watermark, and that they will eventually make their appearance. I am fully aware that the Laureated Series have been the subject of articles from the pens of prominent philatelists, so that what little I can add to the subject must be insignificant, but having been asked by the Editor of the *Australian Journal of Philately* to contribute to its columns, and as many thousands of these stamps have passed through my hands, and have been carefully examined by me, during the past twenty-three years, I think that what little I can write on the subject, although not new, may be worthy of consideration, and I therefore pen this article in the hope that it may prove interesting to the readers of the *Aus. J. of P.* I propose, first of all, to recount the various watermarks of which I have personal knowledge, and afterwards to enumerate those which may yet appear at some future date. I admit that the chances of some of these latter varieties being found, are somewhat meagre, nevertheless there is always the possibility that they may turn up, for going back a few years, I would point out that as recently as 1891, Mr. A. J. Derrick in writing to the *Federal Australian Philatelist* of the 1d. value, watermarked double line figure 4, speaks of this stamp as follows:—"The stamp is catalogued but in my opinion is doubtful. I would be glad to hear of anyone who possesses it." (See *Fed. Aus. Philatelist* page 89, October number, 1891). Since this appeared in the journal mentioned, several specimens of this variety have passed through my hands, I quote this to show that of a stamp which was unknown to Victorian collectors in 1891, several specimens have, to my knowledge turned up during the space of the last twelve years, and during the past few years, two other varieties hitherto unknown in Victoria, have been found, one the 6d. value, watermarked double line figure 2, found by Mr. Fred. Hagen, of Sydney, and the other the 4d. value, watermarked single line figure 8,

found by a Melbourne collector, so that all things are possible with this, one of the most interesting series of the stamps of Victoria.

Taking then the varieties of which I have personal knowledge, and which are as follows:—

ONE PENNY VALUE.

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1 and 4, single line figure 1, 4, 6, 8, and "sixpence" in words.

TWO PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1 and 4, single line figure 2, 4, 6, and 8.

THREE PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1, and single line figure 8.

FOUR PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, single line figure 4 and 8, also double line figure 4.

SIX PENCE VALUE

on papers watermarked single line figure 6, double line figure 2 and 4, also watermarked in words "three pence," "four pence," and "six pence."

EIGHT PENCE AND TEN PENCE VALUES.

These two values I have seen only on paper watermark single line figure 8, which I believe was the only paper that both were ever issued upon.

From the fact that the one penny and two pence values are both found on papers watermarked single and double line figure 4, I think it is extremely unlikely that the one penny value was ever printed on paper watermarked single line figure 2, or that the two pence and four pence values were ever printed on paper watermarked single line figure 1. It is evident that the appearance of the stamps on papers varying from the normal watermark, was due to design, rather than accident, recourse being had to the various papers in stock, to print the stamps on, when the supply of paper of the required watermark became exhausted, and that later all values were printed on any paper that was in hand indiscriminately, until the old stock was exhausted, previous to the set appearing on a uniform paper, watermarked V and crown for all values.

Specimens of the 1d. value on paper watermarked single line figure 4, 6, and 8 are daily becoming scarcer, copies on paper watermarked "six pence" in words are scarce, but the stamp on double line figure 4 paper, I regard as a great rarity. Of the 2d. value all

varieties of single line figure watermark are plentiful. It is significant that the double line figure 4, so scarce in the 1d. value, is the commonest variety of watermark in the 2d. value, showing that the latter value came in for the lion's share of the double line figure 4 paper. Of the 3d. values in lilac, all varieties are scarce and seldom found in good condition. Of the 4d. value the variety watermark single line figure 8 is the scarcest, only one specimen bearing this watermark, being known to me. Of the 6d. values, the double line figure 4 is scarce, and of the watermarks in words, the "four pence" is by far the scarcest, the "sixpence" coming next, and the "three-pence" the most plentiful. Of the double line figure 2 only one copy has to my knowledge turned up in Australia; specimens watermarked single line figure 4, are catalogued, but as yet I have never met with a specimen. I have had submitted to me, a copy reputed to be watermarked single line figure 4, but on careful inspection this turned out to be a copy of the doubled lined figure 4, the perforation of the stamp having passed down the outer double line of the figure of watermark, traces of the outer line being visible on the perforation, and the cross line at the top and bottom of the figure also being visible.

Coming then to the varieties of watermark that as yet are undiscovered, and for which a careful watch should be kept, the following is a list:—

ONE PENNY VALUE.

Watermark double line figure 2, "three pence" and "four pence" in words.

TWO PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figure 2, "three pence," "four pence," and "six pence" in words.

THREE PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figures 2 and 4, single line figures 4, 6, "three pence," "four pence," and "sixpence" in words.

FOUR PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figures 1 and 2, single line figure 6, "three pence," "four pence," and "sixpence" in words.

SIX PENCE VALUE.

Watermark single line figure 4.

It therefore behoves collectors to carefully examine all specimens of the Laureated Series which may come into their possession, as they may be rewarded by finding any of the above mentioned varieties of watermark. I shall be pleased to hear from any collectors who possess any of them.

Melbourne, June 7th, 1903.

"The Very Button."

—Shakespeare.

IN the *Adhesive* for July, Miss Amy L. Swift, the critical commentator of other journals, writes on the subject of a badge or button for stamp collectors the world over, which has again exercised several of our American cousins lately. "The 'button of this question'—i.e., an emblem to be worn by stamp collectors for the sake of mutual recognition—has, as yet, no existence, but correspondents of *Mekeel's Weekly* have been agitating the matter of inventing something of the kind, and seem to think the suggestion has met, and will meet, with universal approbation. Mr. Luff, however, cries derision on the plan, remarking that it has already been tried without success, and that while the "youthful and callow lot" who enjoy wearing campaign badges and advertising buttons might welcome a philatelic button, it would not be worn by "men who are more thoroughly developed, and whose taste has outgrown glass beads and imitation jewellery. "Men," says Mr. Luff, "who are sound and well balanced dislike gewgaws and prefer not to attract attention to themselves. This class will not wear philatelic buttons, and what they reject will meet only a passing favour from others. If philatelists of standing will not adorn themselves with buttons, it is of small moment whether others do so or not."

Miss Swift goes on to say:—"True, all very true. Well-bred people of either sex will not wear anything to make themselves conspicuous, and, therefore, the button which is itself conspicuous rings its own knell at the beginning. Given a quiet, tasteful design which could be worn as a scarfpin by ladies and gentlemen alike—a design which would immediately suggest philately to those interested and suggest nothing to others—the hope for an emblem which would be freely adopted would become feasible. An open book, wrought in gold and bearing a short inscription such as "Philately," should suit all countries without being characteristic of any special one, and from its very simplicity it would be accepted and worn by many who would shrink with disgust from the philatelic 'button' in striking design and showy enamel."

To the younger collectors with a longing for companionship in their spare time, this idea of an emblem appeals strongly, and some day a small interchangeable device may appear as a button, pin, or locket; but it will have its drawbacks, as the stamp sharper will be readily directed thereby to some on whom he can foist clever forgeries, or unload rubbish at fancy prices or for good exchange, without the cost of advertising or the trouble of being "white-listed."



Precautionary Measures.

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THIS is the time for big gooseberries and unripe apples, seaside and country trips, the danger of consuming fruit, ices, bread, milk, water, and other comestibles, and for various advisory hints as to what to do in certain circumstances, all of which are resented because of the state of the weather or the high thermometrical readings. Now and then there are special scares as to bogus or forged stamps and the depredations of stamp swindlers, and appeals are made to expectant or recent sufferers to join a Stamp-dealing Protective Association—in other words, to lock the stable door after the steed has departed. On another page reference is made to this subject, and in a contemporary a discussion has gone on for some time as to the matter of references, &c., but at present nothing more simple than a "White List" of reputable collectors have been evolved, the said list to be kept by a mysterious somebody, who will naturally and fairly require a payment for the trouble of keeping books and inquiring into references submitted. But if the two existing protective associations cannot do this now, how can a third party with less special experience of the kind of work hope to succeed?

What is the position? Leaving out the advanced men or specialists, there is a body of middle-class collectors at least 25,000 to 30,000 strong, besides probably a quarter of a million who may be called juniors or beginners. (As a test of the figures, the number of better-class albums that are sold may be taken, on the supposition that the average life of each album is three years, the cheaper class sold amounting to hundreds of thousands in the same period.) Of the great middle class, it is safe to say that over 99 per cent. are reliable men, and most of them spend their £10 to £100 yearly direct with the two or three hundred *bonâ-fide* traders, who have their own methods of testing the honesty of applicants, even if they do not belong to the association named. None of this class

would submit their names to public criticism for approval or condemnation, or to be inserted in a white or other coloured list. For or by whom, then, is this great safeguard needed of a register of respectability? Probably about 500 collector-dealers at most, who are making the best of both classes, and are mutually suspicious of each other.

If there should be as many as twenty men in the country who are of the stamp-swindling fraternity, they can quite easily adapt themselves to any test of "White List" makers, by giving one or other of themselves as references; or, by the plausibility of having supplied two or three undoubtedly good collectors with extra cheap stamps, or of having bought some lots from others at liberal prices, they can secure these people as high-class references as to honesty; and at last Sidney de la Jones Beauscamp suddenly makes a *coup* in a dozen directions at once, disappearing for a month or two to turn up as Despard Cartolini Wantmorency, who is sacrificing his valuable collection—for *cash*—to raise funds by which to find the true equatorial line and discover how many knots there are in it. If the two existing associations will amalgamate, arranging for subscriptions of five shillings to one pound, according to benefits offered, especially to genuine philatelic societies, any member of these will be far safer than if guided by the purest of white lists. Inquiries should be made of the referees submitted, not taking it as granted that the mere mention of these names is sufficient, and deposits may be held by the association to send on or return at a given date, or as advised by the vendor of the stamps. Precautionary measures of this kind are apparently too simple for many stamp owners who are over-eager to secure a bargain for their offers, and they suffer in consequence, without obtaining more than a modicum of sympathy, because of their negligence.

PARIS.—From the daily press we learn that the transactions of philatelists of the Square de Marigny open-air Exchange in the Champs Elysées have increased so greatly that a Stamp Collectors' Club is being started in handsome premises at the corner of the Rue de Grammont, with Colonel de Launy for president. The Fédération Philatélique de France proposes to hold exhibitions and an annual philatelic Salon (!) at which some of the best collections are expected to be shewn.

INDIA.—Having quoted last month as to the Service Stamps of India, we must add this rejoinder from the *P. J. of India* for June. "This is very misleading. 'On H.M.S.' stamps in India are a great deal more than Mr. Wetherell says. They carry special rates of postage. Thus a plain 1 anna stamp franks to 1½ tolas, while a Service 1 anna stamp franks to 10 tolas. Very few Native States have their official correspondence carried free within the State." This does not affect the bearing of the quotation or summary we gave as to the common use of these official stamps for private letters by anyone occupying a position in the various services.

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Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson also gives the particulars of stamps supplied for British Somaliland, varying from 200 sheets of six lower denominations to 100 of four values to one rupee, and only 50 each of 2, 3, and 5 rupees. Also 30 to ten sheets only of the Service stamps; plus 722 each for distribution as specimens from Berne in 1902 to Postal Union countries. They were overprinted in Calcutta, September, 1901, it having been proposed in 1900 that the Protectorate should have a postal system of its own, the Indian post office having served Berbera and Zaila up to that time. He adds that some of these are bound to be rare, as many of the stamps then used could not now be obtained for a "repeat order."

Australian Commonwealth.

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NEW ISSUE OF STAMPS.

AN AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTION.

FOR some reason, not yet explained, the Postmaster-General intends to shortly issue complete sets of Federal stamps in all the States. It was suggested that this should be done last year, but the central postal authorities explained that the idea was impracticable in view of the bookkeeping provisions of the Constitution Act. At the present time each State postal department is carried on as a separate institution so far as its revenue and expenditure are concerned. If a Federal stamp, exchangeable throughout the Commonwealth, was sold in Melbourne and used in Sydney, Victoria would gain the revenue, and New South Wales would have to perform the service of transmission and delivery. This would

not be in consonance with the bookkeeping sections, and consequently the suggestion made over twelve months ago was not entertained.

Since then some of the State Premiers, fearing that the central administration might be tempted to introduce uniform stamps, have protested against the idea, and pointed how their interests might suffer by such a departure. Senator Drake, however, sees his way not to interfere with State rights and yet to introduce what he describes as "Australian stamps." Designs have not been called for publicly, nor for that matter departmentally, but a design has been received by the Postmaster-General, and it will probably be accepted. "It is the work of an Australian," he remarked on Saturday. "We might get finer draughtsmanship by going abroad, say, to the United States, but I prefer to have the stamp designed, engraved, and printed in Australia, so that it may be in every sense Australian."

It is understood that the King's head which at present figures on all State stamps will not appear on the Federal stamps, but that something symbolical of the Commonwealth will be substituted. Beneath this symbol the name of the State within which the stamp will have currency and its value will be printed. By this device of issuing sets for each State separately the Federal stamps will not be interchangeable, and therefore the Constitution will be observed. The stamps now sold in the various States will not be withdrawn, but no more will be printed, and as the sheets are exhausted Federal stamps will be sold instead.

PICTORIAL POST-CARDS.

Tasmania has advertised her scenery on her stamps, and she might resent the projected alteration were it not that the Postmaster-General is also considering the advisability of issuing pictorial post-cards similar to those procurable on the Continent. Many designs for such cards have already been received by Senator Drake, who favours a scheme by which, perhaps, half-a-dozen illustrated cards typical of something in each State would be printed, and sold at a slight advance on present prices to cover the cost of production.

—Melbourne Argus (June 8).





NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

BRITISH EMPIRE.

ADHESIVES.

Aitutaki. The six stamps issued for this island (see April number) should come, we presume, under New Zealand, like Niué and Penrhyn, but as the name is rather startling, we start with it here, having received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. sets of six values. They consist of the ordinary New Zealand stamps overprinted AITUTAKI. at top in tall sans serif caps, and the values in the native language (in caps and lower-case type) just above the usual corresponding value in English at bottom. The watermark is N Z and star, perforations varying.

½d.,	Ava Pene., in red on green, perf. 14.
1d.,	Tai Pene., in blue on carmine,
2½d.,	Rua Pene Ma Te Ava., in red on blue, perf. 12.
3d.,	Toro Pene., in indigo on buff-brown,
6d.,	Ono Pene., in blue on rose,
1/-,	Tai Tiringi, in indigo on scarlet.

Bermuda. We are informed by a correspondent in the island that all the remainders of the Queen's head 1d. carmine have been burned.

British Somaliland. Having now received the stamps listed last month, we repeat the values. The black overprint is in usual sans-serif or block letters, in two lines at top of each stamp of Queen's head issue of India. Damaged letters and uneven printing occur in a few cases, but nothing specially worth collecting as a distinct variety; the word British is cut in two on some stamps, being across the horizontal perforations.

½a.,	light green.	3a.,	brown-orange.
1a.,	carmine.	4a.,	drab olive.
2a.,	(true) lilac.	6a.,	bistre-brown.
2½a.,	ultramarine.	8a.,	purple-mauve.
	12a.,		brown on vermilion.

Canada. The new set of five values was issued on July 1st, 1 to 10 cents only; the ½ cent is to be abolished. The design is like the last, substituting a three-quarter face portrait of the King in place of the Queen, with crowns at top corners instead of maple leaves,

these being now reduced in size and position above and by side of figures of value. The surface-tinted papers do not show up the design as well as plain white would, the tints being obtained through the printing ink, except the blue, which is the same on both sides.

1c.,	myrtle-green, perf. 12.	5c.,	deep blue, perf. 12.
2c.,	carmine-red,	7c.,	olive-buff,
	10c.,		purple-brown, perf. 12.

Ceylon. The King's head series already chronicled was put in circulation at the end of May, so far as the 3 cents dark green and 30 cents lilac and green are concerned, which we have received, as also another value not yet reported.

4 cents, orange and ultramarine.

Gibraltar. Morocco Agencies. The new design with old overprint is now out, and we have the 2½d. from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

2½d., black print on violet on blue paper.

Hong Kong. We now have four of the new type (illustrated in March and listed in April) and kindly sent us by Messrs. Graça and Co., of Hong Kong, the colours of which vary slightly from list, so we repeat the description. The 1c., 8c., 30c., 50c., \$1 and \$2 have now been seen, but no others have yet been issued.

20 cents,	chestnut, and grey-black oval.
3c.,	deep blue,
8c.,	light myrtle and dingy purple.
30c.,	yellow-brown and grey-black.

Lagos. The accompanying illustration is of a new series (stock type) of which issue we have not received copies yet.



Natal. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have the £1 10s. stamp, King's head, lilac and green, listed in January.

New South Wales. It seems very doubtful whether the 5d. really exists on chalky paper as chronicled by us some months ago.

New Zealand. The 2½d. colonial print, perf. 11¼ and with N Z star watermark, is to hand, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that the 5d. brown, 9d. lilac, and 2/- blue-green have also been issued with this watermark, thus completing the set with the exception of the 5/- . The 2/- blue-green on laid paper, perf. 11, which appeared some

months ago does not appear to have been chronicled here.

- 2½d., blue, Colonial print, N Z star, perf. 11.
- 5d., brown, " "
- 9d., lilac (or purple, "E.W.S.N."), " "
- 2½., blue green, " "
- 2½., " on laid paper.

St. Helena. A grand combination portrait and picture design of the poster or wall-paper size, has appeared, and from the specimens before us thoroughly well executed. The conventional King's head on oval of solid colour is in the centre of upper half of the design, with the values in words curved right and left of it, the words "Postage" on both sides of lower frame, and "St. Helena" at the bottom. In this frame of irregular shape are views of "Government House" (a), and "The Wharf" (b), very finely engraved, with figures of value on shields in lower corners. The size of stamp is 28 mm. by 33 mm. paper with Crown C C watermark.

- ½d., green, brown view (a), perf. 14.
- 1d., carmine, black " (b), "
- 2d., sage green, " " (a), "
- 8d., brown, " " (b), "
- 1½., orange-buff, brown view (a) "
- 2½., deep lilac, black " (b) "

St. Kitts-Nevis. Here is a nice combination stamp for collectors to argue about and decide if they can, satisfactorily, its correct place in their album. The two islands—whose areas are 68 and 50 square miles respectively (less than that of London)—are said to form one "presidency" along with Anguilla, another islet, their united population being less than the smallest London borough; but they are favouring us with a mixed design of the "picture" order, but on a small scale. Six have a representation of Columbus with that telescope glued to his eye, and four others show us the three females and the waterfall as in the early Nevis. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the following. All inscribed "St. Kitts-Nevis" in upper curve; "Postage. Revenue" (at sides); value in words below.

- ½d., dark green and purple, C A. 14.
- 1d., carmine " grey-black, "
- 2d., brown " purple, "
- 2½d., ultramarine, black, "
- 3d., buff-orange " green, "
- 6d., purple " grey-black, "
- 1½., deep orange " green, "
- 2½., black " " " "
- 2½., violet " grey-black, "
- 5½., sage green " purple, "

Sierra Leone. The new series referred to in January are now coming out. The old stock De la Rue frame, Postage and Revenue, in purple, rose lettering at top, shaded label of 1d. value at bottom is before us.

- 1d., King's head, purple and rose, C A, 14.

West Australia. The accompanying block illustrates the 10d. described in May.



Zululand. The *Monthly Journal* reports having seen a 2d. stamp of 1888 issue with the overprint inverted, which appears to have been unknown to collectors all these years. It is on an entire original envelope along with an ordinary 4d stamp, both being postmarked "RORKE DRIFT—NATAL—6-11-88," the other marks being G.P.O.—NATAL—E No. 9-88," and in London on November 30th.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Brazil. The *American Journal of Philately* describes a forgery of the blue 200 reis stamp cancelled March 28th of this year. The counterfeit impression is cleaner and sharper, the lines behind "REIS" being specially distinct, and in spandrils above it are crossed lines instead of horizontal only. The numeral "200" has dots and dashes on its white face very distinct, which scarcely show in most originals. Central oval has a thin, sharp line round, the genuine being broad and heavy. The letters of UNIDOS DO BRAZIL are 1¾ mm. instead of 1½ mm. high; colour dark blue, very light originals; and the perforation 11½, as in previous counterfeits of the 300 and 500 reis described in 1901.

Colombia. The reported issues of this collection of States have been so varied and doubtful the last two years as to prevent a clear or intelligible description without illustrations of stamps that it has not been possible to get, and would require a full number of this journal to give in their entirety. The *Monthly Journal* considers that most are made for collectors; but some actually seen in use are given, as prints of earlier issues in new colours.

- 4c. (Type 77), blue on green.
- 5c. (" 78), " azure.
- 20c. (" 80), grey-blue on salmon.
- 1 peso (Type 82), paler colour.
- 5 " green on blue.
- 10 " yellow-green.
- 10c. (for Bogota), black on pale rose, imperf.

Antioquia. The 2c. of 1902 type in a new colour.

- 2c., mauve, perf. 12.

Bolivar. Three different portrait busts have appeared on stamps varying in size, lithographed on coloured laid paper, all imperforate:

- 1 peso, orange on salmon; Fernandez Madrid.
- 6 " carmine on azure; Rodriguez Torices.
- 10 " deep blue on green; Garcia de Toledo.

Boyaca. *Ewen's Weekly* reports the following novelties. The 10c. and 20c. have Arms in centre; the 50c. a portrait, and 1 peso a large 1 on ornamental ground—all lithographed on thin white wove paper.

10c., grey, imp.; also black, perf. 12, and bluish grey.
20c., brown, and red-brown, imp. and perf. 12.
50c., dark blue, and greenish blue, perf. 12.
1p., dull lake-red, and bright vermilion, perf. 12.

Cuba. The Express stamp was described last month (because of its being unusual) without mentioning the reason—viz., that the Spanish word is now "inmediata" instead of "immediata" as in the previous issue of three years ago, when it was classed under United States.

France. It is stated that the retouched Mouchon type is replacing the new *La Semeuse* type. The 20 centimes of this newer type is now to hand in a miserable colour, said to be technically claret, but those who so name it would decidedly refuse to drink the wine if presented to them of that shade of colour.

20c., "Sower" type, light purple.

French Colonies. *Senegambia and Niger.* The usual set of thirteen stamps of current colonial type are now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.; the 20c. and 75c. on the usual green and orange-faced paper, and others on varying pale tints. The names in panel are SENEGAMBIE ET NIGER in red or in blue, separate printings.

1c., black.	20c., red.
2c., red-brown.	25c., blue.
4c., purple-brown.	30c., light brown.
5c., light green.	40c., red.
10c., light rose.	50c., brown.
15c., lilac drab.	75c., dark brown.
	1 franc, olive green.

Somali Coast. There are inverted centres reported of the 4, 20, 25, and 30c. stamps that we chronicled in March last; also the 5c., with blue-green centre and light green frame.

Tahiti. The Tahitians are on the war-path again, probably roused by the extravagances of Niué, Penrhyn, and Aitutaki; and have broken out into surcharges again. Mr. Maury in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* tells us that a milliner at Papeete is kindly offering these provisionals at 2 francs each if taken by the thousand—quite as modest as the dressmaking out there. There are differences of opinion at present as to which issue of stamps have been overprinted, so we content ourselves with saying "TAHITI—10—centimes" appears on three lines in 25c. and 40c. stamps of Oceania.

German Empire. The Official stamps referred to in February and May, are found with a variety of numbers, we hear from a German friend. About thirty are known at

present for use in different Duchies, Principalities, and Institutions which have franking privileges—corresponding, to a certain extent, with the different envelopes for municipalities in Wurtemberg.

Guatemala. The *American Journal of Philately* gives a list of seven values overprinted in black, "1903—25 centavos" in three lines. The *Monthly Journal* lists some errors of 1898 provisionals, and also a corrected 25c. of Official series, given in our March number, which we give in the order here mentioned:—

1903.	25 on 1c., deep green.
	25 " 2c., rose-red.
	25 " 6c., pale-green.
	25 " 10c., pale brown.
	25 " 75c., rose.
	25 " 150c., blue.
	25 " 200c., yellow.
1898.	6 on 5c., purple; error, 1903.
	6 " " double surch., one inverted.
	2 on 25c., rose-red, surch. inverted.
	2 " 5c., purple, " in black.
1903.	Official. 25c., orange-vermilion.

Italy. *San Marino.* We give illustrations



of the 2 and 5 centesimi stamps described in our May number.

Servia. Last month we left the last line unfinished, and it might be read that the 10 para was of a new type since the death of the King, instead of being in the same small design as the values previously given. We now have a new provisional set, made up by new printings of the larger 1894 design, with an overprint of the Servian Arms, which has a curious effect, approaching the weird and ghastly, in some stamps. It consists of a double-headed eagle with a cross on breast displayed on a shield, with crown above a very pall-like arrangement, printed in blue, black, or red, over the head of the late King in black central oval.

1 para, pale purple, blue overprint.
5 " " green, " "
10 " " carmine, black " "
15 " " drab, " " "
20 " " pale orange " " "
25 " " blue, " " "
50 " " slate grey, red " "
1 dinar, green, black " "
3 dinars, violet, " " "
5 " " brown, " " "

United States. Five of the higher values of 1902 Commemorative Series are now before us.

15 cents, dark olive, portrait of Clay.	
50 " deep orange, " Jefferson.	
1 dollar, black, " Farragut.	
2 " blue, " Madison.	
5 " green, " Marshall.	

Venezuela. Zulia. The following letter has been received with two values of the stamps:—

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Ph. J. of G. B.*—Dear Sir,—I forward you specimens of stamps of the State of Zulia, which were in use for about three months only and went out of circulation on account of the revolution.

"There being no roads or railways from the capital (Caracas), it is necessary to go by steamer *via* Curacao, or by sloop along the coast; and the communication being very dilatory, it was a common occurrence to run out of stamps, so it was decided to have a special issue for the State of Zulia, of which Maracaibo is the capital, and about which I send you extracts of the official decree from the *Gazette* in my possession, obtained from the Treasury archives in Maracaibo. (The full decree occupies six pages of foolscap as to regulations and the postal system, and being in Spanish is not worth translating now.) The *Gazette* publishing the arrival and issue of these stamps being in another archive could not be obtained.

"I should be glad if you would publish the extracts sent, in your journal, as I think it may interest collectors.

"Yours faithfully,

"F. E. HARWOOD.

"Caracas, June 26, 1903."

The extracts need not be given in full, but the main portions are as follows:—

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Homer Lee Bank Note Co., New York," whose first consignment was put in circulation in May, 1891, and franked letters to all parts of Venezuela and to Cucuta in Colombia. The second consignment was burnt in the Custom House when the revolutionists took the place three months later.

5 centavos, deep violet, perf. 13½.
10 " light red, "

ENTIRES.

South Australla. Our publishers have received a wrapper on fine buff paper, having the stamp on left-hand side and no inscription by its side. Whether this is a new issue, or merely an error in cutting up a sheet, is not clear at present.

Wrapper. 1d., Queen's head in green on left.

West Australla has suddenly thought it necessary to produce newsbands for some mysterious reason on very poor paper, the stamp being of Swan type.

Wrappers. ½d., emerald on pale buff.
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Costa Rica. A post-card was received by our publishers in April, surcharged "INTERIOR—2 centimos" in black on the 3c. card, with an added adhesive to make up usual foreign rate.

Post-card. 2c. on 3c., black on red.

Hayti. The 1, 2, and 3 centimes, single and reply cards, received with surcharge "GT PRE" and "May, 1902."

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Post-card. 2c., bright green.

Roumania. A new card for U.P.U. use, without frame, to hand; King's head in oval with rectangular frame on right and arms on left. Also the 5c. letter card, with extra 5c. stamp (same type) impressed on left, and the 15c., now arriving, on cream; perforations 11½.

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United States. The current series of adhesives are universally admitted as about the finest ever produced; and as universally the new envelope designs are considered about the ugliest that could be made. The 1 cent is of circular form, with the head of Franklin, name and dates; the 2 cent is rectangular, with Washington in a little better style received in April.

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July, 1903, Report.

—o—

Honorary President—

His Honour Judge PHILBRICK, K.C.

Honorary Vice-Presidents—

VERNON ROBERTS. S. C. SKIPTON.

President—

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NOTICES.

Meetings will be held next season commencing in October at Essex Hall on the second Wednesday in each month. A lantern display is proposed to take place in February, 1904, and the season will close with the Annual General Meeting in May. Members willing to assist at these meetings with displays or papers are invited to communicate with the Hon. Sec. as soon as possible. Those members who have not yet forwarded their subscriptions are again invited to do so.

T. H. HINTON.

July 18th, 1903.

ENCASED POSTAGE STAMPS OF U.S.

BY CLARENCE P. DEKAY.

—:O:—

WHILE seeking for knowledge in philately's well-exploited field, the writer has interviewed many notable veterans of our recent Civil strife, and in consequence thereof he possesses, in a very slight degree, the following knowledge relative to the peculiar and extremely rare encased postage stamps used in 1862.

The curious 1, 2, and 5 cent stamps are perfectly round and fit into a little circular tin shield, which, by arrangement with the postal authorities, were made at the time by manufacturers, who used them for advertising purposes. I have examined some with the advertisement of Bennett, a manufacturer of cooking flavours, appearing on the back. Protecting the face of the stamp from moisture or from being soiled or torn is a circular disc of mica that fits under the rim of the metal shield, holding the stamp firmly in place.

These stamps were issued for the soldiers of the Union army, and were accepted in payment for small purchases as readily as cash. Protected from the transparent mica disc, through which one could see the denomination of the stamp from one side and by a tin shield on the other, they could be carried by the soldiers in any pocket through rain and sun without injury to the stamp enclosed within. This curious stamp case was invented by Burnett. When anyone wanted to use the stamp he tore off the mica covering and took the stamp, throwing away the tin shield, which was of no value in itself. These stamps now have a great many admirers, and, because of their scarcity, few collectors have the fortuity to possess the very rare and interesting specimens.—*The Canada Stamp Sheet.*



July 31, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens in rather peculiar fashion with an article entitled "With all Reserves." Mr. Castle commences his remarks as follows:—

It is not generally considered to be within the special province of a journal devoted to philately and owned by a philatelic society, to give particular prominence to the financial side of stamp collecting; but the subject that we propose is one of such far-reaching consequence to the prosperity and future of philately, that we feel no compunction in enlarging upon it.

He then proceeds to refer to the report of the London Philatelic Society, published in the same number, and particularly to a paragraph in which the Hon. Secretary

calls attention to the rapidly growing practice of stamps being actually or presumably sold with reserves, and of the owner, either by himself or agent, bidding for the same against the would-be purchaser.

Mr. Castle continues:—

We believe we are correct in stating that such bidding on the part of the owner is entirely illegal, and that in such case the last bidder has the right to claim the lot.

And goes on to point out other disadvantages of the system.

This legal aspect of the case was confirmed by an action recently brought in Scotland (we believe), which resulted in damages being awarded to the would-be buyer.

Nevertheless, we do not think that Mr. Castle is well advised in giving so much prominence to such a topic as must necessarily follow when it is dealt with not only in the annual report of the L.P.S. but also in an opening and special editorial in the official organ of that society.

We do not for one instant wish to be thought in sympathy with the practice, which has done considerable harm to philately. But is not Mr. Castle's "remedy" of such publicity even worse than the disease? The number of stamp auctioneers in this country is so limited that it would be easy to make representations to them on the subject, and in the event of failure (which we hardly think likely), a test action might easily be brought. For the rest,

we must say that we consider such a prominent reference to the purely financial side of stamp collecting to be not only out of place in the organ of a society professedly composed of amateurs pure and simple, but also worse than unnecessary. The man who buys in sale generally has, or should have, ideas as to the values of the things he wants, and should have sufficient commonsense not to exceed those limits. As it is, Mr. Castle's remarks will be quoted everywhere, and the philatelic "man in the street" will be apt to get the impression, firstly, that our stamp auctions are hotbeds of swindling and illegality, and, secondly, that the London Society places the philatelic and cash aspects of stamp collecting on an equal footing—which we do not think is what Mr. Castle wished to bring about when he wrote his editorial.

Mr. J. N. Marsden continues his interesting paper on "The Stamps of Portugal," in which he shows that one type of the 25 reis blue with the head of Don Pedro V. (issue of August, 1856) is only known as a reprint in that colour.

Some ten pages are taken up with the report of the London Philatelic Society and with Mr. Castle's criticisms of Mr. Vindin's latest remarks concerning the "Laureated" scandal.

From the smaller articles and notes we learn that the great majority of the recent "find" of Bavarian stamps is now definitely classified as remainders and not reprints.

Also that M. de Reuterskiold has found some more varieties of the 5c. Chili lithographed; that Messrs. Robert Ehrenbach and L. L. R. Hausburg have been added to the Expert Committee of the L.P.S., and that the German philatelists' "Day" will this year be held at Pforzheim (Baden), the festivities taking place between August 27 and 31.

The chief part of the *Monthly Journal* editorial is devoted to the big gooseberry—beg pardon, we mean the Ideal Catalogue question. Once more Major Evans sums up

the well-known arguments in his usual trenchant manner, concluding with the following remarks, which we commend to those interested:—

What is really wanted is a classified catalogue, distinguishing the principal from the minor varieties, and affording a guide to those collectors who do not want to go too deeply into the subject, as well as a list of all known varieties for the benefit of the specialist. Prices may be added, if any one is rash enough to attempt it, and if this part of the work is carefully and conscientiously done it will give some idea of the relative rarity of the older stamps and their approximate market value at the date of publication. But as far as we can see at present, we fancy that if the Ideal Catalogue for collectors ever materialises, it will be the production not of the Idealers, but of one of the much-abused dealers.

Messrs. T. W. Hall and E. D. Bacon have an interesting note on "The 1863 50c. error of Colombia," which from strips and pairs submitted to them appears to have taken place on the first and second stamps in the fourth or fifth horizontal row—i.e., that they were either Nos. 22 and 23 or 29 and 30 on the sheet of the 20c.

Mr. L. Hanciau, whose article on the Lombardo-Venetian stamps ends in the current number, gives some very useful details, unearthed from the papers of M. Moens, concerning the sales by tender of the remainders of the stamps of the German States.

In Alfred Smith and Sons' *Monthly Circular* Mr. B. T. K. Smith has some interesting notes relating to the first stamps of Nicaragua. The following will, we fancy, be news to many of our readers:—

For some time they were difficult to obtain, and so eager were collectors to get even the semblance of these most beautiful designs, that the late Mr. Whympere, the engraver of the illustration published in the *S.C.M.*, sold impressions from his woodblock at a shilling a-piece.

Philately in the States.

Here is yet another "Philatole" from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, this time from the May 30th number:—

Once there was a Young Lady who had just Started a Collection. One day she Floated into a Stamp Shop, and as she was Strong on Looks the Boss smiled encouragingly, failing to see What was Coming to him Presently. "Oh," said the Vision, "just see what I found in an old Volume," and she thereupon Uncovered a pair of Mauritian Counterfeits that were so Bad it made the Dealer feel Wicked to look at them. The Vision looked so Joyful, however, that he hesitated to break the News and thereby Lost Out, as the Dream no sooner obtained his Verdict that they were the Real Thing than she offered them for sale at Twenty Cents on the Dollar, with the information that she Collected only United States and would take it Out in Departments. Whereupon the Dealer started what was to be a smile, but was soon sidetracked into a look of pain, looked Longingly at the Fire Escape and Fainted Away. When he Came back to Life the Vision had gone for Help, so he Accepted the Opportunity and made his Getaway, while the Fairy said, "Oh, Fiddle," when she found the Place Closed and, being a woman, Changed her Mind and concluded to Keep the Mauritian, as the dealer had said that they were genuine.

MORAL.—It's a Wise One who Knows when to tell the Truth.

And here is a final one from the one dated June 6th. We print this latter in fear and trembling lest the wives of our married readers should descend upon the editorial offices and insist upon lynching us for so great a slander upon the philatelic knowledge of the fair sex.

Once there was a Bachelor Stamp Collector who was about to get Tied Up, During the Excitement attending his Entry into the Matrimonial Stage he Chased his Nice Collection onto the Shelf and spent all his Thought on the Fair One who had Landed him. About this time the Stamp Plate craze Arrived, and Wifey, being Susceptible, started on a Still Hunt for Choice Designs and eventually Bumped Up against the Collection which Hubby had put in Temporary Storage, whereupon, not being Acquainted with the Real Value of Stamps, she exclaimed, "Oh, jolly!" and started a general Massacre. When the Plate was Fully Decorated she Sprung it on Hubby one Evening and after taking one Stare at the medallion of a \$5 Proprietary which had been carefully cut out and used as the Centre of the Design he went under the Table in a Dead Faint. When he came to he explained to Wifey that the Plate was worth about \$975 and cautioned her to be more careful not to break it; she Construed this as Sarcasm and threatened to return to Mama.

MORAL.—A thing of beauty is sometimes expensive, as well a joy for ever.

We gather, by the way, that a certain number of American philatelists seem to approve of the idea of a "philatelic button," to be worn universally by collectors. Might we suggest, as a further improvement, that the button should bear some indication whether its owner was a collector pure and simple, a collector-dealer, dealer-collector, stamp speculator, specialist, &c., &c.?

Frank criticism is always interesting. Here is what a correspondent of the *Philatelic World* has to say about the new U.S. envelope:—

It takes a magnifying glass to find the embossing and a microscope to find the likeness to anyone in the features. It might be Cornwallis, or Burgoyne, or Howe, or some forgotten Tory camp follower of the British, or it might be intended for Wayne, Prescott, or Green, of the patriot army. Who the draughtsman was I don't know, but he should enter a primary class in the kindergarten and learn to draw. If it isn't wood block it ought to be.

It is not often that we find a philatelic paper devoting an editorial to a matter having no relation to philately. But this is what the *Metropolitan Philatelist* does in its May 16th number, as follows:—

The publishers of the Best Album have received the following order:—

"Gentlemen,—Please send the sheets of the Best Album for Europe with the exception of Russia, which should be classed with the barbarous nations of Asia, in which continent the larger and better part of the country is situated. * * *

This collector is evidently a student of history as well as a careful philatelist. The Russian people are certainly a disgrace to Europe and all civilized peoples. Liars, thieves and murderers from their Emperor down, with one solitary exception. Count Tolstois, as far as we have ever heard or have reason to believe, the only good man of Russian nationality who ever lived. There are good men in Russia but they are of alien races—Jews, Germans, and other

foreigners—who have settled among the vile race. Russians are even devoid of the one virtue of wild animals, they are arrant cowards. Prepared to bully Japan, one word from the U.S. Government has frightened them out of Manchuria. We call on the State Department to compel the men in control in Russia to alter their so-called laws when they interfere with American citizens. First, they must issue passports to Americans without regard to their religion and they must be prohibited from stealing Russian bank notes sent by mail to people residing in their country. No laws of savages can make taking property from the mails anything else than stealing. It necessary for the U.S. to be represented in such a country, an American Hebrew should be selected for the post.

But wherefore "an American Hebrew"?

In its next number the foregoing editorial is referred to as follows:—

In last week's paper we had a mild editorial reflecting on the Russian people. There may be terms in the English language which would correctly describe the Russian people, but we fail to call them to mind and would not care to print them when found.

Without desiring to criticise our contemporary's opinions in any way, we confess that we should like to know one thing. If the above is a *mild* editorial, what is a strong one?

It will probably be news to most of our readers to learn that we have had an extremely narrow escape of losing the one and only Nankivell. Read the story of his terrible adventure in his own words, as contributed in his English letter to the May number of the *American Journal of Philately*. He is referring to British Official stamps.

Of course, used copies will have to satisfy the less ambitious amongst us, for even current issues unused are fetching a terrible price. Sometime ago I nearly sent a high official off his head by asking him, more by way of a joke than seriously, for a set of his Department. I knew I had no chance, but I wanted to see the effect of the recent orders, and by Joseph I gained a very clear conception of the terror they have struck into the more conscientious.

What he escaped we may gather from the paragraph immediately preceding the above.

And what is more, not even Kitchener himself could stop the leakage that must ensue to meet the demand, for when a specialist goes for what he needs he is going to get it at all hazards, even if he stands a chance of being hung, drawn and quartered in the attempt.

Which makes us thankful that Mr. Nankivell either is not a specialist in these stamps, or else does not intend to "go for what he needs."

Mr. C. A. Howes continues his series on "Some Stamp Designs," the country in the number under notice being Samoa, which is dealt with in Mr. Howes' well-known interesting manner.

Philately on the Continent.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* for July contains an interesting article on the 250 years' jubilee of the "Post paid mark," which, we presume, is as near a translation as can be given of the postal mark or stamp impressed on the 1 sol wrappers issued for use in Paris

in August, 1653—about thirty years before Docwra's London Penny Post.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* gives some interesting details concerning an alleged forgery of the German 10 pfennig stamp of 1902. There appears to be some considerable doubt on the subject, as both the postal authorities and the experts of the "Germaniaring" declare the specimen in question to be perfectly genuine, in spite of sundry small deviations from the normal type.

The *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* has an interesting article on the stamps of Mecklenburg by "Dr. F. S.," some further particulars, with illustrations, of the mechanical obliterating machines now used in many countries, and some valuable remarks about certain recent forgeries. These include the 5fc. Belgium, the current 15c. French, and the 2 and 18kr. German Empire with large eagle, these latter being made from genuine specimens with the small eagle. Other forgeries noted are those of the German Levant, the Transvaal 1887-81, and the stamps of Pietersburg.

De Postzegel Gids for June pays us the compliment of giving a free translation of our article on Mr. B. W. Warhurst, together with a portrait of that gentleman on its front page. The number also contains some interesting information concerning the stamps and postal arrangements of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

From *Le Timbrophile Belge* we learn that the action of the Greek Government in endeavouring to make a kind of monopoly of the sale of stamped souvenir cards has been anything but successful. From June 30, 1900, pictorial cards, other than those sold by the Government, were allowed to go through the post only at letter rate. Now we are told that up to the end of 1902, only about 15,000 francs gross had been received from the sale of these cards, which amount would hardly cover the cost of production.

L'Annonce Timbrologique tells a story, the moral or morals of which we leave to our readers to discover and apply. On June 24th there appeared an announcement of a sale by auction, by order of the Law Courts, of a collection of 2,450 stamps. Since the advertisement drew special attention to 16 stamps of the neutral territory of Moresnet as being among the chief gems of the collection, the knowing ones smiled—and stayed away. Consequently, when the collection came up for sale, there were only about a dozen philatelists present, few of whom had taken the matter seriously. But it so happened that the collection was really an old one with many

rarities, including such things as several double Genevas, three 3pf. Saxony, &c., &c., its total value being about £400 to £500. However, no serious competition was forthcoming, and it was knocked down for about £85. The buyer paid cash and refused to divulge his name.

This sounds very nice, but just compare it with what took place recently in this country. A few weeks back the writer received a catalogue of the sale of some furniture, &c., a little way out of town. Why it was sent to him he knows not, nor did he consider the mystery explained on noticing that one lot, not specially referred to in any way, was a fairly large collection of stamps. Being away from London at the date of the sale, he passed the particulars on to a friend, and on his return naturally asked what had happened. Quoth the friend, "I, too, received a catalogue, and as I discovered that several dealers had been similarly favoured, I decided to stay at home." "But what about the collection?" "Oh, that was a most amusing affair. When it came up, quite a number of philatelists, dealers, and collectors were present, and the bidding was brisk from the start. But much to the general disgust, it appeared that there was a fairly high reserve on the collection, which was, therefore, bought in.

In *La Revue Philatelique Française* Victor Flandrin has an interesting article on the 3pf. Saxony of 1850 and the various forgeries of the stamp. One test of genuineness of used specimens is, so M. Flandrin declares, the postmark, which could only be that of Dresden or Leipzig; since, so he says, the stamps, being usable only for newspapers, were cancelled only at the large post offices. We own that we cannot quite follow this reasoning, and should be glad to hear from any readers who have special information on this point.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for June 30th signalises its "up-to-dateness" with the commencement of an interesting series of illustrated papers, by "J. B.," upon "Servia: Its Postal Service and its Stamps." In the same number we find particulars of a rare French colonial stamp. This is the gist of what our contemporary says of it:—

"Dr. Voisin has shown us an extremely rare error: it is a strip of four 50c. French colonial stamps, brown on blue. Three of these stamps bear the inscription "Sultanat d'Anjauon,"

while the right-hand stamp is labelled "St. Pierre et Miquelon." The explanation is that the error (one on a sheet [?]) occurred in a small first printing that was made for the use of the Postal Union officials at Berne, who did not notice it, and distributed the stamps among the representatives of the post offices of the States included in the Union. A pair of stamps, one of which was the error, found its way to the authorities at Brussels. These, instead of keeping it, complained to Berne, and, after much correspondence, a fresh pair was sent to Brussels, *via* Berne, by the French postal authorities, while the remaining errors were burnt. But it so happened that 600 stamps (two sheets) had been sent to Berne, and, consequently, another State received the error in a strip of four. The latter's postal authorities preserved the intruder, which thus came to Dr. Voisin."

In *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste*, which likewise wishes to be up-to-date, M. A. Maury has a short illustrated article on Servia and its stamps, the historical, rather than the philatelic, element preponderating.

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—:O:—

[From the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, 4.7.03.]

A PROPOS the "Official Stamps" Case, it may interest collectors of the present generation to learn how a similar situation was met when Congress decreed that each of the eight departments and the Executive should be provided with postage stamps of a special design. An act of this nature had to be fully debated by Congress, so collectors were well aware of what was coming, and, of course, were extremely anxious to secure early copies of the new stamps. How were they to be obtained? The law said they were not to be sold to the public and to be used exclusively on official correspondence. To get single used stamps of the low values was easy enough, because it was only necessary to write some "fool question" to each department and get a reply. The writer was determined to be first in the field, and the day before the stamps were available for postage wrote to the chief of each department, enclosing the face value of his special set of stamps and requested that he would kindly send a set of stamps for the amount enclosed.

The President of the United States (Gen. U. S. Grant) and the eight eminent men he had selected as his official advisers were certainly competent to understand a simple law, passed for the express purpose of facilitating public business! The answers to my letters show that very different views may be taken of the same subject.

My first answer was from the President, who stated, through his private secretary, that the stamps were intended for official correspondence and could not be sold, but that he was pleased to send me a few specimens, which were inclosed in his letter together with the money I had sent him.

The Secretary of the Interior wrote and stated that the stamps were issued to keep account of the amount of postage used by each department, and so long as this object was attained the exact method was immaterial. He enclosed the desired set and

stated that I could have all I wanted, provided I sent an equal amount of regular stamps which would be used in place of those I got.

The Secretaries of the Navy and War sent all the stamps I sent cash for.

The Secretary of State returned the cash and stated that on no account could the stamps be used for any other purpose than that designated by Congress.

I do not recollect at this late day the exact answer of the other departments, but the letters above quoted show practically every view that could be taken of the subject.

New Zealand.

—:O:—

We take the following interesting notes on New Zealand stamps from the *Philatelic Journal of India* (6.03/174):—

"Only a limited number of the 4d. on water-marked paper were perf. 11, and it is accordingly a scarce stamp. I have seen the 4d. perf. 14, with the centre varying from Prussian blue to indigo. The 1/- exists in two very distinct shades—viz., dull red and bright red. The latter is likely to be very rare, as this colour was rejected, and it is stated that all the stock printed in it were destroyed with the exception of two sheets, which were inadvertently included in a supply of about 500 sheets issued to the Stamp Department by the Government printer. The 2/- stamp is now appearing on laid paper, and is worth securing, as the next printing is almost certain to be on the water-marked paper. Some 28,000 of the 2d. stamped envelopes have been overprinted "one penny" in black, as owing to the reduction in the rate of postage the 2d. is rarely used now. The various varieties of the ½d. and 1d. New Zealand are very troublesome, and some are decidedly hard to find. The rarest appears to be the ½d. and 1d., on "Basted Mills" paper, perf. 11, and the ½d., on "Cowan unwatermarked" paper, perf. 11. I hear that specimens of the current 2½d., unperf. horizontally, have turned up."

The report as to the 1/- bright red is either incorrect, or more probably a fresh printing in this shade was made, as it was used for the latest Niue, Penrhyn Island, and Aitutaki stamps.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

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No. 152. VOL. XIII.

AUGUST 31, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 44.—MR. FRED. A. PADGETT.

As in philately at large, our portrait gallery is intended to be cosmopolitan, but it is not easy to obtain representatives of all nationalities, so, having last sketched one of Brother Jonathan's philatelists, we turn to another of the John Bull type in the person of Mr. F. A. Padgett. Born just over thirty-eight years ago, and brought up within a few miles of Leeds, he may safely be considered as a Yorkshireman, and particularly so as he has been closely connected with the woollen trade (of which that city is considered the metropolis), as were his forebears for more than one generation previously.

The Moravian Settlement at Fulneck is responsible for his early education and for his first infection, about 1876, with the stamp-collecting microbe, bacillus, bacterium, or whatever it may be more correctly called that impregnates so many people of all ages with this ever-spreading ailment. There were special endowments or arrangements for the

free education of sons of the Brethren at this School, and a large number of the boys were the children of ministers or missionaries stationed in the West Indies. The stamps of this group of islands were therefore somewhat plentiful, and, in consequence, held of only slight account, and—notwithstanding the lapse of years—Mr. Padgett feels it almost heart-breaking to recall the prices at which good stamps of Nevis, St. Lucia, &c., were parted with when pocketmoney got scarce towards the end of a term.

Forgeries, too, were at that time unblushingly dumped down [good phrase that, and up-to-date] in packets and sets, on too confiding youths, and this feature stamped itself so forcibly upon our young friend, that out of these emblems of a temporary disenchantment, he has laid the foundation of a valuable



collection of these impositions. At the present time even there is a large circulation of high-class photographically-engraved stamps in the Northern Province, chiefly from Paris it is said, especially of imperforate issues such as those of Greece, Hayti, Brazil, Cape triangulars, Ionian Islands, and Naples, also dangerous

surcharges of Colonial French. Both these and Reprints have been a special study, and Mr. Padgett finds the investigation of such bypaths both interesting and profitable, not only personally, but for the assistance that may be given to others who have not the time or opportunities for research.

Naturally commencing as a general collector and of used specimens, he has continued so with varying enthusiasm, and with a few attempts at specialising favoured countries, which were *not* the fashion of the day, as Paraguay, Chili, and South America. He has also kept up a fine collection of Entires (now approaching 6,000), mostly before 1892—a date limit he had fixed for Adhesives as well, though, as the latter are being continued to the end of the Victorian era, the stationery will doubtless be in the same condition before it is dropped entirely. It must be remembered that 6,000 Entires may be as complete, relatively, as a collection of Adhesives totalling 25,000 specimens.

American Locals—chiefly of the private mail companies existing from 1841-44, whose stamps were undoubtedly of a philatelic nature—form another branch of study, spread over the last two years, as to the extent of which Mr. Padgett is modestly reticent, while admitting that the investigation is so extensive that if he had known its magnitude at first he might not have tackled it. From advertisements we have seen asking for these stamps on original covers, for old advertisements, waybills, notices of issue, &c., and from the acknowledged drawers full of responses, there must be material enough for quite an interesting monograph. At one of the meetings of the Leeds Philatelic Society last April he gave a preliminary outline of the possibilities of such a publication at a future date, and speaks highly of the assistance received from Mr. E. D. Bacon, and from many others across "the ferry."

"Condition" is placed at the top of all stamp virtues, and even the sacrifice of an otherwise valuable specimen would be advocated and carried into practice, if it failed in this essential qualification. He says:—"However small a collection one has, let it be made up of clean, lightly-cancelled copies. This at once gives it a *status*, with a chance to increase in value far greater than if composed of mediocre stamps, though much more numerous." Officials, if they come his way, may be taken in, but if a plebiscite was taken on the advisability of issuing these stamps, either surcharged or as a separate design, he would "have no hesitation in deciding against

them." Minor varieties and errors *per se* must be considered and accepted, but it is difficult to decide as to the legitimacy of many that are catalogued.

The Leeds Society—of which Mr. Padgett was president 1901-2—is a pushing one and claims to be "the oldest society in the provinces." It held the earliest Fiscal Exhibition known, to commemorate the passing of the first Stamp Duty Act under William and Mary on June 29th, 1694 (*vide* Vol. IV. of *P. J. of G.B.*, p. 101), and it has made a speciality of members' meetings "At Home," but this is one of those attractive or engaging practices that needs limiting, as, in some cases, it may be felt a tax to offer the hospitality that to more wealthy members would be no more than an ordinary weekly occurrence of social life. Since a catalogue of its library was issued for circulation with the annual syllabus the borrowing of books has increased, and stamp education benefited by better papers being read, and a larger attendance at the fortnightly meetings from October to May.

A small matter we have noticed in our correspondence with Mr. Padgett, which helps in spreading the cult—the use of a scroll design as a heading on his letterpaper, in which a rectangular space is reserved for insertion of a postage stamp. This, with little designs for Christmas or birthday card greetings of a similar nature, may often lead to interesting our friends or private correspondents who know not yet the fearful joys of stamp collecting to become as one of ourselves, and in time to far outstep us in the march to Philately with a big P.

POSTAL WORK.—The Postmaster-General's report for last year says that 2,579 millions of letters were carried and 488 million post-cards, these last being nearly ten per cent. more, which increase is attributed to pictorial cards. About 29 per cent. of all letters delivered came to London, and there were 25 million undelivered letters and packages due to careless addressing. The record for telegrams is 314,126, on June 25th, 1902, owing to the illness of the King; in previous year it was 199,155—the day before Queen Victoria's funeral.

Mr. Pike, Postmaster of House of Commons, received a testimonial (valued at £150), on his retirement after twenty-five years' service. This last session 1,533,880 letters were received there, 821,500 posted, and 36,225 telegrams received and despatched, besides 31,160 Press telegrams.

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that a stamp does not exist.)

FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICES IN TURKEY.

Following the lead set first by Austria, and followed by Great Britain and Germany, France issued special stamps for use in her Consular Offices in the Turkish Empire, in 1885. The Turkish Imperial postal system had always been so extremely unreliable that before this time France and the other Powers had already established the Consular post offices, and the surcharged stamps were introduced, partly to keep the accounts separate and partly for the convenience of having the values expressed in the Turkish currency. The first stamps to be thus surcharged were the 25c. yellow-brown on yellowish, 75c. rose, and the 1fr. olive green—all in the then current type (Peace and Commerce). The surcharges were "1 piastre," "3 piastres," and "4 piastres," respectively.



In the following year the 25c. in the new colours—black on rose—appeared with surcharge, displacing the yellow-brown stamp. The 5fr. purple, surcharged "20 piastres," followed in 1889, and the 50c. carmine, surcharged "2 piastres," in 1890. It was not until eight years later that another value was added to the set, this being the 2fr., which was surcharged "8 piastres," though in the meantime the 3 piastres on 75c. had been withdrawn. All the surcharges were in black, with the exception of the 1 piastre, which was first printed in vermilion and afterwards in carmine. The 2 piastre on 50c. carmine, type (a) ("N" under "B"), had a short period of existence and is rather scarce.

1885-1902.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 pi. on 25c., yellow-brown ...	—	7
1 pi. on 25c., black on rose ...	—	—
a. 1 pi. on 25c., do., carmine surch. ...	4	1
2 pi. on 50c., carmine (b) ...	7	2
a. 2 pi. on 50c., carmine (a) ...	—	—
3 pi. on 75c., carmine ...	—	1 0
4 pi. on 1 fr., olive green ...	1 3	6
8 pi. on 2 fr., brown on azure ...	—	—
20 pi. on 5 fr., mauve ...	—	—
a. 20 pi. on 5 fr., lilac ...	—	4 0

At the end of 1902 a new series began to make its appearance. It consists of the current type of France, with the inscription POSTES FRANÇAISE in the label at foot, replaced by the name LEVANT. The values from 10c. to 30c. are in the *Droits de l'homme* type. The 10c., 15c., 20c., and 30c. are unsurcharged, but the other values are overprinted with the equivalent in Turkish currency.

1902-03.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
10c., rose-red ...	—	2
15c., pale red ...	—	3
20c., purple-brown ...	—	3
1 piastre on 25c., blue ...	—	4
30c., lilac ...	—	5
2 pias. on 50c., brown and lavender ...	—	7
4 pias. on 1 fr., lake and yellow-green ...	1	2
8 pias. on 2 fr., slate and deep buff ...	2	3
20 pias. on 5 fr., deep blue and buff ...	5	6

NOTE.—The four highest values have not yet been chronicled, but as the same denominations have been issued in other offices, there can be no doubt that their appearance will be only a question of time.

In the four Turkish ports of Dédéagh, Port Lagos, Vathy, and Cavalle the French postal administration was managed by the local offices of the great French steamship company, the Maritimes Messageries, who were paid for their services by a commission on the sale of the stamps. In 1893, ostensibly in order to simplify the accounts, the stamps supplied to these offices were overprinted with the name of the office and also, in the case of the higher values, with the value in piastres. Up to that date no values lower than 25 centimes had been used in the Turkish Levant, but for these four towns the stamps of 5c., 10c., and 15c. were introduced. Some few years ago the special surcharged stamps ceased to be used at Port Lagos, and these have become rather scarce.

As in the case of the ordinary Levant issue, some of the red surcharges are found in two distinct shades—vermilion and carmine.

1893-1900.

	CAVALLE, DEDEAGH.		Un-Used.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5c., deep green ...	1	—	—	3	—	—
a. 5c., deep green, surch. verm. ...	—	—	—	2	—	—
5c., yellow-green (b) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
a. 5c., yellow-green (a) ...	1	—	—	1	—	—
10c., black on lilac (b) ...	2	—	—	2	—	—
a. 10c., black on lilac (a) ...	—	—	—	2	—	—
15c., blue, surch. vermilion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
a. 15c., blue, surch. carmine ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
1 pi. on 25c., black on rose ...	4	—	—	4	—	—
2 pi. on 50c., rose ...	8	—	—	8	—	—
a. 2 pi. on 50c., carmine ...	1	6	—	—	—	—
4 pi. on 1 fr., green ...	1	3	—	1	3	—
a. 4 pi. on 1 fr., green, surch. vermilion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 pi. on 2 fr., brown on azure ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

1893-1902.

	VATHY, PORT LAGOS.	
5c., deep green ...	10	—
5c., bright yellow-green (a) ...	1	—
a. bright yellow-green (b) ...	2	—

VATHY. PORT LAGOS.

	Un-used.		Un-used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10c., black on lilac (a) ...	2	—	—	—
a. 10c., black on lilac (b) ...	2	—	—	—
15c., blue ...	3	—	1 6	—
1 pi. on 25c., black on rose ...	4	—	1 9	1 9
2 pi. on 50c., rose ...	8	—	—	—
a. on 50c., carmine ...	8	—	4 0	—
4 pi. on 1 fr., olive green ...	1 3	—	—	—
8 pi. on 2 fr., brown on azure ...	2 3	—	—	—
20 pi. on 5 fr., lilac ...	6 0	—	—	—

At the end of 1902 these issues were superseded by stamps of the same design as those given under this date for the Levant. Some of the values given in the following list may not have appeared yet, but there is no doubt that that they will do so, sooner or later.

1902-03

ISSUES FOR CAVALLE, DEDEAGH, AND VATHY.

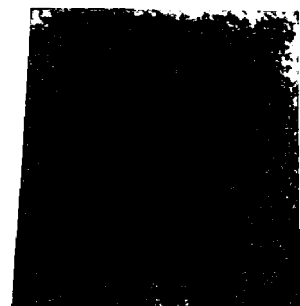
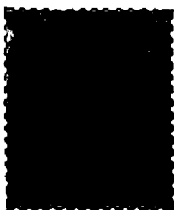
- 10c., rose-red.
- 15c., pale red.
- 20c., purple-brown.
- 1 piastre on 25c., blue.
- 30c., lilac.
- 2 piastres on 50c., brown and lavender.
- 4 " " 1 fr., lake and yellow-green.
- 8 " " 2 fr., slate and deep buff.
- 20 " " 5 fr., deep blue and buff.

[These stamps can be supplied in sets, unused, at 20 per cent. over face value.]

France has many other Consular Offices in foreign countries which are supplied with stamps of the mother country with an overprint. Some are simply surcharged with the name of the country, such as Chine, Alexandria, Port Said, and Madagascar; others with the name and the equivalent value in the local coinage, as in Canton, Hoi-Hao, and the 1897 issue of Zanzibar, while those for Morocco and the 1894 issue of Zanzibar are simply surcharged



with the new value, with no other indication of the countries in which they are used. We illustrate a very curious provisional, which was made by surcharging the blank marginal paper between the panes of stamps in Zanzibar in 1897.



Though there would be some justification for including these issues in a catalogue of European stamps (as they are quite distinct from the ordinary Colonial issues), we have decided to leave them out, as they are very numerous, and the lists would form very uninviting fare for our readers.

GERMANY.

THURN AND TAXIS.

The stamps of Thurn and Taxis are generally a puzzle to beginners, for who but a philatelist ever hears the name? The beginner frequently looks for it on the map, but is never successful in finding it, for it is not the name of a place, but of an Austrian princely title, in the holder of which was vested—from the seventeenth century—the monopoly of the post in the whole of Germany. It was a very lucrative business, but, like most monopolies, it did not always please its customers, and, one after another, Austria, Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, Hanover, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Oldenburg, Prussia, and Saxony, and the free towns of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck secured by purchase, or other means, the right to manage their own postal affairs. The remainder of the monopoly passed into the hands of the newly-formed North German Confederation in 1867; this was joined by all the States and towns above mentioned except Baden, Bavaria, and Würtemberg, which still continued to manage their own postal affairs.

In 1871 the Empire was established, and the North German Confederation was superseded by the present Imperial Administration, Baden, at the same date, giving up her postal independence. It was not until 1902 that Würtemberg ceased to issue separate stamps. Bavaria is now the only State left which does not use the stamps of the Empire.

It was in 1852 that the first Thurn and Taxis stamps were issued, the designs being modelled on those of Baden, Bavaria, Saxony, and Würtemberg, which had already been provided with stamps. Two sets were necessary, as the currency in the Northern States was different from that used in the South, the former being in silbergroschen (30 stgr. equals 1 thaler equals about 3/-), and the latter in kreuzer (60 kr. equals 1 florin equals 1/8).



The designs for the set for the Northern District show the larger numeral of value in the centre of the stamp, enclosed within a square-shaped frame on which appear the inscriptions; those for the Southern District have the numeral within a circular frame. It should be noticed that the pattern of the engine-turned ground in the centre of each value of both sets is always different. On January 1st, 1852, four values were issued of each set, but in 1854 the set for the

Northern District was augmented by the addition of a new value— $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr.—and in 1858 of $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr. The impressions are all in black on coloured paper.



NORTHERN DISTRICT, 1852-58.

	Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., black on red-brown ...	20 0	10
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " flesh ...	3 9	4 0
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " pale green ...	—	5
1 " " deep blue ...	—	1 3
1 " " blue ...	—	3
a. 1 sgr., black on pale blue ...	—	6
2 sgr. black on rose ...	—	4
a. 2 sgr., black on pale rose ...	—	4
3 sgr., black on yellow ...	—	3

SOUTHERN DISTRICT, 1852-58.

1 kr., black on pale green ...	5 6	2
3 " " deep blue ...	—	6
3 " " blue ...	—	2
a. 3 kr. on pale blue ...	—	2
6 kr., black on rose ...	—	2
a. 6 kr., black on pale rose ...	—	2
9 kr., black on yellow ...	—	2

In 1859 some of the stamps began to appear in colour on white paper instead of in black on coloured paper, as before. Two higher values were added at the same time to each set—viz., 5 and 10 sgr. for the North, and 15 and 30 sgr. for the South. The designs for these differed considerably from those of the lower values, the ornamentation on the frame being altered. The numerals of value in the centre were made smaller, and the central background was composed of a pattern covered, in the case of the 5 sgr. and 15 kr., with the figures "5" and "15" in Roman and Arabic form, repeated alternatively, and on the 10 sgr. and 30 kr. with the figures in Arabic only. All the old values, except the $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., were issued in colour on white by the end of 1860.

NORTHERN STATES, 1859-60. Imperf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., light red ...	4 6	10		
$\frac{1}{2}$ " blue-green ...	16 0	10		
1 " pale blue ...	—	6		
2 " rose ...	5 6	10		
a. 2 sgr., pale rose ...	5 6	10		
3 sgr., brown-red ...	—	6		
5 " red-lilac ...	3 2	3		
10 " orange ...	5 16	0		

NOTE.—The 5 sgr. and 10 sgr. remainders were sold in large quantities, hence the low price at which they can be offered unused.

SOUTHERN STATES, 1859.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr., blue-green ...	5 0	2		
a. 1 kr., green ...	5 0	2		
3 kr., pale blue ...	40 0	3		
6 " rose ...	35 0	9		
9 " orange-yellow ...	—	8		
a. 9 kr., yellow ...	65 0	8		
15 kr., red-lilac ...	3	1 6		
30 " orange ...	4	10 0		

NOTE.—Large remainders of the two highest values were sold to dealers, as in the case of the 5 and 10 sgr.

During the years 1862-64 the colours of all the stamps were altered in order to obtain more uniformity between the stamps of similar value in the States composing the German-Austrian Postal Union. The two highest values in each set were, however, left unchanged. The stamps were still issued imperforate.

NORTHERN DISTRICT, 1862-64.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., black ...	1 3	1 3		
$\frac{1}{2}$ " yellow-green ...	1 3	2 6		
a. $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., blue-green ...	1 3	2 6		
$\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., orange ...	5 0	5		
a. $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., orange-yellow ...	—	5		
1 sgr., deep rose ...	6 3	5		
a. 1 sgr., pale rose ...	—	5		
2 sgr., deep blue ...	2 6	1 3		
a. 2 sgr., pale blue ...	2 6	1 3		
3 sgr., bistre ...	1 3	8		
a. 3 sgr., yellow-brown ...	1 3	1		

SOUTHERN DISTRICT, 1862.

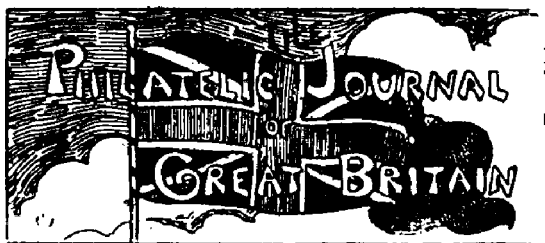
3 kr., pale rose ...	5 0	2
a. 3 kr., deep rose ...	—	2
6 kr., pale blue ...	1 3	4
a. 6 kr., deep blue ...	1 0	4
9 kr., bistre ...	10	3
a. 9 kr., brown ...	1 0	3

(To be continued.)

Australian Commonwealth.

The all-absorbing topic of conversation in philatelic circles during the past month has been the projected issue of the new Federal stamps. Up to the present the 9d. value for use in Queensland has made its appearance. A supply of the same value for use in New South Wales has been received at the Sydney office, and were issued to the public on the 15th inst., the writer being privileged to purchase the first sheet.

At a recent meeting of architects, the following resolution was passed:—"That this Council, representing the members of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects, desires to place on record its deep regret that the first Commonwealth postage stamp should be so utterly weak and inartistic in design; and also to express the hope that it will be withdrawn from issue, to prevent our Australian designers being held up to ridicule; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Postmaster-General and to the Press."—*The Australian Journal of Philately*, July 20th.



Auction Reserves.

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SOME remarks in the Annual Report of the Philatelic Society of London, and the *London Philatelist's* comments thereon, as to a supposed change in the methods of auction sales through "undeclared reserves," and a declared increasing practice of owners bidding against would-be purchasers, have attracted attention this holiday season. That the practice is old enough, anyone attending ordinary sales of goods at auction rooms must know, but that it is very common, in the sense of any large percentage of lots being so treated, is not by any means certain. Certainly one instance that struck us (over six years ago) as curious, if not peculiar, was that of a single stamp being offered as a lot by itself, which we were interested in, because, not long before, a dozen had been secured for three shillings and sixpence, and it was knocked down at twelve shillings. Six weeks later, in another firm's catalogue, a similar lot appeared, which, on examination of a peculiarity of a perforation that had been previously noticed, turned out to be the *same* stamp, was bought by the same man at fourteen shillings this time. Two months after, at a third auction room, the self-same stamp again appeared and was disposed of to a fresh buyer at eighteen shillings, a similar stamp elsewhere a fortnight earlier having realised one pound.

The *Philatelic Record* last month went into the Law of "puffers" at auctions, showing that "where a buyer ascertains that the price has been run up against him by anyone acting as agent for the seller, he can bring an action, and *will be successful*, on the ground that such conduct amounts to a secret reserve, and causes the sale to become fraudulent." This is an important matter for ordinary buyers, who are not legal men, to know; though, of course, it may be stated in the conditions of sale that the vendor reserves the right to bid, by himself or his agent, who may be the auctioneer himself. Even the withdrawing of a lot because it has not reached a hidden reserve price is also stated to be "distinctly illegal." Those who know the professional

occupation of the editors of that journal will not consider this merely a journalist's opinion. It was assumed also by the *London Philatelist* that the lots treated in the way referred to were largely the property of dealers. To this, Messrs. Puttick and Simpson make reply, on behalf of themselves and the trade, that in their experience of last season, only £87 worth out of a total of £468 for "trade stamps" came from English dealers, and "the major portion was without reserve."

This seems satisfactory, seeing that that firm's stamp sales average £20,000 yearly; but there are other auctioneers who have to rely largely at times on lots sent in by dealers to make up a good show in their catalogues. This is not of itself reprehensible, for a dealer may, equally with a collector, desire to realise more rapidly on certain stuff than in demand than he can be sure of by private sales, because would-be buyers are ignorant of his stocks, while the catalogue lists save intending purchasers a lot of trouble in writing or going to different dealers for those stamps that are wanted. Even in such an open, straightforward sale as that "patriotic" one for the War Relief Fund three years ago, there was any amount of needless running up of prices against everybody; while in several cases the other extreme was reached, during the laughter and excitement as to previous biddings, when lots were knocked down far below their value, one friend of ours buying in himself the very stamps he had sent as a gift, because he could easily obtain a much higher price privately and he did not wish them so publicly depreciated. More recently we know of two cases in which a man bid for lots, and the supposed buyer came to him afterwards saying:—"I saw that you wanted those stamps; couldn't we come to terms for them?" This, too, within 300 yards of the Royal Courts of Justice! In the best regulated auctions abuses may creep in, where the vendors are counted by the score; but a wide publication of the remarks above as to what is illegal, seldom before thought of, should—must, in fact—do much to check the bad habits that the *London Philatelist* called attention to. At the same time, we believe that these stamp auctions are far too numerous to secure reliable prices, many lots being offered, as we have shown, three or four times over in a season, which lowers the prices by giving the impression that these particular stamps are plentiful, even when the vendor is honestly trying to get a fair price for something that he paid, perhaps, too heavily for originally.

The Stamps of Livonia.

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In the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we find a few notes on the creation of the stamps of Livonia, which may be of interest.

The district of Wenden, or "Wendenschen Kreis," is one of the largest of the nine districts of the Russian province of Livonia, and is about as large as the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. Its shape is long and narrow. Proportionally few Russia post offices existed, and the great length of the district from north to south not only made the service difficult but also caused delays in delivery, wherefore it became absolutely necessary to make better postal arrangements. The representatives of the district suggested a scheme for a district postal service, to be quite separate from the Government postal service. This scheme was submitted to the Diet of Livonia, who decided to lay it before the Government for confirmation, which was accordingly done and obtained. In the district of Wenden special district post offices were instituted, whose duty consisted in the forwarding of all postal matter within the district, with the result that the few Government post offices were quite neglected, except for correspondence addressed to places outside the district, which had to be forwarded, as before, to the Government offices in the principal towns as heretofore. All letters handed over to the Government postal service had to be franked with Russian stamps in addition to those of the district of Wenden; letters posted and intended for addresses within the district, only bore Wenden stamps. These were always obliterated with pen and ink; the Russian stamps, however, with dies, which are sometimes also seen on those of the district when they happen to adjoin the Russian stamps on the envelope. The early stamps had no inscription of value, but all, with the exception of the green oblong stamp, were of the value of 2 kopecs. Lately, a few more Governmental post offices have been opened, yet the district postal service is in full working order still, and enjoying practically a monopoly of the custom.—The *Philatelic Record*.

Notes by the Way.

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OFFICIAL ISSUES.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have announced in the *Monthly Journal* that they "have withdrawn from sale all kinds of *unused* English Official stamps,

and do not propose to buy or sell any of these in unused condition unless the authorities decide to sell at their nominal value." The *London Philatelist* wisely asks "why, from a philatelic or scientific point of view, it is necessary to collect a stamp both as issued and with a subsequent surcharge *limiting* its use, but of no possible *postal* significance?" We cannot answer this conundrum, but may refer readers back to our remarks in the June number. The officials and others charged with obtaining some of these issues have been committed for trial, so further criticism on the habit of collecting these must be postponed.

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I.P.R.—Another good paper gone wrong by committing suicide, as it cannot have been for want of sustenance, judging from the total amount of subscriptions returned by the editor-proprietor. The *Collectors' News*—since it dropped its initial title, which always made us think most of the possible R.I.P. now to be inscribed above its resting-place—has been a most creditable and useful production for collectors in stamps *and* coins, or china, books, and photography. Mr. Regan says that the trials and worries of an editorial life have already produced a few grey hairs and premature wrinkles—but what are they compared with the joy of a successful issue? We regret his faint-heartedness; the trifles named have been in our possession for many years, but they were thought to add to our dignity, so we wore them cheerfully.

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BROWN-LILAC (?).—There is some little excuse possible to be made for the term "red lilac," because of the mauve tint of some of the flowers of the shrub; but lilac-brown or brown-lilac is an impossible colour. Lilac belongs to the *blue* division of colour names, as midway between lavender and a light violet, occasionally called lilac-blue, though the second word is unnecessary. Owing to carelessness of some writers (chiefly foreigners) who have been in the habit of saying "red-lilac," others have dropped the red while using the single word to describe what are really *mauve* or purple shades (or occasionally dingy rose tints), in connection with which words, brown can in many cases be fairly coupled either as an affix or a prefix; but no one would think of saying "blue-brown," which ought to be the correct meaning of "lilac-brown." It is usually a shade of purple-brown that is meant.

Salvador, 1879 Issue.

:0:

IN the Gibbons Catalogue of the second series of postage stamps issued by San Salvador in 1879 we read that "in the first printing there were ten varieties of the 1 centavo and five of each of the other values; in the second printing, fifteen varieties of 1c. and 2c., and twenty-five of the 5c." Scott says the same in other words, but that "in 1881 the 1c., 2c., and 5c. were *re-engraved*."

There are now before me five sheets of twenty-five stamps each of the 1 centavo, the arrangement of which sheets vary considerably, and with a view of informing those interested in these varieties just a little, and of eliciting further information, these particulars are offered. Each sheet has a narrow margin outside perforations on top and both sides, but not at the bottom. No attempt is made to fix the order of printing, but the A, B, C, D, E as given seems most likely to be correct. At first sight every stamp of a sheet appears to be separately engraved, but a closer examination leads to the conclusion that the engraving was done in horizontal rows of five stamps, and the other apparent differences which occur in the repetition of these strips are due to printing, though there are evidences of the strips being retouched.

A. The stamps in top row, Nos. 1 to 5, differ distinctly each from the other, as can be seen from the varying outlines of the volcano, with the sun beyond it just on the horizon, presumably rising, judged by the pointed rays as drawn, not setting. The oval band shows differences in the lettering, "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSAL" at top, and "REPUBLICA DEL SALVADOR" below; in No. 1 the LICA and DEL are rather too close, in 2, 3, 4, more correctly spaced, and in 5 a little close again. The E being exactly in centre, the letters D and L should slope inwards to it at top; but DE are upright in all except 4, and in 3 and 5 the D is almost like an O. Turning to the base line of the hill, it points to between P and U on left and to straight part of D on right in all except 5, where it lines with top of P and between D and O. The one distinguishing mark of the last stamp is that the second A of Salvador is minus its cross-bar, and is called in Gibbons an inverted V.

In No. 1 the horizon or line of junction of sea with sky is fairly marked, but is scarcely traceable in the others, though it may be better in clearer prints. Every one of the five rows of this plate appears to be an exact repetition of the first, the differences of each

stamp being found in the next below, so that all the stamps vertically are the same, including, therefore, five "errors" of A. The stamps are of grass-green colour, the gum is missing from the back.

It will not be necessary to go so elaborately into details of other sheets. **B**—1 to 5, commences with the same row of five stamps, but they seem to have been touched up, the light on waves (though incorrect in front) showing distinctly, and the printing generally shows details more clearly. The second row (6 to 10) is a new engraving of five varieties; the ground line now is from U to A, with a bar in every case, and the spaces between words are larger. The fourth row (16 to 20) is the same as this, and third and fifth rows are replicas of the first. The sun's rays are sharper or more definite, the ink is a dark green, and the gum is thin and light.

C sheet contains the same varieties, which we may call (a) and (b) for each row of five as already described; the arrangement now being (a) for first and third rows, and (b) for second, fourth, and fifth rows. It may be mentioned, as a distinctive variety of the (b) type or strip, that the middle (third) stamp does not show any light or waviness in the sea in front as the others do. The gum of this sheet is shiny or oily, and the design shows through to the back. The fifth or bottom row has the effect of being finer or lighter than the others, especially as to the sun's rays and the light on water.

D gives the idea of a worn-out plate, in that the sunlight is of much greater area and the light is on the sea behind the mountain now, and yet the shading lines of sky or background are much finer, which cannot all be accounted for by clearer printing; there must have been retouching here. We now get a fresh row of five varieties (c), the distinctive marks of which are the absence of bar in A of Republica on second stamp and also in Universal on the fourth stamp. All the waves have now been smoothed down. This sheet has (a) in first and fourth rows, (b) in second row (6 to 10) only, and the new (c) in third and fifth rows. The new barless A's therefore appear in Nos. 12, 14, 22, and 24 of this sheet in addition to the previous 5 and 20; the gum is thick and yellow, and the ink of a full green colour, as also in last sheet.

E contains the fifteen varieties again, as shown in the illustration, arranged in order of the rows, as—*a, b, c, b, c*, but the last row has quite a different effect in the light beyond the mountain from that in middle row.

Another peculiarity of this plate is that the two lower rows of stamps are not in vertical line with the upper ones, being about two millimetres to the left, and the printing is not of as deep a colour, which gives the effect of a deep green for three rows and ordinary green for lower portion. It is possible that the order of this sheet should come before the other one. The gum is of the same kind, but a trifle heavier and crackly, making each row of the sheet curl vertically.

been printed at different times, instead of the two printings or "re-engraving" only as mentioned in catalogues above. There does not seem to be any possibility of two settings of the strips in one sheet of two panes, as the shade of colour and the gum varies in every one of those described here.

Of the other values of this series it has not been possible to get together whole sheets or even large blocks, by which to judge whether similar arrangements to form printing plates

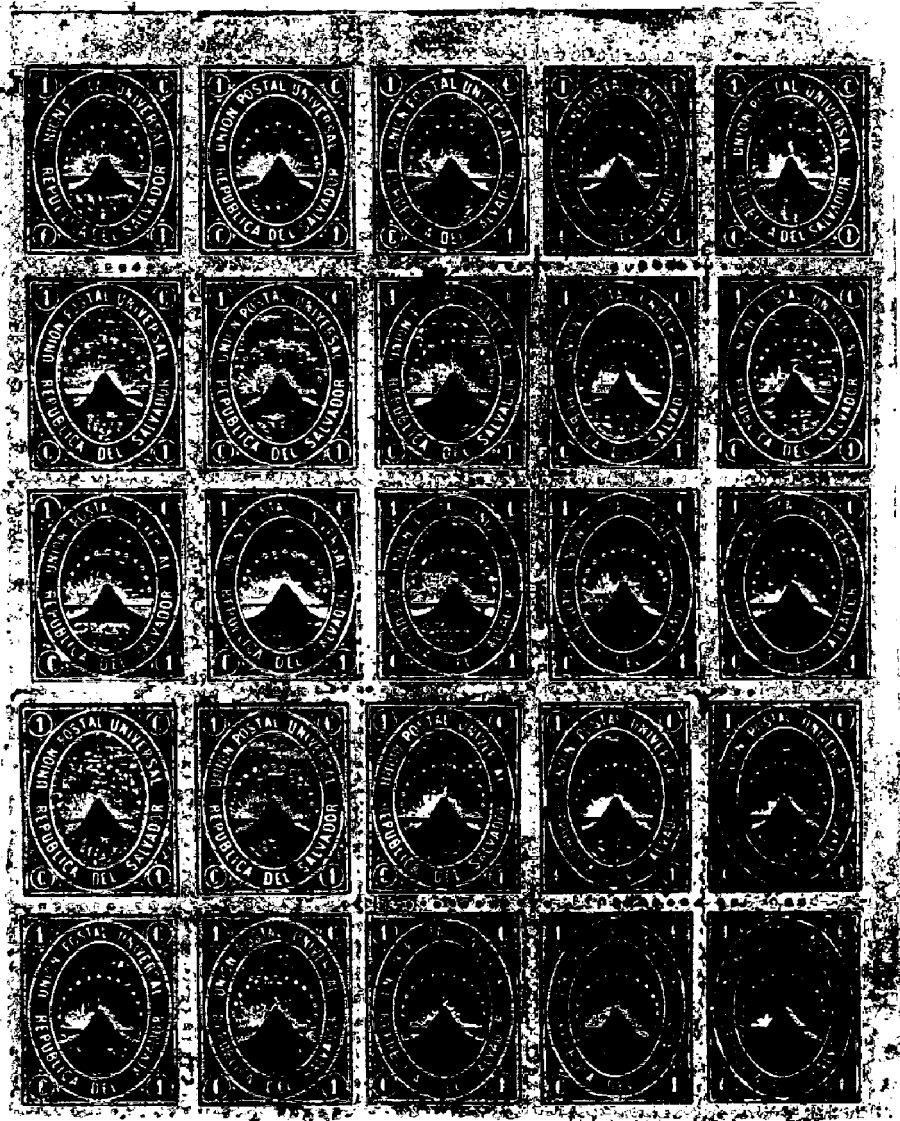
Nos. 1 to 5
(a)

6 to 10
(b)

11 to 15
(c)

16 to 20
(b)

21 to 25
(c)



Full Sheet or Plate E of Salvador, 1879.

The fifteen varieties of catalogue are thus accounted for, and with retouches there may be double the number easily, if gone into minutely; but there are clearly five separate arrangements of the sheet or plates, and possibly another or two, each of which have

were adopted in those cases, but possibly some specialists either here or in the United States may have more definite particulars of all these varieties than have yet been published.

B. W. W.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

BRITISH EMPIRE.

ADHESIVES.

Antigua. Another of the Leewards is now "on its own," but it seems to be the rule nowadays that the smaller the island, the more pretentious or assertive the stamp design, as in the case of St. Helena with its forty-seven square miles, and this one of 108 miles, with a population (including its dependency, Barbuda) that could easily move about in our Crystal Palace. If there were large business warehouses with heavy correspondence, the very office boys would rise in rebellion or demand extra pay for having to lick such plasters as this series of seven values just received per Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. Mr. J. W. Jones also sends us copies.

The design is uniform throughout—a neat frame with "Antigua" above and value below the central circular portion, "Postage—Revenue" at the sides of circle without a connecting "and." The centre is in a separate colour, consisting of the Royal Arms (the lion looking particularly fierce), above a tiny view of somewhere in another circle somewhat larger than a pill, while surrounding the whole is the



inscription "Edwardus VII D G Britt: omn: Rex F. D. Ind. Imp.—Sigil Inss. Antiquae et Barbudae." Size of stamp, 33 x 28 mm. There are also a 2/- and 2/6 value in same design, and a 5/- with the King's head. (See Leeward Islands.)

3d., blue-green frame, black centre, CC., perf. 12.
 1d., carmine " " " " " "
 2d., red-brown " d. purple " " "
 3d., ultramarine " black " " "
 4d., orange-brown " sage-grn. " " "
 6d., black " lt. purple " " "
 1/-, dark purple " blue " " "
 2/-, 2/6, and 5/- not yet received.

Australia. Queensland. The first issue of the uniform design proposed for the Commonwealth has appeared for this Colony. The design, which might be creditable for a schoolboy, consists of a female seated under an arch just large enough to cover her in this position, the side stones being labelled with initials of the six States and the arch with "Commonwealth" on it, above which is "Postage," and "9d." in each corner. The general colour is said to be pale brown, the upper figures deep blue on white, also the name at foot; another figure on which the lady sits is white on blue.

9d., brown and blue on V crown paper.

British East Africa. The 1 anna stamp is reported as having been received for four months past in a brighter rose colour.

1 anna, bright rose.

Canada. From the *London Philatelist* we learn that the new issue with the King's head is due to the initiative of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who considers that "continuity of design" is advisable, and therefore suggested the minimum of change from the one previously in use. The chief novelty (as explained



last month) is the substitution of a photographic portrait of King Edward, in lieu of a conventional if "idealised" representation by an artist. The simplicity of the design is its greatest merit; an illustration is given herewith of the 1 cent.

India. Gwalior. The official or service surcharge on Queen's head in two lines of the native types has been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. on what we should call a light green colour.

Service. 3/4 anna, black on light green.

Leeward Islands. Ewen's Weekly Stamp News publishes an Order in Council, dated July 2nd, quoting from the General Stamp Act of 1890, that in addition to uniform stamps for the Colony, the Governor may direct that special stamps may be used for each Presidency concurrently with the uniform ones. Therefore, the Governor orders such special stamps as follows:—

"On and after the third day of July . . . the several values of special stamps in the Presidencies shall be 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, and 5/-. The Post-cards shall be 1/2d., 1d., and Reply 2d. The Wrappers shall be, 1/2d., 1d. The Envelopes, 1d., 2 1/2d. Registration Envelopes, large and small.

The design of the special stamps for the

Presidency of Antigua shall be the same as that on the Public Seal of the Presidency for all values, with the exception of the 5/-, which stamp will bear the design of the Head of his Majesty the King.

For the Presidency of St. Christopher-Nevis, 1/2d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 6d., 1/-, and 2/6 values, the design to be Columbus sighting land, taken from the Public Seal. For the 1d., 3d., 2/-, and 5/- values, the design to be the group emblematic of the Sulphur Bath of Nevis, also taken from the Public Seal of the Presidency.

For the Presidency of Dominica, a design showing a view of Dominica from the sea, for all values with the exception of the 5/-, which will bear the design of the Head of the King.

For Montserrat . . . the central figure in the Public Seal of the Presidency for all, except the 5/-, which will bear the King's Head.

The Post-cards, Wrappers, and Envelopes shall bear designs similar to those of the minor values of the postage stamps of the several Presidencies."

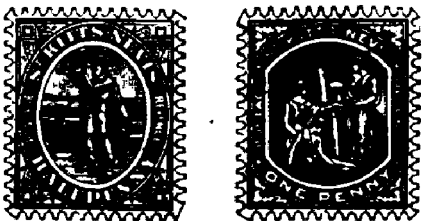
We have condensed the above from the official Gazette, so that collectors may know what to expect—a series of seventy-six stamps and entires for a group of islands of less than 700 square miles, with a population of about 200,000.

The Crown Agents here are offering all the stock of the Victorian issue of the Leeward Islands Government, so there is another chance for Mr. Thompson or some other speculator, but those entires will not be bought. The dies are said to "have been destroyed, so no further supplies can be printed." Apparently, the total value of adhesives is just over £7,000 for about 280,000 stamps.

Orange River. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. also send us the other values of the King's head type described in March last, all of uniform design.

1d.,	carmine-red,	C A, perf. 14.
2d.,	brown,	"
2 1/2d.,	ultramarine,	"
3d.,	mauve-purple,	"
4d.,	pale olive and red oval,	"
6d.,	mauve-purple	"
1/-,	buff	"

St. Kitts-Nevis. The stamps described last month and under Leeward Islands above, are of



the accompanying designs. The telescope as illustrated is said to have been introduced a century later than Columbus, who is supposed to be using it. Far-seeing artist, that!

St. Helena. We now give illustrations of the two lower values of stamps detailed last



month; the other values being the same in design.



West Australia. The stamp of which we now give illustration was chronicled in our number for December last.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Holland. Surinam. The *Monthly Journal* has received the 5c. of the oblong type, as being issued at Paramaribo on June 16th.

5c., rose, perf. 12 1/2.

Servia. The provisional stamp described last month is now illustrated, but the peculiar effect is not realisable without colours.



United States. The framing of the stamp here illustrated (chronicled last month) is of a



more dignified character than the over elaborated ones of earlier issues.

Venezuela. Zulia. The letter we gave last month from an old correspondent arrived as we were going to press, and we had an idea that the stamps described had been heard of before, but could not find a reference in various indexes of 1891-2-3. It was, however, illustrated in the *Monthly Journal* of May, 1894, as from *Le Timbres Poste*, asking further information, and in our own issue for that month we quoted as from the *American Journal of Philately* as "with all reserve." Beyond these remarks, we cannot find any references. If it can be proved by actually used specimens on original covers of 1891 that they were in postal use, they might come under the same class as those of various Columbian States, or they may be considered merely as locals.

ENTIRES.

British South Africa. Mr. W. J. Scott sends us a new card with RHODESIA as a curved heading, and the Company's Arms underneath and usual "The Address," &c.; the stamp is a new arrangement of adhesive type—all printed in a dull bluish green. Official notice herewith:—

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS,
RHODESIA.

POSTAL NOTICE No. 15 OF 1903.

HALFPENNY POSTCARDS.

It is hereby notified for public information that postcards bearing a postage of one half-penny will be available for circulation within Southern Rhodesia, and from Southern Rhodesia to North Eastern Rhodesia, North Western Rhodesia, the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, Natal, the Orange River Colony, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, on and after the 1st of July, 1903.

G. H. EYRE, Postmaster-General.
G.P.O., Salisbury, 24 June, 1903.

Post-card. ½d., blue-green on white, 140 x 85 mm.

Cyprus. The King's head appears on Registration envelope of similar design to last.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue, Size G.

Hong Kong. The post-cards listed in April are arriving—the 1 cent is not on cream, as the foreign journals announced, but a decided buff colour.

Post-card. 1 cent, green on buff, 140 x 90.

New Zealand. They are going in for high art out at the Antipodes; the letter-card in April had a very freehand sort of frame enclosing six views, back and front, with the

royal Arms stretched out to their fullest extent over the inscription, and a severely elongated frame enclosing the King's head on stamp. The same stamp and a similar frame (no views) is shown on post-card just to hand; "Carte—(Arms)—Postale" over a label "New Zealand Postcard," and small instructions.

Post-card. 1d., dull blue on buff, 140 x 89.

Seychelles. The 4 cents reply card has been received from Scott and Wilson, overprinted "LOCAL" over the Arms in centre, and "3 cents" over the value, in black printing ink, but apparently hand-stamped. The 8 cents, single and reply, are treated to a better printing of "SIX CENTS" in small sans serif caps, and two lines over old value.

Post-card. 3 cents on 4 cents Reply "LOCAL."
" 6 " " 8 " Reply card.

Straits Settlements. The old small size of cards are to hand, with King's head in deep green on buff (not cream), and the double cards a little lighter, both in ink and card.

Post-card. 1 cent, deep green on buff, 122 x 85.
" 1 " reply, green on pale buff, 122 x 85.

Tasmania. Mr. Scott also sends us a "local print" of old card in a dingy red on laid manilla of a grey-buff colour. A letter-card, with picture stamp (Hobart), and instructions as before, printed in violet, is a much better production; the oval view at back is in black. The previous issue was on blue card of smaller size and perf. D.

Post-card. 1d., dull red on drab manilla.

Letter-card. 2d., violet on bluish-grey, 150 x 93, perf. E.

Trinidad. The stock interchangeable stamp die of King's head is in use on cards lately received.

Post-card. ½d., green on light buff.
" 1d., carmine "

Costa Rica. In addition to the overprint last month of 2 centimos, we have received it and another with "EXTERIOR—4 céntimos" in black on the 3c. card, with a short line across the original figure of stamp.

Post-card. 4 centimos on 3c., black and red.

Denmark. Iceland. The King's head type of post-card has been received; there are six lines of inscription similar to last reply card, and a frame as before.

10 aur, head to right, red on white.

Italy. The 10c. is now coming over dated "03," and in a lighter shade of ink.

Post-card. 10c., dull red on cream.

Mr. C. de Grave Sells also sends us the card with date "902," having at the back near top left corner a representation of the Arms with "CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI" printed in blue, but no other indication of its being for Official use.



August, 1903, Report.

—o—

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Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

NOTICES.

Meetings will be held next season commencing in October at Essex Hall on the second Wednesday in each month. A lantern display is proposed to take place in February, 1904, and the season will close with the Annual General Meeting in May. Members willing to assist at these meetings with displays or papers are invited to communicate with the Hon. Sec. as soon as possible. Those members who have not yet forwarded their subscriptions are again invited to do so.

The Committee will meet at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. on Wednesday evening, September 9th, at 7.30 p.m., to arrange programme for the ensuing season.

T. H. HINTON.

August 21th, 1903.

EXTENSIVE STAMP FRAUDS.

—:o:—

Herbert Lawrence Platt, 22, described as a dealer, surrendered to his bail to answer an indictment charging him with having, by means of false pretences, obtained stamp collections of different values from the following persons:—Mr. Gilbert Jeffries Child, a clerk, of Market Street, Watford; Mr. Herbert Mackenzie Cuff, an engineer, of Lordship Road, Stoke Newington; Mr. Paul Belitzer Cochrane, Chief Officer of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Southampton; Mr. Henry Haile, a clerk, of Camberwell Grove, Peckham; and Mr. William Henry Marston, of Lynwood, Coventry.—Mr. Guy Stephenson prosecuted for the Treasury; Mr. Willis defended.

It was alleged that the accused, under the title of the "Colonial" or "Imperial Stamp Company," answered advertisements in newspapers from an address in Duke Street, Adelphi—a letter bureau—and by falsely representing that he was carrying on a genuine business induced the prosecutors to forward their collections on approval. In consequence of complaints received by the police, Detective Sergeant Stephens, of the E Division, arrested the prisoner, who denied, however, that he was a swindler. It was shown that Platt had furnished his own references, as though they came from people in business at other addresses, and that when complaints were made that payment had not been forwarded he said that many of the stamps sent were worthless, being forgeries and reprints.

Platt pleaded guilty at the close of the case for the prosecution, and he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the second division.—*The Standard*.



August 31, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens with a significant leader as to the probable future collection of Official stamps, having regard to the fact that one of the consequences of the pending trial will be to make unused specimens of Official stamps almost unattainable. After alluding to the various kinds of Official stamps, Mr. Castle goes on to say:—

The sceptic, however, may ask what is the difference in philatelic or postal value between the last-named stamp (one overprinted for use by Messrs. Copestake and Co.) and one surcharged with the initial of a Government department or office, as, say, B.M., i.e., Board of Magistrates, among the South Australians. Is the stamp better as a stamp by having been earmarked either by the Board of Magistrates or by Messrs. Copestake and Co.? Does it confer any increase of franking power, and has it any significance except an actuarial one in allocating the expenses of a particular department? Can an answer be given showing why from a philatelic or scientific point of view it is necessary to collect a stamp both as issued and with a subsequent surcharge limiting its use, but of no possible postal significance?

There are those who may have a ready answer to the sceptic, but it seems to us that the collection of Official stamps does not stand on the same basis as that of unsurcharged stamps. Catholicity of taste is fortunately a prevailing feature in stamps as in other walks of life, and had the Officials a far less solid claim they would still find plenty of admirers. None the less, if the new issues are not to be had unused, and the authorities take to perforating them with the departmental initials, as in Australia, the collection of Official stamps, in vulgar parlance, seems likely to receive a nasty knock.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg has an exhaustive article on "The Stamps of New South Wales" issued between 1871 and 1884, watermarked N S W over crown, with special reference to the varieties of perforation and the two types of crown watermark. Elaborate tables are given of the various combinations of values, shades, watermarks, and perforations, from which we gather that, so far, forty-six varieties have been found of the nine values with watermark Type 1 and seventy-five varieties with watermark Type 2. As many other shades and perforations will doubtless be discovered as soon as they are systematically looked for, we should imagine that the "advanced" specialist in the stamps of this country will soon be well on the way to show collections of 10,000 "varieties" and upwards.

Mr. Marsden continues his interesting paper

on "The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal," the stamps dealt with being those of Issue VI., July 1st, 1862, the various types and reprints of which are most carefully described.

Referring to the question of "Reserves at Auction" raised in the last number, a prompt disclaimer is published from Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, who prove pretty conclusively that they, at any rate, are not to blame in the matter. Nevertheless, we still think that far too much unnecessary fuss has been made over this question, and that, even though all the other stamp auctioneers of repute follow Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's example, Philately will have been the loser by the course of action adopted by the L.P.S. and its official organ.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* in its issue for August 15th informs us that it has come to town to be printed. It may be fancy on our part, but we are certainly inclined to think from the appearance of the number before us, that the Bournemouth air suited it better.

Alfred Smith and Son's *Monthly Circular* has an interesting note by Mr. B. T. K. Smith on the early issues of Costa Rica. It is noteworthy that Mr. Smith considers that the imperforate stamps of the first issue were only proofs and were never authorised for postage in that State. The writer used to be under the impression that there were two thicknesses of paper on which these imperforate stamps were found, that of the undoubted proofs being of a somewhat thicker and softer make. It would be interesting to know whether others agree with this theory.

The *Monthly Journal* generally contains some shrewd criticism of matters philatelic among its leading articles. Here is what Major Evans has to say anent specialism and what is undoubtedly a failing with many of its too devout adherents:—

Specialism may be said to be one of the strongest symptoms of a revolt against the superabundance of stamps to

be collected and studied, but it has also unfortunately done much towards causing that superabundance. The specialist, as a rule, is quite ready to acknowledge the iniquity of superfluous issues on the part of countries in which he is not interested (indeed, he is apt to regard all their issues as superfluous, from a philatelic point of view), but he is equally ready to gloat over the minutest varieties of more or less unnecessary additions to the lists of his own pet country, and to insist upon their being described in full detail and numbered in the catalogue. We fully sympathise with the enthusiasm of the specialist; we not only acknowledge the excellent work that specialists have done, but we would go so far as to say that no really good philatelic work has been, or can be, accomplished without specialising.

Stamp collecting, without a certain amount of close study of stamps and their peculiarities, cannot be termed Philately at all, and the further the study is carried the more interesting it becomes, and the more necessary is it for the student to restrict the scope of his researches, and thus to become a specialist. We should, however, like to see our specialists devote a little of their attention, not only to the actual varieties of type, &c., of the stamps that they collect, but also to the nature of those varieties and to the essential character of the stamps among which they are found. It is quite true to say that a distinct variety of type, surcharge, perforation, or what not, is equally a variety whether the stamp belongs to the first issue of Reunion or is a type-set provisional of Venezuela; but even as we recognised that cotton-reel tops and tram tickets are altogether devoid of philatelic interest, might we not also do something to indicate the fact that certain classes of stamps, or stamps produced under certain circumstances, are entitled to very little consideration.

From an interesting review of some articles on "Old Glasgow's Postal Story" recently published in the *Glasgow Herald*, we gather, somewhat to our surprise, that the Scottish town antedated London by just twenty years in its introduction of a local Penny Post, which, moreover, was a municipal one and not a private venture like Docwra's.

"The minute ran thus—October 31, 1663. 'The same day, forsaumeikle as the hors post is dischargeit, its concluditt that Johne Fergusone, post, be continowd foot post, and to have as befor, thrie punds Scots per weik, and he only to receive a penny starling for ilk letter he receives, and als much for ilk letter homwards.'"

Messrs. H. L. Hayman and Charles J. Phillips have collaborated to produce a most interesting article on the stamps of British East Africa. We should have liked to quote from the instalment given in the number under review; but we find that there are so many interesting and novel pieces of information that anything much less than the whole would fail to do it justice. Wherefore we refer our readers to the paper itself. Lieutenant Napier has a long note on the varieties of the surcharges of the provisional Halfpenny Natal of 1895, in which all sorts of broken and imperfect letters are duly listed and given their place on the sheet. One variety, however, appears to have escaped his observation—that in which the a of "Half" is to all intents and purposes an inverted v. The writer well remembers having had this pointed out to him by its purchaser at a stamp auction some six or seven years since. Unfortunately, he did not make any special note of it.

Philately on the Continent.

From *L'Annonce Timbrologique* we gather that the "Sower" has apparently cast her seed in stony places—in other words, that the

latest design for French stamps has already ceased to give satisfaction and that another has been suggested as an alternative. According to the *Figaro*, the new design is the work of M. Sandier, the Director of Works of Art at Sévres, and will be offered for adoption should the "Sower" be definitely condemned. The new design will be a "charming portrait of the young Republic, with a laurelled Phrygian cap." Among other details, the dates of the three Republics—1792, 1848, and 1870—will be included.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste has the continuation of an interesting article on French postmarks. Probably the varieties that would appeal most to us are two that were used on letters of the army organised for the invasion of England by Bonaparte at the beginning of 1798. Bonaparte very soon saw the difficulties in his way, and obtained permission for the army placed at his order to take part in the campaign in Egypt.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie has an interesting article on postal transport by carrier pigeons. The paper sketches the various uses that have been made of pigeons for carrying messages from the earliest time down to the present day. From it we learn that pigeons were successfully employed for journalistic purposes during the Dreyfus Trial, and that by these means English papers were enabled to obtain drawings and photographs which thus escaped the eye of the French censor. As soon as this became known, this method of forwarding messages was promptly forbidden by the French Government. Furthermore, the Italian navy uses carrier pigeons as a means of communication between ships at sea and the land.

From a note in the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we learn that the adoption of the metric system by this country is merely a matter of a few years, according to the opinion of British business circles. The sovereign is to be divided into 20 florins, each containing 100 cents or farthings (*sic*), 5 and 10 cents are to be coined in nickel, and 1, 2, and 4 cents of bronze. Furthermore, the new departure will, of course, be celebrated in an appropriate manner—by the issue of fresh sets of stamps throughout the Empire! Well, well, we shall see what we shall see.

In No. 16 of the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, Oskar Hollander has some notes on the stamps of British Bechuanaland. We are glad that these are expressly intended for specialists, as we own that it makes us tired when we read of a double surcharge on the

green that is almost invisible to the naked eye and not too pronounced under the glass!

Philately in the States.

The *American Journal of Philately* is always interesting and amusing when the one and only Nankivell delivers his views on things in general in "Our London Letter." The June issue is no exception to the rule, and the vigorous and breezy way in which Mr. Nankivell goes for "the brainless ass who sneers at stamp collecting" should prove a treat to those wiser folk to whom the pursuit appeals. Mr. Nankivell's anecdotes, also, are unique in their way. Here is his latest:—

I was recently a silent and amused spectator at the unloading of a speculator in a London dealer's shop. A young man entered and ask the dealer if he was open to buy English stamps. "All depends on what they are," said the dealer. A parcel was opened and disclosed sheet after sheet of the Queen's head 4d. stamp. "Humph," said the dealer, looking at them and thumbing them over meditatively, "I sell these, you know, at 6d. each, and can't afford much. What do you want?" Well I suppose they are worth face?" said the young man, questioningly. "Y-es," said the dealer slowly, as he turned over the sheets, and after some hesitation, he thought he might take the lot, £12 worth in all, at face. That young man has not made much by that speculation.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector for June 25th has an amusing little article, which we reproduce entire, since, strange to say, we fancy that some of the less experienced collectors have not yet learned the lesson taught by it.

MISTAKEN ECONOMY.

By C. W. RANKIN.

Long ago when I first began to collect stamps, my guides, philosophers, and friends were small boys, who offered me everything they didn't want themselves—bless 'em. They gave me stamps, advice, and hinges. The stamps were more or less damaged, the advice was often bad, but the hinges were totally beyond redemption. Most of them were made from druggists' labels and were thicker than the stamps themselves and only too durable. Others were torn from the long gummed strips that come with stamps from the post office. The boys had assured me in good faith that they would stick. There was never any doubt about that part of it—they certainly stuck like grim death. Sometimes, however, even the supply of makeshift hinges gave out, but the thoughtful boys had prepared me for even this emergency, by recommending flour paste. Moreover—this, I admit, is a shocking confession—I was told that, as a last resort, it was perfectly proper to lick the unused stamps. When I licked, I licked generously; when I pasted, I was positively lavish with the paste; consequently, no stamp of mine, once it was anchored in the safe harbour of my book, ever escaped.

It was not until I attempted to remove a collection of some five thousand stamps from an old album into a new one that I realized the utter depravity of that advice, the powerful grip of those home-made hinges, and the enormity of my own offence. It was only by cutting my precious old book into minute sections and soaking each section until the stamps themselves all but melted that I was able, finally, to free those unfortunate stamps from all incumbrances. You may rest assured, however, that they went into the new book with the very peelablest of all peelable hinges.

What we are sceptical about, however, is Mr. Rankin's ability to do anything with stamps that have been thoroughly pasted down for years. Our experience is that paste, stamp,

and album leaf form an almost inseparable whole from which the stamp can never be entirely detached without injury.

The June 22nd number (a magazine one) has some interesting contents. The big illustrated "Story about Fruit" appeals more to would-be investors in the shares of the United Orchard Company than to philatelists, so we refrain from further mention of it.

In No. 4 of "Idle Hour Papers" (Philately and Silver Hairs) Oliver Crinkle makes out a very strong case for philately of the not too advanced kind as a pastime and solace for old age.

In his illustrated article on "The Texas Group of Confederate Postmasters Provisionals," Mr. C. H. Mekeel gives some details of much interest to those who collect this class of stamp.

Here is an amusing anecdote from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for June 20th.

A collector living in a small town in Illinois remitted \$5 to a business friend here, instructing him to get a well centered specimen of the \$5 green and send it to him. The business man gladly executed the commission and sent the mint State stamp pinned to his letterhead.

In the number for June 27th, the most noteworthy feature is an illustrated article on "The Issues of Barbados," by C. A. Howes, admittedly based on the work on "Barbados," by Messrs. Bacon and Napier.

From the July 4th number we cull another "Philatale":—

A PHILATALE.

Once there was a Collector whose Family had Coin. As his Four brothers all went into business while he Devoted his Entire time in gathering Stamps he incurred the Parental Displeasure, the Old Man believing that Life should be taken up in the Accumulation of Wealth. When the Old Man died and the Will was Sprung it was found that the Four Industrious Ones had received Fifty Thousand each, while the Stamp Collecting Son was left three trunks Containing Ancient Correspondence and some Sarcastic advice. Being of a Happy disposition he Congratulated his brothers and started to examine the Old Correspondence with the Keen Joy of a genuine Philatelist. When he got through he possessed, as the Reward of his Labour, three Millbury covers, a few Brattleboros and many thousand dollars' worth of other good things, some of which went to Beautify his Collection, while the Proceeds realized from the sale of the Remainder earned him a Comfortable Income.

MORAL.—Knowledge sometimes pays as much as a pull.

W. H. ADAMS.

N.B.—The above story was obtained from a local Chinese collector, and the writer cannot swear that his translation is absolutely correct.

"Undooley on the Home Stretch" is as amusing as usual, but we refrain from quotations, in case any of our readers should object to the liberal assortment of puns—good, bad, or indifferent—with which Mr. Fowle's chat is interspersed.

The *Perforator* for July 15th has an article with a very promising title—"War Time Stamps: An Illustrated Study of Some of the Postal Labels Affected by the World's Greatest

Conflicts." Unfortunately, however, there is more promise than performance about it—i.e., too much "gush" and too little philately. This is the more to be regretted, as the subject is one of the greatest interest. Very quaint is the manner in which the doings of would-be stamp swindlers are exposed by "The Fraud Reporter" of the paper, and equally strange is his method of action. Take the following for example :—

C. L. L. is quite a clever boy in his way—he has originated a new method of beating the stamp dealer; no alias for L., no, indeed, he writes you over C. L. L., and gives the Secretary of a bank as reference; naturally you send the stamps, and when in the course of events you are obliged to request their return, then you learn what a really clever boy this is.

You are informed in a curiously written letter that C. L. L. has never ordered any stamps from you, never received any, and in fact is not a stamp collector; further, that if any schoolmate has been obtaining stamps over his name, he is going to make trouble for them. Brilliant boy. We did not ask L. why he was a left-handed (?) penman, or whether the schoolmate had spent a week on the doorstep awaiting the arrival of these stamps.

We simply said " Pay, my son " and he paid.

Or this :—

The fraud in this case proved to be a native of A., who had written to Mr. K. some months before, requesting stamps on approval, and offering as reference his employer (?), a haberdasher of the same city; our haberdasher was possessed of business letterhead, and everything appearing correct and above board, the stamps were sent; they were not returned, and K. sent registered letters and unregistered letters, but was unable to secure a reply from either applicant or reference.

The matter was so evidently a " Job " that we hesitated whether or not to have the claim assigned to a friend, an attorney of A., and have the pair arraigned for petty larceny; but decided to try the effect of a letter first, and sent them each a good old-fashioned " hair raiser."

It worked like a charm, and the stamps came back by return mail, leaving behind a pair of badly-scared, would-be-frauds, who are vainly trying to assume an indignant role.

The *Philatelic World* for July 1st has a carefully-written article on the Eternal Catalogue question, in which it urges the American Philatelic Association to take up the matter. The matter of prices and values is apparently about to be solved in Europe, to judge from the following note :—

A prospectus and advance sheets showing " Açores to Allemagne " of a new catalogue of rarities to be published in October by A. La Fare, of Paris, is at hand. We quote from the prospectus :

" I beg to inform you that I am about to publish a Catalogue of Valuable and Rare Stamps, valued from 2-6 upwards, giving the comparative prices in England, France, Germany, Belgium, and America.

" A special column will be devoted to one of the latest Transactions, whether same has taken place in Paris or abroad, adding either the catalogue prices or those communicated to us by sellers or purchasers on their own responsibility. * * *

" It is quite evident that a Catalogue compiled upon these principles will be welcomed by all collectors who take an interest in valuing their collections and new acquisitions. Not being a dealer myself I have no other interest than that of giving an impartial record for the use of philatelists."

The italics are our own.

In *Mekeel's Stamp Collector* for July 27th, Miss Amy L. Swift has an extremely amusing article on " Philately and Womankind." Ac-

ording to her, the lot of the " Philatelic Woman " is somewhat—shall we say peculiar? For instance :—

One sister once told me during a social confab over the tea cups that the unmarried philatelic woman received better value from foreign exchange correspondence than the married one, and in answer to my laugh gravely told of the favours accorded her by two such correspondents while they thought her a Miss, and the coldness that immediately followed when she finally prefixed a Mrs. to the address that at first had no prefix, thus accounting for the mistake made by the foreigner. This is rather of an ungallant proceeding on the part of a philatelic man, but many are the womankind who think that the above-mentioned sister told only the plain, uncomplimentary truth. Sometimes rather comic results are apt to follow a misunderstanding about sex; I once exchanged for several months with a Switzerland collector who seemed to write and understand English so well, albeit some sentences were quaintly worded, that it puzzled me to comprehend why the envelopes were invariably addressed to Mr. or Mons. Amy L. Swift. Finally I gently hinted that I should prefer Miss, as the only title I had a right to, which brought back the amazed reply: " I never dreamed of your being a woman, though the name like a woman's did seem. You knew so much of stamps that I thought, of course, you would be a man." Evidently that gentleman had a high opinion of philatelic man, and a poor one of philatelic woman, but the discovery of one woman who knew something about stamps didn't seem to improve his opinion of the despised sex, for from that mail the exchange languished, and soon came to a dead pause, all because of my unfortunate sex!

Sometimes, also, woman's ignorance of matters philatelic is taken for granted by those who have stamps for exchange, and great is the disappointment of these people on finding that, in spite of her sex, Miss Swift does not approve of their dealing with her according to the so-called methods of Dutch commerce (" giving too little and asking too much").

Further, the Philatelic Woman, besides being favoured with as many begging letters as her brother, has a special bother of her own in the shape of proposals of marriage from persons absolutely unknown to her!

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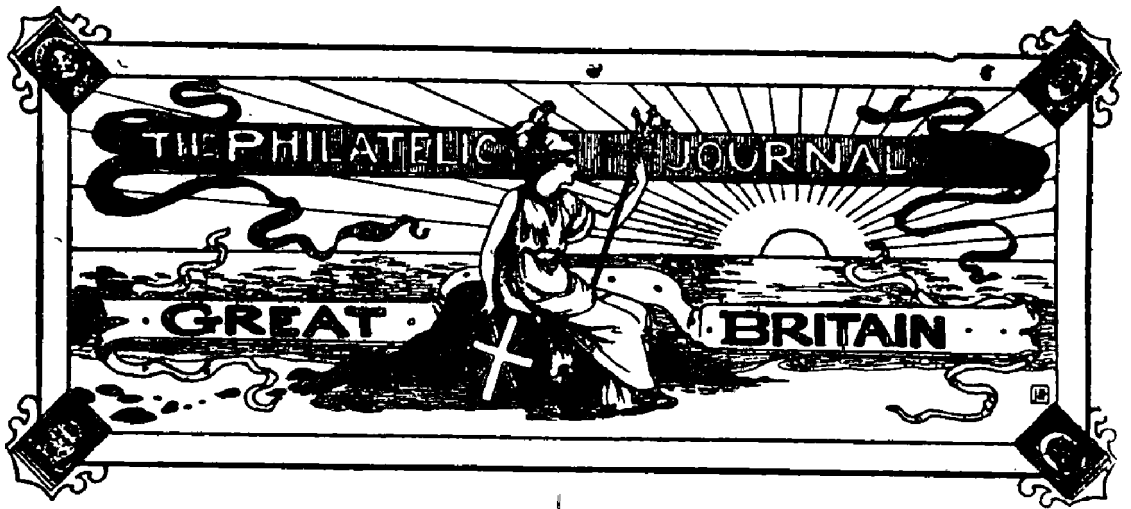
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SEPTEMBER 30, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 45.—MR. R. MANEY-LAKE.

Mr. Reginald Maney-Lake is an Australian—the first native of the Commonwealth whose portrait we have yet presented to our readers.

He is at present on a lengthy visit to England, to which fact we owe the pleasure of an interview, at which we learned much interesting information concerning the conditions of stamp collecting in Australia.

Mr. Lake was born at Sydney, N.S.W., in 1862, and though he has made several long visits to England (having, in fact, spent nearly 20 years here in all), he is very proud of the land of his birth, and considers that Australia is ahead of the mother country in many branches of civilization.

We are glad to learn that philately is making great strides there. The study of stamps is quite as profound among the general collectors as it is in England, while the speculative side of the hobby is not so pronounced, the collector-dealer being a much rarer specimen than at home. Mr. Lake, by the way, has some pronounced views upon the

latter aspect of present-day philately, which, however, we will not go into here.

Returning to our subject, we find that he confesses to a liking for stamps at a very tender age, and, starting as a boy, he formed a good collection, which he kept until the early 'eighties, when he decided to dispose of it.

He therefore took it to Mr. Stanley Gibbons, then located in Gower Street, and asked for the best offer. He was informed that £130 was the most that could be given, but as this was about £100 more than he expected, he had little hesitation in accepting it. From this it may easily be imagined that the collection which was a general one, was a good one for those days; it was, naturally, very strong in Australians, and included a really fine lot of Cape triangulars and West Indies.

After that, though he did not collect for many years, he never lost interest in stamps, and was, fortunately, tempted to begin again in 1899. This time he decided to confine his attention entirely to Australasian stamps,—a field which is quite large enough for most people. As so many years had elapsed between the first and



second collections, Mr. Lake must have started four years ago almost as a tyro, and it speaks volumes for his natural philatelic ability when we note that in the following year, 1900, he was elected president of the Sydney Philatelic Club, which is the foremost philatelic society in Australia. This position he only resigned this year on coming to England, when he was entertained by the club at a farewell dinner at Tattersall's Hotel, Sydney.

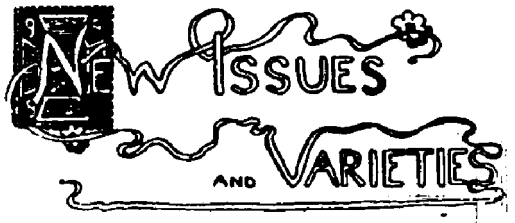
Mr. Lake, during the past three years, has made a special study of New Zealand and New South Wales perforations, and has rendered much assistance to Mr. Bassett Hull in the compilation of the work on Australia to be published by the London Philatelic Society.

It may safely be said that there are few more painstaking philatelists than Mr. Lake, who has made himself a master of all subjects in connection with the stamps of the countries in which he is interested. The following remarks made by the *Australian Philatelist* in commenting upon his leaving the Sydney Philatelic Club illustrate clearly that his term of office as president of the club is likely to have a permanent effect on the course of stamp-collecting in Australia:—

"Mr. Maney-Lake may perhaps not be aware of the fact that his connection with the club will, we feel sure, lead to a more advanced method of collecting. We ourselves know of the hours upon hours he has spent even in going through common stamps to obtain clean and well-centred specimens for his collection, for he would have none otherwise. It stands to reason that by such a deal of minute inspection every detail of a stamp would become familiar to him, and no variety, known or unknown, would escape him. Not every collector would have the time to devote to his hobby, but the late president has shown that many a leisure hour for which no occupation can be found could be profitably employed in inspecting the various details of the stamps in one's albums."

Besides philately, however, Mr. Maney-Lake finds time to devote to photography, shooting, and tennis, while he is also an ardent horticulturist, specialising in roses and carnations.

An article on "First Postal Franks," and some recent stamp issues are unavoidably crowded out this month,



ADHESIVES.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australia. The Postage Due stamps are now increased.

Unpaid. 4d., green, Type II.
 " 10/- " "
 " 20/- " "

New South Wales. The new issue referred to last month has now been received in the 9d. value; V crown watermark.

9d., chestnut and bright blue.

British Central Africa. The new set is reported of accompanying designs, the central



oval being in different colours between lilac and grey-greens.

1d., carmine. 2½, green.
 2d., mauve. 4½, mauve.
 4d., black. 10½, black.
 6d., buff. 1½, carmine.
 £10, blue.

British South Africa. The *Monthly Journal* reported in January last a 2½d. stamp of Type 10.

2½d., cobalt, perf. 14, 15.

Cape Colony. King's head series.

3d., rosy-red.

Ceylon. We now have three more values of current series. The *Monthly Circular* calls the first one "violet on buff."

2c., light chestnut. 6c., carmine.
 3c., dull purple-mauve. 15c., deep ultramarine.

Cyprus. Another value reported.

45 piastres, lilac.

East Africa and Uganda. *Ewen's Weekly* reports, as received, a new series with the formidable title of "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates," the design being very like our own penny; C A, perf. 14.

2 annas, violet and lilac (?)

Gibraltar. In addition to the stamps seen in May, there are other unusual high values listed, as illustrated in June.

- 4/-, violet and green.
- 8/-, " olive on blue.
- 5/-, " black on red.

Hong Kong. Messrs. Graca and Co. send us other values now out, the colours of which do not agree with those sent from the Continent in April.

- 2c., greyish green,
- 4c., purple-brown on red.
- 5c., brown-orange and green.
- 10c., blue and purple on blue.
- 12c., purple and green on yellow.

India. A few more of the King series now to hand. Also announced as with the "On H.M.S." overprint.

- 2½a., ultramarine.
- 4a., dark olive green.
- 8a., dull magenta.

Gwalior. The Queen's head 1 anna from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co, with usual overprint in black. The 3 pies carmine is said to have been seen with the Service overprint.

- 1 anna, bright rose.
- Service. 3 pies, carmine.

Jhind. The *Monthly Journal* reports the ½ anna Queen's head with ordinary and Service overprints.

- Service. ½ anna, pea-green.
- " 1 " " King.
- " 1 " carmine, "

Nabha. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the following set of King type, with usual overprint in two lines—"Nabha—State." The *Monthly Journal* also reports ½, 1, and 2, with "Service."

- 3 pies, slate grey. 1 anna, carmine.
- ½ anna, green 2 " lilac.
- 3 anna, orange-brown.

Patiala. The following have usual overprint on King's head stamps.

- ½ anna, grey. 1 anna, carmine.
- ½ " light green. 2 " lilac.
- 3 anna, orange-brown.

Indian Native States. Bhopal. The *Monthly Journal* for May 31st gives an account of a curious assortment received from Mr. Ewen, of old stock and new, with an Arabic character added in red, and new embossing on some.

- 8a., green-black, with red surcharge.
- 1a., rose-red, new type and embossing.
- 1a., black
- 1a., red (No. 78), perf., new embossing.
- 1a., black (113 to 116) "
- 1a., Type 13 redrawn " imp. & pin perf.
- 1a., yellow, new embossing (in February).

Hyderabad. The *Monthly Circular* has received some new colours.

- 4 " olive green.
- 12 " myrtle green.

Travancore. The *Monthly Journal* reports an apparent error in printing.

- 1 chuckram, red, error (?)

Lagos. The Queen's head 6d. was announced about Christmas last, with value in red instead of "mauve." The new series, of which we gave illustrations in July, are given as ½zd., 1d., 2d., 2½zd., 3d., and 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, with doubtful colour names.

- 6d. (Queen), lilac and carmine.

Mauritius. Colour corrections (?)

- 4c., green and lilac.
- 6c., purple and carmine on red.

Montserrat. This series of stamps, while belonging to the unnecessary class, is in one of the most pleasing designs yet issued. It represents a female clinging to a Cross, her left hand resting on a harp, and, as already announced, is from the central portion of the Great Seal of the island, the population of which is about 12,000. What the subject represented is intended for is not clear, but it



may have some connection with the original Montserrat in Catalonia, whose mountains are said to have been split up in their present serrated shape at the time of the Crucifixion. The Spanish, who first colonised the island, doubtless gave it the name from its resemblance (fancied or real) to that which they had known at home, which is said to have been noted for the piety of its people, and for its wonder-working image of the Virgin and Benedictine Abbey, plundered and burnt by the French in 1811.

- ½d., dull green.
- 1d., carmine, grey-black centre.
- 2d., brown, " "
- 2½d., ultramarine " "
- 3d., mauve and orange-brown.
- 6d., olive brown and mauve.
- 1/-, mauve and green.
- 2/-, chestnut and green.
- 2/6, black
- 5/-, carmine and black; King.

Natal. Other values in process of issue are 2½zd., 4d., and 4/- . As *Ewen's Weekly* has been before us in printing a list of the various types of "Half-Penny" on 6d. mauve, 1895, which we had prepared, we condense the arrangement as printed on the five rows of twelve stamps, if anybody wishes to plate his blocks of varieties as given in Gibbons.

b b f f b a d b c d h f
 c b f b g a a f a a e c
 h e g f g a a e a a e e
 f b h g h a a h a a c e
 d c a g h a a h a a c c

In addition there is a tall P in Penny on No. 13 of above setting, no stop to 25, "Penny" in 38 and 40, comma to 41, and error "Ealf" on No. 58. Some sheets have watermark on reverse side. The half-sheet of 120 had to be overprinted in two operations.

New South Wales. What with the Commonwealth issues in same type, and thin and chalky papers, and dozens of perforations, the poor chronicler is between somebody and the deep C, or very near to a big D at times; but whether the collector is happy or not enters into nobody's calculations.

Imperf. 3d., Type 8 of Gibbons.
 " 4d., " 27, chalky.
 " 1d., " 39, "
Perf. 11½ x 12. 5d., thin paper.
Unpaid. 1d., chalky, 11½ to 12, and 11.
 " 4d., perf. 11.
 Commonwealth design, 9d., see Australia.

New Zealand. Similar reflections to above are induced by the vagaries of these very Imperial islands with their recent annexations and trials, but we try to keep as straight as the various perforations will let us.

¾d., green on Cowan paper, no wmk. 11.
 1d., carmine on Basted Mills, perf. 11.
 5l., deep red, N Z star, perf. 11, old paper.

North Borneo. The overprinted "British Protectorate" is not sufficiently protected in these Protectionist days, so its tariff has been changed by the import, we mean imprint, of "Postage Due," and we cannot retaliate.

Unpaid. 2c., on No. 118, surcharged.
 " 5c., " 121, "

Queensland. From the *Monthly Journal*.

6d., deep full green, perf. 13 x 12.

St. Lucia. The King series.

2d., lilac and black. 1l., green and black.
 2l., green and lilac.

Seychelles. The *Monthly Journal* has found 6 cents on 8c. of 1901 inverted. Also of earlier issues, 3c. on 16c. invert; 3c. on 16c. with old value not cancelled; value cancelled, but no new value. We have also new provisionals with "3 cents" over two black bars on old values of the new series already; and a reported 2 cents on 15c.

3 cents on 15c., ultramarine.
 3 " 45c., brown and red.

Straits Settlements. Johore. Messrs Whitfield King and Co. send us provisionals with black overprints and bars on the old figures.

"3 cents" on 4c., yellow and red.
 10 cents on 4c., green and carmine.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Abyssinia. The *Monthly Circular* lately informed us that these stamps have now an overprint meaning "Ethiopia," instead of previous characters which meant something else, but no illustration is given of the difference.

Afghanistan. The *Monthly Journal* for July. 1 abasi, black (Type 33) on thin white wove.

Argentine. From the same source we hear of faked postally-used telegraph stamps "on original envelopes," made by an official getting old stamps from telegraph forms, and re-obliterating them, without a date. High value stamps, 5, 10, and 20 pesos, are used for papers sent in bulk, and perforated INUTILIZADO as a cancellation.

Austria. Levant. Messrs. Whitfield King send us the 10 heller stamp without the figure in black, but having in same corners, top and bottom, 20 PARA 20 in black at one printing instead of the 10.

20 para, rose and black.

The *Monthly Journal* gives in addition, presumably produced in same manner (except the last), the following values:—

10 para, dark green and black.
 1 piastre, ultramarine "
 2 " pale blue "
 20 " on 2 gulden, dull green.

The "Crete" stamps listed in March, with value in centimes, are also said to be for use in Levant ports generally.

Bosnia. Another value, with black numerals, reported.

40 (heller) orange and black.

Benadir. These much-talked-of stamps for a year past, are now stated to be definitely in use. M. Maury has received a letter franked with them. (See our January and February numbers.)

Colombia. The following stamps described four months ago in *Monthly Journal* do not appear to have been given here; all imperforate.

5c., blue, and in dark blue.
 50c., green; brown; yellow; rose; vermilion.
 1p., carmine-rose, 20 x 26½ mm.
 1p., blue; dark blue, 18 x 24.
 5p., brown; red-mauve; blue-green.

Antioquia. New shades.

3c., deep green. 5c., rose
 4c., slate-violet. 10c., lilac-mauve.
 20c., dull green.

Too Late Stamp. 2½c., mauve.

Denmark. West Indies. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. forward copies of the new issues.

2 cents, dull red. 8 cents, light brown.

German Empire. Levant. The overprint of PIASTER on the higher values now comes

with the "A" having a large horizontal serif on the top.

1 pias. on 25pf., serif topped A.
5 " " 1 mark, dull carmine.
25 " " 5 " black and lake.

Greece. Most of the stamps have been on thinner paper for a long time; the higher value is now on it, and there are variations in tint of all recent printings.

50 lepta, lake on thin paper.
1 lepton, of 1901, " " imperf.

Hayti. The 2c. Unpaid is surcharged in red instead of black; other old ones are found inverted and doubly printed, quite by accident.

5, 8, 10, and 50c., inverted surcharge.
4c., 15c., and 1g., double

Unpaid. 2c., dark indigo, red "

Holland. Dutch Indies. The *Monthly Journal* has seen a variety of perforation of 1878-82 ssue, on same sheet.

10c., orange-brown, perf. $1\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ (with $1\frac{1}{2} \times 12$).

Curacao. A new type is announced.
12½ cents, blue.

Honduras. Varieties have been found of 1898 issue on laid paper.

5c., ultramarine, vertical lines.
10c., dark blue, horizontal "

United States. Our picture gallery of the "Commemorative Series, 1902," is now about complete with these illustrations of stamps, described in July.



Venezuela. The 50 centavo orange stamp, usually overprinted "1900," was coming over some months ago without the overprint, and in a deeper colour.

50 centavos, brown-orange.

Since then various provisional and revolutionary labels have appeared, the latter ones, evidently for foreign consumption, being printed at one place from same type, but names and colours of papers for different values, carefully changed for each printing. First have an inscription in two lines—

"Correos—Vale B 0.05," or other value, hand-stamped.

5c., carmine on yellow. 1b., violet on grey.
10c., green on yellow. 2b., carmine on green.
25c., black on orange. 5b., violet on blue.
50c., blue on rose.

Following these is a big label, 42 mm. square, with Arms in centre, "Correos de Venezuela—Estado—Guyana" and value at foot.

5c., black on pink. 25c., black on pale blue.
10c., black on orange. 50c., black on pale yellow.
1b., black on grey-granite.

Oblong stamps, with ship in centre, similar wording for Guyana; changed to "Distritto—Marino" for second set; and "Maturin" the third.

5c., black on granite. (2) red. (3) pink.
10c., " orange. yellow. blue.
25c., " deep red. granite. yellow.
50c., " pale blue. pink. red.
1b., " yellow. blue. granite.

ENTIRES.

Argentine. Latest stamp type.

5c., Memo Postal, red on white.

Canada. New King's head stamp.

Post-card. 1 cent, green.

Cape Colony. The use of privately-printed post-cards is now permissible throughout South Africa, and the official issues are to be sold at face price, except those with pictures on!

Ceylon. We have a wrapper, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$, with the King's head stamp, six lines of instructions and "The Times of Ceylon," &c., evidently all printed at one operation in a peculiar tint of ink, postmarked 9 July, 03.

Wrapper. 5c., bistre-buff on buff.
2c., violet " (small size).

Gibraltar. A registration envelope received early last month is of thick, tough paper, usual lining, and larger flap in front.

Reg. Env. 2d., scarlet on cream, G size.

Post-card. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine on pale buff.

Morocco Agencies. The above cards are also overprinted for use from Morocco, also wrappers and envelopes, with corresponding values in centimos.

Post-cards. 5c., green; 10c., red.

Wrappers. 5c. on ½d., 10. on 1d.

Reg. Env. 20c. on 2d., F size.

Leeward Islands. King Edward type.

Envelopes. 1d., carmine on white.
2½d., blue "

New Zealand. *Ewen's Weekly* announces an envelope stamp with a King's head design that will "defy adequate description"; so we cannot reproduce it. The German *I. B. Z.* illustrates a fine long oval design for news-band.

Envelopes. ½d., King, green.
1d., " rose, on two sizes.
Wrapper. ½d., " green on cream.

Sierra Leone. In March a Registration envelope for this colony was headed Straits Settlements, and in April the intended correction made it worse by giving Straits a 2 cent—meaning 2d. for Sierra Leone—instead of the 5 cents as in February.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue.

West Australia. Trusting to *Le Timbrophile Belge*, we described the new letter-card in March as blue; it should have been, as specimen before us, brown-red.

Letter-card. 2d., brown-red on bluish-grey.

as it is impossible for the perforations to encroach on the design, but is always equidistant from the sides of the stamps.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

	1865.		1867.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 sgr., black	5	5 6	2	—
1 " green	4	3 0	3	10 0
1 " orange-yllellow	10	1 0	2	2 6
1 " rose	2	3 6	1	9
2 " blue	2	1 0	1	—
3 " yellow-brown	3	6	3	—

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

1 kr., pale green	1	3 6	1	5
a. green			1	5
3 kr., rose	8	5	1	6
6 " blue	2	5	2	1 6
9 " bistre... ..	2	6	4	2 6

VARIETY. Rouletted in colour and also plain.

3 kr., rose				
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Descriptive Catalogue

OF

European Postage Stamps.

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(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that no stamp exists in the type, shade, or perforation indicated.)

GERMANY.

THURN AND TAXIS

(Continued).

It was decided, in the year 1865, to perforate future printings of stamps, and the system adopted was that of rouletting in line, which was then very much in favour in most of the other German States, but which was gradually being discarded in favour of the ordinary perforations in most other countries. As the stocks of the higher values, 5 and 10 sgr. and 15 and 30 kr., were very large, no rouletted supply of these was necessary.

After two years the method of perforation was altered to that known as rouletting in colour. This kind of perforation is effected by the insertion of printer's rule between the casts of the stamps; the rule has a sharp edge, divided into short lines (in this instance sixteen in the space of two centimetres), and as these stand out a little higher than the casts of the stamps, they cut into the paper when the impressions are printed; thus the printing and perforating is done at one operation. Of course, the printer's rule is inked with the rest of the plate, and, therefore, the edges of the perforations are always coloured; hence the method is called by philatelists "rouletting in colour." The system has one great advantage,

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

As already mentioned, what remained of the Thurn and Taxis postal monopoly was purchased by the newly-formed North German Confederation in 1867. The Confederation included all the States of Germany, with the exception of Baden, Bavaria, and Württemberg, and the stamps which were issued by it in the following year, 1868, are therefore more representative of the whole of Germany than were those of Thurn and Taxis.

The differences in currency in the various States still presented a difficulty, and so two sets were necessary again, one with values in groschen, and the other in kreuzer.

The stamps were issued on January 1st, 1868. The design of the groschen set differed from



the kreuzer, our first illustration showing the former, and the other the latter. They both, nevertheless, have the same generic and thoroughly German appearance. As with most early issues of all countries, the main precaution seems to

have been to guard against imitations for fraudulent purposes, and the paper on which the stamps were printed was first overprinted with an invisible pattern of curved lines, which, however, can be made visible by chemical treatment.



The stamps were rouletted in gauges that vary considerably, and all values can be found imperf. Though it has been said

that imperforate copies were not issued for use, the statement is quite incorrect so far as certain values are concerned, as there is irrefutable evidence to show that they were so issued in error. For example, we have ourselves found a used strip of three and two singles of the 3 kr. in a large parcel of these stamps. As this is the only value of which we have personal knowledge, it is the only one we give in our list.

In 1869 some of the values began to appear machine perforated $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, but only as the stocks of the rouletted values became exhausted; some of the values did not appear, therefore, until the following year, with the new perforation. The 18 kr., for which there was little use, is very scarce in the latter state, used. After the stamps became obsolete the remainders were sold to dealers, hence the low prices at which most of the perforated stamps can be bought unused.

	1868.		1869.	
	Rouletted.	Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., lilac	1 6	3	—	6
a. red-lilac	1 6	3	—	8
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., green... ..	1 3	—	5	2
a. pale green	—	1	—	—
b. yellow-green	—	—	2	1
$\frac{1}{3}$ gr., orange	3 6	1	2	1
a. orange-vermilion	—	—	2	1
1 gr., rose	3 3	1	2	—
a. carmine-rose	—	1	2	—
2 gr., blue	12 6	1	—	—
b. ultramarine	8 0	1	2	—
a. pale ultramarine	—	—	2	—
5 gr., bistre... ..	—	1	3	2
1 kr., green... ..	3 0	9	4	5
a. pale green	—	9	—	—
b. yellow-green	—	—	5	5
2 kr., orange	5 0	1 3	1 0	2 6
3 kr., rose	—	2	3	1
a. carmine-rose	—	2	3	1
b. " imperf. (used 10/-)	—	—	—	—
7 kr., blue	16 0	9	—	—
a. ultramarine	16 0	9	4	3
b. pale ultramarine	—	—	4	3
18 kr., bistre	1 3	1 6	5 0	16 0

NOTE.—These stamps were never reprinted.

A special stamp of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. was issued for use locally in the town of Hamburg.

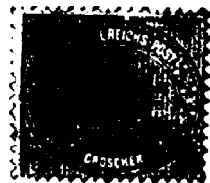


The design was rather similar to the kreuzer set of the general issue, but had no numeral of value in the middle, and in place of the value in words the lower portion of the oval was inscribed "Stadtpostbrief Hamburg." The perforations were the same as for the other stamps.

	1868.		1869.	
	Rouletted.	Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ sch.) purple-brown	3 0	1 6	2	3
a. ($\frac{1}{2}$ sch.) red-violet	—	—	2	4

Two high values—10 and 30 groschen—were issued in 1869 to prepay heavy postal packets

and parcels. The designs were new. The 10 gr. had the numerals within a transverse oval on a groundwork composed of the words "ZEHN GROSCHEN" in minute letters repeated. The 30 gr. had the numerals within a transverse rectangle, and on a groundwork composed of the words "DREISSIG GROSCHEN" in minute letters frequently repeated. The stamps were not sold to the public, but were affixed to the packets by the postal officials.

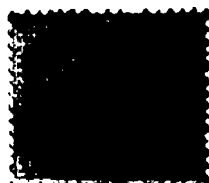


1869.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 gr.	...	3	—	—	—
30 "	...	4	—	—	—

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Stamps for official use were issued in 1870. The design consisted of an octagonal frame, enclosing the numeral of value, and the words DIENSTSACHE. The whole was printed on a ground composed of the word NORDPOSTBEZIRK repeated. This underprint was in pale red-brown on the groschen set, and in grey on the other. The design was in black on both sets.



1870.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., black and red-brown ... ..	...	1 0	—	—	—
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " " " ... ..	...	4	1 3	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " " " ... ..	...	3	—	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " " " ... ..	...	3	2	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " " " ... ..	...	3	5	—	—
1 kr., black and grey ... ..	...	8	15 0	—	—
2 " " " " ... ..	...	1 8	—	—	—
3 " " " " ... ..	...	7	3 6	—	—
7 " " " " ... ..	...	1 0	20 0	—	—

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.

The stamps of the German army of occupation in the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine in 1870 were really a sub-issue of the North German Confederation. The stamps were used in all places temporarily occupied by the German invading army, and not in Alsace and Lorraine alone. A study of the obliterations found on these stamps will be found very interesting, as it was the common practice to postmark them with the name of the town and the date, but others bear the field-postmarks, which are long rectangular in shape, and they may also be found, though these are scarce, with the French dotted postmarks found in the post office when taken possession of.

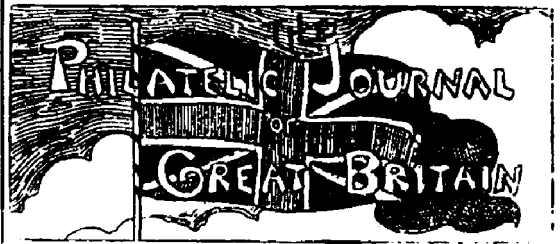
As these stamps had to be prepared very

hurriedly, it was

necessary that the design should be very simple and at the same time difficult, or impossible, to imitate. To effect this, nothing better could have been prepared than the design which was actually issued. They were manufactured at the Government Printing



Works at Berlin. The network was printed on the sheets from the same plate which printed the invisible network on the North German Confederation stamps, but this time the design was in coloured ink, which is plainly visible. The design consisted of a simple rectangular coloured frame, with a large numeral or numerals of value in the centre, and the words POSTES above and CENTIMES below. The plates, which consisted of 150 stamps in fifteen rows of ten, printed the designs on paper, which had already received the impression of the background in the same colour as the stamp. By far the larger number of sheets were printed with the points of the wavy lines turned upwards, but accidents account for some sheets of all values appearing with the position reversed. These are, however, rather scarce, the 5 centimes especially so in an unused condition. It says much for the care with which these stamps were issued that no varieties are known in which the stamps are printed on a background of a wrong colour, and it is only within the last couple of years that a variety of the 20c. blue has been discovered which has, besides the network in blue pointing downwards, an impression of the network in yellow pointing upwards. Values of 1c., 2c., 4c., and 20c. were issued on September 6th, 1870, and of 5c. and 25c. a few weeks later. On January 1st, 1872, the issue was withdrawn in favour of those of the newly-formed German Empire.



British Official Stamps.

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THE prosecution for alleged theft and trafficking in Official stamps suddenly collapsed after the two men in the highest position had pleaded guilty to the first counts of indictment—unlawful possession and aiding and abetting. Elsewhere is a brief account of the proceedings; but no official pronouncement appears as to the position of those who may still be holding such unused stamps, beyond counsel's reference to letters of Mr. Creeke's, "that he knew the possession of Official stamps was illegal." The mere substitution of ordinary stamps for overprinted ones may be only a technical offence, but the deliberate piecing together of cancelled stamps to pass as merely damaged stamps is a moral offence as well. We regret that any man should do wrong to obtain anything connected with our pursuit or hobby, as it gives occasion for the ignorant to revile philatelists as a body; but in this case we cannot truly sympathise with the offenders, seeing that all they did was with a full knowledge of its wrongfulness, though it is sad that others (their relatives and friends) should suffer because of them. The Recorder, as Judge, appears to have gone out of his way to cast imputations on one of the principal witnesses, and to shield higher officials whose possession of stamps *in quantity* is no more justifiable than in the case of others less highly placed; and it could only be in ignorance of the detailed evidence given before the magistrate who committed these men for trial that he spoke as he did, and even forbade counsel to refer to that evidence.

It is not with the legal or the moral question, however, that we, as philatelists, have to look at the matter; but we may supplement that public evidence by another instance—quite as important, in a way—communicated by a friend, who, as a philatelically-inclined schoolmaster, encourages his boys by gifts of used stamps. A former pupil, having obtained a situation in a Government office, called on him a few months back and offered two of these overprinted stamps, which he said there was always

1870. Perf. 14½.	Nets pointing upwards.		Nets pointing downwards.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1c., olive green	1 0	6 0	40 0	—
a. sage green	1 0	6 0	35 0	35 0
2c., red-brown	5 0	—	6 0	30 0
a. dark brown	6 0	—	—	—
4c., grey	2 6	3 0	8 0	6 0
5c., yellow-green	1 0	8	—	—
a. pale yellow-green	3 6	—	—	—
10c., brown	—	4	—	1 0
a. yellow-brown	2 0	4	8 0	—
b. pale reddish-brown	9	8	8 0	1 3
20c., ultramarine	1 3	10	—	12 0
a. bright ultramarine	1 6	10	—	—
25c., brown	2 0	2 3	—	—

REPRINTS, or as they should more properly be called, official imitations, of these stamps were afterwards printed. They all had the network with the points downwards, but they can easily be distinguished by the fact that the word POSTES is a little longer, measuring 12½–13 mm., whereas in the originals it only measures 11–12½ mm.; and in the reprints the "P" of POSTES is nearer to the frame at the left, being only 2½ mm. instead of 3 to 3½ mm.

(To be continued.)

a struggle to get from the wastepaper baskets, and he would try to get him an unused one of that office, but there was a man who came round the offices who had offered him four shillings for such a stamp. Our friend advised the youth not to touch such things on any consideration. This is the way our junior clerks are being tempted or encouraged to act dishonestly, and the blame for such dishonesty should rightly be laid on those who are misguided enough to give fancy prices for these stamps, knowing full well that they can only be obtained in an improper or illegal manner. It is likely enough that buyers are often innocent, for, as a leading daily says:—"We cannot suppose that the public are as well acquainted with the arrangements of the Inland Revenue as the Works Department of the Admiralty assumed them to be. According to the evidence of the Registrar of that Department, its chief held an inquiry when stamps were missed; but the conclusion he arrived at was that the stamps had not been stolen, because they would be of no value outside the office."

As to the collecting of these stamps, we have recently stated our views, the justification of which may be found in this trial; and we may now add to the note of last month further quotations from the *London Philatelist* for July:—"The imposition of letters over the stamp has really no postal significance, and there have been many specialists in British stamps who have declined to collect Officials. . . . Is the stamp better as a stamp by having been earmarked either by the Board of Magistrates or by Messrs. Copestake and Co.? Does it confer any increase of franking power, and has it any significance except an actuarial one in allocating the expenses of a particular department? . . . There are those who may have a ready answer to the sceptic; but it seems to us that the collection of Official stamps does not stand on the same basis as that of unsurcharged stamps." It has been said that in all probability all overprinted stamps, except the "I.R. OFFICIAL," are to be abolished, but that new stamps in a different or special design are to be issued for each department. The difficulty will not be got over, even then, as to the improper distribution of them to those who fancy such things, which, as already stated, have no more postal or philatelic significance than an official envelope of the Board of Trade or Admiralty had before with the blue hand-stamp that enabled the postal officials to allocate a nominal sum to each department for the carrying of their correspondence, papers, or parcels.

Old Lamps or New.

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THE lamps we have in mind at the present moment are not those of the story of Aladdin, but the living ones of human brains, which may, all the same, give forth light and leading to those in semi-darkness. The *Philatelic Record* refers editorially to the increasing difficulties which secretaries of philatelic societies experience in forming programmes of work or meetings for each season. It is an old complaint, from the first philatelic association in the world down to the most recent one, not only that small percentages of members attend interesting meetings, but that so few volunteer to read papers, or will take part in discussions when started. Our contemporary's remarks are rather strongly phrased in describing recruits, or the "new collectors as a class, who are lazy to the backbone." That the large number of publications giving original articles, or copying from others, makes "stamp collecting more of an arm-chair kind of hobby than it used to be," is considered sufficient to make the younger men satisfied with what is thus provided for them, and so leads them to think there are no further discoveries possible. Though there must be time allowance made for these recent recruits to assimilate the food supplied to them, there certainly seems room for considerable improvement in the supply of new articles from scores of the competent juniors who take a real interest in their stamps.

The young men, however, may have another story to tell, beyond that of "lack of knowledge," if closely pressed for the reason of this apparent indifference to the more scientific study of stamps. As the desire of knowledge is a natural feeling of mankind, and the first step to self-knowledge is self-distrust, so it is possible that—notwithstanding the supposed universality of self-conceit in our young men—even where they are disposed to assist in special studies, they are often distrustful of themselves in the presence of their older and wiser brethren. A certain amount of self-distrust is wholesome, but too much of it is the cause of many failures in life, while self-trust has been described as the essence of heroism. But wisdom does not always come with years, though knowledge usually does. Sometimes there may be a want of consideration in the elders for those who are less learned; a tendency to too severely criticise the efforts made by others in their search for more light, as may happen, for instance, in the reception given to the article on Salvadors we

had last month. If it should happen that a dozen or more years ago an explanation or description of those varieties was published in a magazine that the author had no opportunity of seeing, the discovery (as it may be supposed to be) then becomes merely a resuscitation, or an unacknowledged plagiarism. There are, again, men who have filled important positions as guides or teachers, who—when a discovery is made public and another ventures to say that he had observed the same thing some time before—have been known to bluntly tell the later one that they do not believe him, or they are sure he would have made known his knowledge, if only to see his name in print. Having suffered by our own experiences we can sympathise with others, and, having done so, will join in the appeal to all budding philatelists to "acquit yourselves like men," and ignore these trifles.

If every important article on stamps during the last thirty years had been reproduced in every philatelic journal, and if every member of philatelic societies were supplied with a set of these articles, or even with an analytical index of those in their native tongue, there would be need indeed to complain vigorously of philatelists pleading lack of knowledge as to what has, or has not, been discussed. But the general assumption is undoubtedly that, with so much attention to minor varieties displayed of late years, and the large amount of specialising in scores, if not hundreds, of countries, there is little left for ordinary collectors to find out. If some of our leaders, having themselves freely done a fair share of work, often without thanks or acknowledgment, yet feeling that certain points want elucidating which others might well take up, will submit lists of these *desiderata* to the secretaries of the societies, who in turn will specify some of them in their reports, it is possible that half a dozen subjects may be taken up by those recruits who only want an indication of a desirable direction to explore it right away. To collectors of post-cards, for instance, the provisional issues of Orange Free State want clearing up and re-arranging in correct order of dates, special causes of origin, and other information which ought to be obtainable now, but which in a few years time it will be impossible to trace. This is not a popular branch: therefore, some will say, choose it; or, by asking others, find some disputed or uncertain matter connected with any of the adhesives, and go for it with as much vigour or energy as for cycling, photography, or other hobby or pastime that you take a keen interest in.

Notes by the Way.

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"THE SURCHARGE—Away with it!" Mr. Corfield, in the *Philatelic Journal of India* for July, says the surcharge "is the bane of Philately"—a temptation to evil for all sorts and conditions of men, and to minor fraud. He calls it vandalism, and at its best an artistic afterthought, and suggests the "unappropriated die" for all emergency cases, as was used in the Bechuanaland stamps above one penny. Reerring to the trial case as to Official issues, he thinks it must lead to some such change as that he suggests, of a new and "highly interesting class of stamp which it would be no easy matter to forge."

In the same number we are reminded that the asterisk should have been added to Faridkot, Hyderabad, Kashmir, Poonah, and Sirmoor on p. 65, as States that have ceased to issue Official stamps.

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NEW ZEALAND ISLANDS.—The *Australian Journal of Philately* just to hand has a letter from Mr. A. T. Bate, giving another from P. O. Secretary at Wellington, as to the Niué, Penrhyn, and Aitutaki stamps, stating that the whole of the revenue is retained by them, and that it would be impossible to determine the postal revenue without special stamps." The Editor "cannot accept it as satisfactory, as the stamps are sold at Auckland and never see the Islands," adding that they are "purely speculative issues," like Borneo and others, as "postage stamps are supposed to be issued only for the prepayment of mail matter." This is a little matter often forgotten by collectors. We note, however, from *E. W. S. N.* that the Aitutaki stamps did reach the post office there on June 29th.

THE CISTAFILE.

:0:

A startling novelty has been put before the philatelic public during the past few weeks in the shape of an ingenious arrangement which is designed to do away with albums entirely, and if the Cistafile admits of all the advantages which its enthusiastic sponsors claim for it, it may achieve this aim. Time and experience alone will show whether the new system will supersede the old.

By the Cistafile system, each stamp is mounted by itself near the top of a piece of cardboard, about 3½ inches long by 2 inches wide. These cards fit in an upright position in long mahogany boxes, which are made to hold 250 cards each. There is a small circular

hole near the bottom of each card, through which, when properly fixed in the box, a steel bar or skewer is passed. This bar, when pushed as far as it will go, keeps all the cards firm at the bottom, but enables them to be partially turned over like the leaves of a book, making it a very easy matter to examine the stamps affixed to them. The cost of one box or file is only 1/6, and the cards are extra. Messrs. Lawn and Barlow make very handsome cabinets for the reception of these boxes, which can be added to indefinitely upon the system of the expanding book cases, which are now so well known.

It is claimed for the Cistafile that a collection mounted in it can be re-arranged far more quickly than in any moveable leaf album. No space need be left for stamps which are not in the collection, as they can always be slipped into their right places afterwards without the least difficulty, and consequently collectors will be saved the heartburnings which blank spaces in albums so frequently produce. This is, in effect, the most important feature of the Cistafile—the collection always appears to be complete. Our only fear is that a collector after mounting his stamps in one may be so well satisfied with the result that he will have no great desire to add to the collections—that, in short, the incentive of blank spaces may be lacking.

Small booklets fully explaining the system are sent free on application to Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, 99, Regent Street, W.

AND THE GREATEST OF THESE—

—:O:—

[From *Mekeel's Weekly*.]

"Are youse de mug wot sell dem postage stamps?"

"Yer see, it's dis way: yer know me kid brudder, Patsy, he's got hurted. See! Yes, Patsy, he used to hustle de poipers, but he was hikin 'cross de avenue to sell a gent 'n extry 'n he got knocked down 'n runned over by a d'livery wagon, 'n he got picked up 'n taken to St. Joseph's, but he's home now. See! 'N his back is hurted 'n he's loime, 'n the doc ses he's always goin' to be, 'n when I'm out hustlin 'n mam's out washin it's aful lonesome up dere for Patsy, poor kid.

"Well, jest gimme time: I was comin to de stamps. Yer see, its dis way: Dinny Ryan wot lives cross de alley from us, he's got lots of stamps, not de long green, but jest postage stamps—secondhand ones. Say! he's got dead loads of em, more'n a hundred different kinds. Got em all stuck in a book. 'N he

brings em all over 'n shows em to Patsy, 'n Patsy's dead struck on em, 'n so I tinks to meself dat I'll get some o' dem for de kid, 'n den he c'n be lookin at em w'en he's left dere at home all alone.

"Well, so I hikes down to de plow factory, where Dinny sez he got most of his stamps. But de main squeeze down dere he ain't got no time fer me 'n I don't get nary stamp. See! Nit; not a cussed one.

"Den Jimmy here, he sez he knows a bloke wot sells dem second-handed—all kinds. Dat's you. So we moseys 'long up to see how much dey would cost to get a few fer Patsy. See!

"Where dus we live? Well, dey calls it Sunset Avenue in direct'ry, but what de gang from Tipperary Hill calls it woudn't sound good to say 'fore de loidy. 'Taint 'xactly a swell neighbourhood, not bein' right on de top of Quality Hill.

"Oh, we makes a livin all right. Me mudder she does de washin and I does de shine act, but sometimes we has to keep a comin all de time to make de rent. Patsy used to sell de poipers 'fore he got hurted, 'n dat 'd help some: but when he can't hardly walk he can't hustle de extrys, can he?"

"Well, Jimmy, we'd better be hikin 'long 'n not be bodderin de gentleman any more. We'll be comin in some odder day wen we's got de price. See!

"Wot, for Patsy? T'anks, loidy! Two hundred diff'rent kinds? Won't dat kid be tickled, eh, Jimmy? An all dem big ones, mister? Aint dem swell. Dey must be worth a lot o' dough. Won't Patsy pretty near drop dead? Dinny Ryan won't be in it. An' de book to put em in, too! Wot do youse t'ink of dat? Well, mister, youse is de swell gazabe 'n wen youse want de real patent-leather shine on dem number nines of yours, don't forget ter call in your Uncle Fuller, 'n t' won't cost you a cent fer de real t'ing."

FRANK C. YOUNG.

Traffic in Official Stamps.

—:O:—

On September 11th, at the Old Bailey, W. J. Richards, A. B. Creeke, Jun., P. T. Richards, H. J. Richards, and A. Waterhouse were charged with stealing and receiving stamps. The opening speech by counsel, Mr. C. F. Gill, was devoted to the numerous charges against the first two prisoners, the former of whom was charged with stealing a number of overprinted stamps, and Creeke with mutilating them and being in unlawful possession of them. This

mutilation was the tearing off of the obnoxious word "Specimen," and the substitution of equivalent pieces from ordinary stamps, apart from the replacing other overprinted stamps by ordinary ones, so that the stock in Richards's possession as a clerk might balance, he having charge of both classes of stamps at Somerset House. As these two pleaded Guilty to one of the counts of indictment, but little evidence was submitted on this occasion, and it cannot be of general interest in its details.

From *The Standard* we take the following summary of the next day's proceedings:—

The trial was resumed of Alfred Waterhouse, 24, clerk in the Admiralty, on an indictment charging him with the alleged theft of certain Government stamps while employed in the public service. Walter John Richards, principal clerk in the postal department of Somerset House, and Anthony Buck Creeke, 42, solicitor, acting on the advice of Counsel, have pleaded Guilty to one of the counts of an indictment preferred against them in connection with certain Government stamps.

Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., and Mr. R. D. Muir prosecuted; Mr. Frampton and Mr. Couch represented Waterhouse, who, in defence, went into the witness-box and gave an emphatic denial to the allegations against him. He declared that the witnesses with regard to his alleged visits to a stamp dealer in Villiers Street, Strand, who purchased certain sets of Government parcel stamps, were mistaken as to his identity. He did not know either of the Richards.

Mr. Frampton proposed to put questions to the Defendant as to whether there was not a system prevalent in Government offices of persons dealing with these stamps.

The Recorder ruled that this would be hearsay evidence, and he could not admit it. If Counsel could call witnesses to depose to those facts it would be evidence.

In cross-examination, the Witness was questioned on correspondence which he had had with a bookmaker to whom he owed money in respect to turf transactions.

Counsel argued in defence that the case was one of mistaken identity.

The Jury acquitted Waterhouse, adding a rider to the effect that in their opinion a dealer named Moore, who had purchased the stamps, ought to be put in the dock and charged with receiving.

Mr. Gill said he proposed to offer no evidence against the other two Prisoners, Percy Tidd Richards and Henry John Richards, in connection with alleged dealings with these stamps.

The Jury returned a formal verdict against each of these Prisoners.

Walter John Richards (the elder) and Anthony Buck Creeke, who pleaded Guilty on Saturday, were next put into the dock for sentence.

Mr. Gill, explaining the circumstances in which the prosecution was instituted, said that when the stamps bought by the Witness Moore passed on to Mr. Healey, another stamp dealer, he communicated with Somerset House the fact that "Parcel" stamps had been offered him for sale,

and upon this inquiries were commenced by the authorities. Walter Richards, being a man in a position of great confidence and trust, was the person selected to conduct the inquiry. Time went on, but his inquiries brought no result. It was clear, said Mr. Gill, that the persons who were concerned with the traffic in these stamps had been put on their guard. In the month of May, however, the case assumed a different aspect, Percy Richards, who was a son of Walter Richards, being arrested on a charge of forgery. On being searched he was found to have in his possession a cheque for £10, drawn by a stamp dealer. Inquiry into the matter brought to light the fact that he had been dealing with Office of Works stamps, and that he had been paid sums ranging from £10 to £17. The authorities learning of this the father was questioned, and he then admitted what he, in conjunction with another clerk, had done in regard to stamps in April. He said that they had abstracted four sets of Office of Works' stamps, and that these had been substituted by stamps being cancelled which were ordinary postage stamps, false entries being made in the books to cover the abstraction. Sets of these stamps fetched sums of £17, £15, £22, and £10. Creeke had dealt also with these stamps. He had a special knowledge with respect to them, and special facilities for disposing of stamps. He had disposed of stamps of the "face" value of 15/- for no less a sum than £160. These matters, said Mr. Gill, had only been brought to light after the most exhaustive inquiries, and the greatest credit was due to Sergeant Ward, the officer who had had charge of the case.

The Recorder.—Is there any reason to believe that stamps have been abstracted from other departments beside the Admiralty?

Mr. Gill.—Yes, my Lord. Those taken from the Admiralty were obviously for the purpose of replacing stamps stolen elsewhere, and at a time when inquiry was pending, and there was danger of an audit taking place, when the stamps would have to be produced.

Mr. Lincoln Reed, on behalf of Creeke, urged that he had borne hitherto an excellent character. His relatives were solicitors who were well known and respected at Burnley. He had suffered much anxiety through these proceedings, which would entail his being struck off the rolls of solicitors. He had a wife and six young children depending upon him for support.

Mr. Williams urged, on behalf of Richards, that he had been in the public service thirty-five years, and had enjoyed always an irreproachable character. He was entitled to a pension, which he had now lost, together with a high position.

The Recorder, in passing sentence, said that it was possible that neither of the Defendants realised at first the gravity of the offences he was committing. The suggestion that certain high officials had taken stamps for private collection did not justify Richards in having purloined considerable numbers of the stamps for the purposes of making money out of them. He took into consideration the serious consequences which had befallen the Accused by reason of their present position, and ordered each Prisoner to be imprisoned for six months in the Second Division.



September, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

NOTICES.

The Committee meet at Essex Hall on Wednesday, the 9th—present: W. Schwabacher (in the chair), Dr. Marx, M.A., Major J.

de C. Laffan, R.E., F. Reichenheim, J. C. Sidebotham, P. L. Pemberton, H. Thompson, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, and the Hon. Sec.—when the following programme for the season 1903-4 was decided on:—

Wed., Oct. 14 Display, Portugal (R. Ehrenbach).

„ Nov. 11 „ To be arranged.

„ Dec. 9 „ & Paper, "France, 1847-76" (F. Reichenheim).

1904.

„ Jan. 13 „ (W. Schwabacher).

Feb. (about the 10th) Lantern Display

„ Mar. 9 Display (J. C. Sidebotham).

„ „ „ and Notes, "Jamaica" (Major J. de C. Laffan).

„ April 13 „ Bosnia (L.W. Fulcher).

„ May 11 Annual General Meeting and Display by members generally, selected from the following subjects:—

(a) One Stamp for every Year from 1840.

(b) Varieties of Paper.

(c) Varieties of Colour.

(d) Varieties of Printing.

(e) Varieties of Perforation.

(f) Different Countries.

(g) Types of Surcharge.

Single stamps only, and each stamp to be mounted and described.

Members are requested to note that the First Meeting takes place at Essex Hall, on Wednesday, October 14th, at 8 p.m., when all are cordially invited to attend the display of Portugal by R. Ehrenbach, Esq.

Members are requested to kindly note the Hon. Sec.'s change of address—26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.
September 24th, 1903.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

—:o:—

The opening meeting of the new session was held on September 15th, when a number of matters were discussed in connection with the work of the Society. It was decided to prepare a syllabus of meetings, to be issued to members after the October business meeting.

Two resignations were intimated, and Messrs. Guybon Hutson, Glasgow, and Mr. F. Leake, Scarborough, were elected Corresponding Members.

The Exchange Branch had worked very smoothly and with good results. All sheets (up till June) had been returned to members, and all accounts were square by the middle of

August. The September packet started on September 1st with forty-one sheets, value £181 net. There are vacancies for a few new members, and the Secretary will gladly send copies of rules, &c., to applicants.

T. A. M'INTYRE,
Hon. Sec. and Treas.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

New Leaves to Cut.

—:0:—

ALL ABOUT POST-CARDS.*

The leaves of this little book are cut and rounded, too, at the corners to prevent dog's-earing. As mentioned in July, it has reference chiefly to the early days of postal stationery as pictorial sheets or cards, official or private. The frontispiece is interesting, being from the original block of Mr. J. Valentine, as used on envelopes for promoting Ocean Penny Postage, and it should be worth the money paid for the whole book, as original copies cannot be bought now at a lower price. There are chapters on the Universal Postal Union, on our first post-cards, Mulready covers, and officially-illustrated cards, as well as on the various types of the popular pictorials which are not postal, and information as to the law on copyright subjects. Altogether a useful little book.

THE ORIGIN OF ADHESIVES.

There is little that is truly philatelic, but a remark that "No doubt exists that the claim of Chalmers to the invention of the adhesive stamp fairly belongs to him" compels a reply; especially as in another collectors' paper of recent introduction the same kind of erroneous reference is made. Sir Rowland Hill, on February 13th, 1837, in his evidence given in the Ninth Report of the Commissioners of Post Office Inquiry, issued shortly after, having urged that stamped covers should be used for the reformed system of postage, points out cases where there might be a difficulty, and adds:—"Perhaps this difficulty might be obviated by using a bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp and covered at the back with a glutinous wash, which the bringer [or sender] might attach to the back of the letter." Mr. James Chalmers, of Dundee, sent, enclosed in a letter to Sir Rowland Hill of May 18th, 1840, a reprint of his proposals for adhesive stamps, dated February 8th, 1838, adding at the bottom:—"Specimens of Gumm'd or 'Adhesive Pieces of Paper' were affixed to the Original Copies of the Article,

which was *first published* in November, 1837." It is clear from this that Mr. Chalmers' suggestion was nine months later than Sir Rowland Hill's evidence, and some months after that evidence and the recommendation of the Commissioners had been printed; though it is not supposed that Chalmers knew of this at the time. It was his son Patrick that made the claim after his father's death.

There are over thirty pages of prices of post-cards and pictorials at the end of the book, and several interesting illustrations distributed over the earlier pages. The Gibbons Catalogue of Post-cards not having been revised since 1900, there are some new issues and prices here for collectors.

SENF'S CATALOGUE FOR 1903-4.*

This bulky blue book is to hand on the anniversary of its predecessor, but, we fear, is no more reliable in its prices as a *general* guide to values, or to the pieces actually in stock, than before. Many recently obsolete colonials are priced nearly double London offers, which will not attract English buyers, and in many others it is curious how closely the prices follow those of Gibbons, *plus* five to ten per cent. Opening at New Zealand Postal Fiscals, we were pleased to see three columns for unused, fiscally, and postally used stamps, but it is very strange that the German firm can price over fifty lines out of sixty, to the five lines only priced by S. G. as actually in stock. The prices for most Continentals are naturally somewhat below those asked here for low values, but on the balance of the whole, the general collector may buy as cheaply at home. In Transvaal we notice a 10d. King's stamp priced as on sale, but our publishers have not yet seen or heard of such an issue. That wonderful country "Suaheland" (with its fearsome types) is still in printed existence, but we are still as desirous, as last year, of knowing where and what it is!

As to Entires, the second part would be useful to our collectors, as it gives all issues up to date very completely, but there are incongruities in prices; as in Cape cards, Nos. 10, 11, and 12, the former of which cannot be bought here at double the price, while the other two are sold at one-third the prices or less. Victoria letter-cards given at 1 m. 50 pf., *used*, go a-begging here at 2d., and so with Westralian 1/2d. and 1d. cards, at one-twelfth the German prices. The general rule here is *half* unused price.

The typography and illustrations are particularly clear, but the colour-names are a caution, and Australian Commonwealth under "G" looks comical.

* Leads: Scott and Wilson, 4, Reginald Moun. 104 pages. Price 11s., post free 12s.

* Leipzig: Gebrüder Senf, 1,323 pages. Part I., Adhesives. Price 31s. Part II., Entires. 11s. The two bound together, price 41s.



September 30, 1903.

Philately at home.

The *London Philatelist* has an interesting paper by Mr. R. B. Yardley, entitled "A Few Notes on the Stamps of St. Vincent." We forbear to quote from it, as the writer states at the outset:—

I propose to refer principally to a few varieties either unrecorded, so far as I am aware, or to matters on which Messrs. Hacon and Napier's recent handbook on the stamps of Grenada and the perforations of Messrs. Perkins and Bacon throws a new light.

And it would hardly be fair, in the limited space at our command, to give merely a bald summary of his discoveries. We must therefore refer our readers to the paper in its entirety.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg has some "Further Notes on the Stamps of New South Wales Issued between 1871 and 1884," from which we gather that three fresh varieties of perforation of the 3d. green have turned up since last month; also that of the O.S. stamps (including, it is only fair to add, some with doubtful red surcharges); seventy-two varieties of watermark and perforation are known up to date!

Mr. Marsden continues his interesting article on "The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal," those dealt with in the present instalment belonging to Issue VIII., July, 1866. Incidentally, we learn that "a full set of reprints, on the thick reprint paper of Portugal and Colonies, costs about £10." Mr. Marsden does not, however, add anything to guide us as to his opinion of the value of this little collection.

In "Occasional Notes" we read of a "discovery" of the reproduction of watermarks through the aid of the camera. Various people claim credit for this, one gentleman alleging that he found it out so long ago as 1902. But, unless the writer is greatly mistaken, a correspondent of *Chums* sent up a communication on the subject to that paper at a very much earlier date.

A note on "The New Australian Commonwealth Stamps" contains selections of unfavourable criticisms from the *Sydney*

Morning Herald, the *Australian Philatelist*, "Censor" of the *Sydney Evening News*, together with an editorial "ditto" after inspection of the actual stamp (the 9d. value). With all of which we are in full accord.

Alfred Smith and Son's *Monthly Circular* has an interesting note on the early stamps of Salvador, the chief fault of which is that it is not sufficiently complete.

The *Monthly Journal* opens with a very timely editorial suggested by Mr. C. J. Phillips's paper on "Stamp Collecting as an Investment." Says Major Evans:—

We have nothing whatever to say against those collectors who regard their collections as an investment, and who do their best to make that investment a good one; it does not prevent them from being, in many cases, perfectly sound philatelists, and this method of collecting has enabled many an enthusiastic collector to do philatelic work which his circumstances might otherwise have prevented him from doing.

What we would wish, however, to impress upon our readers is the fact that there is another side to our hobby, a fact which even those who derive a great amount of pleasure from it are too apt at the present day to forget. It seems to have become an article of faith amongst collectors (and, of course, amongst non-collectors also) that anyone who collects stamps can make it pay, and pay well, and that if stamp collecting is not made to pay it is not worth doing. We hope and believe that there is still a large body of collectors who limit themselves to devoting *spare* time and *spare* cash to their collections, and who, when they buy a stamp, do not ask themselves the question, Is this stamp likely to rise in value or not? but rather, Is it a variety that I want for my collection, and can I afford the price asked? We fear that collectors of this class are gradually decreasing in numbers, and we should be glad to do anything we can to encourage them.

The present writer may be considered unduly pessimistic, but it is his firm conviction, after nearly thirty years of stamp collecting and philately, that the chief danger to the pursuit lies in the constantly-increasing insistence on the cash side of the question. Nowadays big collections are made and dispersed with a rapidity that may be good for trade, but is not, he ventures to think, of the slightest use in increasing the total number of genuine, earnest philatelists. Furthermore, the "tips" given to buy this or that stamp "for the rise" savour too much of the "Bucket-shop." The only way to ensure the continuous *steady* appreciation of really good stamps is, he considers, the

encouragement and maintenance of the class of collectors referred to in the concluding paragraph above quoted. Otherwise "fashion" will have too great a temporary influence, and cause such violent fluctuations in value as to risk turning the whole pursuit into something closely resembling a Stock Exchange gamble.

What bids fair to prove a most interesting and instructive series is "Paper on Perforations," by Messrs. Napier and Bacon.

The scope of the series and the manner in which the authors propose to set about their task is indicated in the following extracts:—

Under the title "Papers on Perforations" it is our intention to give from time to time in the pages of the *Monthly Journal* descriptions and histories of the perforations of such countries—or rather groups of countries—as appear to us to have hitherto received inadequate attention or erroneous treatment at the hands of philatelic writers, or that we consider might be dealt with in some simpler manner than is to be found in any published catalogue known to us. We say "groups of countries" advisedly, because the more experience we gain in the classification of stamps, either as applied to the arranging of collections or to the compiling of lists in order to assist others to do so correctly, the more do we become convinced of the superiority of what has been called the comparative method of investigation over any other that confines research to one particular country at a time. It is owing to faulty and piecemeal procedure that many identical perforations have come to be differently designated, thereby causing great confusion, trouble, and loss of time to all collectors in their attempts to find differences where none really exist.

For British philatelists the stamps of Great Britain and her colonies always possess the most interest. We shall therefore commence this series of papers by an account of the perforations of a well-known and, philatelically speaking, a well-defined group of British colonies, although we by no means intend to confine ourselves to such a limited field. . . . Perforation is our declared subject, but in speaking of the perforations of stamps we shall often be of necessity obliged to allude as well to papers, watermarks, or types, so it is to be hoped that what we have to say will prove of general interest, and be acceptable even to those who consider perforation of less importance than other points in connection with postage stamps.

To return to what we have called the comparative method of investigation, we will conclude this preliminary paper with an object-lesson in that method, which will perhaps show our readers exactly what we mean by the term.

For this purpose we will take the period commencing in 1857 and extending to about 1865, when perforation, if not exactly in its infancy, was, at any rate, in its early childhood.

The stamps of Great Britain and of all British colonies of that period may, as far as perforation is concerned, be divided into three groups.

First, there are the colonies for which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. supplied the stamps.

Secondly, there are what may be called the De La Rue group of colonies, and

Thirdly, there are all the remaining British colonies issuing perforated postage stamps not already included in one or other of the first two groups.

The stamps of Great Britain itself are divided between the Perkins Bacon and De La Rue groups, some having been printed by one of the firms, and some by the other. Again, some of the colonies of the first group were transferred to the second one at a date between 1860 and 1865, but this need cause no confusion between the groups.

It is to the perforations of the third group that we now beg to call attention for the purpose of our little object-lesson.

The colonies comprised in this group are as follows, the date given being that of the first issue of perforated stamps in that particular colony:—

- Canada, 1857.
- New Brunswick, 1860.
- Nova Scotia, 1860.
- Prince Edward Island, 1860.
- British Guiana, 1860.
- New South Wales, 1860.
- Victoria, 1860.
- Nevis, 1861.
- Queensland, 1862 (locally printed stamps).
- New Zealand, 1863.
- Tasmania, 1864.

It will occur to many that most of the North American colonies might be treated of as a whole, but at first sight it will very likely appear that every other item of the above list demands separate consideration. As far as we are aware, this is what has always been done by all previous writers in catalogues or elsewhere. Of course, it must be understood that our remarks apply solely to perforations. Similarity in the papers, or in the manner of producing the plates and in printing from them in several of the above colonies, has been insisted on over and over again by many writers in many places. But it is otherwise as regards perforations; these have always been considered apart from each other. Let us see if we cannot find some points of resemblance, or even establish identity between the perforations of some of the colonies of the third group during the period we have selected—that is, between 1857 and about 1867, or a little later.

How Messrs. Napier and Bacon prove their points will best be seen by a reference to their paper itself. Meanwhile, we would call our readers' special attention to this new departure, as, if thoroughly and logically carried out, it bids fair to revolutionize the whole question of perforations—and may, we believe, effect an incalculable amount of good. For, assuming that a certain number of varieties of perforating machine is discovered and catalogued according to the peculiarities of the work done by each one, we seem to be on the eve of the abolition of many of the terrific lists of minor varieties now listed that form such a stumbling block to the beginner.

Suppose that it were possible to give at the beginning of each catalogue a list of perforating machines, numbered, let us say, from A to Z: "the unlimited specialist" might still go on hair-splitting in his own way, but the "limited specialist," or "generalist," would find matters very much more easy to understand if he could study the peculiarities of any given machine from the results produced on a comparatively great number of stamps, some of which would necessarily be very easy to procure. Furthermore, a great and much needed fillip would be given to general collecting on an intelligent basis.

Messrs. H. L. Hayman and Charles J. Phillips continue their paper on "British East Africa," the present instalment being fully equal in interest to its predecessor. We regret that space considerations prevent us from quoting from it.

Another useful article is that by Mr. L. Hanciau on "The First Issue of Bamra," with comments by Major Evans.

Taken altogether, the present number of the *Monthly Journal* is of quite exceptional philatelic interest.

The following extract from *Morley's Philatelic Journal* for August suggests new terrors for the collectors of "Stamps on the original":—

At one of the last few meetings of the Fiscal Philatelic Society, Mr. Morley showed a Hat Tax stamp "on a portion of the original lining." We have lately come across "an entire hat" with the stamp impressed on the lining in the crown. The hat in question is a military cocked hat of the early nineteenth century. It is of black beaver, trimmed

with black braid, and has a glazed black calico cockade, in front of which rises a short plume of red and white feathers. The stamp inside is printed in white and mostly illegible except the words " . . . exceeding eighteen shillings. Three shillings."

We shudder to think what would happen if, say, a dozen millionaires went in vigorously for this form of "Fiscalism." The first few might possibly be able to make arrangements for housing their "collections," but after, say, the Crystal Palace, the Alexandra Palace, the Albert Hall, Stonehenge, and Park Royal were out of the market we fear there would be dangers of "overcrowding."

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for August 29th opens with a very interesting and veracious yarn, entitled "The End of the Story," the story being that connected with the issue of "stamps" for "Moresnet." We fancy, however, that M. Moens and the early philatelic periodicals tell rather a different tale.

All hail the Philatelic Millennium! The White List is now open for membership!! and there is "A Secret Black Book" also!!!

And yet the number for September 12th appears to be of the usual size. Moreover, the first batch of "whitelisters" is only fifteen all told, and even then does not appear to be confined entirely to the most prominent philatelists in the world.

We have received No. 1 of the *Stamp Mount*, which informs us that—

At present this publication claims to be the smallest stamp paper in the world; at the same time we credit ourselves with giving more literary matter than a large number of the larger journals, and we also have the satisfaction of knowing that the *Stamp Mount* pays its way.

While the latter part of the above sentence obviously concerns the proprietors of the paper rather than ourselves, we must confess that the first portion rather surprises us.

The total actual area of the "literary matter" apart from spacing, display headings, and ornamental "rules" is about fifty-three square inches. We may mention that the area of one of our printed pages is just about forty-one square inches. Of course, there is the question of relative quality to be considered. But then "comparisons are odorous," as Mrs. Malaprop says.

The *Philatelic Record* for August starts by adding its quota to the well-deserved abuse of the new "Commonwealth" stamp, which bids fair to rival the "Id. Venetian red" of the Mother Country in all-round popularity (?).

Dr. José Marco del Pont is the "Notable Philatelist" in the number under review. Notable indeed he must be since

He is the possessor of a collection of stamps of enormous size, the magnitude of which our readers will be better able to gauge when they bear in mind that his interest is chiefly centred in South American countries, which are notoriously

prolific, especially when specialised to the extent indulged in by this notable collector.

The multifarious varieties of Mexico, for instance, have not daunted him in the least, and he finds time to take South American fiscals in addition to postage stamps.

Furthermore:—

He is a most indefatigable worker and a voluminous writer on philatelic subjects, many of his articles having attained a high standard of merit.

To the truth of this latter part of Dr. Pont's philatelic biography many of us who only know him by name can gladly testify.

And when we learn that, besides doing all these things, Dr. Pont is just finding time to assist in promoting the Buenos Ayres Philatelic Exhibition. We can merely gasp out, "How does he do it?"

Specialists in Brazilian stamps will doubtless be interested in Mr. G. B. Duerst's translation of Dr. Pirl's article in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* on the "Varieties of type in the 100 and 200 reis of 1894 and 1900," together with the editorial extract from the *American Journal of Philately* on a kindred subject—the counterfeits of the 200 reis blue.

Philately on the Continent.

In the September number of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste*, M. Arthur Maury has an interesting article on the origin of the word "Philately," and the scanty and inaccurate information appearing about it in the leading French dictionaries. He also gives a further instalment of his paper on French postmarks. A touching picture is given of the martyrdom to duty of an unfortunate postman who has to walk about four miles in pouring rain to deliver a wine merchant's price list to—an old peasant who cannot read and drinks only cider!

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for July 31st opens with a carefully-written article, by "J. B.," on "Servia: Its Postal Service and its Postage Stamps." The paper, which is really a continuation of a previous one, commences with the issues from July 15th, 1869, onwards, most exhaustive lists being given of the values, shades, and perforations of both printings (July 15th, 1869, and August 15, 1879).

We note that an explicit and emphatic denial is given to the reports previously current that the "Sower" was going to disappear from the French stamps.

The number for August 31st (we do not appear to have received the intermediate one) opens with a little lesson in the spelling in English, French, and German of the names of various Chinese places more or less identified with postage stamps, together with an explanation of the Chinese surcharges on the Indo-Chinese stamps and a few notes concerning

the stamps themselves. Next comes a fearsome looking note on "New Guadeloupe Surcharges." The compiler, M. F. Tandeau, has expended a great amount of care in listing the various types, errors, &c.—but all the same we are glad that we do not specialise in these things.

Philately in the States.

Mekoel's Weekly Stamp News for July 25th has a number of short and pertinent editorial notes. Here are some of them:—

We have nothing new to say on the stamp speculation subject. Every person who is spending any amount of money on stamps should exercise a prudence in buying that will guarantee a fair return of the amount, if a day of liquidation should come. In fact, careful buying is one of the essentials to complete enjoyment of philately, but the collector is ill-rewarded who relaxes his concentration of attention on the artistic side of stamps to attend to the monetary aspect.

When a stamp collector forgets to count his stamps periodically, he has certainly become a thorough philatelist.

The average collector should have a philatelic library, even though it be one of the most modest dimensions. A few books on philately may serve as a basis for it; these volumes, aside from their instructive value to the owner, could be shown to the sceptic as proving that there must be something substantial about philately.

"Take stamps as you find them," exhorts an earnest expounder of the philatelic doctrine, just as though he wanted us who are unlucky and never make finds to get along without stamps.

This is the time of year that the merry stamp collector starts on his vacation trip to the old village home with the expectation of uncovering multitudes of old issues in the honeysteads of his native hamlet. After days of strenuous search he finds seven 3 cent green, one of which is grilled.

Here is an interesting bit of philatelic history from the number dated August 1.

In connection with the design of the first type of Hayti, the story is told: General Salomon would not allow his own effigy to appear on his stamps, refusing to yield to the wishes of the public that he be honoured in this way. An allegorical head of liberty was adopted as the central design, and when the stamps were put into circulation "some one stated that the head of liberty resembled Madame Salomon." By and by this statement spread, and one journal said: "The President would not have his portrait on the stamps, but he put his wife's on instead. That is not what we asked for!" The President was bound to admit that the likeness by a singular coincidence was very marked, and finally agreed to the portrayal of his features on the issue of 1887.

The August number of the *Adhesive* has a curious list of errors in various articles, winding up with the following paragraph:—

The proof reader, i.e., the editor, shoulders all these mistakes except "amblem" (for "emblem"). The printer overlooked them.

Mr. Nankivell's "English Letter" in the July number of the *American Journal of Philately* is neither so long nor so interesting as usual and deals mainly with the "Official" case. But the printer, either of malice prepense, or through ignorance of the classics, has introduced a little extra humour of his own, as our readers will observe from the following paragraphs, given precisely as printed:—

The philatelic sensation of the hour is the arrest and trial of several prisoners on the charge of being concerned in the illicit disposal of what are known as English

Official stamps. Amongst the prisoners now undergoing their trial are Mr. A. B. Creeke, a well-known member of the London Philatelic Society and co-author with the late Mr. Hastings Wright of the Society's well-known *mugnum opus* on the stamps of this country, and a chief clerk in Somerset House stamp issuing department. Whilst the case is under consideration the less said the better.

One amusing incident may be related. An artist came and sat next to me to get a good view of the "chief clerk" prisoner. That worthy, however, soon twigged what was being done, and at once covered his whole profile with a good handy-sized paw and kept it covered all the time. The artist was dished of his portrait.

"*Mugnum opus*" is good. The variation from the recognised spelling was doubtless suggested by the later paragraph. The same number contains a most learned contribution by Mr. C. A. Howes on "The Spelling of Chinese Proper Names" and the conclusion of Mr. Wilson's description of the most noteworthy exhibits shown at Mülhausen.

NOT SO NEW AFTER ALL.

With reference to the discussion as to the inventor of discovering watermarks by photography, a correspondent sends us the following cutting from *Chums*, dated 15/9/97. It will be seen that our Reviewer's memory is thus amply corroborated:—

When watermarks are blurred or indistinct, I find a good way to discover them is to print them on sensitised paper after the manner of photographs. Expose them for a time, varying according to the sunlight, having first cleaned all paper from the back. The postmark will be white and the watermark black on the sensitised paper. The prints thus taken should be fixed, and kept for reference.—F. C. MOLESWORTH, Cruicksfield, near Duns, Berwickshire.

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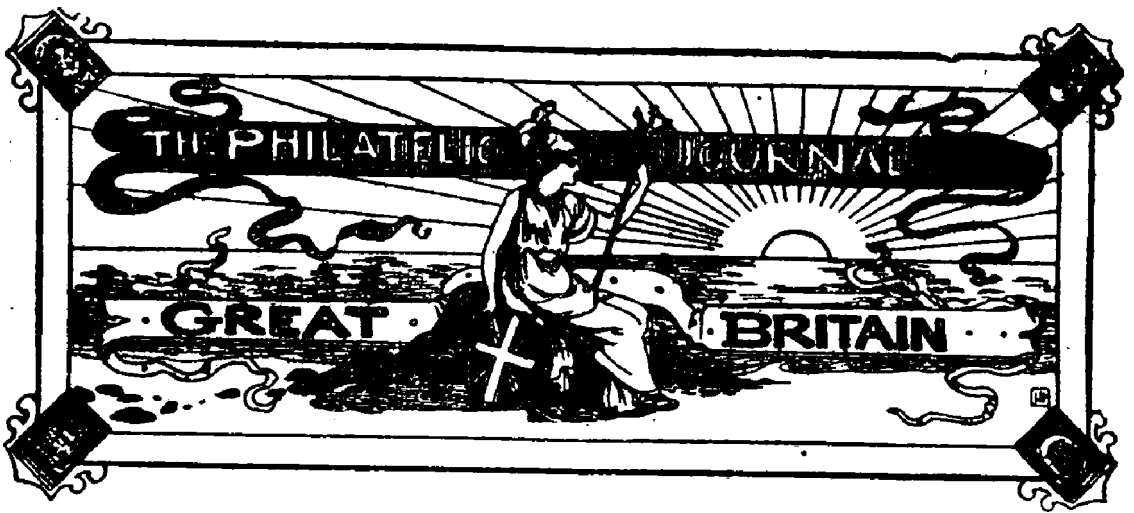
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OCTOBER 31, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 46.—MR. A. PRESTON PEARCE.

The years passed upon this planet by Mr. A. Preston Pearce are not numerous up to the present date, as his first appearance was

in January, 1873, but the latter half of them has been closely packed with philatelic work, and, young as he is, he may be considered quite a veteran in the particular section of philately that he has made his especial study. At the age of sixteen he entered (as an apprentice) the service of the Devon and Cornwall Banking Company Ltd.—one of the strongest of provincial Banks—and twelve years later was appointed Manager of their Stonehouse Branch.

We believe he began collecting at an age when many young people are learning their letters, or the formation of them into words, and, with the exception of a couple of years after leaving school, he has kept it up pretty vigorously ever since. The school-boy collection was not by any means a bad one, containing, as it did, like most of the kind,

something of everything obtainable. Though it no longer exists, it is gratefully remembered as enabling its owner, by a series of judicious exchange transactions, to lay the foundation of his wonderful accumulation of fiscals.

It was in 1892 that Mr. Pearce began to seriously take up the study of Revenue stamps,

and an introduction to Mr. Fred G. C. Lundy, who was secretary of a small Fiscal Exchange Club, brought him just that opportune assistance and encouragement that were needed to place him on his feet. It is his grateful remembrance of this timely help that has prompted him ever since to those kindly offices for which so many of the rising generation of fiscalists avow themselves indebted.

The Fiscal Philatelist, owned by Messrs. Lundy and Morley, was started in December, 1892, and

its single volume contains the first philatelic article from our friend's pen: an article dealing with the peculiar overprints found on the Cuban Bill stamps of the 1882 issue, which shows plainly enough the possession of that faculty of keen investigation that has stood him in such good stead as a pioneer in his



special field. In 1893 he started the Fiscal and Postal Exchange, which, however, required too much of the secretary's time, and it was split into two sections, Mr. Pearce remaining in charge of the fiscals, and in 1897 all connection with the postal division was severed.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-four was the year of the Fiscal Exhibition organised by the Leeds Philatelic Society (referred to at p. 128), which lasted a fortnight, and its catalogue now before us indicates an appalling amount of acquisitiveness having been developed by our victim, whatever his phrenological bumps may show, for his name appears as exhibitor under seventeen headings, and his contributions must have been nearly the largest. We cannot resist copying from one page of the official description the following items of his:—

Reunion.—Two frames, containing nearly all the varieties of this French colony. The exhibit is a fine one from a philatelic point of view, as regards completeness and excellence of specimens.

Russia.—Four frames, showing seventy varieties of this country's Municipal Police stamps, many of which are almost unobtainable.

Santa Fé.—Four frames of fifty-one diamond-shaped Bills. They are difficult to obtain in this country. The exhibit contains many unchronicled values, and the specimens are superb.

Among the exhibitors were such philatelic giants as His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., Dr. C. W. Viner, Captain E. F. Würtele, Messrs. E. D. Bacon and Gordon Smith, M.A., with the late W. A. S. Westoby, B.A., and E. H. Watts, Jun.; and to achieve distinction among these is at least creditable, seeing that the exhibitor in question was then a youngster of twenty-one only. The next few years were periods of intensely active collecting, so productive, in fact, that the larger bulk of his acquisitions still remains unmounted, and to a certain extent, it may be said, but partially digested, owing to the pressure of other work.

His first continuous literary efforts appeared in *The Bazaar's* Philatelic Supplements, and include finely-illustrated articles of general interest. In February, 1898, he started a Fiscal department in *Stamps*, which was continued without break until the untimely decease of that excellent periodical in March of last year, since which month the department has been transferred to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Mr. Pearce has frequently contributed to American journals, and occasionally to Continental papers; but his chief effort in this

direction was the starting and editing, during its first year, of *Morley's Philatelic Journal*—a paper unique in the history of philatelic journalism. Much of his best work will be found in that publication, to which he is still a regular contributor, and he confesses that the results of his labours embodied in Vol. I. of *M. P. J.* panders to his pride more than anything else. Although most congenial, the work of editing this periodical, "added to the already too heavy engagements of a very busy life," became too great a burden to be borne, and after twelve months it had to be relinquished. A few months later, his professional promotion still further curtailed his spare time, and he had to give up the management of the club founded by him eight years previously.

Questioned as to other incidents of his philatelic career, Mr. Pearce spoke of the display of ninety large cards of Fiscal stamps at the London Exhibition of 1897, made in the name of the club, but mounted by himself; also of his displays at the Paris Exhibition of 1900, when his specialized collection of the Indian Court Fees provisionals gained one of the official awards. One of his Paris exhibits, consisting of Types of the Fiscal Emissions of the British Isles, was recently shown at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of London and evoked much interest.

He has been a Vice-President of the Fiscal Philatelic Society since its foundation. As to his own collection, he merely says that "it's a most amazin' lot," and to a novice this would be true in more senses than one. However, he adds that he never yet came across an intelligent person whom he could not keep intensely interested even for hours in his treasures and their history, and he thinks that a statement of that sort speaks volumes. We should add that the personality of the expounder must also be allowed for in such a case. As a matter of fact, Mr. Pearce has in his possession undoubtedly one of the finest general collections of revenue stamps in existence, and when he sets himself to write one of his monographs—such, for instance, as the one on the "Provisional Fiscal Issues of the American Occupation of the Philippines," which has become quite a feature with *Morley's Philatelic Journal*—he shows clearly enough that he must have at command unparalleled sources from whence to draw material for his work.

With such a record it might well be supposed that our friend did nothing else but think, talk, and feed on stamps, but such is far from being the case. Besides his position in the commercial world, he is an active member and office

holder of local literary and scientific societies, is keenly interested in psychical research, and takes an active part in the work of the Friends' First Day Adult School in Plymouth, where he is the permanent Librarian and temporary Chairman or Secretary of various committees. As with another active and vigorous philatelic giant, similarly blessed with wife and family, of whom we quoted at p. 83, we may appropriately add: "How he gets all this into twenty-four hours a day is a puzzle to all his friends and, perhaps, to himself."

Descriptive Catalogue

OF

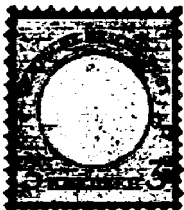
European Postage Stamps.

—O—

(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that no stamp exists in the type, shade, or perforation indicated.)

GERMAN EMPIRE.

The establishment of the German Empire in 1871 made a change of issue again necessary, and on December 15th in the same year the series in the familiar design with the German Eagle embossed in an uncoloured circle in the centre was introduced. Arched above the circle are the words "Deutsche Reichs-Post,"



while below is the value. Framing the whole design is a solid line of colour, through which the perforations were made. The values and colours were the same as for the Confederation issue. About the middle of 1872 the 1/2 gr. and 2 kr. were

changed in colour from orange-vermilion to orange-yellow. The set included the 10 and 30 gr. stamps, similar to those used in the Confederation, but inscribed "Deutsches Reichs-Post" in place of "Norddeutsche Postbezirk."

The issue of a new series was begun on June 1st, 1872, which differed from the last in the shape of the eagle and the enlargement of the shield in the centre. This change was made in order to bring the representation of the Arms into conformity with that decided upon by the Herald's Office. These first and second types are generally known as the small and large shield respectively. A few months later two new values were added in the type

with large shield—viz., 2 1/2 gr. and 9 kr., both printed in light brown. Later (in February, 1874), these two values were overprinted, with their values in large numerals over the Arms in the centre, presumably to prevent confusion with the other values of a similar colour.



	December, 1871 to 1874.		Small shield.		Large shield.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1/2 gr., pale violet	—	0	4	3	3	3
a. mauve	1	0	4	3	3	3
1/2 gr., yellow-green (shades)	—	2	2	2	1	1
1/2 gr., orange-vermilion	2	9	2	2	—	—
1/2 gr., orange-yellow	6	0	2	2	1	1
1 gr., rose	—	1	2	2	1	1
a. carmine	—	1	2	2	1	1
2 gr., blue (shades)	5	0	1	2	1	1
2 1/2 gr., brown	—	—	—	10	6	4
" " (surcharged)	—	—	—	2	2	3
5 gr., bistre	3	9	2	3	2	2
1 kr., yellow-green	2	0	2	—	—	2
a. blue-green	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 kr., orange-vermilion	2	0	10	5	6	12
" orange-yellow	3	9	—	—	—	—
3 kr., rose-carmine (shades)	5	0	1	2	1	1
7 kr., ultramarine	—	3	2	2	2	2
9 kr., chestnut-brown	—	—	1	6	7	7
a. brown	—	—	—	—	1	0
9 kr., reddish-brown (surch.)	—	—	4	9	9	9
18 kr., bistre	2	0	1	3	4	5

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 gr., grey	2	5
30 gr., blue	3	—

A new unified currency for the whole of the German Empire, which was introduced in 1875, necessitated a new issue of stamps. For this new designs were used. The design for the two lowest values—3 and 5 pf.—had the numeral of value in the centre in a small upright oval, and was surface printed. That for the values 10, 20, 25, and 50 pfennige contained the German Eagle, embossed in a small, upright



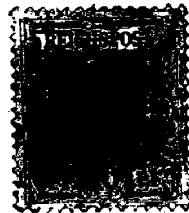
oval in the centre, and the value appeared below, with the numerals repeated in the lower corners of the design. The highest value—2 marks—was in a totally different design. It resembled that of the old 10 gr., the numeral "2" displacing the "10," and the groundwork being composed of the words "zwei mark" repeated. In 1880 the stamps began to appear with "pfennige" altered to "pfennig," the final "e" being omitted. There are several shades of all values, only the most important being enumerated below. Some of the latest printings were in aniline colours.



1875-1880.

	"PFENNIG." "PFENNIG."		"PFENNIG." "PFENNIG."	
	Un-	Used.	Un-	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 pf., green ...	3	2	2	2
a. yellow-green ...	4	2	2	2
5 pf., violet ...	9	5	5	5
a. violet-mauve ...	9	3	3	3
10 pf., rose ...	—	4	4	4
a. rose-carmine ...	—	4	4	4
20 pf., ultramarine ...	1 9	10	10	10
a. blue ...	1 9	10	10	10
25 pf., red-brown ...	—	1 6	1 6	1 6
a. chocolate ...	3 0	1 7	1 7	1 7
b. bistre-brown ...	—	2	2	2
50 pf., grey ...	—	1	1	1
olive-green ...	7 6	1 9	1 9	1 9
a. grey-green ...	—	2 9	2 9	2 9
b. myrtle-green ...	—	2 6	2 6	2 6
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 marks, purple ...	—	5	5	5
" lilac-rose ...	—	1	1	1
a. dull rose ...	—	1	1	1

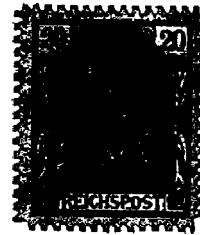
The designs were next altered in 1889—on October 1st of that year a new series appearing. As in the last issue, there were seven values, including the 2 marks, which was not altered. The principle feature in the design of the 3 and 5 pf. was again the numeral of value in the centre of the stamp, but the general effect of the design is not so pleasing, the ornamentation being very crowded. The higher value had the eagle and shield in a circle, but it is noticeable that the representation has gone back to the form of the first issue (December, 1871), the shield being small. Although the paper of this issue was printed, by means of a chemical composition called phenolphthalein, with a design which only became visible by treatment with another chemical, it is said that certain values were extensively forged and used to defraud the Government, this necessitating a change. Before this was effected, however, a supply of a new value—2 pfennig—was issued—only a few weeks before the new issue was brought out.



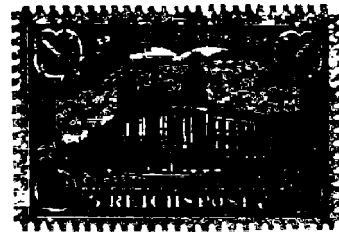
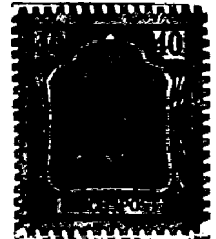
1889-1900.

	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
2 pf., grey ...	1	1	1
4 pf., bistre-brown ...	1	1	1
a. grey-brown ...	1	1	1
5 pf., green ...	1	1	1
a. yellow-green ...	1	1	1
10 pf., rose ...	2	2	2
a. rose-carmine ...	2	2	2
20 pf., ultramarine ...	4	4	4
a. bright ultramarine ...	4	4	4
b. Prussian blue ...	—	4	4
25 pf., orange-yellow ...	—	5	5
50 pf., chocolate ...	—	8	8
a. lake-brown ...	10 0	1	1

The new issue had for its most prominent feature an allegorical figure of Germania, and was issued on January 1st, 1900, which, by desire of the German Emperor, was officially regarded as the beginning of the new century, The design did not meet with popular approval, and, indeed, is not a fine example of Teutonic art. The entire issue comprised 14 values, instead of eight, the new denominations being 30, 40, and 80 pf., and 1, 3, and 5 marks. The values 2 pf. to 80 pf. were originally printed all in the same design, but the values 25 pf.



to 80 pf. (which were bi-coloured) were slightly altered after a small printing had been made, the word REICHSPOST being made a trifle smaller, and the line above it duplicated (see cut). It was thought that this might diminish the somewhat insignificant effect of the central design. The stamps in the original type are exceedingly rare, as they were only issued in error, a sheet or so of each value getting mixed with the issued stamps. The mark values were imposing in size, and pictorial, each representing a different scene. Of the five marks there were two types, differing in the shape of the numerals "5" and the "M,"



which appear in the upper corners, and also in the size of the "O" in "GOTT" in the inscription below the picture. There are other differences, but these two are the most easily seen. The accompanying illustrations are greatly enlarged.



GOTT



GOTT

Early in 1902 the whole set was issued, with the inscription "Reichspost" altered to

"Deutsches Reich." At the same time the whole design was redrawn, but the differences, beyond the altered inscription, are not noticeable, all values from 3 pf. to 80 pf. being in the



same design (see illustration). An error is found in the 3 pf., in which DEUTSCHES is spelt DFUTSCHES. This only occurred on some of the earliest printed sheets, though it is said that 280,000 sheets, each containing one error,

were issued before it was corrected. The 2 marks first issued had the altered inscription in Gothic characters, but this was soon changed to Latin type. This set is still current.

1900-02.

	REICHSPOST.		DEUTSCHES REICH.	
	Un-used.	Used.	Un-used.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 pf., grey	1	1	1	1
3 pf., brown	1	1	1	1
a. 3 pf., error DFUTSCHES..			2	6
5 pf., green	1	1	1	1
10 pf., carmine	2	2	2	2
20 pf., ultramarine	4	4	4	4
25 pf., black & orange on yellow	5	2	5	1
30 pf., " " buff	7	1	6	1
40 pf., black and red	8	1	7	1
50 pf., " " lilac on buff	10	1	0	1
80 pf., " " carmine on rose	13	2	10	2
1 m., carmine	16	2	13	2
2 m., blue	29	4	30	—
" " (second type)			26	4
3 m., violet-black	—	16	39	10
5 m., black and lake	—	76	63	—
" " (second type)	—	76	63	—

STAMPS SURCHARGED FOR THE GERMAN CONSULAR OFFICES IN THE LEVANT.

In January, 1884, four of the then current stamps appeared overprinted with their equivalent values in Turkish currency. These were "10 para" on 5 pf. violet; 20 p. on 10 pf. rose; "1 piastre" on 20 pf. blue, and 1 1/4 p. on 25 pf. brown. In each case the numerals were repeated thus: "1 1/4 piastre 1 1/4." Later, the 50 pf. green appeared, surcharged 2 1/2 piastres, and in the same year there was a small printing of the 1 pi., with the surcharge in indigo instead of in black. There are two types of the surcharges on the two highest values, in the second of which the word PIASTRE is slightly larger and the ink is more shiny.

1884.

	Un-used.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 pf., lilac-mauve...	8	13	0	—
20 " " 10 pf., rose...	6	10	0	—
1 pias. on 20 pf., ultramarine	6	1	—	—
1 " " (indigo surch.)	—	39	—	—
1 1/4 " " 25 pf., red-brown...	—	—	—	—
a. " " 2nd type	19	30	—	—
2 1/2 " " 50 pf., olive-green	3	6	—	—
a. " " 2nd type	3	6	—	—
b. " " myrtle-green	—	—	—	—

The stamps of the 1889 issue were treated in the same manner.

1889.

	Un-used.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 pf., green	—	—	1	—
a. yellow-green	—	—	1	—
20 para on 10 pf., rose...	2	1 1/2	—	—
1 pias. on 20 pf., ultramarine	—	—	3	—
a. bright ultramarine	—	—	1	—
1 1/4 pias. on 25 pf., orange-yellow	6	—	5	—
2 1/2 " " 50 pf., chocolate	—	—	—	—
b. lake-brown	—	—	6	—

The issue of 1900 was made the occasion for more denominations, all the values of the home set being surcharged, with the exception of the 2 and 3 pf. There are two types of the 1 piastre, in one of which the "A" has a bar across the top. The 25 piastres is on the 5 mark stamp of Type I.

1900.

	Un-used.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 pf., green	—	—	1	—
20 " " 10 pf., carmine	—	—	2	—
1 pias. " 20 pf., ultramarine	—	—	6	3
a. " " Type II.	—	—	4	1
1 1/4 pias. " 25 pf., blk. & orange on yel.	—	—	5	5
1 1/2 " " 30 pf., buff	—	—	6	—
2 " " 40 pf., black on carmine	—	—	8	—
2 1/2 " " 50 pf., lilac on buff	—	—	9	—
4 " " 10 pf., car. on rose	—	—	12	—
5 " " 1 m., carmine	—	—	14	—
10 " " 2 m., blue	—	—	28	—
15 " " 3 m., violet	—	—	40	—
25 " " 5 m., black and lake	—	—	63	—

The current stamps inscribed "Deutsches Reich" have not yet been overprinted for use in the Levant.

(To be continued.)

Notes by the Way.

STAMPS ON ORIGINAL COVERS.—For the last few years a number of collectors have been going in for acquiring envelopes with the adhesives on as originally posted. It was a curious fancy, as nobody could ever expect to get complete sets of any country of importance, and their bulk, if obtained, would, as a rule, exceed that of Post-cards or Entires generally. In this case, the to-be-expected has happened, for cheap remainders or others, postmarked in sheets, are stuck on pieces of paper, with a forged completion (in part) of the postmark. A German contemporary reports a noted dealer formerly of Buda Pesth as having gone a little further in producing complete used sets of the Dominican Republic 1902 issue at suspiciously low figures. But the Leipzig paper illustrates the postmarks and condemns them as forgeries, the dates being as early as January, 1902, whereas the envelopes were supplied by a Zurich firm some nine months later, and addresses printed on them in March last!

NEW FORGERIES of Greek stamps by a photographic process are exposed in another German paper, probably those referred to in Mr. Padgett's interview two months back; also the surcharges have been forged by stolen type from the Government printing office at Athens, we read elsewhere.

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Stamp collectors have long anticipated Mr. Chamberlain. Dealers assure us that the majority have for years been in favour of Colonial Preference.

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If the scheme of Mr. Balfour should be introduced, will stamps be regarded as manufactured articles or raw material? This is a serious question for collectors and dealers alike, for the difficulties raised by an import duty on stamps are very galling.

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Collectors in India, where this state of things exist, grow eloquent on the subject. Such an impost serves no useful purpose, and its addition to the revenue is almost infinitesimal. We hope the manufacture of stamps in England is not an industry that needs protection! Perhaps the Customs will discriminate between genuine and forged stamps, treating the latter as "manufactured." There will then be plenty of employment for experts at the Post Office.

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At the present moment there is a great run on Seychelles stamps, a fact which is difficult to understand. The authorities out there have certainly shown themselves very keen business people, and have worked the game for all it is worth; there is, too, evidently a little ring of speculators on the spot who know how to pull the ropes, and, unfortunately, collectors all the world over are only too eager to encourage them. The continuous flood of surcharges will, if not stopped, soon make the names of Salvador, Seychelles, Nicaragua, and other places stink in the nostrils of philatelists.

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Mauritius is another colony which is in the same boat. In this busy centre an "Express Delivery" stamp has been created by surcharging the old Labourdonnais monstrosity, the remaining stock of which was not commanding any sale in its pristine purity. The collectors of new issues, by their heavy speculations, are giving direct encouragement to this form of imposition, and they may expect still heavier demands on their patience while they take it "lying down." Eventually, of course, the speculating Governments will kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, but by that time they will have dealt a severe blow at Philately.

While we are on this topic, a word or two about St. Kitts, Dominica, St. Helena, and Antigua may not be out of place. These colonies have deliberately issued sets of stamps in pictorial designs, which, by arrangement with the Postal Union, are available for postage, but which are totally unnecessary, as they all have another set in use for business purposes. The issue of these pictorial sets is avowedly made to get money from stamp collectors. We presume it would be useless to ask all those collectors who think, as we do, that this sort of thing does harm to our hobby, to refrain from adding the rubbish to their collections?

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The fact that Mr. E. P. Airlie Dry is a partner in the firm of our publishers has moved a wag to send us the following lines. The state of the weather in London during the past few months must be held accountable for the painful condition of the poet's mind in evolving such an atrocity.

"One firm alone in London town

This weather can defy:

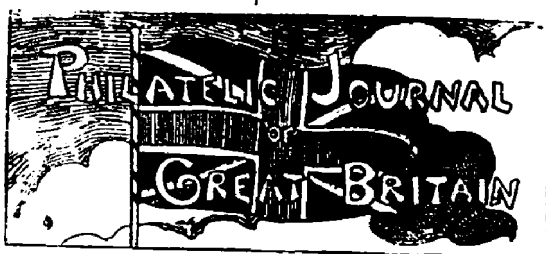
For though all else the rain should drown,
'Twill still be partly Dry."

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Mr. W. V. Morten, member of the Philatelic Society, is assisting in the compiling of the society's handbook on the stamps of Zanzibar. It would be esteemed a favour—and, it is hoped, a help to philatelists generally—if readers who have errors, large blocks, and, more especially, sheets or panes of any value of the Indian surcharged stamps would kindly send particulars of them to him, addressed to 205, Sumatra Road, West Hampstead, which will be duly and thankfully acknowledged.

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Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., of 77, High Holborn, London, W.C., informs us of their intention to publish in November the first issue of a new yearly publication for philatelists, to be known as "The Stamp Collectors' Annual." This will be a shilling book of over one hundred pages, containing a compilation of facts and information interesting and valuable to all philatelists, besides a mass of original and exclusive matter. This new "Annual," in fact, will strive to become the "Whitaker" or the "Hazell" of our hobby, its publishers being firmly convinced that there exists a real demand for an interesting and authoritative "Year Book of Philately." Correspondence is cordially invited from those who are interested in the subject.



Envelopes and Post-cards.

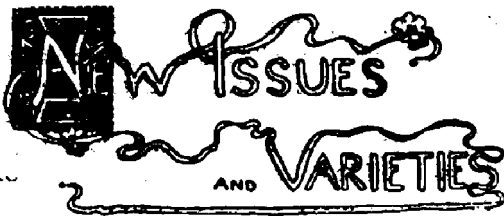
:o:

THE collecting of "Entires" has for some time been out of fashion among English-speaking people, as is well known to the little band of ardent enthusiasts who remain true to their old loves, though on the Continent there are probably twenty times the number engaged in keeping themselves and others up-to-date in this interesting section. The modern school of collectors here—for there is a distinct difference in the ideas and methods of many stamp-collectors of the last fifteen years from those of thirty years ago—despise these stamped envelopes and post-cards, professedly because they are bulky, but really because they have not the spice of speculation about them, the chances of corners being made, and the pleasures of provisional printings with misplaced type, that add so seriously to the life-burdens and cares of these speculative, money-seeking collectors. Yet for the true philatelist who desires to possess every postal issue of all countries, or of those only in which he has chosen to specialize, these envelopes, wrappers, and post-cards as sold for use by the public ought surely to be as necessary for a complete collection as the dotty or dotless stamps overprinted for some special purpose or for official reasons, which collectors have been known to risk bankruptcy or worse to secure for their own possession.

After a comparative silence of some years' duration, the leading philatelic journals of this country have simultaneously awakened to the fact that these Entires—or, at least, the post-cards—have dared to exist, and that there is a plausible reason for their existence, and, therefore, for the collecting of them. The exciting cause of this pronouncement in "the off-season" of August was the appearance of a booklet, "All About Post-cards," which our Reviewer noticed last month, but negligently omitted to sermonise upon. The *London Philatelist* says "we should be only too glad if this branch of Philately could be re-invigorated and sustained; it has the merits of straight-forwardness in issue, limits in numbers [and

values—Ed.], and relatively small cost, and we should rejoice to see its adherents increased." The *Monthly Journal* "can hardly recommend envelopes," because a large portion (of the early issues of some countries) are not only extremely difficult to get, but are also beyond the means of most collectors; but with post-cards "the collector of moderate means may even venture upon a general collection with a prospect of making it fairly complete, and a certainty of getting together a very considerable proportion of the principal varieties of the whole world, and a very large number of the numerous minor varieties which so well repay careful research."

Nothing better can well be said on this subject, which is one that general collectors who experience such difficulty in keeping up with current adhesives should seriously consider. They find it still more difficult to select special countries that will interest them or their friends, as so many advanced collectors have been before them who, in acquiring every variety possible, have doubled the cost to new specializers even of the "limited" class. Now, as to the question of numbers and incidental bulk: there are, up to the present time, barely 850 ordinary post and letter-cards of the British Empire, with, possibly, 2,600 for the rest of the world; say 3,600 main varieties of type and value, three-fourths of which are obtainable at a penny to one shilling each. If these numbers are doubled for usual differences in colour and cards along with many cheap minor varieties, the total quantity for an advanced collector may be stated as under 10,000 pieces, which is about the number in the largest collection we have heard of—excluding officials, locals, and abnormalities. Such a grand collection of all countries will be equivalent, in range as to all known varieties, to one of 60,000 specimens in the adhesive section, and may be bought in mint condition (at present depressed prices) for probably one-tenth the cost of the stamp collection. The envelopes are not so numerous and three-fourths of them can be bought cheaply, but the remaining fourth would cost far more (unless the few reprints or used copies are accepted as specimens) than the same number of the scarcer and rare cards. Though the great firm of Stanley Gibbons Limited find their extraordinarily large stock of Entires to be cumbersome, and are clearing to make room for the frightful flood of adhesives, some other firms will probably take up the sale of these attractive goods with a much more handy stock, just now purchasable at little over face prices.



ADHESIVES.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Bermuda. There is a rumour (which we give with all reserve) that the 3d. grey stamp of 1886 has been found with the CC watermark, by a speculator who bought the remainders of this value. At the bottom of the sheets, it is said he found two or three sheets of the old watermark. The Arms of Dock type is sent by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. in another value.

3d., light olive and magenta, CA 14.

British Somaliland. The lower values of the King series of India are being overprinted as provisionals, as the corresponding values of the Queen type are exhausted until the permanent issue is received. Messrs. Whitfield King send us the 1/2 anna as the only one yet in use, though 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 annas are said elsewhere to be preparing.

1/2 anna, black on green.

British Guiana. The same firm inform us of an addition to the current set, "Postage and Revenue" and the value being in rose.

60 cents, green and rose.

Ceylon. Two more of the values listed in April have now been received from Ipswich; both of the same design as the 3 cents illustrated in May, but the 12c. value is white on rose lined label, the other solid figure on white.

12 cents, green-olive and rose.
25 " brown-buff only.

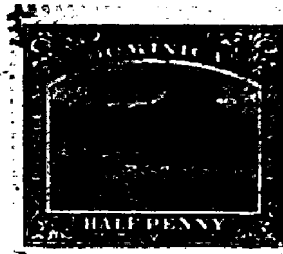
Two high values have been reported—1.50 and 2.25—but we have not yet seen them.

Cyprus. The two values just to hand are in design shown in March, but colours are more correctly stated as—

1 piast., deep carmine and ultramarine.
4 " olive-green and purple (not lilac-red).

Dominica. Messrs. Whitfield King send a set of the new picture-poster series for this,

the largest of the Leeward Islands, giving a large view of the island for all except the



highest value, which has the King's head, as in the other sets of this group of islands. The "black" colours are not truly so, nor are they grey-black, but have a brownish or purple tint.

3d., dark grey-green.
1d., carmine and brown-black.
2d., brown and grey-green.
1/2d., ultramarine and black.
3d., black and dull purple.
6d., chestnut and black-brown.
1s., grey-green and bright purple.
2s., purple and brown-black.
2/6, brown-orange and green.
5s., light brown and black.

Gibraltar. Morocco Agencies. In July it was intended to say that all the usual values were being overprinted as usual, even to the broad-topped M, either from standing type or a stereo. We now have another value *via* Ipswich.

10 centimos, black overprint.

India. We have the 6 annas stamp; the 2 1/2, 4, and 8a. given last month were illustrated in May and June. They have also appeared with "On H.M.S."

6a., King, bistre.

Gwalior. Another of the Queen's head stamps received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

2 annas, black on lilac.

Jhind. The *Philatelic Journal of India* says that the first supply of King Edward series was issued on May 23rd, consisting of 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 annas, and with Service overprint on 1/2, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas.

Nabha. The King type now out.

4 annas, olive.

Patiala. The *P. J. I.* reports the 1/2, 1, 3, and 8 annas of King type with "Service" overprint; and the ordinary series listed last month have arrived from Ipswich, except the 1 anna.

Indian Native States. Cochin. The *Monthly Journal* announces a series on thick white wove paper, with umbrella watermark.

3 pies, blue, thick paper.
1/2 puttai, green, "
1 " pink "
2 " purple "

Malta. There are some exceptionally good effects obtained with the colours being used for the King Edward series, another example of which has just arrived.

2½d., ultramarine and purple.

Mauritius. Last month we gave some supposed "colour corrections," but it is perfectly bewildering to reconcile the various names in different journals, especially when the real thing comes before us. In January we gave from a foreign paper the 6 cents as brown and red on rose, correcting it as above to purple and carmine on red, and we see elsewhere the purple is called "or lilac" (!). Now we have from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 4 cents (given as green and lilac) in which the value is in *purple*, but this is said to be an error of printer's, as the colours should have been reversed, and no more such will be printed. They send also the large Labourdonnais stamp surcharged in large red letters, "EXPRESS—DELIVERY—15c.," not available for postage, of which only 10,000 were issued and divided amongst sixty post offices there.

4 cents, green and purple; error.
15 .. " Express, red on blue.

Natal. A year ago we listed the new series for this colony, and have since received most of them. A 4/- value now completes the set, "border in yellow, centre in rose-lake."

2½d., deep ultramarine.
4d., brown and carmine.
4/-, yellow and deep red.

New South Wales.—The "Commonwealth" type, as previously described for this Colony and for Queensland, is now illustrated. It is said that only the two 9d. values are to be printed, but possible variations of paper and perforation are not mentioned.



Niger Coast and Southern Nigeria. From two sources we are advised that "all remainders of Queen's head stamps of these issues were destroyed when the King's head type was issued."

Seychelles. Though the authorities are said to have restricted the sale of last provisionals to 400 a day to make them last till new arrivals came, still another had to be produced to satisfy the greed of the speculators. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a copy overprinted in black.

13 cents " on 18c., olive and rose.

Sierra Leone. The set of King's head values, corresponding with previous issues, is now in use, including the 2/- value not given in January.

2/-, green and black, C A, 14.

Tasmania. The 1d. pictorial on V crown paper has been received in the compound perforation.

1d., red, perf. 11 x 12½.

Uganda. The *Monthly Journal* reports the 1 anna overprinted "INLAND REVENUE" as having franked a letter to London, and we have been shown the 1 rupee similarly overprinted and used postally.

1a., "Inland Revenue," black on red.
1r., " " " " blue.

Victoria. In June the *Monthly Journal* reported some recutting of the current 1/- stamp, giving a lighter appearance on the whole, POSTAGE being slightly larger. There are two machines in use by Government printer, which appear to be used indiscriminately, so that *any* Australian stamps now printed on V crown paper may turn up in either 11 or 12½ perforations, or a compound of both.

1/-, orange-yellow, recut die.
1d., rose-red, perf. 12½ x 11.
1d., " " " " " "
3d., orange-brown, " " "
6d., bright green, " " "
6d., " " " " 12½ x 11.

The stamps for Official use now perforated O S have been seen of following values:—1/2d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, and 3/-, we learn from *Ewer's Weekly Stamp News*.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Abyssinia. The *Monthly Journal* gives from the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* a description of the overprints referred to last month, which are of four kinds, given as "Ethiope" in narrow, heavy type on the 2 guerche value; in Script type on 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 4, 8, and 16g.; in four Amharic characters, also in five characters, on all values named. The surcharges are in shades of blue and violet to blue-black, probably intended as one colour only.

Brazil. The *American Journal of Philately* says that the 200 reis of 1900 issue is from a retouched die, and not a forgery, as quoted by us in July from that journal. The 300 and 500 reis of 1894, also mentioned, are from "retouched" dies.

Colombia. *Bolivar.* What the *Monthly Journal* calls "a quantity of stuff" has been variously listed lately on various papers, imp. and pin-perf.; but the following have been seen on laid paper and imperf.

50c., deep blue on azure; and on rose.
50c., bronze-green on rose.
1p., dull green (two shades) on mauve-rose.
1p., carmine on brown; and yellow.
10p., purple on green.

Too Late. 20c., purple, also carmine, on azure.

Regn. 20c., orange on salmon; also magenta.
Ret. Recl. 20c., blue, also orange, on yellow.

Cauca. Two type-set labels in a frame of ornaments, reported.

10c., black on rose.
20c., " yellow-brown.

France. There are denials of the rumoured withdrawal of The Sower type; another value appeared two months ago, completing the set from 15 to 30 centimes. As to the Consular series and for the China Ports, some withdrawals are sadly wanted, for thimble-rigging isn't in it with the multifarious quick changes outside the country, with or without the connivance of the home authorities.

30c., " La Semeuse," lilac.

China. There appear to be full sets now of 1c. to 5 francs, with the following names and Chinese numerals overprinted in *black* on the stamps of Indo-China:—Canton, Hoi-hao Mongtzé, Pack-hoi, Tchongking, and Yunnan-sén.

Morocco. In addition to previous lot.
30 centimos, on 30c. lilac.
5 pesetas, on 5fr., blue and yellow.

French Colonies. Indo-China. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a surcharge of wide figure "15" on the 25 centimes; also the following additions or changes.
15 on 25c., black on blue.

Martinique. 5 francs, lilac and blue.

Tunis. Usual Unpaid type, used.

2 francs, red.
5 " black on yellow-buff.

Somali Coast. These appear to be a new printing for September, the central design being in black: see March number.

1c., claret.	25c., indigo.
2c., ochre.	25c., blue.
4c., red.	40c., orange.
5c., green.	50c., green.
10c., rose.	75c., orange-brown.
15c., brown.	1fr., orange.
20c., purple.	2fr., green.
	5fr., orange and black.

From the *Monthly Journal* we summarise the following items:—*Djibouti.*—The right-hand halves of 25c. Obock were used as 5c. provisionals nearly two years ago; the left halves are now appearing as 2c., which appears to be quite fitting, as 25 separated must be 2 to left and 5 to right. See! *French Congo.*—30c. converted into 5c. and 2fr. into 10c. are the latest sale prices. *Guadeloupe.*—Any amount of varieties requiring over two columns to describe as to types of 5 on 30c., 10 on 40c., 15 on 50c., 40c. on 1fr., and 1fr. on 75c.; none but fools can be taken in as to the "necessity" for using up 40 to make 10, and 1fr. to replace 40 and so on.

Ivory Coast. Unpaid of 5c. and 10c. (France) are overprinted "Côte d'Ivoire" at top, "Cotis Postaux" and "1 fr" below, all in black. What are these?

Tahiti. The provisionals already mentioned are described as below, in addition to a new Oceania one, with CENTIMES in small capitals, the others being small type.

10c. in black, on 15c. blue.
" " carmine, on 25c. black.
" " black, on 40c. red.

Holland. Dutch Indies. We have the following from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., announced in February, of the new Queen's head type, severely simple; also the *Curacao* of last month, and *Surinam* figure type of August last.

10 cents, violet-black.
30 " chestnut.

Italy. The oblong Express Letter stamp has been issued; King's head on left, and large "ESPRESSO" across centre by its side.

Express. 25c., rosy carmine.

Albania. The set first issued with "Albania" on were objected to by the Sublime Porte, and now appear with the value overprinted only.

10 paras, on 5c. green.
35 " " 20c. orange.
40 " " 25c. blue.

Korea. Black overprints of the Chinese for "cheun" with one, two, or three little bars of values, have been coming over lately; also of Gibbons' Type VII. in black instead of red, said to have been in use by *Monthly Journal* correspondent some years.

1 ch. on 25 poon, lake.
2 " " 25 " " violet.
3 " " 50 " " violet.
Black surch. on 5, 25, 50p., perf. 11½, 12.
" " " 5, 50p., " 12½, 13.

Liberia. The Official stamp of 1894—O S in blue—is stated to be overprinted "ORDINARY" in black, for postal use.

10c., lilac, with blue and black surcharge.

Mexico. Changes of colours.

1c., lilac. 5c., dull orange.
2c., green. 10c., blue, and Arms orange.

Paraguay. In addition to provisionals listed in February are the following:—

1c. on 1 peso, slate blue.
5c. on 60c., orange-yellow.

Russia. Levant. A set of four overprints are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., printed diagonally.

Black 2 pias. on 20c., blue and red.
Red 5 " " 50c., purple and green.
Black 7 " " 70c., brown and orange.
" " " 1 rou., " " large.

Salvador. Of the series listed in March, we understand that four values have appeared with "Franqueo Oficial" engraved across lower part of stamp.

Official. 2c., rose. 24c., scarlet.
1c., green. 5c., dark blue.

Also a ship series of Unpaid Letter stamps.

Unpaid.	1c., green.	5c., deep blue.
	2c., red.	24c., deep red.
	3c., olive.	

And three provisional "1 centavo," in black on old series.

1c. on 2c. rose.	1c. on 5c. greenish blue.
	1c. on 3c. black.

Servia. In our list of the provisional series with Arms overprint we omitted the colours for two highest values, but they appear as if in black, same as on 1 dinar. Elsewhere the 1, 3, and 5d. are given as brown, red-brown, and blue; and as black, lake, and blue. A special overprinting of the 5 dinars as a provisional 1 para received in a used state from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. is all in blood-red. The stamps were only affixed singly at the post offices for circulars, and not sold to the public.

1 para and Arms in red, on 5d. brown.

Spanish Colonies. There have been three series of the boy King's head stamps issued as for as many colonies, but we are told there is only one post office for the lot! Also that any stamps or combination of the three sets will frank letters (if of the correct nominal value), so that it will be sufficient to say merely that Elobey, Annobon, and Corisco as one place, Fernando Poo for another, and Spanish Guinea as the third, have each a series of eighteen stamps, from one-fortieth of a penny to 8/10, or 1/4c. to 10 pesetas; but each set is printed in different colours!

Switzerland. The 1 franc has come over this year in a new coat of ink.

1fr., carmine-red, perf. 11 1/2 x 11.

ENTIRES.

British South Africa. Messrs. Scott and Wilson send the first letter-card issued here at 1/3 the dozen. It is exactly like our own but for the stamp, which has the usual Arms under an arched inscription, and value across the bottom.

Letter-card. 1d., carmine on blue, perf. C.

Jamaica. The post-cards named in January are not on cream.

1d., King, green on light buff, small size.
" reply, " " " " " "

St. Kitts-Nevis. The new type is announced as on adhesives, for 1d. and 2/2d. on Envelopes; Registration, 2d., and Wrappers of 1/2d. and 1d.

Denmark. Danish West Indies. Mr. Scott sends new type headed BREVKORT (POSTCARD.), which is an innovation, as is also the inscription "Paa denne, &c," with English ("The address, &c.") underneath. Arms on left stamp on right, similar to that of Denmark, with large figures at sides.

1 cent, green on white.
1c. reply, " " "

Iceland. Mr. King sends us an old 10 cent card with the overprint, which gives us an opportunity of correcting the error most

journals (or printers) have fallen into of describing it as "1 GILDI," instead of 1 GILDI with an accent on the separate letter.

Black 1 GILDI—02-03 on 10c. carmine.

Servia. Mr. King also forwards a used copy of the new card, with the type of late King in central oval now overprinted in black with Arms (small); the two lines of inscription being in small capitals, no frame, very neat.

10 para, carmine and black on cream.

The First Postal Franks.

:o:

THE *Stamp Collector* has given a translation of an article from the German *Fortnightly* in which it is assumed that postal stamps have attained "their 250th jubilee," which would be a wonderful performance indeed, beating the Chinese claim by many thousands of years, and opening up possibilities of our old friend Noah having had a collection of these along with his other curios in the Ark. The post instituted by Mons. de Velayr in Paris in 1653 has often been referred to, and was mentioned in the abstract of a paper we published in March last. The confusion of terms in this most recent article is shown by the words "label" and "wrapper" being used indefinitely to describe this, so far, earliest known postal frank. But there is no evidence at all of its being an attached label or "stamp."

The article named states that a French collector of autographs possessed a letter from Mlle. de Scudéry with marginal notes by the Academician, Pellisson Fontanier, which had been franked with a label bearing the inscription "Port Payé," and a printed form to be filled in with the date. Confirmation of the fact of such a post is referred to; "but it leaves unsolved the great question: who invented it, and in what circumstances?" Then follows this "summing up":—

"The first postage label, or 'Billet de Port Payé,' was undoubtedly a wrapper, because the 'Instruction' mentioned remarks: 'This billet must be fastened to the letter, or wrapped round, or slipped into the letter.' The inscription ran 'Port Payé,' and date . . . —, 1653, or 54. The cancellation consisted of taking off the billet by a postal official, . . . but a label or wrapper had to be affixed, because prepayment was obligatory." The reasoning of all this is based on the supposition that postal services with boxes and officials (and usual red tape) existed then just as they do at the present time, instead of merely a private local post. The mistake is in assuming that M. de Velayr was a "lessee"

Mademoiselle,

Mandez-moy si vous ne sçavez point quelque

*bon remède contre l'amour ou
contre l'absence,*

et si vous n'en connoisez point, faites-moy le plaisir de vous en enquérir, et, au cas que vous en trouverez, dé l'envoyer á

Votre très humble, *et tres-obeissant serviteur*
Pisandre.

Outre le billet de port payé que l'on mettra sur cette lettre pour la faire partir, celuy qui escriira aura soing, s'il veut avoir reponse, d'envoyer un autre billet de port payé enlermé dans sa lettre.

Pour *Mademoiselle*
Sappho
demeurant en la rue *au Pays des
Nouveaux Sansomales*
A Paris.
Par billet de port payé.

Inside and Outside of First Postal Franks.

of a Municipal Post, instead of which the "Instruction" was his own way of explaining the novelty of procedure.

Our information—acquired many years ago, chiefly from the *Quarterly Review* of 1839, and discussions over the coming introduction of the Penny Post here—agrees largely with the above. Mons. M. A. Piron (Sous Directeur des Postes) tells us in "Du Service des Postes et de la Taxation des Lettres au moyen d'un timbre," that the idea of a postpaid envelope originated early in the reign of Louis XIV. with M. de Velay, who established (with royal approbation) a private penny post—really one sol—placing boxes at certain street corners for the reception of letters in envelopes to be bought at offices for that purpose. He also printed certain forms of billets, or notes, applicable to ordinary business among the inhabitants of Paris or other large towns, the blanks of which were to be filled up as suitable for the writer's object. One of these *billets* has been preserved to our times by a pleasant misapplication of it. Pelisson, Madame de Sevigné's friend, and the object of the *bon mot*, that "he abused the privilege which men have of being ugly," was amused with this skeleton correspondence; and, under the affected name of *Pisandre*, he filled up and addressed one to the celebrated Mlle. de

Scuderi, in her pseudonym of *Sappho*. The accompanying copy of the letter-sheet referred to (reduced over one-half each way) shows the outer address side (the dotted lines being the folds), and the printed form with the written additions named. This strange *billet-doux* has happened from the celebrity of the parties to be preserved, and is still extant; one of the oldest, we presume, of penny post letters, and a curious example of a *pre-paying* envelope. The ordinary cover was doubtless quite similar, and an extra copy of it or the special form could be enclosed for a reply message; the date having to be filled in on the outside was, presumably, considered sufficient cancellation, as two deliveries could not well take place on the same day.

The following free translation of the rhymed letter, quoted by the German editor above, is given from Vol. I. Lettre trentième Du (Samedi), Aoust 16, 1653, in *La Muze Historique* by Jean Loret, in the British Museum—"Ou Recueil des lettres en vers contenant les nouvelles du temps, écrites à son altesse, Mademoiselle de Longueville, depuis Duchesse de Nemours (1650-1665)" :—

"There will soon be put in operation (in Paris only), for the public convenience, a certain establishment. Numerous smart boxes will be placed in the streets, where one will

be able to send packets, notices, letters, &c., at all hours of the day. Specially-appointed people will collect them, and carry them by swift conveyance to all parts of the town, to nephews or cousins who do not live near, to sons-in-law, brothers-in-law, old men, gossips, &c.; to John, Martin, Guilmain, or Lucas; to clerks, lawyers, merchants, sweethearts, friends, agents; in short, to all sorts of people. Those who have no maids, footmen, valets, or servants, but have friends at some distance, will be greatly accommodated. The system is available for answers to your communications. If one desires to know what it will cost to carry a letter—it is scarce worth troubling about—but so that no one shall be deceived, it will only be one sou stamped—'Ce ne sera qu'un sou tapé.'"

We have used the word "stamped" for the last old French word, in the sense of franked, or paid, not, of course, as an adhesive affixed to the letter, or even hand-stamped. As no limitation of size or weight is mentioned, this local post appears to beat all subsequent imitations, but lasted only a few months.

B. W. W.



October, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

NOTICES.

The first meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall on Wednesday, 14th October, when there were present Mr. H. R. Oldfield (in the chair), Messrs. W. Schwabacher, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, H. Thompson, Major J. de C. Laffan and the Hon. Sec. Mr. Ehrenbach being unfortunately unable to attend, the President gave a display of Portugal on his behalf, which was much appreciated by those present, and for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

The next meeting will take place at Essex Hall on Wednesday evening, November 11, at 8 p.m., when there will be a general display of novelties and new issues by members present.

At this meeting Captain W. H. Harrison, R.E., has kindly undertaken to read a paper on "The Stamps of Wei-Hai-Wei."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Members who have received applications from the Secretary are requested to reply thereto as soon as convenient.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.
October 26th, 1903.

REPORT OF EXCHANGE SECTION.

During the summer season the exchange, as usual, was rather slack. The value of the July packet was only £275, and the August and September sheets had to be combined to form one packet, value £410. It is probable that the

October packet will exceed this amount, but all members are requested to assist me by sending good sheets for the winter months. British Colonials are still first favourites, but there are signs that a reaction is setting in against specialising, and that our old-fashioned friend, the general collector, is reviving.

Also the collecting of Entires—a much neglected branch—finds favour among philatelists, and any members who wish to cultivate this most interesting line are requested to communicate with Mr. B. W. Warhurst, 15, Paultons Square, Chelsea, London, S. W., who manages this branch in a most excellent way. No one who merely wants to sell his Entires need apply. Only real collectors are required.

E. F. MARX, Ph.D., M.A.,
Exch. Supt.

October 4th, 1903.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

—:o:—

The annual general meeting was held in Edinburgh on October 12th, when the accounts for the past session were read and adopted. Every branch of the society's work showed an improvement upon previous years. A communication was submitted from Mr. Adam Small saying that, owing to the pressure of private work and other engagements, it was necessary for him to relinquish his duties as President of the Society. It was unanimously decided to place on record and to intimate to Mr. Small the cordial thanks of the members for his long-sustained interest in and services rendered to the society.

The Exchange Branch October packet was despatched on Oct. 2nd, with sixteen sheets, value £98 17s. 5d. net.

Messrs. G. Lennox Beattie, Edinburgh; Norman M. Berrie, Leith; and George Pyper, Aberdeen, were elected members.

The following office-bearers were elected for the session 1903-4:—President, Mr. John Walker; Vice-president, Mr. Andrew Henderson; Committee, Messrs. Baxter, Bonnar, Robert Kerr, R. Stewart; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. T. A. M'Intyre.

The Secretary submitted a draft of the proposed prospectus, which met with approval. The meetings were arranged and dates allotted as far as possible.

The annual dinner is to take on Nov. 30th.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the secretary for his series during the past session.

T. A. M'INTYRE,
Hon. Sec. and Treas.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

PROGRAMME FOR 1903-4.

1903.

Oct. 12. Annual General Meeting.

Nov. 9. Display, with Notes, "Holland and Colonies" (Mr. John Walker).

Nov. 30. Annual Dinner.

Dec. 7.* Display, "Cape of Good Hope" (Mr. J. Sievwright).

1904.

Jan. 11. Display, with Notes, "British Colonies in North America" (Mr. Andrew Henderson).

Feb. 8. General Display.†

Mar. 7.* "A Plea for Our Postal Fiscals" (Mr. Robert Kerr).

April 11. "New Zealand: Recent Issues" (Mr. William Bonnar).

OTHER SOCIETIES.

We have received some lists of Meetings for the coming season, and give a few titles of subjects to be dealt with by members, showing a good variety.

BIRMINGHAM.—Displays or Papers on Great Britain and New South Wales, &c.; Portugal and Colonies; South Australia; Holland and Colonies; Norway and Sweden; Ceylon; West Indies; Straits Settlements; along with two Auctions, and a Lantern Display by Mr. Margoschis.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC.—British Colonial Displays by Mr. E. Heginbottom—Gibraltar, Cyprus, Malta, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, India, and Hong Kong; Forgeries and Fakes; Skeleton Philately; Is Philately on the Wane? The Romance of Postage Stamps, with Lantern Display; Entires, and their Collection; Stamps of Seychelles; The Joys of Generalism; The New Collecting; Fiscal Notes, and Display; Visit to Tapling Collection at British Museum; Stamps of Mexico; Evolution of the Postmark; Stamps of France; Our Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects; Stamps of Denmark; Revenues and Cut-square Envelopes of Britain; Philately at a Distance. There will be also the Annual Conversazione and Dance on Feb. 6th.

MANCHESTER.—Elementary Discussions (monthly) on Italy, Falkland Islands, China, Paraguay, Liberia, Russia, and Hong Kong Papers, or Displays with Notes, on Tasmania, Belgium, Fiji, Types of Stamps, Ionian Islands, Nicaragua, Dutch Indies, Roumania, and Saxony. Displays of Stamps limited to twelve by one member, Auction Lots, Five Minutes with Interesting Stamps, and a Paper on Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects; besides the Annual Dinner on February 2nd.

* These Meetings are on the First Monday of the month owing to accommodation not being available for the Second Monday.

† All members are requested to contribute to this evening's subject.



October 31, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* opens with an editorial on "British Official Surcharges," the gist of which lies in the following paragraph:—

The eyes of the world of collectors must now be fully open to the risk they run in buying or holding these Departmental stamps in unused state, and they will be well advised if they are content to take them in used condition.

We do not imagine that Somerset House will issue search warrants to examine the albums or safes of collectors or dealers, nor do we believe that were they so found, the forfeit of these stamps would be exacted by the authorities, but their re-sale would be a matter that might entail awkward consequences. It is obvious that henceforth no dealer or auctioneer can sell these stamps without running a grave risk, and it is equally clear that any collector who henceforth purchases these surcharges must do so with the risk of being utterly unable ever to get rid of them.

For our own part, we believe that these risks were fully considered all along by many, if not most, of the collectors who so eagerly paid pounds for current stamps, the face value of which was pence. Where their mistake lay was in thinking that the authorities would go on indefinitely allowing their regulations to be more or less openly broken.

"The disgrace of New Zealand" exposes the philatelic achievements of this colony during the past six years. As epitomised, the total result is enough to make Seebeck's ghost rise in order to see how easily the best (or worst) of the South American States can be beaten at their own game by a presumably respectable postal administration.

1898. Issue of thirteen varieties of pictorial designs printed by Waterlow and Sons, that were created apparently to advertise the beauties of New Zealand and the modesty of the postal administration. This included the error on the 2d. "Wakitipu"—which assuredly might have been avoided.

1898-99. Issue of eleven of the foregoing values printed in the Colony and perforated 11.

1899. Issue of eighteen varieties of Unpaid Letter stamps.

1900. Issues of two values, 4d. and 1d., of preceding with watermark N Z and Star.

1900-2. Issue of eleven varieties with the preceding watermark, the 4d. and 1d. being of altered design. The 4d. converted from the former 1d. and the 6d. in a new colour.

1901. Issue of a new design of 1d. and of the 4d. with the introduction of a new perforating machine gauging 14. This machine was used in conjunction with the old one gauging 11, in charming variety, even going so far in some instances as to perforate stamps with the latter gauge, to then paste paper over the perforations, and finally to perforate them 14 alongside of the other covered-up perforation! In the course of a few months no less than four

distinct papers were used, and in conjunction with the two machines a combination of varieties has been made that must disgust anyone but their speculative holders. The four changes of paper within so short a time seem utterly inexcusable or unaccountable, except on the assumption that as many varieties as possible were desired. This issue has already resulted in a list of twenty-eight varieties, as drawn up by Mr. C. A. Gilles in the *Australian Journal of Philately* for May.

1902. Issue of several values of the preceding surcharged for Niue and Penrhyn Island. Errors were provided in the surcharges, including the shilling value with the aboriginal equivalent for "thief" printed on it "in mistake"—promptly called in—but now being offered for sale at about 4s each by the holders. The continued use of the two perforating machines in conjunction with these surcharges has created varieties galore!

1903. Issue of several varieties for Aitutaki, surcharged and perforated as preceding.

Mr. J. N. Marsden continues his paper on "The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal," the section dealt with in the present number being Issue IX., July, 1867, the various minor varieties of which are most carefully described. Incidentally, Mr. Marsden gives a useful wrinkle for detecting stamps with forged perforations. Says he:—

It may here be well to note that forged perforations are met with of this and succeeding issues. Stamps which have forged perforations may easily be distinguished by noting the size of stamp between perforations. They should measure 27 mm. by 24 mm., which is constant; any others of shorter measurement should be regarded with suspicion. These forgeries of perforation are not made generally so much with the intention of deceiving collectors, as to give a stamp, if one or more sides have been cut or damaged, a better appearance. I once ordered and obtained the 25 reis of this issue most beautifully perforated 13½; the copy was, of course, obtained from an imperforate specimen. A 12½ or 13½ changed into a 14 would be at once condemned if the distances between perforations were less than the lengths I have given above.

At the close of a long article on "The Government Official Stamp Case" we are treated to the following piece of reasoning:—

The final judgment of this case from the philatelic world will not be widely different from that of the daily Press, i.e., that there has been a grave breach of trust, and that it has been severely punished. At the same time, there are circumstances that in the eyes of the collector tend to reduce the gravity of the offence, and hence to make the sentence seem almost unduly severe. Although all the stamps of the Inland Revenue Department that have not been issued for sale are the exclusive property of the Government, and like any private effect should have remained so, during the past forty years there has been a constant leakage of obsolete stamps. It is within the knowledge of very many leading collectors, dealers, and others, that certain stamps which could only have "got out" from official sources have, during many years, changed ownership. In the case of the I. K. Official, there must now be an enormous quantity in the hands of Philatelists, not only in this country but all over the world, acquired, despite the absurd comments in some papers about "the innocence of purchasers," as legitimately as any other curio.

But is *any* other curio, necessarily "legitimately" acquired. Furthermore, does it follow that solely because 999 wrongdoers have escaped punishment, the thousandth is entitled to plead justification or extenuating circumstances.

The programme of the London Philatelic Society for 1903-4 is, we are pleased to note, far more interesting and "popular" than usual. Should we be taken very much to task if we dared to think that it may (unconsciously, of course) have taken a hint from the success that has attended other and less pretentious societies?

The *Philatelic Record* is hardly quite as interesting as usual. The second part of M. Jos. Schock's article on "Luxemburg" deals with "Official Stamps," a number of decrees being given, as well as a list of the first stamps to receive the surcharge.

The "Notable Philatelist" is Baron Anthony de Worms, concerning whose famous collection of Ceylon we are told that he was led to specialise in these stamps because—

His uncle had extensive plantations there, and he concluded that he would consequently have an excellent chance of adding to the rarities which he already possessed. But, unfortunately, it generally happens that the country of origin is the worst place in which to seek for its rarities, and this proved no exception in his case, and his hopes were realised, not in Ceylon, but much nearer home, in a well-known resort in the Strand, where he bought from Mr. Peckitt the well-known collection formed by Mr. Thornhill.

It is noteworthy that many of the "rarities" above referred to were so-called "duplicates" of his father's old collection. Most of the stamps in the collection itself had been cut to shape, while the "duplicates" included several unused blocks of the first issue!

The *Monthly Journal* has a long editorial on the Official Stamp Case, from the result of which Major Evans apparently seeks to prove, first, that there is no real necessity for issuing these stamps at all; and, second, that in his opinion, stamps thus overprinted do not possess any very special interest. Of course, all Official stamps of every kind would fall under the same ban. Wherefore, if Major Evans succeeds in converting philatelists in general to his opinion, there will be a good time in store for the specialist in South Australian perforations, when the slump in Departmentals has become an accomplished fact.

We note in the chronicle of new issues a list of twenty-six States, &c., of the German Empire are given, on the authority of the *Philatelic Record*, as issuing Official stamps. But who is responsible for such portions of the list as—

The Principality of Schwarzburg-Vonderhausen and
The Grand Duchy of *Bade*?

In the latter case we fear there must have been a very Bad en somewhere.

Messrs. Hayman and Phillips continue their paper on "British East Africa." Of the present instalment we need say no more than that it is in every way as good as those that have preceded it.

Messrs. Napier and Bacon continue their "Papers on Perforations," those dealt with in the present instalment being the De La Rue Perforations. We refuse to quote further from these articles, since we consider that they are of such importance that every *philatelist* should read them as they appear.

May we hope that either the authors or Messrs. Stanley Gibbons will see fit to issue the series when completed, in separate form, with the illustrations, at a popular price? By so doing, they will, we are convinced, not only gain pecuniarily, but also perform a service of incalculable value to philately.

Another very interesting paper is Mr. Ehrenbach's article on "The Dies of the Colonial Stamps of 1890, &c., with a Reference List of the Stamps of the Seychelles." The two die varieties are thus described:—

(a) *Head in a circle, with "POSTAGE" at each side.*

Variety i.—In the second compartment of the band or fillet of the Crown, which contains a diamond-shaped jewel, it will be seen that the lower line of the band extends through from the front compartment across the left vertical line, and stops under the left side of the jewel. On the right side of the jewel there are *three* parallel lines of shading, sometimes rather indistinct, but *always present*.

Variety ii.—All these lines are absent, and the compartment is entirely free from any encroaching or shading lines.

Another point which strikes the eye, but which is not capable of definite measurement, is the white space in front of the lower part of the neck. In *Variety ii.* this is apparently much wider, owing to the lines of shading across the neck stopping further from the front of the neck than they do in *Variety i.*

For a collector who wishes to sort his stamps into the two types which were printed from plates 1 and 2 respectively, the first point given—namely, the shading in the band of the Crown—will be found to yield the quickest and safest results, for the difference is *constant* and therefore *remains unaffected, where other apparent differences are observed, which may or may not be due to inking of the plate.*

Stamps of this design were issued for the following colonies, but it does not follow that stamps for all of them were printed in both types:—

British Honduras (1891).
Gambia (1893).
St. Helena (1896).
Seychelles (1890).
Straits Settlements (1892).
Turks Islands (1894).

(b) *Head in an octagonal frame, with "POSTAGE & REVENUE at the sides.*

Variety i.—The lines of the shading across the neck curve upwards at the back, until the ends form a solid line of colour down the nape of the neck.

Variety ii.—These lines move upwards at first, but between the middle of the ear and the back of the head they turn suddenly upwards at an angle. All the lines of shading are continuous to the nape of the neck, and do not merge into a solid line of colour.

Other minor differences can be found by examination with a magnifying glass.

Stamps of this design were issued in the following colonies:—

British Honduras (1899).
Gold Coast (1891).
Grenada (1895).
Leeward Islands (1890).
Northern Nigeria (1900).
St. Vincent (1899).
Sierra Leone (1896).
Zululand (1894).

The reference list of Seychelles is most exhaustive—in fact, the article is indispensable to anyone collecting these stamps.

Yet another most useful article is that by Mr. Gordon Smith on the forgeries of the type-set British Guiana provisionals of 1862. This, again, needs to be studied in its entirety.

Taken all round, we have grave fears for the future of the *Monthly Journal*. Major Evans in the last few numbers has reached such an exceptionally high standard that we fear even he will be unable to maintain it. And, of course, no one who has become accustomed to his latest achievements will be satisfied with mere ordinary excellence.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for September 26th opens with a lengthy indictment of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' well-known system of "cataloguing by stock," based on a recent glaring miscalculation of the St. Helena 3d. mauve. Doubtless this method of estimating values is far from perfect; but is there any other equally practicable for pricing an ordinary dealer's catalogue? Furthermore, "finds" will occur and temporarily upset all calculations. Here is a case in point. Some years since the writer was searching for certain highly-priced perforation varieties used. In the books of several leading London dealers there were, in all, about eight or nine specimens. A hunt through some *hundreds of thousands* of the stamps of that particular type yielded about three more. Then, quite accidentally, a comparatively unknown dealer was approached. Had he any of these stamps with any kind of perforation whatever? In reply, he produced about *two hundred and fifty* specimens, which, on examination, proved to contain nearly as many of the sought-for perforations as had hitherto been found everywhere else.

With all due regard to our contemporary, we must say that, in our opinion, it is sheer folly to assume that, in the absence of definite statistics, anyone can be in a position to estimate infallibly the selling value of every minor variety to every dealer or speculator. Some time since, we remember, there was an equal outcry because certain stamps were catalogued too low, and because different dealers quoted widely-varying prices for the similar stamps. Of course, to price a number of stamps cheaply and then to refuse to sell them

would be sheer dishonesty. But so long as a catalogue-issuing firm is willing to sell good specimens at its catalogue prices for a reasonable time, all that buyers need do is take those that they consider cheap and leave the rest.

The "White List" is growing! A total of twenty-one has been reached!! At this rate we may hope that in a century or two some recognisable fraction of the whole number of honest stampmen may be gathered together by our contemporary's efforts.

In its comments on the "Official Stamps Case," the *S.C.F.* seems to think that one of the prisoners merits sympathy, as distinguished from the other. Frankly, we cannot follow this line of reasoning. A man has no justification for wrongdoing because others may be more or less equally guilty in the same way. In any case, a breach of trust was committed, which in essence, though not, perhaps, in gravity or consequence, cannot be held to differ from the divulging of "Official Secrets." And we doubt whether anyone would seek to condone this latter.

The "Special New Season Number" of the *S.C.F.* opens with a leaderette, the first half of which we quote.

Where are the White Listers?

The applications for enrolment in our "White List of Philatelists" are coming in with precious slowness, as the proverbial Irishman might have said. Even some of those who applauded the scheme most loudly when it was first mooted have not yet submitted their names for the "ordeal of publication."

What are we to conclude? Is the "White List of Philatelists" a thing unwanted, or are there less than thirty stamp men of blameless reputation among the thousands who read the *Fortnightly*? It must be one thing or the other.

True, O Bishop. And since we presume that the paragraph quoted is not to be taken as an utterly unwarranted attack upon the morals of *S.C.F.* readers:

Under the heading "The Press and the Prosecution" we read the following:—

Newspapers, both in London and the provinces, have commented, in many cases interestingly and intelligently, on the Government Stamp Prosecution. We make a few extracts from leading journals, arranging them in what we venture to think is their order of merit.

We had thought of quoting from these quotations, but were deterred by the difficulty of discovering whether the best came first or last.

Philately in the States.

We have before us the July number of the *Virginia Philatelist*, which we note is the first number of Volume VI. We understand from an article written by the present owner, editor and publisher that—

With the first issue the publication at once took rank with the leading publications of the world. The articles

appearing in its columns have always been of a high grade, and it has always been the aim to equal the high ideal first established. How well this has been done is for our friends to judge.

In typographical appearance this paper has always taken first rank, and set the pace for others to follow. "As pretty as THE VIRGINIA" became the ambition of our contemporaries.

In the circumstances, we feel that congratulations from such a humble contemporary as ourselves might perhaps savour of an endeavour to attain fame by hanging on, as it were, to the V.P.'s coat-tails. We will, therefore, content ourselves by repeating another paragraph in the same issue.

If you have frequent fainting spells, accompanied by chills, cramps, bunions, chilblains, epilepsy, and jaundice, it is a sure sign you are liable to shuffle off this life at any time, and you should have a clear conscience by subscribing for THE VIRGINIA for about two years and paying in advance.

Possibly, however, as Virginia is some little way off, more immediate relief might be obtained by sending at the same time a subscription to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. But that's another matter.

Says the *Metropolitan Philatelist* for August 22nd:—

The officials at the Treasury Department are having considerable sport over a report from a Tennessee officer which recites the sad tale of several dollars' worth of revenue stamps browsed off whisky barrels and masticated by a pet goat. An effort is being made to have the amount refunded, the owner of the whisky having been compelled to duplicate the stamps.

But what would have happened if the whisky had been taken and the stamps left?

Here is some candid criticism in our contemporary's best style, which possesses the additional merit of being quite true:—

"The Beauty and the Beast" are appropriate names for two new series of stamps, and, as usual, the beast is entirely unnecessary, while the beauty fills a duty that is indispensable. The new set of stamps for St. Kitts and Nevis are a disgrace to the entire British Empire. There is not an artist making cuts for any of the stamp papers who could not produce a better design and execute it creditably. The designer has even made a fool of himself by representing Columbus using a telescope—an instrument not invented until long after his time. We hear that the British Government has called down the Australian colonies for continuing the use of Queen Victoria on the stamps. Why not shout to the frauds in the West Indies and emphasize the shout with a kick? It is a relief to turn to the beauties, for certainly the new series for the Orange River Colony are the most beautiful of any of the King Edward issues which have appeared so far. While keeping the portrait of His Majesty as the principal figure the artist has worked in two typical animals of the country and so designed the stamp that it is not overcrowded. The colours are beautiful and show well in a set when placed in their proper order. They are a credit to designer, engraver, printer, and all concerned in their issue.

In the following number we have yet another new method of collecting suggested.

Advise the new beginner to collect types, one of every design issued, without regard to values or colours. Once let this be the recognized standard and tens of thousands will be added to the ranks of stamp collectors. It will be vastly more profitable to the dealers now and will be laying the foundation for many complete collections in the future. It is ridiculous to try and get above the heads of the common people. Let me make the boots for the peasantry and we will gladly let others supply Court dresses. A collection of types (only every different design used for a postage stamp) is as interesting as a complete collection and far more attractive to the non-collector than the dozens or hundreds of volumes of the rich specialist. In the future such an album will show a larger increase in value than the more costly book showing every stamp.

But what about the numerous sets, each one of which is of a different design, such as the 1869 U.S. and most of the Commemoratives? Would not this kind of "New Collection" soon have a somewhat lopsided appearance?

Mekeel's Stamp Collector for August 24th has a very useful article on "Encased Postage Stamps," by Farran Zerbe, a fairly complete list of the various varieties being given, together with estimates of their value, compiled from auction records.

The following note from the September 5 number of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* is short and pointed, at any rate:—

A stamp firm here that engaged the services of an agency to recover sheets of stamps that were in the possession of a young customer received the report: Boy in reform school; parents irresponsible.

THE CISTAFILE.

—:O:—

We regret to say that we made one or two slips in describing this ingenious invention last month. Messrs. Lawn and Barlow write:—"We would point out that your statement as to the mahogany trays holding 250 cards is rather wide of the mark; as a matter of fact, each tray will hold from five to six hundred cards, and so you will understand the difference is very important. Further, the steel bar, or 'skewer,' as you call it, locks into its correct position by a screw attachment." Will readers of our remarks last month kindly note?

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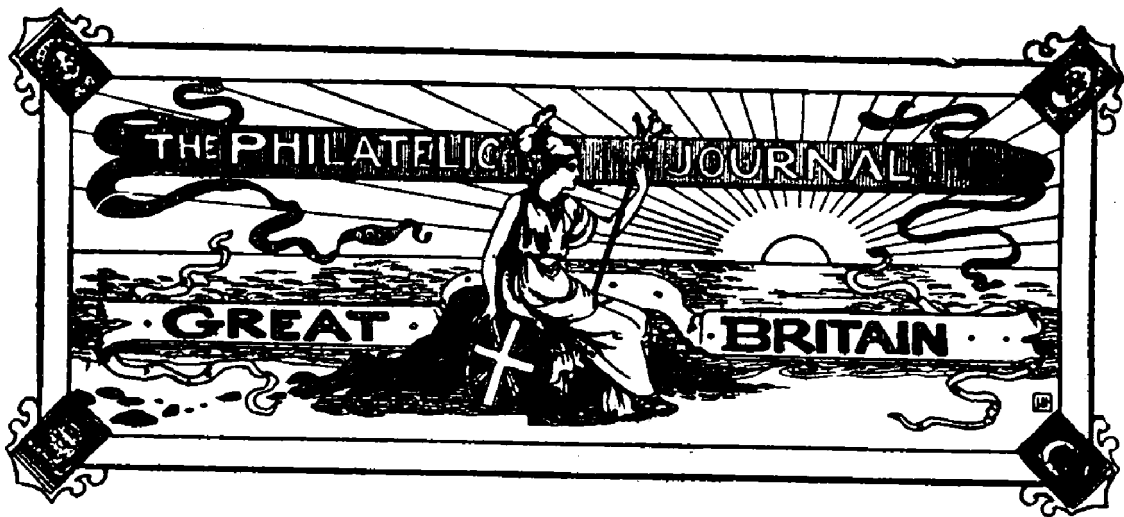
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NOVEMBER 30, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 47.—CAPT. W. H. HARRISON, R.E.

The philatelic experiences of Capt. Harrison have been so unusual that the following reminiscences with which he has kindly favoured us will be read with the greatest interest. It is not every stamp collector who can also claim to be a stamp-maker. The stamps of Wei-hai-wei, of which he is the father, were much sought after at the time of their issue, but they have been classed as "locals," and consequently are not now wanted by general collectors. They are only locals, in point of fact, in the same sense as the Madagascar, early Uganda, and several other issues now in the catalogues were locals, so they may yet be rehabilitated.

"I first started stamp collecting when a small boy, and with infinite trouble and inexperience amassed a collection of over 1,300 stamps. In 1880 this was by no means a bad collection, but three years afterwards I "swopped" it for an old pair of roller skates; such is a school-boy's estimate of the value of stamps!

"In 1896 I happened to share quarters with an enthusiastic philatelist, and again took to stamp collecting. For the next two years I was a keen collector, until, in 1898, I was ordered out to Wei-hai-wei, which had then just been taken over by Great Britain. In those days no Post Office existed at Wei-hai-wei,

and our letters were dumped down at Chifu, the nearest treaty port, which was some forty miles distant by sea, and fifty-eight miles distant overland. Our mails were torched from Chifu by torpedo destroyers. At times the mails had not arrived when the destroyers had to return to Wei-hai-wei, and on these occasions we had to wait ten days or more for our letters, knowing all the time that they were within a few miles of us. It was to obviate this that I started the Courier Post after my return from surveying inland, at the end of 1893.

"I had suggested a Courier Post to both the Admiral's Secretary and the Naval Commissioner without result, and finally in November I asked permission from the latter to start one on my own responsibility and this was granted, and I was given permission to strike a few



stamps to pay for the Couriers. These stamps were to be put on all letters passing through the Courier Post. I was told, however, that there were to be no unnecessary "philatelic" issues or over prints.

"I calculated out roughly the approximate cost of the Courier Post for the first six months, and sent to Messrs. Kelly and Walsh of Shanghai for the necessary number of 2c. and 5c. stamps. These stamps were lithographed from a rough design which I sent down to Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

"Meanwhile, I arranged with the Postmaster-General of Chifu to run two couriers in connection with the European and Shanghai mails, and Mr. Fergusson, the representative of the firm of Messrs. Cornabe and Co., at Wei-hai-wei, undertook to act as postmaster and distribute the letters. As the stamps from Shanghai did not arrive until over a month after the commencement of the Courier Post, I had to make a provisional issue out of the best materials I had at hand. These were the "dollar chop" of Messrs. Cornabe and Co., and some native red paper from the windows of my photographic dark room. I stamped the dollar chop on the paper, and wrote the value and description on each stamp. The 5c. stamp consisted of two impressions of the dollar chop and the words "Courier Post" in full. Mr. Fergusson signed his name along each row of stamps to act as a postmark. This provisional issue ran for about a month, and the stamps were made as required. Often after hockey I had to sit down to make a sufficient number of stamps to provide for the incoming mail. The Courier Post proved very successful, and after it had been running for about four months it was taken over by the Chinese Government, which established a post office at Wei-hai-wei. I closed my accounts, sold off to a Shanghai dealer all the remainders and handed over the profits made—\$110—to the Commissioner, who started a lawn tennis court with them. When I returned to Wei-hai-wei in 1900 the Courier Post was still running.

"About this time (1898) I visited Seoul in Korea and purchased some \$10 worth of Korean stamps. I was asked whether I would not prefer them postmarked, and the whole of the staff, from the head postmaster down to the office boy, left off their work to accommodate me by putting bogus postmarks on the stamps!

"After this I spent some time in Japan, and whilst there picked up some rather nice old Selangor stamps at extremely small prices. The only other stamps to be purchased there far below the catalogue value were some Hong Kong stamps. Japan seems to be the home of

the stamp forger, and even the commonest stamps are forged for sale to visitors.

"I returned from Wei-hai-wai to Aldershot, and there once more took up my stamp collecting. I was much struck by the tremendous increase in stamp clubs and also by the increased difficulties in obtaining "bargains" in stamps. Apparently philately has been much more studied at home by the small shopowners who sell stamps to others, and, where bargains were often to be found in 1896, in 1900 there was no chance of getting them.

"In 1900 I was again sent to China with the Expeditionary Force. A rather amusing incident occurred whilst passing through Shanghai. I took one of my provisional Wei-hai-wei stamps to a dealer there and asked him its value. After examining it carefully he told me that it was a forgery. He showed me another specimen, and pointed out that the 2c. of the one in his possession had a straight tail, whereas mine had a curly one. Both stamps were genuine and I recognised my handwriting on each, and had the dealer seen how they were originally written (as hard as I could write, and with no idea of straight or curly tails) he would have realised that no two stamps were alike in these minor details.

"The only philatelic points of interest in the China Expedition were—(1) The changing of the Indian stamps into C.E.F. stamps, so as to bring them into line with the Chinese coinage. (2) The British Residency Administration stamps which allowed of letters being posted on the train. This latter was a great convenience, especially to the Allies, whose postal arrangements were not as good as our own. It may be worth noting that the surcharges on these stamps are in two colours, green and black. The green surcharges were on the stamps from Shan-hai-Kwan to Tientsin, the black surcharges on the stamps from Tientsin to Shan-hai-Kwan. I heard rather an amusing specimen of "Babu" English from a Postal Babu whilst at Shan-hai-Kwan. H.M.S. Goliath was the principal ship at the time at Shan-hai-Kwan, and H.M.S. Pigmy was the gunboat which took the mails from Shan-hai-Kwan to Taku. I happened to ask the Babu how the mails went to Taku and his answer was: "I give them, Sir, to His Majesty's Goliath; he hands them over to His Majesty's Pigmy, and he runs with them to Taku"!

"After the China Expedition I returned to England for a few months, and then sailed for Mauritius in charge of a Survey party. On my way there I stopped for ten days at Colombo, where I managed to get hold of most of the 2c. surcharges for the moderate sum of 30 rupees; the first price asked was 70 rupees,

but persistent refusals to buy soon brought down the price. Mauritius proved to be, as I expected, the home of stamp collecting. Every Mauritian seems to be a stamp collector. All the clerks in the head post office collect, and there is very little chance of an error finding its way into circulation. I was surprised at the exaggerated ideas that the Mauritians had of the value of the ordinary Mauritius. Few stamps were to be obtained under Stanley Gibbons' full Catalogue value, and many of the commoner stamps were valued at well over the catalogue price. I noticed, however, that it was almost impossible to pick up in the island many of the stamps which are catalogued at very low prices in the catalogue. The reason of this is, apparently, that the dealers buy a large proportion of the issue when it is first put upon the market, and consequently it soon becomes rare in the island itself. Whilst I was in Mauritius the stamps were changed three, and in some cases four, times without apparently serving any object. On my return from Mauritius I once more took up stamp collecting, but with such a varied and wandering life I am afraid that I can hardly call myself either a keen or well-known philatelist.

"I have limited my collection to the British Colonies during Queen Victoria's reign, and by so doing have limited the field of collecting to some extent, and also have avoided having to again transfer my whole collection to a stamp book of more recent date—a labour I have twice had to undertake since 1896."

STAMP PORTRAITS.—Our Birmingham contemporary has been for some months giving beautiful reproductions of stamps, with biographical notes of the persons thus illustrated, and it (*The S. C.*) copies from the *Philatelic West* a list of portraits of *real* women so depicted, of which the following is believed to be a nearly complete set:—

Queen Victoria; Great Britain and about sixty Colonies.

Princess of Wales, now Queen Alexandra; Newfoundland, 3 cents.

Duchess of Cornwall and York, now Princess of Wales; Newfoundland, 4 cents, Queen Wilhelmina; Holland, Curacao, Dutch Indies, and Surinam.

Isabella I. of Spain; United States, 1895, several; Salvador, 1894, 10p.

Queen Isabella II.; Spain and late colonies. Queen Maria II.; Portugal.

Martha Washington; United States, 1903, 8 cents.

(Queen) Makea; Cook Islands.

Queen Emma of Sandwich Islands; Hawaii, 1883, 100 cents.

Queen Kapiolani of Sandwich Islands; Hawaii, 1882, 15 cents.

Princess Kamamalu; Hawaii, 1871, 1 cent.

" Likelike; " 1882, 1 "

" Liliuokolani; " 1891, 2 "

There are other classes of portraits, such as explorers, &c., and many people are now advising collections of these, and of single specimens of stamp types, as a simple way of avoiding the difficulty of the enormous growth of recent issues—a suggestion the writer made many years ago, and so started many young collectors who have developed into real philatelists.



ADHESIVES.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Antigua. The higher values of the new series, which we had not seen in August, appear to be—

- 2/-, violet and grey green.
- 2/6, magenta and black.
- 5/- (King), violet and green.

Bardados. The 2/6 stamp of this island, which we noted in April from a German paper as a changed colour, is differently reported in the *M. J.* now.

- 2/6, green and violet (not lilac).

East Africa and Uganda. From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have the stamps chronicled in September, the type and colours being repeated in the high value, but it is of larger size, with possibly slightly different tints.

- 2 annas, bright purple and dull dark purple.
- 2 rupees, " " " " " "

India. The frame of the new 6 annas stamp received last month is the same as one prepared some years ago, but not issued with the head of the late Queen.

Nabha. The higher values of the King-Emperor type are to hand from Ipswich, the lower value (last month) is in a deeper dingy green than olive, so we repeat it. Usual overprint in two lines.

- 4 annas, slate green.
- 6 " bistre-brown.
- 8 " magenta-purple.
- 12 " brown on red.
- 1 rupee, red and green.

Labuan. *Mekeel's Weekly* reported in August two new values in the current Crown type, but we have not yet seen specimens, so cannot settle the colour names, violet and purple in the States usually being considered synonymous.

1 cent, violet (?) and black.
3 " brown " "

Orange River. Messrs. N. Yaar and Co. informed us last month that they had received a 1d. Cape stamp with surcharge inverted.

St. Helena. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have official information that the current pictorial set is intended as a permanent issue, and that the 1/2d. and 1d. of smaller size with head of King will become obsolete when the stock in hand is exhausted. They do not use so many stamps out there in a year as we do in London in a day, so they can find time to lick the plaisters.

Sudan. *Ewen's Weekly* reports as received (being issued about July) the 3 millieme stamp, given in Gibbons' Supplement as mauve and green, on the "crescent and star multiple" paper, which is a cumbersome name for a watermark. Also a provisional stamp issued at Khartoum, as due to a shortage of the lower value, overprinted "5 Milliemmes" on the 5 piastre value.

3 mil., violet and green.
5m. on 5p., brown and green.

Tasmania. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the "Lake Marion" view stamp on V crown paper, perforated 12½ all round for once.

½d., dark green, V crown, perf. 12½.

Transvaal. A correspondent informs the *Monthly Journal* that the 2/- King stamp in black and brown (withdrawn because of its similarity to the 4d.) has been overprinted "PASS" in large sans-serif caps, for use on Native passes; also that the 2/6 of 1896 issue has "E.R.I.—PASS—TWO—Shillings," &c., with two bars across original value, for same fiscal purpose. The 1/- black and green was also withdrawn from smaller offices, to avoid confusion with the 3d.

Trinidad. A very sickly-looking stamp has arrived (one *viâ Ipswich*), in which our Lady Britannia looks very miserable, in a dingy dark-green suit on a pale buff paper, though some specimens seem to be a washed-out bilious-yellow, which a contemporary describes as a flesh tint. It may be so, but it is not ours—yet.

4d., slate-green on pale buff.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Abyssinia. The full set of seven values of this country have been received over here by various correspondents, overprinted in the

local type of five characters, believed to mean "Ethiopia," as mentioned in the last two numbers. The specimen before us is in a doubtful sort of violet-blue ink on the lowest value;

½g., blue overprint on green.

Austria. Levant. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a copy of the "1 PIASTER 1" stamp, printed, as described last month, in one printing over the words "Heller" at top and bottom, which is, of course, in same colour as design of corresponding value. For further remarks on these issues, see under France—Crete, lower down.

Bosnia. The 40 of last month has been seen, and also another of same design, with numerals in black, diagonally, at lower corners.

30 (heller), brown and black.

Hungary. From *Ewen's Weekly* we copy the following description of a set of postage due stamps. Oblong, with figures of value in centre in black on white, "Magyar Kir Posta" and "Filler" introduced in framework in small capitals.

Perf. 11½.		Perf. 11½ x 12.	
1f., green and black.		12f., green and black.	
2f., " "	" "	20f., " "	" "
5f., " "	" "	50f., " "	" "
10f., " "	" "	100f., " "	" "

Bulgaria. We have a provisional formed by printing a tall "10" in black on the 15 stotinki value. An error is reported of the 1s. as printed in the lake colour of 15s. instead of purple, but as a pale purple can scarcely be distinguished from a dull lake, it may be only a slight change in tint or a faded copy.

10 on 15 stot., black and lake.

Costa Rica. A finely-engraved series of Unpaid Letter stamps come to us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., all with black figures in centre of a circular engine-turned pattern, surrounded by the colourless words "Correos de Costa Rica," and at the bottom "MULTA." Also three new portrait issues, with "U.P.U. 1900" as part of the lettering, which series these stamps may be considered as completing.

4c., purple; black José M. Cañas.	
6c., olive; black Julian Volio.	
25c., lt. ultramarine; black Eusebio Figuero.	
Unpaid. 5, blue-green.	25, blue.
10, chestnut.	30, brown.
15, green.	40, olive.
20, carmine.	50, bright purple.

Colombia. Antioquia. The *M.J.* has received two long, narrow stamps from this province—one with large numerals, the other with portrait "ZEA."

50c. Rose, perf. 12.
1 peso, sepia, "

Boyaca. Also two badly-executed large-size high values for this district—

Boyaca Monument on one, and General Marroquin on the other. Both badly-cut perforations of 12, and imperforate; the 10 pesos arranged with a conveniently-placed *tête-bêche* pair at right lower corner.

5 peso, black on rose.
10 " " buff.

Cauca. In addition to last month's chronicle, another colour of paper has been used.

20c., black on orange, imperf.
" " " " pin-perf.

Medellin. Two more, inscribed "Correos Urbanos Medellin," with a sort of Coat of Arms in centre.

20c., red-brown, perf. 12.
40c., violet, "

France. Offices in China and in Crete.

We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. several notes on the subject of the stamps specially overprinted for the use of those who send their letters through the French offices, which we have summarised, as follows, with our comments.

As to Crete—the higher values (in French type) were first issued without overprint (in error) as at all other foreign offices there, the postage on letters to be sent abroad was fixed at 1 piastre (Turkish), equal to 21 lepta of Crete, per item of weight. Then the surcharged stamps were issued, causing fancy prices for those without the surcharge; but the speculators were disgusted to find these overprinted ones were withdrawn, and the others again put into use. The Greek banker who organised the postal service at the request of Prince George, having now left there explains that the surcharge reduced the value to Turkish currency, and the patriotic Cretans objected to the piastres, as the circulation of the Turkish money ceased three years ago. Therefore, from October all Cretan, Austrian, French, and Italian postal stamps with values in piastres are withdrawn from use, and henceforth will be sold only at the value expressed in centimes or Cretan lepta—a Cretan drachma being exactly equivalent to a franc. The Cretan stamps overprinted with "PROSORINON" were sold at the rate of 21l. for a 25l. stamp, or 84c. per drachma, solely to compete with these foreign offices selling in piastres; the change effected in October will now add 7000 francs per annum to its postal profits. At Austrian offices the current Levant stamps were used, except two low values surcharged 5 and 10 centimes, the reason being that all values below 1 piastre were not sold in "paras" but at full price in lepta or centimes. As the Austrian krone is worth more than Cretan drachma by six per cent., good business would have been done, at the expense of Austria, by

buying up the 5 and 10 heller stamps in Crete at so many lepta and sending them to Vienna. It is possible that a full set for all Levant ports will be issued in centimes and francs.

The various overprints for Chinese Treaty Ports, on which we commented last month, are defended on the ground that the only currency at the places named is the *local* tael, which varies in value as much as ten per cent. between a tael of Chungking and one at Hankow. Therefore (as in the Austrian case above) it is necessary to confine the sale of stamps to the places printed on them. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. also inform us that they have had their money returned by French postmasters at Hoihow and Canton, because "the stamps are only sold for postage," and that stamp dealers or collectors cannot be supplied. This is very virtuous self-denial on the part of the Frenchmen, but the "wily Chinese merchant" may manage to get them and ship them all the same, though the Paris dealers have been glad to obtain supplies *via* Ipswich. Owing to these difficulties, the firm say they have not been able to get any from the four other places.

Long-Tcheou (or Lung-Chow) is another small town whose name appears on eight values—1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15, 25c., and 5 francs.

The objections of collectors to the numerous unnecessary issues of, or for, the French Consulates may be having some effect in checking them; but as the British Consulates get on very well without a supply of specially surcharged stamps, and British merchants and letters are far more numerous, there is no real justification for these French issues either in the Near, or in the Far, East. Letters are sent from Amoy, Foochow, and Canton, &c., regularly with the Hongkong stamps, and we have received such letters franked with plain English and German stamps on many occasions. Apart from the utterly unnecessary names of ports and places used on these recent issues of the French type—as Alexandria, Port Said, &c.—there are at least twice as many values printed as are required for the very limited use of posting letters and papers. The courtesy or etiquette of issuing such stamps in the current type of a country that has no real territorial *status* in these places may not be gone into here; but Englishmen generally would resent French stamps inscribed "Londres" and sold as those of "French London"! even if the Embassy or Consulate started a mail bag of its own.

German Empire. With respect to the Official Franks referred to in February, May, and July last, we learn from Messrs. Senf that

the thirty varieties have not been printed, but the letters of those institutions, duchies, &c., paying a yearly indemnity are carried free; only the No. 21 for Prussia being printed as a check on the total number used.

Guatemala. A black *real* surcharge has been perpetrated here by overprinting in three lines, "1903—25—CENTAVOS" on the two lowest values.

25c. on 1 centavo, green.
25c. " 2 " red.

Italy. Collectors of Unpaid letter stamps will be interested to know that the 2 lira value has been issued without the Eritrea overprint as usually seen. But as we have received communications from Italy franked with Eritrea stamps, passed unchallenged in post, there may not be much significance in the use of these colonial prints.

Unpaid. 2l., blue and magenta.

Liberia. It is now stated by *Der Ph.* that other Official stamps have been overprinted "ORDINARY."

1892 issue, 24c., 1 and 2 dollars.
1894 " 5c., 24c., 32c.
1898 " 5c.

Nicaragua. A French paper chronicles another advance in price, beating the Guatemala record above.

5 pesos on 10c., mauve.

Persia. The *A. J. of Ph.* gives the 2 toman on 50k. as overprinted in red instead of black.

27. in red on 50kr. green.

There has been a great quantity of overprints recorded this year, which we have omitted, as it was impossible to reconcile the various reports, and one correspondent said they were varied in colour at the whim of the postmaster, being mostly hand stamped with the nearest ink at hand!

Russia. The 4 kopecks is on vertically-laid paper. In the series given last month for Offices in Turkey we called the overprint black on the highest values; in a strong light there is a glint of blue in it, so possibly it ought to be blue-black or indigo.

Salvador. This trumpety little Republic (with a population equal to Birmingham) means to keep its proud record of champion issuer of stamps, especially of the speculative, because unnecessary and mostly unuseable class—the vagaries of the French Consulate series having stimulated them to fresh efforts apparently. It now supplies a picture set of eleven Deficit stamps, being a modification of the Morazan Statue type, on "S" watermarked paper, in beautiful colours.

Official. 15c., yellow-brown.

Unpaid. 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 13, 24, 26, 50, and 100c.

United States. Philippines. From *Mekeel's Weekly* we learn that the new issue of 1902-3, or at least three values thereof, have been overprinted in capital letters, for use there, and sale everywhere.

Black on 1 cent, green.
" " 2 " carmine.
" " 50 " orange.

ENTIRES.

British South Africa. *E.W.S.N.* has seen an envelope similar to those in use here, but does not say what the design is that is embossed on it.

Env. 2½d., grey-blue.

Canada. The King's head design.

Wrapper. 1c., green on cream.

Ceylon. The adhesive stamp type.

Post-card. 2c., buff on pale buff.

East Africa and Uganda. The usual style of registration envelope has found its way out here.

Reg. Env. 2d., blue, new type.

Fiji. Mr. King kindly sends provisional cards for internal use, by surcharging the 1½d. values in two lines of sans serif capitals.

Post-card. ½d. on 1½d., green.
½d. reply on 1½d. purple.

Gibraltar. The double cards are out.

Post-card. ½d. Reply, green.
1d. " red.

Also overprinted for *Morocco Agencies.*

India. The new stamp type with head of Emperor is an improvement on previous ones, but the inscription and Arms at left is as last issue.

Post-card. ½ anna, brown on p. buff.
" reply " " "

Argentine. The *S.C.F.* announces new 6c. card with current circular type, and a new design of envelope.

Post-card. 6c., grey-blue on buff.
Env. 15c., blue on grey.

Costa Rica. In *Ewen's Weekly* we see designs of new envelopes with embossed head of Colon or Columbus.

Env. 5centavo oval (no colour given).
20 " circular, " "

France. The improved Mouchon type is out on the 15c. envelope.

Env. 15c., red on greenish paper.

The letter-cards with U.P.U. colour are being issued for colonial use; we have *Guyane* with a wrong fount or larger-size *i* for first one in "pointillé."

Letter-card. 25c., ultramarine on pink.

And for *Levant* use the post-cards are with the Foreign Office's stamp, and first line type inscription "Postes Français"; though it is only a few months back that the home card was surcharged "20 paras" in red.

EXTRACT FROM

CAPE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT FOR 1904.

WE have extracted this from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, as the information should be useful to many collectors who are specializing in South Africans. The totals of the different years, including Entires, increased from £59,166 in 1877, to £465,247 in 1902.

APPENDIX No. 16.—RETURN of Postage Stamps, &c., issued to Post-masters during the Years 1877-1902.

Year.	5s.	1s.	6d.	4d.	3d.	2½d.	2d.	1d.	½d.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1877	881	3,876	8,044	31,816	...	...	...	14,408	141
78	623	4,020	8,880	33,848	...	...	...	16,136	598
79	838	5,356	10,260	30,288	10,005	...	...	18,208	141
1880	999	4,792	11,265	3,995	47,072	...	...	14,614	168
81	2,147	6,568	15,494	4,427	51,501	...	...	19,993	228
82	1,905	5,502	17,782	4,033	29,608	...	10,436*	29,494*	4,867
83	2,070	5,008	15,452	3,492	986	...	40,484*	14,993*	6,344
84	2,040	5,292	16,062	2,460	822	...	42,654*	17,925*	6,428
85	3,657	21,574†	18,545	1,759	5,339	...	41,750	21,769	6,631
86	4,014	30,780	21,356	1,548	11,931	...	40,490	20,916	6,428
87	5,280	36,294	25,134	2,074	8,829	...	44,046	21,022	8,114
88	7,303	49,440	33,525	4,681‡	3,093	...	45,624	25,094	8,490
89	6,718	69,821	34,092	12,966	1,521	...	8,230	51,991	9,100
1890	5,699	56,611	24,173	15,051	1,413	...	7,132	55,971	9,690
91	5,626	56,565	23,703	5,801	2,377	5,473	8,724	59,710	12,262
92	6,278	55,897	22,998	4,424	1,683	7,561	6,387	63,105	13,085
93	7,056	54,835	23,751	5,163	1,296	9,600	7,081	67,585	15,690
94	7,134	52,547	21,024	8,968	4,839	10,900	4,820	72,026	17,120
95	9,986	68,790	27,057	6,723	2,007	11,465	4,262	80,523	18,954
96	14,222	80,664	31,223	7,711	8,748	14,220	4,953	91,009	21,428
97	14,396	66,525	31,290	9,974	8,199	16,817	18,108	100,853	24,311
98	12,749	77,772	33,626	10,160	5,127	17,400	12,182	103,065	28,501
99	11,218	76,443	28,944	11,120	7,101	13,360	10,586	111,076	28,493
1900	16,763	82,533	33,540	11,508	19,326	6,590	15,190	135,405	39,705
01	30,090	101,367	38,637	14,154	18,030	7,482	10,220	145,334	30,122
02	34,400	127,872	45,396	17,756	15,828	8,150	5,684	166,934	35,318

NOTE.—Threepenny Postage Stamps were issued first in October, 1879; Newspaper Wrappers in December, 1881; and Registered Letter Envelopes in 1882. *The Twopenny Rate of Postage within the Colony came into operation on the 1st July, 1832; to the Orange Free State on 1st July, 1833; to Natal 14th May, 1834, and to the Transvaal, 1st April, 1885. †On the 1st July, 1885, Postage Stamps were affixed to Telegraph Messages. The Stamp distribution generally was transferred to the Principal Distributor of Stamps at the Treasury, in May, 1834. ‡The Fourpenny Rate on letters to the United Kingdom was substituted for the Sixpenny Rate from 1st October, 1838. The Penny Rate of Postage within the Colony came into operation on the 1st January, 1883. ¶The 2½d. Rate on letters to the United Kingdom and the 3d. Rate to Europe took effect from the 1st January, 1831. The 2½d. Rate on letters to all parts of the World outside South Africa took effect from the 1st September, 1892.

Embossed Envelopes were first introduced on the 1st May, 1832. The Penny Rate of Postage to the Orange Free State came into operation on the 1st September, 1892; to Natal on the 1st November, 1896; to the South African Republic on the 1st January, 1893, and to Delagoa Bay on the 1st April, 1899. The letter Rate to the Bechuanaland Protectorate was reduced from 4d. to 2d. on the 1st April, 1899, and the Letter Rate to Rhodesia was similarly reduced on the 5th July, 1900. Imperial Penny Postage for letters addressed to the United Kingdom, Canada, India, and other British Colonies and Dependencies, came into operation on the 1st September, 1839. The Parcel Post was commenced on the 1st July, 1882, and extended to the United Kingdom on the 1st December, 1885.

The particulars as to Entires sold at the Cape, though the details are not given of separate values, should be equally interesting and useful to collectors of these, as to the dates when they came into general use. The first issue of Post-cards quite a small one, as an experiment.

Year.	Post-cards.	Newspaper Wrappers.	Registered Letter Envelopes.	Embossed Envelopes.
	£	£	£	£
1878	9	...	...	...
79	...	...	...	...
1880	...	...	...	...
81	...	240	...	...
82	1,000	2,197	265	...
83	491	1,732	127	...
84	680	1,444	101	...
85	680	1,480	263	...
86	760	1,162	115	...
87	890	1,168	136	...
88	941	1,382	129	...
89	791	1,497	219	...
1890	1,035	1,547	265	...
91	794	1,762	308	...
92	1,145	2,615	308	241
93	1,181	3,391	395	874
94	1,337	3,306	374	829
95	1,538	3,188	405	681
96	1,678	3,213	552	612
97	1,856	3,855	615	652
98	2,165	3,545	641	691
99	2,859	3,048	725	594
1900	2,530	2,787	1,222	845
01	2,521	2,871	1,507	856
02	2,706	2,400	1,780	1,021

It would appear from the above that about 2,000 only of the first type of local lithographed post-card were issued, so that present prices of these cards are absurdly low. As to other Entires, see Note on previous page.

EX-OFFICER SENTENCED.

—:O:—

Elliott S. Armstrong, described as a gentleman, appeared on remand at Bow Street, before Mr. Fenwick, to answer the charge of having obtained a sextant and a pair of field glasses, valued together at £12 10s., from Messrs. Negritti and Zambra, of Regent Street, by means of a worthless cheque, and with intent to defraud. Prisoner did not deny his guilt, and it appeared that he had pawned the articles named in the charge soon after obtaining them.

Detective Sergeant Scholes said he had ascertained that the prisoner had served as an officer both in the Yeomanry and the Regulars, and Chief Inspector Froest informed the Magistrate that there was a warrant out against

the accused for an alleged theft of stamps in Johannesburg.

Mr. Tanner, who appeared for the defence, remarked that the prisoner's father was a colonel in the Army, and was greatly distressed by what had occurred. Whilst stationed at Gibraltar in 1898 as a lieutenant in the Garrison Artillery the prisoner had a bad attack of sun-stroke, which seemed in some way to have affected his mind, as there had since been many complaints against him, and he had doubtless got into much trouble through gambling. In 1901 he went to the front in South Africa, and was in command of the Welsh Yeomanry. He was twice wounded—once very severely. General Lord Methuen was understood to have expressed a high opinion of his military capacity. Prisoner's father hoped the Court would deal with the case under the First Offenders' Act, and he would undertake that the prosecutors should not suffer any loss, although he could not help thinking that they ought to have made some inquiry before taking a cheque from a young man like the prisoner. The latter, on being invalided home from South Africa, had resigned his commission. Unfortunately, he had a wife and a child dependent upon him.

Mr. Fenwick passed sentence of three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.—*Daily Telegraph* (Sept. 28th, 1903).

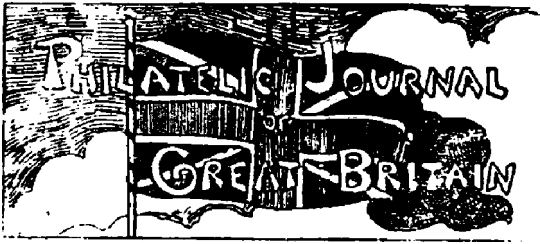
[It will be within memory of our readers that an officer of the same name was charged a year ago with obtaining stamps from Mr. C. J. Smith, of Kingston, but acquitted, as reported in our issue for October, 1902.]

P.O.M.—Yet another "Post Office" Mauritius has been discovered lying *perdu* in a youth's collection of 1864, and is now to be offered at auction by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson early in January. It is a fine specimen of the 2d. blue unused, and from the date of its reception must have been the earliest known over here—the supposed first two being found in 1865 in France.

A LONG WALK.—James Henstock, of Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, has been granted an Imperial Service Order. During his forty-two years' service as a postman in the Matlock district, it is computed that he has walked close on quarter of a million miles and delivered over nine millions of letters, which are estimated to have weighed nearly 600 tons.

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There is no truth in the rumour that Mr. Chamberlain has already decided to put a heavy duty on 1d. reds in bulk, owing to one of his nieces being a large holder.



Catalogues and Colours.

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THE Ideal or Collectors' Catalogue—as distinct from the stamp merchants' priced lists—is frequently talked of or advocated as being a very simple, ordinary sort of publication that must come very soon for general reference. It is not proposed to go into the points for or against such a book; but the mention of it in the *Monthly Journal* last summer, and a subsequent proposal, or, at least, suggestion that the American Philatelic Association should take up the matter, induces comment by practical men. It will be simplest to quote from Major Evans' article referred to:—"What is really wanted is a classified catalogue, distinguishing the principal from the minor varieties, and affording a guide to those collectors who do not want to go too deeply into the subject, as well as a list of all known varieties, for the benefit of the specialist. Prices may be added—if any one is rash enough to attempt it; and if this part of the work is carefully and conscientiously done it will give some idea of the relative rarity of the older stamps and their approximate market value at the date of publication." The *Philatelic World* in its proposal refers to various articles of the last five years, and gives a similar summary, including "illustrations to surpass those in any of the existing price lists in clearness of outline and detail."

Most of the advocates have omitted to indicate what such a book would be like as to size and cost of production, light heartedly assuming that it is bound to sell. Now, what are the facts? The Scott Catalogue fills 700 compressed pages, and Gibbons' about 1,600 columns, of stamp lists and reduced illustrations, which—with the baldest outline of the points of the varieties added to it—means 2,000 pages of ordinary print. Opened out ever so little for clearness, and with larger or better-class electro blocks, thicker paper, &c., would increase the size to at least 2,500 pages spread over three volumes. There is plenty of material handy for such a compilation, but it requires judgment in selection by a com-

petent body of students, to settle what varieties should be described, and what should be merely enumerated as very minor ones, or mentioned in a general way as being in existence, to get it accepted as a reliable standard work for collectors.

One essential—never mentioned in any paper we have seen—is that some uniformity should be arrived at in the matter of colour names. Every month the journals describing new stamps will be found to have given two or three different names for a colour which it ought to be as easy to fix as the gauge of perforation. Now and then some printer makes a compound that defies accurate description; but on one occasion, claret, mauve, lilac, purple, and red-violet were given, for what was a simple clear light purple. Carmine and rose are often used indifferently, but pardonably, for even a colour expert could not decide which name was the more correct for many printings of this class of bright red. Probably nothing will eradicate the notion—more prevalent abroad than at home—that lilac as a colour name must be of a reddish hue or tint, instead of a plain lavender-blue or light (faded) violet tone, whilst the bluish violet, mauve, and the redder purple will for a long time continue to be used indiscriminately for any mixture of red and blue, though as distinctly different as yellow, green, and blue are. In a standard book of reference, the nomenclature of colours should be as clear and unchanging as that of the papers, watermarks, or perforations used; plenty of these latter being doubtful to fix precisely, but yet not sufficiently inaccurate as to be positively misleading, which colour names are frequently now. What authority can a "standard" catalogue have that describes one colour on different issues by four different names, or the same tint of stamp with different watermarks or an added overprint by two or three names on one page?

Whoever takes up the work, though it may be considered but a "handbook" compared with those grand books already published for special countries, must be prepared to face a first outlay of at least £1,000 for the preparation and setting-up in type and blocks alone. The paper, printing, and binding for an edition of 2,000 copies will be nearly as much more; but supposing that eight or ten thousand can be produced at half a sovereign each, are there that many collectors willing to pay three dollars or up to fifteen shillings to cover publisher's expenses and the editing? It is just possible with careful calculation to arrange on one page a description of the main types, values, and general colours—and on opposite

page the variations (in brief detail, with illustrations) that may be found or looked for as desirable—so that a cheap edition giving main-type pages only could be produced on cheaper paper at half the price. The chief points, then, to be considered are—discrimination as to varieties, colour naming with a simple description of a hundred names, and general accuracy, with due regard to brevity and clearness in the writing of it, and the method and cost of production by the publisher, with the chances of sale to the general public or by subscription.

Old-time Philatelists.

TWO eminent philatelists of the days when serious stamp collecting was in its infancy have passed away within two days of each other—Mr. W. E. Image, who was born in 1807, and Mons. F. G. O. Berger-Levrault, who was in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Each in his way made his distinctive mark in the more scientific study of stamps, the younger man having compiled and published at his native Strasburg, as early as 1864, one of the most complete catalogues of those days, being "a description of more than 2,200 different sorts of postage stamps." Mr. Image was a noted surgeon in East Anglia, from the active following of which profession he retired in the early seventies; a man of great mental attainments, who had occupied high positions, among which may be mentioned that of Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Suffolk. His first wife was a keen collector, and on her death in 1872 he took up the study and arrangement of the stamps, increasing it so largely and so well as to realise £3,000 for the collection (even then considered a low price for such rarities as it contained), when it passed to the late Mr. Tapling in 1882. It was specially noticeable for the splendid condition of its specimens, which have now found a home in the British Museum. Both men were ardent and devoted philatelists in the highest sense of the term, and their names and fame as scientific workers will remain as long as Philately itself. Considering the advanced age to which both had attained, mere expressions of regret on their loss to the pursuit may seem unnecessary, if not out of place; but all their fellow-students will sympathise with their families in the personal loss they have sustained.

Notes by the Way.

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THE TAPLING COLLECTION.—Last month the grand new cabinets made expressly for these stamps at the British Museum, were open to public view in the King's Library. They cover about sixty square feet of space, and the stamp slides or vertical drawers (glazed on both sides) are nearly 1,200 in number, arranged in simple alphabetical order. All the adhesives have been mounted, but a few of the very rare ones, such as the 2c. and 4c. varieties of British Guiana, the two "Post Office" Mauritius, are kept under lock and key, to be seen only by special application. As there is a special custodian to look after the others, it would seem simple enough for him (or his relief) to keep near the treasures if they were also exposed to public view. Only a very few specimens of Entires will be shown, as they occupy so much space.

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FOREIGN OFFICIAL STAMPS.—There are differences of opinion as to the philatelic importance and value of these issues; most countries are only too eager to let the public buy them in as large quantities as they like at full price, on the understanding that they cannot be used postally; others object to the public having them in their possession. The German authorities are now exercising themselves to find out how certain of their recent Official issues have been acquired in an unused condition by English traders, while some of the dealers over there, it is said, have been arrested for disposing of copies. The sooner collectors recognise that such issues have no real philatelic value, the better for all; and our stamp dealers will be more free to stock and sell legitimate stamps, when these and "Unpaid" follow the Locals.

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NEW ISSUES.—Mr. Nankivell (our only one) is quite a free lance since the cares of the editorial chair ceased from troubling him, and in the *American Journal of Philately* calls old collectors like ourselves "antique," "ostentatious," and contemptuous of others' feelings. He *ought* to know that the objections raised to recent issues are not against the stamps themselves where necessary for postal use, but against the wild speculation in them, which encourages every needy State or Colony to produce varieties and multiply unnecessary values, mostly useless for postal needs. We "old folks" are as sympathetic as ever with every real collector—*must* be, in the nature of

our "old loves" for everything philatelic; those who deny it are usually men who have collected old stamps, and—sold them profitably.

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SEVEN SEVENS.—Turning over the leaves of our second volume, this heading caught our eye, and without giving forty-two of the subjects, the last seven may interest some readers to try and secure as *desiderata*. There are 7 Precepts for Collectors, and 7 for Dealers; 7 Advantages of Collecting; 7 Features of Philately; 7 Reasons for Collecting, and 7 more for Continuing the Good Work; and, lastly, 7 Things we want to See, given here in full.

1. Philatelic Societies in every provincial town of the United Kingdom.
2. Philatelic Museums, or sections, for benefit of students and science seekers.
3. Philatelic Journals and Weekly Papers on all railway bookstalls and in waiting rooms.
4. Philatelic Libraries in all leading towns.
5. Enlarged business enterprise, and full development of philatelic advertising.
6. Extermination of forgeries, and punishment of forgers.
7. Closer amalgamation of friendships between dealers and collectors, a philatelic alliance, and mutual bonds of brotherhood.

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How long shall we be spared the infliction of a set of stamps for Sahara? A beginning has been made, it appears. The *Daily Express* recently gave an illustration of a stamp which came on a letter addressed to M. Lebaudy. We, unfortunately, did not see the design, but we are told that it contained no superscription and no picture of the Emperor whatever. It was not acknowledged by the French postal officials, who wrote across it the word "Annulé," which means "cancelled." The Emperor will probably find the Postal Union authorities more difficult to convince than stamp collectors. The latter should be on their guard.



Descriptive Catalogue

OF

European Postage Stamps.

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(NOTE.—The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that no stamp exists in the type, shade, or perforation indicated.)

GREECE.

This is a difficult country for a collector—not because the stamps are hard to obtain (for nearly all varieties are easy to get, *used*), but because they are hard to arrange. This remark applies particularly to the stamps of the first type of head. Of these, there are only nine values, but the collector may get a hundred or more distinct varieties, though they are all printed from the same plates. The differences consist in colour or shade, paper, figures on the back, and clearness, or otherwise, of printing. The last is a most important consideration as an aid to the classification of the numerous varieties.

Of late years several specialists, particularly Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, have made a study of Greek stamps, with the result that a classification of the main varieties has been decided upon, which is pretty generally accepted as correct. A few years ago, owing to our insufficient knowledge, the catalogues of these stamps were both incomplete and inaccurate; but the current edition of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue includes a list of these stamps, which may serve as a safe guide for the generalist. With one or two small alterations we will follow the same arrangement.

The first stamps were designed by M. Barre, the same artist who designed the first three issues of France; the printing plates were prepared in Paris, and the stamps were printed there; the first printing was delivered in Athens in 1860, and the stamps were issued to the public on October 1st of that year. They consisted of the values 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80 lepta. The 10 lepta had the figures "10" printed on the back, measuring 8 mm. in height, this being larger than those on the Athens-printed stamps of the next issue. The 10 lepta is also known without figures on the back, but as no used copies of this have been found it is looked upon as a stamp prepared for use, but never issued.

The Paris-printed stamps can be distinguished from those that follow by the clearness of the

impressions; the shading on the cheek is composed of very fine lines, broken near the ends into dots and dashes. In the Athens-printed stamps these lines are continuous, with the exception of one or two varieties, which will be described later on. The Paris prints are also without figures on the back, whereas, with the exception of the 1 and 2 lep. and two other very rare varieties, the Athens prints always had figures at the back until the year 1876, when they were all printed on cream paper without figures.



1861. PARIS PRINTS.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 lep., deep chocolate on cream ...	15 0	15 0
a. chocolate on cream ...	17 6	15 0
2 lep., olive-bistre on cream ...	2 0	2 6
a. reddish-bistre on cream ...	2 6	2 6
5 lep., emerald on greenish ...	10 0	3 6
10 " red-orange on bluish ...	30 0	10 0
20 " blue " ...	9 0	2 6
40 " violet on greenish " ...	—	3 6
80 " rose carmine on cream ...	15 0	4 0

NOTE.—The prices for unused 5, 20, and 80 lepta quoted above are for specimens without gum.

The plates for printing the stamps were sent over to Athens in 1861, accompanied by some Parisian workmen to instruct the Athenians in the art of using them. This lesson they learnt very imperfectly, unfortunately, as the student will find when he examines the stamps of the succeeding issues. However, the initial efforts, which are known as the first Athens, are very creditable, and are but little inferior to the Paris printings. They may be distinguished from the Paris by the colours, by the shading on the cheek (which is composed of continuous lines), and in most cases by the presence of figures on the back. As the figure on the back of the 5 lep. is different in shape from that of the later printings, we give an illustration of it here. The 1 lep. and 20 lep. without figures are very rare, and of the 10 lep. without figures only one or two copies are known.

1861-62. FIRST ATHENS PRINTS.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
*1 lep., deep chocolate on cream ...	25 0	—
*2 " yellow-brown on straw ...	3 6	—
5 " green on greenish ...	15 0	1 3
a. yellow-green on greenish ...	15 0	1 3
*10 lep., yellowish-orange on greenish ...	—	—
10 " " " " " " ...	—	3 0
*20 " Prussian blue on bluish " ...	—	60 0
20 " " " " " " ...	—	15 0
a. steel-blue on yellowish " ...	—	7 6
40 lep., violet on pale cream ...	—	1 9
80 " rose on cream ...	35 0	2 0
80 " bright carmine on cream ...	—	8

* Stamps marked * are without figures at the back. The 80 lep. has vermilion figures at the back.

The next set of stamps includes the printings made after those just described and before the printing plates were cleaned in 1870. In some cases it is difficult for an expert to say whether a stamp belongs to this period or whether it is from the cleaned plates, but in most cases the shades of colour, both of the impression and the paper, is sufficient. In the list of these varieties given below, the shades of each value are placed as nearly as possible in the order of issue, the



stamps in the shades first mentioned being better printed than the later ones. The colours of the stamps of this period are not so warm and delicate as those of the Paris and first Athens sets. All have figures of value at the back, except the 1 and 2 lep. The 5 lep. has the numeral at the back, in a different type from that on the first Athens printing. The 1 lep. stamp in the set is the one that is commonly mistaken for the first printing, but on comparison with the real stamp the colour will be seen to be much lighter, and the shading on the cheek and neck heavier. The succeeding printings of the 1 lep. have much less red in the brown. The last two shades of the 10 lep. in the list below are on very blue paper and cannot be mistaken for any other printings. The 20 lep. blue on greenish paper is also very distinctive. The 40 lep. red-lilac on pale lilac is another very marked variety. The colour appears to be almost a claret. There are many more shades of these stamps, but it would only serve to cause confusion if we attempted to enumerate them all.

1862-70.

ATHENS PRINTS BEFORE THE PLATES WERE CLEANED.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 lep., chocolate on cream ...	1 6	—
a. brown on cream ...	1 6	1 6
b. fawn " " ...	2 0	—
c. black-brown " " ...	10	10
d. purple-brown " " ...	—	—
e. red-brown " " ...	4 0	—
2 lep., bistre on straw ...	1 6	1 9
a. yellow-brown on straw ...	—	1 0
5 lep., blue-green on greenish ...	3 6	1
a. green on greenish ...	3 6	1
10 lep., orange on bluish ...	5 0	1
a. red orange on bluish ...	7 6	1
10 lep., orange on blue ...	—	3
a. red orange on blue ...	35 0	3
20 lep., pale blue on bluish ...	—	1
a. bright blue on bluish ...	3 6	1
b. blue on bluish ...	3 0	1
c. dull blue on bluish ...	—	2
20 lep., blue on greenish ...	—	10
40 lep., violet on blue ...	10 0	2
a. red-lilac on blue ...	—	2
40 lep., red-lilac on pale lilac ...	30 0	5
80 " rose on cream ...	12 6	3
a. carmine on cream ...	2 0	3

NOTE.—The 1 lep. is sometimes found on ribbed paper.

In 1870 a practical German craftsman was employed to clean the plates of all values, and the result of this is shown clearly on the 1 lep. and 20 lep., but it is not so apparent in the case of the other values. The first printing of the 1 lep. from the cleaned plate is remarkable for having much shorter lines of shading on the cheek than any other printing; it is printed in a fawny-brown, and is rather scarce, especially used. The effect of the cleaning soon wore off, as the next printing is much rougher; the colour is red-brown, but it can easily be distinguished from the red-brown of the former series, which is much better



printed. The later printings of the 1 lep. may easily be distinguished by the shades, which are as given below, several being on markedly tinted papers. It is presumed that the plate of this value was damaged at the time it was cleaned, as all the printings of the stamps of this period may be found with flaws in the design. These are of two kinds—one being a more or less oval blotch (uncoloured) below the bust and intercepting the circle of pearls. The other is a wedged-shaped, uncoloured blotch behind the ear. These flaws are found on the fourth stamp of the fifth row, and the fifth stamp of the sixth row.

The first printing of the 2 lep. of this period is somewhat like the first Athens, but shows even finer shading on the cheek. The 10 lep. from the cleaned plates is a bright orange-red on hard, highly-finished, greenish paper. The 20 lep. can be easily distinguished, the workman who cleaned the plates having evidently been particularly careful to renovate that of this value. The shading on the cheek is very clear, and in most examples is composed of dots and short dashes as in the Paris prints, but the most noticeable feature of this printing is the paleness and worn appearance of the spandrels. It is one of the rarest Greek stamps in an unused condition. The next printing is the one in which the spandrels are generally found oxydised. There was a printing of the 40 lep. from the cleaned plate, in violet, but its characteristics are so little marked that it is better to leave it out of a catalogue, so we pass on to the printing in the colour known as "solferino," a colour which cannot be confused with any other. The 80 lep. has rather lighter shading on the cheek and has slightly-worn spandrels, and the outline of the shading at the back of the neck is marked by a more pronounced line of white where the horizontal lines of shading end than is generally the case

in other printings. The colour is carmine-rose, generally very pale, and has the appearance of being used very sparingly.

1870-77.

PRINTINGS FROM THE CLEANED PLATES.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 lep., fawn	4	6	6	0
a. deep red-brown	2	2	2	2
b. red-brown on buff	8	6	3	9
c. brown on buff	3	6	3	0
d. dark brown on buff	3	6	3	0
e. grey-brown on cream	2	2	2	2
f. pale reddish-brown on cream	2	2	3	3
g. red-brown on cream	2	2	2	2
2 lep., bistre on cream	—	—	—	—
a. pale yellow-bistre on cream	3	6	3	0
b. bistre-brown on cream	5	5	6	6
c. stone on cream	—	—	—	—
5 lep., pale yel.-green on greenish	—	—	—	—
10 " red orange on greenish-blue	—	—	9	9
20 " blue on bluish	90	0	5	5
a. deep dull blue on bluish	—	—	10	10
40 lep., solferino on greenish	—	—	1	6
80 " rose-carmine on cream	—	—	1	6

(To be continued.)

The Foundation of Philately.

[From *The Perforator*.]

PROBABLY the greatest barrier between the stamp world and the world of the anti-faddist is expressed by that oft-repeated question—"Suppose every one would stop collecting?"

And as long as this supposition continues to confront the prospective collector he will remain prospective and the ranks of Philately will not be increased. Hence it is obviously of primary importance that this question be answered, and answered to the full satisfaction of the non-collecting world. The nightmare of depressed values—collectors losing their interest and companies failing—is the great stumbling block in the path of the "lay brother"; he cannot dare to join us until we have disposed of this "boogy" for ever. Philately alone can do this, yet Philately has not done it. In spite of all the protests, all the ridicule on the part of dealers, this supposition still looms, fear-shaped, before our eyes, and to this day has never been answered. Hundreds have told, with proof in varying degrees of soundness, why collectors will not stop collecting; but the writer of this article deposes to be the first philatelist to show this—that collectors can not stop collecting!

Why can they not? Because the foundation of Philately is in a natural principle of the human brain, and while its business is not built upon a human necessity, it is built upon an established and unchangeable desire, so

that the surety of the stamp market ranks in the very first place after that of staple products.

A full examination of the "psychology of stamp collecting" would be a most interesting diversion to those interested (if we may use a truism), but space forbids our giving more than a mere outline of the principle in question. The mind, in the first place, is divided into three compartments—the intellect, the sensibilities, and the will. It is under the head of the sensibilities that we find the principle with which we have to deal. Most psychologists divide this class of mental states into two subordinate classes, and these—the emotions and the desires—are again reduced to smaller and less inclusive heads. Desires are of four kinds—instincts, appetites, propensities, and affections.

Now, the philatelist has every right to affirm that "collecting" is as truly a propensity as any other principle classified under that head. It is often listed as a secondary propensity; that is, as one which does not exist of its own self, but is founded on some other essential principle and developed to the full strength of an ordinary desire by association and habit. But there is no ground whatever for such a classification.

In the first place, there is no other propensity that could possibly serve as a foundation for this one; and, in the second place, it can exist without any influence whatever from association or habit. In other words, the propensity to collect something, like all primary desires, is capable of an instinctive as well as a voluntary action. And in proof of this statement it is only necessary to cite the fact that it exists in certain of the animal world, notably the crow, whose favourite pastime is in collecting white pebbles or small bits of broken glass.

Even the saving of postage stamps, there is every reason to believe, is based upon and starts with an instinctive action. When the small boy gives up tobacco tags and commences to arrange his big brother's dirty duplicates in the famous stiff-backed blank book, it is because the whole town of small boys are doing likewise, to be sure; but why is the town of small boys doing likewise? For the very same reason that the town of small girls are cutting out hosts of paper dolls or stringing buttons on a silk thread. Laughable as it may seem, this is where we are to look for the new foundation of Philately. As sure as the child

is father to the man, that blank book is father to the specialist's album!

In other words, when the natural and implanted instinct has done its work—after the primary propensity shows itself in the mind—then habit and association do their part and bind the collector to his collection with bonds of interest indissoluble.

Nor need Philately object to our assigning the propensity to an instinctive foundation. Some of the greatest and most important of the sensibilities have their origin here.

Above all things, this establishes the stability of the stamp market. Collectors, as a whole, can no more stop the propensity of collecting than the world, as a whole, could stop the operation of the propensity of sociality.

R. F. BALDWIN.



November, 1903, Report.

—o—

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NOTICES.

The second meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall on November 11th, when there were present: Mr. W. Schwabacher (in the chair), Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E., Captain W. H. Harrison, R.E., and Messrs. W. S. King, A. B. Kay, P. L. Pemberton, F. Reichenheim, D. Roseway, R. Meyer, L. W. Fulcher, R. Frentzel, and the Hon. Sec. Captain Harrison gave an interesting description of the stamps of Wei-Hai-Wei, illustrated by a display of the stamps and official documents concerning them. This was followed by a display by Mr. Reichenheim of the stamps of France, issued from 1900 to the present time, the collection including a fine selection of these stamps in blocks, showing shades and varieties. An enjoyable evening was spent, and the meeting closed with hearty votes of thanks to both gentlemen.

The next meeting will take place at Essex Hall, on Wednesday, 9th December, at 8 p.m., when Mr. Reichenheim will give a display and paper on "The Stamps of France, 1848—1876." All members and any visitors are cordially invited to attend.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Hon. Sec. still awaits the reply of some members as to above. This is now a favourable opportunity for the introduction of new members, and the Hon. Sec. would be pleased to receive proposals.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.
November 20th, 1903.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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At the usual monthly meeting, held on November 9th, Messrs. B. Tomlin, of Chester, and C. P. Rogers, of Sierra Leone, were elected corresponding members. The September exchange packet returned from circulation on November 5th. All sheets with remittances were returned to members by November 7th. The November packet despatched on 2nd inst. contained 23 sheets value £148 18s. 5d., including a number of fine triangular Cape of Good Hope on the original envelopes.

Mr. John Walker gave a display, with notes, of the stamps of Holland. All the rarities of the perforations were present, with a fine show of the first issue, used and unused.

T. A. M'INTYRE,

Hon. Sec. and Treas.

43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

The following list of Meetings for the coming season was crowded out last month:—

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY (London) opened on October 23rd with a Display of U.S. Stamps, with Notes, by the Earl of Crawford; and on November 6th, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (President) gave a Display of Proofs, Essays, and Stamps, illustrating the History of the Postal Issues of the U.K. during the Present Reign; following fortnights by Displays, Papers, or Notes, on British Guiana; France, 1849-99; Earlier New Zealand; South Australia; Philatelic Reminiscences of the Early 'Sixties; Correct Treatment of Perforations; First Republic of Transvaal; Waterlow Series of New Zealand; Modena; Japanese Post-cards; Is Collecting with the Aid of Present Catalogues too Difficult? Early Uruguays; Victoria, with Lantern Enlargements; Sicily, &c., and on June 10th, 1904, the Annual Meeting.





November 30, 1903.

Philately at Home.

We are very pleased to learn from the opening editorial in the *London Philatelist* that the Tapling Collection is at last on view, and that Mr. Bacon is preparing an Index to the collection for public use. This, we hope, will be obtainable in printed form, as it should be of much assistance to philatelists even when they are not consulting the collection itself. It is a pity that, at present, the great rarities seem to be kept hidden from the general eyes—presumably for fear of theft. Surely, however, proper precautions could be taken against this, especially as a custodian has been placed in charge of the collection. Besides these, only a very small portion of the "Entires" can be shown, on account of space considerations. Still, for the present, at any rate, we fancy that the sight of the Adhesives will be sufficient for most people.

The current instalment of Mr. Marsden's article on "The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal" deals with Issue X., October 1870, D. Luis; and should prove specially useful to the collector of minor varieties, perforations, and shades, Mr. Marsden's lists of which are very complete, and in each instance are vouched for as the result of personal observation.

Mr. Marsden's comments on Mr. Ehrenbach's article on the straight-label stamps of Portugal (*London Philatelist*, August, 1902), ought to lead to further investigation and a definite settlement of the various points raised.

Specialists in Transvaal stamps will be glad of Mr. N. Yaar's notes on the stamps of the second Republic. The official orders sent to the printers should prove of great value, as showing the comparative rarity of the stamps, which, we note, were perforated indiscriminately 11½ by 12, 12½ by 12, and 13½ by 13. We give the numbers of the different stamps sent out, so far as they appear in the present article.

The following quantities in the colours chosen were ordered (Letter 1,582) and sent in January, 1885, to Pretoria:—

4d.	1d.	3d.	4d.	6d.	1/-
24,000	600,000	480,000	270,000	120,000	35,000
grey	carmine	lilac	olive-green	lt. blue	green

As on the 1st of January, 1885, it was decided by the Postal Convention to reduce the inland tariff from 3d. to 2d., the 2d. stamp was immediately ordered (Letter 1,595), and was sent by Messrs. Enschede on 23rd February, 1885. It was printed in dark brown.

It seems that these 2d. stamps (60,000) were sent along with the

2/6 buff	5/- slate-blue	10/- fawn
36,000	30,000	12,000

which, according to Mr. Tamsen (see article in *S. G. Monthly Journal*), arrived at Pretoria on the 27th May, 1885.

Somewhat puzzling is Mr. Yaar's reference to the batch of 2d. stamps, which are referred to above as being 60,000, but later on in the article swell to 600,000 in a quotation from Mr. Tamsen's paper.

In September, 1885, there were sent 60,000 1½d. stamps.

In June, 1886, a new supply was sent from Holland viz:—

1d.	1/-
120,000	30,000

In February, 1887, a large order being received, the following were sent:—

¾d.	1d.	2d.	6d.	1/-
50,000	1,880,000	3,000,000	100,000	470,000

In this batch the 2d. stamp received another colour—from dark brown it was altered to yellow-brown.

There is an interesting biography of the late Mr. W. E. Image, who died recently at the advanced age of ninety-six, and we are promised shortly a note by Judge Philbrick on the Image Collection.

The *Monthly Journal's* editorial for October is unfortunately a misnomer for Obituary, the notices dealing with the deaths of Messrs. Image and Berger-Levrault.

What promises to be a very interesting series of articles (by Mr. L. Hanciau) on "The Postal Issues of Finland" begins with an introduction of a somewhat historical and heraldic nature.

Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole has a note on "The Two Dies of the De La Rue 'Postage and Revenue' Type," in which he traverses several of Mr. Ehrenbach's statements. The editorial concluding comment is noteworthy.

[All the above seems to prove that it is very doubtful whether it is correct to say that there are two distinct dies, or varieties, at all. There appears to be a certain want of clearness in many impressions from Plate 1, and it is possible that Plates 2 and 3 were more carefully made. The later impressions from Plate 1 would naturally be inferior to those from new plates, and all the differences noted seem to be inconstant, if not indefinite.—ED. M.J.]

We must confess that this leaves us more than a little puzzled. That a philatelist of Mr. Ehrenbach's reputation should have the correctness of his statements so seriously impugned is, to our mind, far from pleasant. We look to men of Mr. Ehrenbach's knowledge for accuracy above all things, and we hope that he will be able to justify, at any rate, his statement as to there being two distinct dies.

We have further instalments of Dr. José Marco del Pont's article on "The Postage Stamps of the Argentine Confederation," and Major Evans's papers on Indian Native States. Jhalawar is the one dealt with in the latter series.

The *Philatelic Record* opens with a short editorial on the much-abused Madagascar Inland Mail stamps, the following conclusion being reached:—

It seems to us perfectly clear that the stamps were issued and used for postal purposes, although perhaps only to a limited extent, but sufficient to prevent the issue being termed bogus. It might be, and probably was, totally unnecessary, but so are the picture issues of the Leeward Islands to-day.

The only remaining point is whether the issue was local in its franking power or not.

All the evidence at present points to the former conclusion, in which case Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. have erred in placing the stamps in Part I. of their Catalogue, instead of Part III.

Another editorial note deals with the unhappy lot of curio collectors, who when *they* buy "fakes" lose far more money than does the similarly-duped philatelist. The latter is therefore exhorted to take heart in the following manner:—

Those who are prone to periods of dejections when the forgery bogey is particularly prominent, will do well to bear in mind that, although their lot in this respect cannot altogether be described as a happy one, yet their difficulties are far less than those which beset the votaries of the equally important study of curios.

Which we *hope* will prove consolating to victimised ones.

Mr. Jos. Schock commences the second part of his paper on "Luxemburg," the "Official" stamps being dealt with in the section under notice. An interesting fact in connection with this surcharge is that all varieties seem to occur only in vertical rows, all the surcharges of any one horizontal row being alike.

The "Notable Philatelist" dealt with this month is Dr. Viner, for whom the title of "The Father of Philately" has been claimed elsewhere in the number. It is noteworthy that, at the age of ninety-one, Dr. Viner still takes as much interest in philately as ever he did.

The "Monthly Philatelic Letter" in the November number of Alfred Smith and Sons' *Monthly Circular* deals with the stamps of Honduras—in a somewhat scrappy, though not altogether uninteresting, manner.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for October 24th has what may be called an editorial "Wail for the Whitelist," which now appears to be on the verge of extinction. May we suggest as an epitaph—

Since so quickly I am done for,
What on earth was I begun for?

Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole has some notes on the current Queen's head stamps of Lagos, which will doubtless interest many, though, to our mind, the differences of gum, impressions, &c., of which he speaks, are hardly worth the trouble of such careful investigation and chronicling.

Here is a note that should appeal to our younger readers. We wonder whether the "system" will find imitators in this country.

A Chicago firm have adopted a system of selling common stamps that appeals strongly to the schoolboys of the "Windy City." A large box of stamps is placed on the counter; each juvenile customer thrusts his hand in, grabs as many as his fist will hold, and pays at the rate of 5 cents a handful.

The following number has a verbatim report of the final trial of "Malcolm Campbell, Esquire," which led to that gentleman receiving an additional six months' imprisonment.

We have before us No. 5 of the *City Philatelist*, which opens with an editorial on "Philatelic Literature Collecting," the claims of which are warmly advocated. The opening paragraph runs as follows:—

It is well known that the average philatelist despises philatelic literature and cares nothing to possess even a small library, consequently he knows very little about his beloved stamps. When he meets with one he cannot understand, he writes to some stamp paper—the same information has to be given over and over again. If the collector had even three or four good philatelic handbooks in his library, probably he would find there the needed information. Then, again, if the collector has his favourite catalogue, he will be found looking for the stamps listed therein, and caring nothing for others equally worthy of attention. Why should he so slavishly follow the guidance of the dealer, who seeks to sell what pays best?

While not entirely agreeing with the foregoing, we certainly think that if, say, five per cent. of the amount spent on stamps by many collectors were devoted to the purchase of some of the best literature on the subject, the investment would be found still more profitable than if the money had been spent in even the most eagerly-boomed novelties. Furthermore, the slightest acquaintance with the philatelic literature of the past would prevent the resuscitation as novelties of scores of things that were chronicled (and forgotten) long ago.

Philately in India.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* contains some amusing verses by "Dak," entitled "An Old Song .Reset." The two "ladies" referred to are, of course, the French "Sower" and the Commonwealth "Duck," as, we presume, we must call Mr. Drake's offspring, for want of a better term.

The lady from France she walks like this in a rousy manner.

The Sydney sort she sits like this in a drowsy manner.
Now which do you like the best, Good Sir,—
Now which do you like to see—
The crouching, crude Australian girl—
Or the lady from gay Par-ee?

The lady from France she heralds the day in a breezy manner.

The other one shines in the grocery way in a cheesy manner.
Now which would you like to be, Madame,—
Now which would you like to see,—
The lightsome, lithe, Lutetian lass—
Or the maiden from far Sydn-ee?

The Parisian girl is frank and French in a cheery manner,
The grocery girl is a wearisome wench with a dreary manner.

So at whom shall we shout *à bas*? Monsieur?—
And for whom shall we shout *huray*?—
For makeshift, muddling, Minister Drake?—
Or for Loubet and Delcassé?

D.A.K.

Philately on the Continent.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for September 30th has the first instalment of a series of papers, by "Julis," on "Siam: Its Postal Organization and its Postage Stamps." The stamps actually dealt with in the present article are those surcharged "B" for local service in Bangkok. The authority for these stamps (really part of a speech by the King of Siam), the different varieties, and their dates of issue are all given, as well as some interesting information concerning Siamese postal affairs.

An article with somewhat of a "scare" heading treats "Of the Propagation of Contagious Diseases by Postal Matter." Fortunately, however, philatelists may take heart. After careful and exhaustive investigations, it has been decided that the mails do not carry germs, microbes, &c., in sufficient quantities to transmit disease to any appreciable extent. Furthermore, particulars are given of the means taken to disinfect postal matter during times of plague.

Under the heading "Tablettes Postales," Dr. Juliot has some interesting notes about postal matters in ancient times. We presume that they are to be continued, as we are promised similar information about more modern times.

Les Archives des Collectionneurs opens with an article on "The Stamps of Fiji," by M. Victor Flandrin. We fear, however, that it is not of very great value, as a cursory inspection shows several divergences and omissions from

the accepted information. Thus, though M. Flandrin speaks of the reprints of the "Fiji Times Express" stamps, he says that they are distinguished from originals by being *percés en points*; but makes no mention of the two varieties of paper on which the originals are found, viz., *quadrillé* and laid *batonné*, whereas the so-called reprints are, we believe, found only on the latter paper.

Further, though we have seen several spellings of the name of the king whose initial is C., we do not think that there is any authority for calling him Concambau. Cacambau, Cocambau, or Thakambau are, we fancy, more usual. We notice that he becomes Cocambau at the third attempt. The description of the various perforations is also far from complete, to say the least.

La Revue Philatélique Française opens in startling fashion. For various reasons the "Société Française de Timbrologie" refuses to have anything to do with "the Cercle Grammont," improperly called the "Philatelic Federation of France," and considers it its duty that French philatelists in general, and members of the society in particular, shall be acquainted with that decision. M. Pierre Mahé has a short note concerning the new society, of which he does not speak too enthusiastically. We may probably expect to see some "ink-slinging" on this subject in the near future. We note that M. Flandrin's article on Fiji appears verbatim in this periodical also.

Here are two philatelic jokes from *Szekula Briefmarken Verkehr*. The first is evidently of French origin.

JAILER: Do you know that you are going to be transported to New Caledonia with the next shipload?

CONVICT: What luck! Now I shall be able to complete my set of the surcharges. I want quite a number of them.

The other is an example of The Ruling Passion.

RAILWAY BOOKING CLERK: Where for, Sir?

TRAVELLER: Double Geneva, please.

The following number of the paper has the conclusion of an article by Dr. Szalay, entitled "What is a Collection Worth?" The different causes (unwanted rarities, damaged specimens, very ordinary copies, &c.) that tend to reduce the selling price in comparison with catalogue value are carefully set forth, as also the most advantageous way of disposing of collections of various values (according to catalogue), whether as a whole or piecemeal. The paper shows signs of careful preparation and knowledge of the subject.

In No. 19 of the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we have a fairly full account of the "Philatelistenlag" at Pforzheim. Philately and—other things, appear to have been discussed in much the same way as usual; and

even if nothing particularly startling or epoch-making characterized the meeting, we may be sure that all who took part thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* for September opens with an obituary notice and appreciation of the late Franz Schuck, written by Carl Lindenberg. A great part of the number is taken up with descriptions of the festivities and accounts of the speeches delivered at the "Philatelistenlag."

Philately in the States.

The *American Journal of Philately* opens its September number with an editorial note, which we think we cannot do better than reproduce *in extenso*. Here it is:—

So much has been written lately about "philately as an investment" and "philatelic speculation" that one might almost be pardoned for believing that the Signs of philately of to-day was fast becoming, if indeed it had not already become, merely the Times. another channel upon whose waters the collector might cast his bread with the certainty of reaping a rich reward, not after the proverbial "many days," but in the immediate future. This, while it is undoubtedly true in some instances, is so to a very limited extent only, and it is our firm conviction, based upon personal experience, that the great majority of collectors look upon their collections as a source of pleasure and recreation rather than as a financial investment. We are all human and, therefore, it is but natural for us to feel better pleased if our treasures, whether they be philatelic or otherwise, show an increased valuation from year to year than we should be were the reverse the case.

In our opinion, however, it is neither good taste nor good policy to keep the calcium light of publicity so constantly trained upon the sordid, commercial aspect of our hobby. It cannot but act as a deterrent upon the younger class, which must furnish the advanced collectors of the future, and if it does not disgust him completely, it has a tendency to induce him to study his stamps *less* and the quotations of the catalogue *more*; a result, certainly, which is hardly conducive to the evolution of the true philatelist.

What is true of the younger collectors is so, to a greater or less extent, of all classes, and it seems, to us at least, that it would be much better for all concerned if the modern philatelic writers would strive to impress upon the minds of their readers the many pleasures to be derived from stamps rather than the question of stamp values.

This is eminently good advice. And yet we wonder—(1) How many people will follow it; and (2), What will be the future of Philately if it be not followed.

Mr. Nankivell's London Letter is always interesting, generally amusing, and occasionally startling. Here, for instance, is what he says after some well-justified strictures on the picture stamps of Antigua and Co.:

What country or countries shall I collect? is now the one question of the beginner. *The old dictum that it is best to begin as a general collector is less and less insisted upon by the philatelic patriarchs. And, as time goes on, it will be laughed at as too ludicrous for serious consideration.* Hence, it will soon become a question of classing groups and countries for selection, and setting out the claims of each class. And some day even dealers will be compelled to make their choice also.

In the no very distant future each dealer will probably have to confine his business to a selection of countries and deal in no others. At present, naturally, he likes to have as many strings to his bow as possible, but it is getting to be very expensive to keep so many strings going. To keep

even a fairly decent stock of even one-half of the countries nowadays means a heavy capital account, much of which must be dead capital, capital that is earning no return. *Therefore, I shall not be surprised if, in the near future, we find dealers making a pick of the best of the best selling countries and stocking only those.*

The italics are our own. The first sentences that we have italicised seem to us rather ludicrous, in view of the splendid articles on perforations now appearing in the *Monthly Journal*—articles showing such a wide and comprehensive knowledge of philately as, we venture to predict, will never be attainable by any specialist who has not previously been "through the mill" of generalism.

And as for dealers stocking only certain stamps, may we ask to what extent this practice obtains among those who cater for the wants of the coin collector? In numismatics specialism reigns supreme. And yet, in spite of the fact that it is a far, far older hobby than philately, we venture to think that even now not many coin dealers stock *only* certain kinds of coins.

Also, according to Mr. Nankivell, there are likely to be "ructions" at stamp auctions. Hear what he says on this point.

Our auction season is to open in the last week of next month, and we shall be a little curious to know what will be the effect of the exposure by the Philatelic Society, of London, of the practice of owners running up their own stamps in the auction room. The publication of the fact that, according to the law of the country, any bidder can claim a stamp at his own bid, no matter how low that bid may be, if there is no higher genuine bid and no declared reserve, will, I think, be a surprise to many. An owner, also, may be somewhat surprised to learn that all his own running up does not count in the little game. And what a pretty old state of affairs it will bring about. Many dealers have been in the habit of supplying the auctions with stuff and they have generally kept a string on what they have put in, the result being that such stuff does duty a little too often. Some auctions have been positively notorious in this respect, the same stamps turning up in catalogue after catalogue until collectors got positively sick of the game. And I happen to know one or two determined collectors who intend to test these sales. They will bid for the suspected lots and they will claim them in the absence of genuine bids against them. So we may have lively times during the coming season. But those who wish to continue the game will probably find more than one way out of the difficulty.

"Notes upon Stamps and their Varieties" is the title of an extremely interesting illustrated article by Geo. L. Toppan. We notice that it is described as one of a series, so we need only say that if Mr. Toppan explains the minor varieties of other countries' stamps so well as he has done those of the United States in the present paper, he will have saved much worry and trouble to collectors.

We have before us three numbers of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. From the one dated September 12th we extract the following "Philatela":—

Once there was a Stamp Plunger with a Stunted Salary and a longing for Opulence. He had a Habit of Lugging around Three Dollars in his Pocket and Rubbed in all the Corners for a chance to make 500 per cent. An unscrupulous Dealer heard of his Hidden Wealth and Hatched a plot to get his three Iron dollars away from him before the Got rusty. The next time they Collided the

Dealer showed him Six stamps which were the Only ones in Existence of their Kind. The Dealer said that the reason they were Left out of the Catalogue was because they were so rare it would Discourage advanced Collectors to speak of Them. The Plunger coughed up Three Dollars and a piece of Spearhead Plug and took the Stamps home and Hid them. After spending Eleven years trying to Decide on a Selling price, he Put them on the market at \$12,000 each and spent Three days butting his Head against a Stone Wall when he discovered that they were Gunned Proofs of a Rejected design. When he inquired for the Dealer who sold them to him he found that he had been Dead five Annuns.

MORAL : Anything goes in a slot machine.

Here is a paragraph from the September 26th number:—

A Milton, Mass., advertiser in the columns of a contemporary offers an entire stable for sale and would take a stamp collection in part payment.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist*, in its issue for September 19th, *à propos* certain alterations in catalogue prices, has the following very pertinent remarks:—

When a collector finds it a difficult matter to find a stamp in fine condition, he is not going to haggle over the amount of the discount. When a dealer finds his stock running low, and there are no stamps offered for sale, and he finds himself compelled to go into the market and buy here and there to keep up his stock, he is not going to sell at any fifty per cent. discount.

Stamps that are hard to get, and for which there is a demand, will appreciate in value, no matter what prices cataloguers may attach to them. The catalogue is a valuable and necessary adjunct in the pursuit of philately, but it does not, by any means, arbitrarily determine the value of any stamp. Therefore, the brethren who are worried over some of the quotations in the advance sheets need not consume themselves with anxiety. Water will seek its level, and stamps will sell for what they are worth, irrespective of any catalogue ratings.

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PRIZE COMPETITION.



Philatelic "Watermark" Puzzle.

Are you good at "water" marks?

Test the sobriety of your stamp-collecting friends at Christmas.

A PRIZE OF

£5 worth of Stamps

will be given for the current solution of the above puzzle.

The winner may order any stamps to the above value from the "1904 Popular British and British Colonial Price List," or may select them from the stock books (British, foreign or Colonial) of our publishers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

- Solutions must be written distinctly in the form provided for that purpose, which will be found among the advertisements on page vii, in this number.
- Envelopes should be marked "Competition" outside on the top left-hand corner, and addressed to
THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN,
229, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
- The last day for receiving solutions is Saturday, January 15th, 1904. The result will be announced in our issue for January.
- If no competitor sends the correct solution, the prize will be awarded to the nearest, but in the unlikely event of more than one correct answer being received, the prize will be given to the sender of the first correct one opened. No replies will be opened till 15th January, 1904, so that all competitors will have an equal chance in this respect.
- Any competitor may send in as many solutions as he likes, but each must be written on a separate form. The Editor's decision will be final.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, and the Sheffield and Scottish Philatelic Societies.

No. 156. VOL. XIII.

DECEMBER 24, 1903.

[PRICE 2D.]

Well-known Philatelists.

No. 48.—COL. A. W. CHAMBERS, V.D.

The subject of our sketch was born just 53 years ago, and he is the second surviving son of the late Sir George H. Chambers, Kt., Deputy-Lieutenant for the Tower Hamlets, whose name is well-known in City circles. While at school at Blackheath in 1859 (not being of great age, it will be observed), he began collecting, and has a vivid recollection of his first possession in the philatelic line, being an imperforate United States ten cents green.

Owing to his father's business relations being chiefly with the West Indies and British Guiana, there were exceptional opportunities of obtaining good selections of the used stamps of these Colonies after the arrival of each fortnightly mail. After the usual plain book to commence with, a Lallier album was purchased, but to the process of transfer is attributed the mutilation of many fine stamps, such as the fourpence Ceylon imperf. with star watermark.



The collection was always kept in duplicate, there being a partner in those early days in the form of an elder brother, and the bulk of it was made by exchanging surplus duplicates, the principal channel being Mr. Stanley Gibbons, whose business in the 'sixties was carried on at Plymouth. As a specimen of

exchange dealings and prices in those days, as many as eight hundred copies of the shilling black Barbados were forwarded among other stamps, the price being five shillings per hundred. The collection was, of course, very strong in West Indians and British Guiana, though none of the circular issue or the provisionals of 1853-4 found their way into it.

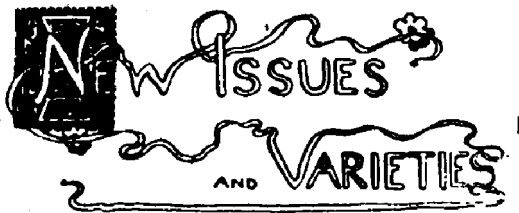
Mr. Chambers was elected a member of The Philatelic Society many years ago when the meetings were held in Gray's Inn Square, and his name still appears among the list of members. He ex-

hibited at the 1897 Exhibition in Piccadilly, from the catalogue of which we extract one entry: "TRINIDAD. The lithographed series include four copies of the blue and one of the red, used. The stamps printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. are found in most of the

varieties, and in the later printing of the same type by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. all perforations are completely represented." In 1900 sundry stamps were exhibited, and a silver medal given for Barbados and Nevis.

General collecting ceased in 1892, but since that date specialising in English stamps, reconstructing plates, &c., has been taken up extensively—the bulk of previous collections having now been disposed of, though a good show of Trinidad and British Guiana remain on hand.

In 1871 Mr. Chambers joined the Volunteer Force, succeeding to the command of the 15th Middlesex V.R.C. (Customs and Docks) on April 18th, 1885. Soon after this he took over the management of Mr. T. St. L. Stephenson's Stamp Exchange, which was started in 1879, and carried it on till 1901. He is now Lieut.-Col. and Commandant, and Hon. Colonel of the Regiment.



ADHESIVES.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain. The current 26 stamp has been overprinted as usual for the offices in the Levant or Turkish Empire.

12 piastres on 2/6 lilac.

An "invert" of "GOVT. PARCELS" on the recent Queen's head 1/- stamp is also chronicled.

Australia. The 10/- and 20/- Postage Due stamp reported in August, and copied into our September list, the *Aust. J. P.* says, is an error, the highest value with N.S.W. removed being 5/-, though with N.S.W. at foot the two high values are still in use there.

British Somaliland. We now have the current 1 anna stamp of India with the two-line overprint near the bottom of stamp (as are all the present series) instead of at the top in the Queen issue. About the usual number of defective impressions.

1 anna, black on carmine.

We have since received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 2 rupees value with Queen's portrait, having the overprint across the lower part.

2r. black on red and brown.

East Africa and Uganda. The designs for this issue are uniform throughout, in usual size for values below a rupee, and repeated on enlarged scale for that and higher values. The illustration given in September for British Central Africa will answer for this, as it is precisely the same, the names and values only being changed by movable *cliches*. Two other values are reported.

¼ anna, green, CA wmk.
1 rupee, " CC "

India Gwalior. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a novelty in the usual overprint for this State on the old *blue* stamp of Queen's head issue, of which there could not have been many in stock. The *M. J.* reports the old ¼ anna stamp as being found with surcharge inverted.

3 pies, carmine, inverted overprint.
¼ annas, a train in red, Queen issue.

Nabha. In addition to those already listed, the *P. J. I.* gives the following with Service overprint on current Emperor type.

20 vice. 4 and 3 annas, and 1 rupee.

Indian States. Bhopal. The *M. J.* has had a sheet of the 1 rupee stamps with the new embossed type, and finds eight varieties as in the ½ to 8 annas.

1 rupee, ro-e, circular embossing.

Montserrat. The design for the newest 5- value is an interchangeable one for the Leeward Islands group apparently, being exactly the same as that for Antigua, &c., only the name at the top being changed.

New Zealand. The Official issues for this Colony have not been given here, but as lists of those actually seen have appeared in *E.W.S.N.*, we copy the following from that paper. The overprint is of four capital letters, placed diagonally.

O. P. S. O.	in pink on	¼d. black,	10 x 11	perf. (Queen).
"	"	" 1d. rose,	" "	"
"	"	" 2d. lilac,	" "	"
"	"	" ¼d. blue,	10 x 11	" "
"	"	violet, on	1d. rose,	" (Pictorial).
"	"	" 5d. brown,	no wmk.	"
"	"	green,	" "	"
"	"	? " 8d. blue	" "	"

Orange River. There have been mentioned in other papers several very, very minor varieties of the old ones found in the V.R.I. overprinted stamps, which it seems strange should only this year be discovered, or reported to give a fillip to the sale of all. If they are all genuine, they are mere trivial accidents in printing, and are most probably from a number of sheets which were supposed to be thrown aside as waste, according to the original official announcement respecting them, in which certain unnamed bad prints were said to be destroyed, that may now have been "found" since the Military Administration ceased.

Sudan. We have now received (from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.) the stamps mentioned last month. The surcharged one is on the old Maltese cross-watermarked 5 piastres, the printing "5 Millimetres" being in black right across centre in heavy Roman cap and lower-case types. The new 3m. value (old design) on the newer paper has the same deep-green frame with deep *mauve* centre, rather than violet, as first reported.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Austria. The *M.J.* announces, as seen, three more values overprinted in French currency, the use of which for Crete and the Levantine ports generally was explained in our last number. "The overprint on 25c. resembles that on the 10c. (we listed in March), the 50c. has the word "CENTIMES" in a curve below the head, and the 1fr. has curved bars above and below, and "FRANC" across the lower label. All are on granite paper, and the two lower values have the shiny bars."

The supremacy of France—or, at least, of its form of currency—will soon be complete all over both sides of the Mediterranean Lake. We may yet see the 1d. and 2½d. values of our popular King's head defaced with "10c." and "25 centimes" for the special use, delight, or flattery of our "entente-ing" Gallic residents in "le foggie Londres"!

25c. in black on 25h. ultramarine.
50c. " " 50h. pale blue.
1fr. " " 1kr. deep rose.

China. There have been references lately to a change of colour, described as an "error," in recent printings of the 5c. stamps. We have been closely examining specimens submitted to us of three lots received, and find that the first one is of a light red hue, with a distinct rosy tint in a strong light—some call this salmon. The next is deeper in tone, but scarcely red in tint, rather a heavy or deep orange colour, but might be called orange-red, though some may call it a brownish-orange—by gas-light it is scarcely distinguishable from the first. The last issue has been called yellow, but is deeper than that, though orange-yellow or light orange would suit as a distinct name, with light rose-red and deep orange for the others.

French Colonies. Senegal. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send a new provisional—one of four listed elsewhere. The new value is a large figure in centre, with thick, black bar over old figures.

5 on 40c., red on yellow.
10 on 50c., carmine on rose.
10 on 75c., brown on orange.
10 on 1f., olive on toned.

The unnecessary values come in useful, if only as "provisions" to feed collectors.

Guatemala. It may interest collectors to know that the supposed "provisional" 25c. stamps listed in July were only issued for the purpose of raising cash to build an asylum, or at least a convalescent home; the official out there who hit on the brilliant idea supposing that philatelist was a recent English or Yankee version of philanthropist, and that it would therefore be a delightful pleasure for all of us to assist in the good work. The *M.J.* has received the official notice of April 17th authorising the work of translation or transference of our silver pence; the numbers of the seven values so "surcharged" varying between 5,700 of the 200c. to 110,000 of the 1 centavo. out of a grand total of about 265,000 pieces. Those chronicled as received last month, we assume, are part of these.

Korea. The three surcharged stamps listed in October have now reached us from Ipswich; the overprint of bars, &c., is larger than we supposed, and the 25 poon stamps are a light lake, or a light red-brown by gaslight. The other overprints are questioned by another *M.J.* correspondent (in Boston), who cautions collectors as to recent importations from that land, these particular ones in *used* state being mostly postmarked December, 1900, or January, 1901, before which dates they were not known, and many examined have the surcharge over the postmark. The Jubilee stamp mentioned in March has been coming over lately, inducing a closer examination of the design or lettering. The central device (which we suggested was a native joint with a skewer through it) appears to be head-gear of some Imperial type, with the large pin to secure it to the head of wearer. The inscription on the diamond-shaped frame of it reads: "XL ANN. JUBILÉ D'AVÉNEMENT," from which we may infer that any number of years is now considered an XLent excuse for a Jubilee commemorative, instead of the 3,000-year-old fixture of the fiftieth year. Another fine and large series has also been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., which, from the design and inscriptions, would indicate (as in above case) the soaring and spreading influence of the Imperial French "designers." The central figure in an inscribed circle is said to represent a falcon, but might be a spread eagle (very similar to that on French low values of the Empire period), with a quantity of frame ornamentation, and native, with Japanese characters, in addition to the "POSTES IMPERIALES DECOREE." In previous issues the official spelling has been Korea.

11 .. slate-grey.	5 ch., light brown.
1 ch., purple	6 .. light violet.
2 .. green.	10 .. blue.
3 .. orange.	15 .. red on primrose.
4 .. rose-red.	20 .. purple-brown.

Paraguay. As we assumed, in describing the large lion series in May, a change of colours has been made, two just received from Whitfield King and Co. being—

1 centavo, light green.
5 " " dark blue.

Persia. As compensation for previous omissions, we quote from the *M.J.* a specimen of the goings-on of past year. "An extraordinary surcharged issue has just reached us, some of the values franking the letter in which a supply was sent, so that we have no excuse for refusing to note them. The 5 and 10 krans stamps of 1894 have been converted. . . . Diagonally across the stamps are printed "POSTES PERSANES" between double lines; over this is "1903," and below, Persian characters—both with ornaments. Across the foot is the new value in ordinary figures and "CHAHIS" in Roman type, or "Krans" or "Tomans" in sloping, sans-serif letters. All this is in one colour, but Persian characters are also struck in second colour below the Shah's portrait.

4 chahis in red and black on 5 krans.
8 " " green " red " "
16 " " orange, green " "
3 krans " blue " lake " "
4 " " brown " green " "
2 tomans in red " orange, "
3 " " black " lake " "
2 " " blue " black " 10 krans.
3 " " green " blue " "

When we remember the original stamps are in violet and silver, and rose and gold, respectively, it can easily be imagined that the results of these combinations are more peculiar than artistic."

Sweden. An upright, oblong stamp (the size of two ordinary ones) has appeared, to celebrate the erection of a grand building in the capital, as we judge from the picture of it, labelled "POSTHUSIT I STOCKHOLM, 1903," but may be intended as a permanent issue of a high value.

The *M.J.* also describes another new value of ordinary type (No. 9.) that has been received.

8 ore, purple.
5 kroner, deep blue, wmk. 2 crowns.

United States. Our first copy of the newly-designed Washington type to replace the one issued a year ago (which did not please a few of the over-aesthetic New Yorkers) was received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. on the 7th instant. It certainly has a more pleasing effect as a whole, the portrait being clearer; but the background (except for centre) has a peculiar look, being fragments of stars and stripes—said to represent the national flag—on a shield-shaped outline,

2 cents, deep scarlet.

ENTIRES.

Ceylon. From Scott and Wilson we have received letter-card exactly as before, but with King's head.

Letter-card. 5 cents, dull black on blue.

Gold Coast. The usual post-cards.

Post-card. ½d. green on pale buff, and Reply.
id. carmine " " " "

Jamaica. The new stock type of King's head, as used for all the smaller colonies.

Post-card. ½d. green, and Reply, on pale buff.

Seychelles. Registration envelopes reported in the "Specimen" class.

Reg. Env. 12c., blue, Size F.

Sierra Leone. There are before us the new series of cards with King's head; a wrapper is also announced.

Post-card. ½d. green, small size, and Reply.
id. red, large " " "

West Australia. A new printing of the Swan type has lately been received.

Post-card. id. blue on buff.

OUR PUBLISHERS' BRITISH AND COLONIAL CATALOGUE

FOR 1904.

—:O:—

Our publishers wish us to state that, owing to the great cost incurred in the production of their British and British-Colonial Price List for 1904, they are obliged to make a charge of 3d. for each copy. The list has been very greatly enlarged and is illustrated throughout, and it is therefore, to all intents and purposes, a catalogue in the ordinary sense. Owing to their recent purchase of a very large collection and the enormous increase in their stock during the last twelve months, they are able to quote prices for the large majority of stamps, both unused and used. It will be found a very useful and practical guide for collectors.

SALE OF STAMPS.—From January 1st stamps cannot be exchanged at Post Offices unless of £1 in value, and five per cent. commissions will be charged, payment only being made by an order sent by post to vendor, who must give his name and address. A nice inconvenient New Year's gift this

Colour = Names.

THE following slight description of the "points" of different colours is submitted to remind readers what kind of a colour *should* be meant by certain names in regular use, about which there appears to be much doubt, judging from inquiries made. It is assumed that certain definite colours are well known to the reader, from which the relative grade or position of others can be fairly judged. Pale or light tints are given first:

RED	{	Flesh or salmon, pale-red | light pink, bright rose, rose (dull to deep), on to crimson. vermilion, scarlet, carmine (light to deep), on to lake.
	{	Claret is a deep red-wine colour not so bright as ruby, verges on to maroon, which is a black and red mixture. Solferino and magenta are reds with a little blue and very close to crimson on one side and purple on the other. Indian red is a coppery tint near a pale purple; Venetian red being a brownish red.
ORANGE	{	Light or yellow-orange, orange | to orange-red near to vermilion. to orange-buff and brown-orange.
YELLOW	{	Creamy and golden tints to orange-yellow, and ochres to buff or brown-yellow. Primrose, lemon, and pale greenish tints of bright yellow to olive-yellow. Chrome is often used for a deep or heavy toned yellow, but doubtful to fix.
GREEN	{	Yellow-green, light green, grass or normal green, deep or dark green to myrtle. Bright emerald, turquoise-green, to blue-green which is <i>not</i> the same as myrtle. Olive-green has a buff or brownish tint, olive itself being the connecting tone between brown and green; lighter tones are often called sage, but sage-green should have a bluish-grey <i>tint</i> with it, though otherwise as dull as olive.
BLUE	{	Pale and light blue, cobalt and ultramarine, bright blue, deep Prussian and dark blue, on to indigo, sometimes called a black-blue. Greenish tints also as in turquoise and some dark tones. Also violet-blue as connecting with red mixtures, and the lighter lilac-blue.
BLUE AND RED MIXTURES	{	Lilac is a deep lavender-blue, with a slight pink tint usually called heliotrope; a reddish tint (badly named as red-lilac) is a mauve, and lilac-rose is usually a rosy mauve. Violet in light or dull tones connects with deep lilac, but the <i>blue</i> tone must be predominant. In mauve, the red tone is the more obtrusive. Purple is a decidedly reddish tone joining on to magenta and lake.
BROWNS	{	Yellow-brown, orange-brown, chestnut, red-brown to purple-brown; these are mostly bright tones. The usual dull (parcel paper) brown may be pale, light, or dark, approaching to black in sepia. Chocolate shows a purplish tint if printed on pink, is dull on green. Olive-brown has a dull greenish tinge. Bistre is a light or buff-brown with a smoky tint, or near a pale olive-brown. The so-called lilac-brown is a light purple-brown or dull purple.

Notes, Bad Names, and Others.—Red is so popular that every intermediate grade between those named above is used for printing, so we cannot fix names to all the tints used. Our current 1d. stamp is something between scarlet and carmine, so that either name may be used with the prefix of deep or light. For many Colonies aniline colours are used, varying from carmine to rose, and often can only be called rosy-carmine or carmine-rose, but no harm is done by using either term as a general idea of the colour. In other cases, the names used are positively misleading, and a collector can seldom be sure whether he has got a *real* lilac, violet, mauve, or purple stamp, owing to the confused way in which these terms are used in lists or catalogues. These last colours are perfectly simple, if one once gets the idea properly fixed—that lilac approaches a light or dull

violet, both being of a decided blue tint or tone, while purple is nearly a red (lake or magenta), mauve being midway between violet and purple, though the red tint seems uppermost, and is frequently misnamed red-lilac. The use of the word purple for lilac, as given for the two-annas stamp of India (and many overprinted issues) is astonishing, seeing how often reference is made to blood as a purple red. The universality of green for the low values (1/2d. or 5 centimes) has produced a crop of greens, the like of which have never before been seen, mostly of grey or bluish shades. Yellow is used too often before green and brown when pale or "light" would be more correct, no trace of yellow being visible. I have seen a bluish green called "yellow-green" because it was a pale printing. Salmon, too, is applied to a tint which if seen on a real fish would insure its rejection as a food.

Lilac-rose, red-lilac, violet-brown, and such-like are misnomers applied to tints or shades of mauve and purple. Pea-green may mean the light (or yellowish) green of the pod, full or deep green of the pea inside, or the bluish-grey of the dried pea. Puce (or flea colour) is a red-brown to purplish tint. Sage is a good name, but is often applied to olive tints; it should be a bluish-gray dull green. Apple, plum, ochre, and chrome are prefixes to be avoided, because they are used in so many different ways, according to the user's fancy at the time.

Gray should be a black-and-white mixture only; if with green, blue, brown, or other tint, that colour should be given as a prefix. Slate is applied to a neutral shade something like the colour of lead; but may have blue, green, purple, &c., as an affix or prefix, according to tint.

The Colour Dictionary published three years ago contains over forty distinct colour types as illustrations of the chief names in general use, which might be used in the same way as one uses a perforation gauge, though it does not profess to be so exactly graded or fixed as an engraved "standard" gauge can be, and two or three colours are not perfectly correct, through an overdraught of solution in the mixing; "scarlet," for instance, being a pale scarlet or light red. Still, if the letterpress has been carefully read, and the main colours fixed in the mind's eye or memory—as simple a matter as mastering a rule of grammar or arithmetic—there should be no difficulty in naming most real colours correctly, except for a few nameless compounds used now and then by the printers. According to scientists, buff is a deep "orange-grey," or practically a light red-brown—and the scientific members of the Manchester Philatelic Society have just decided that "vermilion-lake" is a good description of the current penny stamp, which may be chemically or pigmentally correct, but is not to be understood of the people—that style of naming is avoided, only practical, general terms being recommended.

B. W. W.

Notes by the Way.

—:O:—

BALZAC ON COLLECTING.—"He kept his museum, with the intention of deriving from it hourly pleasure; for those minds which Nature has endowed with the power of admiring great works of art possess the sublime faculty of the genuine lover. The object of their passion yields to them the self-same

pleasure yesterday, to-day, and for ever. . . . The reader will be tempted to exclaim: 'Well, in spite of his ugliness, this must be the happiest fellow in the world.' And it is undoubtedly true that a mental counter-irritant, in the form of a mania, is a sovereign remedy for *ennui* and the spleen. All ye who can no longer drink from that vessel which has in every age been termed *the cup of pleasure*, apply yourselves to the task of collecting—no matter what; even postage stamps have been collected—and you will find the solid ingot of happiness coined into small change. A mania! why, 'tis pleasure idealised!"—*Cousin Pons*.

---O---

PRE-CANCELLED STAMPS.—This expression was invented or most used in the United States to describe stamps postmarked in sheets for the use of firms sending out quantities of circulars, &c., by post. Presumably, it was the idea of a postal official to save stamping the packets as they came in. In the *Australian Journal of Philately* a writer uses the term for what we commonly called "postmarked to order" sheets, as supplied by the North Borneo Co. and other speculative manufacturers of stamps in any condition—plain, surcharged, or doubly so, cancelled, or transformed into Unpaid. "CENSOR" goes on to describe such stamps as fraudulent, a nefarious practice, &c., and says: "A Government has no more right to sell pre-cancelled stamps than it would have to issue brass coins and pretend they were golden; indeed, the former crime is worse, as the fraud cannot be so easily detected by the average collector." This is correct only on the assumption that the cancelling increases their value. In very few cases, however, does this happen nowadays, as most collectors who can afford to choose prefer them unused, or in "mint" condition. At the same time, the practice is a most reprehensible one.

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PROMPT DELIVERY.—A Chester man was asked to attend a certain meeting about 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ years ago, but it is doubtful whether it could be managed, as he only received the post-card early this month, with the postmaster's apologies. Another one sent from a firm of printers in the North in October, 1897, to the Meisenbach Company at West Norwood, was replied to at the end of last month (the *Telegraph* informs us) with the card returned to the senders, stating that it had been delivered on November 20th, the original postmark of despatch being Newcastle-on-Tyne, 3.15 p.m., 1 Oct., 1897.



Commonwealth Issues.

— :0: —

THE recent issue of a special design which it was supposed had been adopted for a general series throughout the Australian Commonwealth, or at least, temporarily for its component States as parts of the whole, has called attention again to the question whether these stamps now current are to be considered as for the whole Continent or for the individual States only, in continuation of their old series. If the argument following this (written to settle the question) is correct, every stamp not previously demonetised in the respective States should be necessary for a new collector to obtain, if he wishes to start with the stamps of the Commonwealth and ignore its previous divisions, because it was permissible to use at that time any stamp not withdrawn from circulation, whether there was any stock or not actually at the post offices at the date mentioned.

Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, whose opinion may be considered the weightiest of any on such a matter, contends, in the *Australian Journal of Philately* for October 16th, that "all issues subsequent to the 1st March, 1901, are 'Australian' issues of the Commonwealth," because a proclamation fixed that as the date from which the Commonwealth assumed control of the Postal Service. Owing, however, to the Braddon clause requiring the accounts of each—not the revenue, apparently—to be kept separately for five years, it was held to be necessary to maintain a distinction between the postage stamps used in the respective States. Among the buildings and goods handed over to the Central Government were "a vast number of printed labels, used to denote prepayment of postage. These are distinguished by the names of the six States which handed them unreservedly to one supreme Government, which adopted them as its own, and agreed to honour them," &c. "From that date every stamp sold [or used?—ED.] became a

Commonwealth stamp," and if the supply of N.S.W. stamps ran out, it was not *its* Government that ordered more, but the order was given and money paid by the Australian Government. So with Tasmania, &c., for which States the A.C. officer in Melbourne ordered a new supply from the nearest reliable printer, who happened to be a Victorian State official, and the supply was paid for out of Australian revenue, and when sold the proceeds went into the coffers of the Australian Government. Also, with the new 9d. stamps inscribed Queensland and New South Wales—"Neither of the States prepared the stamps, neither sold them, neither obtained the direct proceeds from their sale." The article from the *Melbourne Argus* in our July number does not agree at all with the extracts now quoted.

This seems clear in some respects, but it is not at all clear *why* the five years' bookkeeping arrangement was insisted upon. If the separate States are *not* receiving the proceeds of the sale of stamps with their name on and obtained from their officials, what is the use of the farce of inscribing those names on them? If all the stamps and revenue therefrom belong to the Federal Government, why should it *manufacture special issues with new designs and values* never previously required by the individual States, instead of preparing at once a uniform design and inscription on a series for the whole continent, to be issued as the old printings were cleared out? The separate bookkeeping of postal expenses and receipts could be carried out with any design, or even without stamps at all. It looks uncommonly like hanky-panky work to obtain an unfair (general, not postal) revenue from the known world-wide habits of a million stamp collectors, who know not nor care whether a postal business pays or not; and the scathing comments of the *London Philatelist* on New Zealand's practice of the last three years seem equally applicable to this Australian Commonwealth with its innumerable varieties of papers, watermarks, and perforations. It was bad enough that each State should be making a last dying effort to enrich itself at the expense of, maybe, foolish philatelists before its departure from the world of stamp-issuing fraternities, as we supposed; but—it Mr. Hull's statements are correct—it is little short of a disgrace that the new Government of the Commonwealth should commence its career by creating unnecessary stamps solely for the purpose of fleecing stamp collectors; for no real justification of these new issues is possible beyond that of making a revenue from their sale, which was not possible from their postal use.

PRIZE COMPETITION.



Philatelic "Watermark" Puzzle.

Are you good at "water" marks?

Test the sobriety of your stamp-collecting friends at Christmas.

A PRIZE OF £5 worth of Stamps

will be given for the correct solution of the above puzzle.

The winner may order any stamps to the above value from the "1904 Popular British and British Colonial Price List," or may select them from the stock books (British, foreign or Colonial) of our publishers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. Solutions must be written distinctly in the form provided for that purpose, which will be found among the advertisements on page vii. in this number.
2. Envelopes should be marked "Competition" outside on the top left-hand corner, and addressed to
THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN,
229, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
3. The last day for receiving solutions is Saturday, January 15th, 1904. The result will be announced in our issue for January.
4. If no competitor sends the correct solution, the prize will be awarded to the nearest, but in the unlikely event of more than one correct answer being received, the prize will be given to the sender of the first correct one opened. No replies will be opened till 15th January, 1904, so that all competitors will have an equal chance in this respect.
5. Any competitor may send in as many solutions as he likes, but each must be written on a separate form. The Editor's decision will be final.

Descriptive Catalogue OF European Postage Stamps.

(NOTE: The prices quoted are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers. A dash signifies out of stock; a blank means that no stamp exists in the type, shade, or perforation indicated.)

GREECE.

(Continued.)

Between the years 1874 and 1878 the stamps of all values, except the 80 lep., are found printed on very thin semi-transparent paper. The 1 and 2 lep. on this paper have been included in the last issue, for convenience sake, but the other values form a series by themselves. The stamps on this paper generally have a somewhat oily appearance, this being particularly noticeable in the case of the 5 lep. and 40 lep. The former is printed in sage green, from pale to very deep. The 10 lep. is only found in a rich orange-red shade on grey-blue paper which seems to have a tinge of lilac in it; this printing is scarce, especially unused. There are several shades of the 20lep., the one on quite blue paper being the most distinctive one. The various shades of the 40lep. are a little confusing and requires some description. The pale and deep violet are somewhat similar to those of former printings, but the olive green on greenish is a most extraordinary-looking stamp. It appears almost as though it had been printed in oil, the inscriptions and the details of the design being almost indistinguishable. The next—bistre on blue—is also a very miserable-looking object, but is an improvement on the last. The colour of the printing ink can hardly be distinguished on the blue paper; it is, however, called bistre by courtesy; "drab" would, perhaps, be equally descriptive. The last printing is again an improvement, the colour being distinctly a lilac-brown, and it shows up much better than the last two printings. It is, however, nothing to boast about in appearance. Used stamps of this printing nearly always have a bronze lustre, owing, no doubt, to some chemical action which takes place in the colouring matter.

1874-78.

THIN TRANSPARENT PAPER.

	Unused.		Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	
5 lep., green on greenish	15	0	6
<i>a. deep green on greenish</i>	—	—	9
10 lep., bright red-orange on lilac-blue	—	—	4 0
20 " indigo on bluish	—	—	4
<i>a. grey blue on bluish</i>	—	—	9
<i>b. deep blue on bluish</i>	—	—	3
20 lep., deep blue on blue	—	—	6
40 " violet on blue	18	0	5
<i>a. pale violet on blue</i>	—	—	3 0
40 lep., dull green on greenish	12	6	7 6
40 " bistre on blue	3	9	3 6
40 " lilac-brown on blue	2	3	2 0

THE ERRORS.

Naturally, a fair number of errors in the position of the figures on the backs of the stamps are known, though not so many as might have been expected considering the careless way in which the plates were kept. The most marked errors are the 20 lep. with figures "80" at the back, and the 40 lep. with the error "20" at back, and the same stamp with the figure "2" corrected to a "4," the latter figure being printed on the top of the former. These are the only cases in which the wrong figures were printed on the wrong values, the other varieties being mostly cases in which the figures were inverted or mis-placed. Most of these are rare, some excessively so, but several are quite common. As far as is known, the inverted figures occurred regularly in the same positions on the sheets, and are not due to whole sheets having been inserted in the printing press upside down, though it is probable that this may have been the case in some instances.

1862-77.

ATHENS PRINTINGS ON VARIOUS TINTED PAPERS,

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 lep., green on greenish ("5" twice)	—	—
10 " red-orange on blue (figures "10" printed on the face) ...	—	—
10 " orange on bluish ("0") ...	—	8 6
10 " " ("00") ...	—	—
10 " " ("01") ...	—	3 6
20 " blue on bluish ("20") ...	—	—
20 " " ("02") ...	—	6 0
20 " " ("20") ...	—	6 0
20 " " ("2") ...	—	—
40 " violet on pale blue ("20") ...	—	—
40 " " ("4 on "20") ...	—	—
40 " " ("40" twice) ...	—	—
80 " rose on cream ("8" inverted)	60 0	15 0

NOTE.—Many so-called errors may be found, in which the figures of value are missing together, but in all such cases that have come to our notice there has been no doubt that the fact of the figures being missing was due to art.

After being content with seven values for fourteen years it was found necessary to have two new denominations—namely, 30 and 60 lep.—on the introduction of new postal rates for certain foreign places. The plates for printing the new values were ordered in Paris, and, as in the case of the first issue, a supply of the stamps was printed there and delivered in Athens with the plates. The Paris-printed 30 lep. was printed in olive-brown on cream paper, and the 60 lep. in dark green on pale green paper. When the stamps were printed in Athens the printing deteriorated in the same degree as we have noted in other issues. There were three distinct printings of the Athens 30 lep. The first is something like the Paris printing in colour, but generally much deeper. The second is in the same colour, but on buff paper. The third is in dark brown, slightly reddish in tint. The Athens 60 lep.

can never be confused with the Paris print, as it is on buff paper. None of these stamps have figures of value on the back.

1876.

	PARIS PRINT.	ATHENS PRINT
	Un-used.	Un-used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30 lep., olive-brown on cream ...	42 0	5 0
a. olive-brown on buff ...	—	—
b. red-brown on cream ...	—	—
60 lep., dark green on cream ...	2 6	4 3
60 " " buff ...	—	—

NOTE.—There was a large remainder of the 60 lep. Paris Print, which accounts for the low price at which it can be bought unused. Collectors are warned against this stamp with fraudulent postmarks.

About the same time as these two new values were issued a marked change was made in the other values, which, instead of being printed on various tinted paper, were now all issued on a uniform cream-coloured paper, the numerals of value still appearing on the backs. The colours of the impressions remained the same, with the exception of the 40 lep., which now appeared in a pale buff colour. The 80 lep. did not appear on cream-coloured paper, as there was a sufficient supply of the older printings in stock at the time, and this value was eventually withdrawn from use on December 31st, 1881. The stamps of this set are not common unused, with the exception of the 40 lep. buff, of which there were a number of remainders.

1876.

ON CREAM PAPER, WITH FIGURES AT THE BACK.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 lep., yellow-green ...	6 0	1 6
a. pale yellow-green ...	—	1 6
b. apple-green ...	—	2 0
10 lep., orange-red ...	—	2
a. orange ...	—	3 0
b. orange red on buff ...	—	1 9
c. orange on buff ...	—	1 9
20 lep., Prussian blue ...	—	2
a. deep blue ...	—	4
b. pale blue ...	—	1 6
c. deep ultramarine ...	—	2
40 lep., rosy-buff ...	2 0	2 0

ERRORS OF THE 1876 ISSUE.

The errors of this issue were confined to the two values 10 and 20 lep., and some are very common. The error "110" is caused by the "bit," which is used by printers to keep type in place, dropping a little and forming a character something like a figure "1."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 lep., orange-red ("1") ...	—	—
10 " " ("00") ...	—	3 0
10 " " ("01") ...	—	22 6
10 " " ("0") ...	—	—
10 " " ("10" twice) ...	—	—
10 " " ("110") ...	—	—
20 " " ("20") ...	—	5 0

NOTE.—The last-mentioned error was caused by the "2" being inserted upside down on one stamp on the sheet. It is a curious fact that in this variety the "2" is always defective at the top.

In 1879 the Greek postal authorities decided to abolish the system of printing the numerals

on the backs of the stamps, and towards the end of that year the 5 and 10 lep. began to appear without them. These were followed at intervals by the 20 and 40 lep., the latter again being changed in colour to mauve. About the same time the plates seem to have received some attention, as many of the stamps of this issue are very nicely and clearly printed. Indeed, specimens of the 5 lepta have been seen in which the shading on the cheek and neck are dotted almost as in the Paris-printed stamps. Towards the end of the issue, however, the printing became, if anything, worse than ever, and specimens of the 5 and 10 lepta may be found in which the figures of value in the label at foot are mere uncoloured blotches. These two values may also be found on ribbed paper. The 20 lepta does not appear to have been issued until 1881, and is not a common stamp either used or unused, as the colour was changed in the following year to red. When this change was made, the 30 lepta was issued in blue. On the

latter stamp may be found a flaw in the plate, somewhat similar to those already described on the 1 leptons. This is a wedge-shaped blotch across the frame and beaded circle on the right hand side almost on a

level with the nose. This is shown, though very indistinctly, in the accompanying illustration. In the stamp itself the flaw shows very plainly.

The 40 lepta was a decided improvement in colour on any tint that had been used for this value previously. It may be found in all shades from pale to very deep mauve.

1879-82.

WITHOUT FIGURES AT THE BACK.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 lep., deep green on buff ...	—	—	2	6
5 " " " cream ...	3	3	3	—
a. green on cream ...	—	—	—	1
b. pale green on cream ...	—	—	—	1
10 lep., bright orange-red on cream ...	—	—	—	5
10 " orange on cream ...	—	—	—	1
a. orange-yellow on cream ...	1	9	—	—
b. yellow on cream ...	—	—	—	1
20 lep., deep ultramarine on cream ...	12	6	1	3
30 " " carmine ...	30	0	—	4
20 " " rosine ...	—	—	—	1
a. pale rosine on cream ...	4	6	—	1
30 lep., deep ultramarine on cream ...	15	0	1	6
a. ultramarine on cream ...	—	—	—	2
b. grey-blue on cream ...	16	0	—	0
40 lep., mauve on cream ...	4	6	—	10
a. deep mauve on cream ...	6	0	—	8

NOTE.—All the stamps of this issue, including the 1 and 2 lep., may be found perforated with various gauges, and also pin perforated or rouletted, but these perforations were all unofficial, being the work of various local post-masters.

(To be continued.)

New Leaves to Cut.

THE STAMP-FIENDS' RAID.*

This book has nothing to do (directly) with Mafekings, though that raid was a memorable one for collectors: nor yet with the previous one from that district conducted by a man whose name is very similar to that of the author now under notice. Though the ground is cleared somewhat by this announcement, there is still some difficulty in making clear what this book means, but it is clearly written—as the author describes *his* raid parenthetically—"In Philatella's Cause," and he calls it *A Philatelic Phantasy*. As earnest thereof we quote from his *Apologia Philateliæ* these verses, which may be accepted as our apology for saying anything:—

Many a vigil I have kept for thee,
The world-wide message much to me doth say,
Goddess, my love-born service boldens me
E'en this crude pæan at thy feet to lay.

I, as of old, thy loyal knight would be,
I, that have passed thro' every grade and stage,
Proud if perchance the call should come to me
To rise, and in thy Cause take up the "gauge."

And in a further address "To the Reader," he adds:—

Naught writ in malice here thou'lt find,
'Twere ill if tell from One of Us
Aught to give pain or words unkind:
Written in good part—take it thus,
Or lightly wield the critic's staff
'Gainst one who scatters harmless "chaff."

As to what the 278 pages of this novelette in verse is about, we can only say, as "a captious critic," that—as the author himself writes—

Some in this story may perceive
An awful lack of moral tone;
But, serious reader, don't believe
All that you read—nor half alone.
For here you see, and at their worst,
Two Stamp-Fiends—'neath a spell accurst.

And so we might thus be content to end our notice, and have done with it.

But—we must mention that there are nearly a dozen chief characters, from Will Wylie (the *raconteur*) to Pauline (the peerless), the one and only sister of the "The Philatelic Privateer"; while among the seven-and-twenty Threads of the Yarn are The Man at the Front with the Blood Red Cape in An Unholy Alliance with V.R. Penny Black and The Boer o' Bethnal Green, followed by A Philatelic Concert at the Stamp Sale where The Phantom was Reaping

*"The Stamp-Fiends' Raid." By W. E. Inneson. (Hornoe Cox; Bream's Buildings, E.C.; price 2/6.)

the Whirlwind to Love's Old Sweet Song. There are also as many Pen-and-Ink Perpetrations, besides the Arms of the Wylie-Jones Combine as a frontispiece, the character of which may be judged from a few titles, such as The Bargain Hunter on Penny Black Bess offering Five Pounds Reward for War Stamps Extraordinary, while a Sweet Pale-Face Girl goes off with The Ghost of Pedlar Jim, and before The Final Bow says: "We're getting on so Nicely Now." The accompanying illustration will give a fair idea of the execution.

In addition, there are sixteen pages of a Glossary of Terms thoughtfully provided for the Philistines and the Utlanders to whom Phil[os]atelia is indeed Greek, in which are

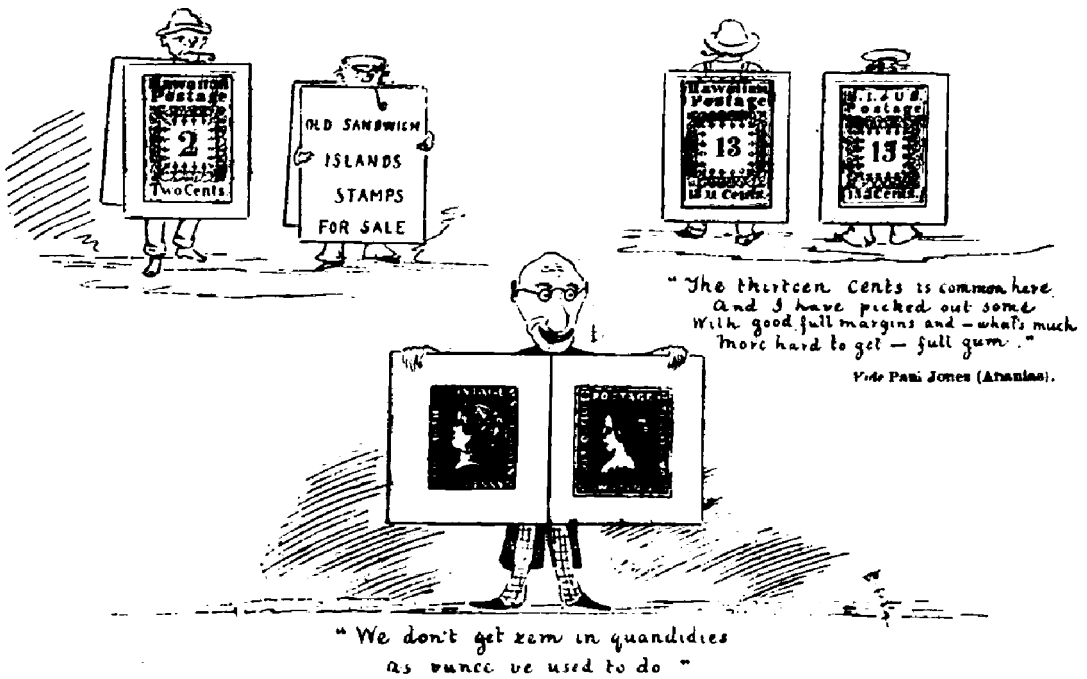
course, think there was anything so dignified as Philately.

Having now told all and sundry all about it, you know, we will wish all our and its readers a joyful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

--o--

THE A B C OF STAMP COLLECTING.*

We are not sure that Mr. Melville has chosen quite the best title for this handy little book, as it will give the impression to many that it is only for young beginners. "On Starting a Collection" and "Clues to Classification," "Ament Postmarks," &c., are all right as a guide or in explaining the alphabet of collecting; but the bulk of the thirty chapters are



mentioned some Journals and Persons of Note in this World of Ours. There are two or three slips, as, in giving "BROWN. -Mr. W. Brown is the publisher of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*," though our Publishers (of last four years) and our Initials are also named on other pages. Elsewhere we read that "Mr. E. J. Nankivell is Editor of the *Philatlic Record*," yet *Morley's Philatelic Journal* and other recent items listed show the writer to be fairly up-to-date in his references—in fact, one portion seems to refer to a recent Official Stamp case. It is to be hoped that a copy has been given to the fair (?) writer in the *Queen* (same publisher) who used to revile stamp collecting as if it were the unclean thing, and who would not, of

mostly interesting as connected with the history, production, and study of stamps. The *Story of the Stamp, its Romance, History, Portraiture, Fine Arts, Rarities, Famous Collectors, with news as to Manufacture, Reprints, Errors, Books, Societies, and other information useful and interesting to the more advanced section, is given in an entertaining manner. As part of a critic's duty is to point out errors or omissions, we have tried to do it, and have only discovered a "7" that has crept into the date of first postal cards, which appeared in Austria, October, 1869. An oversight, as we*

*"A B C of Stamp Collecting." By Fred J. Melville (Henry J. Drane, Salisbury House, Salisbury Square E.C.; 130 pages; price 1/-.)

fancy it, is the omission of "Hinton's Hints on Stamp Collecting," quite as useful as the other books listed for juniors. It may be superfluous to say that a Commemorative issue of the Declaration of Independence was in the U.S., but it reads at p. 40 as if it was British! That is all. There are nineteen plates of illustrations of 237 stamps of most varied type, from the Mulready and P.O. Mauritius to bogus issues like Sedang, &c., with many of the rare Postmaster stamps of the United States. A most desirable shillingworth for any collector. .q.

SCOTT'S ANNUAL.*

The sixty-third edition is before us in a drab cover, and if all previous issues had been bound in different colours (which they were) more carefully selected, they would form a fine colour chart, if correctly named. We would respectfully suggest that a "violet" binding be used next time, to match the catalogued 2 and 8 annas violet (?) of India, and also the various other violets of the U.S. lists; it would be a study then for chameleons as well as for collectors. There does not appear to be much variation of prices from the last one; a few of the cheaper medium class are reduced, while some better ones are advanced. The latest Australian Commonwealth 9d. issues for New South Wales and Queensland are duly chronicled and illustrated, with a price of 30 cents each. One omission we notice in the Straits Settlements, a supposed surcharge of Perak that has appeared for a few years past, which has, presumably, now been found to be an error. The book before us is more carefully machined than our last copy, and the illustrations and type show up clearly. The usual list of useful tables as to coins, French and German spellings of the names of countries where they differ materially from the English names, and other philatelic information also appears.

WILLIE'S STAMPS.

[From *Mekeel's Weekly*.]

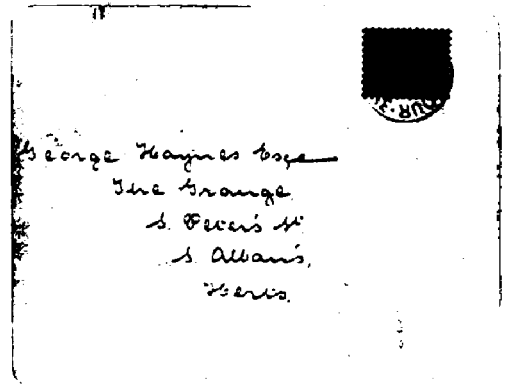
Willie started to savin' stamps
 Three or four years ago;
 Willie's father began to scold
 Willie for doin' so.
 His mother gave him a lecture,
 And then his sister Sue,
 And even his brother, Archibald,
 Must poke his nose in, too.
 Each one said it seemed a shame
 To throw his time away;
 Ought to be doin' somethin' else,
 Might come a rainy day.
 Old man's down with rheumatiz now,
 He couldn't pay the rent:
 Sue don't know how to do nothin',
 Archibald hasn't a cent.
 It ain't their fault they ain't beggin'
 Out in the streets like tramps;
 The whole blamed family's livin' now
 On Willie and his stamps.

E. C. WARNER.

AN INTERESTING CARD.

—:0:—

A subscriber recently showed us a post-card which he received from a friend on June 1st, 1901, it having been franked by a 1/2d. stamp of 1870, and posted on the last day on which any then obsolete British stamp could be used.



The owner has very kindly allowed us to illustrate this for the benefit of our readers. On the reverse side appear the following lines:—

"Quaint little label,
 Still it is able
 To carry this card through the post;
 But with the next sun
 Its long course will be run,
 And its value be that of a ghost.

"For many long years,
 Without any tears,
 We've used others—green, slate, and red;
 But we've a soft place
 For the first of its race,
 And shall sorrow to feel it is dead.

"No funeral bell
 Will sound forth its knell
 To tell us the little un's done;
 But sadly we know
 As a "frank" it must go
 With this May, nineteen hundred and one.

Aberlour, Strathspey,
 May 31, 1901."

W. J.



*"Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue for 1901." (Sole Agent for Great Britain: W. T. Wilson, 192, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.) Price 2s. 4d. post free.



December, 1903, Report.

—o—

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MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and subscription, 5/- should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—

Geo. A. Gonbault, Jamaica; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by P. L. Pemberton.

The Hon. Sec. will be pleased to hear from several gentlemen to whom application forms and particulars have at their request been sent.

NOTICES.

The third meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall on December 9th, when there were present: Mr. W. Schwabacher (in the

chair), F. Reichenheim, H. Thompson, W. Schwarte, A. B. Kay, R. Meyer, J. C. Sidebotham, R. Frenzel, P. L. Pemberton, L. W. Fulcher, H. Atharley, the Hon. Sec., and Messrs. R. F. Farden (Surrey Philatelic Society) and J. Chapman, visitors. Mr. F. Reichenheim gave a display, and read a paper on the Stamps of France, from the first issue of 1848 to 1900, in which he treated the many and varied issues of this country in a very thorough and exhaustive manner, and which was much appreciated by all present, the meeting concluding with a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks.

The next meeting will take place at Essex Hall on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1904, at 8 p.m., when Mr. W. Schwabacher will give a Display, and Notes on the Fiscal Stamps of Countries showing Interesting Phases in their History, viz., Alsace-Lorraine, Crete, Peru, and Philippines. All members and any visitors cordially invited to attend.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

It is hoped that all members will do their best to extend the scope and usefulness of the I.P.U. during the coming year and introduce new members, and that the few members who have not yet forwarded their subscriptions will do so without delay.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.
December 15th, 1903.

THE SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, December 1st, in their rooms at the Wharnccliffe Hotel, King Street, and in the absence of the President, Mr. J. H. Chapman took the chair.

There was a large muster of members to listen to papers sent by Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A., Rochdale, on the stamps of the West Indies, first portion. Mr. Heginbottom regretted being unable to be present himself. Mr. R. Sneath kindly consented to read and explain the various notes in his usual genial way. Mr. Heginbottom's notes fully described the various issues, and illustrated the same by means of his collection, which was a splendid display, being practically complete, and including some of the very rarest stamps of the countries described—viz., Antigua, Virgin Isles, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, Seychelles. Amongst them was a magnificent used specimen of the 6d. green imperf. Antigua, watermark Star, which was guaranteed genuine by the stamp expert, Mr. Bacon.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Heginbottom, and the Chairman announced that one of the old members, Major Mullins, who was formerly stationed at Sheffield with his regiment, and who has fought in the Boer War, has promised to come to the next meeting and exhibit his collection of stamps of the Orange River Colony, which he had collected while out there.



December 24, 1903.

Philately at Home.

The editorial pages of the November *London Philatelist* are devoted to observations on "Original Gum." The opinions of two well-known German philatelists are quoted, and both agree that too much importance should not be attached to the gum—a statement with which Mr. Castle agrees in the main, as will be seen from the following paragraph:—

It is better to attach value to a specimen in fine condition without gum than to a poor one with it, and we are convinced that in many cases too much importance is attached to the gum alone. In the case of many old stamps—say, the provisional issues of British Guiana, or the first two issues of New South Wales—specimens with full gum hardly ever occur, and the collector who declined such issues without gum might wait until the Greek Kalepds before completing his series. In these, and doubtless many similar old issues, the gum was frequently very scantily, or even only partially laid on, and even if original is sometimes of so indeterminate a character as to present but little security against imitation. This latter remark applies also to such stamps as the Prussian Head issue with solid background, of which the 2 sg. blue is so rare. This is a bold, well-printed stamp, with plenty of colour, and one that well retains its freshness of appearance, while the gum is but a very simple white mucilage; yet we have seen really fine specimens without gum go begging for a fourth of the price paid for a stamp with the gum that otherwise was in no better condition. On the other hand, with such stamps as the first issue of Oldenburg, that often occur unmarked, and some values of which are of great rarity unused, the original gum, if undoubted, is of the greatest importance.

The italics in the last sentence are our own, for we think these two words have a great deal to do with the matter. It seems to us that, with most stamps, it would be a fairly easy matter to imitate the gum so closely as to make detection almost impossible, and, therefore, except in isolated instances, it seems the height of folly for collectors to pay three or four times as much for a stamp with gum, as for one in equally good condition without. We do not for a moment wish to infer that no importance at all should be attached to the gum, but rather that its presence or absence should not carry undue weight in the choice of specimens.

An appreciation of the late Mr. W. E. Image contains many interesting facts regarding the fine collection he made. This collection, which was ultimately sold to the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, and now forms part of the historic collection

in the British Museum, was amassed almost entirely by correspondence and Mr. Image's own personal researches.

In "Occasional Notes" we are told that an international Philatelic Exhibition is to be held in Berlin in September, 1904. A strong committee of influential collectors has been formed, and there is every reason to believe that the exhibition will be a big success.

Mr. M. P. Castle, in collaboration with leading specialists, proposes to make a critical survey of the stamps in the Tapling Collection, and the resulting articles should be of value to all philatelists. The following is a curtailed description of the scheme:

Now that the collection is, happily, permanently displayed to the public it may be deemed advisable to occasionally examine and even criticise some of the component parts thereof, for the benefit of those who are unable to personally inspect the treasures themselves. We therefore propose from time to time to carefully tabulate the stamps of some of the most interesting countries, and to make such comments thereon, either as to their merits or demerits, as may be of interest or value to those of our readers who are at a distance. In order to be in due position to survey critically, we propose to invite the co-operation of leading specialists. . . . It is obvious that a mere recapitulation of the contents of the cases at the Museum, without some analysis or criticism, would be of little value to the reader, and it should therefore be borne in mind that in our comments we are in no way desirous of "looking a gift horse in the mouth," or in any way detracting from this superb and munificent bequest. Still less are we desirous in any way of impugning the abilities of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, but in Philately, as in all else, the growth of knowledge and appreciation is but slow. . . . The first thing that palpably and promptly strikes the philatelic critic of the twentieth century, in a general examination of the collection, is that *condition*, in its true sense, was but poorly understood in Mr. Tapling's time. . . . In many cases there are, of course, things of priceless value, impossible to replace nowadays; but side by side there are very many specimens that would assuredly have been eliminated had the owner been spared. It is therefore with a view of uttering a true and correct appreciation of the collection from a twentieth-century point of view that we have allowed any deprecatory note in our remarks, and not from any lack of the true estimation alike of the superb nature of the collection as a whole and of the noble intentions of the munificent donor.

To New South Wales is allocated the honour of being the subject of the first of these articles. Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg is the leading specialist to whom the task of tabulating the list of the varieties has been entrusted, and it therefore goes without saying that the *critique* is carefully and thoroughly done.

Another interesting contribution details the scheme of the arrangement of the Earl of Crawford's magnificent collection of United States stamps. The magnitude of the collection may be judged from the fact that it is contained in forty-one volumes, and its thoroughness and complete character can be imagined when we are told that Lord Crawford has included everything "that in any way refers to the origin, development, and manufacture of the postage stamp, from the earliest original pen or pencil sketch down to the plate proof of the finished article immediately prior to its issue to the public."

The *Monthly Journal* contains an editorial on some "Original Entires" of so original a nature that the envelopes on which they were obliterated had not passed through the post. It appears that the Commemoratives issued by the Dominican Republic last year were not so eagerly sought after by collectors as the promoters of the issue fondly hoped; so in September of the same year the whole stock of remainders—a considerable quantity—was sold to a European dealer. Used specimens being by no means abundant, and some one of an accommodating turn of mind being quite ready to oblige, sets of these stamps, all "postally used on entire original," were soon turned out in sufficient quantity to meet all demands. Their very "original" character may be judged from the following extract—

"These envelopes profess to have been despatched by one JOAO FREDERICO HERMANN, Sto. Domingo (R.D.), to Edward J. Bothwell, Esq.—*Agent of Maritime Assurances—Trujielo—(Peru)*," whose address is printed upon them, in spite of the fact that these labels were not available for postage outside the Republic itself. According to the datemark, they were posted on January 20th, 1902, whereas the stamps were not issued until the 25th of the following month. The datemark of the place of destination says "12 DC 07 1," which seems quite incomprehensible, and, moreover, shows the name wrongly spelt "Truillo"; and the other supposed "postmarks" are equally incorrect. Finally, the envelopes were supplied by a firm in Geneva which has only been in existence for a little over twelve months, the addresses were printed upon them by another Geneva firm in March last, and the date and obliterating marks were made by a third party, also of Geneva.

Quite an interesting little story! Furthermore, we are told that Mr. Bela Szekula is responsible for these curiosities; that he admits he obliterated these stamps himself; and, by means of an ingenious argument, he claims that he was quite justified in doing so! Well, well, some people do have elastic consciences, don't they?

The third of the admirable "Papers on Perforations," by Messrs. Napier and Bacon, appears. This concludes the story of the De La Rue perforations, and, like its predecessors, the paper teems with valuable and instructive information. We refrain from making any

extracts, as to do justice to the subject it would be necessary to cull the whole article, but recommend our readers to carefully study the paper themselves.

Mr. L. Hanciau continues his article on "The Postal Issues of Finland," dealing this month with the stamps of the first type. In the decree authorizing this issue it is stated that the stamps "are covered on the back with gum, which, when slightly wetted, attaches the stamp to the letter," and the following items for the guidance of the public and the postmasters are interesting:—

5. To prevent postage stamps which have already been used from being used again, the stamps affixed to the letters deposited at the post offices will be cancelled, before the letters are despatched, by applying to each of them the local stamp of the office. Letters on which are found affixed stamps that are obliterated or have already been used will be treated as not prepaid.

7. The postage stamps which the postmasters have in their charge will be kept in cardboard boxes, of such size that will contain one hundred stamps.

We gather that each stamp of the first issue was printed direct from the die "by means of a very simple little lever press, of the most primitive description, fixed to a wooden table and worked by hand." One more extract must suffice:—

No sooner had the order been given for printing the stamps than the postal authorities were seized with dread, and, terrified at having dared to issue postage stamps, they began to doubt whether they would not immediately be counterfeited. What was to be done? After mature consideration it was decided to insert in the die, so-called *secret marks*, which would be sure to escape the notice of the forgers; and as it was also essential that the secret should be well kept, the Department did not fail to address a Circular upon the subject to every postmaster in the country, persuaded that its contents would never be revealed!

There is a further instalment of the translation of Dr. José Marco del Pont's article on the "Postage Stamps of the Argentine Confederation," from which we take the following:—

It was a common custom throughout the Confederation to divide the 10c. stamp, and even sometimes the 15c., in order to use them as 5c. We do not suppose there was any special authority for this, but we believe that it was simply due to the fact that the Revenue officials frequently failed to apply in sufficient time for fresh supplies of 5c. stamps, and in order to replace them when they had run out had recourse to this convenient method, which afforded an opening for many abuses.

We are further told that so common did this custom become that a special Regulation was passed forbidding the practice; but even this failed to put a stop to it altogether.

In the *Philatelic Record* one of the editorial notes deals briefly with the somewhat aged question of the status of Official stamps, in which, while averring that it would be better for this class of labels, as well as Unpaid, to be dropped out of collections altogether, entire agreement is not held with the points put for-

ward by the organ of the Philatelic Society in support of this view. There is more than a modicum of truth in the following quotation:—

We are told by the *London Philatelist* that the Official stamps of Great Britain will in future be unsaleable in an unused condition. If this be so, those collectors who have paid big prices for them are keeping white elephants. From this we strongly dissent. Their sale in this country by dealers in the immediate future will doubtless be restricted, owing to the scare engendered by the proceedings against Mr. Creeke and others; but this, as is almost invariably the case, will soon die away and be forgotten. Meanwhile, there is no prohibition against these stampson the Continent, and a glance at the advertisements in foreign philatelic publications will show how freely they are being handled abroad. To assert that collectors who bought their stamps years ago cannot sell them with safety is tantamount to saying that they bought them knowing them to be stolen, and are, therefore, neither more nor less than receivers of stolen property.

The *London Philatelist* must have overlooked one or two important admissions made at the trial in question, which, so far, at all events, as the I.R. Officials are concerned, make them quite safe goods for collectors to hold in an unused condition, without incurring the imputation of being amongst the worst class of criminals known to the English law.

Another editorial note calls attention to a discussion which took place at a meeting of the Sydney Philatelic Club as to what Australian stamps should be included amongst the Commonwealth issues up to the present time. Here, indeed, is a nice little puzzle for collectors. How should the recent makeshift issue of West Australia and other stamps printed on Victoria's "V & Crown" paper, and the 9d. stamps of New South Wales and Queensland inscribed "Commonwealth" be classified? For ourselves, we are quite content at present to follow the lead of Gibbons' Catalogue in placing them under the heading of the respective States whose names they bear and in which they have franking power.

The "Notable Philatelist" this month is Mr. T. W. Hall, well known as an enthusiastic specialist of South American stamps. We are told that Mr. Hall "collects all South America, but not Central, although he takes British Guiana, Curacoa, and Surinam. He nibbles at Turkey and Greece, and has a few Australians, Fiji, Tasmania, and New Zealand being worthy of more than a passing notice"—truly a field that ordinary mortals would consider more than enough to cover! Mr. Hall's name was well to the fore in association with those of Messrs. Bacon and Luff in the discovery of the lithographed Chilians, and he has recently contributed to philatelic literature a scholarly paper on the 1861 and 1863 issues of Columbia.

In the present instalment of Mr. Jos. Schock's paper on "Luxemburg" the "officiel" issues are still under treatment, the various printings, errors, &c., being fully described.

The "Supplementary Notes on the Stamps of Crete issued by the English Administration," from the pen of Mr. Franz Reichenheim, form profitable reading, and another interesting

contribution is the account of the Argentine Philatelic Exhibition held at Buenos Ayres early in September.

Alfred Smith and Son's *Monthly Circular* contains a few notes on the early stamps of Sarawak. The first stamp bearing Sir James Brooke's portrait was, we are told, described in the *Philatelist* of September, 1868, as being "lithographed by Maclure, Macdonald & Macgregor (a good Scotch name that), the engravers of the current set of Montevideo and other stamps," while in Gibbons' new Catalogue we note that the stamp was "engraved and printed by Mr. Chas. Whiting." The 3 cents of 1871 surcharged TWO CENTS in sans-serif type, which, though at one time listed in all the standard catalogues, is now "considered a bogus surcharge," was, we learn, chronicled by the *Timbre-Post* in July, 1876, and, though not contending that it was, Mr. Smith suggests that such a stamp *may* have been issued.

In *Morley's Philatelic Journal*, the leading organ of "Fiscalism," there are many items calculated to enlighten and interest those to whom the joys of collecting revenue, telegraph, railway letter fee, &c., stamps appeal. Mr. L. W. Fulcher commences what promises to be a valuable article in "The Life Policy Stamps of Great Britain." These handsome stamps were designed and printed by Perkins, Bacon and Co., and, we read, are to be found in the two dies that exist in the 1d. red-brown postage stamps of 1854-57.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for November 21st tells us that the "White List of philatelists is hereby abandoned. It is useless to blink facts. A thing which appeals to less than thirty of our readers is obviously not wanted." And so say all of us! Among the more scientific items are some notes on the local overprint of Morocco Agencies, by Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole, from which it would seem that there were at least three settings of the type. We have specimens of the 10c. and 40c. of this issue without serif to "g" occurring on the sixth stamp of the bottom row of the left-hand pane. As this position differs from that, given by the writer, of a similar variety, it appears that there was also another setting.

The following issue, which forms the special "Christmas Number," arrives in a gaudy cover (red and blue printed on yellow paper!), showing the venerable Father Christmas seated on the World, with a half-closed album in his right hand and a brimming bumper in his left, at which he appears to be "winking the other eye." Advance announcements of this "great special number" were so laudatory that,

candidly, we must confess to a feeling of disappointment at the actual production.

No. 5 of the *Fortnightly* chats is a talk with our publishers, illustrated by photographs of the two heads of the firm. Being modest mortals, we will spare their blushes by refraining from quoting all the nice things that are said about them. There is also an interview with Mr. C. Nissen, a great believer in the future of British stamps, and some good stamp storyettes—we award the palm to the one by "P. C. B."

On opening the current number of the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* our critical eye was caught by the startling heading "Speculations on the First Issue of Victorian Stamps." "Eureka!" we mentally cried, as visions of reams of easily-turned-out "copy," showing up the ways of the wicked speculators, grew before our eyes; but, alas! 'twas only the author's playful way of writing "observations." Another try and we find the following useful information under the title of "Separation":—

Perforation is to-day in nearly universal use. By this process the paper between the stamps is cut away in a line of holes, usually round, leaving little bridges of paper between the stamps, to hold them together until separated.

The three most common forms of perforation are: fine perforation, coarse perforation, and rough perforation. In the fine the holes are small and the teeth close together; in the coarse the holes are large and the teeth far apart; and in the rough the holes are jagged.

The earliest issues did not provide for separating, and the stamps were usually cut apart with scissors. Such stamps are called imperforate or unperforated.

Well, well, we live and learn!

Philately in the Colonies.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* contains the continuation of Mr. D. P. Masson's "Notes on the Stamps of Sirmoor." The writer is of opinion that the 3 pies stamp of the 1835-88 issue was placed on the plates in groups or strips of four, showing that four different dies were used; and he also finds evidence of four different printings of the orange shade. The differences in the dies are so minute that it is almost impossible to differentiate them unless they happen to be found in blocks. In the 6 pies stamp of the same issue, Mr. Masson finds four different printings, the first two of which shew two distinct types each, making six varieties in all for this value.

The paper on "Roumania" is continued by Mr. E. W. Wetherell, and in his description of the 1866 issue we read that the "stamps were typographed in sheets of 200 stamps, arranged in a peculiar manner. The two top rows had fifteen stamps and the other rows seventeen stamps. There is, therefore, a blank space in the upper right-hand corner of the sheet, of

the size of four stamps, which gives the sheet a strikingly unusual appearance."

Mr. C. T. F. Crofton gives some interesting information regarding the Bhor State Postal System.

From the usual budget of "Notes" we extract the following:—

There is a nasty scandal in the air about the 1 para Servian stamp of the murderers' issue. One speculator was allowed to buy up 40,000 of these—practically the whole stock. This little purchase cost about £16. He is now selling them at about 2/6 or 3/- each. Not only this, but he is said to have got a further provisional 1 para, made by a surcharge on 50,700 5 dinar stamps, which he and his friends have been allowed to exploit as they wished. The stamps were on sale at two offices only and were suddenly withdrawn after two days. These stamps owe their origin to a foul murder and their subsequent career has been very dirty.

Strong language this, my masters! But who will say that under the circumstances it is unmerited?

By far the most important contribution in the *Australian Philatelist* is that from the pen of Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, entitled "A Remarkable Discovery." This discovery consists of a *tête-bêche* pair of the 2d. blue, "Sydney View," on original cover! It appears that in March, 1851, a sample sheet of forty-eight stamps from the 2d. plate was sent to the then Colonial Secretary with a request that instructions might be given for the plate to be repaired, as it was nearly unfit for use. It is from the letter, sent with the sheet, that Mr. Basset Hull is able to explain the cause of the variety, which he does in the following words:—

It will be seen that one sheet was submitted, and that sheet contained forty-eight stamps, or just double the number of impressions that we know were on the original plate. The explanation appears to me to be that two impressions had been taken from the plate on the one sheet of paper. After the first impression had been taken, the paper was turned out of the press, turned round, and a second impression taken on the unoccupied part of the paper. This would account for the one impression being printed upside down as regards the other. Doubtless in most cases the two impressions were severed before being placed on sale at the Post Office, but the pair under review being from the supply of an important Government Department, was probably cut straight from the "double" sheet, the two impressions being so close together that it was considered unnecessary to sever them.

Our other Antipodean contemporary, the *Australian Journal of Philately*, opens with an editorial under the patriotic heading of "Advance Australia." The particular application of this motto to philatelists is contained in the following paragraph:—

The stamps of Australia are, owing to recent political events, prominent in the minds of philatelists throughout the world. Many of us are endeavouring to discharge our obligations to our fellows by our researches and our efforts to maintain the prestige of the stamps of the Southern Seas; but there are many more who can help us. No one should think he is only a unit or merely a cypher. We should all work together for the common weal, and let posterity find that we had justified our adoption of the motto "Advance Australia."

There is a long letter from Mr. A. F. Basset Hull on the "Commonwealth Issues," in which arguments are put forward to prove that, as the Postal Department has been taken over by

the Commonwealth, all stamps issued since that date should be treated as Australian issues of the Commonwealth. We commend the editorial summing-up to the consideration of our readers.

We take it, therefore, that, according to Mr. Hull's argument, all those State postage stamps which were on sale on 1st March, or postmarked subsequently, must be classed as stamps of the Commonwealth equally with those which have been issued since. Such being the case, philatelists, in order to "begin at the beginning," will require to collect them in duplicate and place them under the heading, "Australian Commonwealth," reckoning the States as subdivisions as is done in "Columbia," following up in the same manner with any which were issued after March 1st, or may be issued hereafter, whether they bear the word "Commonwealth" or not, to be closed at the expiration of the five-years' period, half of which has already elapsed, or, strictly speaking, on the appearance of the *real* Commonwealth series—stamps which can be purchased in any State, and are available in any other State.

There is the usual batch of notes under "Federal Prospects," some good clippings from contemporaneous sources, and a very bald "new issue" list.

A Suggestion.

[From the *Philatelic Journal of India.*]

THE frequent remark met with, that British East Africa and Zanzibar postage labels are extensively forged in Bombay, is not at all creditable to the *Urbs prima in Indis*. It is sufficiently painful to read this humiliating observation in the foreign papers, but when the stigma is repeated in the representative Indian journal one feels that it is time that steps were taken to minimise the evil done by the forger.

In the recent issue of the overprinted labels of British Somaliland a new field has been opened for his activity. Used Queen's heads can be had in such abundance that he must by this time be industriously occupied. The East Africa and Zanzibar surcharged issues are a standing menace to the unwary collector, especially to him who hopes to get together a collection on the principle of exchange.

Many well-meaning men, anxious to foster and promote the growth of philately, make the collection of stamps a more tempting pursuit, by the facilities offered by newspapers and circulars. . . . The ardent tyro is naturally impressed with the fact that he can obtain both the commonest and great rarities by exchange, and forthwith dispatches his duplicates. In most cases there is no reply, and in some cases where a reply is sent, the enclosures are poor specimens or forgeries. To this fact must be attributed the disgust with which some people turn away from philately. But there are others who take a lesson from their first experience and adopt similar tactics.

It is very difficult to discriminate, and it is expedient that some means were devised to check the operations of many so-called dealers

and collectors, who are strangers to the code of honour. It is through these exchange mediums that the mass of forgeries find their way into the albums of inexperienced collectors, and even to the higher circles of philately. [Reference is then made to some local advertisements and swindling.] Now, is there no way, are there no means to check this growing evil?

In England there is a Stamp Trade Association. Every considerable city can boast its Philatelic Society, whose members are more or less in touch with one another. If those who exchange stamps with distant correspondents made it obligatory to send through the secretaries of Philatelic Societies, a salutary check might be introduced at both ends. . . . A monthly notice in our journal cautioning those abroad to exchange only through our hon. secretary (except with actual members of our society), would have a deterrent effect upon the forger . . .

J. GODINHO.

[What does our hon. secretary say to this?—
Ed. P.J.I.]

[The above suggestion (slightly condensed) is given here as being on the lines of our papers in July last, in which every would-be exchanger is recommended to join a Philatelic Society as a safeguard.—Ed. P.J.G.B.]

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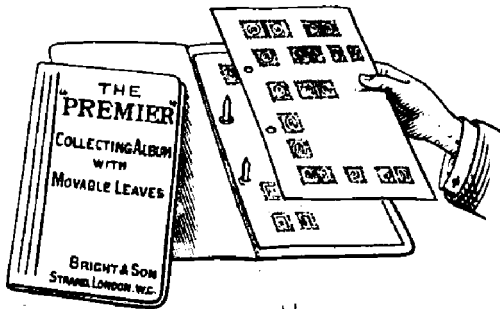
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FEBRUARY 28, 1903.

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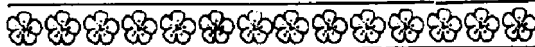


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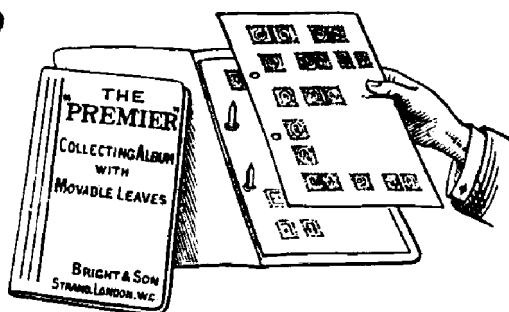
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6d. deep-brown	1	9
8d. red-brown	7	6
9d. brown	6	0
10d. orange	6	0
10d. orange-red	16	0
1/- mauve	6	0
2/- blue	6	6

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1d. blue	1	9	0
2d. yellow-green	14	0	0
4d. rose-red	30	0	0
5d. chestnut-brown	3	6	0
6d. deep brown	18	0	0
6d. bistre-brown	18	0	0
9d. deep brown	25	0	0
9d. bistre-brown	20	0	0
10d. orange-red	13	6	0
1/- pale lilac	6	0	0
2/- blue	40	0	0

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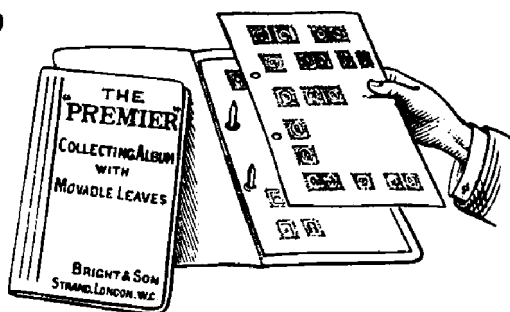
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THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL

of GREAT BRITAIN,
And Philatelic Review of Reviews.

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APRIL 30, 1903.

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Address Box 43, care of PHILATELIC JOURNAL

NOTICE.

Owing to the expiration of our lease at 104, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W., on June 24th, 1903, and before continuing our business by correspondence only from 179, Mount View Road, Finsbury Park, London, N., we are selling all our stock of Stamps at 25 per cent. discount off our usual prices, and we shall offer in each issue of the *P. J. G. B.* up to that date Special Bargains at Sale Prices. MAKE A NOTE of what we offer and apply at once, as once sold out we cannot supply again at the prices quoted.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
Madagascar.		
<i>British Consular Mail.</i>		
1d. black and rose	11	0
3d. "	7	6
Mauritius.		
1860-63. <i>No wmk., perf. 14.</i>		
2d. blue	2	0
6d. slate	5	0
9d. dull purple	1	6
11. green	18	0
Montserrat.		
The 1d. stamp of 1876, bisected and used as a 4d. in 1883, very fine on original envelope		
1883. <i>Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>	30	0
4d. blue	1	9
Nevis.		
1867. <i>White paper, perf. 15.</i>		
4d. deep orange	30	0
11. blue-green	9	6
1879-80. <i>Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>		
1d. lilac	6	0
1883. <i>Half 1d. surcharged "Nevis 1/2d."</i>		
1d. in black on half 1d., on original envelope	13	6
Queensland.		
1860. <i>Wmk., large Star, imperf.</i>		
1d. carmine-rose	21	0
2d. deep blue	45	0
6d. deep green	42	6
St. Christopher.		
1870. <i>Wmk. Crown CC., perf. 12 1/2.</i>		
1d. dull rose	6	3
1d. deep lilac rose	2	0
1d. pale	3	0
6d. yellow-green		0 9
Sardinia.		
1851. <i>Imperf.</i>		
5c. black	13	6
20c. blue	10	6
1855-61. <i>Head embossed, imperf.</i>		
3 lire bronze		15 0
Sierra Leone.		
5/- on 1/ green cancelled by red line, pair		
Reversed surcharge, strip of 4		45 0
South Australia.		
<i>Departmental Stamp P.S.</i>		
4d. surcharge P.S.		15 0
1868-74. <i>Rouletted.</i>		
2d. deep orange-red	9	0
2d. pale	9	0
Trinidad.		
The following are very fine specimens:		
1851. <i>Imperf. blue paper.</i>		
(1d.) purple-brown	13	6
(1d.) dark grey	13	6
(1d.) deep blue	13	6
<i>The same but white paper.</i>		
(1d.) purple-black	13	6
(1d.) grey-black	13	9
(1d.) dull red	12	0
1852 <i>Lithographed.</i>		
(1d.) deep blue		38 0

Selections of Stamps sent on approval on receipt only of satisfactory references or cash deposit. Postage 1d. extra.

W. SOMERSET & Co.,
104, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W., &
179, MOUNT VIEW RD., FINSBURY PARK, LONDON, N.

NEW ISSUE

AND

BARGAIN COLUMN.

INDIA, 2 rupees, brown & red, very fine	7d.
" 3 " green & brown	10d.
" 5 " violet & blue	2/-
(The set of three for 3/3.)	
*MALTA, 1d. King	1d.
" 2d. "	3d.
" 3d. "	4d.
*FRANCE, 15c. deep green, just out	3d.
S. AUSTRALIA, 1902, 9d. old type, wmk. Cr. and S.A., used	3/6
" ditto, ditto, 1/-	2/6
" ditto, ditto, 2/-	2/6
" 1902, long type, 3d., used	3d.
" " " 4d., "	4d.
" " " 6d., "	5d.
" " " 9d., "	9d.
" " " 10d., "	1/1
*HONG KONG, King's Head, 1 cent.	1d.
" " " 8 cents	1d.
" " " 12	3d.
*CAPE, King's Head, 1d. green	4d.
" " " 1d. red	1d.
" " " 4d. sage	2d.
" " " 6d. violet	6d.
*UNITED STATES, 1c. green, 1903	8d.
" " " 2c. red,	1d.
" " " 5c. blue	2d.
" " " 8c. purple	4d.
" " " 13c.	6d.
" " " 13c. used	9d.
GOLD COAST, 1898, 1d. lilac and green	3d.
" " " 1d. red	1d.
" " " 2d. blue	1d.
" " " 3d. orange	3d.
" " " 6d. mauve	3d.
" " " 1/- green and black	9d.
" " " 2/- red	1/6
" " " 5/- lilac	4/6
" " " 10/- brown	5/6
*CANADA, 7 cents, pale olive	5d.
*BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 2 1/2d. ultr.	4d.
ORANGE RIVER COLONY, ALL USED	
1d. orange, V.R.I.	2d.
1d. purple,	2d.
2d. purple,	3d.
3d. ultramarine,	5d.
6d.	10d.
1/- brown,	1/6.
4d. on 6d. blue,	6d.
4d. on 6d. blue, (thick V)	4/-
TRINIDAD, 1896, 1d. lilac and rose, ordinary type	1d.
" " " scarce type	6d.
*TRANSVAAL, 1896, 1d. green	2d.
" " " 1d. red	2d.
" " " 2d. brown	4d.
" " " 3d. purple	1/6
" " " 1/- ochre	5/-
" " " 2/6 purple	7/6
HOLLAND, 60 varieties, incl'd g 1st issue	2/6
*GWALIOR, 3 p., 1/2 & 1 a., K. H., the three	4d.
* Denotes Unused. Postage Extra.	
Approval Sheets to responsible applicants.	
Practically ALL KING'S HEAD STAMPS IN STOCK.	
P. L. PEMBERTON & CO.,	
229, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.	

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CHARGE: 15 words for 6d., every four additional words 1d. Four consecutive insertions for the price of three.

FROM a fine private collection, superb picked British Colonial and U.S.A. stamps, both mint and very fine used copies at one third to one half Stanley Gibbons' prices. Advertiser will send any portions on approval against good refs. Box 43, care of Philatelic Journal.

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WANTED TO BUY. old Australians in fine condition used or unused; in collections or loose. Selections sent with marked prices will receive prompt attention, P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 229, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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75 FOREIGN STAMPS. all different, no rubbish, but containing the following—set of 5 Peru (4 surcharged), 4 Portuguese Indies, 4 Mexico, magnificent set 7 Costa Rica, 5 Italian, 4 Bolivia, 5 Portuguese, 2 Jamaica, Trinidad, 4 New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, India, Roumania, Ceylon 5c., Nyassa (Giraffe), 8c. Post free 7d. only. W. & A. PRINCE, Stamp Importers, 79, Edward Street, West Bromwich. [148]

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REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB, together with rules and all particulars, will be forwarded post free to every applicant. Gross sales last year amounted to £1323 18s. 9d. Advanced philatelists, particularly those with good duplicates, are welcome to join. **NO DEALERS.** Charges nominal. Substantial references absolutely essential. Secretary (and founder), G. HERBERT DANNATT (Member "Stamp Exchange Protection Society"), "Lyndale," Blackheath, London, S.E. NOTE—Colonial and Foreign philatelists may join.

ANYBODY sending me 100 Stamps of his country will receive in exchange the same number of Indian Stamps; rare for rare; exchange also desired with collectors in British Colonies on basis of Gibbons' Catalogue. R. K. KACKER, The Refuge, Lahore, India.

AUSTRALIAN STAMPS. 1851 to 1903, used and unused, a first hand, very cheap; good specimens; no packets; price list free. 1d. post-card to COURTESAY SMITH, Director, Rest Haven Sanatorium, Chatswood, Sydney, N. S. W. [151]

FOR SALE. Album containing nearly 1,200 stamps; value £22, would take £17; good Victorian and Tasmanian collections. Apply, MISS PRESTON, Gormans-town Castle, Balbriggan, Ireland. [151]

20 DIFFERENT AUSTRALIANS to applicants for approvals, enclosing 1d.; lists, wholesale, retail, BRIAN STAFFORD, Godalming. [151]

TRINIDAD. Unpaid letter stamps, used, 1d. to 1 (1895) for 7. ALBERT CRONEY, Carlisle, Trinidad. [151]

BARGAINS. Cape 1d. C.C. with outer line 6d., 4d. double line 4d., 5s. C.C. 4s., 3d. on 4d. blue, 3d. on 3d., thick figure, 1s. 2d. the pair; 5s. orange (anchor) 9d., 1d. on 2d., no stop after 1d., used or unused, 7s. 6d.; 1s. Cape, surch., "Military Telegraphs," light pen cancellation, 1s. 6d.; 25 different, 3d. (4), 1d. (5), 1d. on 2d., 2d. (2), 2d. (3), 3d. (2), 6d. (2), 1s. (3), 5s. (2), 3s. 6d. the set. Bechuanaland Protectorate 1d., 1d., 2d., 6d., the set 1s. Zululand 1d. vermilion, used, 5d. Transvaal 1d. in red on 2d. yellow, unused 7d., used 1s.; V.R.I. 1d. to 6d., the set 2s. 9d.; E.R.I. 1d. to 4d., 5 for 1s. 6d.; King 1d. to 6d., 5 for 6d. B.S.A. 1890 1d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 8d., 2s. 4d. the 5; 1890 2s., very light fiscal cancellation, 10s.; 1890 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., fiscal cancellation, 2s. the 3; 4d. brown and black (thick paper), used 1s. 3d.; 1896 1d. to 1s., the seven 2s. 2d.; re-engraved 1d. to 4d., 1s. 3d. the 4. British Bechuanaland on 2d. Cape, 9d. each; surch. on Cape reading downwards 1d. unused 4d., used 6d., 2d. used 7d.; surch. reading upwards 2d., unused 3d., used 6d.; surch. on Cape 1d. green, unused, 1d.; 1d. 1d., 2d., 3d. (filac), 4d. 6d., 1s., the set 2s. 11d.; 6d. purple and red, 9d. each; 1s. green, 1s. each. O.R.C. first printing 1d., unused 1s., used 1s. 3d.; 1d., unused 1s., used 1s. 3d.; set 1d. to 1s., used, 9s. 6d. the seven; same without the 1s., 7s. 6d.; 2d., unused, 7s. 6d.; 2nd printing, 3d. to 5s., used, 11s. 9d. the 8; same up to 6d., 3s. 9d.; 3d. and 1d. thick "V." used or unused, 8d. pair; 3d. mixed dots in pair with normal, unused, 1s. 6d.; 1d. dotless V.R. or I., in pair with normal, 4s. 6d. O.F.S., 5s., 6s. each; 3d. on 3d., 4d. each; 2d. on 3d. (without "d"), 1s. 3d.; same, with antique 2d. and Roman 1, 20s. each. Terms, cash with order, unused English low values accepted on orders under 10s. G. A. WEHANN, Savings Bank Department, General Post Office, Cape Town.

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	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
Madagascar.		
<i>British Consular Mail.</i>		
2d. black and rose	11	0
3d. " "		7 6
Mauritius.		
1860-63. <i>No wmk., perf. 14.</i>		
2d. blue		2 0
6d. slate		5 0
9d. dull purple		1 6
1/- green		18 0
Montserrat.		
The 1d. stamp of 1876, bisected and used as a 4d. in 1883. 5 very fine on original envelope		
		30 0
1883. <i>Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>		
4d. blue		3 9
Nevis.		
1867. <i>White paper, perf. 15.</i>		
4d. deep orange	30	0
1/- blue-green		9 6
1879-80. <i>Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>		
1d. lilac		6 0
1883. <i>Half 1d. surcharged "Nevis 1/2d."</i>		
1/2d. in black on half 1d., on original envelope		13 6
Queensland.		
1860. <i>Wmk., large Star, imperf.</i>		
1d. carmine-rose		21 0
2d. deep blue		45 0
6d. deep green		42 6
St. Christopher.		
1870. <i>Wmk. Crown CC., perf. 12 1/2.</i>		
1d. dull rose	6	3
1d. deep lilac rose		2 0
1d. pale		3 0
6d. yellow-green		0 9
Sardinia.		
1851. <i>Imperf.</i>		
5c. black	13	6
20c. blue		10 6
1855-61. <i>Head embossed, imperf.</i>		
3 lire bronze		15 0
Sierra Leone.		
5/- on 1/- green cancelled by red line, pair		
		15 0
Reversed surcharge, strip of 4		
		45 0
South Australia.		
<i>Departmental Stamp P.S.</i>		
4d. surcharge P.S.		15 0
1868-74. <i>Rouletted.</i>		
2d. deep orange-red		9 0
2d. pale		9 0
Trinidad.		
The following are very fine specimens:		
1851. <i>Imperf. blued paper.</i>		
(1d.) purple-brown		13 6
(1d.) dark grey		13 6
(1d.) deep blue		13 6
<i>The same but white paper.</i>		
(1d.) purple-black		13 6
(1d.) grey-black		13 0
(1d.) dull red		12 0
1852. <i>Lithographed.</i>		
(1d.) deep blue		38 0

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104, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W., &
179, MOUNT VIEW RD., FINSBURY PARK, LONDON, N.

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AND

BARGAIN COLUMN.

INDIA, 2 rupees, brown & red, very fine	7d.
" 3 " green & brown	10d.
" 5 " violet & blue	2/-
(The set of three for 3/3.)	
*MALTA, 1d. King	1d.
* " 2d. "	3d.
* " 3d. "	4d.
*FRANCE, 15c. deep green, just out	3d.
S. AUSTRALIA, 1902, 9d. old type, wmk. Cr. and S.A., used	3/6
" ditto, ditto, 1/-	2/6
" ditto, ditto, 2/-	2/6
" 1902, long type, 3d., used	3d.
" " " 4d., "	4d.
" " " 6d., "	5d.
" " " 9d., "	9d.
" " " 10d., "	1/1
*HONG KONG, King's Head, 1 cent.	1d.
" " " used	1d.
" " " 8 cents	3d.
" " " 12	4d.
*CAPE, King's Head, 1/2d. green	1d.
" " " 1d. red	2d.
" " " 4d. sage	6d.
" " " 6d. violet	8d.
*UNITED STATES, 1c. green, 1903	1d.
" " " 2c. red,	2d.
" " " 5c. blue	4d.
" " " 8c. purple	6d.
" " " 13c. "	9d.
" " " 13c. " used	3d.
GOLD COAST, 1898, 1/2d. lilac and green	1d.
" " " 1d. " red	1d.
" " " 2 1/2d. " blue	3d.
" " " 3d. " orange	3d.
" " " 6d. " mauve	3d.
" " " 1/- green and black	9d.
" " " 2/- " red	1/6
" " " 5/- " lilac	4/6
" " " 10/- " brown	5/6
*CANADA, 7 cents, pale olive	5d.
*BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 2 1/2d. ultr.	4d.
ORANGE RIVER COLONY, ALL USED	
1/2d. orange, V.R.I.	2d.
1d. purple, "	2d.
2d. purple, "	3d.
3d. ultramarine, "	5d.
6d. " "	10d.
1/- brown, "	1/6
4d. on 6d. blue, "	6d.
4d. on 6d. blue, " (thick V)	4/-
TRINIDAD, 1896, 1d. lilac and rose, ordinary type	1d.
" " " scarce type	6d.
*TRANSVAAL, 1896, 1/2d. green	2d.
" " " 1d. red	2d.
" " " 2d. brown	4d.
" " " 3d. purple	1/6
" " " 1/- ochre	5/-
" " " 2/6 purple	7/6
HOLLAND, 60 varieties, incl'd g 1st issue	2/6
*GWALIOR, 3p., 1/2 & 1 a., K. H., the three 4d.	
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	EACH.		12.		100.		Separate Leaves per 100.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
No. 1. 8vo, 9 ³ / ₄ in. by 6 ¹ / ₄ in. holds about 600 Stamps...	0	11	9	6	70	0	2	9
" 2. 4to, 10in. by 8in., holds about 725 Stamps...	1	0	11	6	80	0	3	0
" 3. 4to, as No. 2, but extra stout covers with expanding backs, steel band and white metal clips ...	1	2	13	0	90	0		
" 4. folio 11 ¹ / ₂ in. by 9 ¹ / ₂ in. holds about 1,000 stamps, expanding backs, etc., as No. 3, extra wide linen jointing ...	1	6	16	0	£5	10	3	6
" 5. same as No. 4, but with 50 leaves ...	2	8	28	6	£10	15		

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	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
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THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL

of
GREAT BRITAIN,
And
Philatelic Review of Reviews.

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MAY 30, 1903.

No. 149. VOL. XIII.

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1867. Surcharged on Indian Stamps.

	s.	d.
1c. on 1 anna blue	3	9
2c. on 1 anna brown	8	0
3c. on 1 " "	4	6
4c. on 1 " "	12	0
6c. on 2 " yellow	20	0
8c. on 2 " "	4	6
12c. on 2 " green	17	6
24c. on 8 " rose	6	6
32c. on 2 " yellow	4	3

1868-72.

2c. brown, C. and C.C.	0	3
4c. rose "	0	6
6c. lilac "	0	6
8c. orange, C. and CC.	0	4
12c. blue "	1	6
12c. ultramarine, "	1	0
24c. green "	0	3
30c. claret "	0	6
32c. vermilion "	2	9
96c. drab "	2	0
96c. " perf. 12	15	0

1879-82.

5c. on 8c. orange		
FIVE cents on 8c. orange		
SEVEN " "		

10 cents on 6c. lilac	0	8
10 " 12c. blue	2	6
10 " 30c. claret	5	0
10 (cents) on 32c. claret	6	0
10 cents " "	22	0

1882.

5c. purple-brown, C. & CC.	3	6
10c. slate "	2	0

1883-91.

2c. brown C. & CA.	1	3
4c. rose "	3	0
6c. lilac "	0	3
8c. orange "	0	1
10c. slate "	0	1
2c. rose "	0	3
4c. brown "	0	1
5c. blue "	0	3
12c. purple-brown "	1	3
24c. green "	0	2
30c. claret "	0	3
32c. vermilion "	0	3
2c. on 8c. orange, vertical	8	6
2c. on 32c. pale-red "	30	0
8c. on 12c. blue	12	6
8c. on 12c. purple-brown	35	0

P. L. PEMBERTON & CO.,
229, High Holborn, LONDON, W.C.

Periodical Sales by Auction of Rare Postage Stamps

HELD BY

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY), AT THE

Blenheim Room, Hotel Cecil, Strand, London, W.C.

June 11th.

The last Sale of the present season will be held on the above date, when

A FINE SELECTION OF

British, Foreign, and Colonial Postage Stamps

WILL BE OFFERED.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their DATES of SALES for the ensuing Season are as follows:—

1903.—*September 24th and 25th; October 8th and 9th, 22nd and 23rd; November 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; December 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th.*

1904.—*January 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; February 4th and 5th, 18th and 19th; March 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th; April 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; May 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; June 16th and 17th.*

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

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Stamp Collecting as an Investment.

By **CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.**

An important and long article under the above heading appears in the May Number of Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal. The subscription to the Monthly Journal is only 2/- per annum, post free, and the new volume commences from July next.

Subscribers who commence now will receive the above important Article gratis. In this article Mr. Phillips gives a fund of well considered advice on how to invest money in Stamps with the likelihood of considerable profit.

Also a number of suggestions on what to avoid when buying Stamps as an investment, and lastly, a list of Countries of which the Stamps are likely to show the largest profits in the next few years.

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WANTED TO BUY, old Australians in fine condition used or unused; in collections or loose. Selections sent with marked prices will receive prompt attention. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 229, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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SOUTH AFRICANS, exchanged all countries; send 100 all different; quick return. Best value. J. E. TITTERTON, Cofimvaba, Cape Colony. (152)

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JUNE 30, 1903.

No. 150. VOL. XIII.

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2d. bright lilac	6	1 3
2 1/4d. on 3d. blue	7 6	7 6
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4d. blue	2 3	
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No stop after R—					
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Thick V—					
1d. orange	4	8			
1d. purple	4	7			
2d. lilac	10				
3d. blue	2 0	1 6			
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No stop after I—					
1d. carmine	2 6				
Surcharged E.R.I.—					
1d. green	4				
1d. carmine	2	2			
3d. purple	6	4			
4d. sage green	8	6			
1d. on 2d. brown	1	2			
Rustenburg—					
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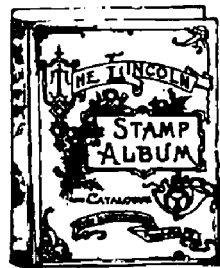
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of GREAT BRITAIN,
And
Philatelic Review of Reviews.

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JULY 31, 1903.

No. 151. VOL. XIII.

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1d. scarlet		7	1d. vermilion penmarked...		1 6
6d. blue green	30	0	1s. green		1 3
Same, perf. 14—					
1d. lake	1	6	1884-98, wmk. CA.—		
1d. lake rose	1	6	1d. carmine	2	1½
6d. green	15	0	2½d. blue		0 2
1879—					
4d. blue		2	2½d. dull blue	2	0
1882, wmk. CA., perf. 14—					
½d. dull green	0	2	4d. yellow		0 5
2½d. red brown		3	6d. mauve	8	0
4d. blue		1	1s. blue green	1	3
Perf. 12—					
1d. carmine red	2	6	5s. sage green	6	6
1884-86, wmk. CA., perf 14—					
1d. carmine red	0	3	20s. Venetian red	25	0
1d. rose	0	4	Barbados, 1852, paper		
2½d. blue	0	8	blued, imperf—		
4d. brown	0	6	½d. green		15 0
6d. green	5	0	1d. blue		4 6
1s. lilac	20	0	4d. brownish red		15 0
Bahamas, 1859, no wmk. imperf—					
1d. lake	5	0	1837-57, white paper,		
1861, rough perf. 14 to 16—					
1d. lake		8	imperf.—		
6d. lilac		30	½d. light yellow green	40	0
Printed by M. de la Rue, Perf. 13.					
6d. lilac		20	½d. dark " "		10 0
1863-75, wmk. CC., perf. 12½—					
1d. brown lake	7	6	1d. light blue	10	0
1d. carmine lake	7	6	1d. dark blue		2 6
1d. red	4	0	1858, imperf.—		
1d. vermilion	7	0	6d. rose red...		12 6
4d. rose		5	1s. black		6 6
4d. rose lake		5	1861, clean cut, perf. 14		
6d. lilac		4	to 16—		
6d. violet		1	½d. dark blue green	8	0
Perf. 14—					
1d. vermilion		1	1d. pale blue		10 0
		3	1d. blue		7 0
			1861-70, rough perf. 14		
			to 16—		
			½d. yellow green	4	0
			½d. grass green	4	0
			1d. pale blue	3	0
			1d. dark blue	3	0
			4d. dull red rose		7 0
			6d. rose red...		2 0
			6d. orange red		2 0
			6d. orange vermilion		4 0
			1s. black		1 0

(To be continued.)

See Advert. in last month's P. J. of G. B. for Bargains in South African War Stamps.

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"	4d. litho	...	22	20/- 9/6
"	A reconstructed plate of 12...	...	22-3	£12 £6
PHILIPPINES.	1st issue 6c.	...	1	£6 50/-
NAPLES.	50c. lake	...	13	70/- 35/-
BUENOS AYRES.	3p. green	...	4	£8 70/-
SPAIN.	Madrid 1c.	...	48	60/- 30/-
"	19c. brown	...	109	35/- 14/-
GREECE.	50 x 25 on 40	...	227	17/6 7/6
"	Pair, slanting, broad and narrow O	...	227	35/- 16/-
"	Pair, slanting, 5m. on \$1, double surch.	...	227	10/- 4/-
CONGO.	10 francs, very fine	...	114	8/6 4/-
STRAITS SETTLEMENT.	5 surch. specimen	...		5/-
BRITISH HONDURAS.	50c., \$1, 2s, 5s ditto	...		13/-
ZANZIBAR.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 rupees, ditto	...		10/-
B.C.A.	1d. to £10 ditto	...		40/-

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PHILATELIC JOURNAL

of
GREAT BRITAIN,
And
Philatelic Review of Reviews.

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AUGUST 31, 1903.

No. 152. VOL. XIII.

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1863, wmk. star—					1882, wmk. CA., perf. 12—				
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1d. dull rose	6	0	4d. rose	...	8	0	1 0
1d. vermilion	5	0	1883—				
6d. blue green	1 3	4d. on 6d. violet	...	35	0	
6d. yellow green	5 0	Perf. 14—				
1873, wmk. CC., perf 12½—					1d. vermilion penmarked...	...	...	1	6
1d. lake	6	0	1s. green	...	...	1	3
1d. scarlet	7 6	1884-98, wmk. CA.—				
6d. blue green	30	0	1d. carmine	...	2	...	1½
Same, perf. 14—					2½d. blue	...	...	0	2
1d. lake	1	6	2½d. dull blue	...	2	0	
1d. lake rose	1	6	4d. yellow	...	...	0	5
6d. green	15	0	6d. mauve	...	8	0	7
1879—					1s. blue green	...	1	3	
4d. blue	2 6	5s. sage green	...	6	6	
1882, wmk. CA., perf. 14—					20s. Venetian red	...	25	0	
½d. dull green	0	2	Barbados, 1852, paper				
2½d. red brown	3 0	blued, imperf—				
4d. blue	1 3	½d. green	...	...	15	0
Perf. 12—					1d. blue	...	...	4	6
1d. carmine red	2	6	4d. brownish red	...	...	15	0
1884-86, wmk. CA., perf 14—					1837-57, white paper,				
1d. carmine red	0	3	imperf.—				
1d. rose	0	4	½d. light yellow green	...	40	0	10 0
2½d. blue	0	8	½d. dark " "	...	...	10	0
4d. brown	0	6	1d. light blue	...	10	0	2 6
6d. green	5	0	1d. dark blue	...	...	...	2 6
1s. lilac	20	0	1858, imperf.—				
Bahamas, 1859, no wmk. imperf—					6d. rose red...	...	...	12	6
1d. lake	5	0	1s. black	...	...	6	6
1861, rough perf. 14 to 16—					1861, clean cut, perf. 14				
1d. lake	8 0	to 16—				
6d. lilac	30 0	½d. dark blue green	...	8	0	5 0
Printed by M. de la Rue, Perf. 13.					1d. pale blue	...	...	10	0
6d. lilac	20 0	1d. blue	...	...	7	0
1863-75, wmk. CC., perf. 12½—					1861-70, rough perf. 14				
1d. brown lake	7	6	to 16—				
1d. carmine lake	7	6	½d. yellow green	...	4	0	
1d. red	4	0	½d. grass green	...	4	0	2 0
1d. vermilion	7	0	1d. pale blue	...	3	0	0 9
4d. rose	5 0	1d. dark blue	...	3	0	0 3
4d. rose lake	5 0	4d. dull red rose	...	...	...	7 0
6d. lilac	4 0	6d. rose red...	...	...	...	2 0
6d. violet	1 6	6d. orange red	...	...	...	2 0
Perf. 14—					6d. orange vermilion	4 0
1d. vermilion	1 3	1s. black	1 0

(To be continued.)

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*Bahamas 1d. perf. 11...	6	80/-	30/-
" 6d. perf. 13...	12	25/-	10/-
*Barbados 5/- ochre ...	103	25/-	10/-
B.E.A. set s.g., No. 4 to 19, except 13 and 15 ...	—	24/-	12/-
B. Guiana s.g. 62-66 complete	—	82/-	40/-
Cape 5/- C.A. a little cut into	64	40/-	7 $\frac{1}{6}$
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" 3c. vermilion used or unused	36	15/-	6 $\frac{1}{9}$
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" single, unused ...	—	4/-	2/-
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THE

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of
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SEPTEMBER 30, 1903.

No. 153. VOL. XIII.

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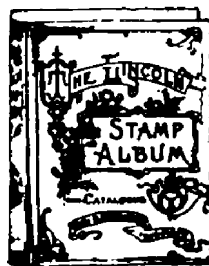
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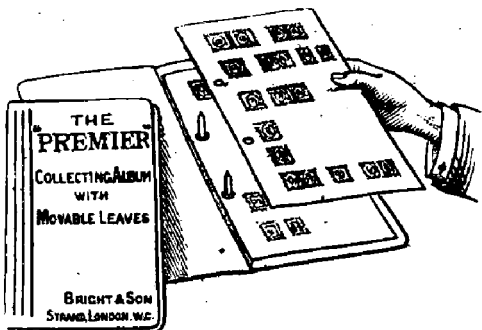
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OCTOBER 31, 1903.

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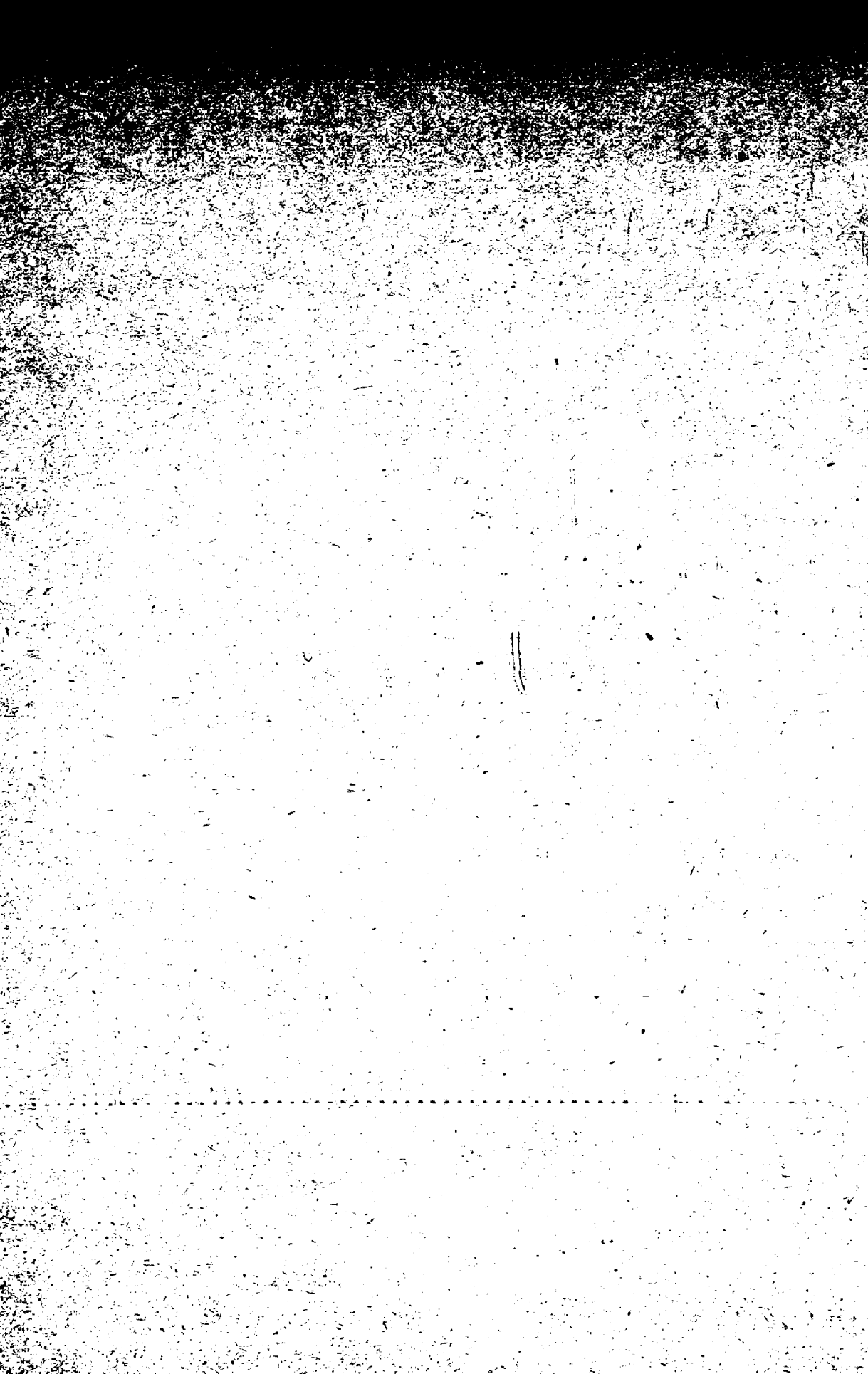
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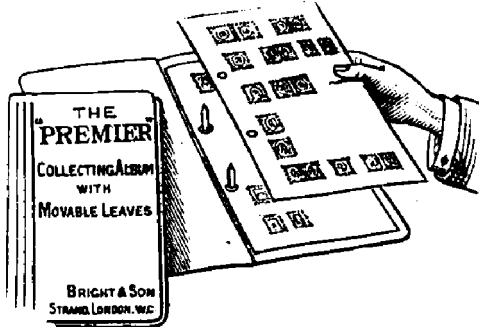
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NOVEMBER 30, 1903.

No. 155. VOL. XIII.

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St. Vincent. 1880, 5/- star, used and fine	11	10	0
" 1881, 1d. on 6d. yellow-green, mint	5	5	0
" 1881, 4d. on 1/- vermilion, used on piece, light post-mark	14	0	0
Tobago. 1882-84, C. A. 6d. stone, mint	6	10	0

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" 20c blue . . .	0	4	1	6	2c yellow	0	9	2	6
" 40c carmine . . .	2	0			2c chocolate	0	4	0	9
1863, 1c green . . .	3	6			5c green	0	3	0	6
" 10c brown . . .	0	5	2	3	10c red brown	0	2	0	5
" 20c blue . . .	0	4	2	0	10c carmine, 1900	0	4	0	6
" 40c carmine . . .	2	0			20c olive	0	3	1	0
1865, 10c grey . . .	0	3	1	3	25c blue	0	3	1	0
" 20c blue . . .	0	3	1	6	35c brown	0	9	2	6
" 30c brown . . .	2	0			50c bistre	1	6		
" 40c carmine . . .	2	0			50c grey, 1900	0	9	2	6
1869, 1c green . . .	0	2	0	6	1fr carmine	1	6		
" 2c blue	0	3	1	0	1fr yellow, 1900	1	6		
" 5c buff	0	4	1	0	2fr mauve	2	6		
" 10c green	0	2	0	5	1894, Antwerp.				
" 20c blue	0	3	1	0	5c green, with label	0	9	2	6
" 30c buff	1	0	6	0	10c carmine " "	0	9	2	6
" 40c carmine . . .	1	0	6	0	1897, Brussels.				
" 1fr lilac	2	0			5c lilac, with label	0	9	3	0
1875, 25c olive . . .	0	3	1	0	10c terra-cotta, with lab.	0	10	4	0
" 50c grey	1	0	7	0	10c brown with label	0	9	3	0
1883, 1c olive green . . .	0	3	1	0	1870, Unpaid.				
" 10c carmine . . .	0	4	1	3	10c green	2	0		
" 20c grey	0	9	4	0	20c blue	2	0		
" 25c blue	2	0			1895, Unpaid.				
" 50c violet	3	6			5c green	0	9	3	6
" 50c " bar cancell ^{ed} . . .	1	6	10	0	10c orange brown	0	9	3	6
1884, 1c grey	0	2	0	3	20c olive	0	6	2	3
" 2c chocolate	0	3	0	6	50c brown	1	6		
" 5c green	0	2	0	3	1fr carmine	6	0		
" 10c carmine	0	2	0	3	1900, Unpaid.				
" 20c olive	0	3	0	6	10c carmine	0	9	3	6
" 25c blue	0	3	0	6	1895, Parcel Post.				
" 35c chocolate	0	9	3	0	50c carmine and black	0	6	1	6
" 50c bistre	0	6	1	6	60c violet and black	0	10	2	6
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" no labels, 5, 10, 25c	0	9	5	6
Brussels, with labels, 5, 10, 10c.	1	3	7	6
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Luxemburg, 1895, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10c	1	0	6	6
" 10 varieties	1	6	12	0
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DECEMBER 24, 1903.

No. 156. VOL. XIII.

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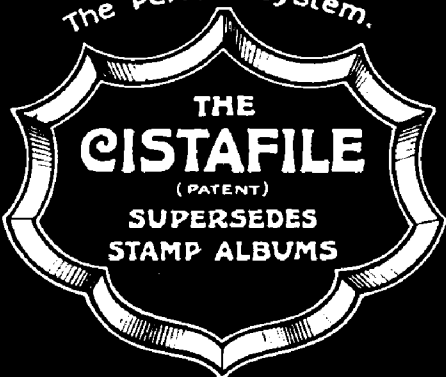
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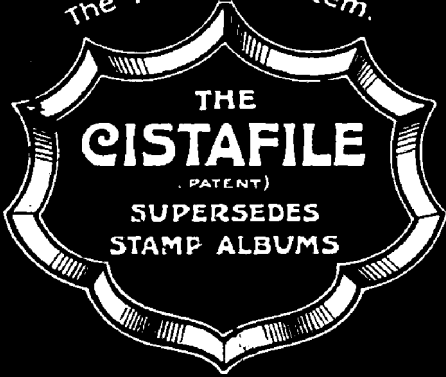
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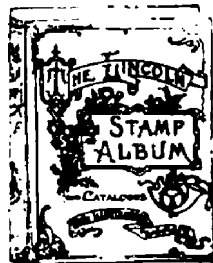
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