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INDEX  
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*The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union  
and the City of London Philatelic Society.*

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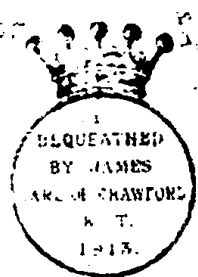
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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE outlook, from a philatelic point of view, for the present year of grace is a particularly rosy one, while we think we may safely prophesy that the closing month of 1910 will ring down the curtain on great events that have been achieved.

### The Outlook.

The Second Annual Philatelic Congress to be held next April under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society will do a great deal of good for philately; collectors whose interests lie dormant will read, in the general press, of the doings of their more active brothers, while enthusiastic collectors will be able to participate in another of those cosmopolitan gatherings which do so much to further the interests of our hobby.

An exhibition of stamps will be held at Berne during the coming autumn; we have no doubt that British exhibitors and visitors will be, as they usually are at foreign exhibitions, very much to the fore. Such proved the case at the recent Amsterdam gathering and doubtless Berne will exercise a magnetic influence on holiday makers during the present year.

The outlook for 1910, from a purely business point of view is very promising. Several of our well known specialists have recently turned their attentions to out-of-the-way countries, with the natural result that there is now quite a boom in many hitherto neglected quarters of the globe; even such a philatelic outcast as

Venezuela has been is now proving, on closer acquaintance, to be full of interest and undeveloped mines of research. The sale during recent months of several big specialized collections, notably of the stamps of New Zealand, Victoria, Uruguay, Japan and Greece, has unlocked a good deal of money with the result that business is likely to be very brisk during the coming months.

The recent purchase of the Avery collection by Mr. W. H. Peckitt will also have a good effect on philately generally. That such a big purchase was possible will increase the confidence of those many collectors who are quietly building up general collections; while many faint hearted buyers will realize that stamp collecting may be, if judiciously carried out, a most profitable investment.

New Issues, which sometimes act as valuable recruiting agents, will be plentiful during the coming months. The current stamps of Portugal, Sweden, Belgium and Greece, to say nothing of possible changes in our own, and other European countries, will doubtless be shortly changed; while we may safely expect many necessary and unnecessary issues from such prolific countries as Siam, South America, the States, and many of our own Colonies.

Altogether the outlook is more promising than we have known it to be for many years.

We earnestly hope, however, that the

grim reaper will not be so busy this year as he was during the past twelve months. We can ill afford to lose so many true collectors as we have so recently mourned. We also hope that the present year will

not witness so many instances of stamp cases being before the law and police courts as was the case during 1909, so much litigation does not act as an advantageous advertisement for our hobby.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain. Levant.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly write us as follows.

"The 4d. brown and green stamp overprinted '1 piastre 30 paras' was withdrawn from circulation after being on sale for a very short time, and the unsold stock returned to London, to be replaced by the new orange stamp, a specimen of which we enclose.

"We have also just received official information that all the series overprinted 'Levant' only, with the exception of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. have also been withdrawn from circulation, and returned to the G.P.O., London, presumably to be destroyed."

*Adhesive.*

1 pia. 30 paras on 4d. orange.

**Jamaica.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. very kindly tell us that they have received the new 6d. Jamaica stamps. The design remains as before.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.  
6d. violet.

**New South Wales.** The following information is extracted from the *Australian Philatelist* :—

"Our attention has been directed to the improved appearance of the current 10d. stamp as compared with the first issue 30 years ago. These stamps have always been printed from an 'electro,' and only one plate has been used since the beginning. We presume better paper, better ink, better appliances, and better methods are the factors which have produced better results.

"The 2/6 stamp has appeared perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  single line machines."

*Adhesive.*

2/6 lyre bird, emerald, wmk. Cr. and A., perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ .

**New Zealand.** We have now received all the values of the recently issued stamps of the "Dominion" set. The 1d. value is

similar to the "Universal" type, but has the inscriptions altered at the top. The other values are uniform, all bearing the King's Head.



Perf. 14 x 15.

4d. green.  
1d. carmine.



Perf. 14.

2d. violet.  
3d. brown.  
4d. orange.  
5d. sepia.  
6d. carmine.  
8d. blue.  
1/- brick red.

We are indebted to Mr. Martin McDermott, Mr. Pottinger, and other New Zealand friends, for specimens of these stamps.

**St. Vincent.** The redrawn types of the current 1d., 3d., and 6d. stamps, which we mentioned a few months ago as being likely to be shortly issued, have now it appears been placed on sale in the island.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles all three values as follows:

"We have received the 1d., 3d., and 6d., in

the redrawn type. This is exactly similar to Type 18, with the addition of a dot below the  $d$ , as in Type 17.

1909. Redrawn with dot below  $d$ .  
Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.  
1d. carmine.  
3d. purple on yellow.  
6d. dull purple."

**Solomon Islands Protectorate.** Mr. R. J. White has very kindly shown us a postally used pair of the 1st issue, imperf. between.

*Adhesive.* Variety imperf. between.  
2 $d$  orange.

**Straits Settlements.** We omitted to chronicle last month, although we received them about the 3rd, copies of the 30 cent stamp in a new colour. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* also chronicles the  $\$5$  as below.

*Adhesives.*  
King's Head. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
30c. purple and orange-yellow.  
 $\$5$  green and red on green.

**Trinidad.** Mr. W. S. Lincoln has very kindly sent us copies of the new  $\frac{1}{2}d$ , 1d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . stamps. We illustrate the 1d. stamp; the other two have the figures of value in all corners.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the obsolete 1d. stamp overprinted OFFICIAL. If this news be correct we may expect to receive the new 1d. stamp, also with the overprint, in the near future.



*Adhesives.* Multiple wmk.  
 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . green.  
1d. red.  
2 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . blue.  
*Official stamp.*  
1d. red.

**Victoria.** We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the following information:

"We have before us the  $\frac{1}{2}d$ . green, perforated 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , white gum, 1d. rose-carmine, the 2 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . in a much deeper shade of blue than hitherto, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  single cutter, and the 4d. in an olive-green shade, all white gum. The new Commonwealth Government Printer is apparently intensifying colours and assimilating shades of the stamps of four States. Where will the new departure end?"

Wmk. Cr. and A.  
 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . green, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
1d. rose-carmine, perf. 12 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
2 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . very deep blue, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
4d. olive, perf. 12 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the following.

*Adhesive.* "San Martin" type.  
24c. red-brown.

**Austrian F.P.O.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that the current postage due stamps are no longer being printed on chalk-surfaced paper.

**Austrian Italy.** Our publishers have found in their stock a used copy of the 8 paras on 2 kr. brown, of 1890-92, perforated 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 13. Hitherto this stamp was only known in the 9-9 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 10-10 $\frac{1}{2}$  perforations. This discovery completes the set of all values perforated 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 13.

Issue of 1890-92.  
8 pa. on 2kr. brown, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 13.

**Finland.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the discovery in Messrs. Gibbons' stock of a copy of the 2 pen. grey of the 1895 issue, perforated 14 x 13.

*Adhesive.* 1895 Issue. Perf. 14 x 13.  
2 pen. grey.

**French Somali Coast.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a full set of new issues as follows.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. bistre-brown and marone.  
2c. olive and violet.  
4c. pale blue and olive-brown.  
5c. olive-green and green.  
10c. scarlet and rosine.  
20c. chestnut and black.  
25c. blue and deep blue.  
30c. scarlet and pale brown.  
35c. green and violet.  
40c. violet and rosine.  
45c. myrtle and brown.  
50c. brown and marone.  
75c. green and vermilion.  
11r. bistre-brown and violet.  
2fr. rose and brown.  
5fr. blue-green and purple-brown.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. and Mr. W. S. Lincoln have also kindly shown us a complete set.

**Norway.** We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the following interesting information:

The *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* states that the 35 øre stamp is not to be printed further after this year (1909) as there is little use for it.

Our contemporary questions the wisdom of this as registered letters to Sweden and Denmark cost 38 or 48 øre respectively and without a 35 øre stamp 3 or 4 stamps will have to be used.

There is a possibility of a new printing of the 1 krone stamp, similar to the 2 kr. issued in 4.09 as the dies of the new high value stamps will not be ready until after the stock of the present issue of 1kr. is exhausted.

As the plates of the 1 and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  krone were re-engraved at the same time as that of 2 krone, there would be no difficulty as to this.

**Portugal.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a full set of the new stamps, as

illustrated below. These stamps were, we are informed, put on sale on January 1st.



*Adhesives.* P. 14x15.

2½	reis violet.
5	„ black,
10	„ grey-green.
15	„ brown.
20	„ carmine.
25	„ chocolate-brown.
50	„ dark blue.
75	„ yellow-brown.
80	„ grey.
100	„ brown.
200	„ greenish-black.
300	„ black.
500	„ olive-brown.
1000	„ blue and black.

**Spain.** We have to chronicle the 5c. and 10c. stamps, uniform in design with the value we listed last month.



*Adhesives.*

5c.	green.
10c.	red.

**Spanish P.O.'s in Morocco.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 2c. of the new issue of Spain overprinted for use in Morocco.

*Adhesive.*

Overprinted "Correo Espanol Marruecos."  
2c. black-brown.

**Turkey.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly inform us that the following high values have just been issued to complete the current set.

*Adhesives.*

10	pias, red.
25	„ green.
50	„ brown.

**Uruguay.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a copy of the current 5c. stamp in a new shade.

*Adhesive.*

5c. greenish-blue.

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

THE January meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, the 12th, at Mills' Restaurant, in Liverpool Street, the President, Mr. J. R. Burton, being in the chair for the first half of the meeting, and one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. H. Westcott, for the concluding portion.

Mr. Heginbottom's excellent collections of India and Hong Kong were displayed and much admired, amongst the rarities which created great interest being the 2 annas green of 1856, properly postmarked.

Before these collections were displayed five new members were nominated, various routine business disposed of, and new issues and curiosities shown round. These included the new King's Head issue of New Zealand, unused and used, the design not eliciting much admiration; new stamps of Portugal, showing King Manuel; and Italian stamps overprinted Janina.

The evening concluded with a competitive display of 15 stamps, issued prior to 1860, the prize being awarded to Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N.

The next meeting will be held at Mills' Restaurant, on Wednesday, February 9th, when a very fine collection of Australians will be displayed by Mr. W. Phillips. Mr. Jackson will also show his choice collection of Northern and Southern Nigeria. It is hoped that a good muster of members will be present as at the last meeting, and it is pointed out that though the formal business commences at 7 o'clock, many of the members foregather in the Restaurant, from 6 o'clock onwards, for social intercourse, refreshments, exchange, etc.

## Stamp Frauds.

SYDNEY REGINALD EDMUNDS was sentenced, at Bow Street, to six weeks' hard labour for attempting to obtain stamps by fraud from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, stamp dealers, of the Strand. It was stated that he wrote representing himself to be secretary to Mr. J. H. Whitley, M.P., and asking for a selection of stamps to be sent to him on approval. Inquiries were made, and it was found that similar letters had been received by other firms. They were addressed from a tobacconist's shop at Chelsea, and prisoner was arrested there.

—Daily Telegraph, 5/1/10.



# Chilian Stamps Used in Bolivia.

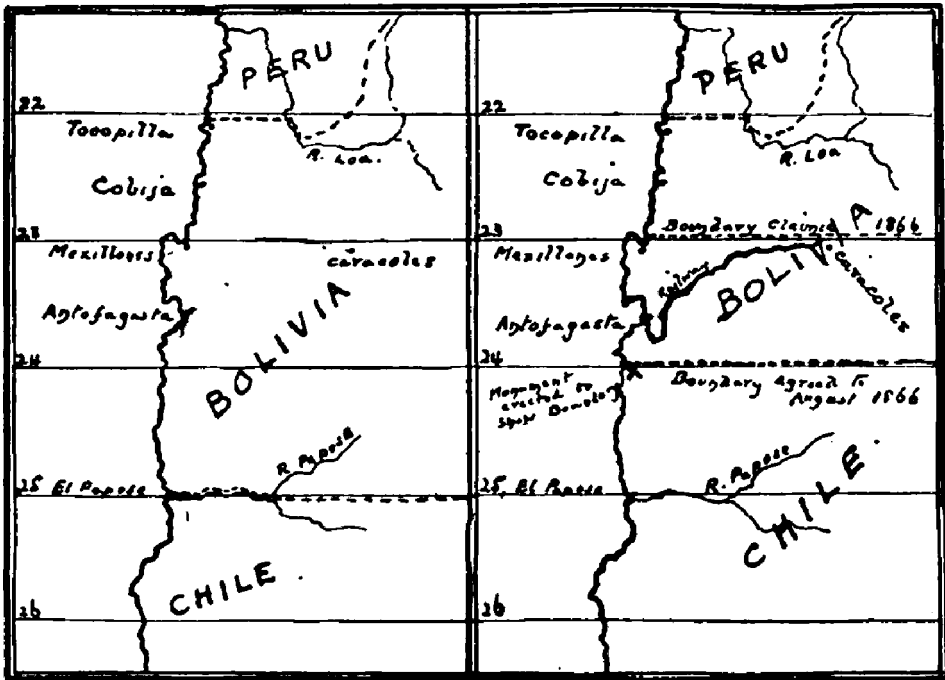
By S. C. BARNETT.

ALTHOUGH for a good many years now, the stamps of Chili used in Peru during the War between the two Republics, have been known pretty generally to most Philatelists, the fact that Chilian stamps are also to be found used in Bolivia, seems to have escaped the notice of even the Chili specialist. It is true that perhaps these varieties do not deserve the same philatelic status as Chilian stamps used in Lima or Callao and other towns which remained Peruvian after the war, but as compared with those used in Iquique,

of the Chilian attack in her direction, instead of it spreading inward to the heart of Bolivia.

In order to obtain a proper grasp of the situation, it is necessary to consider the position of the three Republics, both geographically and historically, and with the idea of facilitating the former point, I have prepared two sketch maps, showing the limits of the belligerent Republics at the various periods of their somewhat stormy careers.

Bolivia, at the time of its founding in 1825 (having previously been known as Upper Peru,



(1) Bolivia 1825-1866

(2) Bolivia 1866-1884

Pisagua, &c., which are now Chilian, they are in every way equally deserving of attention, the conditions of their use being identical.

As Mr. Burton, in his recent entertaining articles on Chili, pointed out, the fact that the unfortunate South American War originally started between Chili and Bolivia, seems to be almost unknown, overshadowed by the fact that the war is generally termed the "Chili and Peru" War. Practically all the damage, as far as Bolivia was concerned, had been done, before Peru, in accordance with her alliance, came to the help of the minor Republic and succeeded in drawing the brunt

and taking its new name from Bolivar who founded it), extended laterally from the borders of the Argentine Republic, westward to the sea—the seaboard territory being that portion of the desert of Atacama lying between Paposé, in the north of Chili, and Tocopilla—this latter town being just on the Bolivian side of the boundary of Peru.

Thus we see that Bolivia owned at that time about two hundred miles of sea coast, not a great extent, and almost uninhabited at that, being for the most part desert land, but it was at least a direct means of outlet for its trade, instead of having to use either Chilian or Peru

ports as is now the case. This period of affairs is shown by sketch map No. 1, and it will be noted that Antofagasta, Mexillones, Cobija and Tocopilla, are all in Bolivian territory.

Although, as we have pointed out, this tract of desert-land was actually in the State of Bolivia, the mere fact of its being practically uninhabited, caused it to be regarded as a kind of "No man's land," until eventually it was discovered that it contained great mineral wealth, extensive beds of nitrate of soda and large accumulations of Guano on the rocky coast; thus this hitherto neglected land became the "Mecca" of all the surrounding parties.

Chili, as the more commercial nation, soon got on the scene, and having got there, promptly claimed that the correct boundary was just north of Antofagasta, latitude 23 instead of latitude 25. Bolivia disputed this, and after negotiations, a compromise was arrived at, it being decided to fix latitude 24 as the boundary, and as witness to this, the Chilians erected a monument near the coast, shown in map 2. This was in 1866, and in August of that year an agreement was drawn up, enacting that Bolivia was to have half the customs from exported minerals between latitude 24 and 25, Chili to have the same as regards those exported between latitude 24 and 23 and "full faculties for trading and the right to mine and export the products" between these points.

One would imagine that with these explicit agreements, the way would have been clear for peace, but as a matter of fact the customs enactment of the treaty only led to further trouble. In 1870, Bolivia, always in an inpecunious state, granted, for a consideration of \$10,000, a concession to the Antofagasta Co. to work the nitrate beds; the Company in return, to construct a railway from Antofagasta to Caracoles, the centre of the silver mining district, and to pay a customs duty of 10 centavos per cwt. on exported nitrate. Things proceeded smoothly for a time, until in August 1874 another treaty was signed, granting Chili the right of free trade on the entire Bolivian Coast for 25 years, they on their part relinquishing their claim to the share of the customs granted by the previous treaty. This was the cause of further trouble, for when the Bolivian Government pressed for their customs duty on the nitrate, the Chilians, as virtual controllers of the Antofagasta Co., resisted, claiming the right of free trade granted by the 1874 treaty. It was thus a question between a Government Treaty on the one hand, and the conditions of the "Concessions" to the Company, on the other, and neither side would give way. Bolivia then seized part of the Antofagasta Company's property in distraint for the amount owing.

This was quite sufficient an excuse for Chili to seize advantage of, and on 14th February, 1879, Col. Sotomayor, with 500 men, seized the Bolivian Port of Antofagasta, and marched inland. Ten days after the Chilean Fleet had captured both the other Bolivian Ports, Cobija and Tocopilla.

Thus fell the chief towns of the Bolivian Province of Atacama; the only seaboard town of any note so far unattacked being Mexillones, or Mejillones, as it was spelt by the occupiers at that time. This however was not to remain long undisturbed, and after stern naval warfare in the Bay of Mexillones, the day was won by Chili and the town capitulated. The Chilians then turned their attention to Peru, and the Bolivians gradually dropped out of the fighting line as the war drifted into Peru, occupying themselves with various little "sorties" and generally making themselves as troublesome as they could to the Chilean armies. The towns captured by Chili, remained in their occupation during this time, and in October, 1880, an attempt at peace was made, however, Chilean demands, as apparent victors were enormous, being in effect, the whole of the Bolivian Coast province, all the Peru province of Tarapaca, an indemnity of \$20,000,000, and other conditions which made the treaty too bitter a pill for either Peru or Bolivia to swallow, and so the war was continued.

Eventually, late in 1883 peace was agreed to between Chili and Peru at Ancon, 23rd October; Bolivia quickly followed example, knowing resistance to be futile, and on 11th December, 1883\*, a treaty was signed, Bolivia ceding to Chili, all her coast line, including, as we have said, her only four ports—virtually the same demands as were made on her in 1880.

Although the first and most important town to fall under the Chilean raid, Antofagasta perhaps comes last, in point of interest, as far as we are concerned, for having been the seat of Chilean and English enterprise—in the Antofagasta Company and other works—it had become almost Chilean before the war commenced, quite different from the other Ports. Another point to be remembered, on referring to our sketch Map No. 2, we find that Antofagasta is situated in that portion of Atacama claimed by the Chilians as actually belonging to them in 1866. Although, afterwards, this claim was withdrawn, nevertheless, in spite of the withdrawal, Chili considered herself as having some right in Antofagasta.

In spite of the most earnest searching, I have not come across any Antofagasta postmarks bearing dates before 1880, either on Bolivian or Chilean stamps. This is curious,

\*In the Encyclopædia Britannica, the treaty is given, in one place, as being agreed to 4th April, 1884, and ratified by Congress 1885. As the matter appears to be in some doubt, I have taken the earliest date to be on the safe side.

and I can only surmise that previous to this date, the cancelling stamps used here were those supplied by the American Bank Note Company to Bolivia as well as Chili of the "grid" and similar patterns; and that the dated ones were only brought into use by the Chilians in occupying the postal administration. A parallel to this may be found in the 2nd type of Iquique postmarks used in 1882-3 and those of Pisagua, which were both of Chilian importation, and not used in the post offices there under Peruvian administration. However these Antofagasta postmarks of 1882 supply us with "material" in accordance with our quest, for although Chili were the holders by force, Antofagasta was still a Bolivian town and remained as such until it was ceded in the Peace Treaty of 1883, in a similar way that Iquique and Pisagua were ceded by Peru in the Treaty of Ancon, 23rd October 1883. Clearly therefore these Antofagasta postmarks dated before 1884 are on "Chilian used in Bolivia."

In one other point Antofagasta differs from her sister ports, as without exception their postmarks were in coloured inks—nearly always blue—while I have never seen any of Antofagasta except in black, another trace of Chilian administration! (Fig. 1 and 2).



FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

It will be recognised, I trust, by my readers, that this being untrodden ground, the information I am able to give is the result of personal research only, and as such must necessarily be very inexhaustive, in fact one of the objects of this article, is the hope that it may result in information, for there may be many in our wide circle of readers who can and would clear up some of the many knotty points—were they aware that they existed.

The next town to be dealt with, Cobija, is, in my opinion, the most interesting of any; for we can trace the appropriation of the town, from the "postal administration" point of view. On the 1877 and in one or two instances, on the 1881 issues of Chili, I have

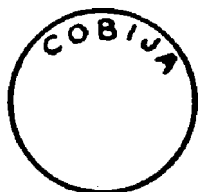


FIG. 3.

found this town postmark in blue ink, merely the word Cobija in a circle with no date or indication of nationality (Fig. 3).

A little later on we find the same postmark with the addition of the word "Chile" below and the date in the centre 1882 (Fig. 4).



FIG. 4.

This is clearly a piece of "bounce" on the Chilian's part, for Cobija was indisputably a Bolivian town and had not been exploited by the Chilians at all, as Antofagasta had; and certainly in the early stages of the war the issue was by no means decided. However, apparently Chili believed in the old adage of "possession" being "nine points in the law," and thought they would help to secure the tenth, by publishing the fact of their possession on the postmarks. It is this fact, I suppose, that has kept these "Chili used in Bolivia" in the background, for one can well understand the uninitiated, on the look-out for these "used abroads," saying: "Cobija Chile cannot come under the above category," and passing them by, while, as I have endeavoured to point out, they are actually just as legitimate as Chili used in Iquique and Pisagua—and these are not doubted—providing, of course, that the dates are correct. It is curious to note that Chili did not attempt to put her nationality on the Pisagua and Iquique postmarks, until some time after the war was settled (perhaps they had not the same contempt for the prowess of Peru as they apparently had for Bolivia).

I have also seen this Cobija postmark used together with a cancellation of concentric rings in blue (Fig. 5) and have several instances of this cancellation alone, always in blue ink. I have found this postmark on Bolivian stamps of this period, so suppose that it was of Bolivian origin.



FIG. 5.

Similar in design to the Cobija postmark, we have that of Tocopilla, though in this case I have never seen the postmark with "Tocopilla" alone without the addition of the word "Chile" as to whether it is to be found so, I cannot say and can only hope to be enlightened.

The earliest date I have seen of Tocopilla, is 17th February, 1882 (Fig. 6) and as in the case of Antofagosta and Cobija, I have never seen this type of postmark on Bolivian stamps.



FIG. 6.

This fact is pretty easily accounted for, when one remembers that these towns, with the exception of Antofagasta, were of very minor importance, except as far as coasting trade was concerned, and the postal business transacted previous to the occupation by the Chilians, very small indeed; there is small wonder, then, that one cannot run across Bolivian stamps used at these ports.

Mexillones, being the last Bolivian port to succumb, may fittingly be the last to be treated here—last, but not least, for one of the Mexillones postmarks is perhaps the most exceptional of any. Unfortunately, although I have carefully examined about sixty thousand Chili of this period,—1879-1883, I have only discovered one specimen of this type, and the postmark being of large dimensions, I have had to complete the inscription as best I can (Fig 7).



FIG. 7.

In the illustration I have shown that part which appears on my specimen, in thicker type than the rest, and have dotted in the outline of the stamp. I think, however, that the complement of the postmark which I give, will prove correct, should some other copies be forthcoming, which I sincerely hope will be the case. I have seen the words "Administracion de Correos" on a good many of the 1876 Bolivia stamps. It occurs, of course, in the Peru postmark of Callao; but in only one instance, as far as I know, in Chilean postmarks, in one used at Valdivia in 1879.

The second type of Mexillones postmark is essentially Chilean in design (Fig. 8) and excepting for the blue ink so much affected by

the Bolivians, there is nothing, save historical facts, to assert its nationality.



FIG. 8.

The earliest dated copy I have found, is 25th March 1881, and it would seem that previous to 1881, the postal business of these ports, even under Chilean rule, was small in the extreme, for they had been occupied by Chili since 1879—about two years—and in no case have I found any postmarks, except Antofagasta, dated earlier than 1881. Supposing the previous type of postmark to have been in use in Mexillones during this period, its scarcity only goes to prove the minuteness of the postal transactions.

Following the course of the invaders, from the coast to the interior, we arrive at the one important inland town in the disputed territory—Caracoles. The type of postmark used here was similar in design to the first Antofagasta one, and like that, is always found in black ink (Fig. 9).



FIG. 9.

The earliest date I have seen, is 22nd August 1880, and as the town was taken at the end of February 1879, there remains over a year to be accounted for as far as postmarks are concerned.

There only remains one other postmark to mention—Atacama—and I do so under reserve, for I cannot say for certain whether this is properly ascribable to Bolivia, for a portion of the province of Atacama belonged, before the war, to Chili. This particular postmark, of which I have only seen one copy, bears the inscription, "S.A. de Atacama," and is dated Dec. 20th, 1882 (Fig. 10).



FIG. 10.

My copy is on the 2c. rose of 1881, and although I have examined many maps of this,

and later dates, I cannot find any place so named. The only names resembling this are "Sals. de Atacama" (of which this may be a variation) and Atacama itself, both of which are in the Bolivian portion of the province. I have therefore concluded that "S. A. de Atacama" is in Bolivia also.

This completes the list of Bolivian towns, which, to my knowledge, used Chilian stamps for their postal business, and in conclusion I would venture to hope that the list has not been without interest to a fair number of my readers, and that it will stimulate a few of the increasing number of those "interested in Chili" into energetic action and result in the available information, at present so small, being greatly augmented.

Finally, I would assure them that they will find the labours of research in this field amply repaid by the many discoveries which are to be made in "material" within the reach of the most limited purse.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

The *P.J. of G.B.* now in its twentieth year of publication, has, in the course of its career, been called a good many names, but I certainly object to it being palmed off to Jamaica readers as the Philatelic Journal. But what can you expect from the philatelic editor of the Jamaica *Gleaner* who's soul is so dead that it allows him to refer to me, in his columns, as Mr. Andrew MacTavish. Cruel, isn't it?

Many moons ago "Tancred," the well known, promised this humble worm that he would contribute an occasional letter to the pages of this paper. Unfortunately "Tancred" has been too busy lately out elephant spearing with the Viceroy at Bangalore to spare time to write. I note, if the following notice is reliable, that we have to congratulate "Tancred" on a rise.

"The King\* has been graciously pleased to approve the increase of the, salute of his Highness Huntem Flor de Porto Wayte a Bitte, Sahib of Rocks, from eleven to twelve guns as a personal distinction."

A well-known dealer said to me the other day that in his opinion it wasn't very much good advertising his wares in the philatelic papers. He reckoned that a well known collector would have to put in so many hours daily in looking at dealers approval selections that he wouldn't have time to spare for reading advertisements!

If that is the case I think the remaining dozen or two genuine collectors (*not* dealer collectors) should have the benefit of a close season—say from April 1st to May 25th—when it would be a criminal offence for dealers to send out unsolicited selections.

\* H.M. King Edward VII. *not* Frederick I.—MCTAV.

Just at present Dutch stamps seem to be all the rage; bitten with the craze, the puir wee McTavish laddie invested a few hundred odd bawbees in a specialized collection. Then he wrote for a few dealers' approval books. Now he is hunting for a specimen of the first two issues that does *not* show a retouch. Fortunately he bought a lot of the horn varieties of the roc. before they were generally known. Much nicer to pay 1d. each than the 1/6 now demanded wasn't it. Have you got it?

If I misled any of my readers last month when I drew an imaginary picture of Messrs. S. and J. tending to the wants of rosy cheeked and chubby infants, I wish now to point out that my imagination ran riot. Both gentlemen tell me they don't collect them.

Mr. Warren Colson, the well-known American dealer in rarities, sends me, as a New Year's greeting, the following lines. I am sure my readers will agree they are worthy of being again reproduced:

### OPPORTUNITY.

Master of human destinies am I!

Fame, love and fortune on my footsteps wait.

Cities and fields I walk, I penetrate  
Deserts and seas remote, and passing by  
Hovel and mart and palace, soon or late  
I knock unbidden once at every gate!  
If sleeping, wake, if feasting rise before  
I turn away. It is the hour of fate,  
And they who follow me reach every  
state,

Mortals desire and conquer every foe,  
Save death; but those who doubt or hesitate  
Condemned to failure, penury and woe,  
Seek me in vain and uselessly implore  
I answer not, and return no more!

JNO. J. INGALLS.

On behalf of my publishers (who stump up the monthly McTavish pittance) I should like to point out that readers shouldn't miss the opportunity of seeing one of Messrs. P.L.P.'s approval books of stamps!

In a recent number of an American stamp exchange I see it stated that a certain gentleman "is managing the business which consists very largely of approval boy trade." How interesting—personally I don't collect boys but I am sure several of my readers would like to write for a small selection.

If it had been an approval girl trade that was carried on I might have applied for a little lot.

Have you noticed the most interesting contest that is taking place between Mr. B. W. Poole and the Bulgarian Government? A few months ago our West End friend started, in his paper, an article on Bulgarian stamps, he has been trying to finish it ever since, but the Sophia people won't let him—directly he takes up his pen to write *finis* the postman delivers a few sheets of recently issued surcharges, and poor Bertram has to

start another chapter. At present the betting is two to two on, and 2 to 2 against.

Have you written a handbook lately? If not, may I suggest one on the stamps of Holland or the U.S.A. I feel sure it would fill a long felt want.

In a book called "The Humour of the Post Office," which I have just read, I came across the following little story:—

A merchant away from home learning of the illness of his wife, telegraphed to his family doctor for particulars. He received the following reply:—"No danger, your wife has had a child. If we can keep her from having another to-night she will do well."

Needless to say, our American friend's wife suffered from nothing more serious than a chill.

In the Christmas number of this paper I see that our worthy editor, the great authority on Persian cats, stamps I mean, says "another great route, we are told, was that followed by Alexander when he marched through Persepolis and Susa on his return from India."

On behalf of the editor of a well-known stamp quarterly, I should like to point out that he is not the gentleman referred to, it was several years before his time.

When I am returned to Parliament, one of the first bills I shall pass (I have already passed quite a number of bills *without* being an M.P.) will be one that prohibits the City of London and the I.P.U. Philatelic Societies from holding their monthly meetings on adjacent evenings. I am a member of both august bodies, and if I do full justice to the City of London, which holds its meetings the evening before the I.P.U., I don't get time to recover my full form before meeting No. 2. Besides, I find the financial strain of having to buy two supplies of cloves in the same week, too heavy. If I could go straight from one meeting to the other, I wouldn't mind, but I can't. I refer, of course, to the *special* sub-committee meetings that are held.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### UNITED STATES STAMPS.\*

WE have received, from the New York branch of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., a copy of Mr. Eustace B. Power's little handbook, dealing with the general issues of the United States. This work, which is also procurable from the London establishment, will, we feel sure, have a good sale, both in the States and in this country, as its author, without going into any abstruse descriptions of any one stamp, gives a very clear *résumé* of U.S.A. stamps from 1847 to date. The chief point Mr. Power evidently had in view was that readers of his book could, with the aid of it, and a little common sense, be able easily to distinguish between the minor

varieties of his adopted country's stamps. In this respect we feel sure Mr. Power has succeeded admirably, as, with the aid of numerous enlargements of the portions of the stamps where the differences occur, he has made it possible for the collector to be really certain whether he has, or has not, got the long-looked for rare type.

In this handbook the collector of recent varieties of paper and perforation is amply catered for; more so than is, we think, necessary, for we find the last twenty-five pages, nearly a fifth of the whole book, devoted to a reprinted account of stamps issued for use in patented stamp vending and mailing machines.

Mr. Power writes in a terse, breezy manner, and his book, although certainly containing but little that is original in the way of information, will be appreciated by many of his readers.

Warning collectors against cleaned copies of the first two stamps (1847), Mr. Power writes:—

The favourite pastime for unscrupulous people is to take these two stamps, wash off the pen cancellations with eradicator, apply a nice clean and generally very white gum to the backs and pass them off as bargains! at half catalogue. The operation is: Cost of one copy, one dollar; wash, regum, sell at half catalogue for unused, five dollars; which makes the gum work out at about four dollars profit per application.

"Cancellation dies were uncommon in 1847 and pen-struck copies are plentiful, but the cleaned stamps usually show a faint yellow-brown mark where cleaned, and if one trains the eye to look for it one can often see the two parallel scratches in the paper made by the two sides of the pen-point.

Of the one cent stamps of the 1851-60 issue Mr. Power lists four varieties against the three mentioned in the catalogues. The fourth type is said to be type III. (c.) with the broken circle recut, but in our opinion this is an unnecessary sub-division as type III., with the circle recut, would become too much like type II (b) to be easily distinguished from it.

Regarding the re-engraved 6c. stamps of 1881-82 (S.G. Nos. 234 and 235), Mr. Power says, *apropos* its appearance and scarcity.

The whole frame-work has been heavily lined, but for instant identification, the inside curls of the ribbon containing the words SIX CENTS have at least ten heavy colour lines, so heavy as to make it appear solid colour. This is a most difficult stamp to find in nice used condition and is much under-priced.

We must draw attention to the fact that practically all the varieties mentioned are listed with quotations of their market value, both for unused, fine used, and ordinary used copies, a fact, which, as the prices seem very carefully considered will add additional value to this the latest of U.S.A. handbooks. As an instance of the value of this pricing we may draw attention to the above mentioned re-engraved 6c. stamp of 1881-82 which we find, on reference to Gibbons' catalogue, is listed at 2d. used. Mr. Power's opinion of its value is 50c.; truly a very much nearer estimate.

\* Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391, Strand, W.C. Price 3/-. post free.

The late Edward L. Pemberton and Philately.

In these days of minute specialism it is hard sometimes to realise that even so long ago as 1867 there should have been philatelists who paid as much attention to the minor varieties of stamps as did that pioneer of philately, the late Edward L. Pemberton. The following extract and block are reproduced from the Dec. number of the Philatelic Record, by courtesy of Messrs. Fulcher and Peplow.

logue in England" and is from the pen of Mr. F. J. Peplow:—

"Most of these lists, particularly those published before 1870, are very rare, from their ephemeral nature. Some of them, such as those of Stanley Gibbons & Co., Plymouth, W. E. Lincoln, London, and Stafford Smith and Smith and Alfred Smith & Co., Bath and Brighton, developed into long series, and the two first have continued to the present day;

Table with three columns: New South Wales—continued, New South Wales—continued, and New South Wales—continued. Each column lists various stamp varieties with their respective values and descriptions.

We feel sure our readers will appreciate the amount of original research which is shewn by E. L. Pemberton in this catalogue of his stamps. Our readers will hardly need to be told that the author was the father of Mr. P. L. Pemberton, the proprietor of this Journal.

The extract which follows is taken from an article in the December number of the Philatelic Record, which should be read in its entirety by all bibliophiles. It is entitled "The Development of the Philatelic Cata-

others, as those of Moore & Eden, Liverpool (1864), Steinau, Jones & Co., and C. K. Jones & Co. (Manchester 1864-8), C. H. Gloyn, Manchester, 1866-9, Young & Stockall, Liverpool (1864-74), mark but the transient importance of dealers long passed from the knowledge of collectors, and there are minor lists and sheets almost innumerable of this and immediately succeeding periods which are known only by their advertisements in journals. One of these catalogues, however, deserves more than a passing mention, as it

denotes a new era in English philately. This was the *Catalogue of the fine and very complete collection of postage stamps, selected, with great care, by E. L. Pemberton, Esq., of Birmingham, comprising all the rarest varieties of perforation, watermarks, &c., known, including full series of the stamps of the various countries upon which Mr. Pemberton has been writing during the last year*, a lengthy title, but one worth giving in full. It was a large octavo list of 20 pages, and was published on 1st September, 1867, by Jas. J. Woods, of Hartlepool, with whom Pemberton had, at the time or later, business connections. Here we see for the first time in English philatelic literature the listing of varieties and terms with which we are now familiar, but which at that time were the *casus belli* of the fight between the two 'schools' of philately which has made the names of Pemberton and 'Pendragon' historical. No better example exists of Pemberton's methods than the page relating to New South Wales, and this I am able through the kindness of Mr. W. T. Wilson, who has lent me his copy, to reproduce. The prices attached have a special interest from the fact that Pemberton had just published in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* an elaborate study of the Sydney Views. This is, as far as I am aware, the first English catalogue of any kind giving a measured perforation, and distinguishing varieties, and their values, by a stated difference in their perforation. (Reproduced one half the size of the original).

Before treating of the dealers' catalogues, above mentioned, which were the progenitors of the catalogue of to-day, I will refer to a more important work by E. L. Pemberton. This was *The Philatelic Catalogue: being a complete catalogue of postage stamps and postal envelopes and cards, with voluminous notes on reprints, forgeries, and every subject of interest*, by EDWARD L. PEMBERTON, with upwards of 1,100 heliotype illustrations. No. 1, January 1st, 1874, Dawlish: James R. Grant & Co. This catalogue was announced to appear in eight monthly parts, No. 1, 1s. 1d. post free, Nos. 2 to 8, 1s. 7d. post free; subscription to the series 10s. 6d., (edition de luxe, 100 copies, 21s.), but only the first part appeared. In the *Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*, Vol. 11., No. 3, July 1909, were published several letters which passed between Pemberton and Alfred Smith & Co., relating to this work, and Pemberton somewhat bitterly accused the publishers of the sixth edition of Gray's Catalogue of undue competition of that work with his own, and announced the abandonment of the *Philatelic catalogue* as probable on this account. Had it been completed it would have stood as by far the finest publication relating to philately published to that date. In typography, plates, style and research, these 52 pages, extending to Bolivia, are the greatest testimony to a philatelist who

*nihil tetigit quod non ornavit*, and for the completion of the work we would gladly have sacrificed any number of editions of that which displaced it. I do not know what bearing upon this dispute between the two dealers (for Pemberton was Grant & Co. of Dawlish) the issue of *The Stamp Collector's Handbook*, by E. L. PEMBERTON, Dawlish: Stanley Gibbons & Co.; Plymouth: James R. Grant & Co., 1874 had, but Pemberton in his own *Philatelic Journal* (then just resuscitated) for January, 1875, complained that both the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* and the *Philatelist* had declined to review it, and suggests that this action was 'due to a fear that to make our *Handbook* known would be to the detriment of their own publication of Dr. Gray in serial form,' and it looks very much as if the issue of the *Handbook* (the preface of which was dated March, 1874, a month or so later than the correspondence above referred to), was of the nature of a reprisal. However this might be, it is certain that it followed upon the accepted lines which had been adopted in the Gray catalogues, without the varieties which the more ambitious *Philatelic Catalogue* offered, e.g., stamps were mentioned as being *imp. and perf.* only, separate lists being avoided, though watermarks were given. This catalogue gave many interesting notes, and an Appendix of 36 pages of Russian locals was included. Altogether it is a most interesting book of 202 pp. and 700 illustrations. A second edition was issued in 1878, 340 pp., by Stanley Gibbons & Co., now of 8, Gower Street, W.C., and by Edward L. Pemberton, Southampton, much elaborated, though still keeping varieties limited, and this catalogue in its two editions served the needs of English philatelists for some seven or eight years without superior competitor. Pemberton died in December, 1878, at the early age of thirty-four, and it is not too late thirty years later to deplore his loss to philately."

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## Our London Letter.

BY THE MAN ABOUT TOWN.

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January 15th, 1910.

COULD any stamp collector spend a more enjoyable afternoon than by visiting and inspecting the latest of dealers' purchases, publications and novelties? I very much doubt it.

To commence with, there is the famous Avery Collection to inspect. This collection, formed by the late Sir William Avery and purchased, as all the world knows, a few months ago by Mr. W. H. Peckitt is still, and will be for some time to come, a veritable storehouse of good things. Rarities and common varieties are alike represented by



specimens in fine condition. What more could the philatelic soul desire?

Chatting with Mr. Peckitt, he told me he was very pleased indeed with his purchase and was in fact already negotiating for the purchase of another big collection. Have you, by the by, seen a copy of the book Mr. Peckitt has written about this famous collection? Amongst its illustrations are reproductions of a block of twenty 1d. V.R. blacks, a used copy of the inverted Swan of Western Australia, blocks and pairs of the Cape of Good Hope woodblock errors, and a score of other rarities. It is a most desirable publication to possess. This book, Mr. Peckitt tells me, will be sent free to any of his clients who have not already received a copy; he also told me that he would send, on application, a copy to any reader of this paper, whether a client of his or not, if this journal was mentioned. Such a generous offer should meet with a generous reply, especially as the book is one which even the most fastidious of bibliophiles would appreciate.

From the Peckitt end of the Strand to the Bright & Son end is but a few minutes walk, so naturally I paid Mr. Oliver, of Messrs. Bright & Son, a visit. As is usual, that gentleman was hard at work. He told me that the new edition of the ABC Catalogue was selling remarkably well, and that collectors were evidently finding a lot of bargains amongst its pages, as orders for stamps, especially Europeans, were coming in well.

Too busy to spare me much time, Mr. Oliver drew my attention to a list of stamps he was willing to purchase. These want lists have always been a feature of his, and result in his purchasing a lot of his clients' duplicates, at prices it would be hard to obtain elsewhere. One of these want lists, relating to Austrian stamps, will, Messrs. Bright & Son tell me, be published in this number of the *P.F.G.B.*; readers should look up their duplicates, and either sell or exchange them for stamps they have not got. Mr. Oliver also told me he was going to discontinue his monthly magazine, *The Philatelic Adviser*. I am sure philatelists will regret his decision.

Writing of catalogues reminds me that that capital publication the Lincoln catalogue is still going strong. In search of bargains and information I paid a visit to Holles Street and found both Mr. W. S. Lincoln and his son, Mr. W. E. Lincoln, busy looking through the final proofs of the fifteenth edition of their new catalogue. From the few rough proof sheets Mr. Lincoln was kind enough to shew me, it is pretty evident that he still intends that his catalogue should, especially with philatelists who use, or have used, his albums, lead the way (and where lives the collector who, at one time or another has not mounted his collection in a Lincoln album?). The Lincoln catalogue is a publication that should

appeal to all collectors, it combines so many novel and advantageous features that it becomes at once a standard catalogue and handbook combined. As an illustration of this I may enumerate a few of its excellent features.

Firstly it is bang up to date, even the New Zealand King's Heads are illustrated and listed. Secondly, every country is in alphabetical order, a great boon to collectors who like to find what they are looking for. Thirdly, each issue of stamps has an illustration, no dodging about from page to page to find type *a*, *b* or *c*, as the case may be. Fourthly, chalky paper varieties are listed. There are also a dozen other admirable features, only lack of space prevents my mentioning them. The chief charm, however, of the Lincoln catalogue is its wealth of historical and geographical notes which raise it above the standard of a catalogue and make it a most interesting handbook and guide for the philatelic student.

Mr. Lincoln expects to publish his new catalogue this week and hopes all readers of this journal will write for a copy. Personally, I think it would pay collectors to look up Mr. Lincoln's advertisement and write for a catalogue. There are many bargains in it.

From Holles Street to High Holborn, where the home of the Connoisseur publications is, is a natural expedition to make, so I toddled off to 68, High Holborn, and found Mr. Pemberton very willing to explain the many advantages his latest novelty, the Connoisseur Pocket Album, possesses.

This book is a marvel of utility and long-looked-for-ness and should, if the letters of appreciation which Mr. Pemberton shewed me from many well-known collectors who have already purchased one or more of these books, have a splendid sale.

One letter, from Mr. H. Hayman, if I remember rightly, read:—

"Dear Sirs,—

"Many thanks for the two pocket albums; enclosed please find P.O.'s in payment for same. I think the idea a splendid one; the album is something I have been looking for for years."

Dozens of other collectors say the same. A well-bound loose leaf pocket album, containing seventy-five quadrille lined pages for 1/6; surely this must hold the record for cheapness. Call in at 68 and inspect one for yourself; you won't go away without purchasing; I couldn't.

"THE MAT."



## Pot-Pourri.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 271, Vol. XIX).

BEFORE continuing my excursions into Kohl's catalogue I am pleased to be able to give extracts from a letter received from Mr. G. Loverius on the subject of the perforation varieties of Belgium, Denmark and Holland, which I referred to last month.

With regard to Belgium, Mr. Loverius agrees with me in saying that the stamps of 1863 do not exist with the compound perforation  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13 as given by Kohl. He says that in making up his specialized collection of Belgium he has been through thousands of this issue, and has never seen a single copy of such a variety.

### HOLLAND.

Mr. Loverius, writes:—"The Postage Due stamps of 1881-85 cannot be divided into large and small holes, like the postage stamps of 1872-88, as they are always with large holes, the perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , fairly clean cut and the  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  (including the  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  variety) with somewhat rougher perforation. This remark does not apply to the 5c. and 10c. of 1870, in which the perf. (a) has always small holes and gauges really 13 to  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$ . The perf. (b)  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  has always, I believe, large holes. I have also an unchronicled variety of the 10c. of this issue, perforated  $14 \times 14$ , small holes. This stamp is mint and I don't know if this is a regular issue or a proof, as I have never seen a used copy of it, and I should be pleased to know if the 5c. brown exists as well with this perf."

Mr. A. J. Warren has also written to put me right on the same matter. He says "The  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cent, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  is found with small holes, but none of the others, while none have the perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  in small holes."

### DENMARK.

Mr. Loverius also gives me his opinion on the perforations of the 1864-68 issue of Denmark. He writes as follows: "The 1864-68 issue can, in my opinion, only be divided into two varieties of perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , which is rather scarce, and, say  $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  to 13; this latter perforation is really  $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , but when measured with different perforation gauges may be taken either for  $13 \times 13$  or for  $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , but there is no possibility of making two distinct sets of this variety of perf."

Since hearing from Mr. Loverius I have looked through a number of the stamps of this issue, and believe he is quite right in what he says. The holes are very irregularly spaced in the  $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  perf. and are very difficult to measure, but I have not found one in which the side perms. measure exactly  $12\frac{1}{2}$  or exactly 13. The  $12\frac{1}{2}$  all round perforation seems to

be a distinct variety, and from what I have seen its scarcity is even greater than Mr. Loverius' remark would lead one to suppose.

I will now proceed with my further investigations of Kohl's catalogue.

### FINLAND.

Here we find a great deal of information about the compound perforations of the 1875-82 issue of this country. It appears that the 5p., 10p., 20p., 25p. carmine and 25p. rosine can be found perforated  $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  and *vice versa*, while the 2p. is only known  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  and the 1 mark  $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ . In addition to these some of the values are mentioned as existing perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  on three sides and 11 on the fourth, or 11 on three sides and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  on the fourth, while the 5p. and the 20p. are known imperf. vertically.

The list of *tête-bêche* varieties of this issue given by Kohl includes the 2 pen. deep grey, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; the 20 pen. grey-blue, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ ; the 25 pen. rosine, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; and the 1 mark violet, perf. 11. None of these is mentioned by Gibbons, though the 10 pen. brown, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , which is given in the English catalogue, is queried by Kohl. I should not be at all surprised to hear that we might return the compliment by querying some of the varieties just mentioned. I hope some specialist in Finland stamps will let me have his opinion.

The English and German catalogues are again at variance over the *tête-bêches* of the 1885 issue. Kohl mentions the 5 pen., 10 pen., and 20 pen., while Gibbons omits the first and adds the 25 pen.

To the surface-printed issue of 1902-3, which is, normally, perforated  $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ , Kohl adds the 10 and 20 pen. perf. 14 all round, and from the prices the two varieties should be equally common.

### AUSTRIA.

Kohl's catalogue is more highly specialized in this section than in any other. The study of the papers on which the early stamps were printed and the lists of minor varieties of all issues of Austria, Austrian Italy and Bosnia, form a highly specialized work on these subjects. Beginning with the first issue of Austria, the well-known varieties on very transparent paper, on which the colour shows through distinctly on the back, are all listed and priced. Besides this set the paper of the *kreuzer* issue is divided into five sets as follows: Rough paper, thick and thin; smooth paper, thick and thin; thick Karton paper.

The stamps on the last mentioned paper are listed, individually, at prices ranging from 7/6 to 12/6. Illustrations are given of four types of the 9 *kreuzer*, though it must be admitted that it is very difficult to see the difference between the types I. and III.; possibly this is due to the illustration which, in this case, is rather poor. It is interesting to note the

estimated values of some of the rarest varieties of these issues. The 1 *kreuzer*, yellow on laid paper (which must not be confused with the ribbed), is valued at £50, used, and the 9 *kreuzer* at £125, while in Austrian Italy the 15 *centes* on laid is put down at £12 10s. I would warn my readers that they are not likely to find these varieties among their own stamps, although it is not outside the bounds of possibility; on ordinary paper the stamps are so very common that the possibility of a laid paper variety turning up now and again is not out of the question.

In the next issue (1858) the 3 kr. black, 3 kr. green, 5 kr. red, 10 kr. brown and 15 kr. blue, are catalogued on transparent paper, while in the *soldi* issue all values are mentioned though the 3 sld. in green does not, apparently, exist in this variety. The prices quoted for used copies range from 5/- for the 5 kr. and 5 sld. to 25/- for the 2 sld.

In the *kreuzer* set of 1861 and in both sets of 1862 and 1863, the same varieties occur on all values except the 2kr. 1861, and though I, personally, do not regard them, either in this or any of the preceding issues, as of much philatelic importance, it is evident that they are esteemed on the Continent, and should be worth securing at ordinary prices.

More important varieties are the 2kr. and 5kr. of 1864 (9½ perf.) on laid paper, the former of which is priced £6 5s. and the latter £17 10s., used.

Of the four well-known types of the 5kr. of 1867, Kohl makes an extension by including a variety of the first type, which differs from the normal in the shape of the inner line of the lobe of the ear, which touches the outer outline near the bottom at the left.

In the 1883 issue compound perforations of the following values are listed:—3kr. (40/- used), 5kr. (60/- used) and 10kr. (60/- used). In the Levant issue of the same date two perforation varieties are mentioned, which are also not mentioned by Gibbons. These are the 5kr. perf. 10 and the 10kr. perf. 10½.

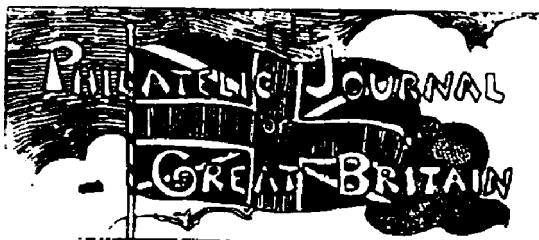
The errors of the issue of 1890, with one or more of the corner numerals missing, are set forth in the greatest detail and include, among others not mentioned elsewhere, the 15 kr. without figures in the upper left corner, and the 20 kr. without figures in the lower left corner.

There is also a very elaborate perforation table of this and other issues which indicates every known variety, single and compound, giving upwards of 100 varieties of the 1890 issue alone. Prices are quoted for the majority of these in used state.

When we come to the 1899-1902 issue we find that the 12½, 13 perforation, which is given in most catalogues, is divided into two sets, one being a compound of 13 and 12½ or

13 and 13½, and the other measuring 12½ all round. The latter is much scarcer than the former, but is not so rare as the 10½ perf. The more recent issues, the unpaids and the Levants are treated in the same thorough manner and reveal many varieties which are not given in other catalogues.

(To be continued.)



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## January, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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 MEMBERS.

Miss H. M. Brameld, Brockenhurst.  
H. A. Tanner, Buenos Aires.  
H. F. Johnson, 44, Fleet Street.  
D. Field, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street.  
Edwin Healey, Streatham Hill, S.W.

### NOTICES.

The fourth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 13th inst. Present:

J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, W. Schwarte, A. B. Kay, F. F. Lamb, W. Hadlow, W. E. Lincoln, P. L. Pemberton, Guy Semple, W. S. King, R. H. W. Whapham (visitor) and the Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, three Members (Messrs. W. E. Lincoln, W. Hadlow, and the Hon. Sec.) were appointed delegates to the Philatelic Congress to be held in April next. The suggestion of subjects for discussion was postponed to the next meeting, to give all members an opportunity of sending to the Hon. Sec. any suggestions they may have to make.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton then read a very interesting paper on "Frauds and Forgeries of Stamps made to deceive the Post Offices of various Countries," illustrated by specimens, including the green 1/- plate 5 postmarked various dates, kindly lent by Mr. Nissen.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec. congratulated the Society on having heard a paper supporting one of its objects, "The Detection and Prevention of Forgeries and Frauds."

Mr. Schwarte having ably seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a pleasant evening.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 10th, at 7.30 p.m., when a display will be given of Mr. E. Heginbottom's "St. Vincent." All members and any visitors cordially invited.

The Hon. Sec. has received with thanks further donations for the Forgery Collection from Messrs. W. Schwabacher, W. Schwarte and R. Towell. The Hon. Librarian also acknowledges with thanks the "Stamp Collectors' Annual" from Mr. Nissen; "A B C Catalogue," 1909-10, from Messrs. Bright; "Herts Monthly Report," from Herts Society; and the "British Philatelist" from Mr. Nissen.

The Hon. Sec. regrets to report the resignation of Mr. Vernon Roberts, Hon. Vice-President, who is no longer interested in stamps, and Mr. P. P. Brown, a member of the Committee, who has gone abroad.

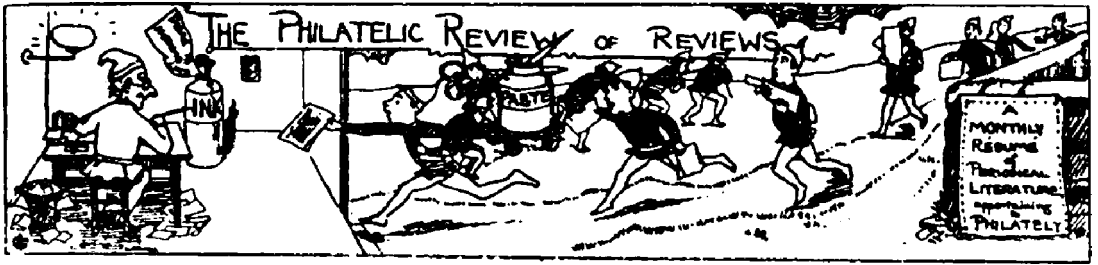
Any proposals of new Members, donations for Forgery Collection, or Subscriptions for 1910, due January 1st, will be gladly received and promptly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

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January 15th, 1910.

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JANUARY 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

THE December number of the *Philatelic Record* contains the second half of Mr. F. J. Peplow's most instructive paper, entitled "The Development of the Philatelic Catalogue in England." Elsewhere we reprint a portion of this article.

In the same number of the *Record* we find the conclusion of Mr. B. W. Warhurst's paper, "entitled "British Entires," some "Review" notes, a "Quarterly Summary of New Issues," and an editorial note relating to the future programme of our excellent contemporary.

The January number of the *Stamp Lover* contains, as has been the case of late months, a goodly number of really interesting articles.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong is responsible for a further long instalment of his most readable paper entitled "Foreign Postmarks." We make the following extracts which amply show the interesting nature of Mr. Armstrong's studies.

### GREECE.

For a period of nearly thirty years, commencing in the early sixties and continuing to the end of 1881, the contemporary postage stamps of the Hellenic Kingdom were current in the postal agencies maintained by Greece in certain towns in the dominions of the Sultan of Turkey, to wit: Constantinople, Salonica, and Smyrna in Turkey proper, Alexandria in Egypt, and Arta, Bucharest, Galatz, Ibraila, and Prevesa and Volo in Danubian Provinces. Also at Candia, Canea, and Retimo on the Island of Crete. The cancellations consisted of a double lined circle containing the name of the town at the top and of the country at the foot, with date in centre, and a serial number, of which No. 95 was Constantinople, 96 Smyrna, 97 Alexandria, 98 Salonica, Canea 163, etc. Greek specialists set considerable store by stamps with these cancellations. An acquaintance with the rudiments of the Greek alphabet is essential to a successful hunt for these postmarks, as they are lettered entirely in Greek characters.

The foreign postmarks of Hong Kong are also amongst the most interesting of those countries mentioned by Mr. Armstrong.

We hope the editor of our contemporary will forgive us for the length of the following extract, we feel sure our subscribers will.

### HONG KONG.

Almost from its inception in May, 1860, the Hong Kong Post Office has maintained branches for the receipt and despatch of letters, etc., and the sale of postage stamps in the various treaty ports of China which have from time to time been thrown open to foreign trade.

They were established in the interests of the British mercantile community in the far East, as at this period there was no organized postal system in operation in the Chinese Empire, and even when a few years later the Imperial Chinese Customs Post actually came into being, its ramifications were of a very limited extent and reliability; and as China has not up to now qualified herself for admission to the Universal Postal Union, they are still maintained, and have proved an inestimable boon to the European residents of the towns in which they are located.

All issues and most values of Hong Kong postage stamps have been on sale at these Chinese agencies, and may be readily recognised by means of their distinctive postmarks.

At first serial numbers consisting of a letter and a figure were employed, the following table furnishing a key to the various offices:—

A1	Amoy.	N1	Ningpo.
C1	Canton.	S1	Shanghai.
F1	Foochow.	S2	Swatow.
M1	Macau.	Y1	Yeddo, or Yokohama, Japan.

The agencies which had been established by the British Post Office in Hankow and Kiungchow, China, and Hiogo (Kobe), Japan, were continued under the régime of the Colonial authorities, and made use of the obliterators served out to them by the British Post Office until the discontinuance of all except Hankow in 1879. The following must therefore be added to the list of serial cancellations to be found on the stamps of Hong Kong: D28 Kiungchow, D29 Hankow, D30 Hiogo. Upon those used in Amoy the cancellation D27 may be found as well as the "A1" postmark listed above.

Towards the end of 1885 these serial postmarks were replaced, by order of the Postmaster-General of Hong Kong, by ordinary circular date stamps inscribed with the name of the issuing town only, which served for both dating and cancelling purposes.

From that date onwards, therefore, the obliterations of the following Chinese towns may be found on the contemporary postage stamps of Hong Kong, Shanghai (or Shanghai), Canton, Foochow (or Foochowfoo), Swatow, Amoy, Ningpo, Hankow, and Hoihow. Subsequently, offices were also established at Chefoo, Liu-Kung-Tau Island (Wei-Hai-Wei), Port Edward (Wei-Hai-Wei), and lastly at Tientsin, and all of these cancellations exist on the current stamps of the

Colony. At Port Edward a rubber handstamp struck in violet ink was first employed.

In the "United States Postal Guide, 1907," mention is made of agencies of the Hong Kong Post Office in Hai-ping and Hanoi, Tonquin, established apparently about October 1st, 1877. This is the only reference to these offices that I have been able to discover.

The work of these agencies has increased to such an enormous extent during the past few years that the amount of postal business transacted by them bids fair to outstrip that of the parent office. In fact, the current issue of Hong Kong with the cancellation of the British Post Office at Shanghai is as common, if not commoner, than with the postmark of the head office at Victoria, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong postage stamps bearing the cancellations of Japanese ports, Bangkok, Singapore, Honolulu, and towns in China where there is not a regular agency of the Hong Kong Post Office are taken from "Ship Letters," and have no particular philatelic interest.

Those of our readers who are interested in Cayman Islands stamps will find the *Stamp Lover* a storehouse of information, as we find the first instalment of what promises to be a most exhaustive article, entitled "The Cayman Islands: Their Stamps and Post Office," contributed by Mr. D. B. Armstrong, who writes in collaboration with Messrs. Bostwick and Watkin.

"Correspondence," Reviews and other features complete a capital number of the official organ of the Junior Philatelic Society.

In the January number of the *Herts Monthly Report* we find a further chapter of Mr. Frenzel's Mexican notes, and some short, but very interesting, notes relating to those interesting stamps the Bordeaux issue of France. Mr. Franz Reichenheim illustrates his remarks by the aid of a plate which shows enlargements of four stamps, one of which, the 40c., is said to show a retouch and is described as "Contour of the head retouched."

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for December 18th contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's exhaustive article on the "Stamps of Iceland." Mr. B. W. H. Poole, in his "Countries of the World" article, deals with the later issues of the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. G. H. Holland contributes the first instalment of an article, entitled "The Cancellation Marks of London and District," which will doubtless be of great interest to those numerous collectors who are interested in the postmarks of our own stamps. Other contributions, reviews and a new issue list complete a good number of the *Weekly*.

In our copy dated December 25th, Mr. Holland concludes his paper on

"Cancellations." Mr. Poole contributes a further long instalment of "Hawaiian Islands," while Major Evans and other writers contribute articles of a more or less philatelic nature.

The January 1st copy contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article, dealing with the "Postal Issues of Italy and Colonies." The following extract will interest our readers, especially as it will enable them to keep a look out for scarce *postally* used forgeries of the 10c. of the 1901 issue.

#### FORGED STAMPS USED POSTALLY.

Having received certain information from several local post offices, the Milan police arrested a person on the 31st December, 1904, only to release him on the 2nd of January, after some interrogation. An inquiry was opened in the following August, and it was proved that forged 10 centesimi stamps had been sold at a post office in Milan; the officer in charge of the office was thereupon sentenced to three months' imprisonment, which does not appear too heavy a punishment, and the man who was originally accused was acquitted, without any protest on his part!

Signor Fiecchi has been kind enough to show us some of these forgeries, so that we are enabled to describe some of the points of difference between the true and the false. They are sufficiently distinct:—

(a) On the right-hand temple the hair is arranged in quite a different manner.

(b) The garlands surrounding the portrait differ in all their details.

(c) There are differences in the lines of shading on the face and in the background.

(d) In the forgery the points of the collar are not turned down, and the two parts are separated by a line of colour.

(e) In the forgery the upper curl of the "c" of "CENT" stretches over the "N" instead of stopping short just behind that letter.

(f) The "p" of "POSTE" is too small, and the middle stroke of the "E" differs from that of the original, as is also the case with the "E" of "ITALIANE."

(g) The "o" of "10" is too oval.

In addition to the above there are other minor points of difference, which need not be mentioned here, as those given will enable the forgeries to be easily distinguished from the official stamps.

Amongst the articles seized by the authorities there was a block of nine copies (3×3), a used copy on a picture postcard, postmarked 22.11.1904 at Milan, and also copies used on wrappers in conjunction with genuine stamps.

This forgery is said to have been in circulation during the last three months of 1904. It varies in shade, and the perforation gauges 11½ × 11½; the paper is unwatermarked, too thin, and of a bluish tint; the gum is too white; and finally, the method of reproduction was lithography instead of surface-printing.

An article entitled "Surcharges and Overprints" in the same number of the *Weekly* is also of interest.

From "Talk of the Day" we extract the following information.

#### THE PERKINS BACON SARAWAKS.

It does not seem to be generally known that the series of Sarawak stamps engraved and printed by

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and issued in 1895, also furnish the specialist with interesting varieties in the way of large and small-holes perforation. The first supply, which were placed on sale in January, 1895, have a perforation gauging 12, and for these two distinct single-line machines were used, one punching very much larger holes than the other. Although the difference in the size of the holes may be readily seen, the gauge does not vary in the slightest. The following is a list of the varieties at present known:—

Large-holes perforation.

- 2c. Indian red.
- 4c. black.
- 6c. violet.
- 8c. deep green.

Small-holes perforation.

- 2c. Indian red.
- 4c. black.
- 6c. violet.

In the January 8th edition of the same paper we find a further long instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Stamps of Nicaragua." Mr. C. J. Phillips contributed an interesting letter wherein he tells his readers of his trip out to Buenos Ayres. He seems to be having a jolly good time and has already met a number of collectors. There are also other contributions of interest, notably a short history of the Hamilton (Bermuda) Postmaster's stamp.

The December number of the *London Philatelist* does not contain any one article of philatelic note. Surely the December number, of what should be our leading monthly, might contain something else besides a varied assortment of scrappy notes, some of which, such as Binding Notice," "International Philatelic Exhibition," Vienna, 1911," etc., etc., although of a fascinating nature, do not exactly make us rush to our albums in the hope that we also may have one of the described new discoveries.

The December number of the *Philatelic World*, now a quarterly publication, is a very creditable production. Mr. A. J. Séfi contributes several articles, one of which, entitled "Kashmir: Stray Notes, Philatelic and Otherwise," although it contains but little philatelic matter, is of general interest. It is illustrated by the aid of four plates, showing, respectively, "The Sind Valley," "The Mar Canal," "Kashmiri Villagers," and "Kashmiri Boatman." The last of these is well worthy of being framed, as it is one of the finest photographic figure studies we have seen.

The purely philatelic contributions of the *Philatelic World* are varied, notably a short continuation of Mr. Séfi's "Postal

Issues of Luxemburg," a translated paper dealing with the 1872 Postage Dues of France, a series of "Notes on the 1875 and 1876 issues of Persia" (illustrated), a short paper entitled the "So Called Error 20 Rappen Brown of Switzerland," etc., etc. Mr. Karl Wiehen contributes his paper entitled "Should Completeness be Sacrificed to Condition," which was read before the "North London Philatelic Society" on November 16th, 1909. We regret that we shall have to wait three months before we can review another number of Mr. Séfi's publication. Such a good production as is his Xmas number, would be welcome monthly.

The following extract from the above mentioned article on Persian stamps will doubtless be of interest, especially so as we feel sure that these stamps have been unduly neglected.

"The printing was done on a Columbian printing press. The paper was bought in the bazaar at Teheran, and was of Russian manufacture, and to the best of my recollection was either numbered 4 or 6. All the slips of stamps were gummed at the Postmaster-General's residence, under his and Herr Manwarda's supervision.

"The dies were set a little apart, being divided by the leads with a piece of brass wavy rule between them, the top and bottom also had pieces of brass rule running parallel the entire length, done with a view of avoiding the dies being clotted with ink when the roller passed over them, as they took the extra ink instead of the dies.

"Herr Reiderer wanted me on completion of my contract to print more, but, owing to pressure of my official business, I had to refuse, so the job was given to the Persians, who erected little raised piles and placed the stamps in them, printing the impressions off by rubbing the paper roughly with their hands over the surface of the dies."

In the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* dated December 25th, we find the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article namely, "The Postage Stamps and the Postal System of Belgium," from the pen of Mr. Percy C. Bishop. Mr. B. W. H. Poole also contributes a short chapter of his British Honduras article.

In the January 8th number of the same publication we find a short continuation of Mr. Bishop's article, he is now nearing the actual stamps themselves, after a preliminary historical canter. Mr. Poole is likewise to the fore with another twelve inches of his British Honduras paper. He deals mostly with the King's Head stamps. Mr. Ferris Chilcott contributes his paper, entitled "Designs on Postage Stamps," which was read before

the Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society. Like most papers of a general nature, it contains little or no fresh information, but is very useful as a readable fill-up. Mr. Chilcott's knowledge of nautical terms, however, is not quite as strong as it might be; he says one of the most artistic stamps of Uruguay has a "noble schooner in full sail" depicted on it. Try again Mr. Chilcott.

Our Chancery Lane exchange now makes a feature of interviewing well-known collectors. Mr. Arthur S. Allender is No. 3 of the series.

The December number of the *West End Philatelist* contains two long instalments of B. W. H. Poole's serial articles dealing respectively with the stamps of the Gold Coast and Bulgaria. The postal officials of the latter country evidently appreciate Mr. Poole's work as they kindly issued a few dozen surcharges just when our Royal Arcade friend was going to conclude his story of Bulgarian stamps. If the Bulgarians don't issue a few more provisionals next month they will have friend Poole giving them their quietus.

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## Philately on the Continent.

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UNDOUBTEDLY the sturdiest of the recently born foreign philatelic journals is *Mitteilungen der Firma Paul Kohl*, the sixth number of which lies before us. It essentially caters for the advanced philatelist, and among the abundant fare provided, we would specially draw attention to an article devoted to the 1866/7 and 1874/5 issues of Venezuela. Herr Kohl has recently subjected his stock of stamps of this country to a careful examination, and has devoted special attention to the above issues. He asserts that the issue of 1874/5 is not merely that of 1866/7 with the addition of the overprint "Contraseña-estampillas de Correo," but that it is a totally distinct issue, in which the colours are for the most part different. Then he has devoted the surcharge itself to a careful examination, from which he arrives at a result which very much corresponds to the classification in our Gibbons Part II.

He also draws attention to the large numerals surcharged on this and on the previous issue, but is unable to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion as to their meaning, although he supposes them merely to be postmarks. He has come across the surcharges 3, 5, 8 and 9 on various stamps. We may mention that we

have seen the surcharge 4½ on the ½ real of the 1874-5 we have also seen the surcharge 3 on the 25c. of the 1882 issues.

The December number of *Der Philatelist* has a short article on modern Portuguese errors by Mr. C. George. He asserts that all these so-called "errors" were specially made by the printers, who apparently were "on the make." But why does he call the printers of the Vasco da Gama stamps Waterloo & Son.

The B.B.Z. seems quite commonplace this month. It is perhaps because we have been regularly accustomed to such high class fare in its columns. Its most noteworthy article is on systematic type collection, of which we have had rather an overdose in this country. Likewise, my dear Herr Kosack, we are getting a weeny bit tired of uncle Oscar and his affectionate nephew, and is it not rather early for this young gentleman to start specialising?

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* continues, in its issues of Dec. 15th and 31st, the article on Russian Locals which has been running for some time, and the "Notes on some Commemorative Stamps," the first instalments of which appeared in recent numbers. In the Dec. 15th number the Roumanian Commemorative stamps of 1906 are described and the scenes depicted on the different values explained in great detail. In the number dated Dec. 31st is a translation of the important article from the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, entitled, "Photography in the Service of Philately," which is illustrated with two plates. There are many ways in which photography can be made use of in the detection of forgery, and these are all explained. It is principally, however, in the detection of cleaned stamps, that is, of stamps which have had penmarks removed by chemicals, that photography is of service to philately. It is also possible, in many cases, to prove with certainty, by this means, whether a surcharge is under or over a postmark, an important point which frequently cannot possibly be decided without its aid.

The same number of the *Echo* has an article on the Y¼ stamps of Cuba, written by M. J. Boursez, in which he seeks to prove the authenticity of the surcharge on the stamps with watermark of crossed lines. The result is not very satisfactory as he omits to produce any evidence. He gives a translation of an Official Decree which proclaims the establishment of a local postal system for the town of Havana and the consequent provision of a stamp of ½ real for local use. This decree is not new to philatelists and, in any case, is silent on the question of the surcharges. Yet M. Boursez says: "By virtue of this decree the stamps of 2 reales of the issue of 1855 to 1864, paper watermarked loops, crossed lines and unwatermarked, were overprinted with the surcharge Y¼ in black ink, which clearly



proves that the said surcharge really does exist on the three different kinds of paper which were in use before 1862 when the necessary stamps for franking the letters for the interior were at last sent out to Cuba."

The italics are ours. We fail to see that anything is proved beyond the fact that this vexed question is exactly where it was left by the last controversialists who tackled it.

*Le Timbre-Poste* for January contains some philatelic statistics concerning the new issues of the past year. The figures comprise postage and telegraph stamps (in France telegraph stamps are collected almost as much as postage stamps) but do not include any varieties of watermark or perforation. The total number of new stamps computed in this way is 766, which, we are told, is just 50 below the average for the past ten years. The total was contributed to by the continents as follows:—

Europe .. .. .	145
Asia .. .. .	109
Africa .. .. .	203
America .. .. .	265
Oceania .. .. .	44

They can also be classified in another way:—

Portugal and Dependencies ..	0
England and Colonies ..	201
Spain ..	25
Germany ..	0
United States ..	29
Holland ..	11
Russia ..	51
France ..	57
Other Countries .. .. .	365

Among the other countries may be mentioned Siam 20, Liberia 21, Nicaragua 51, Paraguay 42 and the Italian group 76, of which 3 are for Crete, 11 for Somaliland, 3 for Eritrea, 1 for Italy, and the rest for the offices in the Levant.

M. R. Adam who has made this computation offers the following remarks, the tenor of which is more familiar to English than to French readers who are apt to receive the floods of new issues with silent philosophy.

"The English emissions bring us this year their usual contingent, almost equal to the average. Attractive stamps, it is true, but these incessant changes of colours and watermarks, are they really necessary? And the old issues of the British Colonies, were they not superior in manufacture and interest to the new? The infinite number of the British Colonies, their continual new issues and the creation of almost useless high values oblige collectors, if they wish to be complete, to buy almost all these stamps in unused state. . . . Now, frankly, from the point of view of research with its possibility of lucky finds, are not the old stamps 100 times more interesting?

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

WE are very pleased to welcome the first number of a new series of the *Philatelic Journal of America*. The number before us is dated December 15th, 1909, and is the first of Volume XX. ; needless to say we are very glad to welcome the re-entry of our old American namesake. The contents of our contemporary are very varied, there being interesting articles on the Parcels Post of the U.S.A. (or rather the lack of it), some notes on Mr. Bellows' "Campeche"; a long article, entitled, "Special Perforations on U.S. Stamps"; a short paper dealing with "Embossed U.S. Revenue Stamps"; and a host of other "notes" of a philatelic nature.

No fewer than sixteen-and-a-half pages of the November number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* are devoted to its editor's paper, entitled, "Stamps of Spain and Cuba, 1855-60." This article has already appeared in the *Philatelic Adviser*, May—August 1908, so we think that its author is rather hasty in serving up to his Indian readers a verbatim copy of his work published less than two years ago.

Mr. Jno. Godinho is responsible for practically the remaining contents of our Eastern exchange, namely, a short note entitled, "Operations of Dealers in certain Indian Native States," wherein he points out that the Nabha State has recently issued 2,400 2½ annas stamps, against 14,160 of the 4 annas value and 6,480 of the 8 annas. Needless to say the lowest value should have the biggest sale, as it is, it has been cornered by local dealers. Mr. Godinho's other contribution is entitled "Colouration and Portraiture," wherein he gives us a learned dissertation on the subjects mentioned. The following extract, relating to the designs of some of the world's stamps is interesting, flowery, and extremely reminiscent of the scented East.

The popular taste long satiated with the likeness of the same rulers, presidents and views clamoured for reform and variety. The surface of the stamp was too small. Other worthies and objects had a right to the distinctive honour of figuring on labels, which from the country of origin went to the remotest parts of the globe. Defunct presidents were resuscitated, forgotten explorers, navigators, conquerors, warriors, and administrators were rescued from oblivion. Their portraits enhanced the interest in

stamps. Others more eager to manifest their gratitude for the bounty of Providence, depicted the products, and the natural features of their countries. A cursory study reveals that the fauna and flora of some countries are well represented. Everything of importance, from man to kangaroo, from blades of grass to palmyras, from flowing streams to volcanoes, from monoliths to palaces, embellishes the tiny space of a postage stamp. A further impetus was given by the celebration of jubilees and centenaries. All nations were for once unanimous. The stamp, of all the works of man the *postage stamp*, was universally admitted as the best and most convenient vehicle wherewith to invest these national demonstrations with world-wide publicity. This vain desire, more than any other consideration, tended to make stamps objects of art. The demand was for the beautiful. It was bound to be so, in an age when art had acquired so great a proficiency, and in every handwork of man æsthetics played so important a part. The exponents of art in all countries vied with one another for beauty of conception, excellence of design and clearness of execution. A variety of subjects were at hand to stimulate their ingenuity, but the fauna and flora of *terra* were insufficient to appease the popular fancy. Nations went in quest of appropriate subjects. Brazil, San Salvador and the United States plucked the stars of the firmament. Peru and Persia seized the sun, Jaipur contenting herself with his chariot. The Pope gazed heavenwards and secured the keys of St. Peter. Christian Portugal, in spite of this, managed to smuggle out St. Anthony and a handsome angel with wings. Classic Greece diverted Mercury with the olympic games. Spain sketched Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. The spirit of desecration reached India, and Dutia seeing Jhalawar amuse herself with the fair Apsaras invaded the pantheon, and brought out Gunpatti, bodily, with his four hands and complete trunk.

## Post Office Reform in Brazil.

We are very much indebted to some kind reader of the *P.J.G.B.* at St. Paulo, who has very kindly sent us several copies of the *Brazilian Review*, a paper published in English at Rio De Janeiro. Needless to say our unknown correspondent is of a philatelic turn of mind, so the paragraphs he has marked all refer to stamps. We reproduce the following as we think it of sufficient philatelic value to interest many of our readers.

### OFFICIAL STAMPS.

November 16th, 1909.

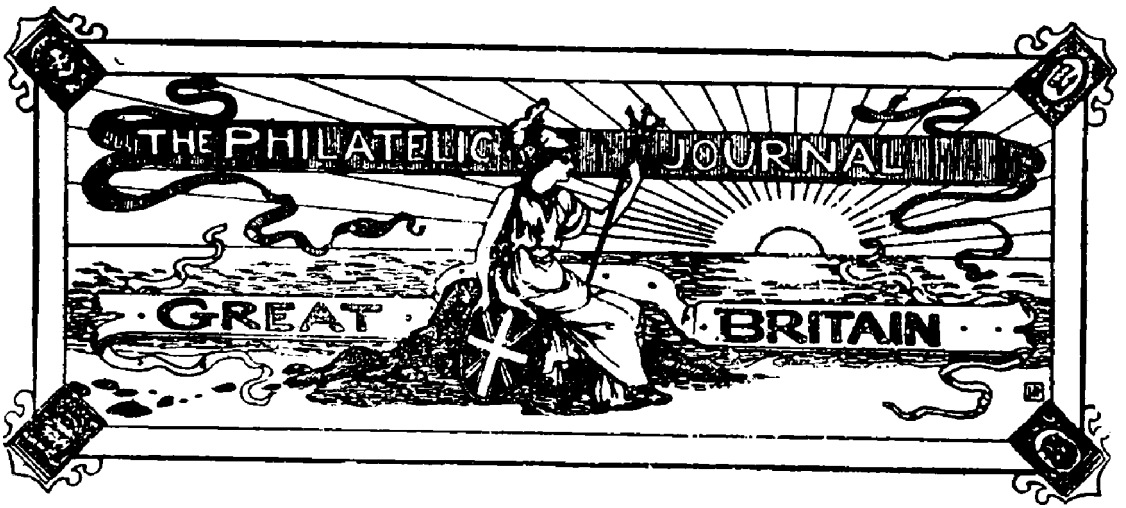
The President of the Republic is about to send a message to Congress suggesting as a measure of general administration and financial advantage that the franking of letters enjoyed by Government and by many private societies throughout the country shall be forthwith suppressed. We referred last week to this question as likely to be tackled soon, but the President, with his usual despatch, has lost no time in following up what we believe was his own suggestion. According to the message, it is proposed that the frank should be abolished altogether and it is pointed out that last year its use deprived the country of no less than \$1,300,00 in

revenue, no small sum when the burdens of the State and the heavy weight of taxation is considered. It is to be hoped that Congress will act on this excellent suggestion on the part of the President and that within a short time a fresh source of revenue may be tapped which will really hurt no one, whilst it will all help eventually to lighten the burden of the taxpayer.

### POSTAL REFORMS.

November 23rd, 1909.

Since we last wrote the celebrated decree for the reorganisation of the Post Office has been signed. The basis for the reforms is practically the same as that which was presented to Congress some time ago by the actual Postmaster-General, Dr. Ignacio Tosta, and since that time carefully considered by him in conjunction with the President of the Republic and the Minister of Public Works. A committee was later appointed and the reform as now promulgated is really the work of the Postmaster-General and of this committee. The changes to be made under the new regulations are many, but the most important may be summarised as follows:—reduction in postal rates, a reduction which cannot be put into effect until sanction of Congress has been given. As we stated last week, the reduction will, if approved, be from 200 reis to 100 reis for letters in the interior of the country and from 300 reis to 200 reis for letters for abroad. Next, all the departments of the Post Office are to be reorganised and the personnel of each increased, whilst the salaries of the said personnel will also be augmented. A special postal administration is to be arranged for the State of Rio de Janeiro, whilst the postal arrangements in the Federal District will remain under the direct supervision of the Postmaster-General. Sub-administrations are to be created at Minas do Rio de Contas (Bahia) and Ribeirao Preto (S. Paulo). Special agencies are to be established in the Cities of Campos, Santos and Rio Grande. All the different services are to be re-organised, especially as regards the transmission of money by means of *vales* or postal orders, establishment of postal savings banks, appointment of 40 inspectors, who will constantly be making their rounds, increased duties for all officials, guarantee to agents of more than ten years' service that they shall not be dismissed without proper inquiry and that promotion shall be made as fair as possible, increased importance to be given to the Postal Administrations in the States of Amazonas, Ceará, Paraná, Santa Catharina and Parahyba do Norte. Finally, the hours for work are to be fixed at 6 per diem for employees in the despatch departments and 8 per diem in the sorting and other departments. The total increase in the number of postal employees throughout the country will be some 800 men.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

“ONLY an enthusiastic collector knows what covetousness really is.” This sentence, quoted by the *Morning Leader*, from a speech delivered at Liverpool, will make philatelists and other specified collectors thrill with enthusiasm. The glow, if they feel it, will be quite unjustifiable. Every man is a collector, though he may not arrange his trophies in alphabetical order or pin them carefully on a board. The book lover who just fails to secure some rare edition is deeply mortified, but the ambitious young man who applies unsuccessfully for a situation is just as enviously green. The first keeps his jealousy alive by gazing on the lost treasure, the latter by standing outside the portals of the building in which he should have found a place. Something tangible is needed to make a man properly covetous, but money, or even an office stool, is as tangible as a Reynolds’ picture. Everybody knows what covetousness really means, because, every one is, in his way, a collector. Mr. Lloyd George does, for instance, though, to be sure, we never heard of him collecting anything but trouble.”

The above excellent little homily is reprinted from a recent number of the *Evening Standard*, a paper, which by the bye, evidently includes a philatelist on its staff, as we find frequent and intelligent references to our hobby in its columns.

We are afraid, however, that we cannot altogether agree that the “glow of enthusiasm” is unjustifiable, at least as far as stamp collectors are concerned. We ourselves have been too frequently moved to covetousness, to say nothing of enthusiasm, when we have seen a big specialized collection of our favourite country, to doubt that many collectors have had similar desires. The fact that some other benighted collector lets his enthusiasm run riot over books, or coins, or the possibility of obtaining a clerkship in the War Office or any of the hundred and one desirable positions that we poor mortals may hope to aspire to, does not lessen our covetousness for the other man’s attained glory in our mutual department of madness. The saving clause with stamp collectors is that fine though the other man’s collection may be it does not contain the one ewe lamb that we ourselves are the proud owners of. This exception may be, nay frequently is, of little or no pecuniary value, its virtue resting in the fact that it cannot be duplicated. Possibly its charm consists of an early or rare obliteration, its superb condition or its rarity in a pair or block; at any rate the other fellow, however many other rarities he may possess, is not the owner of a stamp quite like ours.

But for this great saving clause it would not, we feel sure, be safe for our well-known specialists to exhibit their hoarded treasures at a society’s meeting. The sight of

such philatelic wealth to the real lover of stamps, would at times be almost too great a temptation, a longing only resisted when he remembered his own little two-penny-halfpenny block of four with its heliotrope cancellation.

The lachrymose gentleman mentioned by our contemporary as being a collector of trouble should be persuaded to go to a show-night of one of our leading societies. It might suggest to his fertile brain a new mode of taxation.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** *Levant.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the current 3d. stamp surcharged 1½p.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
1½ pias. on 3d. orange.

**British Solomon Islands.** The *Colonial Office Journal* chronicles the issuing of three high value stamps.

*Adhesives.* Multiple wmk. Perf. 14.  
2/- purple on blue.  
2/6 red ..  
5/- green on yellow.

**Canada.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current 7c. stamp in a new shade.



*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
7c. dark yellow.

**Fiji.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 1/- stamps in the new colours have been sent out to the Colony.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk.  
1/- black on green.

**Gibraltar.** The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the following novelties:—



*Adhesives.* King's Head. Multiple wmk.  
2d. grey.  
1/- black on green.

**India.** The *Monthly Circular*, on the authority of a continental exchange, chronicles the current 3 annas stamp overprinted "On H.M.S."

*Official Stamp.*  
3 annas, orange.

**New Zealand.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly write us as follows:

"In our last consignment of Postage Due stamps, the 2d. value was quite a different shade of colour to those previously received, the central colour being rose instead of red as formerly."

**North Borneo.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles one of the recently issued set of stamps in a new shade.

*Adhesive.* 1909 type.  
10c. pale blue and black.

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** Messrs. Champion's *Bulletin Mensuel* chronicles the new 1 peso stamps. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen.



*Adhesive.* Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.  
1 peso blue and red.

**Belgian Congo.** We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. four values of the new stamps inscribed both in French and Flemish as illustrated below.



1910 Adhesives.  
5c. green and black.  
10c. carmine ..  
15c. yellow ..  
25c. blue ..

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* also chronicles the following novelties as follows:—

M. Beaufaux has kindly submitted to us three varieties of the typographed "CONGO BELGE" overprint, inverted, which we list below, and tells us that he has a 10fr. stamp with this overprint double, one inverted; he has promised us a sight of it.

### CONGO BELGE

1908. Stamps of 1894 to 1901, centres in black, overprinted black.  
Typographed; height of letters 3mm.  
Variety. Overprint inverted.  
5c. green.  
10c. carmine.  
50c. olive-green.

**Bolivia.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles the new commemorative stamps. They are described as follows:—

The portrait is in black in all values, we therefore only give the colour of the frame followed by name below portrait.

#### Commemorative Issue.

1 centavo yellow-brown Miguel Betanzos.  
2 .. green Coronel Ignacio Warnes.  
5 .. red Pedro Domingo Murillo.  
10 .. blue Bernardo Monteagudo.  
20 .. violet Estevan Arze.  
50 .. yellow-brown Antonio Jose de Sucre.  
1 boliviano brown Simon Bolivar.  
2 .. brown Manuel Belgrano.

**Chili.** Elsewhere we publish details of two new sets of stamps that are likely to be issued next June or July.

**Italy. Eritrea.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, on the authority of a German exchange, chronicles the Foreign Express Delivery stamp overprinted for use in Eritrea.

*Express Letter Stamp.* Overprinted in black.  
30c. blue and rose.

**Montenegro.** Messrs. Bright & Son very kindly inform us that they have found in their stock the following two novelties:—

Adhesives. First Issue. Perf. 11 x 10½.  
3 nov. green.  
1893 Issue. Perf. 11.  
2 nov. yellow.

**Persia.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a set of newly issued stamps which, unfortunately, seem likely to be only of a provisional nature.

#### Adhesives.

1 ch. orange.  
2 ch. violet.  
3 ch. yellow-green.  
6 ch. scarlet.  
9 ch. slate-grey.  
10 ch. magenta.  
13 ch. deep blue.  
26 ch. blue-green.  
2 kr. deep green and silver.  
3 kr. grey and silver.  
4 kr. blue ..  
5 kr. chocolate and gold.  
10 kr. orange ..  
20 kr. sage green ..

The *Monthly Circular* also chronicles 1 kran and 30 kran stamps.

1 kr. silver and violet.  
30 kr. gold and carmine.

**Roumania.** Mr. W. B. Edwards very kindly tells us that he has discovered a copy of the 1 leu black and green, of the 1905 issue, with compound perforations. This stamp will follow S.G. No. 457.

Adhesive. 1905 Issue. No wmk.  
Perf. compound of 11½ and 13½.  
1 leu black and blue.

**Spain.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 2c. stamp of the current set.



Adhesive.  
2c. black-brown.

## The Lindenberg Medal.

We are pleased to be able to announce that the Lindenberg Medal has this year been awarded to M. Pierre Mahé. This medal awarded by the Berlin Philatelic Club in honour of its distinguished founder, Karl Lindenberg is intended as a mark of distinction for those who have won special fame in philately by scientific investigations.

Previous recipients have been M. Theodor Haas, of Leipzig; Dr. Legrand, Paris; Dr. E. Diena, Rome; Mr. E. D. Bacon, London; M. L. Hanciau, Brussels; Major Evans, London; and Mr. M. P. Castle.



## Notes on the King William III. Stamps of Holland.

By M.A.C.

So much has been written about the early stamps of Holland during the past few months that it is with great diffidence that I venture to contribute the following few notes. In extenuation of my rashness I can only plead as an excuse the fact that several collectors have admired my way of arranging my Dutch stamps with the result that now, in the hope of interesting some of the many readers of this Journal, I publish details of my system of classification. The first two issues do not lend themselves to any original modes of display, they can only be grouped together under their respective dates of issue, even the most original of philatelists would have a difficulty in placing them in any other order than in that which the compiler of our standard catalogue places them. In the third issue however there is, I think, room for great improvement; the plan of arranging the two dies together in their respective perforations could, I think, be bettered.

In the following list I place all the stamps from die I. under one heading, the stamps from die II. under another.

In this issue of stamps we find that several of our leading catalogues make a sub-division for stamps on blued paper. Personally, I do not differentiate between the two papers, not because I doubt the existence of stamps on paper that shows a decided bluish tinge, but because I believe that an accidental colouring of the paper, which at any time could be fraudulently imitated, is of very secondary importance. I am pleased to see that in Messrs. Bright's A.B.C. catalogue no notice is taken of these bluish paper varieties. In Kohl's catalogue I see that a variety of the 15c. chestnut, die II. in the  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  perforation is listed. This stamp is not in the English catalogues; I include it, however, in my list. In Kohl's catalogue they also subdivide the 13,  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$  perforations into two sets, namely,  $13 \times 14$  and  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ , but I think this is carrying matters too far.

In the fourth issue of stamps—namely, the surface printed labels with the late King's head, I give a more elaborated list of perforations than is to be found in Gibbons. If the two varieties of perforation—small and large holes—are worth cataloguing in the newspaper stamps, surely they are worth listing in the more generally used higher values.

As possibly some of my readers, many of whom, I am sure, are keenly interested in the early varieties of Holland, would like to keep the following list of stamps for reference, I

will keep my scattered observations to within the confines of my preliminary notes. To commence with many of the stamps of the first issue show signs of having been printed from a retouched plate or plates. These retouches, some of which are very noticeable, are very numerous on the 5c. and 10c. stamps and very rare on the 15c. In fact I have only seen one copy of a satisfactory retouch of this value.

So numerous (about 8% I should think) are these retouched 5c. and 10c. stamps that it is a matter of difficulty to find two retouched specimens which show identical evidence of having the same lines strengthened. The strongest retouches are to be found in the top left hand corner of the 5c. and 10c. stamps, either between the "P" of "Post" and the outer frame line, or where the scroll work under the "P" has been recut. The stamp I illustrate shows the addition of three lines to the left of "Post."



A variety even better worth looking for in this issue is, I consider, the stamp printed from a *very* worn plate. I have several in my collection in which the left-hand corner, from the "P" of "Post," to the outside frame line, does not show the faintest trace of ever having been printed upon. Hence the necessity of the retouch.

The so-called "horn" variety of the 10c. is now so well known that to many of my readers it would seem useless repetition to describe it, as however it is likely that a good number of the subscribers to this Journal are resident in out-of-the-way corners of the world where



they do not have the opportunity of hearing about all the latest philatelic discoveries, it would not, I think, be amiss were I to illustrate and describe the variety.

The "horn" or "flaw" is easily discernible projecting from the lower part of the forehead. For some considerable time this "flaw" was not noticed by the printers, but, as later on we find stamps that bear evidence of an attempt having been made to remove it, it is proof conclusive that the engraver's attention was drawn to the unpicturesque addition to the stamps. The attempt to remove the "horn" provides philatelists with yet another desirable variety to search for, namely, stamps which show where the "horn" has been erased.

To merely file down or otherwise remove the excrescence on the plate which caused the white horn to appear on the stamps would have been no good unless fresh lines had been cut to join those of the background. This was carefully done, but not so accurately but that eagle-eyed collectors can see where they join. Besides this there is still a slight white "blister" on the forehead, evidence of the engraver having been afraid of too nearly approaching the line which marks the outline of the forehead. Another variety of the "horn on forehead" stamp is one which does not seem to be well known, it consists of a strengthened or retouched inner left hand frame-line. Curiously enough, I have not found this retouch, if retouch it be, on the stamps with "horn" removed.

Yet another sub-variety of the 10c. value can be made by picking out those stamps which seem to have been printed from a very dirty plate. The paper on which these stamps are printed is coloured all over the surface, making the head and neck of the King, which appear white on the clearly printed stamps, appear as if they were printed in the same colour as the body of the stamp.

The 5c. stamps of this issue also bear evidence of having been retouched, notably in the top left-hand corner and also by having the inner of the two frame lines redrawn. Of the four shades of this value that are listed in Gibbons' catalogue, only one, the steel blue is of any value in a used condition, this shade is only found on quite *white* paper, but care must be taken not to confuse it with the 5c. deep blue which is also found on white paper.

Some specialists I know make two, or even three, sets of paper for these stamps, thick, thin and medium. Personally I do not think this a very interesting sub-division, so do not list them, especially as all issues of stamps printed on hand-made paper are bound to vary slightly in thickness.

In the perforated issue we also find what appear to be retouched and strengthened lines of shading and outline, while on the 10c. value are to be found evidences of almost innumerable "guide" lines or scratches on the surface of the plate. These faint lines

nearly always run vertically down the stamp, and appear to have no method of conformity. One variety of "scratch" however seems constant—namely two lines which start about 1½mm apart at the top of the stamp and which converge at the ear of the King—continuing down the neck as one line until it crosses through the "T" of "Postzegel."

In the following list I have carefully refrained from elaborating Gibbons' list of shades as I think that admirable publication contains quite enough.

I know, of course, that the specialist likes to fill out his albums with shades, but as there is no one value of any issue of stamps ever printed, that in the opinion of a specialist would not show differences of colour, I prefer to follow the fairly simplified lines, as far as colour goes, of the catalogue.



Type I.

1852. Wmk. Posthorn. Imperf.

- 5c. blue.
- 5c. deep blue.
- 5c. steel blue.
- 5c. milky blue.
- 10c. dull rose.
- 10c. carmine-rose.
- 15c. orange-yellow.

## VARIETIES PRINTED FROM RETOUCHE PLATES.

*Various retouches of the top left corner. Various shades.*

- 5c. blue.
- 5c. blue.
- 5c. blue.
- 5c. blue.
- 5c. blue.

*Right top corner retouched.*

- 5c. blue.
- 5c. blue.

## VARIETY FROM WORN PLATE.

- 5c. blue.

*Various retouches of the left top corner.*

- 10c. dull rose.
- 10c. carmine rose.
- 10c. " "
- 10c. " "

*Right top corner retouched.*

- 10c. rose.
- 10c. rose.

*Variety "Horn" on forehead.*

- 10c. rose.

*Ditto, but with inner left hand frame line redrawn.*

- 10c. rose.

*Variety. "Horn" on forehead partially removed.*

- 10c. rose.

*Printed from very heavily inked plate.*

- 10c. rose.

*Slight retouch left top corner.*

- 15c. orange yellow.





Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  (large holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 7½c. chocolate.
- 10c. rose.
- 12½c. grey.
- 15c. orange-brown.
- 20c. yellow-green.
- 22½c. blue-green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.
- 1g. slate violet.

Variety (small holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. rose.
- 12½c. grey.
- 15c. brown.
- 20c. green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.

Perforated  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  (large holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. rose.
- 12½c. grey.
- 15c. orange-brown.
- 20c. green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.

Variety  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  (small holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. rose.
- 12c. grey.
- 15c. orange-brown.
- 20c. green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.

Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$  (large holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. rose.
- 12½c. grey.
- 15c. orange-brown.
- 20c. yellow-green.
- 22½c. blue-green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.

Variety. Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$  (small holes).

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. rose.
- 12½c. grey.
- 15c. orange-brown.
- 20c. yellow-green.
- 25c. lilac.
- 50c. bistre.

The perforated  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  varieties should, if possible, be collected in a pair with the ordinary stamp perforated  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ . The  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  variety was caused by a breakage in the perforating machine with the result that the first stamp of each horizontal row of ten was perforated  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ , the other nine stamps gauge  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ .

## New Leaves to Cut.

### THE LINCOLN POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE.\*

THE 15th edition of the above catalogue is duly to hand and we find, as we have in previous editions, many excellent features.

\*Published by W. S. Lincoln, 2, Holles St., Oxford St., W. Price 3/-.

The Lincoln catalogue is now so well known that to enumerate all its good points would take up too much space—we can however refer to a few of its most striking features. To commence with we find each country's stamps in alphabetical order no waste of time as in some other catalogues when one thoughtlessly refers to Hungary under the letter H. to eventually have to hark back to A. for the "Austro-Hungarian Monarchy." The same with Finland and a dozen other countries. Another great time-saving feature is that each issue of stamps has an illustration—no turning over half-a-dozen pages to refer to type 20, or 200, as the case may be.

Of illustrations there are nearly 5,000 so readers will see that the Lincoln Catalogue, containing as it does a deep mine of geographical and historical information, *together with an atlas of sixteen well executed coloured maps*, is not an ordinary catalogue, but an illustrated philatelic handbook, useful alike to the specialist or general collector.

All the main varieties of watermark and perforation are listed, also single and multiple watermarks and chalky papers, while we even find such a recent issue as the King's Head stamps of New Zealand listed and priced.

Writing of prices really brings us to the most important feature of the catalogue and we find that, with hardly an exception the prices quoted by Mr. W. S. Lincoln are very reasonable indeed. We also know from personal experience that the stamps ordered will be sent out the same day, as Mr. Lincoln's immense stock of rare, medium and common stamps enables him to fill any order that may be sent to him.

Although it is more than twenty years ago since we first ordered stamps from a Lincoln catalogue we have pleasant recollections of the bargains we secured.

A careful scrutiny of the present publication reveals many equally cheap bargains, so we can confidently recommend our readers to invest in a copy and fill up the blank spaces in their albums.

## International Philatelic Exhibition, Berne, 1910.

To be held at the New Casino Berne, September 3rd to 12th.

EXTRACTS FROM THE RULES & REGULATIONS.

THE Exhibition will comprise in addition to Postage stamps, "entires," philatelic literature, albums, and all other articles relating to Philately.

No limit is fixed as to the number of Exhibits. Each article can, however, only be entered once, and in one class only, to be chosen by the Exhibitor. With the exception of the

general collections, exhibited in Classes VII., VIII. and XI., all exhibits should be mounted on cards or loose sheets of as uniform a size as possible.

The charge for space in the Exhibition, for Collections on cards or sheets is Frs. 8—per square mètre for the first 5 square mètres' and Frs. 5—for each extra square mètre; for albums, Frs. 5—per volume for the first 4 albums and Frs. 3—for each additional volume; and Frs. 5—per square mètre for "entires" mounted on cards.

The charges for space and for insurance are payable in advance, and no articles will be exhibited until after payment of these charges.

Exhibitors are requested to forward to the Secretary, as early as possible, and at latest, before June 1st, 1910, the accompanying application form, duly filled in and signed, and accompanied by a full description.

All Exhibits from Switzerland should also be sent prepaid to arrive in Berne from August 28th to August 31st, addressed to the Secretary of the International Philatelic Exhibition, 39 Neuengasse, Berne, who will immediately acknowledge their receipt.

Stalls for dealers will be established in the Corridor of the Building during the Exhibition, the price will vary from Frs. 100—to Frs. 150—according to their position. Each Stall will be provided with a small table and two chairs. The Stallholders will not be allowed to sell anything not connected with Philately.

The Members of the "Propaganda" Committee will have the right of priority for the hiring of these Stalls. For charges and all further information hereon, application should be made to the Secretary.

The Jury will take specially into consideration the following points:

- (a) The condition of the specimens.
- (b) Their arrangement and scientific classification.

Philatelic study and research will also be liberally taken into account.

#### PROGRAMME.

##### CLASS I.—SWITZERLAND.

###### Section A.

General collections of Cantonal, Transitional and Federal issues.

###### Section B.

Specialized collections of Cantonal and Transitional stamps.

###### Section C.

Specialized collections of the Federal issues, from 1850 to the present day.

###### Section D.

Collections of Postmarks on stamps and letters.

###### Section E.

Collections of Entires.

###### Section F.

Collections of official Proofs and Essays.

###### Section G.

Collections of Fiscal stamps.

The best Swiss collection will obtain a "Grand Prix."

##### CLASS II.—CHAMPIONSHIP.

Collections of the stamps of any country, which have already been awarded a Gold Medal at an International Philatelic Exhibition.

One Prize: Grand Prix or Gold Medal.

##### CLASS III.—EUROPE.

###### Section A.

Collections of the stamps of Germany with States and Levant, France with Levant, Great Britain with Levant, Italy with States and Levant.

###### Section B.

Collections of the stamps of Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Finland, Greece, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Holland, Austria-Hungary with Levant, Portugal, Roumania with Levant, Russia with Levant and Poland, Scandinavia (Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland), Spain, Turkey.

###### Section C.

Collections of the stamps of one European Country, which is not classed alone in Sections A or B. Examples: Oldenburg, Wurtemberg, Sicily, Modena, Sweden, Crete, Monaco, etc.

##### CLASS IV.—COLONIES.

###### Section A.

General collections of the stamps of the German, French, Dutch, Spanish or Portuguese Colonies.

###### Section B.

Collections of the stamps of one of the English Colonies in Asia, or Africa, the Philippines or Portuguese Indies.

###### Section C.

Collections of the stamps of one of the English Colonies in America or the West Indies.

###### Section D.

Collections of the stamps of one English Colony in Australia and New Zealand.

###### Section E.

Collections of the stamps of one Colony of Class A. or of Cyprus, Gibraltar, Heligoland, Ionian Islands, Malta, Danish West Indies, Erythrea, Italian Somaliland.

##### CLASS V.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

###### Section A.

Collections of the stamps of an Asiatic or African State—not a European Colony. Examples: China, Japan, Persia, Egypt, Abyssinia, Congo, Liberia, etc.

*Section B.*

Collections of the stamps of the United States of America, the Confederate States, Columbia, Brazil, Argentine, Buenos Ayres, Mexico, Uruguay or Hawaii.

*Section C.*

Collections of the stamps of Chili, Peru, Samoa, Tonga, etc., viz: any other State in America or Australia—not a European Colony—and not classed in Section B.

CLASS VI.—RARITIES OF ANY COUNTRY  
(Postage Stamps, Entires).

*Section A.*

25 to 30 rarities exhibited by a collector.

*Section B.*

25 to 30 rarities exhibited by a dealer.

CLASS VII.—GENERAL COLLECTIONS.

*Section A.*

General collections of postage stamps containing at least 20,000 specimens.

*Section B.*

General collections of postage stamps containing at least 10,000 specimens.

*Section C.*

General collections of postage stamps containing less than 10,000 specimens.

*Section D.*

General collections of the postage stamps of Europe.

*Section E.*

General collections of postage stamps containing at least 4,000 specimens exhibited by collectors under 18 years of age.

CLASS VIII.—ENTIRES.

*Section A.*

General collections of entires of all countries.

*Section B.*

Collections of entires of one country or a group of countries—with the exception of Switzerland.

CLASS IX.—PROOFS.

Collections of official proofs and essays of one country or a group of countries—with the exception of Switzerland.

CLASS X.—POSTMARKS.

Collections of the postmarks of one country or a group of countries—with the exception of Switzerland.

CLASS XI.—FORGERIES, CURIOSITIES, ETC.

Collections of philatelic or postal curiosities, forgeries (with study) or of any objects of postal or philatelic interest, not to be found in the previous classes.

CLASS XII.—LITERATURE AND  
PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES.

*Section A.*

Philatelic works and handbooks published since 1905, exhibited by the author; catalogues and journals published in 1909-1910.

*Section B.*

Printed albums.

*Section C.*

Blank albums and philatelic accessories.

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## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THERE won't be very much "Current Chatter" this month. The main reason for this regrettable shortage is that I hav'n't written it. The other reasons are of lesser importance.

I see that a writer in the *Stamp Lover* says that the stamps of Queensland "are still used in Thursday Island in the Torres Straits"; also, under the heading of Tasmania, that "the stamps of this State are presumably also current in the island (*sic*) of the Forneaux Group and King Island, both situate in the Bass Straits." We are not told, however, what kind of stamps are in use in the (1) Isle of Wight, (2) Lundy Island, (3) Isle of Dogs, or (4) the Calf of Man.

Jolly good job that the General Election is over, isn't it? especially for the dealers. I heard that 3,874 out of the estimated 3,875 stamp collectors in Great Britain were scotting all over the country collecting voters. The odd man was too busy trying to distinguish the difference between Natal Nos. 114 and 117 in the S.G. catalogue, to know that a General Election was taking place.

Often have I wondered where Liberia's snowy mountains were. Now I know, because in Messrs. Glendining's auction catalogue, for January 26th, I see that Liberia is sandwiched between Jamaica and Leeward Islands, under the heading "America." Yet another proof of the fallacy of the saying that philately teaches geography.

Have you ever noticed how fond a certain section of the philatelic press is of extracting articles galore—with acknowledgments, of course—from our Colonial exchanges. I suppose they think they won't lose any subscribers if the paper they refer to is far enough away. When I wish to achieve fame I will migrate to the Caroline Islands, publish a monthly stamp paper and send home exchange copies to the London stamp papers.

I certainly believe that one or two of our stamp editors suffer from the delusion that only one stamp paper is published in Great

Britain—that paper, needless to say is the one they edit. After some years experience of the stamp press, I have come to the conclusion that, usually, an article has to be *very* good or *very* bad before other editors take any notice of it; when it is good they are afraid—in case they may lose a subscriber—to refer to it; when it is bad they don't mind lifting a portion.

I hear it whispered that the latest new issue in the stamp world, is another son and heir to the world-renowned house of Pemberton. Congratulations Mr. P., may the "littlest" P. take after his father and grandfather.

I have received from Mr. William I. Kin, a copy of his philatelic paper which is styled *Bilikin's Philatelic Magazine*. What a capital stock-in-trade Mr. Kin possesses in his christian name—his paper is amusing and contains, as its object is to, several good laughs. Amongst other things Billy points out that the craze for original covers is no new one. Possibly it dates as far back as the days of Adam (I refer to the gentleman who looked after Eve and not Bill Adams the winner of the battle of Bakerloo).

Another couple of months and we shall be in the middle of the London Congress—deary me how time hops along. I hear that several delegates are frantically learning their speeches by heart, while would-be delegates are forming philatelic societies in order to nominate themselves.

From the programme, delegates are likely to have a good time. If I was one I think I would have a new waistcoat made. Unfortunately I am not one of the chosen—last time I went as a "delly" I did so well that brother members say I need a long rest before going again—one man said sixty years, but he was ruled out by the majority who suggested eighty, as a safer number. Such is fame, and gratitude.

Missed the Lindenberg medal again, just my luck. Another year to wait.

## The Second Philatelic Congress OF Great Britain, London, 1910.

Held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society, from April 27th to April 29th, 1910, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

*Patron*—The President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.)

In addition to the Societies published in the December number of this Journal, the follow-

ing have informed the Executive Committee of the names of their Delegates:—

- Bath Philatelic Society—M. B. D. Pope.
- Birmingham Philatelic Society—Messrs. R. Hollick, G. Johnson, T. W. Peck and W. Pimm.
- Bolton Philatelic Society—Messrs. William Ward and H. O. Moscrop.
- Bradford Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. M. Gray and A. H. Stamford.
- Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society—Mr. Henry Alsop.
- Burton and Derby Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. H. Milnes Marsden and E. Martin.
- City of London Philatelic Society—Messrs. J. R. Burton, W. B. Edwards and J. A. Leon.
- Fiscal Philatelic Society—Messrs. P. F. Evans and A. B. Kay.
- Herts Philatelic Society—Major E. B. Evans, Messrs. W. H. Peckitt, Chas. J. Phillips and W. T. Standen.
- Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society—Dr. T. S. Adair and Mr. Charles Greenwood.
- Hull and East Riding Philatelic Association—Messrs. R. W. Dewing, A. R. Hebblethwaite and H. Immencamp.
- International Philatelic Union—Messrs. W. E. Lincoln, W. Hadlow and T. H. Hinton.
- Irish Philatelic Club—Messrs. Wm. Lane Joynt and Thos. H. Levinston.
- Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society—Mr. A. Leon Adutt and another gentleman to be appointed later.
- Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society—Messrs. J. C. Rix and E. G. Stone-Wigg.
- Leeds Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. Denison Roebuck and Walter Oxley.
- Liverpool Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. Gill and W. Woodthorpe.
- Manchester Philatelic Society—Messrs. J. H. Abbott, W. D. Beckton and G. Fred. H. Gibson.
- Manchester Junior Philatelic Society—Messrs. I. J. Bernstein, J. J. Darlow and J. S. Higgins, Jr.
- North of England Philatelic Society—Messrs. M. H. Horsley, J.P., W. J. Cochrane and W. Waite Sanderson.
- North London Philatelic Society—Messrs. P. J. W. Deverell and Alexander J. Séfi.
- South Essex Philatelic Society—Messrs. D. B. Armstrong and A. H. Clark.

### TICKETS OF ADMISSION.

To simplify matters the Committee has decided that all applications for tickets for admission to the two Public Meetings must be made to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, FRANZ REICHENHEIM, Esq., 29, Holland Villas Road, Kensington, London, W.

There will be no charge, but every application must be accompanied by an addressed and stamped envelope.

FRANZ REICHENHEIM,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee.*



## February, 1910, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWABACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

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The fifth meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall, on Thursday, 10th inst. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), J. E. Joselin, Guy Semple, A. B. Kay, W. Schwartz, A. Levy, and the Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Sec. then displayed Mr. Heginbottom's collection of used St. Vincent, a fine lot, including all the rarities, provisionals, and the 5/- watermark Star. The collection was accompanied by interesting notes.

The meeting having considered some subjects for discussion at the Congress, the Hon. Sec. was instructed to forward the same to the Congress Committee, and a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom and to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10th, at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. R. B. Yardley will give a display of "Western Australia." All members and any visitors cordially invited.

The following are acknowledged with thanks: "The Stamps of Uruguay," from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*; "The Avery Collection," from Mr. W. H. Peckitt; *Herts Monthly Report*; Glendining's Auction Catalogue; and a donation to the Forgery Collection, from Mr. Nissen.

Any proposals of new Members, donations to the Forgery Collection, or Subscriptions for 1910, due on January 1st, will be gladly received, and duly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

February 15th, 1910.

## Turkish Stamps Used Abroad.

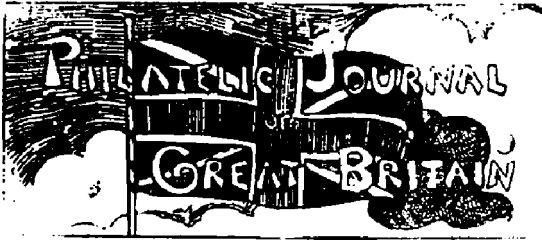
Extract from Mr. D. B. Armstrong's Article in the February "Stamp Lover."

FEW collectors are aware that, previous to the establishment of the autonomous government in Crete by the Allied Powers in 1897, Turkish postage stamps were current in the island, and all issues from 1878 to that year exist with the postmarks of Cretan towns, and greatly enhance the interest of a collection of either Turkish or Cretan stamps. The obliterations on the early issues being entirely in Arabic cannot be distinguished by those who are not acquainted with that language, but the latter type bears the word "Candia" (the Turkish designation of Crete) in European characters at the foot, with the town name at the top only in Arabic, and may thus be readily recognised.

Turkish stamps of the issue prior to 1878 with the postmarks of towns which are now included in the independent States of Bulgaria, Roumania, etc., are also of considerable historical interest.

Before the British occupation of that island, Turkish stamps were used in Cyprus, and they are current to-day in Arabia and Tripoli.

We have received from Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Strand, W.C., a copy of the second edition of Mr. Melville's little book, "United States, 1847-1869." The new edition has been slightly revised and has two illustrations of die proofs added. We are also informed that No. 1 of the second series of the Melville Stamp Books, dealing with the embossed stamps of Great Britain, will be shortly ready.



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## New Issue of Chilean Stamps.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co., very kindly send us particulars of two new sets of stamps that a correspondent of theirs informs them will be issued this year. We regret, however, that the Chilean Postal Authorities should think it necessary to inflict another issue on collectors; the present set is well

printed, and of serviceable design, surely it could have done duty for another year or two.

One of the two sets will be purely a commemorative issue. It will, we trust, be left severely alone by speculators and collectors.

Although the postal history of Chili is very clean, allowing for a serious lapse from grace when they had an attack of *Telegraphis surchargis* and "official" rubbish, it would not do to encourage the infectious disease of "issuing commemoratives" by buying the stamps.

From a paragraph that we published in this journal as far back as June last, it would appear that the stamps of the permanent set will be printed from steel plates, while the low values, as at present, will be a size smaller than the peso denominations.

### General Issue, in One Colour.

1c. green	Christopher Columbus.
2c. red	Valdivia.
3c. brown	Toro Zambrano.
5c. blue	O'Higgins.

### Black Centres.

10c. grey	Freire.
12c. carmine	F. A. Pinto.
15c. purple	J. Prieto.
20c. light blue	Manuel Montt.
30c. sienna	J. J. Perez.
50c. dark green	F. Errazuriz Z.
\$1 emerald green	A. Pinto.
\$2 vermilion	D. Santa Maria.
\$5 bronze	J. M. Balmaceda.
\$10 golden	F. Errazuriz E.

### Century Issue of Independence all Black Centres.

1c. green	Oath of Independence.
2c. rose	Battle of Chacabuco.
5c. blue	Battle of Maipo.
10c. sienna	Naval combat between the ships Lantaro and Esmeralda.
12c. carmine	Capture of Maria Isabel.
20c. orange	Abdication of O'Higgins.
25c. light blue	First Congress.
30c. lilac	O'Higgins Monument.
50c. bronze-green	Carrera ..
\$1 yellow	San Martin ..
\$2 vermilion	General Balnes.
\$5 emerald green	General Zenteno.
\$10 dark violet	Admiral Cochrane.

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

THE monthly meeting was held on Wednesday last at Mills' Restaurant as usual, in the presence of a goodly muster of members and friends, the President and Secretary were both absent owing to influenza, and Mr. Westcott occupied the chair. The usual formal business including the election of five new members was carried through, and amongst the curiosities and novelties sent round Mr. Arnold showed postally used copies of the first issue of Sarawak, engraved and perf. 12 instead of 11. Mr. Higlett showed a number of foreign post marks on English stamps, including an envelope with three—40c. France, 1849, with 1/- and 1½d. English stamps used in Paris. Mr. W. Phillips then gave a magnificent dis-

play of the older Australian stamps, including a number of magnificent copies of Sydney Views and many rare errors in New South Wales and many great rarities in New Zealand including mint serrated and roulette perforations, Queensland, Southern Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia were equally fine. Following this Mr. Jackson's choice lots of Southern and Northern Nigeria were shown and hearty votes of thanks were accorded both displays.

The next meeting is on March 9th when there will be a paper and display of Cyprus, by P. L. Pemberton, and a competitive display, "Twenty stamps showing the greatest variety of perforation and other methods of stamp separation." This is likely to prove a very interesting evening and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance.

### Dutch Indies.

THE *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* brings a most important contribution on the subject of Dutch Indies.

Heer M. J. Mijer has discovered the existence of two types of each of the values of the 1870-74 issue, with the exception of the 1 cent where there are three types, and the 2½ gulden where there is only one. Two types of the 1 cent have of course been known for some time.

Heer Mijer enumerates the differences as under:—

- |          |         |  |
|----------|---------|--|
| 1 cent.  | Type 1. | "1" upright.   |
| "        | " 2.    | "1" leans over to right.   |
| "        | " 3.    | "1" " " left.  |
| 5 cent.  | " 1.    | Vertical stroke of "5" is plumb.   |
| "        | " 2.    | Vertical stroke of "5" leans over to left, and the shape of the figure is different. |
| 10 cent. | " 1.    | "10 cent" normal.  |
| "        | " 2.    | "10 cent" thinner.   |
| 15 cent. | " 2.    | "1" and "5" further apart and of different shape.                                    |
| 20 cent. | " 1.    | "20 cent" normal.  |
| "        | " 2.    | "20 cent" thinner.   |
| 25 cent. | " 1.    | Top of "5" is almost straight.   |
| "        | " 2.    | Top of "5" is curly.   |
| 50 cent. | " 1.    | "50 cent" normal.  |
| "        | " 2.    | "50 cent" thinner, and the "5" is of different shape.                                |

All the stamps with small holes perforation are of type 1, except the 1 cent, which occurs in all three types. It is noteworthy that Gibbons only lists variety 1 in this perforation.

Heer Mijer is heartily to be congratulated on his discovery. Meanwhile we await further developments, but would just add that our contemporary reproduces enlarged photographs of the different types from which the differences are quite obvious.

### New Colour Changes for Colonial Stamps.

READERS of these notes will probably have noticed an apparent revival of copper-plate printing recently among Colonial stamps. There is no doubt that for issues of between 100,000 and 800,000 stamps it is much more economical than the surface process, both the plates and printing being cheaper where a special design is adopted, and at least equally cheap as the Universal Key-plate stamps. The only serious objection to such stamps is that they are unsuitable for use in collection of Revenue unless the cancellation can only legally be made with proper cancelling ink. The process is also unsuitable for stamps of considerable value, because they are easier to clean, or for those printed in large numbers, because large numbers can be more cheaply printed by the surface process in more than one colour, as after the first printing the sheets must be dried and re-wetted for reception of the second colour, which almost doubles the cost of printing.

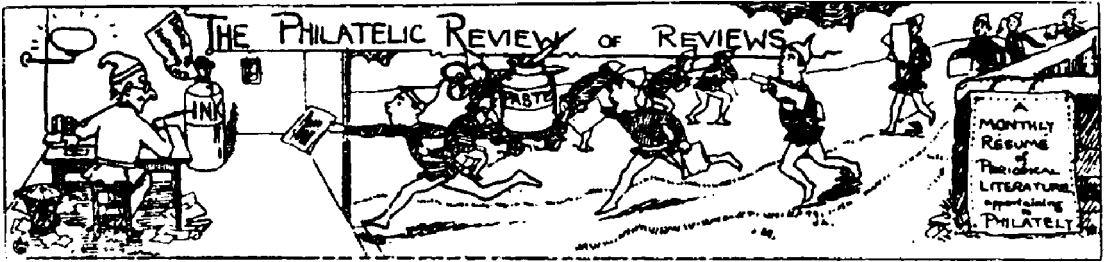
Several Colonies which use copper-plate stamps have decided to adopt the new colour scheme. It is obvious that this cannot be done to the full extent for values to which two colours are appropriated on the scheme, but the following scheme has been drawn up so as to include the leading features of each value. We name only the values in which the scheme could not be literally followed:—

Value.	Colour of Ink.	Colour of Paper.
3d.	Brown	Yellow.
4d.	Red	Yellow.
4½d.	Orange	White.
5d.	Sage Green	White.
2/-	Purple	Blue.
2/6	Red	Blue.
3/-	Violet	White.
5/-	Green	Yellow.
10/-	Red	Green.
£1	Black	Red.

It will be observed that there are two cases in which the colour scheme is entirely departed from. In one of these, however (the 3d. value), the difference is more apparent than real, as the brown ink on the yellow paper produces much more nearly than purple the same effect as that given by the surface printed 3d. stamp. The 4½d. stamp is in orange, because it is a value which has hitherto been seen only in one issue of copper-plate stamps, and there is no instance of a 1½d. stamp in this method of printing.

—The Colonial Office Journal.





FEBRUARY 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

The January number of the *London Philatelist* contains a goodly amount of interesting reading matter. Mr. J. N. Marsden, the well-known authority on Portuguese stamps, contributes another of his welcome papers dealing with the stamps of Portugal. The following extract will be of interest to our readers.

In my last article I omitted to list under the varieties (1), without figure of value, the 5 reis, yellow. Recently several fresh varieties have appeared, not only of Portugal, but of many of the colonies. Among them are the 80 reis without figure of value and the 25 reis imperf. For some time Portuguese collectors have refused to take such rubbish, the consequence being that they are not being offered in Lisbon, but are being sent abroad as great rarities. I have no doubt that the following were really issued without value, in error: The 2½ reis in Lisbon, the 5 reis in Caldas da Rainha, the 15 reis in Lisbon, the 25 reis in Lisbon and Oporto, the 50 reis, dark blue, and the 130 reis in Lisbon; but as most of them have since been offered in comparative abundance, the innocent must suffer with the guilty, and I am reluctantly forced to admit that henceforward all such varieties should not be admitted into collections except as printers' waste. Some time ago a sheet was offered which purported to be an error of colour, namely, the 5 reis in the colour of the 25. There was not the slightest doubt that a sheet of the 25 reis without value had had the 5's applied by hand fraudulently. I have seen, too, the 2½ reis, with figures inverted, applied by hand.

Under issue XXII, 1886, D. Luiz, I said that previous to 1886 no stamp can be found perf. 11½, but the statement now needs correction. Since this was written several values of the issue X, D. Luiz, October, 1870, have been found bearing this perforation. The first one I saw was a 25 reis, and was very much puzzled over it, until I discovered a 5 reis on part of the original envelope; these have been succeeded by discoveries of the 50, 80, and 240 reis, all of which I have seen. There can be no doubt as to the genuineness of this perforation, and one can only surmise that some sheets were given out for perforation owing to stress of work at the Mint. The distance between the lines of perforation does not admit of their being manipulated from ordinary stamps, and the perforations cannot be unofficial, as no imperf. sheets were ever issued except in error, these being very rare and confined to the low values. It is also certain that at this date there were no machines of this gauge at the Mint.

Thick paper, perf. 11½.  
5 reis (var. 1), black.  
25 .. (var. 2), rose-carmine.  
50 .. (var. 1), yellow-green.  
80 .. (var. 1), orange.  
240 .. lilac.

The 25 reis is the commonest, and of the others I know of two specimens of each.

The January *Philatelic Record* commences the New Year well. We find a capital editorial which takes the form of a very excellent and painstaking *résumé* of last year's doings in the world of philately. M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland" is still to the fore, the current instalment deals with the 1902 to 1907 issues.

The proprietors of our contemporary have secured the copyright of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905." The first instalment is mostly of an introductory nature. We must congratulate the *Record* on securing such a "scoop." The Swedish Society's handbook is a very fine example of what a philatelic handbook should be. It will doubtless be news to our readers to learn that in 1823 a Lieutenant Treffenberg introduced, in congress, a bill for the use of stamped paper as a means for the payment of postage fees.

The following extract speaks for itself.

### "SCHEME FOR CHANGES IN AND FOR THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

- (1) All cash payments at the post offices, under whatever name, should cease.
- (2) No accounts for postage due should hereafter be permitted with private persons or associations, except in the single case referred to in Paragraph 19.
- (3) The free franking privilege should continue and be regulated in the same manner as heretofore.
- (4) Stamped paper of varying values, to be used as wrappers for letters, should be introduced and kept for sale in the cities by the Chartae Sigillatae deputies, or by other persons appointed for that purpose by the General Chartae Sigillatae Office at Stockholm, and in the rural districts by the sheriffs and other private persons.
- (5) All private persons who apply for the privilege of selling these Postage Charts (as I shall call them)



should do so to the local Crown authorities, who will give permission thereto, after demanding sufficient security for the amount taken.

(6) An established maximum for each locality, estimated on the basis of a probable three months' demand for the Postage Charts, should be arranged, and above this amount nothing should be delivered to private persons, who have undertaken such sales, except against cash payment."

The December number of the *Philatelic Adviser* was nearly a month late when it arrived at the Review of Reviews sanctum. The contents consist of an able editorial, a nice long list of "New Issues and Discoveries," a long, final instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's "Stamps of the British South Africa Co.," and a short "note" dealing with the 1878 issue of Honduras, which, by-the-bye, we are informed has been reprinted from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. Personally we cannot call to mind ever having published this short article, but if the *P.A.* says we did, it must be so, at any rate we appreciate the kindly wish to credit us.

In Mr. Poole's article he says, *apropos* the current overprinted and surcharged stamps of British South Africa (Rhodesia):

The overprints were all applied by lithography, but whether by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons or not I cannot say. They were very roughly done, the lettering being anything but sharp and with blots and smudges appearing all over the sheets.

Apart from the special lithographic stones for the 5d., 7½d., 10d. and 2s. stamps at least six were used for overprinting the other values. In one of these the transfers were applied to the stones in horizontal strips of five, giving five types repeated 12 times on each pane of 60 stamps, while in the others the transfers were applied in horizontal strips of ten, giving ten types repeated 6 times on each pane.

In some cases the types can be fairly easily identified by means of small defects and peculiarities and possibly enthusiastic specialists will find it a not impossible task to identify the types in all the settings. The following appears to be the distinguishing marks of the settings which have been defined to date.

Setting A.—Five types. On No. 3 the tail of the "R" is thin, on No. 4 the "SI" are nearly joined at the top, and on No. 5 the serif on the left foot of the "R" is slightly cut. The ½d., 6d., and 7s. 6d. values are known.

Setting B.—Ten types. The stop is omitted from No. 3, the stop is joined to the A on No. 8, and the "R" has a short tail on No. 9. Known in the 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. values.

Setting C.—Ten types. The stop on No. 10 is raised. Only the 1d. and 1s. are known.

Setting D.—Ten types. The tail of the "R" on No. 2 is thin and horizontal and the stop is omitted from No. 6. The 1d. and 1s. are known.

Setting E.—Ten types. The stop on No. 1 is raised and on No. 7 it is omitted or very faint. Only the 2½d. is found in this setting.

Setting F.—Ten types. This overprint is larger and was used for the £1 stamps.

When the supply of surcharged stamps is exhausted they will be replaced by similar values inscribed "RHODESIA," but whether the designs will be altered in any other way or not remains to be seen.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* dated Jan. 22nd, contains a further instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Nicaragua article, two and a half pages of Mr. Poole's wonderful and weird "A Type Collection, its advantages, and how to form one," a long article dealing with the "So-called Re-issues or Reprints of Hawaii 5c. and 13c. 1853 type," contributed by Mr. H. J. Crocker, and several other interesting pages of reading matter. From "Notes and Queries" we extract the following:—

The writer of the article in *L'Annuaire Timbrologique* claims, however, to have made one discovery, namely, that unwatermarked paper was used for the Belgian stamps earlier than has hitherto been supposed. He says that his attention was first attracted by a 20c. stamp with the date "4 56" engraved in the margin, showing apparently that a fresh plate was made in April, 1856. On further examination it appeared that this stamp was unwatermarked, and he then found that almost all the stamps, 10c., 20c., and 40c. (in a large collection that he was examining), that had been used in 1858 and 1859, were also without watermark. It seems, therefore, that the unwatermarked issue should be dated 1858, instead of 1861, and we think it possible that M. de Bont's Ninth printing of the stamps of 1851, which he says took place in 1858 on "thick wove paper," may have been unwatermarked, as he does not use the word "wove" (*uni*, which also means unwatermarked) in describing any of the other papers of that issue.

By a very strange coincidence, not half an hour before reading the above we picked out, from our own collection of Belgian stamps, a cover dated July 1860, franked by a 20c. blue, on thin machine made paper, which on inspection was undoubtedly unwatermarked.

The Jan. 29th copy of *Gibbons' Weekly* contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article dealing with the "Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies," an instalment of Mr. Poole's "Countries of the World" article, wherein he deals with the early stamps of Hayti; and a couple of pages of "Notes and Queries." The other reading matter provided is not of very great value to the philatelist—excepting of course the usual carefully compiled New Issue list.

In the February 5th edition Mr. J. B. Leavy pegs away at his "Stamps of Nicaragua," dealing with the stamps surcharged "Vale." Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes another long South American letter; he writes from Santiago, Chili, and from all accounts seems to be having a most enjoyable trip. Some "Notes on British Postmarks since 1840," a short paper dealing with the ½d. and 1d. stamps of Papua, and a second South American

letter, this time from Montevideo, contributed by Mr. A. H. Davis, are all good reading. A new issue list and a page of "Buster's Talk of the Day" complete our tale of contents.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for Jan. 22nd, contains a short continuation of Mr. P. C. Bishop's article dealing with the "Stamps of Belgium," an illustrated interview with Mr. Ralph Wedmore, the energetic Hon. Sec. of the J.P.S., the completion of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's article dealing with British Honduras stamps, the usual readable columns contributed by "Senax" and "Philatel" and a good deal of reprinted matter from the last number of the *Australian Philatelist*.

From Senax's page we extract the following:—

#### THE STAMP MARKET.

British Levant, 1909, are a new sensation, used and unused are offered in places at the same price, which fact at once gives a status to used copies.

The set of 1 to 25 lep., Crete, 1908, are offered in one quarter at 2/-. Previous sets of corresponding length (older issues) have usually sold for much less.

Both the Skipka Pass and the Jubilee set for Bulgaria, 1907, seem to fetch a long price everywhere.

The set of 10 paras to 2 piastres, Austrian Levant, 1908, a popular set, is offered in one place at 1/- used, which seems cheaper than we can sell them in England.

Eightpence for the set of 1 to 50 filler, Hungary unpaids, is also a low price for these uncommon stamps.

Belgian Congo, 1894, 5c. blue and 10c. brown-red, are worth 4/- per used pair in Brussels. The 8c. Belgium, 1869, sells at 2/- per copy in the country of its origin, which is a much higher figure than it is priced in one of our home catalogues.

One would imagine that used copies of Rhodesia, 1909, should be worth face value at least, but in one place some of the denominations are being offered at slightly less, though in all probability this "dip below the line" will not be permanent.

A parcel of 24,000 mixed Uruguay for £65 is an offer that makes one open one's eyes.

One gulden, Holland, 1898, is now cheaper in the wholesale market.

Used Prussian Officials in sets are readily saleable.

The 75 reis brown, of Portugal, 1905, available now in quantity, is an acceptable stamp for cheap sheets.

The February 5th number contains another short instalment of Mr. Bishop's Belgium article. He deals with the second issue. There are also papers entitled, "Notes on the Postal Issues of Malta," and "Great Britain, my Favourite Country," contributed respectively by Messrs. W. Nichols and E. T. Phillips. Mr. Frederick Gerhartz, an old friend of our readers, is the "Philatelist of To Day," another important contribution is Mr. Irwin Faris's "New Zealand Notes." He deals mostly with the current type of stamps, but the following little extract

takes us back to the early days of philately in New Zealand.

The authorized perforation of early issue full faces was about 12½, and the "local" perforation at Dunedin was 13. I have lately obtained a 2d. blue, Star, perforated 13×12½, it having apparently been partly perforated by both machines. The holes made by each are readily recognized by the respective cleanness and size of cuts.

To have one of these stamps with compound perforations would mean that some partly perforated sheets were sent from Dunedin to Auckland and perforated by an out of date machine—a most unlikely contingency. We are afraid Mr. Faris has discovered a mare's nest.

The February *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society contains, besides Exhibition Notices, Reviews, and the Society's Reports, a short article, illustrated by aid of a plate, dealing with Mexican stamps, which is contributed by Mr. Frentzel, also a most readable little article contributed by Mr. Reichenheim, entitled "European Countries not Possessing Postal Institutions of their own." This is so interesting that we are sure Mr. Reichenheim will forgive us if we reproduce it in full for the benefit of our readers.

From a Report lately issued by the German General Post Office we learn that there are several independent Countries in Europe which have not their own Postal Institutions.

In the Principality Liechtenstein, situated on the Upper Rhine between the Austrian Province Vorarlberg and Switzerland, and comprising an area of about 60 square miles with a population of about 10,000 inhabitants, the Post Office Service is in the hands of the Austrian Government which uses their stamps. There exist five Post Offices, viz.:—Vaduz (the capital), Balzers, Neudeln, Schaan and Triesen.

In the Principality Monaco, the smallest independent state in the world, about three miles long and one-and-a-half miles broad, with about 6,000 inhabitants, the French Government undertakes the Postal Service, but uses special (Monaco) stamps. There exist two Post Offices, viz.:—Monaco and Monte Carlo, which are under the supervision of the district Post Office in Nice. With the exception of the Savings Bank Service the usual business is transacted, but there does not exist any local Telephone Service in the Principality.

The Republic San Marino, comprising about 33 square miles with about 11,000 inhabitants, has placed itself under the protection of Italy by a treaty concluded in 1872, and is therefore served by the Italian Post Office under the supervision of the Post Office in Forli, but issues its own stamps. There are three Post Offices in the country, where every branch of postal business, with the exception of that of the Savings Bank, is transacted.

The miniature Republic Andorra, in the Pyrenees, with an area of 175 square miles and 6,000 inhabitants is under the joint suzerainty of Spain and France. There does not exist a single Post Office, and letters, etc., are delivered from the nearest Spanish and French Post Offices, and despatched by them. Letters, etc., for Spain are franked with Spanish stamps, and those for France with French stamps, and those for foreign countries with Spanish or French stamps, and

posted in the respective letter-boxes or handed to the postman on his round.

In the neutral district Neutral-Moresnet, situated between Belgium and Prussia, some merchants tried some time ago to institute a Postal Service, but were soon compelled by the Belgium Government to close their Post Office, and the Postal Service is carried out by both Belgium and Germany in the same way as in Andorra by Spain and France.

On the Island of Spitzbergen, which does not belong to any country, there exists during the summer months a Norwegian Post Office in Advent Bay.

Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Andorra, Neutral-Moresnet, and Spitzbergen belong to the International Postal Union.

From an editorial notice in our contemporary we notice that Mr. Reichenheim is not receiving from the members of the Herts Society, the support, as far as literary contributions go, that he should. We regret very much to hear this, the *Monthly Report* is so admirable a publication and so capably edited that we feel sure many of its readers and members of the Society, have only to realize Mr. Reichenheim's need when they will assist, as many of them are capable of doing, by contributing articles which embody plenty of original research.

In the February number of the *Stamp Lover* we find a very varied assortment of articles. The only contribution dealing directly with the stamps of one country is a further instalment of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's, "Cayman Islands, their Stamps and Post Office." Mr. Douglas Ellis is responsible for a very useful list of "Sheets of Stamps," a *résumé* of his paper bearing the same title, which was read before a recent meeting of the J.P.S. Mr. D. B. Armstrong contributes the conclusion of his exceptionally interesting paper, entitled "Foreign Postmarks." Unfortunately the current chapter does not deal with such interesting countries as did its predecessors.

Another contribution of interest is Mr. Dingwall's monthly letter. He deals with the stamps of the German States. The following extract will doubtless interest our readers:

In Hanover the stamp to look out for at present is without doubt the 3 pf. of 1856, with the grey network; it is a great deal scarcer than the same value with black network, and is bound to obtain full recognition now that old Germans are becoming such prime favourites on the Continent, and I have never found the one-tenth thaler with small network very plentiful, at least ten out of every dozen purchased turning out to be the same stamp with large network. To turn back to the earlier issue of 1851 for a moment, there is a stamp there which I can safely recommend for an immediate purchase; that is the thirtieth thaler salmon at 2/6 in contradistinction to the same stamp

with crimson ground, which in my opinion is far commoner, but which is priced at 3/.

In Oldenburg a very few months ago I could have recommended the first thirtieth thaler Type II., but I see now it has been raised to great dignity at 10/., and it is worth quite every penny of that price if it be assumed that one out of every ten stamps is the variety Type II.; I do not think the proportion is nearly so large, and I found very few in a considerable parcel of various stamps of this country bought some years ago. There is also a peculiarity in the shade of this type which I have found to be common to all stamps, and that is the blue shade is tinged with green, and the stamp should be properly listed as a blue-green, or perhaps more correctly as a greenish-blue.

Again, with the fifteenth thaler, the scarce type "A" is catalogued at 25/., the ordinary type at 7/6, but I do not believe the proportion is anything like three to one, and am sure there were not three copies of the scarce type in all those which I once possessed, and I do not think we now have a copy in stock, unless there be one or two in the German stock-book of loose stamps.

Collectors on the Continent are now looking out for the first issue with the postmark of Bremen, which occurs in two types, so that collectors who are fortunate enough to find that their copies bear this cancellation will now know that such specimens are demanding a much higher rate in the Fatherland.

There is little to add to what I have already said about Prussia, nor is there much comment to make as to prices, but most collectors are aware that the small eagle issue of 1861-5 was cancelled with a blue postmark which is not at all uncommon, but quite rare enough to find a special place in any collection of this country. Prussia offers a very fine hunting ground for the specialist with only a moderate purse, as the varieties are none of them very highly appraised, and there is a splendid range of shades to be found in every issue, and especially in the head types, and then one may be fortunate enough to come across a specimen with coloured obliteration, which are very scarce now, and are much prized in Hanover and Prussia itself.

The January number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the completion of Mr. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of the Gold Coast and a further long instalment of his paper relating to the stamps of Bulgaria.

The January number of the *British Philatelist* contains a further long instalment of the capital article dealing with the surface-printed stamps of Great Britain, which is appearing in its columns. The current chapter deals with the 2s. blue and the 5s. rose. The following short extract relates to the first issue of the latter value.

A machine-made paper was specially made for this stamp, and measured 15½ inches by 13½ inches; it was divided into quarters by a watermarked cross, and in each quarter was a frame enclosing 20 crosses *paté* arranged similarly to the stamps. The word "MARK" was added in the margins in the usual positions about 1872.

The watermark is usually, but incorrectly, termed a Maltese Cross; it differs, however, from the cross *paté* in having the extremities of each of its limbs indented or notched, instead of straight as in this watermark—it is just as well to be correct, even in small matters.

Plate 1 was at press from the 18th April, 1867, to the 28th March, 1874, and gave 49,000 impressions; plate 2 was put to the press on the 25th March, 1874, but there

is no definite record as to its production: plate 3, as above stated, was imperfect; and plate 4 yielded only five sheets (400 stamps) printed at the time of registration.

The colour chosen was pink, varying in shade, and tending gradually towards a carmine tint; the gum was as usual, though occasionally yellowish.

For this, and the earlier issues of other large stamps the perforation gauged  $15\frac{1}{2}$  by 15; and issued copies of plate 1 may be found imperforate.

So far as can be ascertained, the production of plate 2 was 19,505 sheets. Perforated and issued copies of plate 4 are not known; they must have existed to the extent of 400, a very small number indeed.

The *B.P.* also contains some interesting notes for specialists in the stamps of this country.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The December number of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, although a somewhat late visitor, reflects great credit on its editor, who, in an editorial note, explains that the exigencies of camp life militate not a little against punctuality of appearance.

The strictly philatelic contents of our Indian contemporary are practically non-existent consisting as they do of only a very few lines contributed by Messrs. W. T. Wilson and E. W. Wetherell, dealing with the 1868-72 issues of Mexico.

Mr. J. Godino is responsible for two articles, both of which are reprinted from ancient newspapers, the titles being respectively "Newspaper Stamps and Postage" and "The First Impressions of the Electrottype." Mr. Godino also contributes a page of "Notes on Indian Stamps," most of which we illustrate below.

**Nabha.** The Indian  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas stamp has been overprinted Nabha State. Only 10 sheets, namely 2,400 stamps, were thus treated. All these have been bought up by local native dealers, who offer them at six times the face value and more. The State is apparently not inconvenienced by their quick depletion.

**Gwalior.** A fresh supply of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas has been received at this place. Till recently the State Post Office was prepared to receive orders for complete sheets or fractions thereof. The total number of this indent has however not transpired yet. Their re-issue must be a discouraging blow to the speculators, who were demanding a fabulous sum for the stock they had secured, and had indulged the belief that no more of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas value would be overprinted Gwalior State.

Now that only postage stamps are received in payment of telegrams, it is not unlikely that a fair number of high values will come round. These can be easily identified. The telegraph obliterator is a double circle, one within the other. The upper segment bears the name of the office of issue, the lower seg-

ment G. T. D., and between these, across the centre of the circles there appears the date, month and year.

**Hyderabad.** This Native State has at last adopted the standard colours of the British Indian stamps. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna mauve is now printed in grey in a smaller size, the 1 anna red has been substituted by a pea green, and the 1 anna black by a deep rose, and so on with the other denominations up to 12 annas. In the adoption of these new colours, some of the superseded colours have become rare. Thus the  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna red *sarkari* is a scarce stamp, next in point of rarity being the 1 anna black. It is very hard to obtain unused official stamps of this place.

The most important feature of the *P.J. of India* is the first instalment of "The Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon," compiled by Mr. Gordon Jones, from the notes written by the late Mr. C. S. F. Crofton. This article is sure to be of very great value to those numerous collectors who are interested in these stamps. Other contents of our contemporary consist of two "London Letters," both of which were evidently written with a view of being published at an earlier date; half-a-dozen pages of reviews; and various odd notes.

No. 2 of the new series of the *Philatelic Journal of America* is dated January 1st. This number, although good, does not come up to No. 1. The chief article is contributed by Dr. Carroll Chase, and is entitled "Cracked and Damaged Plates used for the 1851 and 1857 United States Adhesives." Among the other contents of our contemporary we find a letter, contributed by a Dr. Holt, in the course of which he says:—

"As a physician I appreciate the benefits of stamp collecting as a means of relaxation from professional cares, and in a similar way, it stands unsurpassed as one of the most accessible avenues to absolute recreation and mental rest for both mind-worker and hand-worker. If its virtues were known more generally by the alienist and nerve specialist, there would be fewer cases of so-called nervous prostration."

We have often wondered why so many professional men, especially doctors and lawyers, were keen philatelists, possibly Dr. Holt's explanation, that they have found a panacea for all troubles, is the correct one.

No. 3 of the same publication, dated Jan. 15th, contains but little original matter, the contents mostly consist of extracted articles from the December number of the *P.J. of G.B.*

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* comes to hand regularly every week and generally contains something of interest. Long articles, of a philatelic nature are not the forte of our American exchanges; but

occasionally short paragraphs are to be found that are very full of interest.

We extract the following, relating to stamps on original covers, from *M. W. S. N.* of Jan. 8th.

The stimulated interest in stamps on the original covers has turned the attention of the faking crew to this collecting division as a field for their misapplied industry. The fraudulent productions do not take the form of counterfeit stamps on the envelope but of altered or manipulated stamps that are cancelled or postmarked by imitation, and paraded as authentic examples. For instance, the notorious Wolle, affixed a proof of the 24 cent 1851, after "ageing" it, on the envelope, and postmarked the stamp. His type one, 1851 one cent was the common type two with the scrolls added carefully in ink the colour of the stamp, and in this case, the postmark on the original variety performed its part innocently enough, in the deception. In the newest crop of original covers, to which attention has been called by a reader, is a pair of proofs, three pence red, Canada, 1852, that has been perforated and used on the envelope since they left the possession of a former owner, several years ago. In many instances the fraud in the case of original covers is one that concerns postmarks and cancellations; but occasionally, a forged stamp is placed on the envelope in the hope that the details such as markings on the envelope and the stamp will obscure the bad character of the stamp. It is the manipulated stamp that masquerades as genuine in the disguise of postmarks and cancellations that the cover enthusiast must be cautious about.

The December number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains a capital editorial note dealing with the nefarious practices of Fournier who makes a speciality of selling "facsimiles."

We fully endorse the views held by our far-away contemporary that "all similar rascals must be exterminated or their methods must be frustrated." The difficulty, however, is not to be settled by editors of stamp papers airing their views. What we want is a jury—good and true men all—which includes at least one philatelist; then perhaps the punishment might be a deterrent one,

In this number of our Sydney exchange we also find some readable notes, contributed by Mr. Hagen, now in Europe; a continuation of Mr. Smyth's "History of Early Australian Philatelic Societies"; and a short paper dealing with the Laureated Stamps of New South Wales, contributed by Mr. P. Malone. He describes one or two "errors" and we make the following extract from his article:—

It is a great pity that collectors who are plating these stamps do not make known prominent varieties when they come under their notice. I have not been fortunate enough to get sufficient stamps to reconstruct all the plates; but in placing the specimens in my possession I have noted the following varieties.

I. 2d. Laureated. (Stars) Plate No. 44. Showing pencil for pence in the value.

II. 3d. Laureated. Plate No. 2. Showing T with right top only in three pence.

III. 3d. Laureated. Plate No. 4. Showing two vertical lines at the base of triangles on each side of "South" and extending to the solid background below "Postage."

IV. 8d. Laureated. Plate No. 17. With the two small dashes forming the Maltese Cross in the background of the left upper corner missing, showing only a portion of the Maltese Cross.

The last three "varieties" are described as follows:—

#### VARIETY II.

This is undoubtedly a variety engraved on the original plate, as the left portion of the letter T in "Three Pence" was never added to the other half, due probably to the fact that there was not sufficient room for the engraver to complete the letter.

#### VARIETY III.

This is also a variety of the original plate, and is rather conspicuous, showing as it does the two lines, or double lines at the base of the triangles on each side of "South," and extending to the solid background below "Postage." This is not to be found in any other stamp of the whole plate of 50 varieties, its position being No. 4 on the plate.

#### VARIETY IV.

Although perhaps this variety is not so prominent as the others, it is nevertheless very interesting, and equally so as the variety on the same plate, No. 12, showing no lines in corners over "P" and "E" of "Postage," which is catalogued.

It is also a variety of the original engraving, its position being No. 17 on the plate, and the peculiarity is to be found on this stamp only, although there are several varieties on the same plate with one dash only missing in the corners. These may not be of so much importance as the one above referred to, but they are noticeable varieties all the same, and in reality an incomplete kind of "Maltese cross" is shown in the background in each case through the dash being omitted.

All the above varieties are easily discernible without the aid of a glass, and it is hard to understand why such prominent varieties are not catalogued, when a place is given to such a stamp as the 3d. "Sydney View" without whip, when it is a difficult matter to find the whip at all in the majority of specimens seen, even with the aid of a glass.

The January number of the *Stamp Journal* is really a most desirable little stamp paper. The contents include several short articles, not only original, but of interest and value. This is praise we are seldom able to give to our American contemporaries. Dr. H. A. Davis writes about the U.S.A. Stamps of 1902. Mr. P. McGraw Mann contributes a note dealing with a broken frame variety of the rosette stamp of Bulgaria, 1907 issue; while Mr. Halford Barry describes the virtues of the Lincoln 2c. stamp (1909) as a stamp of interest to specialists.

We have received No. 1 of *The Stamp Collector*, a new little paper devoted to the interests of stamp collectors, published at Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A. As is usual with our Yankee exchanges, the contents are of a very scrappy nature. Our new *confrère* is, however, typographically well "gotten

up," and seems to have a very capable editor, so we look forward to future numbers containing some long articles of philatelic merit.

Our hopes of receiving a really good Canadian stamp paper have been raised twice lately. Unfortunately the latest candidate, *The Hobbyist*, has now seen fit to publish a letter from their English correspondent which will do much to alienate the good wishes of many of their British readers. Such a tirade of useless personal abuse it has seldom been our misfortune to peruse.

Writing of "English Correspondents" reminds us that the writer, referred to above, also contributes an "English Letter" to *Meekel's Weekly* in the course of which he makes a point of belittling the aristocratic classes of Great Britain. To pander to the supposed democratic tastes of his American readers is possibly up-to-date U.S.A. journalism, but it is not what one would expect to find an Englishman doing. Possibly the "English Correspondent" does not claim this country as his Fatherland. As a rule they do not. Possibly also it is only an ink-stained desire to write about something, even at the expenses of possibly shewing glimpses of a vast ignorance of the subject chosen.

## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for Jan. 31st contains the announcement that the Lindenberg medal has been awarded this year to M. Pierre Mahé, the well-known French writer on philately. We are sure that this award will be received with satisfaction, not only by its recipient, but by the entire philatelic world. Monsieur Mahé is the foremost exponent of advanced philately in France, and the pleasure which this recognition has given can easily be understood.

In the same number we read that a man, who was recently sentenced to three months imprisonment and fined 500 francs for selling forged stamps, appealed against this conviction. The culprit, who is discreetly referred to by our contemporary as de T—, would have done better to have left ill alone, as the original sentence was confirmed and he was mulcted in the costs of the action to boot.

M. Montader's list of "Stamps which do not Exist" which is published in instalments in *Le Postillon*, is made up, for the most part, of stamps which are entirely bogus but it also contains a number of instances of stamps which are given in most of the principal

catalogues. Many of these are stamps which have survived vigorous controversies in days gone by, and about which it would now be almost impossible to find conclusive evidence that they were ever issued. We quite agree that most of the stamps which he quotes (we will take the liberty of giving a complete list of them when completed), ought not to be given the benefit of the doubt, and might, with advantage, be deleted. The number of *Le Postillon* for January 25th, pillories certain stamps which are in quite a different category and concerning the status of which there will always be two opinions. These are certain of the perforation varieties of the stamps of the 1886 type of Greece. M. Montader condemns all the Belgian prints perforated 13½ except the 1, the 10 and the 20 *lepta*, and he also condemns the 20 *lepta*, perf. 11½. Of the Athens impressions he objects to the 5, 10, 25 blue, 25 violet and 1 drachma, perf. 13½. We are categorically informed that these varieties are only found with forged perforations. We take vigorous exception to this bald statement; though it is unfortunately true that forgeries do exist of these, as well as of other scarce perforations, it is none the less true that they all exist perforated by the identical machines which were used for the other values. They do, however, differ from other stamps in that they were not issued in the ordinary way but were perforated to the order of private persons who sent imperforate sheets to be operated upon. This was required principally by business firms, but no doubt stamp dealers and speculators took advantage of the opportunity to send in any sheets of obsolete stamps which they may have been in possession of, to receive the perforation and an enhanced philatelic value at the same time. The status of such varieties is certainly open to discussion, but they cannot be described as forgeries.

## Berne Exhibition.

THE following well-known collectors, representing most of the principal countries of Europe, have been chosen to judge the Exhibits at the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition at Berne. Mr. E. D. Bacon, London; Dr. E. Diena, Rome; Hilmer Djurling, Stockholm; Herr Franz Hasler, St. Gallen; Herr Haus Kropf, Prague; M. M. Langlois, Paris; Herr Lindenberg, Berlin; Herr H. P. Manus, Amsterdam; and Baron A. de Reuterskiold, Lausanne.

There will be two "Grand Prizes" of which one is for the finest collection of Switzerland and the other for the best collection of a foreign country. There will also be gold, silver-gilt, silver, and bronze medals and diplomas.

In another column will be found the Programme of the Exhibition.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

ELSEWHERE we refer to the status of postage-due stamps, and hint that catalogues, and the work of the general collector, would be greatly simplified if they were discarded. There is, however, another way in which catalogues could be considerably abridged: a way which would, we believe, meet with the approval of nearly all collectors. This way is to delete from catalogues all stamps which have never been issued, or about which there is any doubt on this point, and also all stamps whose origin is in the least suspicious. All the principal catalogues teem with items which would have to be struck out if this suggestion were carried into effect. If there is a doubt as to whether a variety was ever put on sale, or whether the *bona fides* of an issue are quite above reproach, the present practice seems to be to give it the benefit of the doubt, and to accord it full catalogue rank. In many cases such stamps are proved, sooner or later, to be absolutely unworthy of the recognition accorded them and are then removed from the lists; as a rule, though, nobody takes sufficient interest in them to disprove their authenticity and they remain until time gives them an air of respectability.

The truth of these observations is proved by the fact that nearly every time a country is re-written by an advanced specialist, for

Gibbons' Catalogue, some stamps which have figured in former editions have to be left out. Now, it is obvious that the publishers of a catalogue cannot be omniscient, and that it must take a long time to purge the lists of all the stamps which ought not to be there, if evidence has to be collected; but, as the doubtful stamps are generally well-known, they ought, in our opinion, to be left out of all catalogues until their right to inclusion is fully established, and not, as is now the practise, be included, on any pretext, until somebody takes the trouble to show that they ought *not* to be there.

During the past decade there have been many cases in various parts of the world, where, owing to revolution or civil war, the revolutionary or temporary governments have raised the wind by issuing sets of stamps. In such cases there are generally two doubts, which ought to be strong enough, either separately or collectively, to give pause to the publishers of the catalogues which guide public opinion, before including them among the more respectable issues. These misgivings are: (1) was the government which made the issue a properly constituted body whose emissions were recognized by foreign governments? and (2) did the stamps do any legitimate postal duty outside the jurisdiction of the so-called government?

If either or both of these doubts arise and cannot be satisfactorily decided one

way or the other, philately would surely be no loser if the stamps were relegated to oblivion! Who among us would mourn the disappearance of the Venezuela Provisionals of 1902-3, the issues of the Revolutionary Government in Crete, 1905, or many of the local issues of Columbia during the internecine struggles of 1901 to 1903? Collectors do not object to these stamps because they are ugly and badly printed, but because they feel an instinctive mistrust of their origin and usefulness. Who can say that these instincts are wrong?

These remarks are prompted by the perusal of an article in the French journal, *Le Postillon*, wherein many stamps of this nature are pilloried. When completed the list will include, we are told, about eight hundred items, of which several hundreds are given in one or other of the world's Standard Catalogues, including Gibbons,

Yvert et Tellier, Senf, Scott, Kohl, the *Catalogue officiel*, the *Catalogue général*, etc.; prizes are offered by the proprietor of *Le Postillon* to any one who can prove that any of the stamps in the list has ever properly existed as a postage stamp. It is possible that some prizes may have to be given away, though no one can deny that all the stamps so far mentioned in our contemporary are of exceedingly doubtful origin. That they would not be missed by anyone, if they were ignored by the catalogues as much as they are by the majority of collectors, goes without saying.

The subject is, of course, bound up with the old demand for a "collector's" catalogue; but the necessary reforms are not likely to be made in dealers' price lists. At any rate, not all at once, for such a course would interfere too much with business!

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain. Levant.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us specimens of the following novelties.

*Adhesives. King's Head.*  
 1½ pias on 4d. orange.  
 2½ .. .. 6d. purple.

The 4d. orange, surcharged 1 pias. 30 paras, which we chronicled in January, has been, like the bi-coloured stamp, withdrawn from circulation and is already being quoted at from 10/- to 15/-.

**Cook Islands.** Several of our contemporaries have announced that a new set for these islands was likely to be issued. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following information:—"We wrote to the General Post Office at Wellington, New Zealand, for information and have just received a reply stating that there is no truth whatever in the statement, and that there is no proposal to issue a new series of Cook Islands stamps at present."

**Hong Kong.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the \$2 stamp with the colours reversed.

*Adhesive. King's head, multiple wmk., chalky paper.*  
 \$2 carmine and black.

**India. Jaipur.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the colour of the 1 rupee stamp has been changed from orange to yellow.

**New Hebrides.** We extract the following interesting information from the January number of the *Australian Philatelist*:—

"The October number of our journal having been brought under the notice of the Postmaster at Vila by one of our readers, we have received the following additional information on the subject. Mr. Roy writes:—I can reply to the question on the subject of the receipts coming from sale of stamps. They are joint receipts, and at the end of each month put on the joint account of the Condominium Treasurer (who is, in fact, equally myself). Now for the question of cancelling. You know that the Fijian stamps were received the 28th of October, 1908, and the 'Nouvelles Hebrides' on New Caledonian the 21st of November, 1908. Only one date stamp was in service at Vila at that moment, the French dating stamp, 'Port Vila Nouvelles Hebrides,' and I received only in January, 1909, the Vila stamp (British), and now the stamps are both indifferently in service."



If it will interest you (and I expect it will do), here are the quantities received on the 1st October, 1909:—

Overprinted on Fiji.	Overprinted on New Caledonia.
19,200 at ½d.	12,000 at 0.05c.
49,200 at 1d.	30,000 at 0.10c.
39,360 at 2d.	30,000 at 0.25c.
30,000 at 2½d.	12,000 at 0.50c.
19,200 at 5d.	6,000 at 1 fr.
19,200 at 6d.	
16,060 at 1/-	

**Northern Nigeria.** The long expected 1d. stamp, all red, has at last been issued. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. tell us they have received a supply.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple wmk. 1d. red.

**Papua.** The 2/6, although listed nearly two years ago as having been issued, has only now made its appearance.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11. 2/6 black and brown.

**Queensland.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 5d. stamp on Crown and A paper, also the ½d. value in a new shade.

*Adhesives.* Wmk. Crown and A. ½d. deep blue-green. 5d. dull brown.

**St. Kitts Nevis.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following:

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk. Chalky paper. 6d. mauve and grey.

**Sierra Leone.** Mr. W. S. Lincoln kindly sends us a copy of the recently issued 1½d. stamp in orange.

*Adhesive.* King's head, multiple wmk. 1½d. orange.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Crete.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for Mar. 12th contains the following information:—

We have received from a correspondent in this isle of unrest an envelope franked with, amongst others, the 10l. (Hermes), 20l. (Jupiter), and 25l. (Triton), bearing a type-set "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint done in London. The style is similar to the lithographed overprint Type 38, but can be distinguished by the A, which has a rather broader base and a much larger opening. The issue was made on February 1st.

*Adhesives.*  
Feb., 1910. 10l., dull carmine, black overprint.  
20l., blue-green, red "  
25l., ultramarine " "

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the above three stamps. No inverted varieties to hand—as yet.

**Dutch Indies.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a variety of the "JAVA" overprint, it consists of the omission of the final "A."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received specimens of the new 30c., 40c., 50c. and 75c. unpaid letter stamps with the word "cent" under the numerals.

**France. Gaboon.** Mr. Charlick has kindly shown us the first four values of a new set. We will give an illustration next month.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. brown and orange.  
2c. black and chocolate.  
5c. grey and green.  
10c. red and lake.

**German Empire.** *Ksautschou. Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles, on the authority of *Die Post*, the 4c. stamp on watermarked paper.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Lozenges. 4c. rose.

**Guatemala.** Messrs. Bright & Son tell us that they have received the first stamp of a new Commemorative issue. It is a 6 centavos with the inscription "Centenario de Miguel Garcia Granados, 20 de Septiembre 1809-1909," the portrait is that of Miguel Garcia Granados. Doubtless other values will shortly make their appearance.

**Italy. Tripoli.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received a full set of Italian stamps overprinted

TRIPOLI  
DI BARBERIA

in two lines.

The set consists of the following—1c., 2c., 1 lira and 5 lire overprinted on the 1901 Italian stamps, 5c., 10c., 25c., 40c. and 50c. on the 1906 issue and the 15c. on the 1909 issue.

**Norway.** Several of our contemporaries chronicle the 1kr. stamp printed from a new die. The new stamp, according to a writer in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, measures 21½ × 17 mm against 20 × 15½ of the late issue. There are also many minute differences in the design.

*Adhesive.*  
Printed from a new die. Perf. 14½ × 13½.  
1kr. green.

**Philippine Islands.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the 1 peso stamp is now printed in lilac instead of orange as hitherto.

**Russia.** We extract the following information from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*:—

"Several of our contemporaries have reported the 35 kop. on unwatermarked paper with varnished lines, like the current low values."

*Adhesive.* With varnish lines. Perf. 14-14½. 35k. green and purple.

**Russian P.O.'s in Turkey.**—Numerous varieties continue to make their appearance; besides the sets overprinted for use at Salonica and Mount Athos there are, we are now informed, sets (5 par. to 70 pias.) for

Kerassunde and Trebizonde. Perhaps it is just as well we had a Russian Japanese war, otherwise we might have had a few "Port Arthur" and other far Eastern sets.

**Salvador.** Messrs. Bright & Son kindly write us as follows:—"We beg to advise you we have received the first stamp of a new issue, Salvador, namely 1 centavo brown and black, with bust of Gen. Fernando Figueroa, President of that Republic, white paper, water-marked Honeycomb, perf.  $11 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , date of issue, Feb. 7th.

**Siam.** We hear that more provisionals have appeared. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles them as follows, for which mercy we are truly thankful as Siamese surcharges, recent varieties, are commencing to make our head ache.

"A correspondent in Siam informs us that three more provisionals have appeared. The authorities appear to have thought it advisable to use up the stock of the 3atts, green, type 50, surcharging it 3 satangs; this may cause some confusion, as the 2 satangs is now green. The old 12atts is also surcharged, and is likely to clash with the present 14 sat. on 9atts, pale blue and blue.

1910. Provisionals.  
3 sat. on 3atts, green.  
12 .. on 12atts, pale blue and blue.  
14 .. on 14atts, dull blue.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### "GREAT BRITAIN — EMBOSSED ADHESIVE STAMPS."

By F. J. MELVILLE.

No. 1 of the second series of Mr. Melville's popular little brochures deals with the embossed 6d., 10d. and 1/- stamps of Great Britain. Besides the strictly philatelic history of how these three values came to be issued we find a good deal of other interesting matter concerning them, notably a well executed diagram showing how the threads were transferred from the bobbins to the pulp, which afterwards becomes paper.

A good deal of Mr. Melville's information necessarily comes from Messrs. Wright and Creeke's *History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles*, but he has amply supplemented his extracts from this standard work, with the result that his latest little "guide" contains what can safely be regarded as the last word concerning the comparatively short-lived issue of embossed stamps.

A sketch of Mr. William Wyon and portraits of Mr. John Dickinson and Mr. Ormond Hill are included in Mr. Melville's book, besides many illustrations of the stamps and their essays.

### "POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE GOLD COAST."\* By B. W. H. POOLE.

Number four of the *W.E.P.* series of handbooks deals with the Gold Coast and is, as are its predecessors, an almost literal reprint of the article published in the *West End Philatelist*.

Several important revisions have however been made since Mr. Poole wrote his monthly articles, with the result that his little handbook now contains what is likely to be, at any rate for a good long time to come, the last word about these interesting stamps.

In reviewing a work of this sort, which, excellent as it is, does not contain much original matter, but only a very thorough *resumé* of previously known information, we think it a very good plan to give a list of the different chapters, with their headings. It is as follows:—

- I.—Introduction.
- II.—Its Philatelic History.
- III.—The First Issue.
- IV.—The 1876-79 Issue.
- V.—The Bisected Provisionals of 1882-4.
- VI.—The Surcharged Provisionals of 1883.
- VII.—The 1883 Issue.
- VIII.—The 1884-91 Issue.
- IX.—The 1889 Provisionals.
- X.—The 1889-94 Issue.
- XI.—The 1898-1902 Issue.
- XII.—The 1901 Provisionals.
- XIII.—The King's Head Stamps.
- XIV.—The Multiple Watermark.
- XV.—The Postal Union Colours.
- XVI.—The Issue of 1908.
- XVII.—The Crown Agents' Colour Scheme.
- XVIII.—Postmarks.

All the above chapters contain something of interest, so the most canny of literature specialists need have no fear but that he will receive good value for his "saxpence," should he decide to invest in a copy of Mr. Poole's latest.

\*Published by D. Field, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, W. Price 6d.

## Correspondence.

"The Cedars," Epsom,  
24th Feb. 1910.

To the Editor, "P.J. of G.B."

DEAR SIR,

EARLY STAMPS OF HOLLAND.

"M.A.C." (why these modest initials?) has given a very good list of the three earliest issues—though he insists on omitting some quite interesting points—but his notes require corrections.

1st—Stanley Gibbons' catalogue does give on page 316 both "small" and "large" perforations, under (f) (g) and (h).

2nd—"Small holes" is not a "variety," but the original state of the perforating machine.

3rd—The " $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ " of the "first stamp of each horizontal row" was made so at the first and continued so for 20 years. The idea of a "breakage" is an ancient, exploded, and indeed quite impossible theory. How are you to "break" a  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  machine so that it may give " $11\frac{1}{2}$ " in regular clear-cut holes? and then last unaltered for 20 years? You may break the needles, or even the bed-plate, but that won't alter the gauge.

#### EARLY JAVAS.

Page 35, February *P.J. of G.B.*

Mr. Meyer has "discovered" too much! You will find in your publishers' stock plenty of "normal" and "thinner" figures and letters, caused only by amount of colouring matter used. It is moreover uncertain to what extent shrinkage of the inferior paper used may be the origin of the other varieties referred to. The differences in the "5" are more interesting, and require further study.

Yours truly,

A. J. WARREN.

Bury St. Edmunds,

Feb. 26th, 1910.

To the Editor, "*P.J. of G.B.*"

DEAR SIR,

#### Re NOTES ON DUTCH STAMPS.

As an old collector of these interesting stamps, I should esteem it a favour if you would allow me to criticise the short article you published in the February number of your journal.

In the first place, your contributor mentions a "retouch" of the 15c., first type. I have collected the first issue for many years, and, although I have examined many thousands, have never discovered a retouch on this value.

Secondly, I cannot understand his arbitrary method of listing six varieties of the 5c. value with retouched top left corner. Does he wish his readers to infer that there are only six of these retouches and no more?

Thirdly, if the retouched left-hand corners are worth mentioning, why not list those stamps which have been retouched in both top-corners?

Fourthly, are not those stamps which have been retouched in the lower corners worthy of mention?

Fifthly, if the 10c. value of the second issue is listed as a variety because it has a scratch or two down the face, why not the other values? Your contributor should borrow a magnifying glass.

I think "M.A.C.'s" method of arranging the varieties of the third and fourth issues a

very good one, especially as Gibbons is rather confusing. The "small hole" varieties of the 1872-88 issue are certainly worth collecting, while the reference made to them in the catalogue is misleading, as there is nothing in that publication to show that certain values do not exist with the small hole perfs., to wit the  $7\frac{1}{2}$ c. and the  $22\frac{1}{2}$ c. of the perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  set.

Trusting these few notes may be of service and that "M.A.C." will continue his studies for many years to come,

I am, yours faithfully,

A. M. VAN BRYNNT.

#### NEW ISSUES FOR OLD.

To the Assistant Editor of the *P.J.G.B.*

MY DEAR MCTAVISH.

I have read and re-read the interesting leader in the December *P.J.G.B.* of your revered chief, and I have been very deeply affected by it. It was a home thrust. For several years I have been specializing in the very three things he anathematizes, viz., Cayman Islands, New Zealand and Tasmanian Pictorials, and had what might be considered a rather fine collection of each. After reading the Editorial I felt that it would be inconsistent with my aspirations to be considered a philatelist to continue these collections, and I at once proceeded to dispose of them. But it then struck me that if I disposed of them to a dealer, he would not be actuated by the high souled motives of your noble editor, and would redispense of them at an enhanced price to some other deluded collector. Shall I thus indirectly encourage pseudo philately? Perish the thought! So I took my stamps to Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son, who paid me 75% of the face value of the New Zealands and Tasmanians, while the Caymans they said were worthless, thereby proving your august hierarch to be absolutely correct in his estimation of their value. I have still got them and shall be happy to dispose of them at face value to the first applicant.

I am now specializing in imperf. Ceylons, and shall be pleased to consider any offers of mint blocks.

Your affectionately,

COUSIN FRENIX.

Cape Town, 1st Feb., 1910.

Mr. W. Hadlow one of our best known dealers, and for many years a wielder of the auction hammer, tells us that in future his address will be Grove Park, Lee, Kent. Mr. Hadlow, however, is not going to rusticate amid the leafy lanes of Lee as he will attend all the London auctions and execute commissions as usual.

## Greek Adhesives Used as Postage Due Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

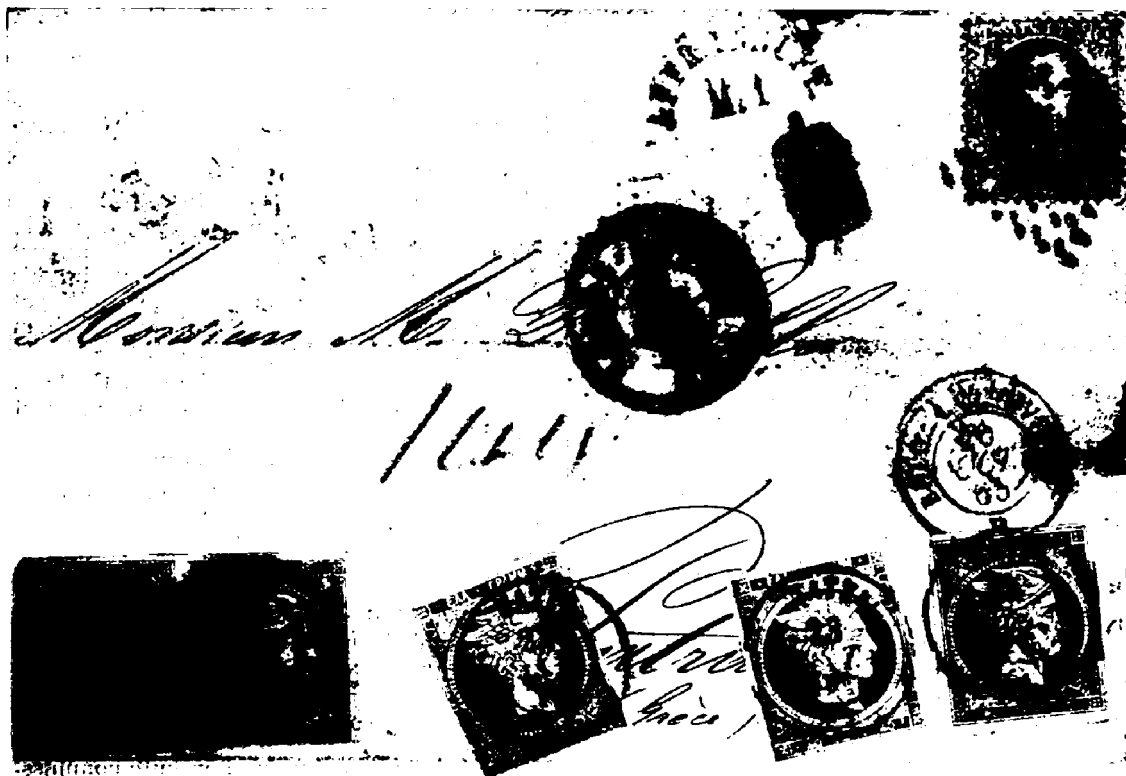
ONCE more an inquest is being held on the poor old Postage Due stamp, to decide whether it is of sufficient importance to be admitted into the society of regular postage stamps, or relegated to the probation book of philatelic nonentities. The controversy is such an old one that I am surprised that two such eminent philatelists as Mr. M. P. Castle and Major Evans, should be able to summon up sufficient energy to tackle so debatable a question in the columns of their respective papers.

Both these esteemed writers have so many years of philatelic experience behind them, that it would be presumption on my part to differ in opinion from either. As, however, one of my learned *confrères* believes that Postage Dues are as collectible as postage stamps and the other that they are of no more importance than a blue pencil mark, or other method of expressing some amount of postage that is to be paid, I must, it appears, either vacillate

between two opinions, or else have the courage to hold my own.

Personally, therefore, I believe that Postage Due stamps are an unnecessary evil, and it would be well for philately did our leading catalogues jettison all such varieties.

That Postage Dues are not as philatelically interesting as the regular issues, I should be the last to deny, but the growth of the philatelic tree has been so astounding of late years that I think Postage Dues offer an excellent opportunity of proving what a good pruning knife can do. The *pros* and the *cons* are so numerous that it would be a waste of space to enumerate them here, but I think the question regarding their *status* could be summed up by saying that a postage stamp was a label which denoted a postage rate having been paid, while a Postage Due stamp was a label which denoted that a sum of money was still due for postage. That such an important country as



our own should never have made use of Postage Due labels, is I think a basis for arguing that, although useful, they are not absolutely essential for the system of letter carrying—consequently they are of an extraneous nature and should be treated as such by stamp collectors.

In some countries ordinary postage stamps were used by the Post Office authorities on letters, to denote that insufficient postage had been paid by the sender. Greece is a notable example and the entire I illustrate is only one of many I have recently examined.

The letter in question was posted at Antwerp some time during October 1865 and was addressed to a resident of Patras, Greece. The postage paid, 40 centimes, was evidently insufficient because the addressee had to pay 144 lepta on it. As the first Greek Postage Due stamps were not issued until 1875 we find that current postage adhesives were stuck on the letter at the receiving Greek Office, while doubtless the postman, if there was a delivery system in those days, collected the sum due on the delivery of the letter.

In the case of this entire, it is pretty obvious that the Greek stamps have done service as Postage Dues, but soak them off and it would be absolutely impossible to tell whether they were Dues or Postage stamps. Other countries I believe also followed (some may do so now) the practice of utilizing postage stamps as labels to denote postage due; if so, it is very probable that the won't-have-a-postage-due-in-my-collection type of collector unknowingly treasures more than one of the despised labels. The moral, if there be one is, collect anything your own individual inclination fancies, irrespective of what other collectors advise, experience will soon show whether the object is a worthy one.

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## The Second Philatelic Congress

OF

### Great Britain, London, 1910.

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Held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society, from April 27th to April 29th, 1910, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

*Patron*—The President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.)

The new Postmaster-General (The Right Honourable Herbert L. Samuel, M.P.) has very kindly consented to become a Vice-Patron of the Congress.

#### FOURTH LIST OF DELEGATES.

Dundee and District Philatelic Society—Mr. E. Philpot Crowther.

Junior Philatelic Society—Messrs. Fred. J. Melville, Douglas Ellis, E. M. Gilbert Lodge and Ralph Wedmore.

Junior Philatelic Society, Brighton Branch—Messrs. W. Mead and Herbert Clark.

Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland—Messrs. J. L. Thomas and H. A. Wise.

Northampton Philatelic Society—Messrs. Humphrey Bennett and William Nichol.

Oxford Philatelic Society—Messrs. F. A. Bellamy and W. H. Tarrant.

Philatelic Literature Society—Messrs. F. J. Peplow and B. T. K. Smith.

#### TICKETS OF ADMISSION.

To simplify matters the Committee has decided that all applications for tickets for admission to the two Public Meetings must be made direct to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, FRANZ REICHENHEIM, Esq., 29, Holland Villas Road, Kensington, London, W.

There will be no charge, but every application must state the exact number of tickets required for each Meeting, and must be accompanied by an addressed and stamped envelope, otherwise it will not be executed.

As the available space is limited, early applications to secure seats are advisable. Tickets are ready now.

The necessary Passes for the Delegates, Members of the Committee, Stewards, etc., will be issued and forwarded to them in due course.

#### HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Executive Committee have made arrangements with ST. ERMIN'S HOTEL, Westminster, London, S.W., for the benefit of Delegates and others attending the Congress. This Hotel, which is practically next door to Caxton Hall, is now under the management of Mr. A. Wolff, formerly well known manager of the Café Monico, Piccadilly, W., and the following terms to visitors to the Congress are offered:—

Accommodation, attendance, light, bath, table d'hôte breakfast, luncheon and dinner, 12/6 per day each person.

or if a stay of more than four days is made, 12/- per day each person.

Accommodation, attendance, light, bath, table d'hôte breakfast, 7/- per day each person.

Small luncheon, 2/6.

Table d'hôte luncheon, 3/-.

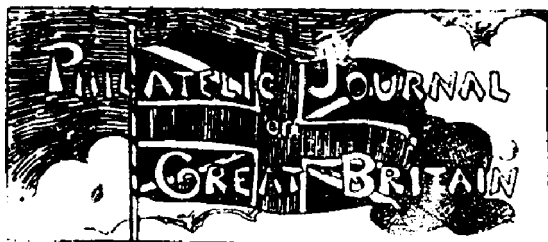
Table d'hôte dinner, 5/-.

FRANZ REICHENHEIM,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

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Mr. W. H. Peckitt is advertising small specialized collections of India and pictorial New Zealand. An excellent opportunity now to fill up those blank spaces.



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## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS McTAVISH.

I AM told that the Pocket Connoisseur Albums have quite taken the collecting world by storm. Doubtless this is so; few collectors, however, know that the spring back covers

can be used as tie clips. As nobody yet has invented a perfect tie clip there ought to be money in my suggestion. Funny thing about tie clips, isn't it? They are either made with huge claws that tear the shirt off one's back, or else they have smooth edges that won't grip anything, so that they fall off and make a noise on the pavement when their owner goes for a walk.

I hear that the latest addition to the house of Pemberton has already developed strong specializing tendencies. He already prefers Papuas to any other stamps.

I knew the prevailing craze for writing about the stamps of Holland would lead to trouble. "M.A.C." must have been looking for it when he contributed to last month's journal. His article reminds me of the old proverb which reads: "Wise men saunter where devils love to jump," or something to that effect.

What a fuss everyone is making about the rubber boom—2/- shares worth 10/- in a few days and so on and so off. Nothing to the profits the wide-awake stamp speculator can scoop in, bubber room indeed, how about British Levants at 5d. each, worth 7/6 seven days later and so on, and so on.

Oftimes in the faint luminosity of the twinkling stars I have awakened from slumber to ruminate over the marvellous wonders of nature; life, death, heat, cold, stamp paper editors, and so forth. That was before I read Messrs. Plumbull, Coopridge, Putter, Venting and Glensonsimp's latest stamp auction catalogue. Now I ponder over:

"Lot 1—Fiji, 1870, 6d. on quadrille paper, *mint* copy but with small ink stain and one corner missing."

"Lot 2—Victoria, S.G. No. 1, *fine used* copy, but pen-cancelled and cut *into* on *two* sides."

"Lot 3—Canada, Quebec, 2c. *mint*, but has been creased and three perfs. missing at top."

"Lot 4—Canada, King's Head, 1c., perforated, cut close on three sides *but nothing missing*."

The italics are mine, while I might have misquoted one or two of the lots, but all the same I am a firm believer that our stamp auctioneers would develop into optimists if they got half a chance. What think you?

Owing to a rather painful bout of lumbago, which laid me by the heels and reduced me to that form of locomotion which I favoured when I was about a year old, I have been unable to make my monthly pilgrimage round town in search of colour. It is an ill wind, however, that blows no good, for it enabled me to seriously consider the errors of other collectors' ways—what silly idiots they are to collect the countries they do—what a rotten system they have of mounting their stamps—what absolute ignorance they show when they talk about stamps, and so on and so forth and henceforth. I thought that when I was able to resume a perpendicular position I would buy a page of the *D.T.* and other daily papers and

advertise a philatelic college where philately and health would be taught. Terms, a couple of guineas a quarter. Principal, Angus McTavish, other principles, none. Motto: "Stretch and Grasp."

Some of my readers have been introduced to "Rip"—many, unfortunately, have not. Those who knew him, before the days of Cayman Island stamps, will remember him as a famous fighter—now *sans* sight and almost deaf, he has to content himself with listening to predatory mice as they scoot through the wainscotting of the McTavish mansion. My being *hors de combat* was a source of great joy to him, especially when I could sit up and make a noise like a mouse, it amused him for hours. Poor old chap, I am afraid he will have to resign his membership of the I.P.U.

Curious how many stamp collectors are *sans* something, isn't it? I once knew a rude person who, when he heard that So-and-so was a collector, wanted to know what other physical or mental complaint he suffered from. Of course there is nothing wrong with *me*, or *you*, dear reader (that is if you are a *regular* reader of the McTavish columns) but just let your imagination rest on all the collectors you know. Something wrong with most of them, isn't there? To put it mildly, they mostly suffer from delusions, don't they? Anyhow, *we* don't, so what does it matter as long as they are able to buy, sell, or exchange with us.

I have just discovered that I am twenty-seven months old to-day. How it does *tempus fugit*.

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## Postal Entires Society.

WE have much pleasure in reproducing below a short contribution from Mr. Warhurst's pen, in the course of which he ably demonstrates that postal entires, the old loves of many very advanced collectors, are again establishing themselves in favour.

As doubtless our readers know, Mr. Warhurst at one time edited this journal, a position he only relinquished on account of ill-health. We regret to hear, as we feel sure our readers will, that Mr. Warhurst is a great sufferer from neuritis.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,—

May I be allowed to refer to recent events in connection with stamped envelopes and cards. As the Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society said in the Official Journal in August last:—"The collecting of entires has been elbowed off the philatelic stage by the crowd of other issues, many of which are far

less worthy of consideration, but the fact remains that they are undoubted postal issues of equal importance with the adhesives." Nine years ago the late Mr. Gordon Smith wished to see an association with some co-operative arrangement for supplying these entires to those who could not get them then from the regular traders owing to the import of these pieces having been stopped by all the firms, but could not induce The Philatelic Society members to take it up.

Since then, the Royal Society has taken steps which seem more promising by the formation of a Reference Collection, to which the Prince of Wales and other members have already contributed and promised something near 4,000 pieces. There is also the offer of 2,000 more from an old collector, if a Postal Entires Society is started, part of which would be available for loan to other philatelic societies in the country where six of their members have joined the new association, so as to give annual displays and papers. Coupled with that, it is proposed that the Entires Exchange, which has kept together a fair number of enthusiastic collectors for ten years past, among whom it has distributed 3,500 pieces yearly, should be combined, as I am too old and weakly to continue its management. If necessary, too, it is understood that a large stock of accumulated duplicates could be secured at cost for sending out to members only, thus paying, at fair prices, for cost of management by an energetic secretary.

The recent display of entires at the Royal Society's rooms is stated to have been a success—cannot some collectors principally about London start this Society with such advantages ready at hand? I shall be glad if anyone interested will communicate with me, that I may put them in touch with others and arrange if possible for a meeting, in which I should take no part, being physically helpless, but would support afterwards with the little energy left in me.

Yours faithfully,

B. W. WARHURST.

15, Paultons Square, Chelsea.

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On behalf of the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, Mr. A. C. Emerson has asked us to draw the attention of collectors to the new regulations which require that all stamps for examination must reach Mr. Emerson, at 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., at least by the first post on the *third* Tuesday of each month, as the Committee meets on the *third* Thursday. Any stamps received after that time cannot be dealt with until the following month.



## March, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

## 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. J. Lynch, Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by J. E. Joselin.

## NOTICES.

The sixth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 10th inst. Present, J. C. Sidebotham (in the Chair), L. W. Fulcher, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, Guy Semple, P. L. Pemberton, W. E. Lincoln, G. E. Strong, the Hon. Sec. and visitors, R. B. Yardley, J. A. Leon and D. H. Jackson. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. R. B. Yardley gave a display with notes of his fine specialised

collection of Western Australia. In addition to very interesting die proofs and essays the collection includes pairs, strips and blocks used and unused, stamps on entires and all the rarities amongst which may be mentioned 1852, 4d. blue, lithographed a fine block of 100 unused, and the very rare inverted Swan used, the 1/- in fine shades, a pair of them rouletted; a used block of four of the sixpence black-bronze, the scarce perforations of various issues, the rare error of colour 2d. mauve of 1879, the various surcharged provisionals including a fine strip of the ½d. on 1d. 1887 some of the stamps shewing a double surcharge, and a very complete collection of all the more recent issues up to date. The interest of the display was greatly enhanced by the valuable notes given by Mr. Yardley on the various issues, and Mr. Joselin in moving and Mr. Lincoln in seconding a vote of thanks, voiced the satisfaction of all present. This was supported by the chair and unanimously accorded.

The following note on the stamps of St. Vincent displayed at the previous meeting on behalf of Mr. Heginbottom may be of interest to some members.

Numbers Issued of the first four Provisionals and 5/- Star Watermark.

June 1880, 5/- rose, Star watermark; 2,000 were sent out to the Island, but only a very small proportion were used for postage, nearly all being surcharged Revenue for fiscal purposes.

May 1880, 1d. red on half of 6d. blue green, 1800 issued.

Sept. 1881, ½d. red on half of 6d. yellow-green, 1440 issued.

Nov. 1881, 4d. black on 1/- red, 630 issued.

Dec. 1881, 1d. in black on 6d. yellow-green, 1620 issued.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, April 14th, at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. T. W. Hall will give a display of Venezuela. All members and any visitors cordially invited. The committee will meet at 7 p.m.

Any proposals for Membership, donations to the Forgery Collection, or Subscriptions due on January 1st last, gladly received and duly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

March 14th, 1910.





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14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.

(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, March 9th, at Mills' Restaurant, Liverpool Street, the President being in the chair, a good number of members and friends were present in spite of the ravages of bad weather and influenza. A number of new members were elected, and various new issues and interesting philatelic exhibits were shown round, the latter including the rare British £1. Brown I.R. Official watermarked Crowns, several scarce varieties of Jamaican Official surcharges, and one of the 2½d. double surcharge, one surcharge being in the normal position and the other one having overflowed as it were from the neighbouring stamp and extending halfway across the specimen.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton then gave a very concise and interesting paper on Cyprus, interesting points from which were as follows:—

Plates 193 and 196 of the one penny over-printed "Cyprus" are not known in single specimens, but a well-known specialist has an entire sheet of each.

The ½ piastre, CA variety, which is catalogued as emerald green (Gibbons 28A) is really the dull bluish-green shade of the CA stamp, surcharged "½" and is not the colour of the CC stamp. In the opinion of Mr. Pemberton this stamp is an error of the surcharged issue as its colour is exactly the same,

and its scarcity precludes the possibility of its being a special printing.

The paper was illustrated by what the author modestly termed a "type collection" which, none the less, contained several rare and interesting specimens.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Pemberton, and then came the Competition in which each exhibitor was to show, within the margin of 20 stamps or blocks, as much philatelic knowledge of all methods of perforation as possible. The exhibits proved to be of great philatelic interest, and the voting by ballot was the closest known in the history of the Society, there being two re-counts quite as exciting as those in Finsbury, the medal in the result being secured by Mr. Higlett.

### THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held at Mills' Restaurant, on April 13th, when Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., will give a display of his collection of German States, and Mr. W. E. Lincoln will give one of his illuminating addresses, the subject on this occasion being "Tragedy and Postage Stamps."

It is hoped that a record attendance will be made at the meeting which promises to be an exceedingly interesting one.

## Shades of the Line-Engraved Sixpenny Stamps of Queensland.

BY THE EDITOR.

SURELY the greatest delight that can befall a keen philatelist is to be able to acquire for a very reasonable sum a hoard of unsorted stamps of a country he specializes in. Such fortune came my way a year ago. I happened to be in a well known dealer's office when he had just received from an unknown country correspondent a parcel of about 150 early Queensland stamps, for which the owner was asking the modest sum of £4. Knowing my fondness for the early stamps of Queensland, the dealer, after a very hurried glance through his purchase, told me I could have them for £9 if I liked.

As they all were practically in superb condition, I accepted his offer and will leave the reader to judge whether he considers that the dealer, or I, had the better of the bargain. The main reason why I was so pleased with my purchase was that the majority of the stamps were of the sixpenny value, and I had long held a theory concerning the relative

rarity of some of the shades of this denomination. For the purpose of this short article I only propose to deal with the sixpenny stamps that were in my purchase, as they numbered ninety-two they formed a goodly proportion.

Of these ninety-two stamps, at least seventy were exceptionally fine specimens—a most unusually high proportion—the remaining twenty-two were more or less heavily cancelled. With one exception, all these ninety-two stamps were postmarked with a similar cancellation, namely, the numerals “25” enclosed in a concentric circle of dashes, the usual type used for obliterating early Queensland stamps. A classification of these stamps only strengthened my belief that the DEEP GREEN stamps—all through the truncated star, and Q and Crown series of the line-engraved stamps, are much underpriced—especially when the relative values of the other and more numerous shades are taken into consideration.

By the *deep green* shades I mean those stamps that truly show a deep—sometimes bluish—green tinge and not merely deep shades of the green, or yellow-green stamps.

As a list of Gibbons' numbers is apt to convey nothing, or worse than nothing, to the ordinary collector's mind—even granted he specialises a little in the country mentioned—I will give a *resumé* of the ninety-two stamps, as I feel sure it will interest specialists of Australian stamps, especially those who are fascinated by the beautiful early prints of Queensland.

- 1860-61. Large Star, Clean-cut Perfs. 14 to 16.  
S.G. No. 6, 6d. green, 2 copies.
1861. Small Star, Rough Perfs. 14 to 16.  
S.G. No. 17, 6d. green, 2 copies.
- 1862-67. No Wmk., Thick Paper, Square Holes.  
S.G. No. 26, 6d. green, 5 copies.  
" " 27, 6d. yellow-green, 15 copies.
- Ditto. Round Holes.  
S.G. No. 31, 6d. green, 6 copies.  
" " 31a, 6d. yellow-green\*, 9 copies.
- 1864-65. Wmk. Star, Perf. 12½ to 13.  
S.G. No. 34, 6d. deep yellow-green, 3 copies.  
" " 34a, 6d. deep green, 1 copy.
- 1868-74. Wmk. Truncated Star, Perf. 13.  
S.G. No. 48, 6d. deep green, 2 copies.  
" " 49, 6d. yellow-green, 6 copies.
- Ditto. Perforated 12.  
S.G. No. 56, deep green, 1 copy.

This stamp, is a very good one to take for reference purposes, as, the perf. 12 variety is only found in the *deep green* shade.

- 1868-79. Wmk. Crown and Q, Perf. 13.  
S.G. No. 65, 6d. deep green, 3 copies.  
" " 66, 6d. yellow-green, 16 "  
" " 67, 6d. apple-green, 1 copy.

No 67, namely the apple green shade, is a scarcer stamp than the catalogue price would lead one to believe. Frequently I have seen, in collections and even in dealers' stock-books

yellow-greens which were called “apples” and an ordinary green, corresponding to the green shade of the perf. 12 issue, which was dubbed deep green.

Ditto, Perf. 12.

S.G. No. 78, 6d. deep green,	3 copies.
" " 79, 6d. green,	11 "
" " 79a, 6d. yellow-green,	5 "
" " 80, 6d. apple green,	1 copy.

Here again the real apple-green shade is a desirable stamp.

As all the stamps mentioned above were used on letters sent from one town, over a period of probably about fifteen years they should prove a fairly reliable guide to the relative rarity of the various issues and shades.

## Frauds on the British Post Office.

*A Paper read before the International Philatelic Union, Jan. 13th, 1910.*

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

WHEN Rowland Hill first advocated the use of adhesive postage stamps, one of the principal objections urged by those who were opposed to his scheme was that it would be impossible to manufacture labels for the purpose, which would not be extremely liable to fraudulent imitation. The history of the reformer's fight against the red tape of the Government and the prejudices of the public of his day, and his ultimate triumph over all obstacles, is too well known to need repetition. But we can easily imagine that there may have been times, before the method of printing employed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. (or Bacon & Petch as the firm was then called) was expounded to him, when even Rowland Hill's indomitable determination might have wavered. It was found that the difficulty foreseen by the pessimists were really a serious one, for the trouble was, not only to produce a suitable design which should be so intricate in its execution as to defy any attempt at imitation by a would-be forger, but also to make a sufficient number of exact replicas of such design for the construction of a plate from which to print the stamps in sheets.

Reproduction by electrolysis, which had, at that time, just been invented, was only applicable to surface-printing, and it was believed that that process was not a safe one for the purpose. It was suggested that a combination of ordinary surface-printing and embossing would meet the case, but as it was pointed out that it might be possible to take electrotypes direct from the stamps, owing to portions of the design being raised, that idea was abandoned.

\*This shade, although uncatalogued, is just as noticeable as S.G. No. 27.

Lithography was believed incapable of producing work fine enough to make imitation impossible, though in other respects it was a process which would have been eminently suitable, for the duplication of designs is easier by that method than by any other. As everybody is aware, lithography was employed, subsequently, by many other countries, in the production of postage stamps, though rarely with any great success.

The method which was eventually adopted was secured by a combination of inventions adapted to the art of engraving in metal, the products of which are known as line-engravings. One of the inventions was a machine for engraving an intricate pattern of very fine interlaced lines, which was used for producing the sides and background of the designs of the first English stamps—and, indeed, of all the line-engraved stamps produced by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.—and which it was impossible for the cleverest draughtsman to imitate. The other invention made possible the duplication of the engraved dies, which was, before that date, an impossibility.

The use of this method of printing, the adoption of a beautiful and intricate design, and the inclusion of a watermark in the paper employed, seemed to insure the revenue against any fraud by means of counterfeits of the 1d. black and 2d. blue stamps of 1840. As events showed this expectation was fulfilled and no serious attempt was ever made to defraud the post-office by that means. There was, however, one attempt which could hardly have been meant seriously. This is interesting as being the very first forgery of a stamp and is recorded in the following letter addressed to Mr. Rowland Hill by Mr. W. Ledingham. It is dated from 11, Downing Street, September 2, 1840, and runs:—

"Dear Sir,—Mr. Smith has just called and informed me that a forgery of the Penny Label was yesterday detected in his office. The letter bearing the forged stamp has been handed over to the Stamp Office to be dealt with by them.

"He also states that, since the 14th ult. 380 attempts have been made to pass stamps previously used.

"Mr. Smith and the gentlemen in his office are of opinion that the forged stamp is a woodcut, the features are not well brought out, and the background is very coarse, but in every other respect the imitation is very good."

The next reference to this forgery is found in Rowland Hill's diary, under date 5th September, 1840, and reads as follows:—

"Edwin Hill confirmed the previous account of the forged stamp. It was on a letter from a Register office of a disreputable kind. The people of the Stamp Office have caused several letters to be addressed to this place in order to see if other forged stamps are used in reply, and have taken other steps

with a view to detection, but hitherto without avail."

The matter is finally dismissed in the following contemptuous extract from the diary, dated 14th September:—

"At the Stamp Office I saw the forged Label. It is a miserable thing and could not possibly deceive any except the most stupid and ignorant."

This is a very severe commentary on the intelligence of Mr. W. Ledingham who first reported the forgery and who said that in most respects the imitation was very good.

A similar forgery, printed in blue, turned up in March, 1841; it was described by Rowland Hill as resembling the forgery of September, printed on a dirty brown paper. "Appears to be rather a joke than a forgery," was the comment.

These two poor efforts evidently did not cause any loss to the revenue, and I should not have referred to them but for the interest attaching to them on account of their being the first recorded attempts on the part of the ingenious fraternity which has since given so much trouble to stamp collectors.

Apart from actual counterfeits of the stamps there were other avenues for fraud which were a more constant danger to the revenue. One of these was mentioned in the letter to Mr. Rowland Hill, quoted above, in which it is stated that 380 attempts had been made to pass off stamps which had already been used. Some of these were, doubtless, specimens which had been very lightly cancelled on their first journey; others would be cases in which attempts had been made to clean off the old cancellations. Judging from all we read about these early days of the postage stamp, the dangers of cleaning were very greatly feared by the postal authorities, and not without reason. It was found that the red ink which was employed during the first six months the stamps were in use could be cleaned off with comparative ease by means of certain chemicals. This determined the authorities to introduce a special black ink for the purpose of obliterating the stamps, and all postmasters received special instructions to use only the new kind of ink.

Apparently even this was not proof against all detergents and the Post Office began to see that what was really wanted was a stamp printed in a colour which would be equally affected with the postmark when treated with the acids used for removing the latter, thus rendering it impossible to remove the one without taking the colour out of the other. In other words, the very perfection of the stamps in use was a source of danger, as the colour used for both the 1d. and 2d., was so fast that it was impervious to all attacks.

Then came another step in the campaign against the evil-doer. On the advice of Faraday, the celebrated chemist, an aqueous ink was sought with which to print the stamps.

After many experiments it was decided to print the 1d. stamps in a red ink which was at once oleaginous and fugitive and which was recommended as being "readily acted upon by nearly all the chemical agents which are likely to be resorted to for removing the obliterating mark." At the same time the 2d., on the introduction of the new plate with white lines added to the design, was printed in a blue ink which, while very similar in tint to that of the first issue was of a more fugitive nature. After these changes were introduced we do not hear so much about cleaning postmarks from the stamps and, indeed, it appears doubtful whether the operation could have been possible in the changed conditions.

During the fifties it was found that some patient and ingenious people were making a practice of cutting off unobliterated portions of stamps and, by piecing them neatly together, manufacturing apparently unused specimens with which it was comparatively easy to deceive the postal clerks. I may here remark that this system of fraud has always been possible with the stamps of every country, and has always been carried on to a greater or lesser extent, but I doubt whether it has often reached any serious proportions. It must be a tedious and difficult work, and the gain hardly worth considering. I remember the case of a man in England in a fairly large way of business, who was convicted, several years ago, of this paltry fraud, and was very properly made to pay a heavy fine for his ingenuity, but with this exception I have not heard of the practice in recent times.

However, in 1858, the Post Office decided to do something which would make it more difficult, if not impossible, to patch up stamps in this way, and the following notice was issued:—

CIRCULAR TO ALL POSTMASTERS WHO  
OBLITERATE POSTAGE STAMPS.

*Alteration in the System of Lettering the Corners  
of Postage Labels,*

"In order to prevent frauds, which have sometimes been attempted upon the Revenue, by the use of Postage Stamps, formed by joining together clean portions cut from Labels which have previously passed through the post, the Letters which now appear at the lower corners of the Postage Labels, will, in future, be repeated at the upper corners; transposed, however, so as to afford still greater security thus:—(here follows an illustration).

"On the right and left-hand side of each Label, the number of the plate from which it is printed will appear in small figures as shewn above.

"If any Postage Label passing through your office, should appear to have been formed by pieces cut from separate stamps, you will be

careful to ascertain whether the letters in the corners are arranged in the manner above described, and whether the number on each side of the Label is the same. Should any difference appear in these respects you will treat the letter in the manner laid down in the 130th Rule of Instructions to Postmasters.

"Twopenny Labels with these alterations will shortly be issued, and the change will ultimately be extended to the Penny and other Labels.

ROWLAND HILL,

General Post Office,  
July, 1858."

Secretary.

The diagram which adorned this notice was an enlarged representation of a stamp, with very large figures at either side to represent the plate number. I should imagine that many postmasters who were led to expect that these figures would be plainly legible must have handled thousands of the stamps without ever knowing they were there.

This system of lettering the corners of the stamps was kept up on the stamps of all denominations until 1880. It was then abandoned because it was thought that the dangers which it was intended to combat were not so serious as had been thought; besides, no other country appeared to find it necessary to adopt such measures, and it seemed altogether an unnecessary precaution.

The only successful attempt ever made to defraud the British Post Office, by means of a complete forgery, so far as is known at present, was that which concerns the well-known counterfeit of the 1/- green, plate 5. This occurred in the year 1872, and was not brought to light until twenty-six years later, when the exposure was due not to the eagle eye of any postal official, but entirely to the trained eye of a philatelist, Mr. Charles Nissen, the well-known dealer. All the known copies of this forgery are cancelled with the date stamp of the Stock Exchange Telegraph Office, and until within the last few weeks none bearing any other date than 23rd July, 1872, had been found. But last month Mr. Nissen found a good many more of these forgeries, all of which are obliterated as described above, and dated one or other of the following dates—3rd June, 17th June and 28th June, 1872.

The forgery is printed in green to deep green on thin yellowish-toned paper without watermark. It is in every other respect an exceedingly good imitation. The most noticeable difference in the design is to be found in the corner letter blocks which are not so sharply defined as in the genuine, while the letters themselves are too thin and weak. Like the genuine it is perforated 14. They are found with a larger variety of corner letter-combination than the genuine stamps. In the latter the last letter used in the lower right-hand corner, denoting the position in a

vertical row, is "L" whereas among the forgeries the letter "S" has been found in this position. It was surely a serious lapse on the part of the forger when he made this slip. However it is pretty evident that it would not have mattered very much if the imitation had been less perfect as the inference is that they were never handled by the public but affixed on the telegraph forms by a clerk behind the counter who was an accomplice of the forger. It is quite certain that the fraud would never have been discovered at all, but for the fact of large quantities of telegraph forms which ought really to have been destroyed escaping the furnace and finding their way into the hands of a dealer. An article in the *British Philatelist* for January, 1910, gives a full account of all that is known about these forgeries, in it we are told that it is estimated, from the evidence which has been collected, that on one day £100 worth of the stamps was used. Now, as the number of days between the first and last dates found on the stamps is forty-five, and as it is almost certain that that period does not cover the extent of the frauds, it is quite possible that the post office was defrauded to the extent of £4000.

Before leaving the subject of the early surface-printed stamps I should like to call attention to another curious device adopted for the purpose of preventing cancellation marks being removed from stamps. This was the so-called safety paper which, first introduced for the fiscal stamps in the early fifties, was afterwards employed largely for the 4d. rose watermarked small and medium garter, and, to a very small extent, for the 6d. and 1/- of the same issue. It was a thick paper with a very highly glazed surface, into the composition of which had been introduced a certain quantity of prussiate of potash. The fact of the paper turning bluish was not due directly to the presence of this chemical, and was in fact accidental, or, at any rate, unlooked for by the makers; the coloured tinge was caused by the action of the prussiate of potash on certain mineral impurities contained in the pulp. This accounts for the patchiness of the blue tint which depended on the quantity and distribution of the impurities.

This paper was not satisfactory; it was so hard on the surface that the colour would not sink into the substance and so rubbed off very easily, as many collectors have since found to their cost. It was also stated that the presence of the prussiate of potash did not prevent obliterations being cleaned off by certain chemicals, and though it would seem that this belief was ill-founded the use of the paper was abandoned. It is true that prussiate of potash continued to be used in the manufacture of the ordinary paper used by Messrs. De La Rue after that date as is evidenced by the appearance of the 2½d. lilac, early plates, and the early high value stamps on bluish paper, but

on the representation of Messrs. De La Rue, the paper manufacturers used great pains to eliminate all mineral impurities in the preparation of the pulp and from that time the appearance of *bleuté* paper is of very rare occurrence. It is probable, however, that the chemical, which was still considered some protection against cleaning, continued to be used for many years afterwards, and may be even to this day.

The main precaution which was relied upon to prevent cleaning was the use of colours which, it was fondly believed, would be immediately destroyed by any detergent used for removing obliterations. I do not know whether the science of chemistry has made such strides of late years and that far more is known of these matters now than was then believed possible, but it is quite certain that the modern stamp faker can remove penmarks from any of these stamps with comparative ease.

It may have been due to official recognition of the growth of this perverted form of ingenuity that the authorities, in 1884, issued the set of stamps in which the values from ½d. to 3d. were printed in doubly-fugitive lilac, and those from 4d. to 1/- in doubly-fugitive green. It is certain that these colours answered their purpose easily enough and with something to spare, for very little ill-usage was required to make them almost unrecognizable. But it was found that the lack of variety in the colours caused great confusion, to the public and post-office alike, and so the issue gave way, in less than three years, to the bi-coloured stamps which have been in use ever since.

An inspection of these latter will show that on each value some portion of the design is printed in one of the doubly-fugitive colours—purple or green, the only two fugitive colours known at the time of the issue which were at all suitable for use in surface-printing. Since the introduction of these colours, it has been found that even they are not proof against the energies of expert chemists who practice upon pen-marked copies, even though *postal* obliterations are immoveable. This insecurity led to the introduction of paper coated with a chemical preparation, which is affectionately referred to by stamp collectors as "chalky paper." I believe this has been found to be satisfactory for the purpose for which it is intended, however vexatious it may be to the stamp-collector.

It will thus be seen that the history of stamp production in England has been one incessant struggle against forgers and fakers, and I think that we may say that on the whole the precautions have not been taken in vain.

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Have you any Cretan duplicates? if so read Messrs. Bright & Son's advertisement in this journal and sell or exchange your stamps for others you lack.



MARCH 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

We have to thank Mr. H. H. Harland for a copy of the *Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship*, a paper which has now reached its second year of publication. The Fellowship consists of a small band of ardent philatelists who meet together to study stamps, their researches being afterwards embodied in the extremely tasteful and highly scientific journal they publish yearly.

Mr. Harland is responsible for the most interesting contribution, namely a capable article dealing with the stamps of St. Helena. He deals extensively with the minor plate varieties, from a study of which he conclusively proves that one and only one plate was used to produce the whole of the adhesive stamps of St. Helena down to and including the issues of 1884-1894, as remaining portions of the errors which occurred on the earliest printings can be traced on the corresponding stamps of any sheet throughout the whole series of emissions from 1856 to 1894.

Mr. Harland proceeds, with the aid of several full sized plates, to describe and illustrate these minor differences, while he ably demonstrates that not less than six impressions of the die were on the transfer roller (possibly two rollers may have been used).

These six impressions are minutely described with the result that Mr. Harland has provided those of his readers who collect line-engraved stamps, especially St. Helena, with a most exhaustive treatise.

Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace, so well known as an enthusiastic collector and authority on the intricate stamps of China, contributes an article entitled "The

Significance of the Shades in the Surcharged Issues of China, 1897." He tells us that when the Chinese Post Office was separated from the Customs in 1897 it was considered a good time to introduce the Western currency of dollars and cents in the place of the native currency. Fresh stamps with the new values were ordered from Japan, while all the old stock was surcharged with the value in cents.

Mr. Lovelace proceeds to unfold the history of these surcharged stamps, how, owing to the non-arrival of the new stamps various old stocks were unearthed and surcharged, while even a special reprint was made of the 1894 issue and surcharged. By means of a tabulated list readers are enabled to place these various printings.

Mr. A. Ashby contributes an article entitled "Differentiating the Printings of British New Guinea Stamps," wherein he gives his readers a simplified test for distinguishing the various papers and watermarks.

Mr. W. J. Holmes writes an able article dealing with Mexican "Porte De Mar" stamps; while Mr. Sydney R. Turner contributes a most interesting article, in the course of which he tells us all about the old General Post Office, Lombard Street, 1678-1829. A page of "Notes" completes the contents of what is a most ably compiled magazine, a publication which reflects great credit on the philatelic abilities of those gentlemen who are associated with it.

We do not know whether the Students are recruiting new members, or whether they are a purely local society, but we feel sure that those of our readers who care to write to H. H. Harland, Esq., Lindale, Parsons Mead, Croydon, will meet with a courteous reply.

The February number of the *London*

*Philatelist* opens with a very able editorial wherein Mr. Castle dilates on his favourite stamps, Sydney Views to wit. The following extract should be appreciated by our readers.

It may indeed be stated that if a collector were to purchase haphazard, one by one, fifty Sydney Views, it is quite possible that he would not have two that were exactly alike in type, colour and paper. It is therefore abundantly clear that these stamps present so many points of interest as to invest them with a favour that is far higher than they apparently deserve in relation to the number of copies existing in relation to other stamps. Their popularity therefore rests upon solid ground, and we see nothing that can interfere with it in the future. Future generations of philatelists may prefer the multiple watermarks of the present reign or the minute varieties of modern printings or of surcharges, but we have a shrewd suspicion that as long as stamp collecting continues to fascinate collectors, so long will early historic issues, such as the Sydneys and many others, hold first place in the affections of the philatelist.

Mr. J. N. Marsden contributes another of his most enjoyable Portugal articles wherein he discusses unpaid letter stamps and some very dangerous reprints—regarding the latter we make the following extract.

When the King of Spain, after coming to the throne, paid his official visit to the late Don Carlos in 1903, he asked for a set of the stamps of Portugal and Colonies. This request could not be granted at once, as no complete collections, either of originals or reprints, existed in official hands. The authorities therefore decided to make special printings of all the stamps of which no originals existed, and they are generally known as the "King of Spain reprints."

Altogether one hundred and sixty-eight collections were made. They are arranged in cardboard boxes having printed on the outside the number of the collection and "Collecção dos sellos de franquia de Portugal, Ilhas Adjacentes e Ultramar—1853-1905" (Collection of the postage stamps of Portugal, the Adjacent Islands and the Colonies, 1853-1905). The stamps are arranged in large envelopes with the name "Continente," that is Portugal, or the Island or Colony printed thereon, and inside each large envelope the stamps are arranged in small envelopes in their separate issues. The dates of issue which are given do not in many cases agree with the dates which investigation has shown to be correct.

Already much mystery surrounds their process of manufacture, and of all the collections I have seen no two seem to be exactly alike, some containing originals where reprints exist in others, but this applies to later issues. It appears, and indeed I have proof, that in some cases the stamps were printed one by one, and then attached to sheets of paper and perforated, probably a few at a time. Already among the Lisbon dealers many are being sold in ignorance as originals. They are of course, in most cases, much rarer than originals. No chalk-surfaced paper has been employed except in the case of stamps printed on coloured papers, and the perforation is invariably 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ . They are all gummed, and the gum is very white.

In most cases there should not be much difficulty in distinguishing these reprints from originals or previous reprints when they are placed side by side, but it is sometimes difficult to describe the differences. The paper, except in the case of the coloured papers, is thinnish and semi-transparent, showing the colours slightly through it on the back, and bears a faint greyish tinge. The colours too vary in a greater or lesser degree from originals and former reprints.

Fortunately, as Mr. Marsden points out, these reprints are, in many instances, rarer than the originals, but the fact that some of them are practically identical with the genuine stamps is unpalatable.

Mr. H. J. Crocker contributes some very interesting notes entitled "Hawaii The Manuscript 5c. on the 13c. 1853 issue." Unfortunately lack of space and the fact that we have already drawn largely on our contemporary prevent us from making an extract. Several pages of well written "Occasional Notes," "New Issues," etc., complete the literary contents of the *London Philatelist*.

The February number of the *Philatelic Record* contains a further instalment of M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland," a second instalment of "The Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," and the first chapter of what promises to be a very capable article, contributed by Mr. J. B. Leavy, dealing with "Belgian Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." It is a sure sign of the popularity of Belgian stamps when we find three or four of our contemporaries at work upon them. Is it not also a sign of the times that the three leading articles in the *P.R.* should deal with European stamps?

We make a rather lengthy extract relating to the first issue, from Mr. Leavy's excellent article:

The paper used was hand-made, manufactured by Olin Brothers, of Brussels, varying in quality from medium thick to very thin, and moderately white in colour. In the space for each stamp was a watermark of a double "L" interlaced within a single-lined rectangular frame, 22x18mm.; this watermark was made by twisting wire into the design desired and affixing it to the screen upon which the damp paper pulp was spread. As the wire was twisted by hand, no two watermarks are exactly alike, and some interesting varieties exist. At the top, bottom and each side of each sheet, was watermarked the inscription "MINISTERE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS, BRUXELLES, BELGIQUE, POSTES," in double lined capital letters 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x7mm. each. This watermark was placed but 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the frame line enclosing the interlaced "L's," so that it often happens that certain stamps from the outside horizontal or vertical rows of a sheet bear one or two of the letters of this inscription, entire or in part, together with a portion of the interlaced "L" watermark. In printing the sheets were placed sideways upon the plate, so that the watermark appears in that position, with head either to the right or left. In some carelessly placed sheets certain stamps of either the top, bottom, or side rows are printed on the margin outside the watermark, and between the words of the marginal inscription; these stamps without watermark are, however, very rare.

These stamps were on sale at various post offices throughout the country as early as 25th June, but were not acceptable for postage until 1st July 1849.

The stamps were printed, under the personal supervision of Jacques Wiener, at the Stamp Works—situated in the basement of a modest house in the Rue Lateral, Brussels—in three distinct printings. The first printing in May 1849, consisted of 1,600,000 copies of the 10 centimes in deep brown, and 1,500,000 copies of the 20 centimes in deep blue, both on medium paper,  $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. in thickness. The second printing was made in September 1849, and consisted of 3,000,000 copies of the 10 centimes in grey-brown, and 3,000,000 copies of the 20 centimes in two shades, pale blue and milky blue, both on thin paper,  $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. in thickness. The third printing took place in May 1850, and was a very small one, as it was made only to supply the post offices until the stamps of the second type should be placed on sale; it consisted of 800,000 copies of the 10 centimes in brown, and 500,000 copies of the 20 centimes in both deep blue and pale blue, all on a very thin paper, 1-10th mm. in thickness. The stamps measure  $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

In manufacturing the plates of both the 10 and 20 centimes stamps a little carelessness in using the transfer rolls caused the double impression of a portion of the design, in one or more instances, noticeable chiefly in a double line at top of stamp and double impressions of the numerals in both upper corners; naturally these errors occur in all three printings.

Some writers have claimed that the plates for these stamps were retouched; I find no evidence whatever of retouching; I do find, however, certain copies of the ten centimes bearing extra lines at the top of the design cut diagonally opposite to the fine diagonal lines of the background, but spaced much further apart than the background lines; these extra lines can by no stretch of the imagination be considered a re-cutting or re-engraving, as they mar the appearance of the stamp. I believe them to be engraver's scratches that were upon the plate before the design was rocked in. I have not found any of these extra lined stamps in the 20 centimes.

The March number of the *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society contains Mr. Hausburg's "Notes on some of the Early Issues of Victoria" being a *resumé* of his remarks when he displayed his Victorians last month.

Two very welcome new features of our contemporary are, firstly a page of notes entitled "Philately at Leisure" contributed by Mr. Harry L. Hayman and, secondly, two pages of very excellent "Philatelic Crumbs" collected by Mr. Reichenheim. The following delightful little anecdote from Mr. Hayman's page is too good not to reproduce.

In Germany "Red Tape-ism" is quite as conspicuous in Official circles as it is in this country, perhaps more so. I read lately that in connection with the postal service from one village to another, when the distance is very great, two men were employed, one for the morning, the other for the afternoon service, alternately, week by week. One of the postmen bought a bicycle for his own convenience, the other went on foot. The result was that one week the villagers had their letters delivered early in the mornings and the following week early in the afternoons. They petitioned the Imperial Post Office, asking it to arrange for a more regular service. After some delay, this was done; the Postal Authorities forbade the one postman to use his bicycle, and the villagers have now a regular service, always late in the day.

From Mr. Reichenheim's "Philatelic Crumbs" we extract the following:—

## FRANCE.

I hear that the present Postmaster-General—M. Miller—intends to demonetise all issues from 1849 to 1875. Up to the present, not only all postal issues may be used for franking purposes, but also proofs, essays, reprints, etc., are often found postally used. I do not think collectors will regret this decision of the French Postal Authorities, as it does not in any way affect the value of the stamps.

My readers have probably heard of the great fraud committed by the Italian Cappelani, and by other individuals, who succeeded in disposing of a very large number of forged 10c. stamps of the present "Sower" design. These forgeries are such excellent imitations that a minute examination is required to distinguish them from the genuine stamps. The three principal marks of distinction are:—

1.—The lower part of the letter "c" after the figure 10 is more open in the forgery than in the original; thus, if the two open ends of the letter c were lengthened till they meet, a perfect figure O would be formed. This would not be possible in the originals.

2.—The forgeries are a trifle larger than the genuine stamps, but the difference is so small that strips of 3 are required to discover the difference.

3.—The perforation of the forgeries measures the same all round, very nearly 13; not  $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ , as on the originals.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for February 12th we find another instalment of Mr. C. J. Phillips' account of his South American trip. Writing about a superb collection of Chilian stamps which he inspected, he says:—

I had the pleasure of inspecting the finest collection of Chilian stamps in Chili, and I may say in the world. I can only give a very rough idea of this collection, which is composed entirely of stamps in perfect condition.

In superb *unused* condition I noted as follows:—

July, 1853.	10c. deep bright blue	.. 6
.. 1854.	5c. lithographed	

(5 colours) 16

Aug., 1854.	5c. burnt sienna	.. 8
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..	10c. many colours, about 30	
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In *used* stamps there were over 100 of the lithographed 5c., including nearly a dozen transfer varieties. 5c. red, printed on both sides, with both small and large *wmk.*, twelve copies.

10c. deep blue, *error wmk.* "20," two fine specimens.

In this number of our *Strand confrère* we also find a continuation of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Denmark and Colonies," in which he deals with the post cards of Iceland; also the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article dealing with the stamps of the Congo Free State contributed by M. Ch De Bont.

In the February 19th *Weekly* there is another instalment of Mr. Phillips' fascinating account of his journey. We are afraid he excites the bile of envy within us—as doubtless he does to others of his readers who, like us, constantly hear the tropics, the prairies and the trade



winds calling. To slightly paraphrase an extract from one of Miss Grimshaw's books we might write:

*Windows blurred with beating mud, grey London roaring by in rain; haggard faces, and the snake of custom stranglingly about the free man's throat—O wanderer, back in the weary strife does not your rebellious heart fly swift from these to those and sicken for the lands where philatelic kings and princes can take vacations' ease in the warmth of the South Temperate Zone?*

Reverting to matters philatelic we make the following extract.—

The Official Stamps, issued in 1907 by the Ministry of Marine, are entirely used up, and no stocks exist anywhere. Chilian collectors are paying *much* more than our catalogue prices for them; all that we got, when they were in use, were snapped up as soon as we sent them to Chili, and were re-sold at greatly increased prices! I had a few with me in Buenos Ayres, but they were cleared out before I got to Chili, and I was therefore glad to find some of these varieties in the collections I purchased.

I want to warn my readers against forgeries of these stamps made in Valparaiso, especially of those for "External Use." Probably a lot of these will be offered in Paris and Germany, by certain Chilians who are going to Europe this spring with a stock of these manufactured "Officials."

M. Ch De Bout contributes the second instalment of his "Congo Free State" article, Mr. J. B. Leavy another dose of his "Stamps of Nicaragua," while Mr. B. W. H. Poole deals with the stamps of Hayti, second to fifth issues, a couple of pages of "Notes and Queries" and the usual up-to-date new issue list complete a capital number.

The February 26th *Gibbons Weekly* contains another instalment of M. Hanciau's article dealing with the later issues of Italy, Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall continues his "Notes on British Postmarks since 1840," "Desdichado" commences a paper which will deal with those stamps which are to be found in a *lité-bêche* condition, Messrs. Roger Mennevée and W. T. Elliot write respectively about the stamps of the Carlist Insurrection and the 2d. and 4d. values of Papua.

In the copy dated March 5th Mr. J. B. Leavy contributes a further instalment of his Nicaraguan article, Mr. Poole does likewise with his Hayti paper, with his characteristic method of thorough and painstaking research he delves into the mystery of the manufacture of the first palm tree stamps. He says:—

The stamps were printed in sheets of one hundred, arranged in ten horizontal rows of ten. The original die had the value tablets at the top blank and from this a plate was made. From this plate four exact fac-similes were taken and the numerals of value were then

engraved on each of the five plates. The numerals may have been inserted by means of punches and then touched up by hand, or they may have been engraved entirely by hand. We think the latter is the more probable method, for the numerals differ greatly in size, often on the same stamp. This is particularly noticeable in the case of the 5c. denomination, the figures "5" differing in size and shape and also in the length of the top stroke.

The fact that the plates were reproduced entire from one common plate may be easily proved by the presence of certain minor varieties found in all five values. Eight stamps on each sheet have a hyphen joining the letters "QU" of "REPUBLIQUE," one shows a dot above the "E" of "CENT," another has a dot above the "C" of "CENT," and another has the lower half of the line to the left of the "C" of "CENT" cut away.

"Yokel," who contributes a further instalment of his capital notes dealing with the stamps of Great Britain, and other writers help to make up a good number of our exchange.

The Feb. 19th copy of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains a further instalment of Mr. P. C. Bishop's Belgian article and the usual contributions from "Philatel" and "Senax," both very good, an up-to-date new issue list, an interview with a "Philatelist of To-Day"—namely our old friend, Mr. B. W. H. Poole—several columns of reviews, etc., and last, but not least, another of Mr. Faris's readable contributions dealing with New Zealand stamps. Dealing with the 2/- stamps on "laid" paper, he says:—

Excepting the Railway Newspaper issues (which are not now catalogued) there have been, I believe, no issues of New Zealand stamps on laid paper. One such is, nevertheless, catalogued, viz., the 2/- of 1902-1907 (Stanley Gibbons 286).

I have a pair of Insurance 1d. blue on paper similar to that of the above-mentioned variety.

As most collectors know, stamp paper is manufactured of pulp composed of vegetable fibre—mostly of rags, wood, straw or grass. This pulp (almost fluid) is placed on frames or sieves to drain, and these frames naturally determine the technical textures. Frequently the pulp is placed on felt or blanket, leaving the under surface of paper very smooth and forming real "wove" paper, whereas if laid on fine wire frames the paper is marked as though pin-pricked and is called "wire-wove." Frames having parallel wires allow the pulp to ooze between these wires or bars, thus leaving the paper thin immediately above the bars, wherefore if held to the light the paper shows a series of lines comparatively opaque; this is called "laid paper" whether the lines be vertical or horizontal. In some cases the frames are made of narrow laths which produce a kind of laid paper with opaque lines far apart. This is termed *batonne* paper (French, *baton*, a staff). There are many other designs in frames, forming various geometrical figures, wavy lines, rectangles, diamond shapes, small squares, &c., &c., but with none of these, nor with any but wove varieties have collectors of N.Z. stamps to worry themselves.

I have, during several years past, endeavoured to obtain a copy of the reputed 2s. laid, but none of the dozens submitted has been on genuine laid paper. At first sight, and if examined on a flat surface, they appear to be such, especially in the margins, but when held to the light the lines disappear, proving them to be superficial.

The cause of this widely-accepted error of description is, I think, not far to seek. The cylinder of a printing machine is always covered with some yielding substance in the nature of a pad, such as felt, rubber, &c., which at the point (or rather, line) of contact prevents the metal cylinder from damaging the type or plate. This pad is termed a "blanket."

Years back, numerous experiments were made in "blankets" of almost every conceivable kind, with a view of improving the results in "half-tone" printing for which the ordinary kinds were not altogether suitable. Many of these blankets were of wire, some being—

- A.—Frames with vertical or horizontal lines.
- B.—Frames in the form of a brush (similar to large hair-brush with fine, flexible wires).
- C.—Frames of flexible steel.

In half-tone printing dry paper is used, but for engraved plates the paper is "damped" (saturated with water) before printing, and therefore becomes impressed with whatever design the depressions or protrusions in the blanket form, but such impressions are not sufficiently deep to show through the paper when it is held to the light. I consequently believe that blanket A is responsible for our so-called laid paper; blanket B for the pin-prick marks noticeable on many of the soft Waterlow issues; and blanket C for the "ribbed" paper (of the Waterlow kinds) in the Colonial prints of 1898/1900, and which many collectors consider varieties.

We need not, we feel sure, apologise to our readers for the length of the above extract. Mr. Faris has crowded so much easily understandable philately into a short space that we consider the extract from his article to be one of the most important we have made in these columns.

The March 5th *S.C.F.* is a bumper Spring number and contains a very considerable amount of interesting reading matter. Mr. Thomas Whitworth is the "Philatelist of To-Day." Mr. Faris contributes another capable article dealing with New Zealand stamps. He deals mostly with the various shades that are to be found in all the issues.

Mr. Bishop is responsible for another instalment of his Belgian article in the course of which he deals briefly with the 3rd, 4th, and 5th issues. Another very good contribution is Dr. Hubert Armstrong's paper, entitled "Some Notes on the Stamps of France"; also Mr. Fred Edwards' article entitled "The Private Local Stamps of the German Empire," which is well illustrated and of permanent value to those numerous collectors who take an interest in locals. Other articles of a general interest and the regular features of our contemporary are present with the result that this number of our Chancery Lane contemporary is one of, if not the most interesting numbers of any philatelic paper we have reviewed.

The February number of the *West End*

*Philatelist* completed the sixth volume of our enterprising little contemporary. Mr. Poole, its Editor, concludes his article dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria, he also writes in an interesting manner about the "Stamps of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates."

The March number of the *Stamp Lover* contains a further instalment of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's article, dealing with the Cayman Islands. Mr. A. Grellier, Jr., is responsible for the first chapter of what promises to be an exhaustive article, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Sarawak." Several pages are interestingly devoted to a biographical sketch of Mr. Frederick Booty and his catalogue of stamps published in 1862. Correspondence, Book Notices, etc., make up a good number of our contemporary.

From Mr. Armstrong's article we extract the following information relating to the 2½d. on 4d. surcharge:—

On February 12th, 1908, there suddenly dropped anchor off Georgetown, the private steam yacht "Zenaida," with Sir Frederick Johnson and the Countess of Wilton on board, and before the vessel's departure an offer was made to carry a mail to Cienfuegos, Cuba. The local authorities gladly availed themselves of this offer, as in the ordinary course no mail was due until the end of the month.

There was but one difficulty that presented itself, and that was the fact that as the majority of letters were as usual consigned to the United States, a large number of 2½d. stamps were required. The supply of this value in the Postage-Postage type was unfortunately quite exhausted and the postal authorities were relying upon the receipt of a consignment in the new Postage and Revenue type by the vessel which would take off the next outward mail. By the arrival of the "Zenaida" their calculations were, however, completely upset, and as it was deemed advisable to harvest the rapidly declining ½d. and 1d. stamps, instructions were issued for a sufficient number of 4d. Postage-Postage stamps (of which a small quantity was available), to be overprinted with the figures 2½d., thus to convert them into stamps of the lower denomination, in order to supply the public demand for the outgoing mail.

Four sheets (480 copies) of the current 4d. stamps were therefore surcharged by Mr. J. H. O'Sullivan, Inspector of Police, as directed, by means of a metal handstamp, in a similar manner to that employed for the 1907 surcharges. Of these, the writers are in a position to state definitely that only two sheets were actually used in the ordinary course of postal business, the remaining two being purchased in their entirety by a local speculator. To applicants for these stamps at the Post Office not more than six were supplied to any one person, and by the 14th of the month all had been sold.

The metal handstamp with which these stamps were overprinted, and which was destroyed on the same day, shows the same peculiarity as its predecessor of the ½d. on 5/- overprint, in that all the figures are identical in size, and there is no fraction bar between the 1 and 2 of ½; but the type used is in this case of a slightly smaller font.

Only one variety of importance is known to the writers, embodying a double impression of the over-

print, but as in the case of the other provisionals, specimens may be found on which portions of the surcharge have failed to print clearly.

Notwithstanding the fact that the crudeness of local overprints lends itself readily to imitation, the 2½d. on 4d. is the only Cayman provisional of which forgeries are known to exist. They emanate from Paris and are of a very dangerous character, calling for very close and careful comparison with undoubtedly genuine specimens.

## Philately on the Continent.

THE principal article in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, of February 15th, is by the latest Lindenburg medallist, M. Pierre Mahé, and is entitled "Demolitions—What has been said to exist, but which does not exist, in certain existing stamps." This enigmatical heading precedes the demolition of the so-called variety of the 5 cents Antioquia, of 1876, with pearls on either side of the word "CORREOS" instead of crosses. Our readers will remember, or, if they do not, reference to the catalogue will remind them, that there are two well-known types of the 5c. green of 1876, in one of which the numerals of value are in white on a coloured ground, while there is a round dot or pearl before and after "CORREOS"; in the other type the numerals are in colour on a white ground and the pearls, above mentioned, are replaced by crosses. Most catalogues list a variety of the latter type, which has pearls instead of crosses, and it is this variety which is "demolished" by M. Mahé, with much conviction and more verbosity. It appears that the variety is caused by heavy inking or by the wear of the stone from which the stamps were printed, and it is pointed out that the so-called pearls of this "variety" are never quite round, but always more or less shapeless blotches, caused by the encroachment of the ink on the spaces which ought to have been defined by the crosses. In this opinion M. Mahé is supported by Mr. E. D. Bacon; we can also add our testimony, for all the copies of this so-called variety which we have seen appeared to be badly printed specimens of the ordinary stamp.

The *Echo* is sustaining a discussion on the question:—"Which is the oldest surcharge?" This matter has been thoroughly thrashed out long ago in English journals, and the honour—if honour it be—is generally accorded to the FOUR PENCE of Mauritius which was issued in 1856, some few months only before the Y¼ of Cuba. Now M. Julien Lévy, writing in the *Echo*, points out that the 13 cents red, of Hawaii was surcharged 5 in black in manuscript in 1853. Even earlier than this one of the carrier stamps of New York, issued in 1843, and which remained in use until 1851, was surcharged. The original stamp bore the full face portrait of Washington with the inscriptions "City Despatch Post" above and "Three Cents" below. In the second type the former inscription was changed to "United

States City Despatch Post." Of this second type, the variety 3 cents, black on green glazed paper, was surcharged, in 1846, with a large numeral "2" in red and a bar over the original value. The date of this surcharge is ten years before the Mauritius, and though the New York Carrier stamps were only semi-official in character they were certainly stamps, and did postal duty; consequently this may certainly claim to be the first surcharged stamp.

"But if," continues M. Lévy, "we admit all inscriptions officially overprinted on a stamp, either by type or by manuscript, then we can go back to 1843. The first type of this same New York stamp bears sometimes, at the top, the manuscript surcharge 'United States' in violet ink. . . . This surcharge confirms, in a way, the fact that these local stamps have not been merely tolerated, or even authorized, by some Postmaster, but that the Director General of the Post has conferred on them an official character.

The same number of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, which is an exceptionally interesting one, has an article on the forged 10 centimes stamps of the current issue which have been used so extensively in Paris. The article is embellished by enlarged illustrations of the forged and the genuine stamps, by means of which the differences may be plainly seen. We are told that all the forgeries are not quite the same in all details and that they were almost certainly produced by means of a photograph of a block of twenty-five stamps, which has given, as a result, twenty-five clichés all slightly differing from one another. The best test is in the "C" of "10c." In the genuine stamp this letter is very open and the lower curve if continued at the same angle would not meet the upper point.

In the forgery this letter is more closed; the two ends nearly meet, and if continued would form a perfect oval. The letters of the inscriptions on the forgery are faulty, the "S" of "Française" in particular being a very bad shape. The perforation is another test. The forgeries are perforated by a single-line machine and consequently the intersection of the perforations at the corners of the stamps is not so symmetrical as in the genuine stamps, which are perforated by a comb machine.

The number of the *Echo* for Feb. 28th contains a translation of the article from the *Schweizerische Philatelistische Nachrichten*, entitled "A Specialized Collection of Sicily." This is a description of the fine collection belonging to M. F. Robert, of Berne; it gives much information about the plates and retouches and is illustrated by a plate showing 28 varieties.

*Le Timbre-Poste* for February contains an article on forged stamps which have been used for postage in France, which gives some particulars of all the efforts made in this direction,

which, we are told, started in 1849 and which have been continued at very frequent intervals down to the present date. In the same number there is a continuation of the article, by Messrs. Georges Brunel and K. Marinescu, entitled "History of the Stamps of the Kingdom of Roumania." This, like the first chapter which appeared in January, deals with the history of the post in Roumania prior to the introduction of postage stamps. There is also the first part of an article on the forgeries of Spanish stamps, adapted from the English of J. Corner Spokes, by Geo. Brunel, with illustrations.

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* for March has an article on the demonetization of obsolete French postage stamps. From this we learn that all obsolete French stamps, even to the first issue, may still be used for postage, but that owing to the abuses which have arisen through the existence of this privilege, *i.e.*, the using of proofs, colour trials, and even essays, the administration has, from time to time, considered the advisability of demonetizing all old issues. This question is now again to the fore and it seems quite likely, especially when we remember the number of forgeries which have been made of late years, that the privilege may be withdrawn very shortly.

Dr. Moschkau, in his usual chatty article in *der Philatelist*, advises German philatelists to refrain from adopting English fashions in collecting. He also warns his compatriots as to the possible consequences of the present craze for German Colonials; he asserts that the prices are far too high, and that the inevitable slump is bound to come.

Specialism, says the worthy doctor, is invaluable to scientific philately, but it is largely responsible for the high prices that now-a-days have to be paid for many stamps, merely owing to their being absorbed in bulk in the maw of the specialist bloater.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* begins a most interesting article, which we gladly welcome, having regard to the tosh that is usually served up in its columns, on the classical 3 pfennig of Saxony. When the article is concluded we shall give our readers the benefit of a brief résumé.

The *Schweizer Briefmarkenzeitung* heaves a very deep philatelic sigh over the facilities afforded by the Federal Government for the manufacture of so called "facsimiles" within its territories. According to our contemporary an energetic attempt is about to be made to induce the Federal authorities to suppress this pernicious traffic; but having regard to the *non possumus* attitude adopted by the Federal Council in 1896, when a strong petition to this end was laid before it by the leading Swiss philatelists, we are inclined to be sceptical as to the result.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The January number of *The Australian Philatelist* contains a good deal of matter of interest to collectors of Australasian stamps, notably a short article contributed by Mr. Faris dealing with the booklet stamps of New Zealand and a budget of notes from Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen's pen. Mr. F. Hagen, now in Europe, also contributes some chatty notes.

From Mr. Faris's article we extract the following:—

In August, 1902, there were issued in New Zealand small booklets in cardboard covers, of a size to fit vest pocket, and containing four pages or sheets of 1d. adhesive stamps, six stamps (two abreast) going to each page or sheet. The stamps of this issue (1902) would be "without dot," Nos. 258 or 259 of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, which, however, must not be confused with the Waterlow & Sons (W1 and W2 dies), or Royle's (R1 and R2 dies) issues of 1906, which were also without dots, but can readily be distinguished by their colour being an intense rose-carmine, whereas the 1902 issues were of much more subdued shades. I have, however, not seen or heard of either the Waterlow or Royle dies having been used for booklets.

Unfortunately, in common with many other collectors, I failed, during this issue (1902), to recognise the booklet as a variety, and consequently kept no copies, so am unable to speak definitely regarding its variations.

There have been several re-issues of booklets, including some printed from the dotted die of 1904 (see No. 303 of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue), but apparently none from this die in its worn condition, the sheet issues from which were very common about 1905.

The December number of our welcome half-yearly visitor, the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* is almost entirely devoted to Mr. Ferguson's reminiscences of his trip to Europe last year. He writes interestingly about the Amsterdam Exhibition, Mr. Castle's collection and other matters.

"V.F.J." contributed a short article entitled "The Stamps of Thessaly, Genuine and Forged."

Nos. 3 and 4 of the *Stamp Collector* are duly to hand and contain a good deal of interesting matter. Our latest American exchange is undoubtedly making the pace for many of its older monthly rivals and bids fair to outstrip them as it contains well considered readable articles, and less of that bombastic journalism, which in the States seems to be almost inseparable from the pages of the smaller journals.





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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

FOR many years now we have made a practise of warning our readers against the dangers of specializing in new issues at the cost of entirely neglecting the older stamps.

**Philately versus Speculation.** Fortunately, as we think, our occasional efforts have borne fruit because some of our readers have been sufficiently influenced to go in for philately, and combat the mere speculative instinct, prompted by a desire to buy a pig in a poke, which caused them to invest in new issues in the hope that, sooner or later, they would land a prize. In advising collectors against speculative, or what is almost synonymous, new issue collecting, we have, we believe, had little or no support from other philatelic journals, with the result that our propaganda has had a more limited field than would otherwise have been the case. Our isolation has been so great that we doubly welcome an exceedingly well written editorial in the February number of the *Australian Philatelist*, in the course of which it is pointed out that the purchasing of new issues is not stamp collecting, but merely stamp speculation. We make a rather lengthy extract from our contemporary in our review columns, and would advise our readers to refer to the article.

Although speculative issues have their use, inasmuch that they are sometimes the recruiting agents which bring new

devotees to our ranks, they are, nevertheless, we feel quite sure, one of the chief reasons why so many old collectors give up collecting. To our certain knowledge several well known collectors have given up their albums simply because they have been heartily sickened by the never-ceasing flow of new, and, in nearly every case, unnecessary stamps.

To collect the stamps of every country is an admittedly impossible task; however wealthy and enthusiastic the collector may be, there *must* be blanks in his collection, with the result that the parrot cry of "completion" does not bolster up the excuse for new issues. The general collector—who has most of the world's common stamps—does well to belong to a new issue service if he is trying to keep level with the cheaper varieties of the world's postal emissions; in fact, events of the past few months—especially those with a Levantine flavour—have proved that belonging to a new issue service is sometimes a very profitable investment—speculation, however, as our Australian contemporary points out, is not philately, while it must be borne in mind that every collector of new issues helps to make the issuing of speculative stamps a profitable game for some impecunious Government. To collect all new issues just as they appear is philatelically justifiable, if it is contemporaneous with the collecting of old issues, but unfortunately the two are not analogous, with the result that too

frequently the older stamps, as being collectively the most expensive, go to the wall, while the pernicious system of collecting only new issues at the expense of the real old stamps that are the backbone of philately, flourishes, as does the proverbial bay-tree.

Perhaps the above remarks will be resented by some, by others perhaps

welcomed, they are the outcome of hearing a budding young collector, of an age when he should have acquired a modicum of sense, impart to a well known authority his opinion that "old issues had had their day and were played out; in his opinion stamp collecting should consist of collecting stamps at the time they are issued. *De gustibus non disputandum.*

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** *Levant.* Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us a most interesting variety of the recently issued "1½ PIASTRE" on 4d. orange. It appears that in the first vertical row of stamps at the left-hand side of the sheet the figure "4" in the fraction differs from the others, it is considerably thinner. Pairs showing both types *se tenant* would of course be horizontal.

**Bermuda.** Bermuda is about to celebrate the tercentenary of the Colony's Establishment by a complete new issue of stamps of a design which will, we think, be of a much more artistic character than the existing issue. The first value to be sent out is the ¼d., which will be immediately followed by the 1d., 6d. and 1/- values. No order has been received for the other values, which will be ½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 4d.

The design will show in an upright oval a 17th century ship in full sail, with the Cross of St. George at each masthead, similar to that which was used on the reverse of the piece known as Hogmoney, described and depicted on page 101, Vol. I., of Sir J. H. Lefroy's "Memorials of the Bermudas."

Hogmoney, it is interesting to note, was the earliest attempt at introduction of currency in Bermuda. It was a brass token for payment to labourers, and exchangeable for provisions, etc., to the value in pence indicated on the face at the store of the Chartered Company. The coin was never popular, tobacco being preferred as a medium of exchange.

The new stamps will permanently supersede the existing "Arms" issue, and will be printed in single colours by the steel plate process, the new colour scheme described in our last issue being followed.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Canada.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*

chronicles the current 10c. and 20c. stamps in new shades.

*Adhesives.* King's Head.  
10c. light lilac.  
20c. deep olive-green.

**Ceylon.** A very extensive alteration will shortly be made in the stamps issued by the Colony. Separate telegraph and foreign bill stamps are to be abolished, and postage stamps will be used in their place. This entails a revision of the values represented in the series of postage stamps. Six new denominations will be introduced, *i.e.*, 10 cents, 50 cents, Rs. 1, Rs. 2, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10, and five denominations for which there is a comparatively small demand will be abolished, *i.e.*, 4 cents, 12 cents, 75 cents, Rs. 1.50 and Rs. 2.25. This will leave thirteen denominations of postage stamps which will be used for all postal and telegraph purposes, and for the purpose of foreign bill stamps; of the above stamps new plates will be provided for the existing 2 cents, 5 cents and 6 cents stamps, and for the six new denominations referred to above. The 3 cents, 10 cents, 15 cents, 25 cents, 30 cents, 50 cents, and Rs. 1 stamps will be printed in sheets of 240, the 5 cents stamps in sheets of 480, and the remaining values in sheets of 120 stamps.

The colours of the stamps other than the 3 cents, 6 cents and 15 cents stamps, which will be in the Postal Union colours, will be as follows, and the figures of value will be in colour on a plain ground.

Value.	Key Plate.	Duty.	Paper.
2 cents	Orange	Orange	Yellow
5 "	Purple	Purple	"
10 "	Sage-green	Purple	"
25 "	Grey	Grey	"
30 "	Blue-purple	Green	"
50 "	Brown	Brown	"
1 Rs.	Purple	Purple	Yellow
2 "	Red	Red	"

5 Rs. Black Black Green  
10 „ Black Black Red

The paper will be unsurfaced with the possible exception of the 5 cents value.

—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Federated Malay States.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 8c. all in blue.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk.  
8c. blue.

The *Colonial Office Journal* states that the States of Trengganu, which passed under British protection in July, 1909, is on the point of making an issue of stamps bearing the Sultan's portrait in the centre. The values will be 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20 and 50 cents, and \$1.

**Jamaica.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following novelty:—

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk.  
3d. purple on yellow.

The next printing will, we are told, be on chalky paper.

**Papua.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the current ½d., 1d. and 2d. values, perf. 12½ with the Crown A. watermark sideways, which they received in their latest consignment of these stamps, and inform us that the 6d. value with this form of watermark is perf. 11.

*Permanent Issue.* Lithographed. Wmk. Crown A, sideways. Perf. 12½.

½d. green and black.  
1d. carmine and black.  
2d. violet „ „

Perf. 11.  
6d. dark green and black.

**South Australia.** We extract the following from the *Australia Philatelist*:

Mr. H. A. Thompson has sent us for inspection an 8d. South Australia thin postage perforated 11½ on three sides by 12½. The 12½ is on the left or west side; we are not certain that this variety has been previously recorded; it does not appear in any of the catalogues.

*Adhesive.*

8d. ultramarine, thin postage, wmk. Crown and SA., perf. 11½ (3 sides) by 12½.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**China.** We have received from Lieut-Col. Norris Newman, F.R.G.S., etc., of Tientsen, two new values, namely, the 3c. deep slate green and the 7c. deep marone, both similar in design to the other low values.

*Adhesives.* Perf. 14, no wmk.  
3c. deep greenish slate.  
7c. deep marone.

**Crete.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 1 lep, surcharged "Hellas" in black.

*Postage Due.*  
1l. red.

**French Colonies. Gaboon.** Last month we chronicled four values of the new set. We have now received the remainder from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., so list the set in its entirety as follows:—



*Adhesives.* Bi-coloured. Perf. 14 x 13½.

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1c. brown and orange                | (Native Warrior).     |
| 2c. black and brown                 | „ „                   |
| 4c. violet and dark blue            | „ „                   |
| 5c. green and olive                 | „ „                   |
| 10c. red and pink                   | „ „                   |
| 20c. brown and dark violet          | „ „                   |
| 25c. indigo and light brown         | (View of Libreville). |
| 30c. olive-brown and red            | „ „                   |
| 35c. dark violet and green          | „ „                   |
| 40c. chocolate and ultramarine      | „ „                   |
| 45c. carmine and violet             | „ „                   |
| 50c. blue-green and black           | „ „                   |
| 75c. bright orange and purple-brown | „ „                   |
| 1 franc, brown and light brown      | (Native Woman).       |
| 2 francs, pink „ „                  | „ „                   |
| 5 „ „ blue and lilac-brown          | „ „                   |

**French Colonies. New Hebrides.** We extract the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—

*Ewen's New Issue Service* is distributing either this or next week the following new issue, which has been expected for a considerable time past. Adhesives already overprinted, "Nouvelles-Hébrides," now further overprinted "Condominium" below the old surcharge.

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 5c. green,          | black overprint. |
| 10c. rose           | „ „              |
| 25c. blue,          | red „            |
| 50c. red on yellow, | black „          |
| 1f. blue on green,  | red „            |

Issued 16.3.10, or earlier. The word "Condominium" being printed at a second operation, the space between "Hébrides" and "Condominium" varies, whilst the "C" is sometimes under the "H" and sometimes much to the left of it. If a new printing has to be made, which is not unlikely, it is probable that the whole surcharge would be printed at one operation, which might create a distinguishable variety.

**German Colonies. Togo.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 5 pf. stamp on water-marked paper.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Lozenges.  
5 pf. green.

**Guatemala.** We now illustrate the commemorative stamp which we chronicled last month. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that this stamp is available only for postage within the Republic.



**Spain.** Another value of the new set is now to hand.

*Adhesive.*

20c. deep grey green.

**United States.** *The Stamp Journal of Florida, New York, says:*

**U.S. ON BLUE PAPER.**

A. M. Travers, acting third assistant postmaster-general, has given out a statement in regard to stamps printed on bluish experimental paper. In respect to the number issued the following table will be of interest:

Three cents,	4,000;
Four cents,	4,400;
Five cents,	4,000;
Six cents,	5,200;
Eight cents,	4,000;
Ten cents,	4,000;
Thirteen cents,	4,000;
Fifteen cents,	4,000.

They have, or will, be given wide distribution, and, as stated elsewhere, may turn up anywhere.

## Death of Mr. G. F. H. Gibson.

It is with very much regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, the well-known Hon. Sec. of the Manchester Philatelic Society. Mr. Gibson was such a well-known figure in the world of Philately that his early demise will create a void very difficult to fill.

Born on March 3rd, 1861, in Manchester, where he lived all his life, he commenced to collect stamps as a school boy. Those were the early days when stamps were guinmed down, used or unused, into albums, but rather later than the prehistoric times, when, before being so treated, they were denuded of all superfluous perforations!

From 1871 to 1891, he had brief but mostly spasmodic attacks of enthusiasm, in the latter year however the Manchester Philatelic Society was properly established and Mr. Gibson was one of the earliest members. In 1893, he was elected a member of the Committee, and in 1897, on the retirement of Mr. A. H. Harrison, he was appointed Hon. Secretary, a position he held until his death.

Needless to say, Mr. Gibson was a special-



ist, at an early date he selected the Leeward Islands, before their union in one group, and was fortunate in securing most of his stamps before the boom came. After this he specialised Gibraltar, and could show practically everything in unused blocks of four, this collection included the error with value omitted and was awarded a bronze medal at the Manchester Exhibition in 1899, and a silver one, the highest in its class, at Paris a year later. More recently he specialised in the stamps of the Orange River Colony, and had a superb collection of these stamps. Postal stationery had a strong advocate in Mr. Gibson, who firmly believed that postcards especially were well worth the study of philatelists.

Many of our readers will remember that Mr. Gibson undertook the onerous duties of Hon. Secretary to the Manchester International Exhibition in 1899, a post he filled in a very thorough manner, in fact his efforts were so greatly appreciated that he was shortly afterwards presented by the Executive Committee with a gold watch containing a suitable inscription.

The Manchester Society could ill spare Mr. Gibson as Secretary, or as a collector, while their loss will be also greatly felt at their numerous social functions as he was an accomplished pianist and an entertaining speaker.

Readers will confer a favour on the publishers of this journal if they would kindly mention the *P. J. G. B.* when they are ordering stamps from advertisers in these columns.



## New Leaves to Cut.

*Catalogue Illustré de Timbres Poste et Télégraphe  
Enveloppes et Cartes de Belgique et du Congo  
Belge.\**

THIS is a handy little volume, giving a very full list of all ordinary issues and minor varieties, with prices for used and unused of nearly all. The first issues of Belgium are separated into thick, thin and ordinary papers while the varieties with double figures and on ribbed paper are also given and priced. Nothing, however, is said about the retouches. The stamps of the second type without watermark, are divided into two main sets, the second consisting of the stamps which are described as with shorter medallion. It is not explained how this difference occurred, but as its appearance is said to have coincided with the first printings from the new plate in 1861, it seems to be inferred that an alteration was made in the design at the same time. As a matter of fact, while the medallion is certainly half a *millimetre* shorter in these late printings than in the earlier ones, the dimensions of the whole stamp are less in the same degree: a fact which points to a shrinkage of the paper rather than to a different die. When we remember that the early stamps were on handmade paper and that the later ones, which show this difference, are on machine-made paper, this explanation would appear to be the only feasible one.

The perforated stamps of 1863 are divided into four sets, instead of three, the extra set being provided by a division of the compound perforation into  $12\frac{1}{2}+13$  and  $12\frac{1}{2}+13\frac{1}{2}$ , of which, judging by the prices, the former is two or three times as rare in every value.

The issue of 1865 is divided into fine and coarse impressions as well as ordinary and thin paper for the  $14\frac{1}{2}+14$  perforations, while the stamps perforated 15 are also divided into sets on thick and on thin paper.

All the middle and later issues are written up in a similarly comprehensive manner, and interesting varieties are recorded. Of the 1870-75 issue, we are interested to see, the values 10, 25, 30, 40 and 50 are listed imperf., no prices being quoted. These stamps are occasionally met with unused, but Gelli and Tani's catalogue does not tell us what we want to know, *i.e.*, whether they are errors or proofs. Several other stamps of later issues are also given imperf.

The prices show considerable variations, both ways, when compared with those of English catalogues, but they are mostly higher. These variations are most marked in the case of the Parcel Post stamps, unused, many of which seem to be marked at very stiff prices.

Among the Postage Dues we notice that the 1fr. carmine is priced f.2.50 and f.3.50, used, according to shade; in Gibbons this stamp is priced 6d.

Belgian Congo is also fully and well written, the surcharged stamps of 1909 are divided into three sets: A.—Handstamped at Brussels, surcharge clear, dull black ink. B.—Handstamped in the Congo State; surcharge less clear, ink thick and black, or violet. C.—Typographic surcharge; letters clear cut, ink very black and very shiny. Of these the first set is much the best, the f.3.50 being the rarest of all, there having been only one hundred of them printed.

The double and inverted surcharges are not listed separately but only referred to in a footnote.

### MESSRS. BRIDGER & KAY'S 1910 PRICE LIST.

WE have received from Messrs. Bridger and Kay, a copy of their new price list of British Colonial stamps. In these days, when the value of so many recent issues is an unknown quantity, a price list, provided it is up to date, is sometimes of more use than a standard catalogue, so we feel sure that our Fleet Street friends will find a big demand for their latest publication. It contains no fewer than sixty pages, is excellently printed, and contains quotations, both for unused and used, for practically all Colonial stamps. The prices, which range from the modest  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to the lordly £125, are well considered and are, in practically every instance, moderate.

Many of the later issues, such as Papua, etc. are grouped in sets; an excellent feature, in our opinion, as it does away with a lot of  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 1d. quotations, besides economising space.

## The Second Philatelic Congress OF Great Britain, London, 1910.

Held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society, from April 27th to April 29th, 1910, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

*Patron*—The President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.)

### FIFTH LIST OF DELEGATES.

Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society—Messrs. A. Leon Adutt and Herbert F. Johnson.  
Leicester Philatelic Society—Dr. R. Milbourne West and Mr. Jos. Young.  
Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society—Lt.-Col. W. T. Davies and Mr. Newman Clissold.

Scottish Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. Bonnar and A. Wallace McGregor.

Sheffield Philatelic Society—Messrs. W. C. Fox and J. H. Chapman.

There will be 40 Societies represented by 90 Delegates.

#### PROGRAMME.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH, 4 p.m., Large Hall. Opening Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. The Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (the Right Honourable the Earl of Crawford, K.T.), will declare the Congress open.

2. Address by Major E. B. Evans, late R.A.

3. Paper, with demonstrations, by Mr. J. Dunbar Heath (Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.), "The Manufacture of Stamps."

8 p.m. Reception of Delegates by the Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society (Mr. H. L. Hayman), at his residence, "Highfield," Chislett Road, West Hampstead, N.W.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH, 11 a.m. By invitation of the Right Hon. The Earl of Crawford, K.T. Visit of the Delegates to inspect his Collections at his residence, 2, Cavendish Square, W.

3 p.m., Room No. 1. Conference of Delegates.

1. Manchester Philatelic Society (Delegate, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton). "To consider the advisability of taking steps to secure greater accuracy and uniformity in the use of philatelic terms."

2. Junior Philatelic Society (Delegate, Mr. Fred. J. Melville). "Unsolicited Approval Sheets." "That in the opinion of this Congress the practice of sending unsolicited approval sheets to boys at school is contrary to the best interests of Philately and the Trade; further, it is recommended that approval sheets should not be sent to boarders at schools without the written sanction of the Head or House-Master."

3. International Philatelic Union (Delegate, Mr. W. Hadlow). "Guarantees of Authenticity." "Should they be for a definite period?"

At 7.45 for 8 p.m. Banquet given in honour of the Delegates by the Herts Philatelic Society at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH, 11 a.m. Visit of the Delegates to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon.

3 p.m., Room No. 1. Conference of Delegates.

1. Herts Philatelic Society (Delegate, Major Edward B. Evans, late R.A.). "That a special Committee be formed to take active steps to endeavour to prevent the manufacture and sale of forged Postage Stamps, also of so-called fac-similes (the latter not bearing any distinguishing mark, tend to victimize purchasers),

and that the Committee should also endeavour to bring this matter under the consideration of the various Governments interested."

2. International Philatelic Union (Delegate, Mr. T. H. Hinton). "Means to be adopted for the prevention of substitution in Exchange packets."

3. Bolton Philatelic Society (Delegate, Mr. W. Ward). "A Scheme to found a Universal Philatelic Union."

8 p.m., Large Hall. Closing Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P.). "The Possibility of Forming a Universal Philatelic Union of Philatelic Societies to discourage unnecessary or speculative issues."

2. Closing Address by Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P.

#### NOTICE.

Owing to the limited accommodation, the Public cannot be admitted to the Conferences of the Delegates. Applications for Press Tickets must be made to the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

FRANZ REICHENHEIM,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

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#### Official Organ:

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

#### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,  
14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.  
(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

At the monthly meeting held on the 13th, at Mills' Restaurant, in Liverpool Street, there was a record attendance under the chairmanship of the President, Mr. J. Read Burton.

Various new issues, including the new Persian set, were shown, and amongst the curiosities were some fine examples of English used abroad, including specimens from Hayti and Venezuela. Mr. A. H. L. Giles then gave a display of German States, a portion, which like all the other sections, of his collection proved to be very representative and interesting. This was followed by a paper by Mr. W. E. Lincoln, on "Tragedy in Postage Stamps," and it was surprising what an amount of humour was extracted from this lugubrious subject. In winnowing these examples from the vast assemblage of the world's issues, in gathering together their history, in boiling the whole down into half-an-hour's chat, and in overcoming the linguistic difficulties presented by the majority of the names, Mr. Lincoln performed a feat of no mean order. The audience highly appreciated the efforts of both the speakers and accorded them hearty votes of thanks.

Another new member was elected, making the membership of the Society greatly in advance of anything previously attained.

#### THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held at Mills' Restaurant, in Liverpool Street, on May 11th, and as it is a business meeting the officials trust that there will be a large muster present it being highly desirable that all members should take interest in the election of office bearers, the amendment of the rules and the general business of the Society. This is the only intimation members will receive.

### Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THE Editor of the *Australian Philatelist* wants to know why Mr. Hagen, now in Europe, did not buy the Avery Collection! I never was good at riddles (I was a regular demon at ping-pong) but I should think that the reason why the head of the Australian firm didn't buy the collection was because Mr. Peckitt bought it. Anyway that's why I didn't buy it.

That specialists should collect whole sheets of stamps is no new craze, but I think it is going a little too far that a well known specialist should buy a house with a sufficiently large garden attached, purposely to have room to erect a full size model of the London General Post Office, all because he is a specialist in the stamps of Great Britain. If the yarn is true, and of course with my trustful nature I believe

everything that is told me, it will be rather an expensive branch of specialism, besides what will be the good of a model P.O. if he hasn't life size models to people it with? One of these days he will be trying to kidnap Mr. Samuel, with the idea of getting him stuffed—a process I feel sure our new P.M.G. would object to, as being filled with sawdust, or whatever is used, must be extremely painful.

In the excellently compiled little souvenir of the Avery Collection with which Mr. Peckitt delighted the hearts of philatelists, I see it stated that there were "between 90,000 and 100,000 stamps, most of them are used and unused." That's one of the drawbacks of our hobby, they usually are, one of these days however I shall start a collection of the world's postage stamps, three specimens of each, unused, used, and blooming hermaphrodites.

The latest novelty to be advertised in the Chancery Lane twice a month publication is "Pockets of Stamps," by my enterprising friend Mr. Nissen. Bravo, but why only specialize in pockets, why not hats, socks, and other what-you-may-callums?

I guess some of the Congress delegates are feeling a wee bit nervous, especially those who are in training for their maiden speech, but they haven't long now to wait before they are out of their misery. Another week or so and the great 1910 chin-wag will be a thing of the past, 'orrible to think about isn't it?

I hear it rumoured that the delegates are all to be knighted after the Congress, made life members of the J.P.S., and also receive an Irish peerage. Those who attend Caxton Hall as merely part of the public are to receive the D.S.O., unless they can bring medical evidence to prove that they have attended every function; in that case they will be offered the Governor Generalship of Australia.

"Senax" who fortnightly contributes an excellent column of jottings to a stamp paper writes:—"It is possible that Luxemburg Service stamps may be met with by correspondence with Belgium." Of course it is "Senax," but the really best way to meet with these stamps is to marry the step-uncle of somebody who once spent a week in Crete.

The following speech to be made by Delegate No. 173 is as it will be faithfully taken down in shorthand by the verbatim reporters.

"Gentlemen—I-I-mean stamp collectors—it-it-it-is—ah-ah-um—it is-ah-ah—I mean it is a great, um-ah—" . . . . (and so on for ten minutes).

This is how Delegate No. 173 fancies his speech will appear.

"Gentlemen—My Society having done me the great honour of nominating me as their representative to appear before you on this memorable occasion, it gives me great

pleasure to, etc., etc." (and so on for twenty-five minutes).

No wonder the Tories and Rads are marking time—they are waiting until the Congress is over before they swoop down and collar the future F. E. Smiths and Lloyd Georges.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles a new 1½d. stamp as "a three-half penny stamp." If that isn't temptation for some surcharging fiend I should like to know what is. Fancy having to buy a three-half surcharge on the shillix value!

Letters from natives, requesting that a supply of rare old stamps should be sent on approval, are frequently received by London dealers. One such letter was recently shown me, and I make a few extracts from it as follows:—

If you require references they are as follows:

"(1) My father is a Barrister-at-law, who passed his law examinations at the Lincolns Inn, London, some nineteen or twenty years back. He is living in — and is a well-known man among the civilized gentlemen of this town.

(2) My father-in-law is a private doctor of — (etc., etc.)

(3) My brother-in-law is in — now-a-days preparing for the examination. His address is —.

(4) My sister's husband is a proprietor of a famous —. His address (etc.)

(5) My friend, Mr. — is in London. His address is —.

(6) I am subscriber to the "Gibbons Stamp Weekly."

There are many other references, all of which I can't mention here owing to a small space but still I hope you will find all of them satisfactory."

Personally I find all the unmentioned references quite satisfactory; for instance who could not trust a man who married the eighth cousin, twice removed, or (2) who had a friend living in Bombay, or (3) whose brother's punkah wallah had once tried to soak out a few scarce stamps from the collection belonging to one of the civilized gentlemen living in the town of —.

The mentioned references I don't think so much of.

In the monthly report of the City of London Philatelic Society. I see it is stated that

"Another new member was elected making the membership of the Society greatly in advance of anything previously attained."

Will the new member count ten, or fifteen, on a division?

Next week should prove fairly exciting; with careful management I guess I shall have about two spare hours to devote to stamps, the rest of the time I shall be struggling with my evening clothes, getting home in the morn-

ing, and taking the next door neighbour's door out of my latch key. I don't think I shall last the week out, and I am practically certain my one and only suit of "reach me downs" won't.

Last month, a distinguished visitor from Australia—now in Europe—paid a visit to Monte Carlo. When he went to dress one evening he discovered that an enterprising gentleman, of the light fingered persuasion, had been before him. Rumour hath it that our friend hurriedly dressed himself in a bath sponge and rushed out in search of his missing property. Personally I don't believe all the yarn, altho' I know the suit half of the story to be true. They usually have such extremely small sponges at those Continental hotels, don't they?



## April, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

## 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:—Herbert E. E. Pankhurst, Dublin; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by J. C. Sidebotham.

**NEW MEMBER.**

Mrs. J. Lynch, Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland.

**NOTICES.**

The seventh meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 14th inst. Present, J. C. Sidebotham (in the Chair), F. Hagen, Guy Semple, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, J. E. Joselin, W. E. Lincoln, A. B. Kay, W. S. King, T. W. Hall (visitor), and the Hon. Sec. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. T. W. Hall gave a display of his magnificent specialised collection of Venezuela, including all the rarities and a large number of errors and minor varieties. The display was preceded by a very interesting paper, in which Mr. Hall gave much valuable information about the stamps of this country, and an interesting discussion ensued as to the methods of printing the first issue coarse and fine impressions.

In moving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall for the pleasure he had afforded the members that evening, the Hon Sec. also welcomed Mr. Hagen as a new member, from Sydney, N.S.W., this was seconded by Mr. King, supported by the President and carried unanimously.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, May 14th, at 7.30 p.m. Displays of 12 stamps with notes will be given by members present. All members are urgently requested to attend. Committee meeting, 7 p.m.

**LIBRARY.**

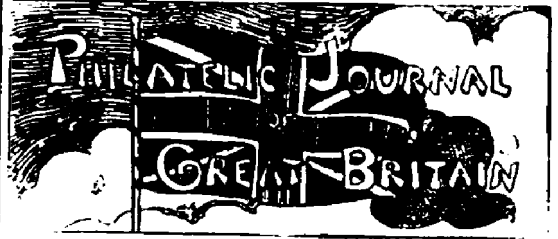
The receipt of *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, Feb. and March, and a copy of the *Catalogue General de Timbres poste et Telegraph*, 1910, from Monsieur T. H. Lemaire, Paris, is acknowledged with thanks.

Any proposals for membership, donations to the Forgery Collection, or subscriptions due on Jan. 1st last, gladly received and duly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

April 15th, 1910.



**The Philatelic Journal  
of Great Britain.**

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**Publishers' Note.**

WE should like to remind intending new subscribers that subscriptions may begin with any number of the *P. J. G. B.*, and that it is not necessary to begin with the January number. Many of our readers find our Review of Reviews pages save them the cost of subscribing to other journals. The *P. J. of G. B.* is now in its 20th year of publication, and numbers among its subscribers practically all the principal collectors of the world.

# The Types of the 1867 Issue of Egypt.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

I was recently fortunate enough to secure a set of die proofs of all values of the 1867 issue of Egypt. Particular interest attaches to them because they prove, by the fineness of the impression, that the original dies were engraved on metal. Mr. G. B. Duerst, in an article on Egypt in the *Philatelic Record* (1896), says:—

"The stamps were drawn on stone by F. Hoff, from Hirschberg (Silesia), and were printed by V. Penasson in Alexandria, under the supervision of the Government. After printing, the stones were sent to the headquarters of the postal service at Cairo. A second printing was necessary in July, 1869, . . . . . Four separate stamps for each value were drawn on stone, varying in several points, and thus we have four distinct types of each in this issue."

Very little has been written on the stamps of Egypt of late years and I have never seen Mr. Duerst's statement challenged, but there can be no doubt that the proofs I have before me as I write are too clear and sharp to be from a stone, and that they are from a copper or a steel plate. From this they would be afterwards transferred on to the stones from which the sheets were printed.

The proofs are printed in black on two sheets of stout white paper, and are disposed without any order, as shewn on the accompanying plates. On one sheet is a skeleton sketch of the central ovals and parts of the frames of two stamps. In each oval are four dots, evidently intended as guide marks for the engraver. (In one type of the 20 paras, (type III.) there is a dot shewing in the uncoloured part of the oval, just below the Sphinx, which is probably one of these guide dots; I have been unable to trace any of the dots in any of the other values). It is likely that there were four of these sketches, but the paper on which the proofs are printed is, most unfortunately, cut at this place. Above the sketches are vertical lines which are, doubtless, representative of the lines of the background and the shading of the Pyramid.

Unfortunately the illustrations which accompany these notes are not satisfactory, and the guide dots, referred to above, do not all show. There are also many flaws and broken lines which are not present in the actual proofs.

In my article on Egypt in the last volume of this Journal I described the four types of each value and I find that not only was the arrangement of these wrong, (in the absence of corner blocks it was impossible to find out how they were originally drawn) but that some of the descriptions were not very clear. I have therefore re-written them all: collectors

would do better to follow these descriptions than to rely on the illustrations, which, as I say, are faulty. The letters in italics at the end of each description correspond with the arrangement in my article referred to above.

## 5 PARAS, YELLOW.

Type I.—All the A's in the words PARA are normal, but the P in the right hand word has a wider loop than that on the left (*c*).

Type II.—The second A of PARA in the top left corner is extremely thin. Of the three dots over the end Arabic character in the upper label the first is the lowest and the two others are on a level (*d*).

Type III.—The A's are all fairly normal. The second dot over the first Arabic character in lower label almost touches the line above it (this happens also in type II). The 5 in the lower right hand corner almost touches the outline below it. The 5 in the left corner is not quite so low down and has the appearance of leaning very slightly to the left (*a*).

Type IV.—The second A in top right corner is thin. Both the figures 5 are higher up than in any of the other types (*b*).

## 10 PARAS, VIOLET.

Type I.—The central character in the Arabic inscription at foot, which ends in a character resembling a script capital G has a single dot immediately after it. Of the three dots over the last character in the upper label, the first one is above the level of the others. The figures 1 are rather thin (*b*).

Type.—The G-shaped character has no dot immediately after it. The cross-bar of the first A of PARA in the top right-hand corner is either very faint or entirely absent. (In the proof it is faint but discernible). The o of 10 in the lower left corner is misshapen, the enclosed central part having a slight projection at the bottom, towards the right. The o in the right-hand corner is very wide and square at the bottom (*a*).

Type III.—As in the first type the G-shaped character has a dot after it. Of the three dots over the last character in the upper label the first one is below the level of the others. The figures 1 are thicker than in type I. (*d*).

Type IV.—As in type II. the G-shaped character has no dot immediately after it, but the o's of the numerals in the lower corners are correctly shaped. The second A of PARA in the top left corner is very thin (*c*).

BRITISH  
MUSEUM  
12 AP 1913

PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN,

April 20th, 1910.

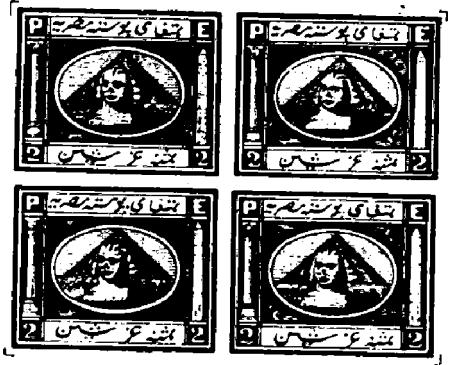
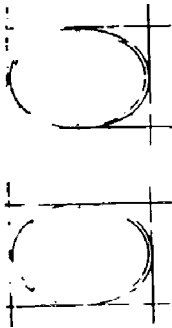
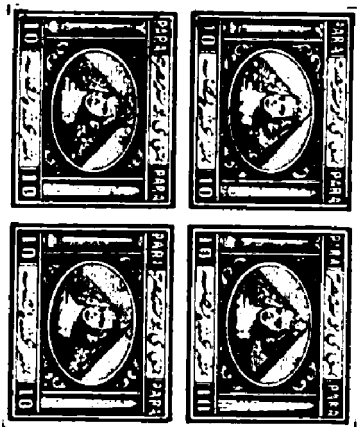
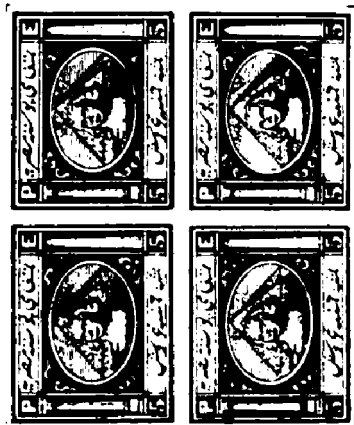


PLATE I.





طابعات مصر  
طابعات مصر  
طابعات مصر  
طابعات مصر

BRITISH  
12 APR 1915  
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## 20 PARAS, GREEN.

Type I.—The shaft of the Ionic pillar at left is not well centred with regard to its base, being too much to the left. The uppermost dot over the first Arabic character in the lower label touches the line above. (This does not happen in any of the other types) (a).

Type II.—The figures 2 in either corner are thin and lean rather to the left. The letters P and A in the top right hand corner are spaced too far apart. The three dots over the last character in the bottom label are further from the end of that character than in the other types (b).

Note.—The central portion of the Arabic inscription in the upper label in the illustration of this type is not at all like the proof.

Type III.—The first A in the right upper corner has a white speck over it; the second A in the same word is too thin and leans to the right (c).

Type IV.—There is a small dot before the 2 in the right bottom corner. The tail of the R in the top left corner is broken where it should join the body of the letter (d).

## 1 PIASTRE, RED.

Type I.—Cleopatra's Needle is well centred in the frame enclosing it. The second Arabic character in the label below, which is merely a perpendicular stroke, is further away from the first character than in any of the other types (d).

Type II.—Cleopatra's Needle is very wide at the base and is much too near the left side of the frame containing it. Pompey's pillar is too much to the right (c).

Type III.—Cleopatra's Needle is too much to the left. The G-shaped character in the lower label has a larger head than in any of the other types and the dot immediately above it almost (sometimes quite) touches it. Of the three dots at the end of the upper label, the first is well above the level of the other two (b).

Type IV.—Cleopatra's Needle is again too much to the left, about as much so as in type II., but is not so wide as in that type. The three dots at the end of the upper label are equi-distant from one another and are all on the same level (a).

## 2 PIASTRES, BLUE.

Type I.—Cleopatra's Needle is slightly wider and shorter than in the other types. There is a slight coloured speck impinging on the uncoloured oval which encloses the central design, immediately below the Sphinx (d).

Type II.—Cleopatra's Needle is very pointed at the top. The letter P in left upper corner is more to the right of the frame enclosing it than in any of the other types. The second side of the Pyramid, repre-

sented by heavier shading is narrower than in types I. and III. (b).

Type III.—The base of the Pyramid is further away from the oval at the left than in any of the other types. The apex of the Pyramid touches the outline of the oval above. The top line of inscription on Cleopatra's Needle appears as a solid line of colour extending right across (a).

Type IV.—The second side of the Pyramid, represented by heavier shading, is narrower than in types I. and III. The apex of the Pyramid is further from the oval at top than in any of the other types. The base of the Pyramid is almost equi-distant from the oval frame at either side (c).

## 5 PIASTRES, BROWN.

Type I.—The line of shading on the forehead of the Sphinx over the left eye is long and quite horizontal. Of the three dots over the last Arabic character in the top label, the first is the highest and the last is the lowest (b).

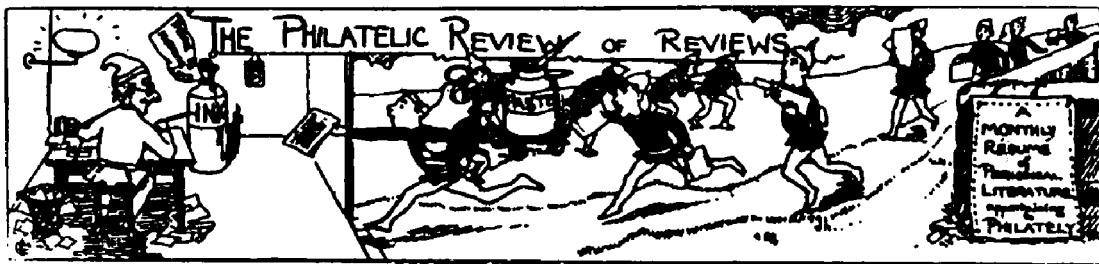
Type II.—The line of shading on the forehead of the Sphinx over the left eye slopes downwards from left to right. The highest of the three dots at the beginning of the Arabic inscription in the lower label touches the line above it; in all the other types this dot is near the line, but does not actually touch except in heavily printed copies (c).

Type III.—There is a clear line of shading between the apex of the Pyramid and the outline of the oval, above. The line of shading over the left eye of the Sphinx is horizontal as in type I., but is not quite so long (a).

Type IV.—The horizontal line of shading on the forehead of the Sphinx has a short vertical line running upwards from near its left extremity. The oval containing the central design is closer to the frame containing the Ionic pillar than in any of the other types (d).



All these descriptions correspond with the stamps as originally issued, but there was, apparently, a second printing of the 1 piastre in which another dot was added above the last two dots in the Arabic inscription at foot. I append an illustration of a plate proof of type III. of this value which shews the added dot. This alteration was probably made on the stone.



APRIL 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

THE March number of the *Philatelic Record* is truly a splendid literary achievement; not only do we find further instalments of the Swedish and Belgian articles, but Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg is also a contributor.

He writes about the "Lithographed Four Pence, 1854 of Western Australia," and illustrates his paper with a plate showing 24 varieties of the stamps.

Concerning the well-known "inverted Swan" he says:

"A transfer was taken from the Perkins Bacon steel plate of the 'One Penny,' and the lettered frame of each impression cut off. The central portions were then stuck on a sheet of paper or card at equal distances apart, and a transfer taken from a new octagonal border was gummed round the central portion of the design. Sixty of these were arranged in twelve horizontal rows of five, and four transfers were taken from this and placed side by side on a stone, so as to form a block of two hundred and forty impressions.

When pasting on the transfers of the central portion of the design, the workman would not fail to notice if one was upside down. It would be quite another matter with the borders. The lettering was small, and it would be a very easy thing to make a mistake. Assuming this theory to be correct, there would have to be at least *four* 'inverted frames' on the entire sheet, as it was made up of four transfers from the group of sixty in which the error occurred; and this would mean that four impressions would have to be removed from the stone and new transfers laid on in their place. The other alternative would be to correct the error on the original group of sixty, and place four new transfers from the whole sixty on a clean stone. The latter process would mean a great deal more work, and careful examination of the entire sheet seemed to prove that the former plan was adopted."

Mr. Hausberg describes the 24 stamps he illustrates, each one having its minor differences, or, in the case of nearly half of them, the more marked "errors" of transfer.

Mr. J. B. Leavy in his Belgian article deals with the second and third issues of the "watermark in frame" stamps; he says:

"In the manufacture of these stamps a mother die was used without any value in words, and having the circles in the upper corners blank; from this mother die secondary dies were made, to which were added the value in words beneath the medallion, and in numerals in the corner circles; from these secondary dies the plates, still of copper, were manufactured as before described. Dies and plates had all been made, and a first printing took place in July. Only the balance of the stock of paper on hand, no matter of what quality, was used for the printing of July 1850, so that the issue was necessarily a small one, consisting of 498,000 copies of the 10 centimes in deep brown, 376,000 copies of the 20 centimes in deep blue, and 84,000 copies of the 40 centimes in deep carmine."

The current instalment of the "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905" deals with the development of the Swedish Postal Department up to the times of Postage Reform and the introduction of postage stamps.

The March number of the *London Philatelist* contains, as its principal article, a most interesting paper, contributed by Mr. M. P. Castle, entitled "Notes on the Locally Engraved and Lithographed Issues of Mauritius, 1848-1859."

Writing about the stamps of December, 1859, Mr. Castle says:

I am enabled, however, to mention one point that I think is entirely novel, and I am confident will be deemed of philatelic importance and interest as regards this issue, viz., that the plate, or rather stone, has been retouched. I present for inspection two singles and a pair of the twopenny value, which clearly show that the designs have been retouched in two marked variations; and I further show four other specimens having less important—but still, to my mind—unmistakeable retouches. These are all illustrated, being Nos. 1, 1a, 2, 3, 3a, 4 and 5.

No. 1 has white lines at the back of the neck continued to the base and on the right upper side of the head, while the shading of the neck has been redrawn at the back. The first stamp (Illustration 1) shows a large white space at the back of the neck; this, however, apparently is caused by a flaw in the paper. It still leaves, however, visible portions of the white line, the neck shading, and the white stroke upon the head. The illustration does not show these details so clearly as the stamp itself, but there is no doubt but that 1 and 1a represent the same "type" on the stone.

No. 2 has a white line at the back of the neck, marked, but differing from No. 1, as it is not continued to the base of the neck. The shading of coloured lines on the neck has been redrawn in coarse lines.

No. 3 and No. 3a have the nostril redrawn; there are also short vertical white strokes above the back of the neck, and the coloured shading of this has also been apparently touched up.

No. 4 has an irregular faint wavy line extending for about three-quarters of the distance at the back of the neck.

No. 5 has a faint white line extending from the hair to the base of the neck at the back.

There are possibly other varieties of these retouches, but these are all I have been enabled to find despite my most strenuous search for a number of years past. The specimen (Illustration 6) of this value is a defective impression arising doubtless from over-inking of the stone, making the hair and crown into nearly a solid mass of colour. I have not found any retouches of the one penny value, and, as before mentioned, the use of this value was relatively small, and the stones probably did not therefore require any retouching. Illustration No. 7 shows, however, a distinctly defective transfer, the lower left portion of the stamp being cut away. Illustration No. 8 shows a heavy impression somewhat resembling the 2d. (No. 6), though not so much inked; the shading on the neck and hair has, however, a very blobby appearance.

This article is illustrated with a full sized plate showing nine enlargements of 2d. stamps and two of the 1d. value. A capital editorial and a number of "Notes" and other contributions complete a capital number of the *London Philatelist*.

The March 12th *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* contains the completion of M. L. Hanciau's article dealing with the Postal Issues of Denmark and Colonies. He writes about the post and letter cards of Iceland.

Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall contributes a short instalment of his notes dealing with British Postmarks since 1840. A couple of pages of excellent Notes and Queries—some Foreign Notes, a long new issue list—another of Mr. Ireland's simplified lists, and last, but by no means least, another of Mr. C. J. Phillips' South American letters completes the contents. We make a very short extract:

*The Argentine Government give \$5000 towards the expenses of the Stamp Exhibition.*

This good news is quite authentic; the Government have made a grant as above towards the expenses of the Centennial Stamp Exhibition, and it will be an undoubted success. This grant is equal to about £435.

In addition to this useful grant, I am able to state that a new and very fine central Post Office is about to be built in Buenos Ayres, and the postal authorities intend to form an Official Collection, and vote several thousand dollars a year to keep it up.

The March 19th number contains a further instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Nicaraguan article in the course of which he deals with the unsavoury makeshift issues of 1907. Mr. B. W. H. Poole, in his "Countries of the World," continues to hold forth on the stamps of Hayti. Mr. C. J. Phillips continues his account of his South American trip, while "Desdi-

chado" contributes another instalment of his paper dealing with stamps found *tête bêche*. Two pages of "Yokels" notes on British stamps, a page of Mr. Power's American Notes, some "Talk of the Day," etc., complete the extremely varied contents of Gibbons' paper. The following extract relating to Tongan stamps may be of interest. One of these days, however, "Antonio" will overdo it, he will not allow for the expanding capacities of a hot day, where perforations are concerned.

#### TONGA PERFORATIONS.

Much has been written on the subject of Tongan stamps, but one little point regarding the perforations of the 1897 issue—a point that should be of interest to the specialist if not to the general collector—seems to have been quite overlooked. This handsome set of picture stamps was manufactured by Messrs. de la Rue & Co., but as this firm had no comb machine that could be used for perforating stamps of these different shapes and sizes, single-line machines were used. At least two machines, differing in the size of the holes made, but each having the same gauge of fourteen, were employed. Though the differences are, perhaps, hardly so striking as the similar varieties in the stamps of Sarawak and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, previously referred to in these columns, they are nevertheless quite easy to distinguish in the case of blocks of four or more. The holes made by the one machine (A) are not only larger, but they are also more "ragged" or uneven than those punched by the second machine (B). The following is a list of the varieties I have seen, but it is very possible specialists will find many other combinations:

- ½d. deep blue (B).
- 1d. black and red (B).
- 2d. sepia and bistre (B).
- 2½d. black and blue (B).
- 3d. " " yellow-green (B).
- 4d. green and dull violet (A × B).
- 5d. black and orange (B).
- 6d. vermilion (B × A).
- 7½d. black and green (B).
- 10d. " " carmine (A × B).
- 1s. " " brown (A × B).

A week later we find a further long instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article dealing with the recent issues of Italy, another chapter of Mr. Poole's Hayti, and continuations of Mr. Dendy Marshall's and "Desdichado's" papers.

The April 2nd *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* contains a further instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Nicaraguan article, the final letter of Mr. C. J. Phillips' series of South American contributions, another long chapter of Mr. Poole's Hayti, a further instalment of Mr. Dendy Marshall's paper, a short account of the types of the second issue of 1904 for Colombia, and other readable matter.

In the April 9th copy Mr. Leavy completes his paper, while Messrs. Poole and Dendy Marshall contribute instalments of their respective articles. Mr.

Roger Mennevée is responsible for the first instalment of a paper, entitled "The William III. Type of Holland," while a budget of "Foreign Notes," etc., make up a good number of our leading weekly.

The following extracts from "Foreign Notes" are of interest:

#### IMPERFORATE STAMPS OF SWEDEN.

A number of 5 and 20 öre stamps of the current type have appeared and are being offered for sale. The Sveriges Filatelist-Förening, Stockholm, has instituted a special inquiry committee to look into this matter, and the result of their inquiries shows that these stamps are either postally worthless trial printings, or have got into circulation in some postally unauthorized way, and it is declared at the Stockholm Post Office that they are not available to pay postage. Collectors are warned against paying high prices for such stuff, under the impression that they are duly authorized postage stamps. We draw our information on this subject from the *Germania-Bericht*.

#### "NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE."

A practical gentleman has arisen in Belgium, M. Ason, deputy for Tournai, who is agitating for the suppression of the useless and annoying little label which disfigures the stamps of this country. M. Ason most sensibly remarks that those persons who do not wish their correspondence to be delivered on the first day of the week can best ensure the fulfilment of their desire by the expedient of not posting it on Saturday night! We lift our hats to this supremely common-sense suggestion, and join with M. Ason in begging the Belgian postal department to save their paper, ink, and gum, and to abolish this puerile tab.

The March 19th *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains, as that worthy publication usually does, a good many papers dealing more or less indirectly with philately. Dr. H. Armstrong continues his article wherein he discusses the Laureated issues of 1863-70 and the Bordeaux stamps of France. Mr. Walter Scott contributes his paper entitled, "Varieties of Victoria, 1850-1873," which was recently read before the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society. Mr. W. Nichols tells his readers how to arrange a stamp collection, and Mr. P. C. Bishop contributes a short instalment of his Belgian article. Mr. Fred W. Edwards is our contemporary's "Philatelist of To-Day."

In the copy dated April 2nd there is the conclusion of Mr. Scott's paper, another instalment of Dr. Armstrong's article, and last, but not least, the first chapter of what promises to be a readable article dealing with the stamps of St. Vincent contributed by Mr. J. J. Darlow. Concerning British stamps used in the island he says:

The history of the use of special stamps for St. Vincent commences on May 1st, 1860; prior to which date the management of the Post Office established at Kingstown had been in the hands of the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom and

consequently certain of the stamps then in use in Great Britain were sold and used in St. Vincent. These can, of course, only be distinguished by the postmark Ato. The following are known:—

1857.	1d. red, wmk. large Crown, perf. 14.	
	2d. blue	
	4d. rose, wmk. large garter.	1
	6d. lilac, wmk. emblems.	
	1/- green	

And it may not be out of place if I give here my ideas of the value of good clearly-marked specimens, viz. :—

1d., 20/-.	6d., 10/-.
2d., ?.	1/-, 40/-.
4d., 12/6.	

Specimens on entire original letters or envelopes with despatching and receiving office marks are considerably more valuable.

Mr. W. Denison Roebuck is the "Philatelist of To-Day," while "Philatel" and "Senax" both contribute some capable jottings.

The April number of the *Stamp Lover* contains the completion of Mr. A. Grelhier's paper dealing with the stamps of Sarawak, an article dealing with the Post Cards of Great Britain contributed by Mr. J. C. Dallimore, and a further long and well illustrated instalment of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Cayman Islands: Their Stamps and Post Office." Other matter, correspondence, etc., complete a good number of our exchange.

From Mr. Armstrong's article (he writes in collaboration with Messrs. Bostwick and Watkin) we extract the following information relating to the 1d. on 4d. fiscal surcharge:

The fifth and last provisional stamp that the Cayman Islands postal authorities found it expedient to issue was of the value of 1d., and was made by the reduction of the "Postage and Revenue" 4d. by means of a surcharge. As this stamp was created to meet a fiscal demand only, it was not available for postage.

About the middle of May, 1908, the Georgetown Post Office unexpectedly ran short of the 3d. and 1d. stamps, and, pending the arrival of a new consignment by the mail steamer due on the 1st June, postages of these amounts on correspondence had to be paid in cash at the post office, the covers being marked "Postage Paid" by the Postmistress. It is even stated that owing to lack of stamps for receipt purposes, it was found necessary to curtail Government work considerably for the time being.

During this shortage, an American member of the community applied at the post office for a sheet of 1d. stamps, nominally for use on receipts, and on being informed that none would be available until the arrival of the next mail, lodged a complaint, as a result of which the Commissioner authorised the overprinting of a small quantity of 4d. stamps, to be issued for fiscal use only, and on the distinct understanding that they were not to be used for postage.

Two printings were made on May 12th and 14th respectively, when, in all, 396 stamps (three complete sheets and 36 odd copies) were surcharged "1D" by the Postmistress at the Georgetown Post Office, where alone this stamp was obtainable.

We are told that the handstamp used was a very rough affair. "It consisted of a bit of wood for a handle, and set into sealing-wax was a small '1' taken from a box of metal type. It was the same '1' in 4d. and 1d. on 5/-." The handstamp was afterwards destroyed.

The surcharge is much better done than either of the previous two, the whole of the overprint generally being distinguishable; but, in most cases, it is very much lighter in colour, so much so that, when it falls exactly on the figure of value, with which it is practically identical in size, it is often almost invisible.

Of the surcharged stamps, one complete sheet was furnished the American, on whose behalf the provisional had practically been issued, and the remaining 276 were for the most part sold singly to persons who applied for them—not more than one being supplied to each person unless proof was forthcoming of actual need.

Emphatic instructions were issued to the post offices of the Dependency that these stamps were fiscals only, and were not, under any circumstances, to be accepted in prepayment of postage, and letters franked solely with them were treated as unpaid and charged double the deficiency on delivery, the post office authorities generally refraining from obliterating them.

A copy is illustrated which it has been attempted to pass through the post with another stamp, but the Postmaster (Mr. W. G. McCausland, who succeeded Miss Parsons on October 1st, 1908), detecting it, has written across it the words "Fiscal only" in red ink. The writers have also been privileged to inspect the following written declaration, which was attached to the letter in question:—

"The Provisional 1d. on 4d. on the envelope  
"was issued for Fiscal purposes only, and may  
"not be used for Postage."

(Signed) W. G. McC., P.M.

Postmarked copies are to be found, however, and it is understood that about a dozen copies were cancelled by favour and that a few more on envelopes, by being sandwiched in between a number of ordinary stamps, were unobserved at the post office and passed through; but such copies almost invariably bear dates considerably later than those on which this provisional was actually in issue.

The March *West End Philatelist* contains the first instalment of its editor's article dealing with the stamps of Sierra Leone, a short account of the "Transvaal" error of the Transvaal and a short article dealing with Parcel Post stamps.

The April number of the *Herts Monthly Report* contains, besides Congress News and other matter, a paper entitled "Dutch Indies," contributed by Mr. A. J. Warren, who dwells interestingly on the ancient history of the Island of Java. The following extract, although not strictly philatelic is very interesting.

I wish I could have shown some Postal Entires of the late Empires, for they had their running posts, a dangerous trade in the days when tigers, leopards and panthers were more abundant, but we have some postal details of the time of the East India Company whose initials V.O.I.C. appear in a circle with amount of postage as shown on letters 1789 to 1810; the amounts are given in stuivers, a stuiver being equal to a penny. The letters from Europe only show the postage charged for delivery. All letters were in those days sent by sailing ship; the captain no doubt making some charge. All letters had on arrival to be given up

to the Company's Agent, who even sometimes exercised the right to open them.

When Holland was annexed to France in 1809, the Post in Java continued to use their old chop, and even the alteration to "L.N." when Louis Napoleon was King of Holland was but rarely enforced. After the annexation the English came down from Calcutta and established their own rule in September, 1811. I have an interesting letter from Sourabaya, 17th October, 1811, showing the old V.O.I.C. and the Batavia English "General Post Office" mark. Evidently the French were off and the English not yet on, so the old "chop" was used at Sourabaya. You will notice that the English stamp is a big one, so that they could not always get both offices represented on the envelope!

The English stayed till 1816, and did much towards opening up the island. The Dutch had been going very slowly in advancing beyond the actual coast, avoiding the mountains which tower aloft everywhere. There is an immense block of mountains towards the east end of the island, and here the dispersed adherents of the Hindu Empire had taken refuge. The English were warned to leave them alone, but a few officers went up and were welcomed; sport and hunting being an easy connecting link, which the Dutch had missed. Here and elsewhere ruined temples, baths, etc., were discovered and explored, including the grand Boroboeoer, and cleared from the growth of centuries; I know even of a sulphur bath still intact, with the healing water still running through it, but which nobody can exploit because the present Dutch won't settle some paltry legal matter!

Well the English left at the peace, and Sir Stamford Raffles had sorrowfully to content himself with Singapore, while in Java reigned financial chaos, as the Dutch had no money.

## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for March 15th, in an article entitled "Postal Reforms in France," tells us that the postal rate on all letters up to 20 grammes in weight is shortly to be reduced and that postal packets of greater weight will also be reduced in a similar proportion. The scale which has been adopted is as follows:—

### 1. For Home letters, letters to the Colonies and inter-Colonial letters.

Up to 20 grammes	..	10 centimes.
From 20 gr. to 50 gr.	..	15 "
" 50 gr. to 100 gr.	..	20 "
For every succeeding 50 gr.	5	"

The new Tariff will also be extended to the French Offices in Foreign countries.

### 2. For Foreign correspondence.

Up to 20 grammes	..	25 centimes.
For every succeeding 20 gr.	15	"

To compensate the revenue in some measure for the loss entailed by these sweeping reductions, commercial packets weighing upwards of 20 grammes will be treated as letters.

The extent of the reductions is shown by the following table.

#### FOR INLAND LETTERS.

	Old rate.	New rate.
Up to 15 gr. registered	0.35	0.35
15 to 20 gr. "	0.45	0.35
20 gr. "	0.65	0.40
100 gr. "	0.85	0.45
150 gr. "	1.25	0.50

## FOR FOREIGN LETTERS.

Up to 15 gr. registered	0.50	0.50
15 to 20 gr. „	0.75	0.50
50 gr. „	0.95	0.80
100 gr. „	1.40	1.10
150 gr. „	1.95	1.55

The registration fee is 25 centimes as before.

It will thus be seen that on heavy correspondence the rates will be reduced by a half or more. French stamp dealers will not be the least thankful section of the business community when the scale becomes law, as we are assured it will in a very short time. A further concession is the promise that the internal rate for postcards is to be reduced, next year, from 10c. to 5 centimes. All this reminds us of the great disabilities under which French commerce has laboured hitherto, through the abnormally high rates of postage as compared with those of other countries.

The same number of the *Echo* contains an account of the auction sale of the fine collection of M. A. Schwabe, which was held by Messrs. Gilbert and Kohler, at the Hotel Drouot, early in February. This collection was rich in old Europeans, many rarities being on originals. The prices obtained were, in many cases, almost fabulous. The following are some of the most notable:—Buenos Ayres 1858, 2 pesos, blue, f.95; 3p. green, f. 352; 4p. red f.825, all these were on letters. Western Australia, 1d. black, pair, rouletted on letter, f.174. Bavaria, 1849, 1kr. black, strip of three on letter, f.144. Bergedorf, one of each value used on letters, sold separately, totalled for the five lots, f.1226 (about £50). Brunswick, 1852, 1 sgr. on entire, f.45; 1853-65,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sbgr. black, *percés en sciez*, strip of three, used on entire, f.357. Hanover, 1850, 1 gr. black on blue, mint, f.323. Lubeck, 1861,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sch. lilac, block of four used on letter, f.492. Oldenburg,  $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. orange pair used on letter with blue obliteration, f.594. Queensland, 1860, 2d. blue, used on entire, f.279. Saxony, 3 pf. red on entire, f.440. These prices show very clearly that the modern demand for good condition, places immaculate specimens in a class by themselves, where quotations for ordinary stamps have no bearing. In all the cases quoted above the prices are well over any catalogue quotation.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for March 31st, has an article on the private Telegraph stamps of the United States, in which the emissions of the various companies are described and illustrated. This article is based on those written by Mr. Joseph Rich and published some years ago in the old *American Journal of Philately*. They seem to be a straightforward class of labels and will, no doubt, find their admirers, as they include no commemoratives or speculatives, but for ourselves we should prefer to collect something less hideous than are the majority of these stamps.

In the same journal we are informed that Bavaria has decided to issue stamps of all

denominations, from 3 pf. to 80 pf. in rolls of 1000 stamps. Rolled like a ribbon the stamps will be easier to detach, and the work of franking large numbers of letters or circulars will be greatly lightened. Presumably the stamps will only be issued in this form for those who ask for them and will be printed in the ordinary way for the use of the general public. One objection to the roll that occurs to us is that if it got damp, or if it was inadvertently dropped in a bath, it might lead to the use of words which are not an adornment to the German language.

*Le Timbre Poste* for March has an article by M. Georges Brunel on the Stamps of the European Offices in the Levant. The instalment for March treats of The Surcharged British Stamps. In the course of this we read, in reference to the rare 1 piastre on 2d. of 1906—"This surcharge, as might be supposed, has tempted the forgers. But it appears that those who ordered the surcharge had foreseen this possibility, for the postmaster had taken care to preserve one stamp from the first and one from the last of the sheets that were surcharged, in order to be able to compare stamps that were submitted to him. Further, in order to deceive the forgers, there was a smaller space between the letters of the surcharge so that the word '1 piastre' is wider than that figuring on the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue. The ink employed was black and a little thick, which makes the surcharge appear rather greyish; in the forgeries the imitations are blacker and clearer."

Translations of the articles on the Forgeries of Spanish Stamps (by J. Corner Spokes) and The Stamps of Chili (by R. A. Mercado) are continued in the same journal. There is also an interesting article on "The Stamps of the States of the Church," which is to be continued; it is from the pen of M. H. Anheisser and the first chapter deals with the stamps bearing the St. Andrew's cross. To account for this mark a very curious and novel suggestion is advanced, namely, that it was applied on letters coming from districts where the cholera epidemic of 1854 to 1855 was at its worst. M. Anheisser describes two envelopes which he possesses, both of which are dated from Ferrari, in 1855, and bear stamps obliterated with the Cross. In addition to this both wrappers are pierced through in two places and are stamped with the words, "Netta Fuori e dentro" (disinfected inside and out). This ingenious explanation may be correct, but a few more entires in support of it would be welcome. M. Anheisser also claims to have proved that the Cross was not imprinted on the stamps until after the latter were affixed to the envelopes, and that it is therefore really an obliteration.

There is an amusing extract from an old number of *l'Intermédiaire des curieux*, entitled, "What becomes of Old Postage Stamps?"



It is interesting to know that a vague and indefinite, but very popular belief used to be harboured in France, to the effect that used postage stamps, if collected in large quantities, could be turned to some useful account. The same idea was very prevalent in England until quite recently, and accounts for the large quantities of "rd. reds" which have been saved. The article, which is quoted by *Le Timbre Poste*, refers to the great difficulty with which this popular delusion was killed. Among the uses to which it was believed by some that the stamps could be put, were some very extraordinary ones. Some believed that the colours of the stamps being of a very fine and costly character, used stamps were immersed in a chemical composition which detached the colours for use again! Others had a hazy idea that they would, in some quite unexplainable way, be of benefit to missionary effort in the Congo. Others again had the sinister notion that the obliterations could be washed off so that the stamps could be used over again; probably these last were not far from the mark, as, in a large quantity of stamps there must have been a fair proportion of lightly cancelled copies which, with a little manipulation, might have been made to do further postal service.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of March 26 gives an interesting account of some recently discovered type varieties of Alsace Lorraine stamps. These varieties, together with those previously noted, may be conveniently tabulated as under:—

4c.,	Type	I.,	4	immediately above	"tim."
		"	II.,	4	"
		"	III.,	4	"
5c.,	"	I.	The vertical stroke of the "5" produced cuts the S of "Postes."		
	"	II.	The vertical stroke of the "5" produced passes between the O and S of "Postes."		
10c.,	"	I.	I is immediately above "en."		
	"	II.	I " " " " "n."		
20c.,	"	I.	2 begins above C.		
	"	II.	2 " " " " E.		
	"	III.	2 " " " " between C and E.		
	"	IV.	Has the figures raised. (?)		
25c.,	"	I.	2 begins above C.		
	"	II.	2 " " " " E.		
	"	III.	The vertical stroke of the "5" produced passes between the T and E of "Postes."		

From the same source we cull the following out of an article on "Specimen Overprints":

Here is a curious conundrum in the soul of the collector; the collector, especially the German variety, not infrequently prefers a high value stamp fiscally cancelled to one with the "Specimen" overprint! He prefers it, although it may be soiled, holed, and display plenty of inkmarks; he prefers it although as a rule his ideal is the postal cancellation. He prefers it, notwithstanding the fact that the "Specimen" is perfect in every respect, for it

has been "used," and "used" is his desideratum. He prefers it, although it is a miserable stopgap, foreign to his purpose, whereas the "Specimen" is a perfect representative, the overprint of which has not in any way detracted from its postal nature, seeing that it is used for purposes of exchange by the postal authorities themselves!

We are so accustomed to everything emanating from the firm of Paul Kohl, Ltd., being the best of its kind, and it has hitherto been a matter of common knowledge that all the articles in their "Mitteilungen" are the work of experts. That it grieves us beyond measure to find an article on the Philatelist's Laboratory in the current number by a writer obviously ignorant of the very rudiments of chemistry. Dealing with hydrogen peroxide, the formula of which he gives, he says it acts as a reducing (!!) agent, and greedily absorbs oxygen from stamps which have been oxidised. We should thus get a chemical equation of the following nature:—(Stamp + O) + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = stamp + H<sub>2</sub>O. All this is merely due to philatelists applying the term "oxidised," instead of "sulphuretted." Peroxide of hydrogen is not a reducing agent, but on the contrary a powerful oxidising agent. What really happens to the sulphuretted stamp is this:—Stamp + S) 3 H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = stamp + H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> + 3 H<sub>2</sub>O which, translated into ordinary language, means that the sulphuretted stamp is deprived of sulphur by the action of the peroxide, sulphuric acid and water being formed at the same time.

"W młodych latach, pociągnięty przykładem wielu Kolegów" is the beginning of an eminently readable, if to the English reader unintelligible, article on "Obrazek z filatelistycznego życia" in the March number of our esteemed contemporary *Filatelist*. Our eminent contributor MacTavitchinski is busily engaged in translating it, and is foregoing the delights of snooker pool until he has accomplished his task. He informs us that he hopes to have his version ready in time for the January number.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The January and the February numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of India* were, it appears, issued simultaneously, a fact to be deplored, as we dislike having to wait for the monthly numbers of our contemporary. In the copy dated January we find the principal article consists of a continuation of "The Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon," compiled by Mr. Gordon Jones from notes left by the late Mr. C. S. F. Crofton. This is continued in the February number, where

also we find a further batch of reprinted articles. The paper on the Ceylon fiscals, however, makes up for any shortage of original articles as it is most comprehensive and exhaustive.

The February number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains a remarkably good editorial, in the course of which Mr. J. H. Smyth advises his readers to beware of the dangers of over speculating in new issues. He says:

The more new issues there are sold to collectors, the less prospect there is of these stamps becoming scarce in the near, or even the distant, future, consequently such energy will probably make a number of people say where is the use of buying new issues if "there's nothing in it," and quite right, too. It is all very well to publish statements showing the tremendous returns that are derived once in a while from investments in new issues, but this reminds us occasionally of testimonials which we see now and again in connection with patent medicines. They are not reliable. One man may make a hit and benefit himself considerably, but then everyone has not the same ability to know what to buy and what not to buy. A minimum of denominational value is assumed, but those who have purchased new issues in quantity have no guarantee that the persons from whom they purchased these stamps, or the post offices, will always give them face value for them, and they have no basis for assuming that they can get rid of their stock anywhere at any time at face value or thereabouts. These are points which should be considered by those who are likely to be drawn into the mad rush for new issues, probably to the detriment of the old issues, and the more commendable method of buying or procuring stamps as the opportunities arise; this is a rational plan of collecting.

In our opinion, this purchasing of new issues is not, properly speaking, stamp collecting at all, but simply stamp speculation. Some buy stamps in singles or pairs, others in blocks of four, some in dozens, and a few probably in whole sheets, not even limiting their purchases to a sheet of one kind. This is done with a deliberate intention of "unloading" when the market is favourable. These gentlemen are at perfect liberty to do so if they please, but this is not philately.

The prospect of profit is one which must be considered by individual purchasers. Some speculators (we cannot call them collectors) may not get anything, because dealers may not take such stamps as quantities of recent and new issues off their hands. These people seem to think further that dealers only have their places of business established for the public convenience. It is just as well that this impression should be eradicated, and the speculator should remember that it is one thing to buy new issues at a small premium, or even face value, and it is quite another thing to get other people to buy such stamps at a profit on the price paid, or even at the same price.

We would cite the Transvaal and Orange River Colony V.R.I.'s as a "shocking example." When these came on the market they were bought up by many speculators at face value. Soldiers at the Boer War even put their pay into them, believing them to be a good investment. Now, we understand, they are unsaleable almost at any price. In our opinion, this new issue business is being altogether overdone, and as a result of the fierce competition now being indulged in, a reaction may set in, an anti-climax may be reached, and the fate which has befallen the V.R.I.'s may also overtake other new issues, which, so long as they are current, can be produced like picture-postcards.

Another interesting feature of our contemporary is a letter from that well known American collector, Mr. C. L. Pack, in which he discusses the 12½ and the 13 perforations of early N.Z. stamps. There is also an amusing letter from Mr. Percy B. Phipson.

Regarding the 6d. *red-brown* and other stamps in the 13 perforation, Mr. Pack says:

I have this red-brown shade perf. 13 in a used pair, and there is also an unused and a used copy in my collection. I have found it about three times as scarce as the black-brown shade, which only comes perf. 13. The perf. 1 varieties unused are real rarities, taken as a whole. I have copies unused perf. 13 of the 1d., 2d., 3d. 6d. black-brown, 6d. red-brown, and 1s., all wmk. Star. As regards the N.Z. watermarked stamps, Mr. Phipson says, of the 1s. value that he does not know which is rarer, the perf. 13 or the perf. 12½. I have examined very many copies of this 1s. stamp, and I am certain that the perf. 12½ is many times more scarce than the Dunedin perf. 13. In my collection there are many used copies of 1s., wmk. N.Z., perf. 13, but only one copy perf. 12½ by the Government, and this well-authenticated copy came from Mr. Leslie Hausburg. I have also the 2d., wmk. N.Z., perf. 13, in used condition. I have never seen or heard of a copy of the 1s., wmk. N.Z., perf. 12½, in unused condition. I believe it to be unknown. A real rarity is the 1d., wmk. N.Z., perf. 13, of which I have one copy, but a more interesting stamp is the 1s., wmk. N.Z., perf. 13, unused, which I also have.

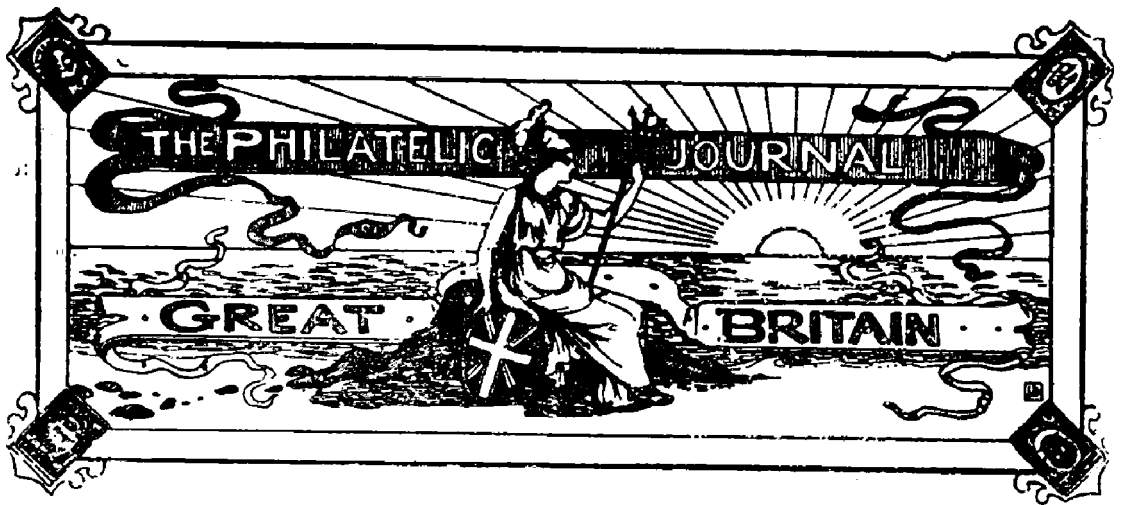
I also have a used copy of the Star watermark, 2d., in the real slate-blue shade, perf. 13, which I have not seen mentioned or catalogued.

## Philatelic Monuments to War.

MR. W. E. LINCOLN, the well-known Philatelic lecturer, gave a very interesting and educational lecture at the Walthamstow Public Library on Saturday, April 9th before a crowded audience. Mr. A. H. Clark, the President of the South Essex Philatelic Society, was in the chair, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Mr. Lincoln gave a brief and humorous *résumé* of many famous fights of recent times—Crimea, American Civil War, French invasion of Mexico, Franco German, Boer, and very many more. The stamps illustrating his remarks were passed round and will it is hoped bring recruits to the South Essex Society.





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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

**N**OW that the great event of the English philatelic calendar for 1910 has come and gone it is pleasant to calmly reflect on what took place during that historic week. In the first place there can

be no two opinions that the social side of the Congress was a huge success.

The two principal events, the reception at Mr. Hayman's residence and the banquet at the Café Monico, were largely attended and greatly enjoyed by all who were present.

The former event, held at Hampstead, was largely attended, some of our best known philatelists being present, all of whom, thanks to the open handed hospitality of their host and hostess, spent a very enjoyable time.

The banquet, held at the Café Monico, although it attracted more guests was certainly not more enjoyed by those who attended both functions than the previous night's outing. Mr. and Mrs. Franz Reichenheim welcomed their guests at 8 p.m. and shortly after that hour fully 200 philatelists and their friends sat down to dinner.

The menu was good, the speeches, howbeit a trifle long, were ably rendered and well received, while the entertainers, who afterwards amused the audience, were capable artistes.

The visit to the Earl of Crawford's and

the visit to the Tapling collection were also much appreciated by those delegates who attended.

The social part of the Congress having been so capably carried through, and that feature of our hobby being a most important one, it now behoves us to turn to the real work of the meetings, when various schemes were suggested for the advancement of philately. It is too early, of course, to say what good will arise—apart from the cementing of old and the making of new friendships—from this Second Philatelic Congress, but we are afraid that the net result will not, leaving out the social benefits derived, be commensurate with the labour and time spent by the Congress officials.

The public meetings were but poorly attended, due perhaps in some degree to a lack of advertising, except in strictly philatelic channels, while the novelty of attending an annual philatelic congress is yet too new to permit, in many cases, the delegate doing full justice to the society he represents. Two committees have, we believe, been formed to thoroughly consider two or three suggestions put forward, but it is yet too early to attempt to guess what good the business meetings will accomplish. It is not, however, too early to recognise that both Mr. Franz Reichenheim and Mr. Harry Hayman have by their hospitality and their generalship shown the philatelic world what can be

accomplished. Thanks are also due to the other officials of the Herts Society who so ably backed their leaders—may

the Birmingham Philatelic Society, when the time comes to act as host, find as capable leaders.

## Notes on the Early Stamps of Canada.

BY F. F. LAMB.

So little has been written about the stamps of Canada during the last few years that perhaps my notes, on that account alone, may be welcomed by many of my readers who are interested in these stamps. The reason for this apparent neglect is that the subject was so exhaustively written up by Mr. Donald King in the pages of the *Monthly Journal* during 1896 that he has left collectors and specialists in Canadian stamps no undiscovered *data* to work upon. Mr. King's article not only contained extracts from many official notices, but included a most elaborate and carefully worked out check list of the different varieties, so that, as I have already stated, it is practically an impossibility for any present day writer to give his readers any fresh information. In the hope, however, that my article may prove of interest to some of my readers—many of whom are unable to refer easily to back numbers of the *Monthly Journal*—I will give a brief *résumé* of the postal history of Canada before the Dominion was formed in 1868. I have collected these stamps for a good many years, and find them an exceptionally interesting study.

The first official notice which I can find referring to the actual issuing of the first Canadian stamps is reproduced in Mr. King's article in the *Monthly Journal*. It reads as follows:—

Post Office Department,  
Toronto, 1st April, 1851.

*Stamps for the prepayment of postage on letters.*

Postage stamps are about to be issued, one representing the beaver, of the denomination of 3 pence, the second representing the head of Prince Albert, of the denomination of 6 pence, and the third representing the head of Her Majesty, of the denomination of 1 shilling, which will shortly be transmitted to the postmasters at important points.

The stamps mentioned in the above official notice were necessary to prepay the then existing rates of postage, as we find on reference to the following extract from the

Postmaster-General's report for 1851, which reads as follows:—

On letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, to any part of British North America, threepence; more than half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce, sixpence, and so on.

On letters between Canada and the United Kingdom not exceeding half an ounce, one shilling sterling (equal to 1/14d. currency). On letters to Newfoundland, Bermuda and the West Indies the rate is one shilling per half ounce.

The printers of the first Canadian stamps were the firm of Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, of New York, who were already well known as the engravers of the handsome 1847 issue of the United States. The stamps were engraved in *taille douce* in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, while the maker's name appeared twice on each margin. The designs are almost too well known to need illustrating or describing, but I reproduce a specimen of the 10d. value, from a die proof—in red—on India paper as, being from an early state of the plate, it shows minute guide lines, etc. in the design, to which I shall refer later.



The paper on which these three stamps were printed varies little in texture, it is of a thin nature, showing traces of laid lines. Later supplies of these stamps, together with the new values, were printed on many kinds of paper and it is owing to this fact, that, modest as is the catalogue list there are already no fewer than seventeen varieties listed of the six imperf. stamps. Mr. Donald King in his monumental article lists many more varieties of paper than does Gibbons catalogue, but I think that the latter publication contains enough to satisfy the average collector.

The first instalment of stamps from Messrs. Rawdon Wright, Hatch & Edson, consisted of

250,000 of the 3d. value  
 100,400 " 6d. "  
 51,400 " 1/- "

and were printed on thin laid paper. This consignment contained all the 1/- stamps that were ever printed for postal use as this value was found to have but a very limited sale, so much so that no more were printed, and by far the greater number of those sent to Canada were destroyed with the remainders.

Copies of the 1/- value are known on wove paper, but they are specimen stamps; they were usually overprinted with the word "Specimen" in red, but occasionally some enterprising faker has worked hard and almost obliterated this overprint.

There is little to be said about these three values, the 12d. black is an exceptionally scarce stamp, and fine copies are always in demand, their value naturally resting on their condition. I see that at the recently held sale of the late Mr. Seybold's collection of stamps on original covers, a copy of this stamp, with blue cancellation, "Hamilton, Nov. 23rd, 1853," realised £105 15s., while a second copy, also with a blue cancellation, "Dec. 8th, 1853," realised £73 18s. 6d. (vide *London Philatelist*, April, 1910). Evidently the second copy was very much inferior in condition to the one that fetched catalogue and a half.

The 3d. and 6d. values are comparatively quite common in a used condition and vary but little in shade. Messrs. Collin & Calman in their catalogue for advanced collectors say that the 6d. stamp is known divided diagonally and each half used as a 3d. label.

In Mr. King's article I find that he makes a second extract, relating to postal charges, from the Postmaster-General's report:—

In March, 1854, the charge on packet letters between Canada and the United Kingdom and most foreign countries was reduced by the Imperial Government from 1/2 sterling to 8d. sterling the 1/2 oz., when sent in the closed mails through the United States and from 1/- sterling to 6d. when sent direct from a provincial port—Quebec and Halifax. Should no further changes be likely soon to take place in the charges on the correspondence with England, it would promote the public convenience to procure postage stamps of the value of 10d. and 7½d. respectively, to correspond with the present packet charges.

Owing to these reductions, and also to the fact that a stamp for prepaying newspapers was needed, we find that the printers in New York were requisitioned for three new values. These stamps were printed, and, in the case of the 1/2d. and 10d. values, were produced—like the denominations already in use—in sheets of 100. The 7½d. value, however, for some reason or other was printed in sheets of 120, ten rows of ten. All three values made their appearance on a wove paper, varying very considerably in thickness from a very stout smooth paper to a very thin pelure, while specimens may also be found on paper that shows a marked ribbing.

Although I do not wish to elaborate the existing list of catalogue varieties I think that two varieties of the 6d. on thick paper might be listed instead of one, one on thick, hard paper with a glazed appearance, and the other on an equally thick, but much softer, almost porous paper. The 3d. value, being used to prepay the local letter rate, is a very common stamp in a used condition; blocks, however, are very scarce, while pairs and strips are, in proportion to single copies, not so very common. This scarcity of blocks is probably due to postal clerks frequently cutting up the sheets into rows to facilitate their quick delivery during the busy hours of the day.

Mr. M. H. Horsley, a well known specialist in Canadian stamps, writing in the *London Philatelist* (April 1907) says:

A minor variety of the 3d. exists in this and the following issue, called by those who seek for it a "double strike," occurring usually under one or both of the figures of value, caused, I presume, by some slight movement of paper, or plate during printing, or by uneven pressure during the process of preparation.

Mr. Séfi, in the *Philatelic World* (December 1908) also describes these so-called "double strikes" as follows:

In the ordinary stamp the design is enclosed in a double-lined rectangle, the space between which is quite clear; but in the double strike we always find that parts of the "3" cuts through the inside line and encroaches on the white space between the lines.

Personally I do not attach much importance to these so called "double strikes," collectors however, who are in search of fresh varieties can digest the above extracts and renew their search for fresh conquests, with added zest.

In fine conditions these early Canadian imperforates should prove a good investment, in fact the following extract of prices realized—taken from the auction catalogue (New York) of the late Mr. Seybold's collection and reproduced in the April number of the *London Philatelist* should prove that these stamps are much appreciated by American collectors.

ON ORIGINAL COVERS.		£	s.	d.
6d. purple-black and 10d. blue, pair of each	.. .. .	25	9	3
10d. blue, horizontal pair	.. .. .	7	15	0
7½d. green, vertical pair, one slightly damaged	.. .. .	9	8	11
6d. violet, on thick soft paper, horizontal pair	.. .. .	10	5	4
6d. purple-black, on thick hard paper, three copies, not catalogued	.. .. .	8	4	3
6d. brown-purple, perf. 12, off centre at top and right	.. .. .	7	18	1
6d. brown-violet, perf. 12, vertical pair, well centred	.. .. .	25	1	1

NOT ON ENTIRES.

10d. blue, on thick paper, strip of 3	.. .. .	16	8	7
7½d. green, horizontal pair, slightly discoloured	.. .. .	8	12	7
.. strip of 3	.. .. .	27	14	5

Late in 1857—or early in 1858—the three values most in demand, namely: the 1/2d., 3d. and 6d., were issued by the postal authorities in a perforated condition, while doubtless, had the New York printers retained the printing contract, the remaining values would

also have been sent out perforated. Although at one time there was considerable doubt as to whether Messrs. Rawdon, Wright & Co., or the Canadian Government perforated these stamps, I think it has now been settled that the perforating took place in New York, while it is almost equally certain that the few stamps which are known with freak perforations, namely: those gauging 13 or 14, are either the work of ingenious fakers or else they are in the nature of trial experiments by private firms before the adoption in 1858 of the official perforating machine.

Referring again to Mr. King's article, I see he says that the total numbers of each value issued, including the perforated stamps, were:

¼d.	...	...	3,389,960
3d.	...	...	3,528,700
6d.	...	...	402,900
7½d.	...	...	82,110
10d.	...	...	151,500
12d.	...	...	1,510

the "cents" stamps came into use, were, so we are told, destroyed. Taking the above figures as being correct, it becomes quite unnecessary for me to point out that the 12 pence stamp is a very desirable item to possess. Gibbons does not price it unused, but in the following table which I have compiled from the current catalogues, it will be seen that this discrepancy is amply rectified by other cataloguers. Needless to say it depends on the condition of any of the stamps in the following list as to whether they are cheap or not—a good copy at £5 would be infinitely cheaper than a soiled specimen at 50/-. The prices in Bright's Catalogue are, in most instances, much under Gibbons and Scott, but the publishers state:

Prices quoted for the issues 1851-1857 are for ordinary copies. Specimens with good margins around the print can be supplied at an increased rate.

Although this list might be considerably extended by including the prices of other well-known dealers, it would not I think serve any useful purpose, as no mere table of prices can convey what any rare stamp in superb condition is likely to be worth. The prices realized at the New York sale are a fair criterion of the present market value of some of these stamps, but even here, not having seen the stamps, or being the supreme umpire on the subject of condition, it would be impossible to say whether the fine stamps might not have been finer, and realized even higher figures,

From these figures it would appear that the ¼d. value should be almost as common, in a used condition, as the 3d. denomination, but I think it is granted that it is fully ten times as rare, due no doubt to the fact that the ¼d. stamps, largely used on newspapers, were not put on one side by their recipients, as was frequently the case with the higher value which franked a letter.

The remainders of the "pence" issues which were on the Government's hands when

*Unused.	Gibbons. £ s. d.		Scott. Dollars.		Kohl. Marks.		Yvert. Francs.		Bright. £ s. d.	
1851, laid paper	*		*		*		*		*	
3d. red ..	—	8/0	50.00	2.00	80—	8—	100.—	20.—	—	8/0
6d. purple-black	—	30/0	not	listed	600—	30—	500.—	50.—	—	17/0
6d. dull purple	—	30/0	150.00	6.00	—	—	—	—	not	listed
12d. black ..	—	£70	500.00	400.00	1600—	1600—	3000.—	2000.—	—	£65
1852/57, wove paper										
¼d. rose ..	30/0	15/0	7.50	3.50	30—	16—	45.—	18.—	25/0	12/0
3d. vermilion ..	25/0	1/6	7.50	.40	25—	1.70	30.—	2.—	17/6	1 6
6d. purple-black	£20	30/0	150.00	6.00	400—	30—	450.—	30.—	—	17/6
6d. greenish ..	—	30/0	150.00	6.00	400—	30—	—	—	—	to
6d. brown ..	—	30/0	not	listed	—	—	—	—	—	37 6
7½d. green ..	£14	70/0	60.00	15.00	280—	60—	400.—	85.—	£9	50/0
10d. blue ..	£15	35/0	40.00	7.50	300—	35—	450.—	50.—	£12	28/6
Pelure paper										
3d. vermilion ..	30/0	2/0	not	listed	30—	2—	not	listed	—	1/9
6d. dull purple	—	30/0	"	"	600—	30—	"	"	—	21/0
10d. blue ..	£8	25/0	"	"	175—	30	"	"	£5	25/0
Very thick paper										
6d. dull grey ..	£40	50/0	250.00	12.00	400—	60—	"	"	—	42 6
Ribbed paper										
¼d. rose ..	—	60/0	50.00	15.00	300—	60—	"	"	—	50/0
3d. vermilion ..	—	7/6	40.00	1.25	—	5.50	"	"	—	5/0
1858, perf. 12										
¼d. rose ..	60/0	25/0	15.00	7.50	60—	27.50	60.—	30.—	55/0	22/6
3d. vermilion ..	50/0	10/0	12.00	3.00	50—	12—	50.—	13.50	45/0	8/6
6d. grey-purple	—	£7	not	listed	300—	150—	—	—	—	£6
6d. brown-purple	—	£7	75.00	30.00	—	175—	500.—	150.—	—	—
Ribbed paper										
3d. vermilion ..	—	—	—	—	275—	120—	—	—	—	—

while it is equally impossible to say what amount of lack of condition (or it may have been lack of enthusiasm on the bidder's part) that caused one 12d. black to realize £30 odd less than another copy.

(To be continued).

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

My namesake, Angus MacTavish, of Angusturaish, is an injured man. He does not think it fair that a collector who belongs to but one club, should have the same privileges as the member of half a dozen; that is when delegating time comes on. Angus, ever greedy, thinks he should have been appointed delegate at the recent Congress by the half dozen or so clubs he belongs to. He tells me that he considers the next Congress banquet committee should give a separate banquet to the delegates of each Society.

Good idea. Hon. Secs. please note, and forward application blanks.

What a time some of the country mice had when they came up for Congress; two of them, I am told, hadn't time to get breakfast, after leaving Hampstead, before it was time to turn up at the Monico. Another wanderer from the South didn't go to either function, he made the mistake of going West on Tuesday and stayed there until Saturday. Yet another wanderer from the East was, I am told, offered, by the proprietor, free meals and lodgings for a twelve month, at a first-class hotel, if he would only stay. Such a thirst must be troublesome when one is shaving.

There didn't seem much competition for the honour of acting as hosts by any of the Societies for next year's Congress. I should have thought the Swadlincote or the Isle of Thanet Societies would have jumped at the chance. I think the following set of rules might be drawn up before next year:—

- (1) No Society with a membership of less than three to appoint more than two delegates.
- (2) No delegate to be under the age of twelve.
- (3) Every delegate who needed it to be presented with a clean collar before the banquet.
- (4) That every delegate should present a medical certificate bearing evidence that he did not suffer from an abnormally big appetite. (Will the gentleman who was sitting to the right of Mr. Pemberton please take note).
- (5) That every delegate should have another delegate appointed to take him home in the morning—to prevent multiplication delegates could toss up.
- (6) That no more than 500 delegates should

be chosen from the various Societies formed only six months previous to the Congress.

(7) That the ginger beers should sit at different tables apart from the ginger ales.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* (April 23rd) of New York puts the following question to its readers:

If two British Colonials should be collected because one has a CA. and the other a CC. watermark, why do not American amateurs take three sets of the current stamps of their own country, one set being watermarked with a U, the second with a S, and the last with a P?

Any of the following three replies would, I think, answer the momentous question:

(1) Because the three remaining American amateurs don't specialise in Colonials.

(2) Because the Paraguayan collector who used to specialize in Mexican watermarks went mad when he found he had to take two sets showing two totally different R's and O's in "Correos."

(3) Because March, the month of hares and mad hatters, comes before April.

The collector, who must have a stamp because so-and-so lists it in his catalogue, need not trouble to read the following little story.

"Once upon a time there was a well-known dealer who found, on going thro' his stock, that he had twenty copies of a certain scarce stamp which he priced (and sometimes sold) at 50/- each. To reduce his stock he priced in his next price list this stamp at 25/-. Contrary to expectations he sold none because buyers, accustomed to the 50/- quotation, were afraid of the sudden drop which they thought was only the first of a series of reductions.

"Two years passed away and our well known one was able to buy very cheaply yet another dozen of this desirable stamp. The following year his price list read as follows:—

1837.	<i>Thick Paper.</i>	
	No. 1, 3d. pale blue	.. 60/-
	No. 2, 3d. deep ..	.. 80/-
	No. 3, 3d. blue	.. 55/-
1838.	<i>Thin Paper.</i>	
	No. 4, 3d. pale blue	.. 80/-
	No. 5, 3d. deep ..	.. 160/-
	No. 6, 3d. blue	.. 100/-

I must not forget to mention that the dealer's stock consisted of one block of twelve and another of twenty, nor, that a prize will not be given to the reader who discovered the moral of this story, because, firstly, there ain't no prize, and secondly, because there ain't no moral.

The editor of the *Australian Philatelist* says, describing his chief's trip to Paris:—

Several of the principal theatres and other noted places of amusement were visited, but our space will not admit of further extracts from Mr. Hagen's letters on these subjects.

Tut, Tut!

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** We have to chronicle the following new issue:



*Adhesive.*  
7d. deep slate.

**Bahamas.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current 4d. stamp in a new shade, pale yellow instead of orange yellow.

*Adhesive.* King's Head, wmk. Crown & C.A.  
4d. pale yellow.

**Falkland Islands.** Mr. Camroux informs us that he has received the 2d. and 6d. in new colours.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. multiple Crown CA.  
2d. grey.  
6d. lilac.

**Mauritius.** We have received several of the new arms type, while our contemporaries chronicle others as follows:—



*Adhesives.* Wmk. multiple Crown & CA. Perf. 14.  
1c. grey-black.  
2c. deep brown.  
3c. green.  
4c. green and rose.  
6c. carmine.  
8c. yellow-brown.  
15c. blue.  
King's Head Type.  
5c. grey and carmine.  
12c. grey.  
25c. black and red on yellow.  
50c. violet and black.

The last two values are on chalky paper.

**Papua.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. values, on Crown and A paper, wmk. sideways, perf. 11.

*Adhesives.* Permanent Issue. Lithographed.  
Wmk. Crown and A sideways. Perf. 11.  
½d. green and black.  
1d. carmine ..  
2d. violet ..

**Victoria.** Charles Lathrop Pack writes: "I have recently received from Victoria two interesting varieties that I have not seen mentioned or catalogued heretofore, the 1d. on paper, watermark Crown and A, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ . This would be No. 315, if put in Gibbons catalogue. The other stamp is the 2d. on the same paper, perf.  $11 \times 12 \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  and then reperf. 12. Both the stamps are used copies and are considered by my correspondent as recent discoveries."—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 4d. stamp on Crown & A, paper perf. 11.

*Adhesive.* Crown & A. Perf. 11.  
4d. yellow bistre

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Azores.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the new stamps and tell us that the full set consists of the following values. Issued April 8th, 1910.



*Adhesives.*  
2½ reis. lilac.  
5 .. grey-black.  
10 .. green.  
15 .. pale lilac-brown.  
20 .. rose.  
25 .. purple-brown.  
50 .. blue.  
75 .. light brown.  
80 .. slate.  
100 .. brown on green.  
200 .. green on salmon.  
300 .. black on blue.  
500 .. olive and lilac-brown.  
1000 .. blue and black.

**Bosnia.** Messrs. Bright and Son tell us that they have found in their stock a copy of the 5k. red, 1890-1900 issue, plate 3, perf. 13½ all round.



**China.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us yet another new variety—uniform with those we chronicled last month.

*Adhesive.*  
4 cents, red.

**Colombia. Panama.** Messrs. Bright & Son have shown us the 10 centavos with third PANAMA overprint apparently inverted. The red bar comes over the value at foot instead of doing its duty by obliterating the name above, but it would take an expert to say whether this is due to the surcharge being inverted or merely misplaced. Our publishers have a similar variety on the 5c.

**Guatemala.** The new 6c. commemorative stamp, illustrated last month, is, we learn from the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, to be surcharged for use as the following denominations: 1, 2, 5, 10, and 12 centavos. Nothing is said by our American contemporary as to what will happen to the poor unfortunate 6c. stamp before it can be used as a Postage Due, an Official, or an Express Letter stamp.

**Italy.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* on the authority of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* relates that a sheet of 300 of the 1c. brown, 1901, recently came into circulation in an imperf. condition; the greater part was sold to the public and presumably used for postal purposes.

*Variety. Imperf.*  
1c. brown.

**Sicily.** Sig. Lelio Cosulich kindly sends us specimens of the two new 5 and 15 centesimi stamps. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly supply us with the following information relating to them:—"Issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Sicily. The stamps are sold only at Sicilian post offices, but are available for inland correspondence anywhere within the Kingdom of Italy; the 5c. stamps are sold at 10c., and the 15c. at 20c., the extra 5c. above the face value of each stamp goes to the benefit of the Festivities Committee. The portrait is that of Garibaldi, beneath which are to be seen the arms of Sicily, three legs with the head of Medusa. The stamp was designed by Professor Morandi."



*Adhesives.*  
5c. green.  
15c. red.

**Mexico.** We are indebted to *Gibbons*

*Stamp Weekly* for the following information:—A new type of overprint is being used on some of the Official stamps. It is a type-set overprint instead of the old handstamp, and is applied horizontally.

**OFFICIAL**

1910. *Official Stamps.* Stamps of 1899-1903 overprinted horizontally, in black.  
2c. green.  
3c. brown.  
4c. rose-red.  
15c. purple and lavender.

**Russian China.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us five of the new Russian stamps overprinted for use in China. The 70k. old type also has been issued with chemical lines across face.



*Adhesives. Perf. 14, 14½.*  
1k. orange.  
2k. green.  
4k. rose.  
7k. pale blue.  
10k. "  
70k. brown and orange.

**Salvador.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us two newly issued novelties.



1910. *Adhesives. Wmk.*  
5c. purple and black.  
6c. red "

**Spain.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us another value of the new set, namely, the 20c. sage-green. In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we find that, with the exception of the 15c. which appeared perf. 14, and now comes 13×12½, all the other values have the latter perforations. We give a revised list of all the varieties issued:—

*Adhesives. Perf. 14.*  
15c. violet.  
Perf. 13×12½.  
2c. black-brown.  
5c. green.  
10c. red.  
15c. violet.  
20c. sage-green.

**Sweden.** The first of the new series, chronicled, as likely to appear, in the August journal of last year, has now made its appear-

ance. Messrs. Bright and Son kindly send us a copy.



Adhesive. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 13.  
4 öre lilac.

Switzerland. Mr. Hierle has kindly shown us *tête-bêche* pairs of the current 2c., 5c., 10c., and 25c. stamps.

Adhesives. Varieties *Tête-bêche*.  
2c. olive-brown.  
5c. green.  
10c. carmine.  
25c. blue.

## Correspondence.

103, Western Road, Hove.

To the Editor, "P.J. of G.B."

### THE POT AND THE KETTLE.

DEAR SIR,

As one who collects impartially old and new issues, I have read your editorial on "Philately versus Speculation" very carefully. I am always willing to learn, especially from those who have had more experience than myself, but I must confess to being quite unable to follow the trend of your remarks in the editorial in question.

I can quite understand that anyone with the interests of philately at heart should decry speculation, but you appear to be under the impression that it is only new issue collectors who are guilty of this indiscretion. Possibly with your wider experience you may be acquainted with more speculators—as distinct from collectors—in new issues than old issues. From my personal experience, however, and I am acquainted with I suppose nearly a hundred collectors, I do not know one who "speculates," that is, buys more than one copy of modern issues as a general rule; whereas, I can call to mind ten who make a practice of buying all the old issues that they come across, cheap. What they do with them is of course no business of mine, but in the words of the article in the *Australian Philatelist* to which you refer, I should opine that "This is done with a deliberate intention of 'unloading' when the market is favourable." I think you will find on enquiry that my experience is by no means unique and that there are far more speculators in old stamps than those of the New Issue Service variety.

Yours faithfully,  
J. IRELAND.



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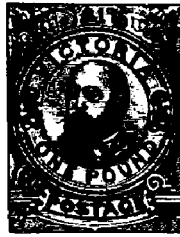
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## Publishers' Note.

IN this number of the Journal our subscribers will find a number of very cheap and desirable stamps being advertised. As strict enquiries are made regarding the commercial integrity of all the firms advertising in these pages, we can confidently recommend our readers to write for the stamps they require;

MR. W. H. PECKITT tells us that he has just received a small parcel of the scarce inverted Java surcharges. As these stamps will undoubtedly be rarities we should advise our readers to write to Mr. Peckitt. The prices we believe range from 10d. to 12/-.



### In Memoriam.

HIS MAJESTY  
KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH.  
BORN, 1841. DIED, MAY 6, 1910.

At midnight came the Majesty of Death—  
Kings of the earth abide this King's  
decree—  
Sudden, and kindlier so, to seal the breath  
And set the spirit free.

And now the Peace he held most near his  
heart,

That Peace to which his country's steps  
he led—  
So well for us he played his royal part—  
Broods o'er him lying dead.

Thus passes Britain's crown from King to  
King,

Yet leaves secure a nation's deathless  
love,  
Dearer than Empire, yea, a precious thing  
All earthly crowns above.

O. S.

*Punch.*



## May, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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:—Reginald Jacobs, Belsize Park, London, N.W.; proposed by J. S. G. Telfer, seconded by F. F. Lamb.

### NEW MEMBER.

Herbert E. E. Pankhurst, Dublin.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting and election of officers and committee for 1910-11 was held at Essex Hall on Thursday evening, 12th inst. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (chair), L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwartze, Guy Semple, A. B. Kay, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, G. E. Strong, W. S. King, and the Hon. Sec. The minutes

of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Sec. presented the annual report and balance sheet for the year 1909, showing 105 members on the roll at January 1st, 1910, since which date seven new members have joined and there has been one death (Mr. Geo. E. Anthonizez, a respected member of Colombo, Ceylon), making a present total of 111, including one honorary and seven life members. Commenting on the work of a successful season, during which a most enjoyable and well attended smoking concert had been held, seven displays and papers had been given by eminent and well known philatelists, and in addition to sending three delegates to the recent Congress, nine I.P.U. members had been present as representatives of other Societies. The Hon. Sec. desired to thank the officers and committee for the support they had afforded him on all occasions and the Philatelic Press for kindly inserting reports sent to them. It was moved by Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. King, and carried unanimously, that the report be received and balance sheet adopted subject to audit, Messrs. G. E. Strong and Guy Semple being appointed auditors. (The balance sheet will be published in next report).

It was then moved by Mr. Sidebotham, seconded by Mr. Pemberton, and carried unanimously that the best thanks of the Union be accorded to the Hon. Sec. for his services during the past year. Mr. W. S. King then read his report on the Library which on the motion of Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. Schwartze, was carried unanimously and Mr. King was thanked for his services and re-elected Librarian. On the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. Fulcher, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham was accorded the cordial thanks of the Union for his services as President and was unanimously re-elected for the ensuing year, as were also Vice-Presidents, Messrs. L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwabacher and W. Schwartze. In the regretted absence of Dr. Marx he was unanimously re-elected Exchange Superintendent. The remaining Officers and Committee were re-elected as at head of this report, Mr. Semple joining the Committee, vice Mr. P. P. Brown—gone abroad. It was arranged that the Committee will meet early in September next to arrange a programme for next season.

On the motion of the President, supported by all present, an expression of deep sympathy with His Majesty King George V. in the loss sustained by the death of his late Majesty King Edward VII. and respectful homage and wishes for a long and prosperous reign of King George V. and his august Consort was passed and the Hon. Sec. was instructed to forward the same to The Home Secretary. Before the meeting separated some interesting stamps were shown by Mr. Guy Semple:—U.S. 1869, 15c. inverted centre; Cape 4d.,

woodblock, retouched corner; and other rarities. Mr. A. B. Kay—a £3000 Great Britain Revenue and several curious errors and oddities. Mr. F. F. Lamb a very nice lot of line-engraved and other stamps many on originals and including pairs, strips and blocks. Mr. L. W. Fulcher a block of eight Mexico 6c., 1872, Anotado, including errors, and some curiosities of postmarks, etc., and the Hon. Sec. a sheet of twelve of the recent Congress Stamps as issued, perforated and gummed and another printed in blue during the lecture. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.  
May 14th, 1910.

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

*Honorary Presidents:*

J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, ESQ., B.A., W. B. EDWARDS, ESQ.,  
B.Sc.

*President:*

J. R. BURTON, ESQ., F.R.P.S.L.

*Vice-Presidents:*

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, ESQ., H. W. WESTCOTT, ESQ.,  
J. A. LEON, ESQ.

*Honorary Exchange Superintendent:*

A. G. KERRISON, 143, Culverly Road, Catford.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:*

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

*Hon. Librarian:*

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

*Hon. Secretary:*

D. H. JACKSON, 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green, N.

*Hon. Treasurer:*

W. H. EASTWOOD, 169, Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, N.

*Committee:*

Messrs. BRAND, BURTON, CARROUX, CONSTANTINIDES, W. H. EASTWOOD, GILES, GOWER, G. A. HIGLETT, JACKSON, LEON, SEPI, AND WESTCOTT.

*Publication Committee:*

Messrs. BURTON, CONSTANTINIDES, AND EDWARDS.

*Official Organ:*

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

*Head Quarters for Meetings:*

MILLS' RESTAURANT,  
14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.  
(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

The annual business meeting was held at Mills' Restaurant, Mr. H. W. Westcott taking the chair in the absence of the President owing to illness.

The first business taken was to pass a vote of condolence to H.M. King George V. on the decease of his lamented father King Edward VII.

Various other matters were dealt with, including reports from Messrs. Leon and Séfi as to the work of the Philatelic Congress; then followed the Secretary's (Mr. Jackson's) report: The current net membership of the Society was 111, the highest in its history; average attendance at meetings has been considerably better. The work of the session in displays, &c., on review must be regarded as eminently successful.

Mr. Gower, as Exchange Superintendent, has also a favourable report to submit, and Mr. Eastwood, as Treasurer, perhaps may be said to have surpassed both, as the balance sheet he presented was eminently satisfactory.

Votes of thanks to all these officials were passed. Mr. Gower's resignation of his post was received with regret, and Mr. A. G. Kerrison, of 143, Culverly Road, Catford, was elected Exchange Superintendent in his stead. Mr. Leon was added to the list of Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Higlett was elected to the vacancy on the Committee caused by the regretted resignation of Mr. J. L. Eastwood. The other officers were re-elected to their old positions unanimously. A letter from Major Evans notified the Society of the successful culmination of the Bernstein Testimonial. The meeting was very well attended, and the proceedings being characterised by much heartiness and goodwill, may be said to have brought an enjoyable session to a successful conclusion.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### PRE-VICTORIAN POSTAGE STAMPS AND FRANKS.\*

By G. A. FOSTER.

COLLECTORS, and students of early British franks and postmarks, will revel in Mr. Foster's book, while bibliophiles will be able to add to their libraries a publication which combines a delicacy of design with a wonderful and unique fount of thought and originality.

The author, Mr. Foster, in his preface, says:

This little production is not printed and published solely for the author's own gratification, utterly regardless of any inside or outside opinions; its preparation has been a labour of love, and no time or expense has been spared to make it interesting to those who study and appreciate these old time Postage Stamps of our forefathers. It may not be glaringly correct in every minute detail, but it is innocent of any mercenary motives or wilfully misleading intentions, and the chief excuse for its issue is that justice might be done to the artistic qualities of these good old Stamps and Franks, which up to the present time have apparently not been sufficiently recognised, and I trust the endeavour may in a great measure be deemed useful in faithfully portraying the charming outlines of these ancient Britons that have now, in a

\*Published by Chas. Nissen & Co., Southampton Row, W.C.  
Price 5/- nett.

measure, been superseded by the adhesive *labels* (as they were first called), which afterwards took the *name* as well as the *place* of their predecessors, the Stamps.

Those of our readers who add this book to their bookshelves will, we are sure, agree with us that Mr. Foster is a true lover of stamps and postal research, and that the compilation of such a work has indeed been a labour of love.

Commencing with the early franks (or postage stamps) of 1680, when William Dockwra started in London the first Penny Post, we find a full history of the various postmarks, or rather stamps, which actually franked letters and newspapers from that early date until the comparatively recent time when adhesive stamps were first available.

The latter half of Mr. Foster's book is devoted to frank stamps, and we find here, as in the early chapters, numerous reproductions (in colour) of many quaint and interesting relics of bygone postal days. There is also a short account of those curious labels, known as Wall Paper Tax stamps, which in the eighteenth century were impressed on the backs of wall paper sheets.

We also find that the author has compiled a reference list of all the varieties mentioned, with their approximate value, a feature which will be of interest to those collectors who have duplicates of these early franks.

No review of ours (for we are assuredly amongst the least competent) could do justice to Mr. Foster's book. He has evolved, almost from chaos, a masterpiece of philatelic literature, a book worthy to find a home in the heart, and library, of every true student. It is superbly printed on hand-made paper, large quarto size, deckle edges, and is a remarkably cheap publication at the publishers' price.

#### UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS, 1870-1893 AND 1894-1910.\*

BY F. J. MELVILLE.

We have duly received two more of Mr. Melville's little white covered booklets, each of which deals with United States stamps. The first booklet treats of those stamps issued 1870 to 1893, while the second deals with the stamps of 1894 to date. In the later book we find an interesting account of the U.S.A. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, while in both we find numerous illustrations.

Although Mr. Melville has given his readers remarkably cheap and handy little guides to the stamps of various countries, he still leaves a good many knotty questions severely alone; to wit, he says nothing about the 1894-98 stamps which can be found in *se tenant* pairs showing *two* varieties of triangles.

#### HALIFAX POSTS.

We have been favoured with a copy of this

little book which should be of great interest to all who are interested in early postmarks. The author, Mr. H. Ling Roth, is the Hon. Curator of the Bankfield Museum, Halifax, and his little publication, which deals with letter sheets, as well as many kinds of various postmarks and franks, is most enjoyable. The publishers are Messrs. F. King and Sons, Ltd., Commercial Street, Halifax, who will forward a copy, on receipt of 1/1, post paid.

#### OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIRST PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.\*

We have received from the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society a neat little book which contains a verbatim report of the First Philatelic Congress held last year at Manchester.

This publication is very useful, as doubtless many collectors will like to have, in convenient form, a full report of the delegates' speeches; there is also an appendix detailing the correspondence which took place relating to the suppression of unnecessary issues.

\* Published by The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society,  
7, Green Street, Manchester. Price 1/-.  

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## The Second Philatelic Congress OF Great Britain.

A BRIEF RESUMÉ BY A DELEGATE.

THAT the Second Philatelic Congress would be the social event of the present philatelic season was a foregone conclusion, under the strong Executive Committee of the Herts Society, who were responsible for the arrangements; neither time, hard work nor expense having been spared in achieving that end.

Some 90 delegates from 40 Societies responded to the call, and there was in addition a good attendance of well-known philatelists and many friends at the two public meetings and other functions open to them.

The proceedings commenced with the opening public meeting at Caxton Hall, on Wednesday, April 27th. On the platform were the Right Hon. Earl of Crawford, K.T., Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. F. Reichenheim, President of the Executive Committee (in the chair), Mr. H. L. Hayman, Baron A. de Worms, Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Major Evans, Mr. Dunbar Heath, Mr. C. R. Sutherland and Mr. H. A. Slade, Hon. Sec. In the body of the Hall, in addition to the delegates, was a goodly gathering of well-known phil-

atelists, whilst the galleries were adorned by a bevy of fair ladies.

Lord Crawford in a felicitous speech declared the Congress open on behalf of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, from whom he read a letter expressing his Royal Highness's warm interest in the event, and his Royal command for the opening of the Congress in his name. Needless to say this unexpected honour was keenly appreciated by all present, and an address of respectful thanks to His Royal Highness was moved by the chairman, seconded by Mr. Castle and carried unanimously and forwarded during the afternoon. Major Evans followed with an able speech, in which he mentioned that the Congress had met to discuss the politics of Philately. Mr. Dunbar Heath, of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., then gave his interesting paper on "The Manufacture of Stamps by the Line-Engraved Process," which was amply illustrated by dies, plates, and specimens being passed round amongst the audience, whilst on the platform a press was at work printing sheets of the Souvenir Stamp of the Congress. On the conclusion of his paper, Mr. Heath handed to Lord Crawford a sheet of the Souvenir Stamps, printed in gold, for the acceptance of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, and one in silver for his lordship. During the afternoon flash-light photographs were taken of the meeting and a handsome presentation was made to Mr. Bernstein for his services at the first Congress at Manchester. The usual votes of thanks were proposed and responded to and terminated the proceedings, on the conclusion of which there was considerable competition to secure specimens of the Souvenir sheets of 12 stamps printed during the afternoon, and also those inserted in the programmes.

In the evening the reception of delegates followed at Mr. Hayman's residence, at which his well known hospitality was most genially exercised and the gathering concluded at a late hour.

Thursday's proceedings commenced with a visit of the delegates to Lord Crawford's, to view his matchless collection, and a large number availed themselves of the privilege and were much gratified thereby. Punctually at 3 p.m. the meeting of the delegates was called to order by the Chairman (Mr. Reichenheim). Before commencing the agenda a vote of condolence and sympathy was passed with the relatives of Mr. G. F. H. Gibson and the Manchester Society on the loss they had sustained by his death. Mr. T. H. Hinton, I.P.U., then raised a point of order as to the *locus standi* of the delegates to the Congress, viz.:—whether a delegate moving, speaking, or voting on any resolution before the Congress is to be taken as representing the vote or opinion of his society, or only his own personal opinion, either the ruling of the Chairman or the sense of the meeting being desired on this point. A long discussion ensued, on

the conclusion of which Mr. Hinton was desired to hand up his question in the form of a resolution to the Chairman, and its further discussion was adjourned until the next afternoon's meeting.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton (Manchester) then read the first paper on the agenda, "As to the advisability of taking steps to secure greater accuracy and uniformity in the use of Philatelic terms."

Several delegates having taken part in the discussion which ensued, an influential Committee composed of the following well-known philatelists: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, W. Dorning Beckton, P. C. Bishop, Major Evans, L. W. Fulcher, and Chas. J. Phillips was appointed to take steps to this end.

Mr. F. J. Melville (Juniors) then followed with a paper on "Unsolicited Approval Sheets," and eloquently pointed out the drawbacks to philately in general, attendant on this practice, more particularly when sent to young lads at schools. Several delegates followed endorsing the views of the speaker. The business of the afternoon was concluded by Mr. Hadlow (I.P.U.) who opened a discussion on "Guarantees of Authenticity, should they be for a definite period?" The speaker went very thoroughly into the law on this subject and quoted Counsel's opinion. The discussion was continued by Mr. Beckton, Mr. Tilleard and others, and the feeling was that it was a matter in which a sense of fair play and good feeling should be exercised between dealer and client.

It goes without saying that the Banquet at the Café Monico at 8 p.m. was an unqualified success. A very large and representative gathering was presided over by the President of the Congress (Mr. Reichenheim), who was ably supported by the Vice-President, Mr. H. L. Hayman. A large number of ladies graced the occasion with their presence, and amongst the distinguished visitors were Mr. Heniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. Paul King, of the Chinese Customs, Mr. Dunbar Heath, Mr. Coyette of Paris, Mr. Passer, of Vienna, and Mr. F. Hagen, of Sydney.

Mr. Slade was indefatigable in his efforts for the comfort and enjoyment of all concerned, whilst the musical arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Harrison Hill. An excellent repast was provided (a little bird has whispered that friend McTavish had the time of his life owing to the efforts of several attentive friends). The invitation cards and menus were beautiful works of art and handsome souvenirs were provided for the ladies, whilst the gentlemen were not forgotten as to smoking materials. Flashlight photographs were taken, and after many eloquent speeches which were duly announced by a stentorian toastmaster, music, song and mystery terminated a long evening at a late hour.

Friday's proceedings commenced at 11 a.m.

with a visit to the Tapling Collection, under the able guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon, which was thoroughly enjoyed by those able to participate. The afternoon proceedings opened with a paper by Major Evans (Herts Society) proposing "That a special committee be formed to take active steps to endeavour to prevent the manufacture and sale of forged postage stamps, also so-called facsimiles (the latter not bearing any distinguishing mark, tend to victimize purchasers) and that the committee should also endeavour to bring this matter under the consideration of the various Governments interested."

A discussion followed, which was joined in by many delegates, and resulted in the appointment of a representative committee of the following collectors and dealers: Major Evans, Messrs. W. Hadlow, L. L. R. Hausburg, W. H. Peckitt, C. J. Phillips, F. Reichenheim and A. J. Séfi.

The next item, "Means to be Adopted for the Prevention of Substitution in Exchange Packets," was introduced by Mr. T. H. Hinton (I.P.U.) Having pointed out that the I.P.U. was the pioneer and forerunner of all other Exchange Clubs and Societies, on whose rules they had all been founded, he read a letter from Dr. Marx, M.A., the I.P.U. Exchange Supt., stating that there had not been any serious complaints on this score for some years, and concluded by suggesting that the best means of prevention were: (1st) Careful inquiry and references as to all members admitted; and (2nd) An able and efficient Exchange Supt. Mr. Johnson (Birmingham) continued the discussion, and pointed out that it would be useful for Secretaries of Societies or Clubs to get in touch with each other and give information whenever a member had to be expelled for this reason. Remarks from other delegates supporting this view concluded this subject.

Mr. Ward (Bolton) then read a paper on "A Scheme to found a Universal Philatelic Union." On its conclusion it was moved, seconded and carried by a majority that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Ward for his paper and that it be laid on the table. The Chairman then announced that Mr. Hinton's resolution of the previous day with reference to the *locus standi* of delegates was next in order, when after some discussion it was agreed that this subject should stand over until the meeting of the next Congress and should then be placed on the Agenda as the first subject for discussion, thus giving Societies an opportunity of discussing the matter in the meantime. Thanks to the Chairman concluded the afternoon meeting, in the course of which it was announced that the *venue* of the next Congress would probably be Birmingham, and it was agreed that the present Executive Committee would remain in office until relieved by their successors.

The closing public meeting at 8 p.m. was

well attended, the Chairman being supported on the platform by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. H. L. Hayman, Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Mr. Dunbar Heath, Major Evans, and others. An interesting paper was read by Mr. Castle, on "The possibility of forming a Universal Philatelic Union of Philatelic Societies, to discourage unnecessary or speculative issues."

A discussion ensued, joined in by Mr. Hayman and others, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

Mr. Dunbar Heath gave an interesting addenda to his lecture and read letters of thanks for the special printings of the souvenir stamps, from H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and Lord Crawford.

The proceedings of the Congress were closed by an able and genial address by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., in the course of which he voiced the thanks of all concerned, to the Executive, for the courtesy, hospitality and success with which all the arrangements had been carried out.

A fitting sequel to the Congress was the At Home of The Junior Philatelic Society at the Pillar Hall, Victoria Station, on Saturday afternoon, which was attended by many of the delegates and friends and which afforded a pleasant opportunity for a final chat and good-bye.

## Auction Fever.

(From an article on "In an Auction Room" in the "Saturday Review.")

FOR a modest form of sensation, which may be enjoyed with regularity and respectability, which, except in flagrant cases, is not likely to lead to the courts, though it may be frowned upon by wives, we would recommend the auction room. You must ride a hobby of sorts, whether postage stamps or pictures. Greek coins or British lepidoptera, porcelain or ivories; you must take one line and obtain a sufficient knowledge of it to give edge to your desires. Then you must not be rich, at least not so rich relatively to the objects of your pursuit as to make you reckless of the extent to which you indulge your fancy for any particular lot.

In order to get up the real tension you must go to a sale knowing that your outlay needs to be strictly limited, aware that you can buy but little of what you are sure to want and that only a turn of luck will obtain perhaps the most passionately desired thing of all. The wealthy man who needs not count the cost of his collection knows none of the excitements of the auction room; he may have the pleasure of finding what he has long been looking for or of securing a bargain; we may also allow him the enjoyment of his purchases when they come home; but he has no part in that two minutes' fever while the auctioneer's hammer is still poised and Fate has not yet knocked.





MAY 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

THE *Philatelic Record* for April contains a valuable contribution to the literature of philately in the form of another instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Belgian article, wherein he writes about the various retouches of the 1861-63 issues.

These "retouches" have not, we believe, been mentioned or illustrated before, consequently students of Belgian stamps will find Mr. Leavy's article full of interest. Describing these stamps he says:

I have found twenty-five varieties of recutting on the 10 centimes and seventy-five varieties on the 20 centimes, beginning with a recutting of the outer frame, showing an increased thickness of the lines, and in some cases a prolonging of the lines beyond the corner angles on the least worn specimens, while slightly more worn specimens show a decided strengthening in the outer lines of the ornamental design of leaves and "flames" in the lower and upper corners, all of which are too slight for illustration, but quite marked and distinct on the stamps themselves.

These "retouches," although not very marked, and not at all likely ever to attain catalogue rank, are very interesting to the keen philatelist. The following extract describes, as well as the lack of illustrations permits, where most of them occur.

The accompanying illustrations show a number of the best of the retouches, those where the contour or effect of the ornamental design has been markedly changed.

In Fig. 6, that of the 10 centimes, No. 1 shows the necessary portion of the stamp in the earliest state of the plate, the photograph being taken from a specimen with framed watermark. No. 2 shows the badly worn stage of the plate which made the recutting necessary. No. 3 shows a recutting of the outline of the flames in the upper corner that changes their contour and likewise a recutting of the leaves above the "D" in the lower corner, changing their outlines. There are a number of fine lines of shading in these leaves, which do not appear on the original die, but the fine wire screen which is used in reproductions of this sort has unfortunately so broken these lines that they do not show. For the same reason No. 4, only faintly shows a complete redrawing of the leaves in the lower

corner, which is most noticeable in the third leaf from the bottom, this leaf being drawn similar to the fourth leaf, and not small and pointed as in the original; the fifth leaf is also oval instead of pointed, and twice the size of the original. The outline of the leaves close to the portrait oval has been destroyed by the wearing away of the heavy lines of background, and curved lines have been drawn in the semblance of leaves to remove the ugly white spot. No. 5 shows fairly clearly a complete change in the design of the leaves above the "D" very different from the changes in 3 and 4, while No. 6 shows a complete redrawing of the entire ornamental designs on the left side of the stamp; the many fine lines of shading are destroyed by the screen in reproduction, but the marked change of outline shows distinctly.

Mr. Leavy also writes interestingly about the various printings of the un-watermarked imperf. stamps.

Our contemporary also contains a further instalment of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," in which several members of the Riksdag suggest various methods for the introduction of stamps throughout Sweden.

Other pages of the *Record* are devoted to "Reviews" (where, incidentally, we find a scathing criticism of the literary methods of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*), "New Issues," "Auction Reports," etc.

The April number of the *London Philatelist* contains an article entitled "The Postage Stamps of the Province of Schleswig-Holstein 1851-1852," being the paper read before the Royal Society by Mr. H. M. Hansen, who gives a most interesting account of the stormy history of these two Dukedoms, and of their philatelic issues. Collectors who are interested in early Europeans, and who like an exhaustive account of any one country's postal history will find Mr. Hansen's paper most enjoyable.

Mr. J. N. Marsden concludes his short paper dealing with what are known as "The King of Spain" reprints of Portugal, a New Issue List, the usual capable Editorial and a big budget of "Notes"

complete a good number of our contemporary. In the "Notes" we find a lengthy list of prices realised at the sale of the Seybold collection, most of the stamps were on original covers and fetched truly remarkable prices. The following are just a few taken almost at random.

CANADA.		£	s.	d.
6d. brown-purple, perf. 12, off centre at top and right .. .. .		7	18	1
6d. brown-violet, perf. 12, pair well centred..		25	1	1
NEW BRUNSWICK.				
Half 1/- purple=6d., cancellation does not cover the cut .. .. .		9	17	2
NOVA SCOTIA.				
6d. yellow-green, strip of 4 .. .. .		10	5	4
6d. ,, +half 3d. dark blue=7½d., perfect		7	7	10
6d. green and half 6d. dark green=9d. ..		7	7	10
URUGUAY.				
1857, 18oc. green.. .. .		9	0	8
,, 24oc. vermilion .. .. .		10	5	4
PERU.				
1858, ½ peso rose .. .. .		12	18	9
BUENOS AYRES.				
4r. brown, horizontal pair .. .. .		7	7	10

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for April 16th contains some very interesting notes on the early issues of Chili—contributed by Mr. C. J. Phillips. We are afraid, however, that Chili—after the publication of the new catalogue, will become a very intricate country, even for specialists. The following is an extract from Mr. Phillips' article.

#### THE LOCAL PRINTINGS.

The Postal Authorities of Chili evidently largely under-estimated the demand for postage stamps, and found that they would be sold out long before they could receive a new supply from London; they had therefore to make various local printings in Santiago. The first attempt was with the 5 centavos; the steel plate of this stamp was given to Mr. N. Desmadryl, a printer in Santiago, and from it he made three printings, in January, August, and September, 1854.

The stamps printed by Mr. Desmadryl are very clear impressions, with the lines of the background clear and distinct; indeed, I think they are better printed than the first stamps of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., which are generally over-inked and somewhat blurred.

The colours of the Desmadryl prints are—

- 5c. pale reddish brown.
- 5c. deep reddish brown.
- 5c. chestnut-brown.

I have not been able to find out which of these colours belong to the three separate printings of 1854. Many stamps of these printings are found on finely ribbed paper.

The 5c. pale reddish brown is known double printed on the face, the whole stamp showing a clear double impression, not due to a mere slip of the paper. The 5c. chestnut-brown is much the rarest even used; all are rare unused.

In November, 1854, the authorities sent the Perkins Bacon 10c. steel plate to Mr. N. Desmadryl, and he made a small printing in two distinct shades.

- 10c. blue.
- 10c. sky-blue.

These stamps are also clearly printed, and the colours are rather dull. They are very rare unused and are scarce used.

#### THE GILLET PRINTINGS.

In April, 1854, the authorities thought they would try another printer, and took the 5c. steel plate from Mr. Desmadryl and sent it to Mr. Gillet, a well-known lithographic printer in Santiago.

Mr. Gillet's first production was not very successful, as he used a thick ink, and apparently over-inked the plate. This printing produced the well-known—

- 5c. burnt sienna.
- 5c. deep chocolate.

This stamp is very rare unused, and is scarce in good used condition.

#### THE LITHOGRAPHED STAMPS.

In or about May, 1854, Mr. Gillet made a lithographic transfer from the Perkins Bacon plate of the 5c. In placing the transfer paper on the stone a number of folds or creases were made in it, and this has produced the abnormal varieties of which I hope to publish a full list, with illustrations, after the article to which I referred earlier has appeared in the *Annals*.

These lithographed stamps, even the ordinary ones without flaws, have always been rare over here, but during my travels in Chili I was able to purchase various small lots, and I think they can be grouped under five distinct colours or shades.

- 5c. brown.
- 5c. light brown.
- 5c. pale red-brown.
- 5c. chestnut-brown.
- 5c. dull red-brown.

These lithographed stamps can generally be distinguished quite easily from the engraved, by the use of a good glass. The lines in the background are blurred and indistinct, and the whole appearance of the stamp is very flat and smooth.

The stamps are really rare unused, and are quite scarce used, the first shade being specially scarce.

The postal authorities evidently did not care for the lithographed stamps, as in August, 1854, they took the plate of the 5c. from Mr. Gillet and gave it back to Mr. Desmadryl, who made further printings, as I have stated previously.

Mr. Gillet's next attempt was with the 10 centavos plate, with which he made three printings in August, 1854:—

- 10c. greenish blue.
- 10c. deep blue.
- 10c. slate-blue.

These stamps may be distinguished from the later local 10 centavos by the appearance of the impression. The Gillet stamps are well printed, and have all the fine lines on the face clear and distinct, and in most of his 10c. stamps the paper shows strong ribbing on the face of the stamp. The 10c. greenish blue is exceedingly rare, even used, and unused is one of the great rarities of Chili.

We must apologise for the length of the above extract, but Mr. Phillips writes so interestingly that we should like to have extracted even more—anyway our readers will see that the April 16th *Weekly* is a paper to be purchased and studied.

Other articles in the same number are the conclusion of Mr. Roger Mennevé's paper dealing with the William III. stamps

of Holland, a lengthy article entitled "The Law and Forgeries," some notes on the 1886 provisional issue of Guatemala, contributed by Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht and the usual capital new issue list, etc. In the April 23rd number M. L. Hanciau continues his Italian article; he mostly deals with the Express letter stamps. Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes a few notes, Mr. D. B. Armstrong discusses the twentieth century issues of Mauritius, while "Desdichado" and Mr. Dendy Marshall write respectively about stamps that are found *tête-bêche*, and British postmarks.

A further dose of the imaginary debates of the Tyro Stamp Club, some Notes and Queries and a New Issue List complete the bill of contents. The copy dated April 30th does not contain any very exciting articles. Mr. Poole writes about Heligoland. Mr. W. T. Elliot contributes some Notes on the 6d. Papua stamp. Mr. Dendy Marshall, another instalment of his 'postmarks,' while Mr. D. B. Armstrong continues his Mauritius Notes. Two pages of the Tyro Stamp Club and some excellent "Notes and Queries" and the usual New Issue List complete our review. The May 7th copy contains a continuation of Mr. Dendy Marshall's paper—a further instalment of Mr. Poole's Heligoland and another chapter of Desdichado's paper. Besides these hardy serials we find a short chapter of Major Evan's Soruth article—a good sprinkling of notes, topical and foreign, and another of Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace's excellent contributions dealing with the stamps of China.

The April number of our quarterly visitor, the *Philatelic World*, is a most enjoyable publication, full of short interesting notes, which, if not all original, are worthy of having been reproduced. The only original article seems to be a continuation of "Mirza's" Notes on the 1875 and 1876 Issues of Persia. We find here a description of the 1876 issue with a list of the different settings.

The following short extract will interest those of our readers who collect these quaint labels.

The Postal Rates were now 5 shaki for inland postage and 10 shaki for external. At this time Persia was not in the Postal Union, so that on letters coming from Persia one often finds, in addition to the native stamps, an 8 kopeck Russian. In accordance with these new rates, the series ordered from Vienna was to include stamps of the value of 5 and 10 sh.

The temporary series, which is the subject of these notes, included two new values, 1 and 4 kran stamps, the 8 sh. value being omitted. The 1 kr. and 4 kr. stamps were printed from the same dies as the 1 sh. and the 4 sh. values, the colours alone being different. With one exception the stamps of this issue were printed in blocks of four, being placed fairly close together.

The paper most used was a thin greyish *wove*, though stamps on *laid* are not uncommon.

The April 16th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains a further instalment of Mr. J. J. Darlow's paper on the Postage Stamps of St. Vincent, a most interesting account of Mr. C. L. Pack's collection of Uruguay, a further chapter of Dr. Hubert Armstrong's "Some Notes on the Stamps of France" and a number of other interesting items. Mr. C. L. Pack is our contemporary's "Philatelist of To-day."

The April 29th *Fortnightly*, a Congress number, contains a good deal of capital matter; we find that Mr. J. J. Darlow contributes a further instalment of his article. Writing about the March, 1885 provisional, he says:

Next we come to another Provisional prepared in the Island in March, 1885, but this time the issue was not quite so limited as before. The 2½d. black on rosy lake was overprinted 1d. in black in type somewhat similar to the 1d. on half of 6d. of 1880, and the value was obliterated by two black bars. There are minor varieties of this surcharge, the principal being:—1 with right hand projection of the foot being broken off, 1 with sloping serif, and 1 with a curious split in the stem. The position of the surcharge varies in relation to the original 2½ pence surcharge. The cancelling bars commence just at the front of the 2 on the left stamp and end at the 2nd E of Pence on the right stamp of each row. Three copies of this Provisional are known with three obliterating bars instead of two (I am fortunate in being able to show you one copy used) and one copy with four bars.

Dr. Armstrong completes his capital series of papers dealing with French stamps. Regarding the "F.M." stamps he says:—

Lastly there are the Military Franchise surcharges. In 1891 the government passed a law permitting the free delivery of two letters a month from non-commissioned officers and men on service in the army, and from petty officers and men in the navy, and the stamp representing the ordinary rate of postage was surcharged "F.M." for "Franchise Militaire." In April, 1903, the redrawn Mouchon type was similarly surcharged, and later both the 15c. and 10c. Sower Type I. Lastly the current 10c. was similarly decorated, and is now in use. The stamp is not supplied to the soldiers, but is placed on their letters by some superior officer, and is not, I understand, at all popular with the men on account of some regulations and restrictions by which its use is guarded. There are some varieties with big stops, broken letters, etc.

Other principal features of our fortnightly exchange are, an interview with Mr. T. K. Skipwith, of Leeds—a lengthy

report of the opening ceremony of the Second Philatelic Congress, a capable review of Mr. G. A. Foster's book dealing with Pre-Victorian Stamps and Franks, the first instalment of Mr. W. Macdonald Mackay's account of a trip to Iceland, which makes splendid reading, and last, but not least, a further batch of New Zealand Notes contributed by Mr. Irwin Paris.

The May number of the *Stamp Lover* contains the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article dealing with the stamps of Prussia contributed by Mr. Ralph Wedmore, the energetic Hon. Secretary of the J.P.S. Mr. Wedmore specialises in these stamps and has devoted a good deal of his time to their study. His first paper deals with the issues of Nov., 1850, and May, 1856, and the reprints of these stamps; concerning the issue of May 1st, 1856, he says:—

On this date the tariff for printed matter, etc., sent under open wrapper, was reduced from 6pfg. to 4pfg., and a stamp of the new value was issued. The dies and printing plates were produced in the same manner as before, the original die of the head of King Frederick William IV. with the word "POSTMARKE" being used. Roller transfers were made on a steel die, and the word "POSTMARKE" erased and "FREI-MARKE" inserted in the upper label. In the Museum at Berlin this steel die may be seen bearing four impressions from the original die. On three of them the word "POSTMARKE" is partially erased, and the fourth is completed and was used for making the plates for this value. The figures and words denoting the value were engraved, most probably by Schilling, who had been employed by the State since 1851 to engrave the dies of the envelope stamps. A comparison with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen value shows considerable variation in the shape of the lettering, which tends to prove that this was not the work of Eichens. It will also be observed that on this stamp the value is given as "VIER PFENNINGE" and not "PFENNIGE" as on the 6 pfg. stamp. The stamp was printed in moss-green on white paper watermarked as before, imperforate:—

4 VIER PFENNINGE, moss-green on white (shades).

The plate number, followed by a full stop, was punched into the plate opposite the eighth horizontal row of stamps on the left side. The words "PLATTE NO.—" were not engraved on the plate, and the horizontal and vertical rows were not numbered. Only two numbered plates are known.

From May 1st, 1857, the instruction that the stamps should be obliterated with the "ring postmark" was modified to the extent of permitting the cancellation on the 4pfg. stamps by means of the town postmark. The 4pfg. stamps were at first of a dark moss-green, later printings being of a bright moss-green until, towards the end of 1857, the colour was a pale yellow-green.

The 4pfg. stamps of this issue were not superseded until the summer of 1858. The 6pfg. stamps were printed on watermarked paper until the end of 1859, but the 1, 2, and 3sgr. stamps in black on coloured paper were superseded in 1857. Nevertheless, they were not withdrawn from circulation, and the supply of these values in the various post offices was so large

that it was not until March of 1859 that the offices were instructed to return to headquarters all whole sheets of these stamps, and to use remainders for stamping letters which were brought to the post office by the public with cash to pay the postage. The stamps in question were never actually withdrawn from circulation and were available for postage till the end of the Prussian postal regime.

It seems convenient to mention here that in the year 1860, one or probably, two printings of the 6pfg. stamp were made on the same paper as used for the stamps of the 1857 and 1858 issues, i.e., unwatermarked wove paper with a colourless network printed on it. There is no official record with regard to these printings, as no special importance would be attached to the mere change in the paper from the watermarked variety to the paper then in current use.

In the same number of the *Stamp Lover* we also find Mr. A. J. Warren's most interesting notes on the stamps of Holland (illustrated), being a *résumé* of his paper read before the Juniors early in the year, some correspondence dealing with foreign postmarks, mostly Chinese on Hong Kong stamps; the first instalment of an article entitled "Savage Island and its Postage Stamps" and a few "Notes," etc.

In the *British Philatelist* for March we find a most interesting account of the stamps surcharged for use in the British Levant. We make the following extract relating to the forged one piastre stamps:—

In 1906, an alteration was made in the manner of expressing the surcharged values on the 2½d. and 5d., hitherto "40 PARAS" and "80 PARAS" respectively; why they were ever so printed we cannot understand, as the ordinary mode of expression would seem to be "1 piastre" and "2 piastres," and this seems to have at last occurred to the authorities in London. Anyhow, whatever the reason, the surcharge on the 2½d. was altered to "1 PIASTRE" and that on the 5d. to "2 PIASTRES." The higher value is found on the two papers, the lower only on ordinary. Another provisional appeared on the 2nd July, 1906, this time at Beyrout, the 2d. (with overprint of "LEVANT") being surcharged "1 Piastre" in black ink. Through the kindness of a correspondent at Beyrout, we are enabled to give the following interesting information. Two sheets (480 stamps) were so treated, the printing being done under the authority of the local British Vice-Consul, who was also the Postmaster. The surcharging was done at the American Press, under the supervision of Mr. Fryer (an American), Director of the Press, and Mr. Glockler (an Englishman), manager of the printing department, and great care was taken to ensure uniformity in the setting up of the type: there are, we think, no varieties.

The same correspondent informs us that one Maroun Attallah, a Syrian, purchased several sheets of the 2d. and had the surcharge added at a native printing establishment, which possessed type of a similar fount; and, though the setting-up, inking and printing were not so carefully done as for the genuine issue, our correspondent states that the aforesaid Syrian sold a quantity of these (unused) forgeries to a well-known German dealer and that he, on discovering the fraud, caused Maroun Attallah to be brought before the German Consul-General by Mr. Fryer—with what result we know not. The principal test, we are told, for the forgery is the space between the figure "1" and "P" of "Piastre," which is 3mm., instead of 1½mm. as in the genuine.

Our small contemporary also contains a further instalment of its serial dealing with the surface printed stamps of Great Britain. If some of our bigger exchanges contained, in proportion to size, the same amount of philatelic research it would be a good thing for philately.

The *West End Philatelist* for April contains as its principal contribution another longish instalment of its editors' article dealing with the stamps of Sierra Leone. Regarding the first stamp issued Mr. Poole says:—

Specimens of this stamp on highly surfaced blue paper, imperforate, are met with occasionally, and almost from the earliest days of stamp collecting this was considered a legitimately issued variety. Writing in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for March, 1866, the late Dr. Viner referred to three varieties, viz., "Our Gaelic neighbours acknowledge no fewer than three distinct editions of the exceedingly well engraved and peculiarly designed stamps of Sierra Leone. They are all of the same precise type, and most likely from one original die; the sole distinction, scarcely to be called difference, being that the earlier impressions were taken off on white, and the second on bluish-tinted paper, both of them unperforated, while the third and current issue has been perforated for several years." But although these imperforate stamps were acknowledged as *bona-fide* varieties for such a lengthy period, modern authorities class them as proofs. Proofs, therefore, they must be considered until undoubtedly postally used specimens are produced or until some evidence is forthcoming to prove that they were ever issued for postal purposes in an imperforate state.

The *Postage Stamp* for April 30th will interest those collectors who took an interest in the recent Caxton Hall Congress as it contains a list of the delegates who attended—with, in many instances, short biographical sketches. There are also seventeen portraits—nearly all being of well-known collectors. This number of our weekly contemporary will be of value for reference purposes.

## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, dated 30th April, contains the first instalment of an article entitled "Originals and Reprints of Heligoland," by Arthur Wulburn. This bids fair to be an important article but we doubt whether the author can do more than re-state what was already known about this subject. The principal treatises which have hitherto appeared were written either in German or English, consequently the present contribution which is in very lucid style, must be heartily welcomed in France.

In the same number of the *Echo* we read of the fate of the several Italians and others who were arraigned on the charge of forging the current 10c. stamps. Peretti, a journalist of Corsican origin, who was charged with com-

licity was acquitted; Baldazzi, the ringleader, was sentenced to three years imprisonment; Suardi to two years; Capellari, another of the conspirators, was found to be insane and was sent to an asylum.

We also read that the Government of Ecuador have disposed of the remainder of the 1908 commemorative set by auction. The stamps (which are triangular in shape) went to a German house for 40,000 marks and comprised 1,111,940 stamps. There were over 100,000 of each of the seven values with the exception of the 5c. of which there were only 41,000.

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* is a journal which we rarely have occasion to refer to, as it is principally composed of scraps of information and a new issue chronicle. These features are very well in their way and are doubtless fully appreciated by the readers of this, one of the oldest philatelic journals in existence—but they have nothing for a reviewer to seize upon. There is a small note in the number for May, however, relating to a hand-stamp used in the island of Juan-Fernandez, a dependency of Chili, which, as we have recently published so much concerning the stamps and obliterations of Chili, may be of some interest to our readers. The handstamp referred to was struck on an envelope which was used eight or ten years ago; it is oval and is inscribed "MULTADA" above and "ISLAS DE JUAN FERNANDEZ" below, while in the centre appears the value "Cts. 8." Unfortunately our contemporary gives us no further information of any sort. Presumably there were no other stamps on the envelope and we should like to hear whether the letter was a local one or whether it was sent to Chili. We are, however, reminded that the island of Juan-Fernandez is situated 660 kilometres from the Coast of Chili and is celebrated for having given a mixed welcome to Alexander Selkirk (Selkirk according to *Le Collectionneur*) the Scotch sailor who was the original Robinson Crusoe.

The article on the stamps of Roumania is continued in *Le Timbre-Poste* for April, this instalment being the third chapter. Happily, the authors, Messrs. Brunel and Marinescu, have at last concluded the pre-philatelic history of the country, and have now come to the first issue of Moldavia. The four great rarities which constitute this set were all drawn separately, and though at first glance one would say that the designs are identical for all, closer examination shows that, having been drawn separately, the details are different in each. Minute descriptions of these differences are given, together with a diagram showing the different shapes of the nostrils and eyebrows of the bull as they appear on all values. The numbers printed and used of these stamps are given, and though the information may not be new to all our readers, they are interesting enough to bear repetition;—

	Printed.	Issued.	Balance.
27 paras	6,016	3,692	2,324
54 "	10,016	4,770	5,246
81 "	2,016	712	1,304
108 "	6,016	2,582	3,434

We await the continuation of this article with much interest.

The articles on the stamps of Chili and the Roman States are also continued. In the latter the author withdraws his suggestion that the stamps with the St. Andrew's Cross were used on letters from cholera-stricken districts, a theory which we referred to in our review last month. He has been forced to this retraction by the evidence of entire letters shown him by Viscount de Mouÿ and M. Arthur Lénars, none of which is dated later than Sept. 5, 1855, whilst the epidemic did not begin until 1859! The Viscount above mentioned says that he always understood that the mark was a special obliteration for the town of Ferrare, so our author, with ready adaptability, thinks that the following is the most probable reason for this: The Church having had serious disputes with Austria (the Austrians occupied Ferrare until 1859) and Ferrare being an anti-papal centre, we see in the employment of this obliteration a protest or a challenge, by covering the pontifical arms with the black cross. We fancy that if M. Anheisser were provided with some more data he would evolve many more interesting theories, but we cannot regret that he started his article with so little material, as to that fact we owe the picturesque idea of the epidemic, a notable addition to the collection of reasons which have been put forward at various times to account for this unusual cancellation.

The tale is taken up by the *Revista del Francobollo* for April, which contains a letter on the subject by the well-known specialist, M. Pio Fabri. Here we find M. Anheisser's theories mercilessly destroyed and the true explanation expounded. It appears that a postal convention was entered into between Austria and the Roman States on October 1st, 1852. Article 10 of this agreement provided that the ordinary postage and the foreign postage should be noted separately on all correspondence, in pontifical money, the two values to be separated by a line in the middle. These rates had to be noted on franked letters by the side of the stamp, and on unfranked letters by the side of the address. It was also explicitly provided that franked letters were to be marked on the address side with two lines in the shape of a cross thus X.

Ferrari and Pontelagoscuro were the offices on the Austrian frontier, and that accounts for most of the entires found with the St. Andrew's Cross being postmarked at one or other of these towns. M. Fabri says that the employés, in order to facilitate their work, employed this cross which served the double purpose of showing that the letters were franked and of obliterating the stamps. There

can be no doubt that this is the true explanation, being supported, as it is, by an official document and by all the evidence of the stamps themselves.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* of the 7th inst. gives some interesting details of the 12c. and 1 peso stamps of the current issue of Chili. It appears that orders were given not to sell any of the former value over the counter until the stock of surcharged telegraph stamps of that value (S.G. 97) had been exhausted. Nearly all the copies in circulation have been stolen. If this sort of thing continues—it is said that the stamp can be had in sheets in Santiago—there will probably be very few left for disposal when the time comes. The 1 peso stamp will probably never be issued as a postage stamp, as the whole issue has been surcharged "IMPUESTO" converting it into a fiscal stamp. This stamp is said to have changed hands in Santiago at 4 pesos. The Chilian press accuses several post offices of refusing to supply these two values over the counter in order to be able to dispose of them to dealers for 2 and 3 pesos each.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Australian Philatelist* for March contains some "Notes on Mount Brown's Catalogue, First Published in 1862," contributed by Mr. F. Hagen. A further description of some of the stamps in the Avery collection, a short account of some of Mr. Hagen's doings in Europe and the usual complement of New Issues, Reviews, Correspondence, Notes, etc., etc., all good. We also find a couple of pages devoted to some very uninteresting "Notes from the London Correspondent."

In the April number of the *Hobbyist*—our small but go-ahead Canadian exchange, we find Mr. E. R. Vanderhoof indulging in a mild lecture of a moralizing nature. The following extracts are good:

Do we refuse to eat the pie because there is a crimp on the crust? Do we refuse a single egg for breakfast when there are no more available, for the reason that we have been used to eating them in pairs. . . .

He who laughs at my stamps, my books, my treasures, is indeed ungenerous. I collect them for my own pastime, not for objects of his scrutiny and caustic remarks. . . .

My friend who tells me I am foolish to collect registration labels is no collector. He who can see no joy in foreign revenues simply because they do not please him—is assuming the unfair position of judge, jury, and accusation. If I have a damaged specimen whose affair is it? . . .

We should collect for pleasure and not for profit, and should spend our money for stamps with the same freedom we would exercise in gratifying any personal vanity—absolutely without regard to their final disposition. If we do not collect for pleasure we are a speculator, and are not entitled to the term of "collector."



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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE collector of stamps who is content to follow in the footsteps of others without having the initiative to strike out for himself does not realize the hidden delights that philately offers; a store of

treasure which can only be drawn upon by those collectors who "find out" things for themselves. The

chief charm of collecting rests in the ever present possibility of being able to discover something fresh, some new variety, which will make brother collectors all wonder why on earth such a marked peculiarity had not been noticed years ago, also, why couldn't they have noticed it themselves! Such discoveries have been plentiful in the past, lithographic errors of transfer on Chilian stamps, the same on West Australian, retouched plates for New South Wales, and New Zealand, compound perforations of a dozen different countries, these and similar varieties have all had their discoverers. These stamps, beloved by all true collectors, have given their finders a taste of the great joys of life, which, in a bigger world are enjoyed by such men as Scott, Graham White, Paulhan, and Peary. To those who know nothing of philately it may seem a very trivial accomplishment to discover a retouched plate variety; in this world of stern reality perhaps it is, but it is not

written that we should all be a Graham White or a Scott, so let us try to discover something fresh in the hobby we are devoted to and so prove to other stamp collectors that we can do, and have done, something they have not.

Of all philatelic discoveries a retouched plate variety is the most desirable, many are already known, especially where such interesting stamps as early Australians are concerned, but it is quite certain that even now there still remain many important discoveries to be made. This being the case it rests with the individual collector to make history, he has a wide field and need not necessarily be a wealthy man, as fortunately there are plenty of countries left where the expenditure of even a very few pounds would put the purchaser in possession of a mass of material from which possibly he might evolve many new theories. There is no need to take up all the issues of any one country, one issue is sometimes quite enough, while of countries to choose from there is no lack, for instance, who has said the last word about the 1858 to 1873 issues of Peru, the first type of Hungary, the early stamps of Mexico, the fascinating lithographs of Venezuela, the but little better known early issues of Austria, and a hundred other equally interesting issues.

# Notes on the Early Stamps of Canada.

BY F. F. LAMB.

(Continued from page 87).

OWING to the change in the currency we find that in 1859 it became necessary to prepare for issue a new set of stamps. The contract was given to the American Bank Note Co. and they took over the dies, plates and other paraphernalia from Messrs. Rawdon Wright, Hatch & Edson.

On referring to Mr. Donald King's article in the *Monthly Journal* I find that he quotes the following extract from the Postmaster-General's report:—

Decimal stamps of the value of 1, 5 and 10 cents for ordinary correspondence, and of 12½c. for Canadian, and 17c. for British Packet Post Rates, were obtained in readiness for the commencement of the Decimal Postage Law in July, 1859, and have from that date been issued in lieu of the stamps previously in use.

Like the "pence" issues, the "cents" stamps were printed in sheets of one hundred, 10 rows of 10, while, according to Mr. King, the 1, 2, 5, 10 and 12½ cents had eight imprints on each sheet, two at each side, top, and bottom, while the 17 cents had no imprint.

On examining the "cents" stamps closely it is clear that all values (with the exception of the 2c. stamp which was not issued until August, 1864) are very similar in design to those of the pence issue, and that the original die in each case was taken as a model. In all probability a secondary die was made for each value, the alterations, necessitated by the change in the monetary system, being made on these intermediate dies while the steel remained soft, this accomplished, the die would be hardened and a fresh plate for each value constructed.

In several of the stamps, notably the 17c. value, it is clearly evident that the original die was used as a foundation because we find several peculiarities that are common both to the 10d. and the 17c. stamps, notably a small line between the "o" and the "s" of the word Postage, which can be clearly seen in the illustration in last month's journal.

Some, if not all the other values, show marked differences (besides those necessitated by the alteration in the wording) especially the 1c. stamp, which has a heavy band of shading in the lower half of the oval, doubtless added with the idea of accentuating the portrait. The 10c. value also differs from the 6d. in the background as we find that in the later stamp there are faint diagonal lines of shading which do not show, even on the earliest impressions of the 6d.

The 5c. stamp has the outer frame line at the top of the stamp redrawn; in the 3d.

stamp this line nearly always appears very faintly printed, due either to the fact that the die was not properly rolled or that the line itself was not properly cut, whereas in the 5c. label there is no doubt that this line has been strengthened or redrawn.

The "cents" issue is very prolific where "guide lines" or "guide dots" are concerned, especially are they found on the 12½c. stamp where a very marked "guide dot" can be found to the right of the letters "C" and "A" in the word Canada. In the block of four



imperforate stamps which I illustrate, and for the loan of which I am much indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt, these dots can be seen, not only on the stamps themselves, but on the margin as well.

In the illustration, however, only one of these dots shows on the margin as the other has been very carefully scratched out by the workman who made the block.

As this article is partly composed of extracts from the works of other, and I hope better informed writers than myself, it would not, I think, come amiss were I to quote here what Mr. Dunbar Heath of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. says concerning "guide dots" in general. He says (*Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society, May, 1910*):—

The stamps must for purposes of correct perforation be laid down at equal distances apart, some transferers use faint lines for making the spaces on the blank plates, others dots. Stamp manufacturers sometimes find it advisable to wear large sleeves—they find them useful for laughing into!

We would not for worlds appear disrespectful to our good friends the philatelists, but when we see serious arguments on the appearance of an unfortunate dot between certain stamps which does not appear between others, and it is sought by the appearance of a dot or a



line, to tell whether a stamp was engraved by the American Banknote Co. or ourselves—well, we look the other way, and my good friend, Mr. Fisher, looks down and blushes to find his misdeeds famous!

For in truth, all such birthmarks, as I may call them, are simply evidence of haste, or pressure of work. In every case, the rubbing down or cutting away of the displaced metal, and of the space marks, dots or lines, or whatever they may be, is a more tedious job than the mere rolling in of the stamps, and is what may be called "donkey work," performed by some junior or mechanic. Theoretically, every mark or trace of a mark between the stamps that might print should be removed before the plate is hardened; but what wonder is it that in the hurry of business "that'll do" is responsible for many dots or dashes being left in that should be absent, though we pride ourselves on always giving great attention to the clearing of the margins.

This is the plain explanation of all manner of variations and defects, both with stamps themselves and in the margins, namely, simple press of business and urgency preventing sufficient time being given to a tedious and annoying operation. But I believe philatelists would readily forgive our operators even if they erred on the side of more variations and dots; but this is not the view of the manufacturer, who aims at a plate without blemish, every T crossed in the same way, every i with the same sized dot, and not a mark to be discovered by the most powerful microscope between each stamp.

After this extract it would not do to harp on the importance of these guide lines, they are interesting but have little philatelic value.

Mr. King tells us that of the cents stamps there were issued to the various postmasters:

24,166,550	of the	1 cent.	.
35,139,072	"	5 "	
4,952,598	"	10 "	
2,790,882	"	12½ "	
516,026	"	17 "	

As there would be a remainder of each value, unsold, when the Dominion of Canada set was placed on sale, it is impossible to give the exact number of each value sold to the public.

In August, 1864, the 2 cent stamps were issued, and it will be seen that the die of the 1c. was used, as were the pence dies for the other cents stamps, as a model for the new denomination.

The paper on which all these six values were printed varies slightly in texture, but the only really distinct variety is that which shows a faint ribbing. I am not a great believer in ribbed paper, so am quite content that Gibbons catalogue should list but two varieties, namely the 1c. and 5c. values, although I believe that the other four values also exist in this condition.

All six values (only five are catalogued) exist in an imperforate condition, of these certainly the 1c. and 5c. values are known on original covers, whether the remaining four values ever franked letters through the post I do not know, at any rate there is always the danger that these imperforate stamps may be merely from sheets that left the printer's hands as waste.

The 5c. stamp, catalogued with "extra line in outer oval on left" is an extremely scarce variety for which the catalogue quotation of 35/- is an *absurdity*. I have had thousands of 5 cent stamps through my hands, but not once have I been fortunate enough to find the double line variety, which by-the-by was caused I think by the die shifting, causing the paper to be touched twice, the second time a good millimetre out of the normal, so that we get a double line directly to the left of "Can" in the word Canada.

Although I have been interested in Canadian stamps for a great many years I have only seen one copy of this variety, namely a torn copy on original cover; the Tapling collection does not contain this variety, nor would, I think, a search through London dealers' stock books reveal a specimen.

Numerous shades can be found of all values, especially the 10c. where it is difficult to find two successive stamps that are a bit alike in shade, it is partly owing to this wealth of shades that these stamps are so very popular, as were there no rare shades the used set could very quickly be completed, even by the most "stony broke" amongst collectors.

Owing to the not unusual practice of using split stamps throughout the whole of British North America at this time, it is not to be wondered at that we find a few of the "cents" stamps used as "splits." These provisionals were not actually needed to prepay any existing letter rate (as was the case in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick), but were used on letters owing, probably, to a lack, on the consigner's part, of the necessary value. I have not seen a list of these splits published, if such exists. Messrs. Collin & Calman, in their catalogue for advanced collectors, list the 5c. cut diagonally in two, each half being used as a 2½c. in connection with a 10c. stamp, to make up the packet rate of 12½c. In the June 1st auction catalogue of Messrs. Glendining's, I see that there is listed a diagonal half of a 10c. purple, used as a 5c. on original cover. This cover was dated Nov. 1860, and realised, I believe, £1 12s. At the same sale there was sold a diagonal half of a 6d., perf. 12, used as a 3d. on original envelope (May 1859); it sold for £2 10s., a good price, as it was not a very satisfactory split.

I give, as I did with the pence stamps, a table showing how these stamps are priced in the leading catalogues, taking Gibbons as a guide for the number of varieties.

All six values are, in used blocks and strips, quite rare, while even pairs of the 2c., 10c., 12½c. and 17c. stamps are rarely met with. The biggest block I have of these values is a well centred block of four of the 17 cents, but I have recently seen a block of six.

The catalogue quotations for unused stamps are, in my opinion, too low, as these stamps in *mint* condition, that is, well centred, full

*Unused.	Gibbons. £ s. d.		Scott. Dollars.		Kohl. Marks.		Yvert. Francs.		Bright. £ s. d.		
1859, wove paper	*		*		*		*		*		
1c. dull rose ..	4/0	0/6	1.00	.12	4—	--40	3.50	--.35	3/0	0/4	
1c. bright rose	4 6	0/6	—	—	4—	--40	—	—	3/0	0/4	
2c. dull rose ..	7/6	5/0	1.75	1.25	7—	5—	6.50	5.50	6/0	5/0	
2c. bright rose	7/6	5/0	—	—	7—	5—	—	—	6/6	5/0	
5c. dull vermil.	3/6	0/3	.85	.6	3.50	--25	3.—	--.15	2/6	0/2	
5c. deep ..	3/6	0/3	—	—	3.50	--35	—	—	—	—	
10c. brown ..	25/0	3/6	—	—	25—	3.50	25.—	3.—	—	—	
„ black-brown	—	60/0	—	12.50	150—	70—	400.—	75.—	—	—	
„ dull violet ..	—	3/0	} red-lil. and violet	}	red	violet	lilac	—	}	} black-brown £2 10s. used other shades 18/- & 20/- unused	
„ br'nish pur.	22/6	3/0			25—	2.50	25.—	3.—			—
„ dull purple	25/0	3/0			25—	3—	25.—	3.50			—
„ rosy ..	25 0	3/0	5.00	.65	25—	3—	25.—	3.50	2/- & 2,6 used		
12½c. green ..	15/0	2/0	3.00	.50	12.50	2—	12.50	2.50	10/6	1/6	
„ deep green	15/0	2/0	—	—	20—	2.50	—	—	13/0	1/6	
„ blue-green..	12/6	2 0	3.50	.50	15—	2.50	—	—	13/6	1/6	
17c. blue ..	20/0	4/6	5.00	1.00	20—	4.50	25.—	4.50	20/0	3/0	
„ deep blue ..	20/0	4/6	—	—	20—	4.50	—	—	20/0	3/0	
„ indigo ..	25/0	4/6	—	—	27.50	5—	—	—	20/0	3/0	
Variety, extra line in outer oval.											
5c. vermilion ..	—	35/0	not	listed	—	35—	not	listed	not	listed	
Ribbed paper											
1c. rose ..	—	—	—	7.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5c. vermilion ..	—	80/0	—	20.00	—	80—	—	—	—	—	
Imperforate.											
1c. dull rose ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.—	100.—	—	—	
5c. vermilion ..	—	60/0	—	15.00	—	60—	100.—	60.—	not	listed	
10c. dull purple	—	£7/10	—	35.00	—	150—	200.—	150.—	—	—	
12½c. yel. green ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	not	listed	—	—	
17c. blue ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

gum and good colour, are rarely met with. Many of the so-called unused stamps that are offered, especially the low values, are stamps

that have been pencancelled, cleaned, and gummed, as such, they are, in my opinion, dear at any price.

(To be continued.)

CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Mr. A. G. Kerrison, of 143, Calverley Road, Catford, S.E., takes over the duties of Exchange Superintendent from July 1st. Sheets for the July packet should be sent to Mr. Gower, at Cricklewood, but thereafter Mr. Kerrison will take the matter in hand. Members are reminded that though there are no meetings in the summer months, that the Library is at all times available at Mr. Brand's office, up stairs in Broad Street Station.

## British Stamps Used in Chili.

By D. HAWORTH.

It always strikes me as a great pity that when anyone sets out to write on a country in which stamps of some other country have been used, he carefully omits these extremely interesting varieties.

I suppose, strictly speaking, British stamps used in Chili cannot be called Chilian stamps, seeing that they were issued by the British Post Office. But, nevertheless, no one who specializes in this particular country, can afford to leave them out, if he wishes to make his collection complete.

The following notes, which I have collected together, are not by any means exhaustive. They merely give an outline of the various town postmarks which exist, and the stamps on

which they may be found. There are numerous varieties in both obliterator and date stamp which are not mentioned, as for example, the Valparaiso mark may be found in quite a collection of shapes and sizes.

There were only three towns in Chili which were considered of sufficient size for a special number to be allotted them namely: Valparaiso, Caldera and Coquimbo.

The office at the first of these was opened in 1865, and British stamps were used there for foreign correspondence right up to 1881 when Chili entered the Postal Union. Specimens of the 1883-4 issue of Great Britain are said to exist with this postmark. If this is true the office cannot have been

closed in 1881, as is stated by Messrs. Nissen and Bernstein in their article on "British Stamps used Abroad" in *G.S.W.*, vol. VII.

Valparaiso is the largest port on the west coast of South America, and owing to its immense trade, at least a tenth of its population are Europeans.

The office number is C30. It may be found either alone or accompanied by a circular date stamp having "Valparaiso" curved round the top, "Paid" at the bottom and "A.....(date).....(year)" in three lines in



the centre. As I mentioned above, the obliterator may be found in a variety of shapes and sizes.

The stamps which are at present known used here are as follows:—

- 1d. red, 1858, plates 152, 157, 162, 167, 175, 178, 181, 185, 187, 189, 195, 197, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 212, 214, 215, 217.
- 1d. Venetian red, 1880.
- 1½d. red, 1870 plate 3.
- 2d. blue, 1858, plates 9, 13, 14, 15.
- 2d. lilac, 1883-4.
- 2½d. lilac, 1883-4.
- 3d. rose, 1867-9, plates 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
- 3d. rose, 1873, plates 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18.
- 4d. vermilion, 1865-7, plates 10, 12, 13, 14, 15.
- 4d. sage, 1876-80, plates 15, 16, 17.
- 6d. lilac, 1862, plate 4.
- 6d. lilac, 1865, plates 5, 6.
- 6d. lilac, 1867, plates 8, 9, 10.
- 6d. brown, 1872-3, plate 11.
- 6d. buff, 1872-3, plates 11, 12.
- 6d. grey, 1872-3, plate 12.
- 6d. grey, 1873, plates 13, 14, 15, 16, 17.
- 6d. grey, 1880, plate 17.
- 8d. orange, 1876-80, plate 1.
- 9d. bistre, plate 4, watermark emblems.
- 9d. bistre, 1865-7, plate 4.
- 9d. bistre, 1867-9, plate 4.
- 10d. brown, 1867-9, plate 1, light & dark shades.
- 1/- green, 1865-7, plate 4.
- 1/- green, 1867-9, plates 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 1/- green, 1873, plates 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
- 1/- salmon, 1880, plate 13.
- 2/- blue, 1867-9, plate 1, milky & pale shades.
- 2/- brown, 1880.
- 5/- rose, 1867-9, plates 1, 2.
- 10/- grey-green, 1878, watermark Cross.
- £1 brown-violet, 1878, watermark Cross.

The next town is Caldera. It is a seaport in the province of Atacama, with a fine har-

bour. The chief exports are borax, copper, and silver ores.

In 1865, when the office was opened there was very little trade, consequently the stamps are rare.

The number allotted was C37.



The obliterator was impressed in either blue or black, together with a date stamp on the letter.

The stamps known used here are as follows:

- 1d. red, 1858-64, plates 88, 95, 195.
- 1½d. red, 1870, plate 3.
- 2d. blue, 1858-64, plate 9.
- 3d. rose, 1865-7, plate 4.
- 3d. rose, 1867-9, plate 5.
- 3d. rose, 1873, plates 12, 16, 17, 18, 19.
- 4d. vermilion, 1862, plate 4.
- 4d. vermilion, 1867-9, plate 14.
- 4d. vermilion, 1876, plate 16.
- 6d. lilac, 1865-7, plate 6.
- 6d. lilac, 1867-9, plates 6, 8, 9.
- 6d. grey, 1873, plates 11, 14, 15, 16, 17.
- 8d. orange, 1876-80, plate 1.
- 9d. bistre, 1867-9, plate 4.
- 10d. brown, 1876-80, plate 1.
- 1/- green, 1867-9, plates 4, 5.
- 1/- green, 1873, plates 8, 10, 12, 13.
- 2/- blue, 1867-9.
- 2/- brown, 1880.

Coquimbo, the third town, is situated on a fine bay and has excellent facilities for a shipping trade.

There is, I believe, a large smelting works there, and a big trade in copper and other ores is carried on.

There is also a very considerable amount of trading in cattle with Peru and Valparaiso.

When the office was opened I cannot say, but it cannot have been before 1865. It was closed probably about 1881.

The obliterator used was C40, and a date



stamp was impressed on the letter, but never, as far as I know, on the stamp.

- 3d. rose, 1865-7, plate 4.  
 3d. rose, 1873, plates 18, 19.  
 4d. vermilion, 1865-7, plate 14.  
 4d. sage, 1876-80, plate 16.  
 6d. lilac, 1862, plate 4.  
 6d. lilac, 1867-9, plates 6, 8, 9.  
 6d. buff, 1872-3, plates 11, 12, 13.  
 6d. grey, 1873, plates 14, 15, 16.  
 9d. bistre, 1867-9, plate 4.  
 1/- green, 1865-7, plate 4.  
 1/- green, 1867-9, plates 4, 5, 6.  
 1/- green, 1873, plates 8, 10, 12, 13.  
 2/- blue, 1867-9.  
 2/- brown, 1880.  
 5/- rose, 1867-9, plates 1, 2.

I have recently come across a 4d. sage green, plate 16, postmarked "Carmen Alta." I have searched vainly for information as to the position, etc., of this town, but the only "Carmen" which I can find is Solar del Carmen, situated about fifty miles inland from Copiapa.

The mark consists of two concentric circles. Round the top is curved "Carmen Alta," at bottom is "Chile," and across the centre is the date. The whole is impressed in blue and looks very much as if it had been done with a rubber stamp.

So far I have not mentioned Arica, Cobija, and Iquique.

These three towns were originally Peruvian, but were captured by Chili. The offices which, however, had been opened by Great Britain, belong entirely to the Peruvian Administration, and were immediately closed on the outbreak of war between Chili and Peru and Bolivia. All British stamps therefore which have been used there are either Peruvians or Bolivians, and, as such, do not come within the scope of these notes.

In conclusion it might be interesting to note that, when these offices were first opened, the postal rates were 2/- per half ounce. In 1870, however, they were reduced to eighteenpence, while in 1878 there was a further reduction of sixpence per half ounce, at which rate it remained till the offices were closed.

## Berne Exhibition.

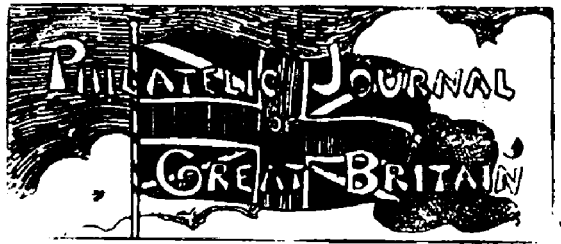
ON request of many foreign collectors, the Organizing Committee has created a new section in addition to Class IV. Section A, say:

### SECTION A BIS.

Collections of the Stamps of the English Colonies.

Applications can still be forwarded until end of June.

For programmes, information, etc., apply to the Secretary of the Exhibition, Neuengasse 39, Berne.



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AGENTS WANTED for the Sale of the "JOURNAL" in London and Large Towns at Home and Abroad.

All communications to be addressed to—

**P. L. PEMBERTON & Co.,**

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WE have received from Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., a handy little publication containing a full list of the current Adhesive Stamps, Postage Dues, and Postal Stationery, of the whole world. In practically every instance the date of issue of each stamp is given, together with many quotations, not only for single stamps, but blocks and panes. This book, we understand, is published in connection with Mr. Ewen's new "Subscription Stamp Collecting," and should prove of great value to all collectors of current and recent stamps.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.**—We extract the following interesting information from the May 14th number of Mr. Oswald Marsh's *Weekly Circular* :—

"Subscribers to this paper may congratulate themselves on having been the first to hear of the 7d. slate-grey, and also in now being the first to hear that the 2d. stamp now printed in green and carmine on chalk surfaced paper is very shortly to be superseded by a stamp of new design and printed in one operation in a curious tint of red-violet on unsurfaced paper with the usual Crown watermark."

"The design for the new stamp is somewhat similar to the one it is about to supersede, but the words "Postage and Revenue" instead of being at the top of the stamp are in curved labels at the sides of the head which is in a circle with white ground and surmounted by a Crown as usual. The value is on a shield-shaped tablet at the foot with ornaments at each side, these giving an appearance of wings attached to each side of the shield. The margins between the stamps are plain as in the present issue and the margin line round the sheet is broken between the stamps as is now usual on all new De La Rue plates."

"The design, in our opinion, is not as pleasing as in the present issue."

"Since writing the above we learn, with regret, of the sudden death of His Majesty King Edward VII. It is consequently just possible, that although these new stamps have been printed and are ready for issue, that a further supply of the old green and red will be ordered and the new ones never placed in use. Of this, however, we have not had time to get any definite information."

**Morocco Agencies.** Messrs. Bright & Son have very kindly shown us a specimen of the current 4d. orange stamp of Great Britain overprinted as below.

*Adhesive.* Overprinted "Morocco Agencies."  
40 centimes on 4d. orange.

**Brunei.** The 2c. stamp has, we are told, been issued in a new colour.

*Adhesive.*  
2c. black-brown.

**Falkland Islands.** We regret that last month we should have chronicled two new

Falkland Island stamps, viz.:—the 2d. grey and 6d. lilac—we did this in error as the stamps have not been issued.

**Hong Kong.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the \$2 stamp in new colours.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown CA multiple, chalky paper.  
\$2 black (frame) and red.

**New Zealand.** The *Australian Philatelist* says that the 3d., 5d. and 8d. King's Head stamps are being issued both comb, 14×14½, and single line 14. We agree with our contemporary that the perforations of the current and recent N.Z. have "got out of hand," and will follow their example and "bide a wee" before we chronicle them.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the ½d. King's Head stamp overprinted "Official."

*Official.* King's Head.  
½d. green.

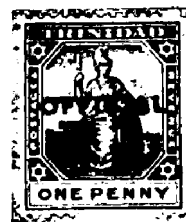
**Northern Nigeria.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the ½d. stamp all one colour.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and C.A. multiple.  
½d. green.

**Straits Settlements.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 50c. in a new colour.

*Adhesive.* King's Head, mult. wmk. chalky paper.  
50c. black on green.

**Trinidad.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the current Trinidad stamps overprinted for official use.



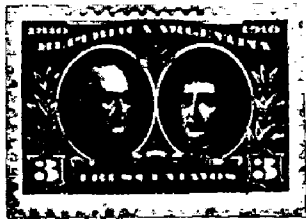
*Official Stamps.*  
½d. green.  
1d. red.

**Western Australia.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 10d. stamp on Crown and A paper.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown & A. Perf. 12, 12½.  
10d. red.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** Mr. A. H. Davis, of Montevideo, very kindly sends up particulars, and specimens, of the newly issued commemorative stamps. These stamps are to celebrate the Centenary of the Argentine Republic, and will remain on sale until the end of the year.



*Adhesives.* Wmk. Sun. Perf. 11½.

- ¾c. steel blue and ultramarine.
- 1c. green and black.
- 2c. olive-green and black.
- 3c. light green.
- 4c. dark blue and grey-green.
- 5c. red.
- 10c. brown and black.
- 12c. ultramarine and blue.
- 20c. marone and black.
- 24c. sienna and grey-blue.
- 30c. violet and black.
- 50c. red and greenish black.
- \$1 ultramarine and steel blue.
- \$5 orange and bright violet.
- \$10 orange and dark violet.
- \$20 steel blue and blue-black.

**Austria.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 25 heller Postage Due stamp.

*Postage Due.* Perf. 12½.  
25h. carmine.

**Belgium.** Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, kindly sends us a set of the Brussels Exhibition Charity stamps.

- Perf. 14.
- 1c. grey.
  - 2c. brown.
  - 5c. emerald green.
  - 10c. red.



**Brazil.**—A correspondent at St. Paulo very kindly sends us a copy of a Brazilian paper, from which we have translated the following:

"The stamp of 200 reis, called the Pan-American, will be put in circulation on May 1st next. This stamp was created for franking correspondence between Brazil and the American Republics, but, by reason of the budget law, which has reduced the postal rates, it has lost its special character and can be employed on no matter what correspondence for the interior and for the exterior of Brazil."



*Adhesive.*  
200r. blue.

We referred to this stamp in the October 1909 journal.

**Mexico.** Two more values are chronicled by *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* to be added to those we listed last month.

Overprinted "OFICIAL"  
10c. orange and blue.  
20c. deep blue and vermilion.

**Paraguay.** Mr. Charlick has kindly shown us specimens of the recently issued stamps. The design is similar to the 1889 issue, but the stamps, being lithographed, are not so attractive looking.



*Adhesives.* Lithographed. Perf. 11½.  
1c. grey-black.  
10c. green.  
20c. red.  
50c. carmine.  
75c. blue.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have also sent us specimens of the above.

**Russia.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the current 1 rouble stamp has been issued with the shiny diamond shaped bars across face.

*Adhesive.* With shiny bars.  
1 rouble, orange and brown.

**Spain.** Yet another value of the new set has been issued, namely, the 30c.

*Adhesive.* Perf. 13x12½.  
30c. green.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles an imperforate copy of the current 15c.

Variety imperf.  
15c. violet.

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## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THOSE philatelists who have a desire to hear about foreign countries should invest in a copy of the 1906 edition of the *Queen* newspaper book of Travel. I picked up a copy the other day and found the following, apropos of Bognor.

An agreeable summer climate, 1938 hours sunshine in 1904 ————— sunshine 1886 hours in 1093.

I am so glad to hear that Bognor is bucking up at last.

Concerning Madagascar, the *Queen* book says:—

There are no Schools except for natives, or very elementary conducted by the Sisters or the French Protestants for European children. These are worth very little, as the demand is small.

A homely, but rather blunt way of putting it, I think.

When the *S.C.F.* interviews well-known philatelists it does the thing properly, goes the whole hog in fact. In the May 28th number I read:—

Throughout the world, wherever you may find a man specially interested in the collecting of literature relating to Philately, there also you will find a man to whom the name of Mr. ————— of Angmering, Sussex.

Exactly, but I think the sentence might have been rounded off a bit better; it doesn't even rhyme.

A correspondent to *Mekeel's Weekly* (U.S.A.) describing the J.P.S. dinner held during Congress week says,

There were many diversions to entertain the diners afterwards—the most amusing of which was an interesting pantomime taking off many well known philatelic characters, such as the Canterbury Lamb

(overdone), Mr. Postal Unionstein from Berne, "Sir" Walter Scott's (Cardiff) ode on "Come into the Garden, Ward" (coats off) and many other skits too numerous to mention.

How American readers must have yelled with laughter when they read such screamingly funny witticisms.

I hear there was great excitement at one of stamp auctions held early this month, I wasn't there, but am told that it is an actual fact that there was a real live stamp collector present who bid for, and secured, several of the lots! This probably accounts for the fact that nearly fifty dealers spent the rest of the week feverishly making up auction lots in the hope that the unexpected might happen again.

Writing of auction lots reminds me that the average life of any given mixed lot is two seasons; by that time it has twice passed through the hands of the auction buying dealers. The third time a dealer buys the same lot he generally breaks it up, so it ceases from troubling for a time.

As a matter of fact, I know of a certain stamp, a howling rarity, that goes to auction about six times every season. Whenever its owner gets a little hard up, "Angelina" is handed over to an auctioneer.

When put up for sale Angelina gets bought in, as "she" never tempts any bidder to soar up to the reserve figure. Poor old Angelina, she was looking very worn and old last time I saw her. One of these days some poor innocent will get landed with her. Personally, I wouldn't even bid for any lot on her page of the catalogue, in case the auctioneer planted her on me by mistake. Poor old Angelina, she won't stand much more handling before she breaks up for good; when that sad event takes place she will probably get stuck down on an old Lallier page and spend a few years as a decoy.

In a little Yankee paper called the *New York Philatelist* which "fetched up" at McTavish ville as a sample copy, I see that a Mr. Dempsey, a Brooklyn dealer, advertises a "British Colony Packet" of "25 very fine British Colonies only." Mr. Dempsey says it contains such stamps as Malay No. 14, Martinique No. 101, etc." I sincerely hope Mr. Dempsey will sell sufficient of these packets and invest in a gazetteer.

Once upon a time, before I knew much about philatelic journalism\*, I wondered how it was that stamp papers were able to so promptly publish news concerning new issues. Now I know, and after all it is quite a simple business. For instance, suppose a Mr. C. pays a visit to a well-known dealer who, by the way, I will call Jones; well, in the course of conversation, Mr. J. asks Mr. C. if he has seen the new 2d. and 6d. Falkland Island stamps. Mr. C. hasn't; afterwards Mr. C. meets a well-known private dealer called

\* McTavish doesn't know much about it, even now.—ED.

—shall we say, Lion—who, bursting with the milk of human kindness, tells the editor of a well-known philatelic journal that two new Falklands are out, and that his friend Mr. C. would not mind them being chronicled on his authority. Quite simple, isn't it? The only weak link in the chain of evidence being that the well-known dealer, whom I have called Jones, mistook two Turks Island King's Heads, which he saw in Peckitt's window, for New Falklands!

Next time I see some new Papuans chronicled I shall strongly suspect the Argentine Republic.



## June, 1910, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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.

Reginald Jacobs, Belsize Park, N.W.

### NOTICES.

The Hon. Sec. will be glad to hear from any members willing to assist in next season's programme; also to receive subscriptions due on January 1st last, and any donations to the Forgery Collection, which will be promptly acknowledged. Appended is the Annual Balance Sheet for the past year and the Report of the Exchange Superintendent.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

June 10th, 1910.

### ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET.

JAN.—DEC., 1909.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand	.. ..	1	18	3
„ Subscriptions and entrance fees	25	17	0	
„ W. S. King, half sub. to Literature Society	.. ..	0	10	6
		£28	5	9

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
By Official Organ (12 months)	.. ..	10	17	4
„ Rent Essex Hall	.. ..	2	5	0
„ Housekeeper	.. ..	0	5	0
„ Printing and Stationery	.. ..	1	10	10
„ Postages, Hon. Sec.	.. ..	2	11	0
„ Clerical assistance	.. ..	5	5	0
„ Subs. Phil. Literature Society	.. ..	1	1	0
„ Grant to Smoking Concert	.. ..	3	15	0
		£27	10	2
„ Balance to 1910	.. ..	0	15	7
		£28	5	9

Examined, compared with vouchers and receipts, and found correct.

GEO. E. STRONG } *Auditors.*  
GUY SEMPLE

June 8th, 1910.

### I.P.U. EXCHANGE SECTION.

#### REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1909.

During the year 1909, nine packets were circulated, of a total value of £2960. The sales amounted to £145. The average time taken in circulating among the members was six weeks. The system of Exchange Packets inaugurated by the I.P.U. has found many imitators, and there appears to be a glut of Exchange Clubs at present. However, if more members of the I.P.U. would patronize this section, they would find it to their advantage. Good stamps in fine condition always find a ready market at fair prices. The craze for King's Heads seems to go down, and good stamps of Europe and South America, and old Australians, are in demand.

E. F. MARX, M.A.,

Hon. Exchange Superintendent.



## Census of Portraits on Stamps.

A WELL-KNOWN French journal, *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, recently held a competition by offering a prize for the reader who could compile the most exact list of Kings, Queens, and other personages whose portraits had been most often depicted on stamps. As a result of this competition the publishers of our contemporary have drawn up a list of all personages whose portraits have appeared on more than 30 different stamps, and this we reproduce below for the benefit of our readers. In making the compilation the catalogue of Yvert et Tellier, 1910, was used, and all stamps shown in there in large type (which include perforated, imperforate and surcharged varieties) were taken into account.

1	Victoria .. ..	3,193
2	Edward VII. .. ..	1,080
3	Don Carlos .. ..	840
4	Alphonse XIII. .. ..	695
5	Don Louis I. .. ..	384
6	Alphonse XII. ... ..	333
7	Bolivar .. ..	213
8	Francis Joseph I. .. ..	199
9	Isabella II. .. ..	172
10	Charles I. (Roumania) .. ..	163
11	Victor Emmanuel III. .. ..	133
12	Wilhelmina .. ..	119
13	Columbus .. ..	107
14	William III. .. ..	81
15	Nicholas Petrovitch .. ..	80
16	Hidalgo .. ..	78
17	Leopold II. .. ..	76
18	{ Menelik } .. ..	75
	{ Roca fuerte } .. ..	
19	Christian IX. .. ..	56
20	Mozaffer-ed-Din .. ..	55
21	Humbert I. .. ..	52
22	{ Victor Emmanuel II. } .. ..	51
	{ Nassur-ed-Din } .. ..	
23	Chulalongkoru .. ..	50
24	Washington .. ..	46
25	Ch. Brooke .. ..	45
26	Adolph de Nassau .. ..	44
27	Alexander I. .. ..	41
	{ Ibrahim (Johore) } .. ..	
	{ Barrios } .. ..	
28	{ Don Pedro II. } .. ..	37
	{ Frederic VIII. } .. ..	
	{ Franklin } .. ..	
	{ Faidherbe } .. ..	
29	{ Ist Sultan of } .. ..	34
	{ Zanzibar } .. ..	
	{ Napoleon III. } .. ..	
30	{ Rivadavia } .. ..	32
	{ San Martin } .. ..	

These 40 personages, *L'Echo* informs us, form only a minority in the gallery of portraits which the collector might get together. On Oct. 1st, 1909, the date of the appearance of the catalogue, this gallery was composed of 313 different personages, and a number which is increased every year by the small States which wish to make their celebrities known to the world. Certain American Republics make

a preposterous demand on the memories of philatelists by imposing on them such a large number of illustrious men whose names are often very difficult to retain. The palm is awarded to Ecuador which offers us the portraits of 30 different people. The United States follows closely with 28 great men; then comes Argentine with 22; the Philippines, under the successive dominations of Spain and the United States, 14; this number is equalled by Hawaii; then comes Brazil, 12; Peru, 11; and Costa Rica, Bolivia and Antioquia with six national celebrities apiece.

## New Leaves to Cut.

*The Postage Stamps of Bulgaria.* By Bertram W. H. Poole. London, Field, 1910. 66pp.

There are two main classes of philatelic handbooks. There is the serious book, the genuine vade-mecum of the philatelist, which calls for long and laborious research on the part of the author; this class of work is exemplified in the various handbooks of the Royal Philatelic Society and the publications of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. Then there is the scissors and paste class, in which the author, generally a prolific writer, makes use of the labours of others, condenses them, and produces a book which may be popular, but which is of little philatelic value. Examples of this class of work will readily occur to our readers.

The pamphlet under review occupies an intermediate position, while we cannot place it on the same plane as, say, Harrison and Napier's *Portuguese India*, it surpasses by far the class of book of which a recent pamphlet on the stamps of Holland is fairly typical. There is no denying Mr. Poole's industry and research. He has waded through files of the philatelic press for his information, and has made an exhaustive study of sheets of stamps whenever he was able to obtain them; he has by this means given us quite a number of minor varieties, of the existence of which we had been ignorant.

There are one or two matters of omission that we notice, and hope that in a future edition the author will include them.

In the 1884-5 surcharges we have seen the 3 on rose with inverted surcharge; this is probably a bogus variety, but it ought to be mentioned, if only in order to put collectors on their guard. The inscription on the 1st. of 1885 is not *edine stotinke* but *edin stotink*; the final character in the word is merely an indication that the preceding consonant is hard. Similarly the inscription on the 11. of 1887 is *edin lev*. The correct singular of *stotinki* is *stotinka*. But these are trivial blemishes, and on the whole we have little but praise for Mr. Poole's book, which we can warmly recommend to collectors of the stamps of this interesting country.



JUNE 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

In the May number of the *Philatelic Record* we find further instalments of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905"; Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century"; and M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland." There is also a short report of the recent Congress, a page of New Issues, some Notes, and a lengthy extract from the priced auction catalogue of the late Mr. Seybold's stamps, most of which were on entires. M. Zumstein's paper deals with cancellations, proofs and essays. We make a short extract relating to postmarks.

The variety and occurrence of the many cancellations used upon the stamps of Switzerland offers a large and interesting field to the collector, and their study and classification demand much time and attention. A complete treatment of the matter does not come within the scope of this Handbook, and the following is a brief outline of the more important cancellations found. A profound and most thorough examination of the whole subject is already available in the work of M. M. Mirabeau and de Reuterskiöld.

From the political independence of the various Cantons it will be understood that the cancellation stamps took various forms. Zurich and Geneva, which looked to the English standards, in the introduction of postage stamps, also selected a cancellation stamp after the English model, while Basle continued to use the circular stamp with date, such as was everywhere in use before the introduction of postage stamps. The Zurich cancellation remained always the same and was a federal cross within a quatrefoil pattern, with dots between the leaves. The ink used was generally red for post offices of the town districts and black for those of the Cantons. That of Geneva was of the form of a rosette, sometimes with, sometimes without the cross; also grille or lattice cancellations of various types. The Basle date-stamp remained consistent in design, and was impressed in red.

During the Transition Period the cantonal stamps being still current they were postmarked with the new federal cancellations, chiefly of the grille or lattice form, as well as the earlier designs. There were also used the following federal postmarks: P.P. (port payé) in black, for Zurich; PP in circle or rectangle, in red and black, PD (payé jusqu'à destination) in red,

blue and black, LG in rectangle, in red and blue, all for Geneva; PP in oval, in red and black, for Basle. The types of these last cancellations are very numerous, and they are found in ink of several colours. There were also other less common cancellations in use, among which may be mentioned that comprising the word FRANCO in several styles, and those of town names in capitals. The circular stamp, with name of town and the date, was also in use.

On 1 August, 1851, a uniform grille cancellation came into use, and after the results of an inquiry, conducted by means of experiments in the removal of cancellations by Herr Kuster, the postal authorities were satisfied that this form of obliteration was by far the best adapted for the purpose, and its employment was made compulsory for all post offices on 7 December, 1854. The experiments showed that obliterations in ink were useless, as they could be removed fairly easily with acids. The most indestructible were the grille cancellations, impressed with ink made from fine soot (Paris black) and linseed oil, and this was also definitely selected. To the use of this oil is due the fact that oily marks are found on the stamps.

The cancellations found on the "Helvetia" issue, imperforate, are similar to those used during the Transition Period, including the PP, PD, etc. series in similar variety, and many types of the grille cancellation, and later the circular stamp, with place name and date, which last from about the year 1857 became almost exclusively the means of obliteration, and has continued to be so up to the present day.

The May number of the *London Philatelist* is mainly devoted to a report of the recent Congress, special attention being paid to Mr. M. P. Castle's paper, entitled "The Possibility of Forming a Universal Philatelic Union of Philatelic Societies to Discourage Unnecessary or Speculative Issues." An obituary notice of H. M. King Edward VII., some Occasional Notes, New Issues, and an auction report, complete the not very interesting list of contents.

The May number of the *Herts Monthly Report* contains a most excellent report of the recent Congress; with, in many cases, verbatim reports of the principal papers and speeches. Mr. Dunbar Heath (of Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd.) read a most interesting and instructive paper, entitled "The Manufacture of Stamps," in the course of which he gave a fascinating account of how his firm printed postage labels. We can only make a short extract,

but our readers must of a certainty beg, borrow, or steal, the May *Monthly Report* and read the article in its entirety.

From the design as redrawn, the dies are engraved the correct size (allowing for shrinkage of paper in printing, for the paper when wetted expands, and shrinks back again when dry, so that the stamp should be engraved a little larger than the size it is to be when completed). I say dies, for being a two-colour stamp, two plates will have to be made, and consequently two original dies—one the head, the other the surround or frame, as you see here. Mr. Fisher, our chief transferer, whose service dates from 1873, will hand these round.

The engraving of the head or bust is allotted to a special portrait engraver, skilled only in this class of engraving, and probably quite incapable of cutting the lettering in the surround correctly. Another engraver therefore does the latter, and when, as in this case, the lettering is very minute, he is assisted by a machine worked by yet another engraver, so that quite three, or even four different engravers work on the two dies necessary for the job. Proofs are taken, and perhaps three or four times has the engraver to go over his work again—it must be remembered that every transfer means some loss of strength—from flat die to roller, and from roller to printing plate is two removes, so that the original die is always cut deeper, especially in the light parts, than the work on the plate is intended to be—consequently die proofs are always heavier than prints from the plate. Another important point that has to be considered is the colour in which the stamp is to be printed, as the engraving must be deeper for a light colour such as pink or light blue, than for black or a dark colour. It not infrequently happens, when one design has to suffice for several values, that for this reason the dies for the values printed in light colours have to be strengthened by the engraver before taking them up on the roller. Considerable trouble was in this way caused in one case a few years ago, namely, that of the Greek stamps, for the original flat dies having been supplied to us by the agent, the plates for the light coloured values were found so unsatisfactory that ultimately we had to strengthen some of the dies ourselves and lay down new plates.

I daresay you would like to know the usual method of procedure where one design has to serve for several values. There are several plans, but that which we, from experience, generally follow is this: Suppose values of 2, 5 and 10 cents are required. A complete die, say, of the 2 cents is engraved, and two transfers taken up on the roller. One of these is used for laying down the plate for the 2 cents in the usual way; from the other, before hardening, the figures or tablets showing the denomination (which, being sunk in the original die, are of course raised on the roller) are scraped away—consequently an impression laid down on another die gives a copy of the stamp without any value—this, then, has the value say 5 cents engraved in it, and so becomes the original die for this value, and so on for all the other values. The 2 cents might thus be slightly stronger than the other values, being only one remove instead of two, but the difference is hardly appreciable.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for May 14th contains a number of short articles, few of very great interest. Mr. Irwin Faris however contributes a further batch of very readable New Zealand Notes; he also suggests that stamps should be described by a system of letters and numerals, to facilitate their easy description. As an

example we are told that H. 244579 applied to a stamp would mean that it was an

"Unused copy, catalogue value from 5/- to 10/-, perfectly whole but without gum, well centred, lightly postmarked, perfectly clean and not faded."

We dread to think how Mr. Faris would describe the stamp "Tancred" of Bangalore was once the proud owner of; it was, if we remember aright, a Sirmoor stamp that was badly centred, much faded, telegraphically used by having a hole punched through it, re-perfed on two sides, had a bogus Berlin postmark, was minus three corners, very badly creased, and had become very much stained owing to its having been blown into a tin of sardines. Probably its simplified description would read

34H 5694½ E179500 LL5376½

Mr. J. J. Darlow completes his excellent series of notes relating to the stamps of St. Vincent, finishing up with a good check list of the issued varieties.

In the May 28th number of the same publication we find a further continuation of Mr. Faris's excellent New Zealand Notes. Referring to our remark that we doubted the existence of a "full face" 2d. perforated in part by the "13" machine and in part by the "12½" machine, Mr. Faris tells us that he believes the stamp he holds to be one of a sheet partly perforated 12½ at Auckland, in which a line (or lines) was missing when received at Dunedin, and that at Dunedin the omission was rectified by insertion of a line (or lines) of 13 perf.

We still think that Mr. Faris is in error, as the possibility of such an event taking place is so remote that it need hardly be seriously considered. The apparently impossible, however, sometimes happens, so without seeing the stamp in question, it is impossible to say whether Mr. Faris is right or wrong. If, however, he cares to put the question to the test and send the stamp to us, we would submit it to Mr. Hausburg, whom we feel sure would be kind enough to pass an opinion as to whether it was a compound or not. We think that the verdict of so well known an authority would not be questioned. Regarding the matter of postmarks on N.Z. stamps, Mr. Faris says:

Yet even now, matters in this respect are not as bad, philatelically, as they were "in the good old days," say 18 to 25 years ago, and before then, when "obliterators" were in use in addition to date stamps,

the former being used for the cancellation of the stamp, and the latter only for recording the date. The principal offices used a combination of both, the obliterating portion falling upon the stamp and the date stamp portion on the envelope. The ink sent out to offices was unthinned and soon became of the consistency of molasses; inking-pads accumulated dust and fluff, and as the brass obliterating gathered up all greedily, little hope was there of fair specimens for the collector, from letters posted at other than large offices. Moreover, "non-permanent" sub-offices (i.e., post offices established in sparsely populated parts, and in charge of non-departmental persons such as storekeepers, settlers, &c., who, in consideration of the convenience to the district, attended to same for a nominal remuneration—perhaps none) were not provided with either of the before-mentioned instruments of destruction, so, naturally, invented, or adopted, things, and means much worse!

Such offices, also some of the less important "permanent" or departmental offices, were required by regulation to cancel stamps by writing the name of office and date upon each with pen and ink. This was a tedious task, so many offices carved in wood rough imitations of obliterators and used them with compounds of various kinds in lieu of obliterating ink! Others less ingenious (or with less diabolical inventiveness!) used the ends of round office rulers, the head of a wooden clothes peg, the section of a broom handle, or the mail bag seal!

The remaining articles in our contemporary consist of a paper on "Steamship Companies' Stamps," contributed by Mr. Fred. W. Edwards, which makes capital reading; another instalment of Mr. W. Macdonald Mackay's "Journey to Iceland, with Philatelic Notes"; and the first short instalment of Mr. W. Haworth's "Bordeaux Issue of France." Mr. Herbert Clark is the "Well-known Philatelist." Mr. Macdonald Mackay, in his paper, gives a full account of the "prior" surcharges, also of the later "gildi" overprints, concerning which he says:

The 3 aur stamps of the issue of 1882 and 1902 are surcharged! The 5, 6, 20 and 25 aur or öre in red, and all the other values in black. The printers at Reykjavik, who turn out excellent work otherwise, appear to be "muddlers" when it comes to making a simple overprint on postage stamps. Their eyesight is dimmed, for they substitute one letter for another, a wrong figure, a comma where it is not wanted, and the "printer's devil" perchance feeds into the printing machine a sheet the wrong way, which forms an inverted surcharge. Such a thing as proving or submitting a proof to the postal authorities to correct any error, which would escape the sharp eye of the foreman compositor or the manager, is unheard of when it comes to surcharging postage stamps! Oh, no! that would kill the "graft plant." The more errors the merrier, or rather the greater variety arises from an error here and there. This one has a wrong figure, only one on a sheet, it will fetch many öre when sold to "mad Englishmen!" And so the game goes on, and we poor philatelists are tender-footed enough to pay sometimes exorbitant prices to these fakers.

How long are philatelists going to stand these fakers? Dealers may make long specialist lists of errors, and the unwary will chuckle to himself when he possesses a rarity overprint, which cost him probably a week's wages, but the wise will leave these "graft planters" severely alone.

Unfortunately there are, and always will be, collectors who fancy this class of stamp, and, as long as "a fool is born into the world every minute," so long will there be dealers who list these "stamps" for sale.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for May 14th contains a long account of the recent Congress, some more of Mr. Harte Lovelace's Chinese Notes, a page of Topical Notes, and the usual good new issue list. Writing about the stamps surcharged "B.R.A.," Mr. Harte Lovelace says:

THE "B.R.A.," FOOCHOW, AND CHUNGKING  
PROVISIONALS.

B.R.A.

5

Five Cents

The little-known "B.R.A." stamp was not issued by the Chinese Government; but as it is a Chinese stamp surcharged for use in China, it should find a place, I think, in a collection of Chinese stamps. The facts of its issue are shortly these:—After the Boxer riots, in 1901, the railway between Peking and Shanhaikwan was handed over by the allied nations to the British to administrate.

The soldiers stationed along this line wished for a mail van to be attached to the train that ran over it once a day, so that their letters might be considerably expedited in delivery.

After discussion, the B.R.A. (or British Railway Administration) decided to attach one mail van to the train, and in order to prevent more letters being sent than could be dealt with by this one mail van, they charged 5 cents per letter posted at Peking, Tientsin, Tongku, Tonshan, or Shanhaikwan. This charge was not made for letters posted anywhere else along the line, as the great bulk of soldiers was stationed at these points, and the only reason for the charge was to keep down the number of letters.

The lowest-valued Chinese stamp was bought at face value; this stamp being chosen to prevent international jealousy. It was surcharged at first in black and afterwards in green, according to statements made by officers out there at the time.

If this order is correct, it is rather curious that the dates on the three copies surcharged in black that I have seen should be all within three days of their withdrawal from use, May 20th, 1901. I have only seen one copy surcharged in green, that in my collection. Unfortunately there is no date visible on it.

Of course the stamps with the green surcharge may have become exhausted, and they may have had to fall back on the stock of those with the black surcharge; or the last printing may have been made in black again, as at the commencement. The colour is reported to have been changed from black to green to prevent forgery, since the value of the stamp was increased exactly tenfold by the surcharge. They were always obliterated with "Railway Post Office" and the name of the town arranged in a circle and struck in violet ink. These stamps were only in use one month, from April 20th to May 20th. The service was then made free.

Towards the end of October, 1903, the stock of 1 cent stamps became exhausted.

We have not seen a specimen of this overprinted and surcharged stamp. At the best it can only be considered a local. The May 21st and 28th numbers both

contain further instalments of Mr. Dendy Marshall's "Notes on British Postmarks since 1840" and Mr. Poole's article dealing with Heligoland stamps. We also find in the earlier number a short instalment of M. L. Hanciau's Italian article, in which he deals with Postage Due stamps and their essays; a short account, by the same author, of the stamps shown at the Brussels Exhibition; a translated article dealing with the 3kr. Postage Due stamp of Bavaria; and finally a couple of pages relating to Hawaiian reprints.

A first instalment of Mr. Dunbar Heath's paper, dealing with the Manufacture of Stamps, which he read before the recent Philatelic Congress, is the principal feature in the copy dated May 24th.

This article is continued in the next number, where we also find another long, and to us, very uninteresting dose of Mr. Dendy Marshall's article; another instalment of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies"; a couple of pages of capable "Reviews"; a "Simplified Complete List of the Stamps of Antigua"; and an all too short contribution, entitled "Notes on Proofs, Reprints and Forgeries," by Mr. C. J. Phillips. Concerning Peruvian fakes, he says:

Owing to the enormous number of forgeries and bogus surcharges, I think that this country has been rather neglected by serious collectors, but very little study will enable any one to weed out most of the bogus things from the genuine stamps.

I will only draw attention to a few of the more important imitations, which are frequently found in collections and stocks.

The 1 peseta, brown, of 1862, and orange, of 1872, have been extensively forged, and forgeries may be found with many different postmarks. A good test is the "P" in "PESETA": in the genuine it is upright, in the forgeries it slopes to the right.

The blue stamp with Llama, of 1873, exists in quantities in all the dealers' stocks, but nine out of ten that one sees are the imitations made by Eberhardt, of Valparaiso; these are on thin paper, originals are all on thick paper.

The imitations have the outer line on the left always very thick, in the originals the left outer line is much thinner than the other lines of the frame.

The issue of January, 1881, was overprinted with the "Lima" oval; the genuine dies of the overprint were destroyed in 1881, but in 1884 the Postal Authorities at Lima made new dies and overprinted a quantity of stamps in order to supply the foreign demands for them.

These imitations are very easily distinguished by comparing the letters "A" in "PLATA"; in the genuine they are wide with the cross-bar low down, in the imitations they are narrow with the cross-bar in the middle of the letter.

*Gibbons Weekly* for June 11th contains a further list of stamps, or rather proofs, exhibited at the Brussels Exhibition by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.; the com-

pletion of Mr. Dunbar Heath's paper; another instalment of "Desdichado's" article; and a long South American letter from Mr. A. H. Davis, of Montevideo. We cull the following:

The restriction foreshadowed in my last letter has been put in force, and the privilege of cash payment for correspondence is now only allowed to the newspapers, so all business houses and private persons issuing circulars and price lists must pay  $\frac{1}{2}$  postage on each one, instead of paying only 5c. per kilo weight. This will cause a great increase of revenue, and will bring about a very curious result, directly affecting stamp dealers and collectors, as the low values will become extremely common, and the higher values, 50c., 1 peso, and upwards, will become correspondingly rare; these high values were mostly used by the newspapers in paying their weekly postage bills, and practically no one ever writes such a bulky letter as to require, say, a 2 or 3 pesos stamp. I think for this reason our highest denomination is to be the 1 peso. *Apropos* of our long-expected new issue, I was authoritatively informed that it will not be put on sale until the end of June. As I think most of your readers are already aware, this is the Centenary year of Argentine Independence, and there are to be great festivities in Buenos Ayres, commencing from the 25th of May and lasting until September or October. A new Commemorative set of stamps is to be issued, and as Uruguay remained a province of the Argentine Confederation until August 25th, 1825, we are also to have a Commemorative set issued as a compliment to the Argentines. The order has been placed with Waterlow, the values will be 2c. and 5c., and they will be on sale from the 22nd until the 29th of May. The design is copied from a painting by Carlos M. Herrera, which depicts a Centaur in an open country, with broken chains hanging from its limbs. In the background there is the indispensable "Mount" from which Montevideo takes its name, and over which appears the rising sun. I do not know what the colours are to be, as I have not seen the proofs.

The principal articles in the *June Stamp Lover* are a further instalment of Mr. Ralph Wedmore's "Stamps of Prussia," and the completion of the "Cayman Islands" article. The following extract from Mr. Wedmore's article, relating to the so-called reprints of the 1857 issue, will be found of interest:

#### OFFICIAL IMITATIONS.

When the first issue was reprinted in 1864 it was found necessary to make reprints of this issue as there were no originals in the possession of the post office. The original electrotype plates of this issue had, however, long since been destroyed, and the matrixes which had been prepared for each value were also no longer existent. It was therefore found necessary to make new dies. These were made from a wood block which is now in the Postal Museum in Berlin, but there is some doubt as to whether this is the original wood block or one made for the purpose of these official imitations.

It is easy to distinguish them from the genuine stamps by the following differences. The first letter of the word, "FREIMARKE" has a sort of serif projecting to the left at the top, and the "G" in "SILBERGR" has no crossbar. That word is followed by a stop in lieu of a colon. The figures of value and all the letters differ in shape from those on the genuine stamps, but it is sufficient to mention the above-named differences. These are therefore not reprints but official imitations.

The colour of the 1sgr. is bright crimson, that of the 2sgr. a lavender-blue, and the 3sgr. is in a shade of yellow, very similar to that employed for the yellow shades of the originals.

The paper employed was thin white wove. The gum is thin, smooth, and white.

At a later date, some time between 1873 and 1880, prints were made from the wood block and the three original electrotypes used for making the plates of each value, on strips of paper measuring about  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$  in. On each strip were printed the 1sgr., 3sgr., 2sgr. and wood block (without value) in the order named, and impressions were taken in carmine-red, deep-blue, brownish yellow, and black. These are ungummed.

The May number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a further instalment of Mr. W. H. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Sierra Leone, a short paper relating to the St. Louis Postmaster's stamps and a few notes dealing with the colour errors of triangular Capes and of Heligoland. The following extract, relating to the St. Louis Stamps, taken from the *Missouri Republican* of November 5th, 1845, will interest our readers.

LETTER STAMPS.—Mr. Wimer, postmaster, has prepared a set of letter stamps, or, rather marks, to put upon letters, indicating that the postage has been paid. In this he has copied after the plans adopted by the postmasters of New York and other cities. These stamps are engraved to represent the Missouri Coat-of-arms, and are for five and ten cents. They are so prepared that they may be stuck upon a letter, like a wafer, and will prove a great convenience to merchants and all those having many letters to send post paid, as it saves all trouble of paying at the post office. They will be sold at the same rate they are sold in the East, viz., sixteen 5c. stamps and eight 10c. stamps for a dollar. We should recommend merchants and others to give them a trial.

## Philately on the Continent.

Nearly all the continental journals refer in sympathetic terms to the death of King Edward VII. and there is no mistaking the sincerity of their expressions of regret. This sorrow is not lessened, for general collectors, by the certainty that the next two or three years will see a flood of new issues for the different parts of the British Empire. *Le Postillon* for May 10th says that the death of the King of England is a "veritable catastrophe" for philately, and points out that, as a consequence, fifty-two countries will change their stamps, which will necessitate a very large outlay by those dealers who pretend to keep a stock of all new issues. Several other journals write in the same strain and most of them are agreed that the sad event will cause collectors to turn with more attention to the stamps of the British Empire—which should have the effect of sending prices up.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for May 15th is an exception to the general rule, and we cannot

find, either in this or the number for May 31st any reference whatever to the death of the King. The important article on the stamps of Heligoland is continued. Speaking of the 1 and 5 mark stamps the author says:—"These two values were delivered in August, 1879. A remarkable thing in connection with them is that they were printed on sheets of which the left half contained 25 stamps of 5 mark and the right half the same number of the 1 mark stamps. In the second printing of the 1 mark the sheets were, as ordinarily, composed of 50 stamps. The proofs, perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , bore an 'H' similar to an 'A,' a fault which was corrected for the stamps that were issued. Although the said proofs have never really served for franking, several obliterated specimens exist. These all came from Dr. Pilger, then postmaster and himself a collector, who had them postmarked for himself and some of his friends." These stamps are those given in Gibbons' Catalogue, numbers 32 and 33. As this condemnation of the 1 and 5 mark stamps, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , is no more than has been said in the past by Moens and other authorities on the subject it would seem that the stamps in question have no right to be regarded as ordinary postal issues and that they are correctly described as proofs.

*Le Timbre Poste* has a note which will not give unalloyed pleasure to collectors of French stamps. It is to the effect that the *millésime*, or date, on the sheets of the 1, 2 and 3 centimes stamps for 1910 is represented by an "o" as in 1900, and we are told that it will be difficult to distinguish the one year from the other. But surely, in the case of the 3 centimes at least, no possible confusion can arise, seeing that the colour of this value was changed in 1906; we should have thought, too, that specialists would be able to tell the other values also by the shades.

The articles on the stamps of Roumania and the Roman States are continued, the latter having reached the subject of the reprints. There are several other interesting articles in the May number and some illustrations and descriptions of some recent forgeries.

For some years the French Post Office has commemorated exhibitions and other happenings by the use of special postmarks, and several aviation meetings have been recognized in this way, a fact which has given a fillip to the collecting of post-marks in France. A postmark of this nature used during the Aviation Week at Nice in April last, is notable on account of an English word being used.

The inscription, according to *La Circulaire Philateliqne*, reads:—

NICE—AVIATION  
MEETING 1910 19\*23-4-10

The May number of *Der Philatelist* throws some further light on the misdeeds of the

Chilian postal authorities. It quotes from *El Sur* of March 4; this, it is to be presumed, is a local paper. Some of this information we gave on page 102 of our last number, and we have now the following additional facts. At the instigation of an official in the Chilian Admiralty, who happened to be an enthusiastic stamp collector, it was ordered about two years ago that the correspondence of the department should bear stamps overprinted with the national arms and an anchor; in addition to this special stamps were overprinted for registered letters, parcels, &c. Shortly afterwards the use of these stamps was prohibited and they were ordered to be burnt; but the destruction never took place, the stamps found their way on to the market, where a few copies (? sets) were sold for 500 pesos.

There is also good ground for believing that Dr. Hugo Hahn is in possession of the original plate of the 20c. of 1862. The plate was recently presented to the Ministry of the Interior, and it is said that it is going to be utilized for reprinting. (This has since been done.—Ed. *P.F.G.B.*) As a matter of fact, stamp dealers occupying a very high position in the Chilian Education Department, have agreed upon the issue of this stamp, in various colours, to be overprinted 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 pesos, and the inscription 1810—1910 in celebration of the centenary of Chilian Independence. It is proposed to have a limited issue of these stamps, so as to prevent the general public from obtaining them; the not inconsiderable profits will go into the pockets of the above-named officials.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* has a decidedly interesting account of the so-called Seebeck stamps; a full account of the negotiations of Mr. Seebeck with the four governments (Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Ecuador), and copies of the various agreements make a very readable article.

In the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* Herr Louis Senf continues his discourse on bygone days; in the current number he holds forth on the evolution of the catalogue, or rather the German variety thereof.

Apropos of imperforate stamps, *Friedl's Illustriertes Briefmarken Offertenblatt* remarks that whereas it was formerly only a question of a stamp being genuine, lightly cancelled, and in good condition, it is nowadays mainly a question of margins. Genuineness is merely a secondary consideration; the main point is that there must be margins, and plenty at that, so-called "boulevard" margins. There must be wide margins, even if the stamps are closely printed as in Thurn and Taxis, Tuscany, Wurtemberg second issue, &c. What it is coming to is this, that in future imperforate stamps will be priced according to their area!

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The March and April numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, both of which came to hand by the same mail, contain very lengthy instalments of "The Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon." Sir David Masson also contributes some notes relating to recent Afghanistan varieties. Reviews, Auction Prices, and a few odd Notes, complete the play bill.

The *Australian Philatelist* for April contains, as is usual with that publication, a number of interesting contributions, the best perhaps being a short article relating to Papuan stamps, which we re-produce below.

Papua is very much in the philatelic eye at present, owing to rumours of projected changes. In pursuance of our duty to our readers we have endeavoured to get the latest and most reliable information, and have been successful.

In our January number we twitted *Ewen's Weekly* with referring hysterically to the announcement in *Mekeel's Weekly* of a new issue. The Editor of *Ewen's*, in reply, said, "The *Australian Philatelist* has rather put its foot in it," and informed his readers that the "new issue has arrived." *Ewen's* readers will probably be shocked when told that the new issue has not arrived.

It is true that a very minor variety, produced by a fresh lithograph, has appeared, but surely "Moses" who is such a strong advocate of simplified collecting, will not assert that a variety which can only be distinguished by a specialist, or after comparison, should be listed as a new issue.

For the matter of that it might also be asserted that every separate printing showing indications of different ink, or gum; fresh lithograph or a new electro, is a new issue, but this is specialistic collecting, and such stamps have not hitherto been chronicled ordinarily as new issues. Indeed, we understood, that apostles of the simplified "cult" drew the line at shades and perfs.

In support of our assertion that the "new issue" referred to in *Mekeel's Weekly* has not yet arrived, we have before us a letter written by the Chief Postmaster from Port Moresby, 24/1/10, as follows:—"With reference to paragraph in your letter of new issue, I would inform you that when writing to Mr. Focke, it was expected that the stamps about to be issued would be of one colour only, but when issued they were of two colours, and therefore similar to the old issue. You will therefore see that no new issue has eventuated."

In reply to further enquiries we have received the following official letter:—

Territory of Papua,  
The Postal Department,  
Port Moresby,  
February 21st, 1910.

"Gentlemen,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th January, relative to postage stamps, and to state as follows:—

1. Some little time ago the Stamp Printer pointed out that it would be more economical, and would save time if the stamps of the Territory were printed in one colour instead of two, and asking that if in future this might be done. This Government intimated that it had no objection, and in

ordering the new printing of stamps at present in use it was anticipated that they would be printed in one colour. This, therefore would have meant the new issue. As a matter of fact, however, the stamps were printed in two colours, the same as before, so that there has been no new issue—nor is any further issue contemplated.

2. The question of a new issue is decided by the Lt.-Governor in Council.

3. Nothing is known here of the rumour that the Commonwealth issue of stamps overprinted "Papua" will be used here.

4. It is not possible to purchase Papuan stamps outside the Territory.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. W. CHAMPION,  
Chief Postmaster."

Messrs. Fred. Hagen, Ltd.,  
182, Pitt Street, Sydney.

When the order for the last supply was received at the Melbourne Printing Office, it was found that there was not sufficient time to permit of electros being made to produce them in one colour, by the electro-process—consequently it was decided to use the lithographic stones from which the first supply was printed, when it was discovered that the 3d. stone had been cleaned off, which necessitated a fresh transfer being secured and placed on another stone. This may account for the word Papua being slightly smaller, but our informant is at a loss to know why it should be, as the word was originally engraved on copper, and the transfer was taken from the same plate. The inking of the rollers may have had something to do with it, and all may not be alike. We understand that the stamps referred to in the Chief Postmaster's letter of 21/2/10 were the second order. All future printings will, according to present intentions, be from electros, and in one colour. This may be justly termed a new issue. As to when it will appear, will depend upon the action of the Papuan postal authorities.

A page of "Federal Prospects," two pages of "Notes," "Correspondence," "New Issues," another interesting instalment of Mr. Hagen's European tour, "Reviews," etc., complete the contents of a very full number of our Sydney exchange.

Number 5 of the *Stamp Collector* is a most readable production and reflects great credit on its publisher, Mr. George W. Linn, of Columbus. The contents consist mostly of topical notes, reviews of and extracts from other magazines. The following short extract will interest some of our readers, especially as there is a possibility of Heligoland being destroyed.

#### MAY BLOW UP HELIGOLAND.

Philatelists, most of whom at one time or another have wrestled with the issues of Heligoland and the multifarious reprints, will be interested in an important proposition made in Germany concerning the island at the mouth of the Elbe. Despite vast expenditures, it continues to crumble away, and it is proposed, unless some scheme is found of preserving it, to blow it up. Apparently the idea is that in event of war the island would need to be very strongly defended, lest it be seized and used as an advance base of operations against Germany. The trouble does not lie

so much with the risk of being seized as with the strain of having to defend it. In the view of English naval experts, the destruction of the island would put an end to all doubtful relations between Germany and England. It might make for peace and it might make for war, but there would be no middle course. From the stampic point of view, it would be interesting, as the first time in which a stamp issuing country was literally wiped out of existence.

The *Stamp Journal* for March also contains a number of interesting short articles—notably one dealing with Canal Zone stamps contributed by Mr. W. Evans. Dr. Carroll Chase writes interestingly about "Shifted Transfers" and "Double Impressions," while several other contributors write about the stamps of the U.S.

We have received the first two numbers of a new little sheet published by Dr. J. M. Holt, of Astoria, Oregon, U.S.A., entitled *Everybody's Philatelist*. Dr. Holt seems to be a keen philatelist, and we wish him all success with his venture—he has started modestly and well.

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## Table Talk.

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"You say, in talking about the German Post Office Museum, that 'we cannot afford such a luxury in this country,'" says a correspondent. "You are probably unaware of the existence of the Post Office Muniment Room, situate in the General Post Office (north), where there is quite an interesting collection of documents, ancient pillar-boxes, and other curiosities. Permission to view the museum can be obtained from the Secretary, General Post Office, London, E.C."

\* \* \*

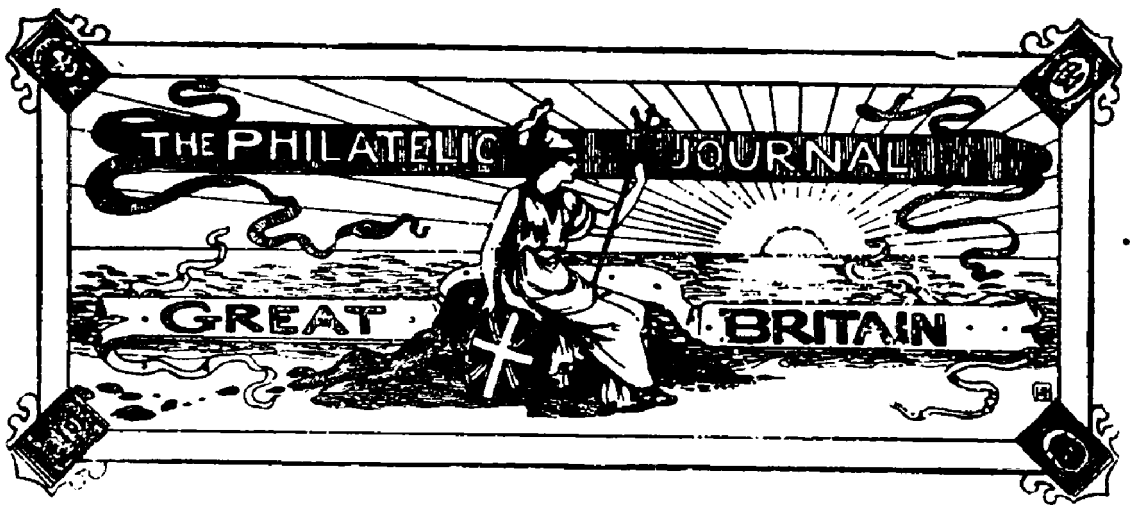
But the luxury we referred to was the luxury—we confess to thinking it such—of a Post Office Museum which will send an agent to a stamp sale in a foreign country with an actually unlimited commission to spend public money on an obsolete twopenny stamp, which was quite certain to fetch hundreds of pounds. As we stated, it actually fetched £1,450, the German agent having dropped out at £1,400. We have not that kind of Post Office Museum; and we do not expect that we ever shall have it.

\* \* \*

Somehow, we do not see Mr. Herbert Samuel submitting to the House of Commons a statement of expenditure including the item: "To purchase of one Mauritius (1847) twopenny blue postage stamp, £1,400." That would be one of the few things that the House would not stand from a Cabinet Minister.

—*Daily News*, 30.5.10.





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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

WE wonder how many philatelists, when they are planning their summer holiday, give a thought to their collection, beyond seeing that it is in safe security during their absence. Some collectors, we know, spend a strenuous eleven months in the year haunting dealers' offices in **Philatelic Excursions.** the hope of picking up bargains; to them we would recommend a holiday where they would be at least twenty miles away from any post office; but the ordinary collector, whether he be a specialist or not, would, we think, find added enjoyment if he allowed for just a few philatelic excursions during his annual holiday making. We refer to those numerous collectors who find pleasure in Continental tours, and who, although ardent philatelists when at home, would be aghast at the idea of adding to their treasures when on pleasure bent. Surely, if stamp collecting is a hobby, and a method of recreation, it would not be amiss to indulge in it during the great holiday event of the year. All the European capitals boast one or more stamp shops of reputation, where bargains from the Englishman's point of view, are frequently to be obtained.

Paris, Brussels, and Amsterdam are too well known to need mention, and perhaps too well known to need visiting, but there

are smaller towns, such as Copenhagen, Stockholm, Berne, and many more, all within easy access, even for the collector who can spare but the modest ten days or a fortnight, where stamps are to be obtained. The last mentioned town, with its Philatelic Exhibition from the 3rd to the 12th of September, will undoubtedly be the Mecca of all good philatelists this year.

To buy one's philatelic treasures, or at least some of them, if only the current issues, in their country of origin gives them, to our way of thinking, an added interest, an interest which will not depreciate as the years roll on, and we fight our battles again during some friendly meeting with brother enthusiasts. There is no necessity to be learned in foreign tongues before one can bargain with Continental dealers, the majority speak English, while in practically every instance their stamps are priced in plain figures; also, a very elementary knowledge is needed to purchase current issues over a post office counter; as a last resort, and one we must admit having been compelled to adopt, there remains pencil and paper as a medium of expressing the quantity and quality desired!

Many collectors are familiar with the big towns of Europe within a thirty hour radius of London, but beyond that limit

they seldom go. We could, if necessary, outline a number of interesting trips, but any reader who invested in a Continental edition of Bradshaw could do likewise. We will, however, just mention one little interesting, and not outrageously expensive jaunt, namely, a visit to Gibraltar. Leaving Tilbury on Friday, the Rock would be reached early on Tuesday morning; excursions could then easily be made to Spain and Morocco. The return journey could be made the following Wednesday week, arriving at Plymouth

early on Saturday morning or Tilbury on Sunday, after a delightful sixteen days' outing.

At Gibraltar it is sometimes possible to purchase, apart from the usual packets of undesirables, quite nice stamps,<sup>1</sup> while in Spain plenty of amusement could be obtained in first locating a tobacconist's and afterwards purchasing the desired labels. In Tangier, with its numerous post offices, a collection in itself could be formed of the current overprinted issues of Great Britain, France, Spain and Germany.

## Notes on the Early Stamps of Canada.

BY F. F. LAMB.

(Continued from page 106).

SINCE the publication of last month's article, Mr. B. C. Emerson has very kindly sent me for inspection, a number of the "cents" stamps, together with his notes relating to the various "guide" dots which are to be found on each value. None of the varieties he described were, however, new to me, all of them, if I remember aright, having been mentioned by Mr. Horsley in his article contributed to the *London Philatelist* some years ago. The "guide" dots in question consist of a coloured dot at the base of the neck on the 1c., a coloured dot in the "C" of "Cents" on the 5c., and a small dot at the top of the lower right hand figure of value on the 10c.

The peculiarities of the 12½c. and the 17c. I have already drawn attention to. Mr. Emerson included, however, with the "cents" stamps, a pair of 3d. labels, which show a very marked flaw or scratch on the plate to the right of the letter "T" in "Postage." I had not noticed this peculiarity before, but on referring to my collection found that the flaw seemed to be constant, although not very marked on some specimens.

Although I have headed this paper "Notes on the Early Stamps of Canada," it is my intention to write this month about the first of the Dominion issues. I hope my readers will not consider I am making a too elastic use of the word "early."

On the 1st of July, 1867, the then separate Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, were formed into the Dominion of Canada; according to Mr. Donald King, in his monumental article in the *Monthly Journal*,

a new Dominion Postal Act was passed on the 21st of December, 1867, which however did not take effect until the 1st of April, 1868. Several extracts from this Act are quoted by Mr. King, the following is, I think, the most interesting:—

### RATES OF POSTAGE.

19.—On all letters transmitted by post for any distance within Canada, except in cases herein otherwise specially provided for, there shall be charged and paid one uniform rate of three cents per half ounce in weight, any fraction of an ounce being chargeable as a half ounce, provided that such three cents postage rate be prepaid by postage stamp or in current coin at the time of posting such letters; and when such letters are posted without payment being made thereon, then and in such case it shall be lawful to charge upon letters so posted unpaid a rate of five cents per half ounce.

20.—On letters not transmitted through the mails, but posted and delivered at the same Post Office, commonly known as local or drop letters, the postage shall be one cent, to be in all cases prepaid by postage stamp affixed to such letters.

23.—On all newspapers sent by post in Canada, except in the cases herein before expressly provided for, there shall be payable a rate not exceeding two cents each, and when such newspapers are posted in Canada this rate shall in all cases be prepaid by postage stamps affixed to the same.

A new issue of stamps was deemed necessary for such an important event as the founding of the Dominion, consequently we find that the contract was given to the British American Bank Note Co., of Montreal and Ottawa, which firm is, according to Gibbons Catalogue, a Canadian branch of the American Bank Note Co., of New York. The reduced postal charges also necessitated several new values, so that the new set consisted of the following

denominations, 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 12½ and 15c., while a ¼c. label was added shortly afterwards. All these stamps were printed in Ottawa in sheets of one hundred, in ten rows of ten and were first placed on sale on April 1st, 1868.

In Canada and the States I found that these stamps were generally referred to as "big heads" while they enjoyed a popularity which is, I think, quite deserved. In the first place the set includes two really very desirable stamps, namely, the 1c. and 3c. on laid paper, varieties which one is liable to pick up at the price of the common stamp, a possibility dear to the heart of the collector. Secondly, with the exception of the ¼c. stamp, all the values are to be found on watermarked paper, these varieties being much sought after by the specialist.

The two values on laid paper, namely the 1c. brown-red and the 3c. red, were both an early printing, the laid lines are horizontal, and are generally very easy to see. Unused, these stamps are rarities, and, as far as I know none of the catalogues quote a price for them in this condition. Used, they are also decidedly not common, well centred copies always finding ready buyers at more than half catalogue quotations. Although such a marked variety, the laid paper was not noticed by collectors, or at least chronicled, until many years after its use; the first reference I can find in old files of the philatelic press being in the *Philatelic Record* for March 1882, when Mr. Tapling informed that paper that he had the 3c. on laid paper.

In the January 1883 issue of the same publication the 1c. orange is chronicled, on the authority of M. Moens, as existing on laid paper; this is doubtless an error, the brown-red stamp being intended. In Kohl's Catalogue the 15c. stamp is listed, with a note of interrogation, as being on laid paper; this value was evidently included on the authority of the *American Journal of Philately*, which paper chronicled the stamp in 1892. I do not, however, think that an authenticated laid paper 15 cents is known. The 2 cents green was also chronicled some years ago, but I believe it turned out to be a fake.

The stamps on watermarked paper are, to my mind, most interesting—far more collectable and far more deserving of catalogue rank than many of the minor varieties of surcharge and overprint of other countries. The history of the watermarked paper was not known until a comparatively recent date. It was Mr. J. N. Luff, the well-known New York specialist who first unravelled the mystery of the various letters that are to be found on some of the stamps. His paper was published in the *American Journal of Philately* and was reproduced by Mr. King in his article already many times referred to. The following extract illustrates Mr. Luff's methods of discovery:—

As the broadest letter measures only 12mm., and the stamps are about 23mm., from centre to centre of perforation, there are usually parts of two or three letters on each stamp. I have found a large number of single letters, pairs, portions of three letters and in one instance a pair and parts of two letters. Of many combinations I have found several examples. I have also found quite a number of stamps showing parts of two rows of letters, one above the other. Of the combinations given in the following list, I have not always found the whole of all the letters, but there has been sufficient to preclude any doubt, or the specimen has been rejected. The reader will please bear in mind that when the stamps are viewed from the back, the letters read from right to left (at least when the sheets were placed normally in the press) as is usual with the Crown and CC, CA, and other wmk's.

Finally, Mr. Luff was able to reconstruct the following:—

### E. & C. BOTHWELL CLUTHA MILLS.

Continuing his article, he says:—

"The letters are plain double-lined capitals, except the third in the first line, "C" which is more fancy, having a decided hook at the end of the lower curve and the upper curve ending in a point, instead of being cut off squarely, as in the case of the other letters. The "E" and "C" are followed by periods 2½mm. square. The initial capitals "E," "C" and "B" are 13mm. high, the other letters 12½mm. The upper row is about 140mm. long, the lower about 122mm., and the distance between the rows 11½mm. The watermark will thus fall on 12 stamps in each sheet of one hundred. But it cannot be argued from this that the stamps with watermark are only eight times as rare as those without, as we must take into consideration the proportionately large number of sheets on ordinary unwatermarked paper. The sheets were apparently placed on the press without much care, as the letters are frequently found reversed and inverted. I have not, however, found any placed vertically, nor have I found any other letters than the above."

These watermarked stamps are not listed in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, consequently a number of collectors do not consider them worth collecting. Personally, I consider them distinct varieties, and the argument that the paper is just the same is not, I consider, a sound one, if such was the case the multiple CA. watermark should not be separately listed, because the paper does not differ from the single CA. variety. The fact also that it was not "official" should not bar the watermarked stamps from catalogue rank, if such were the case what would be the status of the Transvaal id. stamp on Cape of Good Hope paper?

The only catalogue that lists the watermarked varieties is Scott's (U.S.A.) and I append the prices:

#### Varieties on watermarked paper.

	Unused.	Used.
1c. brown-red .. ..	\$10.00	2.00
1c. orange .. ..	—	—
2c. green .. ..	10.00	2.50
3c. red .. ..	10.00	1.50
6c. brown .. ..	15.00	7.00
12½c. blue .. ..	15.00	3.00
15c. purple .. ..	25.00	8.00

The ½c. is also listed, but not priced. I am very doubtful whether this value has however been seen on watermarked paper. All values of the "big heads" are to be found on slightly ribbed paper, but the ribbing, as is the case with the 1859 issue, is very faint and hardly worth separating into a collectable variety. The thickness of the paper used for these stamps also varies slightly, but not to the extent that a perusal of Mr. King's formidable list of varieties would lead one to expect. All these stamps, with the exception of the 15c. value, which was current, I believe, until about 1902, had a comparatively short existence, as they were replaced by an issue in a much smaller design. The first of the small stamps to be issued was the 1c. in 1870, followed shortly by the 2c. and 3c., and a little later by the 6c. The 12½c. was in use until 1880, so is quite common. As the low values had so short a life it is somewhat surprising to find their catalogue value so low; true they have made a great advance during the past few years, but even yet they are not sufficiently appreciated in absolutely mint condition. The only value of this series that I have seen used as a "split" is the 6c., which, halved, did duty as two 3c. stamps. I have seen several undoubtedly genuine used copies of this provisional, one, a very fine example being used, I remember, at Wilmot, February, 1872. I have, I am afraid, been unable to give my readers any new information concerning these early stamps of Canada, at the most I have reminded them of the existence of Mr. King's and other writers' articles; articles which unfortunately are too frequently overlooked in these days of halfpenny philatelic journalism. The "pence" and early "cents" stamps of Canada are to me most interesting. I therefore much regret my inability to give my readers any original information. There must be, however, some collectors who have made a close study of these stamps and who have found out something new concerning them, if these gentlemen would only be unselfish enough to publish the results of their investigations, I am quite certain that the columns of this paper would be at their disposal. Even the smallest item of discovery sometimes proves of value, so no real student need feel afraid, as unfortunately some do, that his research would be of no help to others. Every fresh item of information helps to link up the chain of evidence.



## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

DURING the summer months a good many stamp men turn their attention to bug and butterfly hunting, of which kindred science, by-the-by, one or two of the members of the R.L.P.S. are past masters. This being the case, I feel sure they will be interested in the following paragraph, culled from a recent number of the *Daily Telegraph*.

At a meeting of the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee, yesterday, it was stated that, as the magistrates in Kent had decided that winkles were wild animals, private and cultivated grounds were now overrun with pickers of winkles. The Whitstable Oyster Company wrote asking that protection should be afforded to all shell-fish on private grounds.

I must write to Mr. T. W. Hall to enquire what would constitute the legal status of a young winkle who pleaded immunity from being carefully spread-eagled on a drying board, on the purely private grounds that it was a chronic sufferer from toothache.

Not to be outdone by the *D.T.*, *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for June 4th, under the heading "Pleasant People," informs its readers that there is a tribe in Papua that "had a system of torture that was brutal beyond words. In the first place, they always try to wound slightly and capture a man alive, so that they can have fresh meat for many days. They keep their prisoner tied up alive in the house and cut out pieces of his flesh just when they want it, and we were told, incredible as it seems, that they sometimes manage to keep him alive for a week or more."

Nice little yarn for a hot summer's day, isn't it? Personally, I believe the gentleman referred to as being the provider of the village feast, got himself disliked because he grumbled at the *new* issue with Crown and A sideways, instead of upright.

Last month I published the true story of how new (?) issues sometimes get chronicled. I now learn that there was such a run on the supposed obsolete 2d. and 6d. stamps that our leading importer of new issues was sold out in a few hours, also that he sent a goodly remittance out to the Falklands for a supply of the 2d. and 6d. in the "new" colours. Truly the hand that wields the pen is mightier than that which jerks the tweezer, all the same, I think I will steer clear of the Strand until that remittance has had time to arrive home.

The other day I met a very irate dealer who complained that he had just had returned to him a selection, in which a good many of the unused stamps had been detached and re-fastened by sucking their original gum. There was no suggestion that the stamps had been changed, merely that they had been very care-

lessly replaced, much to their detriment. I am afraid this complaint is no new one, in fact I know one collector who is barred from seeing a certain dealer's approval books. The case is rather a sad one, because the collector, until he took to specializing in Papuas, Pictorial New Zealand, and other big game, was quite a nice looking chap, unfortunately he belongs to the old school that believes that the gum on the back of a stamp is there to facilitate its being stuck into an album. One day a friend gave him a mint set of Obooks; since then he has never been able to get all his tongue back into his mouth.

Writing of the way some people approach an unused stamp, reminds me of a certain dealer, of the examine-every-stamp-in-a-lot sort who, when he replaces a mint stamp on an auction lot, looks exactly like a cow about to lovingly encircle a luscious patch of some succulent vegetable denizen of the cow pasture. Once, I believe, he was reprimanded by a watchful auctioneer, but the shock was disastrous, because in his surprise he swallowed the auction lot.

About the time of the Herts Banquet there was a regular epidemic of clean shaven collectors; to be in the swim the wee McTavish naturally safety-razored his upper lip, with the result that it was practically impossible to distinguish him from Mr. — or Mr. — — or even Mr. —.

So far so good, but now I read that it is contrary to the King's regulations for army men to shave the upper lip! As the McTavish ambition has always been to be mistaken for a Field Marshal this is rather a nasty blow.

What with chalky papers, multiple wmk., Turks Island stamps that look like Bosnians, and other little worries, stamp collecting isn't what it was; even steady old stagers like Grenada have now blossomed out, if the following extract from Glendining's June 29th auction catalogue is to be relied upon.

Grenada 1904, 2c., 5c., 10c. and 50c., all with centres inverted, and all mint, scarce.

Quite scarce, almost rarities, I should say.

Many times have I wondered whom I should place on Philately's scroll of fame—had I only room to inscribe six names. Fortunately, the philatelic editor of the *Daily Gleaner* (Jamaica) has solved the problem for me. I read

Abroad, philatelists use their eyes and hands to the benefit and satisfaction of themselves and others, and honour of the hobby. Names such as Bacon, Berstein, Crocker, Melville, Moens, Tapling, and others no less well known but too numerous to mention here, are the Suns of philately and can never be forgotten in the history of our hobby.

How one, or even two of this glorious constellation must chuckle over the "satisfaction to themselves" clause.

## Post Office Estimates.

From the Parliamentary Report of the *Daily Telegraph*, June 24.

### INTERNATIONAL PENNY POSTAGE.

Mr. H. SAMUEL said that the total sum which would be needed for the Post Office this year nearly touched £20,000,000. This showed a rapid increase. During the past fifteen years the estimates had doubled, but fortunately the receipts had doubled also. The profits of the Post Office remained about the same as they were fifteen or sixteen years ago. The Post Office dealt with letters and parcels to the number of 15,000,000 every day. They handled about 250,000 telegrams daily, and every day of the year transmitted in money and postal orders about £250,000. The work in every direction showed a rapid growth.

He wished it was possible in the early days of his tenure of office as Postmaster-General to be able to confer on the country a great boon in the extension of the system of penny postage. Cheap postal and telegraph rates for international purposes were of the greatest possible value in assisting commerce, promoting social intercourse, and fostering international goodwill. More than half the letters that left this country every year went to other countries which already had a penny postage rate, and he was sure that they must all sympathise with the zealous labours of Mr. Henniker Heaton and those associated with him to promote an extension of international penny postage. But the zeal of the hon. member sometimes took too little account of facts and figures. The hon. member's case rested on the supposition that we could establish a system of penny postage on the Continent with France alone, that the loss would be very small in the first instance, and would soon be recouped by a large extension of postage by France, which would involve no additional expenditure, and that, in any case, if the loss were considerable, we ought not to reject the offer which the hon. member told them the French were only too eager to make. As a matter of fact, the immediate loss of revenue if penny postage were established with France alone would be £95,000.

But he did not think it possible to consider this question as though it related only to ourselves and one country on the Continent. Our correspondence with Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland was very large. Our correspondence with Germany was equal to that of our correspondence with France, and our trade with Germany was larger. Mr. Henniker Heaton was always emphasising anomalies of our present system—one penny for 11,000 miles between London and Fiji—(laughter)—and 2½d. for twenty-one miles from Dover to Calais. The whole system of penny postage in itself rejected the idea of distance as being the basis on which charges should rest.

Mr. Henniker Heaton (U.): My right hon. friend has lost nothing by penny postage.

#### COST OF CONCESSIONS.

Mr. Samuel said the present cost of Imperial penny postage was £155,000 a year loss, and it increased as the correspondence increased. That sum, however, was, in his opinion, well worth paying, and the expenditure made by the Post Office was well justified. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Henniker Heaton: The estimate of that loss was £365,000. It now turns out to be £155,000.

#### SUNDAY DELIVERY.

Mr. Wilkes (L.) suggested that the Post Office should issue books of stamps for sale at a shilling, half-a-crown, and five shillings, without, as now making a small additional charge for the convenience. This could be made to pay even without taking advertisements for the books, because if stamps were bought in that way, in all probability a number of them would never be used. (Laughter.) It paid railway companies to issue return tickets at reduced fares because so many of the return halves were lost. (Laughter.) He thought Mr. Samuel might signalise his succession to the office of Postmaster-General by arranging to give a free Sunday to postmen all over the country. London managed to get on without a Sunday delivery of letters, and hardly any inconvenience would be caused if the Sunday delivery were done away with in the country generally. Sometimes a rural postman had to walk two miles on a Sunday merely to deliver in a halfpenny wrapper the prospectus of a rubber company, a circular from a money-lender, or a tradesman's account.

## Philatelic Congress at Kiel.

THE twenty-second German Philatelic Congress will be held at Kiel, August 12th to 16th. The Secretary, Dr. Ludwig König, Schwanenweg 27, Kiel, has forwarded us a programme in which we note that there will be a reception by the Kiel Society, on the evening of the 12th, at the Hotel Deutscher Kaiser; when, with true German hospitality, beer will be provided "ad lib"; a small charge of two marks will, however, be charged for supper.

The usual number of excursions has been provided for and visiting philatelists may rest assured that the Committee will see that the 22nd Congress will be an event to be remembered.



## July, 1910, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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 will meet early in September to arrange programme for next season. Members willing to assist with displays or papers are invited to communicate with the Hon. Sec., who will also be glad to receive and acknowledge any subscriptions (due Jan. 1st last) and donations to the Forgery Collection.

The circulation of the Exchange Packets will be resumed in October next.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

July 11th, 1910.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Australian Commonwealth.** The *Australian Philatelist* for May contains the following information:—

"From what we had read in the daily press *re* the financial agreement, we concluded that the ratification of the arrangements made between the Prime Minister and the Premiers of the various States was a matter of foregone conclusion, but events have proved otherwise, a majority having voted against the proposals, and the decision as to a Commonwealth issue has been set back until such time as fresh financial arrangements are proposed and accepted. It is thought in some circles that the matter will be fixed up before the end of the present year, and that in the meantime steps will be taken to prepare for the new issue of stamps, but it is at present dangerous to forecast anything in this connection. We believe, however, that the new Government is just as anxious to see a Commonwealth series of stamps in existence as its predecessors were, but as "economy" is an important feature of its policy, we think the idea that the new stamps will be printed from engraved steel plates may be abandoned. We have, however, confidence that no matter how they are produced they will be a credit to the country.

Up to the present no official announcement has been made *re* invitations to send in designs."

**Bermuda.** Messrs. Bright & Son very kindly send us a specimen of the new ½d. stamp.

*Adhesive.*  
½d. pale green.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* also lists the ½d. stamp, Dockyard type in two shades, namely grey-green and blue-green.

**New South Wales.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current type of the sixpenny value, perf. 11.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.  
6d. orange.

**South Australia.** The *Australian Philatelist* lists the following batch of novelties:—

We have been shown the 4d., "thick postage," wmk. Crown and A, perf. 12½, small holes; a pair of the 6d., wmk. Crown and A, perf. 12 × 12½, small holes; and a pair of the 10d., "thick postage," wmk. Crown and SA,

perf. 12 × 12½ and imperforate vertically between the two stamps.

*Adhesives.*  
Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½, small holes.  
4d. orange-red.  
Perf. 12 × 12½, small holes.  
6d. green.

Variety imperf. between. Wmk. Crown and SA.  
10d. buff.

Mr. W. S. Russell has shown us a copy of the 8d. on 9d., of 1876, with double surcharge. The second overprint is faint, but quite distinct, and is about 2mm. higher than the normal overprint.

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles another of the "San Martin" stamps.

*Adhesive.* Perf. 13½ × 12½. Wmk. Sun.  
30c. dull rose.

**Austria.** — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following Postage Due stamps on unsurfaced paper.

*Postage Dues.*  
20h. rose, thin paper.  
30h. .. thick ..  
50h. .. ..  
100h. .. thin ..

**Dutch Indies.**—We extract the following information from a recent number of *Mekel's Weekly*.

"Hermann Focke sends us a pair of the 15c. brown Dutch Indies, surcharged with two horizontal lines in black. This is an error, so to speak, as the stamp should have the surcharge "Java," which for some reason is missing. In 1909 when the stamps of Dutch Indies were surcharged "Java" and "Buiten Bezit," the 15c. value was surcharged in addition with two lines, in order to distinguish it from the 50c. value, printed in a very similar colour. The pair shown us has only the lines and is consequently an error which deserves listing. Mr. Focke has the ½c., 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 12½. and 25c. values with surcharge "Java" inverted at top of stamp."

**Finland.** We extract the following information from the June *London Philatelist*:—

"Mr. Albert Scheindling tells us that new stamps for the interior are now printed and will be issued on 1st January, 1911. They will be of the same type as the new Russian stamps with safety bars, but the value will be in Finnish currency. Letters to foreign countries will be franked by ordinary Russian stamps."

**French Morocco.** Messrs. Bright & Son kindly send us the following novelty:

*Adhesive.*  
35 centimos on 35c. Maroc.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* also chronicles two postage dues.

*Postage Dues.*  
30c. on 30c. bistre.  
50c. on 50c. red.

**Hayti.** The Frank P. Brown Co. has shown us the first values of a new set, the designs being the same as the 1906 set, except that the portrait of A. T. Simon replaces that of Nord Alexis, and the colours are changed, all being in two colours with the centres. The 1c. is "Centime de Gourde," the others being "Centimes de Piastre." Below the portrait appears "A. T. Simon, 1909."

*Adhesives.*  
1c. de g lake and black.  
2c. de p vermilion and black.  
5c. de p blue and black.  
20c. de p yellow-green and black.

—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

We are also indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a sight of these stamps.

**Holland.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* says that the colour of the current 17½c. is being changed and that in future the stamp will appear in two colours.

*Adhesive.*  
17½c. grey-black and blue.

**Luxemburg.** Mr. W. B. Edwards tells us that he has discovered the 1 fr. of 1891-96, perf. 11 all round. This stamp will be Gibbons 143a.

*Adhesive.* 1896. Perf. 11.  
1 fr. purple.

**Paraguay.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received some nice oblong Pictorial stamps from this prolific country.

*Adhesives.*  
5 pesos, blue and black.  
5 .. olive ..  
10 .. blue ..  
10 .. brown ..  
20 .. yellow ..  
20 .. lilac ..

Truly some of these South American countries could put Noah's rainbow to shame.

**Roumania.**—We are indebted to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for the following:—

"We have seen some *tête-bêche* varieties of the latest Postage Due stamps. The pink-tinted paper has been discontinued, and the stamps are on unwatermarked white paper and in a much paler shade of green than previously.

1910. White paper. No. wmk. Perf. 11½.  
5b. pale green.  
*Variety, tête-bêche (pair).*  
5b. pale green.  
(h) Perf. 11½ x 13½.  
5b. pale green.  
10b. ..  
30b. ..

*Varieties, tête-bêche (pairs).*

5b. pale green.  
10b. ..  
30b. ..

**Russia.** Mr. Albert Scheindling informs the *London Philatelist* that he has an unused copy of the 7 rouble stamp, vertically laid paper, with corner margins, perf. 13½ on three sides, but perf. 11½ at top. It is said that these stamps, as well as the 1 rouble which is also known with compound perfs, came from sheets of which certain rows escaped the perforation. These sheets were returned to the printing office and completed by the aid of a comb-machine.

*Adhesive.* Compound perfs.  
1 rouble orange and brown.  
7 .. yellow and black.

**Siam.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the first two stamps of a new series.

*Adhesives.*  
3 satang, green.  
6 .. carmine.

**Spain.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the new 40c. and 50c. stamps.

*Adhesives.* 1910. Perf. 13 x 12½.  
40c. pink.  
50c. slate-blue.

**Sweden.** We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the following interesting information.

"Under date of 4.5.10 a correspondent informs us that there is a hitch in regard to the plates for the new issue. They have not been considered satisfactory by the postal authorities, so that new ones will likely have to be made. The plates came from Vienna."

**Turkey.** Mr. W. B. Edwards very kindly informs us that he has the 5 pias. of 1905, perf. 13½, also the 10 pias. of 1908, perf. 12 all round. These two stamps would therefore be Gibbons' 238a and 257a.

*Adhesives.* 1905 Type. Perf. 13½.  
5 pias. brown.  
1908 Type. Perf. 12.  
10 pias. dull red.

**Uruguay.** Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, very kindly sends us specimens of the recently issued Commemorative stamps. His letter is dated May 23rd, and he writes: "These stamps have been printed in Buenos Aires by the South American Banknote Co., and will remain on sale until the 29th instant."

*Commemoratives.* Dated 1810-1910.  
2c. red.  
5c. blue.





## British Stamps Used in Jamaica.

MR. ASTLEY CLERK, the well-known philatelist of Jamaica, contributes the following interesting article to the *Gleaner*, the leading paper of the Island.

"There are some who contend that a stamp issued by one country and postally used in another, remains the stamp of the mother country. That depends, in my opinion, on circumstances. For instance, no one can correctly say that the Bermuda stamps surcharged "Gibraltar" in 1886 remain Bermudan stamps—on the other hand I hold that British stamps used in Buenos Ayres, Panama, Hayti, and other foreign countries (and for that matter, any British Colony in which they were used without permission of the local authorities) and for the sole convenience of the British-born residing in such places, are British stamps pure and simple. When, however, permission was obtained, as it was from the Jamaica Government, by the English Postmaster General, and a formal official notice appeared in the public press, then I hold that that stamp is no more a British, but a local stamp, easily distinguished from all others by the particular form of post-mark it bears. British Jamaicas are divided into two classes: (1) those used only on packet letters and bearing dates between May 7, 1858, and January 31, 1859—referred to in the following notice as per advertisement in the "Daily Telegraph" of May 8, 1858.

General Post Office,  
Kingston, May 7, 1858.

### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

The Postmaster General having been pleased to sanction the introduction of postage stamps for the prepayment of Packet postage,

Notice is hereby given that from this date the public will be supplied with stamps of the respective values of 1d., 4d., and 6d., on application at the General Post Office, Kingston, between the hours of 8.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. For the present the use of the stamps is restricted to packet correspondence. Arrangements will be made for supplying the several postmasters throughout the Island with postage stamps as soon as possible.

MAURICE O'CONNOR MORRIS,  
Deputy Postmaster General.

(2) Those which were used insularly as well as on packet letters, the permission for the use of which was published in the paper already mentioned, December 10th, 1858, reads as follows:—

Kingston, 10th Dec., 1858.

"The attention of the public is particularly called to the following extracts from a Treasury Warrant relative to the compulsory prepayment of letters in this colony which will come into operation on the 1st February, 1859.

MAURICE O'CONNOR MORRIS,  
Deputy Postmaster General.

### TREASURY WARRANT.

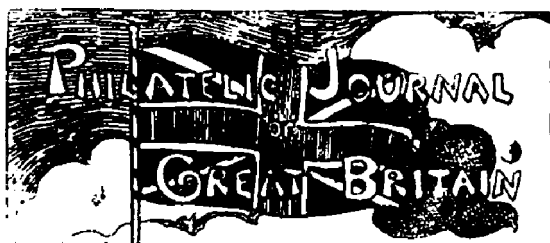
1. The postage of all letters posted in the island of Jamaica, addressed to any place within such island, shall in every case be paid at the time of the same being posted, either in money or by being duly stamped with the proper postage stamp or stamps affixed thereto, which stamp or stamps shall in every case be affixed or appear on the outside of every such letter, near the address or direction, and shall be of the same value or amount of the postage duty payable thereon.]

Whitehall Treasury Chambers, the  
9th day of November, 1858.

H. G. LENNOT.  
HENRY WHITMORE.

Oppositionists may argue that both these notices were made by the deputy Postmaster General for his English chief, and I grant it, at the same time bear in mind that the permission of our House of Assembly, which in those days of absolute local self government, held about as many privileges as the English Parliament, had to be and was obtained, especially as at this time the question of transferring the Post Office from English to local management was engaging much attention.

I go further and contend that the only reason why the second class (mentioned by me) of these British stamps used in this island does not bear the overprint "Jamaica," is because the use of the surcharge was not then philatelically known, Portugal being the first country to overprint her own issues, in 1868, for her colonies of Azores and Madeira. The first class I shall not quarrel over, the objectionists may claim them, for although our government granted the permission yet the use of the stamps was very limited, being confined to those residents of the island who desired to mail letters by the outgoing packets. The second class, however, should be listed among the stamps of Jamaica, for they are, for the reasons given and for the fact that their use was continued as late as 1866, far more Jamaica than English.



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## The City of London Philatelic Society.

MR. E. GOWER, of 28, Riffel Road, Cricklewood, has handed over his "seals of office," as Exchange Superintendent, to Mr. A. G. Kerrison, 143, Culverley Road, Catford, S.E. Will members please send all sheets for packets, and address all correspondence relating to exchange business to Mr. Kerrison.

## Dot-Pourri.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 15.)

WHEN I was cut off by an exigent Editor in January last, I was discoursing about the information which can be picked up from various catalogues—Kohl's in particular. I will now continue my notes on this subject, as there are many things which can be learned from a perusal of the German catalogue which should be useful to collectors.

### HUNGARY.

The stamps of the engraved issue of 1872 are all, with the exception of the 25 kr. found on a distinctly yellowish-toned paper, and these, I see, are all listed by Kohl. They are considerably scarcer than the ordinary ones and worth looking out for.

The issues of 1891, 1899 and 1900-4 are all divided into two sets, viz. :—A, perf. 11½, and B, perf. 12×11½. The former is much scarcer than B in nearly all cases, but especially in the 1900-4 set.

### RUSSIA.

Of the stamps of the 1868-71 issue there are four values with background inverted, namely, 1 kr., 3 kr., 5 kr., and 10 kr. The latter is only known imperf. With the possible exception of the 1 kr., I believe they are all proofs or unissued stamps. In the next issue, 1875, the 20 kop. is given with *centre* inverted, as well as the 10 kop. The 2 kop., 7 kop. and 8 kop. are mentioned as existing imperf., but here again, it appears to be very doubtful whether they were issued in that state. To the imperf. values of the 1883 issue as given by Gibbons, Kohl adds the 1 kop.

### SERVIA.

The perforating machines used on the 1869 issue of Servia (stamps spaced 2mm. apart) were four in number and gauged 9½, 11½, 12 and 12½ respectively. These can be found on various stamps, according to a neat perforation-table given by Kohl, in almost all possible compounds, giving, in all, fifty varieties and one which is queried as doubtful. For the issue of 1872-1880 (stamps spaced 3 to 4mm. apart) all these gauges reappear with the addition of one gauging 11. This naturally adds to the fun, and although the two values 35 and 50 *paras* have retired, the perforation-table shows 66 varieties, simple and compound; but it must be admitted that the list is swelled by the inclusion of shades of the 10 and 20 *paras*.

There are several types of the surcharge, 15 *paras* on 1 dr., 1901, which I described and illustrated in an article in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for August, 1908. Kohl boils these down into two types, and adds a sub-type of the first. This is not quite accurate, as two of the varieties which I found will not fit in with the measurements given by Kohl.

In the 1903 issue the 10, 15, 20 and 25 pa. are listed with the overprint double.

The current issue when it first appeared was perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , but this was changed recently to  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ . These varieties are given by Kohl, who also divides the stamps with the compound perforation into two sets, on thick wove and on laid paper. The latter is confined to the values from 1 to 50 paras. An examination of some blocks shows that the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  perforation is from a single-line machine, and that the stamps with this perforation are all on very thin paper. The  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  perforation is from a comb machine, and the stamps are all on much thicker paper.

#### PORTUGAL.

Of this country Kohl gives the first issue on thin as well as on thick paper, with the exception of the 50 reis which is only found on the thick. The thin paper stamps are rarer than the others in every case. Of the 1855 issue, the five types of the 5 reis are noted as follows:—

1. 75 pearls in circle and small lettering.
2. 76 " " " large lettering.
3. 76 " " " large but very thin lettering.
4. 81 " " " medium-sized lettering.
5. 89 " " " very large lettering.

It is surprising to note that the very rare varieties of the 1870 issue, perforated 11, are not mentioned, while the ribbed papers of the same issue are only referred to in a note. This ribbed paper is of a very peculiar kind, about every third rib being more pronounced than the intervening ones; while it is not very easy to detect, it is yet pronounced enough to constitute a real variety. Unlike many so-called ribbed papers, which are really badly rolled plain papers, this one is obviously a specially prepared paper, which evidently had a short trial by the Portuguese Post Office. Stamps printed on it are very rare in Portugal and are more plentiful, though by no means common, in the stamps overprinted for Madeira and Azores.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

This is, probably, the only British Colony which Kohl catalogues with greater faithfulness than Gibbons, although even here there is room for improvement. The two stamps, 1d. orange and 9d. lilac, which, in a certain shade of each value are only found in the simple perforation—11, are listed, though the variety is assigned to the wrong shade of the 1d., namely, the yellow-orange, instead of the brown-orange, as it should be. The normal set of the pence issue is correctly described as perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12, though the varieties  $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12 compound with 11 are not given. The cents issue is given as perf. (11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ?) 12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13 and compound. This is somewhat nearer the facts than Gibbons gets, but is still far from correct. As a matter of fact all values are found perf. 12-13, which is the normal perforation for this set, but the 1c. and 3c. are also

found in the earlier perforation,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12. Possibly, also, one of these may be found in a compound of these two varying gauges. I hope some day to see this little Colony's stamps classified as correctly as any other British Colony.

#### GERMAN STATES.

The 5 ngr. of the 1856 issue of Saxony (dated by Kohl as 1855-59) is a stamp which can be found in many varieties. Gibbons gives four shades, but Kohl catalogues six varieties which vary in shade and in the substance of the paper. These are as follows:—

- Thick paper, brownish-red.
- " " orange.
- Thin paper, orange.
- " " carmine-rose.
- Thin shiny paper, brown-rose
- and
- (Error) brown.

Of these the thick papers are catalogued the highest, the best of the lot being the orange on thick, which is priced at 50/- unused and 6/- used, and the so-called error which is quoted at £5 unused and 15/- used.

In Baden, I see mention of a variety which I have not heard of before. This is the 3 kr. Prussian blue of 1861, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ , with reddish gum, resembling, in this respect, the Hanover stamps of the same date. Presumably this is of the greatest rarity as it is not priced unused and is quoted at 30/- used.

The 6 kr., of Jan., 1862, is mentioned as existing with a double impression, being known obliterated with the familiar four concentric rings with the number "8" in the centre.

In Bavaria, an error in one of the stamps of the current issue is listed. This is the 5 pf. green, on very white paper, with watermark close vertical wavy lines instead of close horizontal. This is quoted £10 unused and 20/- used, and we are told in a footnote that one entire sheet was found. Presumably this error was caused by the paper being fed into the press sideways, and it is a wonder that the mistake has not been more frequent.

Wurtemberg provides one or two varieties which I have not seen chronicled elsewhere. The most extraordinary of these is the 9 kr. black on rose of the first issue on vertically laid paper. No valuation is attempted. It would be interesting to learn something further about this alleged laid paper.

#### ROUMANIA.

Voluminous and complex as is Gibbons' list of this country, it is almost elementary compared with that given in Kohl's catalogue. But in spite of the fact that far more varieties are listed in the German publication, the catalogue is so much more compact, with its avoidance of the repetition of headings, that it is much simpler to work with than is the

standard English catalogue. Roumania, in fact, is one of the best written sections of Kohl's great work. The issue of 1868 is not divided into thick and thin papers, but all values are listed on yellowish paper, instead of only the 4b. as in Gibbons. The prices for these varieties are several times as much as for the ordinary varieties. A mistake seems to be the omission of all reference, even in the voluminous footnotes to the two types of the 2 bani. These types are very difficult to differentiate, and I always thought Gibbons went too far in cataloguing them separately; but they are surely worthy of passing mention.

The 1869 issue is the same as in Gibbons with the addition of a shade here and there and the mention of the prominent flaw on the "N" of CINCI in the 15 bani red.

In the 1871 issue, the one with the beard, the 5 bani on rose tinted and on yellowish papers of Gibbons are not mentioned, but the 10 bani on thin paper, a marked variety, is given, and quoted at the excessive price of 20 marks, *used*. In this issue there is again a well-marked flaw on the 15 cents, in which the "c" of CINCS is so mis-shapen as to appear like a figure "6." This is priced at 20 marks unused and 25 marks used.

Among the later issues the compound perfs. are divided into  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  and  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  and in nearly all cases the latter combination is priced immeasurably higher than the former.

Of the 15 bani red of 1893-99, wmk. P.R., there are two types, in one of which the frame surrounding the stamp is much thicker than in the other. These two types are very noticeable, and may further be discriminated by the top line of shading in the background above the head, which is thicker and more curved in one type than in the other. Both types appear to be equally common.

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## The Empire of Morocco:

ITS FOREIGN AND PRIVATE POSTS.

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THE *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for July 9th contains a good article on Moroccan stamps, contributed by Mr. Fred W. Edwards. We reproduce his introductory remarks below.

"The philatelic history of a country closely reflects and illustrates its political history, its form of government, and often even the customs and characteristics of its national life. In no other could we find more substantial evidence of this close inter-relation of Philately and history than in the Empire of Morocco.

The government of Morocco is an autocracy, subject to religious influences, which severely repress all progress; and the general system is as corrupt as the people who administer and endure it.

From such a government, and from a people notorious throughout several centuries for brigandage and piracy, no properly organized postal service could be expected, and the natural and almost inevitable outcome of this lack of proper postal facilities was the establishment of Foreign Post Offices, supplemented by private courier posts—the latter system giving rise to abuses, corruption, and stamp speculation, with the result that practically all the "Local" stamps, good and bad alike, are under a ban and have incurred the disfavour of philatelists.

In Morocco, not only does the postal system illustrate a reactionary and corrupt system of government; but the picturesque stamps of the private posts illustrate the characteristics of the country and the Moorish people, by many dainty designs depicting camels, dromedaries, lions, palm trees, Moors, mosques, landscapes and seascapes.

The Empire of Morocco is situated in the north-west of Africa, and includes the former kingdoms of Fez and Morocco; the area of the country is about 220,000 square miles, the population is estimated at about seven millions, and the present ruler is Sultan Muley Abdul Aziz, who succeeded in 1894.

While Morocco has no proper Government postal system, there are services under the control of the British, French, German and Spanish Governments; and besides these foreign post offices there were various private posts which flourished between 1892 and 1900 and exploited the resources of the country in general and philatelists in particular, and by the latter were therefore condemned to everlasting execration.

But let it be remembered that these Moroccan private posts were by no means the worst stamp-speculating sinners; for, prolific as they were, all their records for number of varieties are easily eclipsed by the British P.O.'s in Morocco, from which no fewer than 87 standard varieties were issued from 1898 to 1907—and there are more to follow.

The foreign posts of Morocco claim priority of place on account of their greater importance, the higher status of their issues, and last, but not least, the greater number of their varieties; but we shall deal with the private posts at rather greater length, because they are little known and even less loved!

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## Third Philatelic Congress.

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THE Birmingham Philatelic Society are arranging for the next Philatelic Congress to be held in their town. The date is provisionally fixed for June 7th to 9th, 1911. The Hon. Sec. and Treasurer is G. JOHNSON, B.A., 308, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.



JULY 20, 1910.

### Philately at Home.

The June number of the *Philatelic Record* is rather a thin one; it contains, however, another instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's excellent Belgian article and the first chapter of an article entitled "British 'Abnormals,'" wherein the author, who hides his identity under the *nom de plume* of "Quilp," holds forth on some of the unissued and scarce "errors" of British stamps. "Reviews," "New Issues" and other regular features of our contemporary complete an interesting number. In the course of Mr. Leavy's article he mentions that some of the 1862 stamps are known rouletted. He says:

Mr. Bouvez states that near the end of 1862 the officials in certain post offices, in order to facilitate the handling of their stamps, provided themselves with rouletting machines. He gives the list of these offices as being Antwerp, Arlon, Buiche, Brussels, Charleroi, Chimay, Dinau, La Louviere, Malines, Namur, St. Ghislain, Stavelot, Tournai, and Verviers. He claims that only the ten and twenty centimes stamps have been found with this rouletting. Personally, I have been so unfortunate as never to have even seen one of these rouletted stamps. Struck by the facility with which the employées of the post office handled the distribution of stamps submitted to the rouletting process, Messrs. Gouvellos Frères, of Brussels, ordered a small perforating machine from London, and offered to perforate stamps for the small sum of 5 centimes per sheet of three hundred stamps. This offer received such a favourable response from the public that the Administration of Postes signed a contract with Gouvellos Frères on 9th March, 1863, whereby they were to perforate for the Government 500 sheets of stamps of different values per day.

The June *London Philatelist* is almost entirely devoted to the 1909-10 report of the Royal Philatelic Society. We learn, among other things that His Majesty King George V. has consented to be Patron of the Society, and the Earl of Crawford, President; also that twenty-four new members and one associate have been added to the roll. The resignations number twelve, while the names of three members have been removed, leaving 280

Fellows and five Associates on the register. We learn that His Majesty the King has presented to the Society a complete collection of the so-called "King of Spain" reprints of the stamps of Portugal and the various Portuguese Colonies, also that the Government of India has presented a set of the adhesive postage stamps and "entires" of the Empire of India and its component States.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for June 18th contains yet another instalment of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and Colonies," he deals with official correspondence, official stamps and stationery. Desdichado contributes another of his "Têtes-bêches" papers. There is also another, and final, instalment of the translated article dealing with the 3kr. Postage Due stamps of Bavaria, illustrated by aid of a plate showing a half sheet of 90 stamps. "Topical Notes," "Notes and Queries," "New Issues," and a further monotonous instalment of Mr. Dendy Marshall's "British Postmarks since 1840," complete an excellent number. The following short extract from "Topical Notes" will interest collectors of Chilean stamps.

In the stock of the late Senor Luis Sobrino, which I bought in South America, I found an unsorted parcel of 2000 5c. Chili stamps, first type, and I have now sorted these and made a careful list of the contents, which I think is interesting as indicating in some degree the relative rarity of the varieties of these interesting old stamps:—

Jan., 1854.	Desmadryl printing,				
	pale red-brown .. .. .	..	..	..	9
	deep red-brown .. .. .	..	..	..	10
1857.	Post Office printing, dull red-brown	..	..	..	34
1858.	" " red .. .. .	..	..	..	89
"	" " rose-red .. .. .	..	..	..	190
1861.	" " orange .. .. .	..	..	..	8
1865.	Wmk. tall "5," rose-red .. .. .	..	..	..	30
"	" " pale red .. .. .	..	..	..	49
"	" " carmine .. .. .	..	..	..	7
"	" " mixed colours, pen-stroked	..	..	..	950
	Damaged (various), not fit to put into stock	..	..	..	624

The June 25th number contains a most valuable contribution in the nature of a paper dealing with the Cape of Good Hope "wood-blocks." Mr. A. B. Creeke, Jun., the author, illustrates his paper with two plates, one each of the 1d. and 4d., which were reproduced from photos taken by a correspondent at the Cape Town Museum. From a study of these Mr. Creeke has been able to draw the following deductions. The following extract illustrates his method of procedure.

The plate of the Four Pence was made up in a manner similar to that of the One Penny, with this exception, that on the sheet of stamps it was the first in the top row and the last on the bottom line which had the apex of the triangle at the corner. The wooden base measures 270 mm. by 150 mm., and the casts occupy a space of from 268 to 270 mm., by from 138 to 141 mm., and there is now a single vacancy at the extreme right-hand lower corner.

As the Four Pence stamp with damaged corner, showing some five or six parallel white lines in place of the usual ornament after "FOUR PENCE," is missing from the sheet of reprints, it is clear that it, and only it, was permanently removed, and it is equally clear that the Four Pence, error, from the One Penny plate, is now somewhere with the other stamps of the same value. Fortunately, it is possible to identify the Four Pence "error" when printed in blue, for immediately above the space between the "A" and "P" of "CAPE" there is a clearly defined dot appearing in white on the stamp, and in colour on the illustration; and there is a slight but distinct blur just after the word "HOPE." Further the edge of the base of the stereo seems to have been slightly damaged. This is indicated by the dark mark (shadow) in the illustration, and can be easily seen in the Four Pence, red, as a dark (over-inked) line just above the comparatively lighter edge of the print. The original Four Pence, error, is now, I maintain, the tenth stamp in the first row of the sheet of that value, the tests I have given being clearly visible in that stamp only.

My suggestion is that the One Penny, error, was the tenth stamp in the top row—else, why, on rectifying the mistakes, was the Four Pence, "error," placed there? And that the stamp from the damaged stereo was the inner one of the last pair on the sheet, and has been replaced by the original corner stamp, else why are there distinct marks of another stereo having once been in the place now occupied by the "unpaired" cast at the corner?

Of course, it may have been the other way round, and the damaged stereo may have been in the top row, and the error at the corner, but I can trace a resemblance in the unevenness of outline, between the Four Pence stamp found *se tenant* with the One Penny, error, and the ninth stamp in the first row, though identification is very difficult; and it seems more probable that the workman would transpose as far as possible the errors before removing (or perhaps noticing) the damaged stereo. There is this also to be noted, that the pair of stereos immediately above the solitary corner cast has been removed, but why it should be necessary to remove three in addition to the one to be discarded is a question I cannot attempt to answer. However, until a block of at least four, including the error, has been found, I fear it will be impossible to locate the position of the One Penny, blue, and consequently the place occupied by the defective stamp. The discovery of a block containing the latter would equally assist. Can any one of my readers oblige?

The stamps on both plates are so irregularly placed that the correct arrangement of blocks of four at least, or of strips of not less than three, should be possible, but there seems to have been considerable method in the irregularity. One can find some particular block of four, or strip of even six, almost exactly duplicated in another part of the sheet, and this apparent duplication is sometimes so very marked, that I spent several hours measuring and otherwise testing the arrangement, in the belief that the plates had possibly been made up of repetitions of a number of casts and not of separate stereos. That belief, however, proved to be unfounded.

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paper, and also contributes another excellent chapter of his "Stamps of Prussia." Regarding the two curious stamps of 1866, he says:

Under the Prussian postal system there were two main categories—(a) the letter post (Brief Post), which included letters, samples, and printed matter, and (b) parcel post (Fahr Post), which included parcels, insured letters and money orders. The articles in the first category were franked by postage stamps, but for those in the second category the amount was generally paid in cash. With a view of lessening the labour of booking the cash items in the parcel post department the experiment was made of affixing stamps to the parcels, etc. This experiment was confined to parcels, etc., handed in at all railway station post offices between December 15th and 31st of 1866. For this purpose it was necessary to issue two stamps of higher value, viz., 10 sgr. and 30 sgr., equivalent to one and three shillings English respectively. These stamps were not sold to the public, but were affixed by the postal officials, but it must be borne in mind that they did not affix these stamps only, but also any other of the stamps in issue necessary to make up the postage rate. There is no apparent reason why these stamps should not have been sold to the public, and the foregoing explanation makes it clear that they were genuine postage stamps and as such entitled to recognition by collectors as any others. In point of fact they should be represented in every collection on account of the unique method by which they were produced.

The experiment having proved successful the system was made applicable to all post offices in the kingdom by a circular of instructions dated June 2nd, 1867. In this circular it was again specified that the 10 and 30 sgr. stamps were not to be sold to the public.

The design of the two stamps was engraved by Schilling on copper. The original dies are now in the Postal Museum in Berlin. The design was engraved in positive form, that is to say, an impression from the die would shew the stamp reversed. From the die, electrotypes were taken and arranged in ten horizontal rows of ten each. The rows were numbered in the margin on all four sides. The stamps were then printed on a special transparent paper (not gold-beaters' skin), one side of which was painted over with a solution of collodium and gelatine before the printing. The stamps were printed on the side thus treated, and the gum was then applied on the same side. From the foregoing description it will be seen that the printed side of the paper was affixed to the parcel, but the paper being transparent and the stamp being positively engraved, the design was visible in its proper form on what we may call the obverse side. The stamps were rouletted in the same manner as before described, but on a new frame which made 10 roulettes in 20 centimetres.

Another good contribution to the *Stamp Lover* deals with the stamps of Savage Island (Niue), while Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigk is the author of an interesting paper entitled "Notes on Bisected Provisionals." This paper is illustrated, and deals with the authorised "bisects" of the British Empire.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for June 11th contains a report of Mr. M. P. Castle's Congress paper, another batch of interesting New Zealand Notes, contributed by Mr. Irwin Faris, he deals entirely with the stamps printed for the

"penny booklets." Mr. W. Haworth concludes his paper dealing with the Bordeaux Stamps of France. Mr. W. Macdonald Mackay does likewise with his very interesting account of his trip to Iceland. The following extract will interest those of our readers who do not care for too much "dry-as-dust" philately during the summer months.

The mails to and from Iceland are carried with a subsidised line of Danish steamers trading between Copenhagen, Leith, and Iceland, an occasional steamer, probably not more than two or three in a season, sailing from the island direct either to Norway or Denmark, but otherwise all the steamers sail from Copenhagen to Leith and thence to Iceland, and from there to Leith, thence to Denmark. These mail steamers run fortnightly to Reykjavik, and once a month they call either up and around the eastern or western principal ports of the island, with mails and cargo. There is also an opposition line of cargo and passenger steamers which take mails as occasion arises for ports of call, which may not be made by the regular mail and cargo steamers. Many of the towns get a mail each fortnight, some monthly, even during the summer weather, and I should imagine, from the conditions of the country, that during the winter months calls made by the few steamers that dare do the voyage are scarce. Even Reykjavik, the capital of the country, is ten days without a mail during the summer months. That occurred during my stay at Reykjavik. No word communication from the outside world or from friends for 10 to 12 days! The arrival of the steamer with mails or cargo, at any of the towns, is a great event, and the entire town hoists their flags in honour of the occasion, for flag flying is a prominent feature in any of the towns or villages in Iceland. The post office in the town is easily made out, as it flies the Danish flag with the post horn, so familiar on the stamps.

Some reprinted matter, an auction summary and a few odd notes complete an excellent number of our "twice a month" contemporary.

In the number dated June 25th we find that the only contribution of note is another of Mr. Faris's New Zealand articles dealing mainly with the "official" overprints, he gives the following excellent list of varieties, which, as it is the first which has yet been published, will be appreciated by those of our readers who collect these stamps.

#### "OFFICIAL" OVERPRINTS.

The following is a complete list according to my collection:—

*Perf. 14, rough (Cowan paper, wmk. S.G. 41).*

1. ½d. light yellow-green (not 310B which is really olive-green), not catalogued in ordinary issues.
2. ½d. deep yellow-green (ditto).
3. 1d., 1904 die (dot at centre), B No. 303.
4. 1d., 1906 die (no dot), see note below No. 303B.
5. 1d., 1906 die, dot at left upper corner, not catalogued in ordinary issues.
6. 2d. dull violet, No. 287.
7. 2d. purple, No. 288.
8. 2d. rosy-purple (1909 issue).
9. 3d. bistre-brown, large die, No. 290.
10. 3d. bistre, large die, No. 290A.

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Under the Prussian postal system there were two main categories—(a) the letter post (Brief Post), which included letters, samples, and printed matter, and (b) parcel post (Fahr Post), which included parcels, insured letters and money orders. The articles in the first category were franked by postage stamps, but for those in the second category the amount was generally paid in cash. With a view of lessening the labour of booking the cash items in the parcel post department the experiment was made of affixing stamps to the parcels, etc. This experiment was confined to parcels, etc., handed in at all railway station post offices between December 15th and 31st of 1866. For this purpose it was necessary to issue two stamps of higher value, viz., 10 sgr. and 30 sgr., equivalent to one and three shillings English respectively. These stamps were not sold to the public, but were affixed by the postal officials, but it must be borne in mind that they did not affix these stamps only, but also any other of the stamps in issue necessary to make up the postage rate. There is no apparent reason why these stamps should not have been sold to the public, and the foregoing explanation makes it clear that they were genuine postage stamps and as much entitled to recognition by collectors as any others. In point of fact they should be represented in every collection on account of the unique method by which they were produced.

The experiment having proved successful the system was made applicable to all post offices in the kingdom by a circular of instructions dated June 2nd, 1867. In this circular it was again specified that the 10 and 30 sgr. stamps were not to be sold to the public.

The design of the two stamps was engraved by Schilling on copper. The original dies are now in the Postal Museum in Berlin. The design was engraved in positive form, that is to say, an impression from the die would shew the stamp reversed. From the die, electrotypes were taken and arranged in ten horizontal rows of ten each. The rows were numbered in the margin on all four sides. The stamps were then printed on a special transparent paper (not gold-beaters' skin), one side of which was painted over with a solution of collodium and gelatine before the printing. The stamps were printed on the side thus treated, and the gum was then applied on the same side. From the foregoing description it will be seen that the printed side of the paper was affixed to the parcel, but the paper being transparent and the stamp being positively engraved, the design was visible in its proper form on what we may call the obverse side. The stamps were rouletted in the same manner as before described, but on a new frame which made 10 roulettes in 20 centimetres.

Another good contribution to the *Stamp Lover* deals with the stamps of Savage Island (Niue), while Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigh is the author of an interesting paper entitled "Notes on Bisected Provisionals." This paper is illustrated, and deals with the authorised "bisects" of the British Empire.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for June 11th contains a report of Mr. M. P. Castle's Congress paper, another batch of interesting New Zealand Notes, contributed by Mr. Irwin Faris, he deals entirely with the stamps printed for the

"penny booklets." Mr. W. Haworth concludes his paper dealing with the Bordeaux Stamps of France. Mr. W. Macdonald Mackay does likewise with his very interesting account of his trip to Iceland. The following extract will interest those of our readers who do not care for too much "dry-as-dust" philately during the summer months.

The mails to and from Iceland are carried with a subsidised line of Danish steamers trading between Copenhagen, Leith, and Iceland, an occasional steamer, probably not more than two or three in a season, sailing from the island direct either to Norway or Denmark, but otherwise all the steamers sail from Copenhagen to Leith and thence to Iceland, and from there to Leith, thence to Denmark. These mail steamers run fortnightly to Reykjavik, and once a month they call either up and around the eastern or western principal ports of the island, with mails and cargo. There is also an opposition line of cargo and passenger steamers which take mails as occasion arises for ports of call, which may not be made by the regular mail and cargo steamers. Many of the towns get a mail each fortnight, some monthly, even during the summer weather, and I should imagine, from the conditions of the country, that during the winter months calls made by the few steamers that dare do the voyage are scarce. Even Reykjavik, the capital of the country, is ten days without a mail during the summer months. That occurred during my stay at Reykjavik. No word communication from the outside world or from friends for 10 to 12 days! The arrival of the steamer with mails or cargo, at any of the towns, is a great event, and the entire town hoists their flags in honour of the occasion, for flag flying is a prominent feature in any of the towns or villages in Iceland. The post office in the town is easily made out, as it flies the Danish flag with the post horn, so familiar on the stamps.

Some reprinted matter, an auction summary and a few odd notes complete an excellent number of our "twice a month" contemporary.

In the number dated June 25th we find that the only contribution of note is another of Mr. Faris's New Zealand articles dealing mainly with the "official" overprints, he gives the following excellent list of varieties, which, as it is the first which has yet been published, will be appreciated by those of our readers who collect these stamps.

#### "OFFICIAL" OVERPRINTS.

The following is a complete list according to my collection:—

*Perf. 14, rough (Cowan paper, wmk. S.G. 41).*

1. ½d. light yellow-green (not 310B which is really olive-green), not catalogued in ordinary issues.
2. ½d. deep yellow-green (ditto).
3. 1d., 1904 die (dot at centre), B No. 303.
4. 1d., 1906 die (no dot), see note below No. 303B.
5. 1d., 1906 die, dot at left upper corner, not catalogued in ordinary issues.
6. 2d. dull violet, No. 287.
7. 2d. purple, No. 288.
8. 2d. rosy-purple (1909 issue).
9. 3d. bistre-brown, large die, No. 290.
10. 3d. bistre, large die, No. 290A.

- 11 & 12. 3d., worn die, of both of foregoing colours.  
 13. 6d. pink, large die, No. 296A.  
 14. 1/- pale red, large die, No. 297B.  
 15. 2/- blue-green, No. 298A.  
 16. 5/- vermilion, No. 299.  
 17. 20/- rose, No. 499C.

*Varieties:—*

- Overprints in both "thin" and "thick" letters are found on the 1d. and 2d.  
 Overprints as per S.G. type 83 (viz., L and period joined) exist only on the 1d., 2d. and 3d., other values have period separate from lettering. The 1d., 2d. and 3d. also exist with separate period (i.e., both types exist in these values). The 1d. and 2d. have three forms of L. The 1d. exists with period missing.  
 The measurements of imprints (from outside of O to outside of vertical line of L at centre of each, vary thus:—  
 Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9 to 14, 16 and 17—15 millimetres.  
 Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8—15 to 16 millimetres.  
 No. 15—15 to 15½ millimetres.
18. The 6d. exists "imperf. between" vertically.  
 18A. The 1d. (1906) exists in "booklet" form, viz., imperf. at bottom.
- Perf. comb 14 × 13, 13½ (Cowan, wmk. S.G. 41).*
19. 6d., small die, pink, No. 318.  
 Overprint is 15mm.  
*Perf. comb. 14 × 15 (Cowan, wmk. S.G. 41).*
20. ½d. green, No. 320.  
 21. 1d. carmine, No. 321.  
 22. 6d., small die, pink, No. 324.

*Varieties:—*

- The measurement of overprint is from 14½ to 15mm. on 1d., and 15mm. on ½d. and 6d.  
*Perf. comb 14 × 15, "Dominion" design, issued 1909 (Cowan wmk. S.G. 41).*
23. 1d. carmine, not yet catalogued.  
 Overprint 15mm.

GENERAL.

The overprints were probably from stereotypes (probably in blocks of 6 or 12) and some of the variations in thickness and length of lettering are probably due to wear or "flattening" of relief portions of blocks, or to a number of blocks having been cast in same mould. The later printings being noticeably clearer and finer are probably electros and should wear much better.

The positions of imprints on stamps vary considerably, being to right or left or above figure, low on stamp or high on stamp. A few sheets of light yellow green (same colour as No. 1) were issued without imprint, but they are very scarce.

- No. 3 is very rare, and No. 4 scarce.  
 No. 8 is scarce.

The July 9th *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains, as its principal article, a very readable paper on the Foreign and Private Posts of the Empire of Morocco, contributed by Mr. F. W. Edwards. Mr. J. A. Tilleard is the "Philatelist of To-Day." This number of our contemporary is its Four-hundredth, may its shadow never grow less.

The *West End Philatelist* for June contains a further lengthy instalment of Mr. Poole's Sierra Leone article, a continuation of his paper dealing with "errors of colour," a brief history of the 1854, inverted

head, 4a of India, and a short note describing the recently surcharged speculative Portuguese Nyassa stamps.

The May number of the *British Philatelist* contains a further chapter of Mr. G. H. Holland's "The Twopenny Post," a list of British stamps known with the Crimea cancellations, and a further short instalment of "The Surface Printed Stamps of Great Britain," dealing with the 5d. stamp of 1881.

The following is the list of stamps known with Crimea postmarks.

Crown and Stars obliteration.

- 1d. red, imperforate.  
 1d. " perf. 16, S.C., Die I.  
 1d. " perf. 16, S.C., Die II.

Cyphers and Star obliteration.

- 1d. red, imperforate.  
 1d. " perf. 16, S.C., Die I.  
 1d. " perf. 14, S.C., Die I.  
 1d. " perf. 16, S.C., Die II.  
 1d. " perf. 14, S.C., Die II.  
 1d. " perf. 14, L.C.  
 2d. blue, imperforate (plate 4).  
 2d. " perf. 14, S.C.  
 2d. " perf. 16, L.C.  
 2d. " perf. 14, L.C.  
 4d., Large Garter.  
 6d., octagonal.  
 1s., octagonal.

## Philately on the Continent.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* of June 4th has an article on the stamps of Greece. The first portion is devoted to the provisionals of 1900, and gives the places of the different varieties on the sheet. The author then goes on to treat of the flaws on the 1 lepton stamp of 1870. Besides the well known flaws A and B of Dorning Beckton, he describes several minor ones, and assigns them to their position on the sheet. He winds up his article with a list of dangerous forgeries which have mainly originated from Greece, from which we reproduce the following:—

- (1) 1st Athens print, 5 lep., unused without gum, with figure on back.
- (2) 1867-70, 40 lep., unused with gum, with figures on back.
- (3) The same stamp unused without gum and without figures on back.
- (4) 1862-70, 10 lep., unused, without gum or figures.
- (5) 40 lep. solferino, unused with gum but without figures.
- (6) 30 lep., Paris print on buff, used.
- (7) 30 " " " " cream "
- (8) 60 " " " " used.

These two latter are very well executed forgeries.

- (9) The same stamp unused without gum.
- (10) 60 lep., Athens print.

- (11) Small head, 20 lep., Athens print, forgeries which have passed through the post.
- (12) Athens print, 1 drachma, imperf., in unused blocks, without gum.
- (13) Athens print, 40 lep., perf., used.
- (14) Various Olympic games of 1896 and AM surcharges.
- (15) A badly executed forgery of the 10 lep. bright orange-red, without figures, used (sic), on the margin of which there appears some traces of a Berge-dorf stamp in the same colour!

The same periodical, in its number of July 9th, concludes Herr Bohnert's monograph on the 3 pf. red of Saxony. With it there is a plate showing 65 superb copies from a specialised collection, including an unused block of four, two used strips of three, three used pairs, and singles galore, both used and unused. Every specimen appears to be in the pink of condition, and the sight of the sheet is enough to turn one green with envy.

From the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* of June 9th, we learn that all the stamps of Roumania prior to the issue of 1908, with the solitary exception of the 5 lei of the 1903 issue, have been demonetised, as has also been the 15 bani violet of the 1908 issue.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* in its issues for the 15th and 30th June contains further instalments of Arthur Wulbern's article on the stamps of Heligoland, which is concluded in the latter number. The reprints are fully dealt with; the differences between the numerous reimpresions of Berlin, of Hamburg, and of Leipzig being carefully described. Heligoland is a country whose stamps are far less interesting than its reprints; an acute collector might get endless enjoyment by making a study of the various sets and endless trouble in trying to complete them. In distinguishing the reprints from the originals, and from one another, the prime factors are shade of colour, type of head, texture of paper, and perforation. For proper discrimination a trained eye is necessary, and the collector who takes up this branch of philately must amass a large number of stamps of all sorts and from all sources before he attempts to classify them.

Some idea of the difficulties to be encountered can be gathered from the following extract which refers to one of the stamps in the set of reprints made by Goldner, in 1884.

"Deceived by the similarity in the colours of the 1 *schilling* (rouletted) original and of this reprint of 1884, some connoisseurs have admitted the possibility of a second printing with second type of head, without thinking that if this second printing had really been made the colours would probably have been very different from those of the first. This, however, is one of the very rare cases where

the colours approach very nearly to those of the originals, though the latter can be distinguished by the darker band which surrounds the oval and by the darker mottled colour. Further, in the originals the green is always deeper than in the reprints."

"I must also here draw attention to a peculiarity of this 'reprint' (in reality unofficial imitations as are all reprints of the rouletted 1 *schilling*) which contributes to rendering them rather dangerous. This stamp, exposed to the air or the sun, whitens very easily and thus gives the impression of age. On the other hand the green does not become paler but appears even deeper than before."

"The difficulty experienced in meeting with this stamp in the 'sets of reprints' proves that Goldner sold his re-impresions without adopting any order whatever and until the exhaustion of the various values. Its scarcity is further explained by the use to which the firm of Senf Brothers put them, namely, in affixing them, one month, to each of the numbers of their Journal, gratuitously. Many of the reprints of the 1 *schilling* show, to this day, traces of this employment, and one may easily, in holding them up to the light, or before a mirror, read certain words, printed in red on the transparent paper of the journal on which they adhered by their gum."

By such interesting information as the above Monsieur Wulbern's article is made most readable and can hardly fail to attract collectors to this much neglected *ci-devant* colony. There is a note on the Philatelic Congress of Naples in the *Echo* for June 15th, from which we learn that the gathering was a great success. Those hardy and indestructible annuals, the questions of the suppression of speculative stamps and the repression of philatelic fraud were discussed as if they were the most novel themes for debate. Needless to say, no tangible results have been recorded. Of course, the programme included a banquet, at which the gastronomical and oratorical feats were prodigious. The philatelic congress idea is spreading, and if little apparent good is done by them, the re-unions must have a beneficial effect.

Here are a few auction prices obtained at M.M. Gilbert et Kohler's last sale (as reported by the *Echo*).

	Francs.
France, 1fr. bright vermilion, on piece	357.50
„ Journal, 2c. rose, imperf., un-	
used .. .. .	106.50
French Colonies, 1872, 4c. grey ..	46.20
Ivory Coast, Colis Postaux, 1fr. on 5c.	
(Yvert No. 7d, Gibbons No. 68)	52.80
Ditto, ditto, 1fr. on 10c. (Yvert No. 8b,	
Gibbons No. 74) .. .. .	825.—
Ditto, ditto, 4fr. on 1fr., Yvert No. 21a,	
in a block of four .. .. .	209.—
Guadeloupe, 30c. on 1fr., Postage Due,	
sheet of 50 with the varieties ..	3410.—
Hoi-Hao, 15c. blue (1901) .. .. .	61.60

	Francs.
Bremen, 10gr. black, on entire ..	93.50
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, unused ..	715.—
„ 1852, 2 „ ..	260.70
„ 1853, 2 „ ..	156.20
„ 1865, 12c, inverted frame ..	151.80
Finland, 1856, 5k. blue, pen-marked ..	63.80
„ „ 10k. rose, „ ..	170.50
„ vertically laid paper ..	145.20
British Levant, 1 piastre (Beyrout) ..	506.—
Tuscany, 2 soldi, pair ..	506.—

*Le Timbre-Poste* for June contains a further instalment of Messrs. Brunel and Marinescu's article on Roumania. Many interesting official reports and notices are translated. These relate principally to the issues of 1858-59, but one, dated 26th Feb., 1859, refers to the remainders of the first issue and announces that the effects of M. Nicolas Costin, the deceased *caissier*, having been examined, the quantities of remainders (mentioned in the *P.J.G.B.*, May, 1910,) were found and were sent to the Finance Minister to await decision as to what should be done with them. We believe that there is no existing proof that these remainders were destroyed. In treating of the 1862-63 issues of Moldo-Wallachia it is correctly stated that the sheets of the hand-struck stamps were composed of 32 stamps in 4 rows of 8 stamps printed by hand one by one; the two first rows made, the workman turned the sheets round to print the lower two lines. On some sheets the stamps are correctly aligned, on others the stamps are badly placed and in some cases even overlap. The reader is left to guess that the two inner rows are printed *tête-bêche*, and, as is well known, this was the case, the stamps appearing foot to foot in contradistinction to the *tête-bêche* in the machine-printed issue, which is head to head. Unfortunately, *le Timbre Poste* illustrates what purports to be an entire sheet of the 6 par., handstruck, in which the two inner rows appear head to head, which, of course, is entirely wrong. The article is otherwise commendable and very readable, though it contains nothing new.

## Philately Elsewhere.

The May 15th Number of the *Philatelic Journal of America* contains 38 pages devoted to the first instalment of a revised edition of Mr. Walter Clarke Bellows' wonderful work on Campeche stamps of Mexico. Other articles are, a short illustrated paper dealing with Filipino Insurgents Stamps, a short note relating to a newly discovered Uniontown Confederate Provisional, a report of the recent British Congress, and a budget of notes. Mr. Bellows' instalment makes capital reading.

The June 1st edition of the same publication is also a very good number, although

its contents consist almost entirely of reprinted matter. The June 15th copy contains Mr. M. P. Castle's Congress Paper, a biographical sketch of Mr. J.W. Scott of New York, and the first of a series of notes relating to Mexican stamps. We extract the following:—

In 1887 there must have been a temporary scarcity of paper in the Government printing office in the city of Mexico.

The stamps at that time were being printed on an unwatermarked wove paper of medium quality. The paper famine lead to the postage stamps and a few fiscals being printed upon a poor quality of paper stock, some of which had been ruled for other use. Although this stock was ruled, it was still flat and uncut. The ruling appeared to be that which was required for what is commonly called "legal cap," showing a double vertical border line at the right of the horizontal lines. In printing stamps upon the ruled stock, the lines were naturally disregarded and the paper cut to its best advantage for printing purposes.

The lines appeared on the stamp irregularly, vertically and horizontally, sometimes both front and back, and again on either side, while in each sheet there were stamps that were not touched by lines either front or back.

The quality of the paper was so poor that great difficulty was experienced in handling the sheets when perforated.

To overcome this, the perforating knives were altered, every other tooth being removed so that in place of twelve holes to the space of a centimeter only six holes would be pierced.

While the six perforation strengthened the sheets, it made regular separation difficult and ragged and torn edges resulted.

I can readily realize the difficulty experienced in handling the sheets of stamps printed upon this poor paper, for at a later period I inspected the Government printing office in Mexico as a visitor and saw the perforating, gumming and handling of the stamps of that period.

The bright-eyed little Indian boys hung the damp sheets of gummed stamps in a most primitive manner, as if upon a clothes line to dry.

The perforating was done one row at a time, several German perforating machines of various patterns apparently installed at different times being used. Many knives were in use.

The irregular six and twelve perforations occur in sheets upon which perforating knives were used, in which the alternate teeth were not all removed.

The compound 6×12 perforations occur in sheets upon which both the altered and unaltered knives were used.

The May number of the *Australian Philatelist* does not contain any very original articles. The editorial deals with the question of Australian stamps as an investment, stress being laid on the fact that had the early stamps been purchased at face value sixty years ago they would now show a very nice profit. Certainly, but so would practically every stamp issued sixty years ago. "Reviews," "Brevities," a couple of pages of reprinted matter, a continuation of Mr. Hagen's "Notes on Mount Brown's Catalogue" and a New Issue List, complete the contents.



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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

WE are very pleased to note that recently there has been quite a demand for stamps which clearly show a dated postmark. Years ago, when the science of philately was in its infancy, any used stamp, provided that the cancellation did not entirely obliterate the design, was considered good enough to be mounted in a collection; this transitory period was followed by one when more attention was paid to less heavy postmarks, with the result that the general appearance of the collection was greatly improved. Now, we have reached the time when a great number of collectors greatly prefer stamps with dated postmarks, a usually possible achievement as far as recent and current issues are concerned. Many of the old stamps are also procurable, and it is in regard to these old issues that the value of a clearly legible postmark is often of supreme importance. The classification of many old Colonial stamps, notably Australians, has only been arrived at by the extensive study of stamps on entires—or single dated copies, while in many instances it is by the date alone that the collector is able to distinguish between one or more printings of various issues.

In Newfoundland, and other countries, where there has been a re-issue of

old stocks by the post office authorities, the dated copy becomes of paramount importance. In the case of forgeries, or even of postmarked-to-order stamps, we frequently find that but comparatively little attention has been given to the "postmark"—beyond seeing perhaps that it either helps to hide a defective bit of printing—or is artistically arranged to cover as many stamps as possible with the minimum of trouble to the obliging operator. This slackness on the "fakers" part gives an added value to those stamps which have been genuinely obliterated with a dated postmark as, owing to the prevalence of cancelling machines, and, in the old days, of duplex postmarks and even yet more primitive methods of postmarking, we find that the percentage of dated copies in any country is but small. This being so there is an added incentive for keen collectors to hunt for them, with the result that when found they are more highly cherished than the ordinary used copy. The study, and intelligent appreciation of dated copies, has, in many cases enabled our leading specialists to satisfactorily allot various issues to their respective dates; but it will do even more than this for philately if it leads collectors to take a more intelligent interest in our hobby and realize that stamp collecting consists of infinitely more than

filling a certain number of blank spaces. Knowledge is power, and we do not think any collector will ever regret the added enjoyment that he will gain when he turns his attention to stamps with dated postmarks—or even better still to our old friends stamps on original covers.

## Recent South Australian Perforations.

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

DEAR SIR,—

I have made a discovery in some of the "long" S.A. stamps which may interest readers of the *P. J. G. B.* Several values have lately been chronicled with perfs. compound of  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , 12 and  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; thus the 9d. Crown A has been recorded in *G. S. W.* perf.  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , and by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ . The 8d. and 1/-, Crown SA., appear in *G. S. W.* as perf.  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , the 4d. Crown A is given by *Ewen*  $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ . You record the 6d. and 1/-, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , at sides. Now all these varieties cannot well be produced by different machines, and I am of opinion that they are all the work of the "new" 12 machine, the pins of which are irregularly set. The closeness of the gauges is in favour of this theory, but it is practically confirmed by my researches on stamps quite recently received.



I have now the 9d., 10d. and  $2/6$  perf. 12 and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  at sides, and the 10/- perf. 12 and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  at sides, all thick Postage with Crown S.A. wmk. The perfect alignment of the perforation in every case makes it impossible that more than one machine was used, and the large number of stamps now recorded with these compounded perfs. (or confounded perfs. as you please), together with the introduction of a new machine perforating  $12\frac{1}{2}$  small holes, leads me to believe that my theory is correct and we may be spared the quotation of a number of apparent freaks.

Yours truly,

W. B. EDWARDS.

## The New Contractors for British Stamps.

INTERVIEW WITH MESSRS HARRISON & SONS.

(From the *Evening News*).

MEMORIES of over a century and a half cling to the famous firm of Messrs. Harrison & Sons, Printers in Ordinary to his Majesty, who have now secured the contract for the supply of postage stamps for the United Kingdom.

So long ago as 1748 the "London Gazette" bore the imprint of "Thomas Harrison, in Warwick Lane." Then it had four very unpretentious-looking pages. To-day Messrs. Harrison still print it, and recent issues have contained as many as 320 pages.

"The Thomas Harrison who printed 'The Gazette' in 1774 was my great-grandfather," Mr. Bernard Harrison, a partner in the firm, told an "Evening News" representative. "We have in our possession a Daguerreotype of him in powdered wig. He was a Master of the Stationers' Company.

"My father, Mr. James W. Harrison, the present head of the firm, is eighty years of age, and as a boy he used to live over the old premises, where the late Sir Sydney Waterlow was an indoor apprentice.

"Although we have already executed orders for stamps for some Colonial Governments, this is the first big contract for printing stamps that we have secured. It dates from January 1 next, and it means the employment of a large number of new hands.

"It involves the printing of 21,000,000 sheets of postage stamps a year for the G.P.O., or about 5,000 million actual stamps. We shall have to secure additional premises for the actual new work. Here in St. Martin's-lane we have only room for about 800 employees. More space is wanted for the drying and gumming.

"These processes are very interesting apart altogether from the printing. It means that there are miles of paper to be gummed and dried daily, and room has to be found for thousands upon thousands of sheets of stamps.

"Great care has to be taken, of course, to see that the stamps are perfect. Virtually it means that they all have to be submitted to close personal examination in order that no defective ones may get into circulation.

### VIGILANT COLLECTORS.

"Philatelists are always on the look-out for defective stamps and they would give a good deal to get hold of some, I daresay. They are not likely, however, to receive any assistance in this direction from the printers.

"We were printers of the old telegraph forms when shilling telegrams were the vogue. The change to sixpenny wires brought a

sudden jump of an additional 150 million forms a year.

"We were able to meet these increased demands of the G.P.O., and they never had to complain of any delay in delivery of supplies. It was one of those emergencies where double and treble the plant had suddenly to be installed."

"In excavating at various times for the secure foundations of new machines we have discovered skulls, Dutch pottery, and tobacco pipes. The last-named, judging from their shape, must have been made soon after Raleigh set the fashion in smoking. There used to be a court called Chymester Alley which we have absorbed in our present buildings. The old houses still remain."

17TH CENTURY NEWSPAPERS.

An early issue of the *London Gazette* in the possession of the firm is dated "From Thursday

March 4 to March 8, 1679," and consists of two pages. It is numberd 1,492.

A curious advertisement appears on the front page of the "Gazette" dated "From Saturday, March 26, to Tuesday, March 29, 1774," also in possession of the firm. It is a notice issued by the G.P.O., to the affect that—

Last Saturday night the mail, containing bags of letters from Derby, Ashbourne, and Burton-on-Trent, which should have arrived here this morning, was stolen from the post office at Loughborough, while the boy was putting his horses in the stable.

It was notified that £50 was to be paid to anyone helping to secure the conviction of the culprit, "agreeably to the advertisement from this office the 27th January, 1770, for encouraging the immediate pursuit of mail robbers."

To-day, Messrs. Harrison are fulfilling contracts which they have held for over 140 years, in spite of modern competition.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current 2d. stamp in a new shade.

*Adhesive.*

2d. dark green and rose (instead of light green and rose).

**Bermuda.** We illustrate below the ½d. stamp chronicled last month.



**Ceylon.** In the April number of this journal we listed a number of probable new issues. The *Colonial Office Journal* now informs us that the following stamps have been sent out to the island :—

*Adhesives. King's Heads.*  
10c. olive and brown.  
25c. grey.  
50c. brown.

1 rupee brown on yellow.  
2 rupees red on yellow.  
5 .. black on green.  
10 .. black on red.

The plates for the 2c., 3c. and 5c. stamps have, so we are informed, been countermanded owing to the King's death.

**Fiji.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the following have been sent out :—

*Adhesives. King's Heads.*  
5/- green and red on yellow.  
20/- brown and black on red.

**Jamaica.** We have not we think chronicled the 6d. stamp on, chalky paper. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* says it has been issued.



*Adhesive. Multiple wmk. Chalky paper.*  
6d. dull purple.

**New Zealand.** A correspondent to the *Australian Philatelist* has shewn that paper a 4d. green of 1882-97, perf. 10 on three sides by

12½. The same paper also chronicles the current ¼d. King's Head stamp with the official overprint.

*Adhesive.* 1882-97 issue.  
Wmkd. Star and NZ. Perf. compound of 12½ and 10.  
¼d. green.

*Official Stamp.* 1910. King's Head.  
¼d. green.

**Orange River Colony.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current ¼d. and 1d. stamps in new shades—green for yellow-green and carmine for scarlet, respectively.

*Adhesives.* King's Heads.  
Multiple wmk. Ordinary paper.  
¾d. green.  
1d. carmine.

**Transvaal.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received a supply of the 2d. purple, King's Head, multiple C.A. There is no change in the design of this stamp, the only difference being, printed in a new colour.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
Multiple wmk. Ordinary paper.  
2d. purple.

**Turks Islands.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles a new value of the current set.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk.  
¼d. lilac rose.

**Western Australia.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the ¼d. stamp on Crown and A paper. We are sorry to have to say good-bye to the last of the old C.A. wmk.



*Adhesive* Wmkd. Crown and A. Perf. 12½ x 12.  
¼d. green.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Austria.** We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following:—

“The new Jubilee stamps will be issued on August 18th, and the following will be the total numbers printed:—

- 100,000 each of 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 20, 30, 35 heller.
- 7,000,000 of 5 heller.
- 7,800,000 of 10 heller.
- 780,000 of 25 heller.
- 70,000 each of 50, 60 heller and 1 krone.
- 17,000 each of 2 and 5 kronen.
- 11,000 of 10 kronen.

“The 6, 10 and 25 heller are the only values which will be sold separately; the others will be sold only in sets from 1 heller to 1 krone, and in complete sets from 1 heller to 10 kronen.

“We have as yet no definite information as to the design, but we think they will be of the current Jubilee type with some modification,

perhaps the insertion of a date, but as to this we will advise you later on.”

From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we learn that the plates have been spaced out so as to leave room for printing the dates “1830” and “1910” above and below the stamps respectively. The plates as altered print 80 instead of 100 stamps to the sheet.

**Belgium.** In addition to the set of four Charity labels which we chronicled in June, we have now to add another set with background of dotted lines, instead of solid colouring.

*Charity Stamps.*  
1c. grey.  
2c. brown.  
5c. emerald green.  
10c. red.

**Bulgaria.** Mr. W. T. Wilson kindly sends us a specimen of the 3st. stamp surcharged 1910, and new value. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly shew us the 15st. stamp similarly treated, but for use as a 5st. stamp.



*Adhesives.*  
1st. on 3st. yellow and black.  
5st. on 15st. black and lake.

**Chili.** *Juan Fernandez.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly forward us the following particulars. Collectors interested in Chilean stamps will find further particulars regarding these stamps on page 149.

“We enclose a copy of the Official Decree authorising the issue of special stamps for this Island, which is now used chiefly as a Chilean convict settlement. The stamps employed for surcharging are the 12c. and 1 peso of the current issue, which, however, were never put into circulation in Chili, and as the whole stock has been surcharged, the few unsurcharged which have got out by favour will be scarce, we have some of them used for postage, so evidently they were authorised to be so used, although never sold to the public. The surcharged stamps will not be sold in Chili and can only be obtained in the Island of Juan Fernandez, they are to be used for local postage and will also frank letters to the South American Continent.”

**Crete.** We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following information:

“Our agent at Canea writes us that it is almost daily expected that the stamps overprinted ‘Ellas’ will be withdrawn for political reasons and the unsurcharged stamps again



put in circulation. Local speculators are busy buying up the surcharged stamps."

**France.** Several of our contemporaries chronicle the current 1f. Postage Due stamp in a new shade.

*Postage Due.* New shade.  
1f. light vermilion.

**Morocco.** We illustrate a specimen of the stamp chronicled last month.



**Hayti.** We illustrate the design of the new stamps chronicled last month.



**Holland.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the following information:—

"We are sending you a 3c. Postage Due stamp of the permanent type. Previous to this issue a provisional was made by overprinting the 1 gulden Postage Due stamp "3 Cents" obliquely in black. We are informed that this surcharge exhausted the small stock of 1 gulden stamps, and that they were all sold out in one day. Dealers in Holland are asking fancy prices for them. Our correspondent also informs us that a new 1 gulden Postage Due stamp will shortly be issued, printed in one colour instead of two."

We are also indebted to Mr. W. T. Wilson for particulars concerning these stamps.

*Postage Dues.*  
3c. blue and black.  
"3 cents" on 1g. blue and red.

**German Colonies.** *Kiautschou.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send us the 10c. stamp on watermarked paper.

*Adhesive.* Wmkd. Lozenges.  
10c. red.

**Hungary.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, on the authority of a Continental exchange chronicles two more postage due stamps on the new watermarked paper.

*Postage Dues.* Perf. 14.  
6f. black and green.  
20f. " " "

**Norway.** We are indebted to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for the following information:—

The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* records the 1½kr. in the new redrawn type, and mentions that the current 3 öre and 30 öre stamps are being printed from a re-engraved or new plate, the difference being in the small figure "3" in the oval band, which has now a round head instead of a straight one, that is "3" instead of "3."

1910. New die. Wmk. Perf. 14½ x 13½.  
1½kr., blue.  
Redrawn "3." Wmk. Perf. 14½ x 13½.  
3 öre, orange-yellow.  
30 " slate-grey.

**Paraguay.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us another value to add to those we chronicled in June.



*Adhesive.* Lithographed. Perf. 11½.  
5c. lilac.

**Salvador.** Our Ipswich friends kindly send us another value to add to those we listed last May.



*Adhesive.*  
17 cents green and black.

**Siam.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the following novelties. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* also chronicles the 12s.



*Adhesives.* Perf. 14 x 14½.  
2 satang orange and green.  
3 " green.  
6 " red and deep green.

- 12 satang black and olive yellow.  
 14 .. blue and deep green.  
 28 .. red-brown and deep green.

**Switzerland.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current low values as having been redrawn. The modification consists in placing the cord of the crossbow behind instead of in front of the stock.

*Adhesives.* Redrawn type. Granite paper.  
 2c. yellow.  
 3c. brown.  
 5c. green.

**Turkey.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current 5 paras stamp surcharged to make a 2 paras value.

*Adhesive.*  
 2 paras on 5 paras brown-ochre.

**Uruguay.** We now illustrate one of the Commemorative stamps chronicled last month.



**Venezuela.** Mr. Harwood, of Venezuela, kindly sends us, through Mr. W. Hadlow, a specimen of the recently issued Centenary stamp. This stamp was issued June 24, 1910.



*Commemorative Issue.*  
 25c. dark blue.

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

THE Committee will meet next month to arrange their Syllabus for the 1910-11 Season. Mr. D. H. Jackson, the Hon. Secretary, of 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green, N., will therefore be pleased to hear from members who are willing to assist by giving a display of stamps, or reading a paper.

## Correspondence.

### McTAVISH ON THE CONTINENT.

To the Editor, "P.J. of G.B."

July, 1910.

DEAR EDITOR,

I was so struck with your last month's editorial, and the infinite possibilities it suggested, that after reading it I *immediately* went out and purchased a ticket to Copenhagen. I need not have been in such a hurry, but thought possibly if all your readers acted on your advice there might be a shortage of tickets, and I should object to having to line up in a queue for a couple of days before I could book my passage. I went to Mr. Cook to see what sort of a selection of Copenhagen tickets he could show me—he had a fine lot of them—all in mint condition, in fact so many that I was in trouble about making a choice; in fact it would have been less trouble to have booked to the Crystal Palace. Eventually I choose one that was surcharged Osnabruck and Hamburg; it was a pale sea green colour, besides, Mr. Cook seemed to have a lot of Esbjerg's and Colognes in stock, and I thought possibly they might have been remainders.

Remembering your sage advice, I determined to avail myself of every possible opportunity to buy stamps in their country of origin. At Utrecht, for instance, I asked them to stop the train while I paid a visit to our old friend, Van \* \* \* \*, of the Aartsbisschoppelyk Museum. The Stationmaster wouldn't hear of it. I shan't specialise in Dutch stamps now.

At Osnabruck, in the *dear* old Fatherland, I thought possibly I might pick up a specialised collection or two of the old German States if I visited the refreshment room. I walked thro' the 3 mark 50, entrance door, and lunched in the 2.50, dining room. I didn't find out my mistake until the Hamburg train was due out in three minutes; I hadn't time to be very objectionable. I vowed, however that I would return home *via* Osnabruck, walk in and pay at the M2.50 door and feed with the M3.50 people.

At Bremen they seemed quite sold out of the nice old key pattern stamps and tried to put me off with modern Deutsches Reich things. Of course I wouldn't have any.

At Hamburg, where I thought at least I should be able to get some nice things, I asked a dear old fat hotel porter to get me a couple of nice unused sets, with extra blocks of four of the 1½ sch. blue and the 7 sch. orange. I insisted on their having nice brown gum and wavy watermarks. Evidently he thought I wanted a nicely browned chop with plenty of gravy, because that is what I eventually got. I think this shortage of stamps proves conclusively how popular old German stamps are.

Don't you? At Hamburg I was silly enough to collect a very fine specimen of lumbago, so I had to collapse into a "taxa motor" and then get transferred to the hotel lift en route for bed.

Feeling slightly better, I got a hotel porter to hoist me down to the platform, where the Copenhagen train started from. I selected a very stout old German lady, who had a handbag labelled for Denmark, and stood in front of her; when the rush was over I found myself in the corner of a non-smoker, surrounded by four very chatty old women and between 350 and 368 hat boxes; there I had to stay for nearly ten hours. At Lubeck, I was unable to get out to buy you the promised set of *forget-me-not* wmkd. stamps.

Copenhagen is a dear place, especially the hotel where I lived and had my being for nearly four days. I think my lumbago objected to being taken up to Stockholm; I slipped across to Malmö, but the lower half of my anatomy showed strong signs of not going where my upper half wanted it to go, so I scooted back to Denmark. Funny thing that about lumbago, isn't it? Later on I thought I would cheat the enemy by pretending to go to Christiania, so I slipped out of Denmark *via* Elsinore (didn't have time to call on Mr. Hamlet as you requested) into Sweden *via* Helsingborg.

At Gothenburg I made a valiant attempt to be firm with the hotel people when they tried to pass off the current values on me when I specially asked for the old Fyra Skill Bco stamps, but it was no good, I believe they thought I wanted something fried for supper. At Gothenburg I tried to bluff friend 'bago by attempting to slip across country to Stockholm; the enemy was so surprised at my ingenuity in approaching the capital of Sweden *via* the West coast, that it wasn't until I got as far inland as Trollhättan that he realized my intentions. Fortunately the Swedish variety of lumbago isn't so bad as the Danish or German, while it is one of those things the Swedes can do infinitely better than the English. At any rate I didn't get beyond Trollhättan, a little township where they make a speciality of Falls, and other wet things.

Before I tell you all about my adventures at Halmstad and Warnemunde, and how I didn't buy any stamps there, or what happened to me on my return to Copenhagen—I mustn't forget to tell you the dirty trick they played on me on my return to Osnabruck—you will remember they owed me a mark, so I determined to save up a good healthy appetite and present myself there for dinner. I did so, but evidently they had heard of what happened when you took me to Amsterdam, because there was no dinner ready and the last train for the Hook left in three minutes' time. To hark back to Halmstad I must\*—

## The Berne Exhibition.

### HOW TO GET THERE.

So many of our readers are anticipating a trip to Berne early next month to participate in the Philatelic Exhibition that we feel sure the following table of routes will be appreciated.

1.—London to Berne *via* Calais, Boulogne, Paris, Dijon and Neuchatel. Trains leave Victoria at 11 a.m., due Paris 6.45 p.m., leaving Paris 7.55 p.m., arriving at Berne 8.35 a.m. If night travelling is objected to passengers could leave Paris at 8.20 a.m., arriving at Berne 7.2 p.m.

2.—From Charing Cross 2.20 p.m., due Amiens 7.58 p.m. and thence *via* Laon, Belfort, etc. to Berne, arriving Berne 8.35 a.m.

3.—From Charing Cross 9 p.m. *via* Paris (due 5.50 a.m.) and thence on to Berne by the 8.20 a.m., arriving 7.2 p.m.

4.—From Charing Cross at 9 a.m. to Ostend (2 p.m.), thence *via* Brussels and Luxemburg to Basle and Berne, arriving 9.32 a.m.

5.—Same route, but leaving London 2.30 p.m. or 9 p.m., arriving at Berne respectively at 4.12 p.m. and 9.7 p.m. the following day.

6.—London to Paris *via* Dieppe, leaving Victoria 10 a.m., arriving Berne 8.35 a.m. the next morning, or leaving 8.45 p.m., due at destination 9.7 p.m. the following evening.

The return fare (2nd class) is £6 os. 4d. by the Dover route; to this amount it would be necessary to add 4s. the difference between 2nd and 1st class on the boats.

The Dieppe route is slightly cheaper, namely, £5 3s. 3d., but the cost of transferring 2nd to 1st class is 5s. each way, making a total of £5 13s. 3d.

The Ostend, Brussels route costs within a few pence of £5 13s. 6d. not including the 4s. extra for the privilege of travelling 1st class on the steamers.

The above routes are the quickest; collectors, however, who can spare the time could, of course, vary the itinerary to their hearts content.

A comfortable and not expensive tour could be made *via* Rotterdam and the Rhine to Mayence, thence by train to Basle and Berne; the return journey could be made *via* Paris.

Berne, the capital of Switzerland, is frequently called the most picturesque town in Europe—its old arcaded streets and well preserved mediæval towers are amongst the finest in the world. The hotels are good and reasonable, some of them being the Bernerhof, Belle Vue, Schweizerhof, Metropole, Tura, and Poste.

\*No you must NOT McTavish, we are getting tired of you and your lumbago.—Ed., P.J.G.B.

## The Samoan "Express" Issue.

BY R. E. R. DALWICK.

THE first issue of Samoa, commonly known as the "Express" issue—a name which owes its origin to the word "Express" which appears right across the central portion of the design—forms a very interesting and suitable set for the attractions of the specialist.

The actual design, if not very beautiful, is at least quaint, while the colours of the different values are clear and good. There has been a great quantity of stuff written just lately on "Single Issue Specialism," a form of collecting which is intended for the more or less impecunious philatelists primarily, whilst as a second consideration it affords the research-seeking collector a chance to use his natural faculties and abilities to advantage. The above two reasons could hardly be put forward as an explanation for specialising Samoan "Express" stamps, but nevertheless it is an issue which has its attractions to a single issue specialist.

There are two types, a quantity of reprints and many forgeries, which when mounted up make a very fascinating display.

In the *Philatelic Record* for November, 1883, there is the following interesting (although thoroughly groundless) statement, which gives some idea of the early opinions on this issue; it runs as follows:—

"Mr. Clifford is further informed, by another correspondent in Fiji, that *the Samoan stamps are frauds* (the italics are the author's). The Government will not recognise them. If a person in Samoa wishes to post a letter, he must send *money* to the post-office to pay the postage, as the stamps are all frauds. They are printed by G. L. Griffiths, a newspaper publisher in Samoa."

The above remarks were written at a time when little appeared to be known concerning these Samoan stamps, in fact the remarks show at a glance that ignorance was more prevalent than knowledge of the subject under discussion. In the following month, however, the same journal made amends for its mistakes by publishing the notice below:—

"*Samoa*.—Our reference to Samoan stamps, under the head of Fiji, in our last number was somewhat misleading. We presume that our correspondent had intended to attack some recent importations of remainders or reprints, including a hitherto unknown value. In inserting his remarks, we should perhaps have stated that no doubt can possibly be thrown upon the early issues of Samoa. We have ourselves seen many letters franked by them. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform

us that the Samoan post was first established in 1877 by Mr. W. E. Agar for the conveyance of letters to and from Apia, and neighbouring islands, and New Zealand. In 1879 the undertaking was transferred to Mr. A. Speirs; and on his death in 1880, Mr. Griffiths, then residing at Apia, took over the concern, which was abandoned in 1882 in consequence of its not paying. These stamps then, of course, became obsolete. If there be now a post-office in Samoa, it is not likely that the authorities would accept the stamps of a defunct private firm in prepayment of postage."

This second statement of the nature of Samoan "Express" labels, is very accurate and shows at a glance the mistaken ideas expressed in the earlier remarks. Although, in reality, the post may be described as being the speculation of a private individual, there is absolutely no ground for having the least suspicion as to the status of the "Express" stamps. The set as issued comprises seven values, ranging in face value from 1d. to 5/-, the design being the same for the whole set. The design consists of the word EXPRESS in large white block letters on a lined rectangle extending across the centre of the stamp horizontally. Then there is a double lined circle which is broken by the rectangle referred to above, and in the two enclosing lines of the circle are a number of small dots (16 above the rectangle and 14 below). These dots it may be mentioned are a somewhat important factor in determining forgeries, as in the originals it will be noticed the dot under the "M" of SOMOA and the two dots to the right are all spaced much closer together than is the case with the remaining dots. At the top of the stamp is the name SAMOA, inscribed in a curving blank label, in which there is another lot of very minute dots. At the bottom of the stamp is another curving label in which is the word POSTAGE together with the face value of the stamp in the same type. The intervening spaces are filled up with Arabesque decorations and ornamentations of various descriptions. The whole is enclosed by a thin square. It was some time in the year 1876 that the idea of issuing a set of postage stamps was entertained, as it was in that year that a certain Mr. H. H. Glover drew some rough sketches, from which he submitted the "Express" design for approval or otherwise as the case might be. Mr. H. H. Glover was the chief artist and also the Manager of the firm of Messrs. S. T. Leigh & Co., of Pitt

Street, Sydney, N.S.W., who subsequently lithographed the "Express" series for Samoa.

The production of the first issue of Samoa is worthy of note. Mr. H. H. Glover's design was passed on to a Mr. Bonny (another artist of Messrs. Leigh's establishment) who drew it on stone, leaving the curving label at the bottom of the design blank, so as to be able to print all values from the transfers of the one original matrix die. Thus the stones were re-made each time a new value other than the previous one was required. The design was defaced altogether upon the demand for another denomination, whilst the new value was made up from transfers from the matrix die, which latter alone survived the defacing process. This continual re-making of the stone accounts for several varieties in the type of the expression of value.

The method of making the actual transfers was by affixing them to a ruled sheet of paper, which latter was attached to a window, or a glass door, or in fact anything transparent, in order that the light might come through, a method which considerably simplified the arrangement of the transfers into their proper positions.

There were at least two distinct settings for the "Express" stamps, the first of which was common to all values and consisted of sheets of ten stamps (two rows of five) with the outer edges of the stamps imperforate. From this last remark it will be seen that all stamps of this setting are imperforate on one side, whilst the four corner stamps are imperforate on two sides. In the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, there is a note to the effect that all the Samoan "Expresses" had been noted imperforated on one side, then followed a large query mark—the imperforate edges of course explain this difficulty.

At a later date, however, another setting was resorted to, the one chosen being double as large as setting I. *i.e.*, twenty stamps (four rows of five). As far as is known only the 1d., 3d. and 6d. (?) were issued in the enlarged sized sheets, the remaining values being printed as from the beginning. The outer edged stamps of these larger sheets were also imperforate on one side (or two sides for corner stamps), so that the majority of this setting are also found with one smooth edge at least. There is a statement in an article on Samoan stamps in the *West End Philatelist*, that the sheets of "Express" stamps consisted of twelve stamps and twenty-four stamps to the complete sheet. This statement, however, must be a slip on the part of the author in question, as there is absolutely no foundation for any such supposition. This error has been alluded to here, as students of Samoan stamps might possibly be confused at one article giving the sheets as such and such a size, whilst the next writer gives different dimensions.

A well-known authority on Samoan stamps in answer to my queries as to the possibility of the existence of sheets of twelve and twenty-four, wrote as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,

The statement in Mr. Poole's article on Samoan stamps, that they were printed in sheets of 12 and 24 is quite inaccurate.

It has long been definitely known that the sheets consisted of 10 and 20 stamps.

This information is given in Kohl's and Bright's catalogues, and need not be questioned, as there are (or were) one or two entire sheets of 10 in a San Francisco collection, and a complete original sheet of 20 of the pale blue was sold by auction in London not very long ago.

Yours very truly, etc."

The above is both short and to the point, showing with a specialists' knowledge the exact dimensions of the original sheets.

There are, as most collectors are aware, two distinct types of the Samoan "Express" stamps, although in many dealers' stock books at the present time, both types are placed side by side at identical prices, regardless of the fact that type I. is considerably rarer than type II.

The earliest type, which I will call type I., has the two parallel horizontal lines above the word EXPRESS quite straight, that is to say there is no break or flaw in the lines above the letter x of EXPRESS.

At a later date, however, in the printings of these stamps there was a break in the lines above the x of EXPRESS, and moreover it is a flaw which is most noticeable to the naked eye—this latter constitutes type II.

From the comparative rareness of the two types, it is quite just to conclude that type II. was in use for—at least—twice as long as type I. With regard to the 1/- yellow stamp, there appears to be no evidence upon which to assume that it ever reached the type II. stage, a point which would lead one to suppose that this particular value was not in much demand, and that therefore the number printed from stage (or type I.) of the plate lasted until the retirement of the EXPRESS stamps. It is true that the 1/- stamp has been seen with broken lines (type II.), but these specimens give one the impression of having been tampered with, or, in other words, having had the lines made uneven on purpose "for sale to collectors"!

The next point about this issue to be discussed, is the question of shades. Although, on the whole, these stamps are not prolific in shades and hues, there are nevertheless some very noteworthy variations in the hues of the lower denominations. The 1d. is to be met with in hues varying from bright pale ultramarine to deep blue, the 3d. also varies from pale to dark red, whilst the 6d. blue is known in shades of violet and mauve. With the higher values the shades begin to decline in number,

so much so that the 1/- stamp is only known in yellow and yellow-orange, whilst the two higher values seem to show no variations whatever, except that caused by damp, exposure or neglect. Varieties of major importance are few and far between. The first unchronicled varieties are some specimens which are known to exist *imperfurate*. A certain Mr. W. J. Gardner received an entire sheet of the 6d. lilac imperfurate, also an entire sheet of the 1d. blue in the same condition, and finally a block of four 5/- green. There was a discussion raised at the time of the discovery of these sheets as to their actual status. One authority said they were unique and of great value; whilst, on the other hand, the *Australian Philatelist* asserted them to be merely printer's waste!

Another variety is to be found upon certain specimens of the 1d. blue stamp, in which there is a stop after the word PENNY. This variation occurs four times on each sheet of twenty stamps, namely on Nos. 3, 8, 14 and 17, consequently it is not a rarity, being only a small percentage more valuable than the normal adhesives.

Apart from the rather insignificant varieties just mentioned, there are—as has been stated earlier—a number of slight variations in the type and size of the printed denominations of the stamps; these, however, possess no special value and are of little—if any—interest to any but the advanced specialist.

During the earliest days of the existence of the EXPRESS stamps, there appear to have been no proper postmarks in vogue, all stamps being apparently cancelled by the simple process of pen and ink. This pen and ink cancellation has proved, unfortunately, a great temptation to unscrupulous persons, who show rather a strong weakness for "washing" off the ink, so as to make the adhesives appear unused. There appears to be little gain in "washing" Samoan stamps (the early ones at any rate), but the idea apparently is this. Certain wily fakers find some of the early EXPRESS stamps obliterated by pen and ink and are then under the delusion that such stamps have been *fiscally* used. Acting under this supposition they wash off the original pen and ink cancellation and then proceed to add a *forged postmark* in order to increase the selling value of the stamps! At a later date, however, a regular postmark was brought into use, consisting of two concentric circles having APIA (chief town of Samoa) between the circles at the top, and SAMOA between the circles at the bottom, whilst the date was placed in the centre.

It was stated by another writer on this subject that *fine* postally used copies were very hard to obtain, a statement which I am apt to think is somewhat exaggerated, as personally I have seen more fine used copies than otherwise.

#### THE REMAINDERS AND REPRINTS.

It is not definitely known whether the above two names happen to be synonymous in the case of the EXPRESS stamps, but it is more or less generally agreed that such is the case. It is, it may here be stated, rather necessary to give some few remarks about the reprints of the EXPRESS stamps, owing to the fact that the reprints are very numerous and are often offered—even by respectable people (who presumably are unaware of what they are dabbling in)—as the genuine article!

First of all there are the remainders to discuss. It appears that some time in 1881 or 1882, a large number of remainders were put on sale. It is quite obvious from the remarks of several authorities on the subject, that these "remainders" were not remainders in the true sense of the word—at any rate not *all* of them. The most generally accepted explanation of this mystery is that *some* of the values sold in 1881-82 were genuine remainders, but that a few of the values sold were *specialy printed* for the occasion, which statement (if true) proves these latter to be ordinary private reprints.

While on the subject of the "remainder-reprints," the 2d. pink EXPRESS stamp must be shortly outlined.

In 1882, when the Express Post was abandoned, and the aforementioned "remainders" were sold, a packet consisting of 13,500 2d. pink EXPRESS type stamps was discovered. One thing is certain about this label, and that is that it was never put on sale, so naturally the questions arise: (1) Was this value a genuine one intended for use but never used, or (2) was it a kind of fancy reprint? Without wishing to venture an opinion on the status of this stamp, I should be inclined to regard it as distinctly shady. The size of the sheets of these reprints (?) is, of course, the same as the originals, so the only way of detecting them is by the shades, which are somewhat different to the originals. It was some time in 1884 that Messrs. Leigh & Co. received orders to reprint 200,000 of the various EXPRESS stamps. Unlike the originals, *these* reprints, which are the proper reprints, being intended as such, were printed in sheets of forty stamps (five rows of eight). The actual stones were at Messrs. Leigh & Co.'s premises until June 1, 1897, so it is quite impossible even to guess the number of reprints manufactured in the length of time.

On June 1, 1897, however, three gentlemen met at Messrs. Leigh & Co.'s in order to personally supervise the defacing of the lithographic stones. They were first sponged over with turpentine, and then a strong solution of nitric acid did the remainder of the work.

Before concluding these remarks it is necessary to caution collectors against some rather clever forgeries of this issue. The earlier forgeries could always be detected by the two dots under M of SAMOA. In the original these two dots are closer together

than the remainder, but in the forgery these two dots are a good distance apart.

This point was noticed by later forgers, who remedied it, but who, nevertheless, were not able to do the Arabesque scrolls and ornamentations nearly so finely as executed in the genuine.

**SYNOPSIS OF SAMOAN "EXPRESS" ISSUE.**

*In sheets of ten.*

Type I. (early impression) no break above the X of EXPRESS.

- 1d. blue (shades).
- 3d. vermilion (shades).
- 6d. violet (shades).
- 9d. yellow-brown.
- 1/- yellow.
- 2/- deep brown.
- 5/- green.

Type II. (later impression) break above X of EXPRESS.

- 1d. blue.
- 3d. vermilion.
- 6d. violet.
- 9d. yellow-brown.
- 2/- deep brown.
- 5/- green.

*In sheets of twenty.*

- 1d. blue
- 3d. vermilion } All type II. (?)
- 6d. violet (?) }

*Varieties*—(a) Imperforate.

- 1d. blue.
- 6d. violet.
- 5/- green.

(b) Stop after PENNY.  
1d. blue.

N.B.—Besides the above there are several minor varieties in the setting of the type denoting the face-value of the stamps.

*Reprints*—(a) 1882, reprints (?) of most values. Sheets same size as originals.

(b) 1884, reprints of all values printed in sheets of forty.

## Notes on Chilean Stamps.

FROM OUR SANTIAGO CORRESPONDENT.

TO-DAY I received the May number of the *P. J. of G.B.*, and I was very surprised to see on page 102, an extract from Senf's Journal about Chilean 12ct. and \$1 stamps; it there says that these stamps have been stolen, this I deny, true they have not been sold over the counter in the Post Office, but the Government allowed Philatelists here to exchange the current surcharged issues for the 12ct. carmine, through the direction of the Treasury, as also the one peso stamp, and we are allowed

to frank our letters with them. You may judge for yourselves as I am franking this letter to you with them, and as it will be registered, it must be handed in at a Post Office, so you will see that they are legal, for were they stolen, the Postal authorities would not let them go through. The surplus of these two values will not be sold over the counter, as both are going to be surcharged "Islas de Juen Fernandy," and will be for use only at that Penal Settlement; the 12cts. carmine will be surcharged 5cts. in blue, the peso value will



be divided up, part surcharged as 10cts; part 20cts., and the remainder will be of the new peso value, all surcharged in red. So I hope you will please publish this in the *P. J. of G.B.*, so that collectors will know how the matter stands, and also that these two stamps unsurcharged, will be among the rarities of Chilean stamps, but their being STOLEN is absolutely untrue.

W. B. CALVERT.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE.

REPUBLIC OF CHILI.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR.

2nd Section.

Santiago, June 25th, 1910. His Excellency decrees as follows:—

The postage stamps of the present issue, which are in the Treasury, of the value 12 centavos, and numbering 1,500,000, and those value 1 peso, numbering 1,000,000, will be overprinted with the phrase "Islands of Juan Fernandez" with the corresponding value, in the following form. The 12 centavo stamps in blue, with value 5 centavos. Those of 1 peso as follows:—

- 400,000 with value 10 centavos,
- 400,000 with value 20 centavos, and
- 200,000 without any indication of value, to be used for what the stamp represents, *i.e.*, 1 peso. All the overprints on the 1 peso stamps will be in lake.

Stamps so overprinted will be used for the postal service between the Islands of Juan Fernandez, and between them and the Republic, mainland, and will be put into circulation on the 1st of August next.

Take note, communicate, publish, and insert in the Government "Bulletin of Laws and Decrees."



## August, 1910, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.

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65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Walbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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 will meet at Essex Hall on Thursday, Sept. 8th, at 7 p.m., to make arrangements for the ensuing season, and other business. The Hon. Secretary will be glad to hear from anyone willing to give displays or papers during the season, also to receive subscriptions due January 1st last, and any donations to the Forgery Collection, which will be duly acknowledged.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

August 13th, 1910.

## Third Philatelic Congress at Birmingham.

*Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*—G. JOHNSON, B.A.,  
308, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS has been added to the Birmingham Committee.

The Committee suggests for the consideration of all Societies concerned that:—

The Congress be held June 7th to 9th, 1911.

Number of delegates sent by the various Societies should be the same as at the Second Congress, viz.:—Under 100 members, 2 delegates; 100 to 200 members, 3 delegates, over 200 members, 4 delegates.

A non-competitive and popular Exhibition of stamps should be held in some Hall, where light refreshments can be obtained.

Some process of stamp printing to be shown if possible.

Two garden parties and a banquet to be provided for.

All papers to be submitted to the Committee two months before the commencement of the Congress.

The following subjects are to be continued from the previous Congress, and the Reports of the Committees appointed to consider Nos. 1 and 2 are to be received:—

1. Philatelic Terms.
2. Forged Stamps.
3. Colour Question.

Will Societies discuss the above and let the Hon. Sec. have their comments and further suggestions as soon as possible.

The scale on which some of the above items will be carried out, of course, depends largely on the financial assistance forthcoming. Many generous donations have been promised and Mr. Fred. J. Melville has sent the first cheque for 10/6.

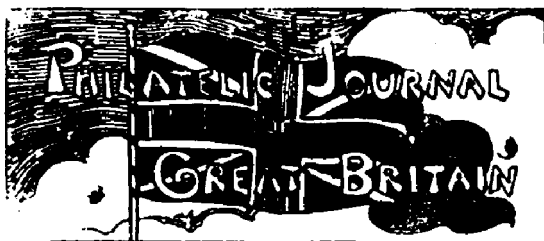
## Junior Philatelic Society.

At a meeting of the Council, on July 25th, by an unanimous vote it was decided to adopt the President's proposals for an Exhibition in 1912. The motion on the Agenda paper was as follows:—

As four years will have elapsed since the third (Caxton Hall) Exhibition, of 1908, it is proposed—

- 1.—That the Society shall organize an Exhibition on a public scale for 1912 (Spring) to commemorate the Jubilee of the birth of Philately.
- 2.—That the Fourth British Congress of Philatelists shall be invited to meet under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society in London during the period the proposed Exhibition shall be open.





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All communications to be addressed to—

**P. L. PEMBERTON & Co.,**

68, High Holborn, London, W.C.

**New Leaves to Cut.**

**THE NORMAL CATALOGUE.**

The first of the catalogues for 1911 is to hand, in the shape of the second edition of the above named catalogue, published by Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz.

This work is produced for the benefit of those collectors who do not require such a detailed work as Kohl's Grosser Katalog. It is also intended as a competitor of Senf's, being on the same lines, but containing fewer explanatory notes.

Compiled, as it is, by a committee of specialists and representatives of the principal German philatelic societies, it is intended to be more accurate, both as to the compilation of the lists and the price quotations. As to whether this intention is fairly carried out we are unable to say from a necessarily short examination; a catalogue can only be judged by one who has used it for some time.

We notice that the grouping of the German States together at the beginning of the book, which was a feature of the first edition, has been abandoned, and that the various countries and States are now sprinkled through the book in alphabetical order, as in all other catalogues except Gibbons.

Coming to the prices—that all-important matter—we note very healthy increases in most of the early Europeans and also in some South American countries, while British Colonials appear to be steady at Gibbons 1909 quotations.

Published in one volume containing the whole world, at 3 marks, the catalogue should certainly have a large following on the Continent.

**THE 1911 SENF.**

FOLLOWING hard upon the heels of the new Normal catalogue, Senf's appears in a bright royal blue cover. The most remarkable feature in this new edition is the steady all-round rise in the prices of old German States and other European countries, used. It would probably be no exaggeration to say that fully half the stamps of this section issued before 1870 have been raised in price by from 10 to 25%. There are few sensational rises—just a steady appreciation of all the old stamps, following the trend of collecting during the past year or so. Even with these advances the quotations are, on the whole, much under those in the "Normal."

Turning to South Americans, we do not find that the German firm has followed the lead of Stanley Gibbons' in putting up prices. True, there are some advances, but not so many as might have been expected.

Among British Colonials, the principal alterations are in the prices of King's Heads, many of which are marked at rather stiff prices. It is interesting to note some speculative stamps settling down to prices which, we presume, are still somewhat in advance of their actual value. For instance, Cayman Isles, 4d. red and black on yellow, 12/-; Grenada, 10/-, multiple wmk., 35/-; British Levant, 1 pi. 10, on 3d., 7/6; 1 pi. 30 on 4d. bi-coloured, 15/-; and the same on the 4d. orange, 15/-; British New Guinea, 2/6, at 75/-; and so on.



## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

HIGH value English stamps are greatly in demand just at present. The following advertisement appears in the July 30th *Postage Stamp* :—

We want to buy 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1 British.—  
Ward, Booth St., Piccadilly, Manchester.

"We" should invest in a standard dictionary.

\* \* \*

The following extract from the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* conveys but a poor idea of how the two leading English stamp papers are appreciated in Demerara.

The long threatened handbook by the present writer has at last made its appearance and deals with the much discussed stamps of the "New Hebrides" forming No. 6 of the *Postage Stamps Handbooks*. A third volume has just been added to the stamp collections fortnightly brochures and is by Mr. B. W. H. Poole who writes on the stamps of "British Honduras."

\* \* \*

The rumour, that H.M. the King will confer the honour of knighthood on all stamp collectors over twelve years of age, as a gracious appreciation of the universal brotherhood of philately is exaggerated. Only those collectors whose collections contain 1,000 varieties will be so favoured.

\* \* \*

The Editor tells me that he has drawn up a table of routes to Berne, for the benefit of English visitors to the September Exhibition. In case he has overlooked the following, which has the great advantage that the would be visitor need only change twice, I will outline what I consider to be the best route.

Leave London Friday afternoon by P. and O. steamer for Sydney, New South Wales. Change at Sydney to Orient liner for Naples, Italy. Change at Naples into through carriage for Berne. Much prettier route than that *via* Calais and Paris. The *only* drawback I can see is that visitors would have to leave London in June, and some of them probably won't be able to do that now.

\* \* \*

Some collectors are always in doubt regarding the correct way to pronounce "Sarawak." I am glad therefore to see that the Liverpool Philatelic Society in their *Syllabus* for 1910-1911 announce that on October 24th next there is to be read a paper on the stamps of Sarawak, accompanied by a display of Sarawak. Surely now there will be peace in the camps of the Sarawak-ites and Sarawak-ites.

\* \* \*

Somebody, so I am told, has been saying nasty things about me in the columns of one of the very numerous papers devoted to stamps, probably an American publication. If my liverish executioner will be good enough to send me a copy of the paper containing his unhappiness I shall be deeply indebted. In

the meantime I daresay the poor chap is not far wrong.

\* \* \*

That philately teaches geography is a well known fact; its affect on history, however, is not quite so apparent. In the July *Stamp Journal* a writer states: "I have three covers before me that came from Pretoria during the Boxer War." I wonder whether he would care to exchange one of these rarities for one of my duplicate picture post-cards posted at Douglas four days before the Japs went for the Russians.

\* \* \*

August, is, I think, from the dealers point of view, the quietest month in the year, but the howling loneliness of the poor dealer can be nothing compared to that of the regular auction room frequenter. I have often wondered what the *coterie* does during the dog days—*sans* (how the French habit grows on one) tea, *sans* bread and butter and *sans* whiskey and soda. Dreadful to contemplate isn't it? Anyway, I hope the band of survivors will turn up at the first of next season's sales not looking too emaciated.

\* \* \*

Writing of auctions curiously enough reminds me of auctioneers, why I cannot say, and that again reminds me that I heard the other day, *entre nous* of course (no more French until I return from Berne), that one of the London auctioneers nearly got run in for travelling, in the wilds of Harlesden, without a railway ticket. He was mistaken for somebody who objected to the old fashioned method of paying for the privilege of railway travelling. Only the production of a season ticket dated a few years hence saved our friend from durance vile.

\* \* \*

Messrs. Peckitt (of the Strand) and Ewen (of Norwood) will have to look to their laurels; I see that a Stamp Co., Ltd., is advertising in *Everybody's Philatelist* (U.S.A.) that there is no need to send abroad for new issues, readers are invited to write for single sets, part sets, blocks of four, panes, or ANYTHING. The "ad" ends up with the appeal, "Patronize home industries." Another case of somebody else's doorstep being sat upon.

## REVIEW OF REVIEWS.

(Continued from page 158.)

The *Philatelic Journal of America* for July 1st mainly consists of numerous, but well chosen extracts from the stamp papers. The only original articles appear to be Mr. C. H. Mekeel's continuation of his paper on the Mexican stamps of 1893-95, which is well illustrated, showing blocks of four in the various perforations, and a short note dealing with embossed U.S. Revenue Stamps.



AUGUST 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* for July contains a very capable article on the "First Issue of New Zealand," contributed by Mr. M. P. Castle. This paper deals, of course, with the London printed stamps—special attention has been paid to the 2d. value—which, alone of the three, although the most common, is the only one difficult to distinguish from the local prints.

Mr. Castle says:—

The difficulty is, with regard to the twopenny value, that it occurs both on white and *bleuté* papers. The latter is obviously not difficult to differentiate, as it discloses the same characteristics on the reverse side that I have described on the one shilling, and it is therefore absolutely sure that any stamp that is distinctly blued belongs to the first issue. The specimens on white paper are probably simply due to the chemical action not having been set up, and—to be strictly accurate—should be classed as "on paper not blued" rather than "on white." The latter are immeasurably rarer than the former, and hence support the theory that they are exceptions to the *bleuté*, and do not point to the use of a separate paper. It may well be that some portions of each sheet did not develop the blueing process. In any case, the stamps on this pseudo-white paper do exist, they are scarce, and every collector of New Zealand is naturally desirous of possessing a specimen.

There is only one absolutely sure way of diagnosing this stamp on un-blued paper, *i.e.*, the possession of a copy with a dated postmark. In this condition the stamp is difficult to find, and although it is thus catalogued at £3, I am convinced that this sum only represents a small portion of its real value.

Failing the securing of a dated specimen, the best test is the colour. As I have said, I consider that this first twopenny value on white or *bleuté* paper presents no variation except as regards the blueing of the paper, and that it is even possible that both varieties were originally to be found on the same sheet. If so, it follows that the colour should be identically the same. This stamp is described in the catalogues as "deep blue" equally with the 2d. of 1862, but I do not consider this as correct. The correct designation is dull blue, and Nos. 2 and 4 in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue should both be so designated. The shade of the 2d. non-*bleuté* is exactly that of the *bleuté*, and unless it exactly corresponds I should advise no one to purchase it. It is true that I have seen one or two specimens not quite so dark, doubtless through insufficient inking, but the tone was the same, and every specimen I have come across has the dull

appearance that is never exactly reproduced in any specimens of the subsequent imperforate issue.

Another important test is the postmark. I have about twenty specimens of the first issue in my collection, and the postmark in all values is identical. It consists of a numeral in the centre of an oval-shaped frame of horizontal bars about 1½mm. apart. The numerals represent different towns, and I have the following: 1, 9, 10, 11, 16 and 18. I am quite aware that this postmark comes later also, but as far as my present experience goes any specimen that has not this postmark cannot be accepted as Issue I. To summarize my remarks on this value, I may repeat that the tests in order of importance are—

1. Date of postmark—before 1862.
2. Shade—dull blue.
3. Obliteration—numeral within horizontal bars.

Another valuable contribution is that of the Earl of Crawford, K.T., who gives a number of "Abstracts from the Specifications of Patents, connected with Postage and Revenue Stamps, granted by the United States Patent Office from 1863 to 1898." The article, which is to be continued, deals with the various suggestions put forward when stamps were still a new invention. The following was Mr. W. C. Harris's idea for cancelling stamps:—

I place under the stamp when it is fixed to the letter or document, a piece of fine tape or thread, so that it may lie flat on the under side of the stamp on and secured by the gum; after execution of the deed or posting, the string or thread is pulled—this tears the stamp in two and effectually cancels it.

Another genius suggests that only part of the back of the stamp should be gummed, so that the postmaster could tear off the loose part before the letter was posted. What a litter St. Martin's-le-Grand would be in if this idea had been adopted, and still utilized at the present time.

Yet another would-be friend to present-day collectors of lightly cancelled copies suggested that "lamp black or other suitable colouring matter, and add to it syrup, molasses, honey, or other equivalent saccharine substance, with or without glycerine or oily matter." Personally we should prefer it without the glycerine.

A capable "Editorial," a number of

"Notes," a good "New Issue List," etc., complete an excellent number of our exchange.

The July *Philatelic Record* contains a further instalment of the *Sveriges Filatelist-Förenings* "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," in the course of which we find an interesting history of the local Stockholm stamps. The following extract will be appreciated by our readers.

In reviewing the development of the Swedish system of postal values, we find in 1856, or the year next following the introduction of postage stamps, a stamp for local letters, which though not properly a postage stamp in a general sense, should not be overlooked. As previously mentioned, a beginning was made, in 1848, for a local letter service for Stockholm. The introduction of letter boxes in connection with the postage reform—at the close of 1855, 37 boxes were placed in the capital—caused a considerable increase in the exchange of local letters in Stockholm, and necessitated the establishment of a special division for letter boxes at the general post office, with an official as superintendent and eight mail carriers, whose duty it was to empty the letter boxes and deliver the local letters three times a day.

After the General Postal Directorate, in a communication of 6th December, 1855, had explained the measures taken by the Directorate for the local letter distribution within the capital, His Royal Majesty, on 23rd January, 1856, granted:—

That the expense of this letter transportation, which could not otherwise be met, be paid out of the postal funds, including also a salary of 800 rdr. bco. to the superintendent of the letter box division.

That for so-called local letters a fee of 2 sk. bco. should be charged, of which one skilling (paid by the sender) should belong to the postmaster, or, in Stockholm, to the superintendent of the letter box division, to whom the postmaster's work in connection with the receipt and delivery of local letters should be entirely transferred. The other skilling (which should be paid by the receiver) should belong to the mail carrier, but the sender should have the right, if he so desired, of paying 2 sk., in which case the receiver would get the letter free of charge.

That for this purpose, as well as for the prepayment of loose letters, a postage stamp could be used in Stockholm, which should be of the value of 1 sk., or the nearest corresponding value in öre, and which, without any special cost to the Department of Posts and without the income from these stamps being entered on the account of the Department of Posts, could be procured and furnished to the public, care being taken that these special stamps should differ, in shape and colour, from the postage stamps used for the general correspondence.

These stamps could not be used for the prepayment of ordinary postage but only for local and loose letter postage in Stockholm. Their use for local postage ceased with the close of 1861, when this postage was absorbed by the postal funds. It was not until 1885 that the postal funds absorbed the postage on loose letters, by which was meant, such missives as were mailed at a post office, in order to be delivered by mail carrier on the way to the nearest post office, or which were received by a mail carrier on his route, in order to be delivered by the nearest post office.

The absorption of the postage on local mail by the Department of Posts, from the beginning of 1862, caused the introduction of a postage stamp of the value of 3 öre. As, however, this new type of postage

stamp could not be prepared in time for the beginning of the year 1862, the previously mentioned stamp, which had been employed for local correspondence in Stockholm up to the close of 1861, was used as a provisional 3 öre postage stamp, but with this difference that the stamp was of an olive-brown colour instead of black. In order to call the attention to the difference between this brown local postage stamp and the black stamp which up to that time had been used by the post office at Stockholm, a circular was issued stating that if after the beginning of 1862 a postage stamp of the kind first mentioned should be used for the franking of a "postage letter" it should be considered and accepted as 3 öre. By "postage letter" was meant a letter to be forwarded from one post office to another.

"Quilp" contributes another chapter of his paper dealing with British 'Abnormals,' while M. Ernst Zumstein writes interestingly about the "Telegraph Stamps and Envelope Stamps of Switzerland.

Our contemporary also contains a "New Issue List, a page of "Notes and News" and an "Auction Report."

The August number of the *Stamp Lover* is a very excellent publication, we find several well written articles of real philatelic merit, together with a little of that lighter matter which helps to relieve the scientific side of our contemporary.

Mr. Harold Row is responsible for a first long instalment of what promises to be a very capable article dealing with the "Stamps of Siam." In his introductory remarks Mr. Row says that some years ago, when a general collector, he was a strong adherent of the principle of the simplified collection, and advocated that only those stamps which the Post Office authorities considered to be new issues should be collected. At that time he looked down upon specialists as "cranks," because they investigated the *accidental* varieties of an issue.

Mr. Row's conversion was brought about when he attempted to collect Siam on simplified lines. He states:—

Within a week I was in difficulties as to what to include and what to reject, and in less than a month I had definitely abandoned my previous ideas and had become a specialist myself.

Mr. Row deals with the interesting stamps of the first issue, and their surcharges, also the unsurcharged stamps of 1887.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong contributes some "Supplementary Notes on Foreign Postmarks," really a continuation of his excellent article published a few months ago.

We venture to extract the following:—

*Denmark.*—The contemporary postage stamps of

Denmark were, on August 1st, 1855, placed on sale at the postal agency maintained by the Danish Government in the free Hanseatic port of Hamburg, and remained in use there until its discontinuance thirteen years later. There was also a Danish post office in the town of Lubeck, established in 1852, but I am unable to state, with any degree of certainty, whether or not Danish postage stamps were obtainable there.

*Norway.*—At one time Norway, in common with the other Scandinavian States, maintained a postal agency in Hamburg, and the early issues are, presumably, to be found with the postmark of that town.

*Russia.*—On December 1st, 1896, postal agencies were established by the Russian Government in the following seven Chinese towns:—Shanghai, Chefoo, Canton, Tientsin, Pekin, Urga and Kolgan. From that date until 1898, when specially overprinted stamps were issued, ordinary uncharged Russian postage stamps were on sale at these agencies, and may be found with the postmarks of the towns named.

*Schleswig-Holstein.*—The stamps of this duchy were current, also in its postal agencies maintained in various German towns. Those so employed may be recognised by means of their numbered postmarks, consisting of a number in a square frame surrounded by seventeen horizontal lines, as follows:—10, Eutin; 12, Hamburg; 20, Lubeck; 27, Oldenburg; 42, Schwartau. A post office was also maintained by the duchy in the town of Bergerdorf.

*Spanish West Indies.*—During the Spanish occupation of San Domingo (Dominion Republic), extending from 1861 to May, 1865, stamps of the 1857 and 1864 of the Spanish West Indies (Cuba and Porto Rico) were in use there, and may be found with the obliterations of various of the local towns. The values most in use were the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 real. Mr. C. J. Phillips, in an article on the stamps of the Dominican Republic, notes the following types of postmarks which he has observed upon the stamps in question (a) two concentric circles, enclosing between their circumferences the name of the issuing town at the top and the words "Sto. Domingo" at the foot, with the date in the centre in three lines; (b) a large oval containing the name of the town and the inscription, "REPUBLICA DOMINICANA" in two lines in the centre; (c) an upright oval containing a large capital "P" in heavy type, used at Puerto Plata; and (d) a postmark inscribed "Isla de Sto. Do." and date.

Mr. J. Ireland contributes a paper entitled "A Branch Collection," wherein he suggests that an interesting collection might be formed by collecting colonial stamps which have been printed on coloured paper.

The following is the list of colours, together with a couple of examples of Mr. Ireland's method of listing these stamps.

Red paper introduced in 1891.	
Blue " " " 1900.	
Yellow " " " 1901.	
Buff " " " 1902. (July).	
Green " " " 1902. (Oct.).	

HISTORY OF STAMPS APPEARING ON THE  
RED PAPER.

*The First Stamp.*

Hong-Kong, 10c. Queen's Head, wmk. Crown CA. Issued Jan. 1st, 1891; remained in use until 1900, when the colour of this denomination was changed to blue. Face value, 2½d.; life, 10 years.

*The Second Stamp.*

Hong-Kong, Queen's Head, "1 dollar" on 96c., issued 1891, wmk. Crown CA. This stamp does not exist without the overprint, so is virtually a \$1 stamp. Remained in use until April, 1908. Face value, 2/-; life, 7 years.

Mr. Ireland is also responsible for an article on Trinidad stamps wherein he demonstrates that only 45 stamps need be collected "to get Trinidad complete." Last, but not least, we must mention a paper entitled "Philateltis" written by Mr. T. Henderson, wherein we find a humorous account of how that gentleman became a collector, and the delights he experiences by being one.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for July 16th contains another instalment of Mr. F. J. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making." This excellent article is continued in all the copies of *G.S.W.* now under review and forms a most valuable feature of our weekly contemporary. Mr. Melville deals exhaustively with the various inventions of Mr. John Dickinson, other varieties of "thread" paper, the "blue safety paper" used for British stamps, the various chemicals used, together with "chalky," "shiny varnish," "grilled," and many other papers.

M. L. Hanciau continues his article entitled "The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies," this subject, apparently inexhaustible, is continued in the July 30th *Weekly*.

Major Evans continues his paper dealing with the stamps of Soruth, further instalments appearing in the July 23rd and 30th editions.

Some Topical Notes and a dose of the "Tyro" Stamp Club debate, a brief resumé of the Annual Report of the Royal Society, and another chapter of Mr. Dendy Marshall's "Notes on British Postmarks since 1840," complete the contents.

The 23rd July *Gibbons'* contains, in addition to the articles already mentioned, another chapter of Mr. Marshall's article, a further instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's paper on the stamps of Holkar, a short chapter of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Twentieth Century Colonials," dealing with the stamps of Northern Nigeria, another account of the stamps at the Brussels Exhibition, a paper entitled, "A Simple Way to Reform the Catalogue," together with some "Topical Notes" and "New Issues."

In the copy dated July 30th we find another of "Desdichado's" always interesting contributions, namely, the first instalment of a paper dealing with British and Colonial stamps with the face value of twopence half-penny; "Desdichado" recommends those of his readers in search of a new side line, to collect the stamps of this value. He says:—

Now I make my suggestion of a series of stamps which can, with equal interest, be collected on simple or specialized lines; and which can be indulged in from beginning to end, or up to the close of the last century only, and in either case with, or without, surcharged issues, whether permanent or provisional—those of the facial value of Two Pence Halfpenny. Stamps of this value mark an epoch in the history of postal affairs. Just as the first stamp, our own One Penny black, represents the inauguration of Penny Postage for the whole of the United Kingdom (which still includes Ireland), so does the Two Pence Halfpenny stamp mark the commencement of cheaper colonial and foreign rates of postage, formerly prohibitive in many instances, and still needing adjustment.

In October, 1874, a Postal Congress, attended by the representatives of all the European States, Egypt, and the United States of America, assembled at Berne: its deliberations resulted in the "General Postal Union," the arrangements made by which were, by a treaty signed on the 9th October, agreed to become effective on the 1st July, 1875, in all the contracting countries, except France, where their operation was postponed until the first day of the following year.

The single-letter rate then fixed for the (first class of the) Postal Union countries was Two Pence Halfpenny (25 centimes) for each  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. (15 grammes), which was the unit of weight. As every one knows, this rate has been extended to many countries not originally included in the first class, and has recently been greatly reduced in amount, or the unit of weight to be carried has been increased; and those of my readers desiring further information can, with a little patience and luck, find full particulars in that worthy companion to Bradshaw—the Post Office Guide.

I have chosen the Two Pence Halfpenny because (with, I believe, one exception) it was an unknown value prior to 1875, a year midway between 1840 and 1910, and is therefore presumably not so difficult of acquisition as the historic issues; because it is an epoch-making stamp; and because it can be divided and subdivided to almost absolute simplicity, so suiting the pocket of the wealthy collector or of his humble rival, who, in the words of a former editor of the old *Philatelic Record*, "has not the wherewithal to buy the first and worst issue of British Guiana!"

A list of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps from Great Britain to Lagos is given. Other contents are further chapters of the "Tyro Stamp Club Debates," and the completion of Mr. Dendy Marshall's article together with a short list of New Issues.

In the August 6th copy we find the completion of the above mentioned article of "Desdichado"; another long instalment of Mr. Melville's paper, and a further chapter of the translated article dealing with the Rivadavia stamps of the Argentine Republic. Mr. Poole continues to write about the Stamps

of Holkar. "Tim Brologie" contributes the first instalment of an article entitled "Postage Stamps of Sudan." A South African letter, a page of "Foreign Notes," a budget of "Notes and Queries," and a New Issue List complete a very "full" number of the Strand Weekly.

The *British Philatelist* for June contains a very capable article, contributed by Mr. K. H. Kricorissian, dealing with British stamps used in the Territory of the Royal Niger Company. These stamps were, we believe, first written about by Mr. P. L. Pemberton in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* some three years ago. Since then several new types of postmark have been discovered, which Mr. Kricorissian illustrates. He also gives a list of the earliest and latest known dates.

The July *West End Philatelist* contains a further instalment of its Editor's paper on the Postage Stamps of Sierra Leone, dealing with the long provisionals of 1897. Mr. Poole ably describes the settings of these stamps. We also find a readable account of the "Early Postal Arrangements in Bermuda," and a further chapter of Mr. Poole's chatty article dealing with "Errors of Colour." Writing about the colour errors of Finland he says:—

Finland provides us with quite a number of stamps printed in wrong colours. The stamps of 1866 were printed in sheets of 100, divided into two panes of 50, and the printing plates were composed of separate clichés. By some inadvertence on the part of the printer one of the 5 penni clichés was inserted in the 10p. plate, and one of the latter value in the 5p. plate. The error of the 10 penni, in brown instead of black, was discovered by the late Mr. J. Goldner about the end of 1868. He wrote to the Post Office at Helsingfors asking that copies of this stamp might be saved for him, in pairs with the 5 penni. The postal authorities had not heard of the error before, and at once removed them from the sheets. They were not, however, sent to Goldner, and what eventually became of them has never transpired. Information was sent to the printing office, and the erroneous blocks are said to have been removed from the plates. Whether the correction was made on the plate of the 5 penni or not we cannot say, but, if so, another error was made later, for the 10 penni of 1871 is known wrongly printed in the colour of the 5p.

In 1891 a set of stamps was issued very similar in design to the contemporary stamps of Russia. In a supply of the 7 roubles printed in 1897, a sheet of the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ r. was found printed in yellow and black, but how such an error occurred it is impossible to state. For one sheet only to have been printed "inadvertently" seems hardly probable.

The July 23rd number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* does not contain anything of special interest beyond an illustrated interview with Mr. George Johnson, B.A., the well-known Hon. Secre-

tary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, and a short paper on the "Comb and Single Line Perforations of the Current Stamps of New Zealand," contributed by Mr. Irwin Faris. The usual features, and a good deal of reprinted matter, however, help to make up a readable number.

In the August 6th copy we find a most interesting article in the shape of another of Mr. Faris's long contributions dealing with "New Zealand Stamps." Mr. Faris must possess a wonderful collection of varieties of paper, printing, perforations, etc., while his list of varieties will prove of great value to all collectors of recent New Zealand stamps.

Mr. J. W. Scott, of New York, is the "Philatelist of To-Day."

## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for July 15th, contains an article by Pierre Mahé, on the "Post-Office" stamps of Mauritius in which he traces the market history of the two rarities. In the course of this he says:—It would appear reasonable to suppose that each time an example of a stamp comes to augment the number already known, and consequently to diminish the actual rarity, the value of it would become less and less. This is the case with books and other articles of *virtu* . . . . . but with the "Post-Office" it is quite another matter, and as soon as a new one is discovered we see the price mount still higher, and, contrary to all reason, these stamps are always proclaimed more and more rare, whereas, in reality, they become less and less so." This is certainly true and it would be interesting to find out what are the peculiar properties of these stamps which cause them to be so popular with wealthy collectors. It must surely be because the number of wealthy collectors has increased at a greater ratio than the rate at which the stamps have been discovered.

*L'Echo* for July 31st contains an article on "Little-known French Postmarks" with numerous illustrations. This deals with the marks used before the introduction of Postage Stamps, going back as far as the reign of Louis XIV.

In the same number is a note referring to the approaching change of printers of the English stamps, which contains a fine appreciation of the work of Messrs. De La Rue. They say that, whatever may be the perfection which the new contractors, Messrs. Harrison, may arrive at in printing the new stamps, it will never surpass that attained by the house of De La Rue, whose printing of postage

stamps has compelled the admiration of the entire world.

*Le Timbre-Poste*, for July, is a very good number and contains an article on "The Stamps of the Argentine Confederation," by José Marco del Pont. From this we learn a good deal about the two types of the 5 centavos, the large and the small "5." We are told that the stamps with the large figures (of which only the 5c. was issued) were printed in sheets folded down the middle, with 96 stamps on each side=192 stamps to the sheet. The stamps with small figures were printed in sheets of 216. Of the large figure stamps, the following are the numbers printed:—

365 sheets of 5c. red	=70,080 stamps
104     "   10c. green	=19,968     "
52       "   15c. blue	= 9,984     "
Total ... 100,032	

As our readers are doubtless aware, a large remainder of this issue, together with the small figure issue, came on the market some time ago. According to Del Pont, this occurred some 20 years ago, the stamps having been stolen from a cellar attached to the *Casa de Gobierno*, where they had lain, forgotten, since they went out of use.

The same number of *Le Timbre-Poste* contains a useful article on the surcharged provisionals of Greece, 1900, compiled from an article in the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, with notes, by Georges Brunel.

## Philately Elsewhere.

The *Australian Philatelist* for June does not contain much to interest English collectors, the principal article being an account of the recently held London Philatelic Congress. Mr. Hagen writes about his visit to Mr. Yardley, and his stamps, but the account given of the treasures inspected is very meagre. Reprinted matter, local Societies' reports, a good New Issue list, and a summary of some of the stamps in Mr. H. L. White's (Australia) collection of N. S. W. stamps completes the list. Mr. White has the following stamps:—

- 31. Sydney Views, unused.
- 539.     "     "     used.
- 32. 1d. laureated, on yellowish paper, no wmk., used.
- 7. 1d.     "     "     bluish paper, no wmk., unused, including a strip of three with original gum.
- 1. 1d. laureated, on bluish laid paper, unused.
- 12. 1d.     "     "     "     "     used.
- 5. 6d.     "     "     "     "     used.
- 45. 6d.     "     "     "     "     used.
- 1. 8d.     "     "     "     "     magnificent orange shade, unused.
- 30. 8d.     "     "     "     "     used, partly constructed plate.

11. 1d. laureated, on watermarked paper, in one block, unused, with original gum, scroll border, and stamp office voucher.
13. 2d. laureated on watermarked paper, in one block, unused, with original gum, scroll border, and stamp office voucher.
1. 3d. laureated, wmk. 2, unused.
24. 1d. diadem, rouletted, in one block, unused, with original gum, unique.
1. 3d. diadem, unused, with original gum and big margins.
1. 3d. diadem, wmk. 2, used, very fine copy.
5. 5d. " imperf., unused.
2. 5d. " " used.
4. 6d. " deep grey, imperf. in one block, unused, with original gum.
2. 8d. diadem, imperf., unused.
9. 8d. " " used, some with wide margins.
1. 2d. " wmk. double line 1; used; only specimen known.
1. 2d. diadem, perf., strong retouch (S.G. 127b), used; and a large number of other retouched specimens.
30. "Registration" imperf., in one block, unused, with original gum.
50. "Registration" (used) Reconstructed plate.
- Pair 5/- Coin—proofs on paper watermarked Star. Printed prior to the plate being sent to Sydney.

The June number of the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* contains a number of interesting short notes, mostly extracts from English papers, together with the reports of the local Society's meetings, a paper read by Mr. T. A. Pope, entitled "Idle Thoughts of a Stamp Collector," a long English letter, dealing extensively with the wonderful doings of the J.P.S., and a short *résumé* of the expansion of the British Guiana Postal Service. We extract the following table which shows clearly the advance made in the last fifty years.

## 1860-1908-9 POSTAL MATTERS ONLY.

Year.	Number of Offices.	Estimated No. of letters, etc., Posted.	Parcels.
1860	.. 6	.. 42,821	..
1865	.. 28	.. 86,720	..
1870	.. 36	.. 184,000	..
1875	.. 37	.. 341,070	..
1880	.. 49	.. 688,266	..
1885	.. 56	.. 1,062,394	..
1890	.. 60	.. 1,532,462	..
1891-2	.. 61	.. 1,547,565	..
1892-3	.. 62	.. 1,581,164	10,515
1893-4	.. 64	.. 1,835,087	11,429
1894-5	.. 66	.. 1,932,454	12,004
1895-6	.. 67	.. 1,949,878	12,531
1896-7	.. 70	.. 1,984,180	13,426
1897-8	.. 73	.. 1,897,236	15,700
1898-9	.. 73	.. 2,016,020	16,597
1899-0	.. 74	.. 2,094,467	17,312
1900-1	.. 73	.. 2,145,788	17,314
1901-2	.. 69	.. 2,261,355	18,400
1902-3	.. 69	.. 2,400,949	19,147
1903-4	.. 69	.. 2,590,516	23,336
1904-5	.. 71	.. 2,773,726	23,915
1905-6	.. 74	.. 2,761,168	24,562
1906-7	.. 74	.. 2,829,018	26,320
1907-8	.. 74	.. 2,803,509	27,058
1908-9	.. 74	.. 2,928,610	27,503

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for May largely consists of a very long, but extremely attenuated list of "New Issues." This is a new departure for our contemporary and one we rather fancy adopted as a method of easily filling up space. The current instalment of the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon" is long, and of interest, dealing as it does with the labels overprinted "Judicial." A cursory review of some stamp papers and three pages devoted to auction prices completes our review. From an inset we learn that Mr. Wetherell, the editor, has been, owing to sickness in his family, unable to attend to his editorial duties. We sincerely hope that long 'ere now all is well, and that the June number of our one and only Indian contemporary will scintillate under Tancred's magnetic touch.

The *Stamp Journal* for July is an excellent publication. Like all other American stamp publications it relies mainly on extracts and notes for its contents. Mr. William Evans continues his paper dealing with the stamps of the Canal Zone. As many collectors in Great Britain are interested in these stamps we extract the following paragraphs.

## THE THIRD PRINTING.

The stamp used for the third printing in the Canal Zone was the one bearing the wide bar with the "PANAMA" fourth surcharge. Of this printing 20,000 were issued August 21, 1905, and 25,000 more on September 23, 1905. The "PANAMA" surcharge exists in two distinct shades of ink. One, probably the earlier, is a bright rose-carmine, and the other a dull vermilion. The errors found in the bright shade are "PANAWA" on Nos. 24 and 29, of some of the sheets, "PANAMA" 16mm. long on Nos. 25 and 30, "PANAMA" 1½mm. below the bar instead of 3mm. on the last horizontal row of the sheet, and "PANAMA" 2mm. from the bar on the second horizontal row. The surcharge is also found inverted with bar at the bottom. These same errors occur in the dull colour, and, in addition to them, there is also the spelling "PANANA" on Nos. 95 and 100, and a shifted surcharge with bar at bottom, and a double surcharge.

To distinguish between the inverted surcharge with the bar at the bottom, and the shifted surcharge with the bar in the same position it is necessary to note the distance between the bar and the first letter of "PANAMA." In the inverted surcharge, which was produced by placing the sheet of stamps on the press upside down, this distance is from 2 to 3 mm.

In the shifted surcharge this distance is 4 to 4½ mm. This was produced by placing the sheet in the press in such a manner that the bar fell upon the bottom of the row of stamps above the one upon the top of which it should have fallen. The bottom row of these sheets should show stamps with no bar at all, but except in one instance this variety has not been listed. Some of them will doubtless be found later.

(Continued at foot of page 152.)





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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

FROM personal experience we have little hesitation in saying that the recently held Berne Exhibition was a thorough success. The attendance was far in advance of that expected by the Committee of organization, while the exhibits were the best that

**The Berne Exhibition.** nearly a dozen different European countries could produce. The site and internal arrangements of the exhibition hall were all that could be desired, while all the exhibitors of highly specialized collections won medals, as did also many of the owners of collections that were of lesser merit, with the result that practically every collector who paid for the privilege of showing his stamps received a *quid pro quo*.

The dealers who had stalls, and the more numerous ones who had not, all seemed pleased with the results of their efforts, while last, but not least, even the poor harmless, but sometimes extremely necessary collector who bought from the dealers seemed pleased with his purchases.

The Committee worked hard to secure such a deserved success—none harder, we should say, than Mr. Fūri the courteous secretary who helped to make smooth the paths of the numerous visitors—but it would be unfair to single out any one gentleman for individual praise—they all

worked manfully and well, with the result that Berne, we think, holds the honour of having held the most successful show of stamps up to the present time.

The Exhibition undoubtedly will do a great deal of good, it attracted dealers and collectors from nearly every corner of Europe—at least twenty braved the autumn terrors of the English Channel, while France, Italy and Germany were also represented by double figures.

The differences between the English and the Continental schools of collecting were once more brought into prominence, while a very big percentage of the principal awards came to England. Such highly specialized collections as those shown by several English collectors seem to be unknown on the Continent—while we again noticed the fondness of the foreigners for stamps on entires. Dozens of the important exhibits were attractively embellished with the aid of many of the early stamps on original covers—especially in the case of Scilly, that most popular country, where the cult of the original cover has taken very deep root. All the collections of these stamps contained pairs and strips of used stamps, many on the originals, a state of things which did not cause us to wonder why these desirable stamps are scarce in England.

Our impressions of the Berne Exhibi-

tions are too numerous to be placed on record here—probably they would interest but few readers—but we clearly see that England, although far ahead in many

respects has many lessons to learn from the Continental collector—not the least of these being correctly to value old European stamps in superb condition.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Barbados.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. very kindly send us specimens of the 2d. stamp printed in grey and the 1/- in black on green paper.

*Adhesives.* Britannia and Sea-horses type.  
Wmk. Crown & C.A. multiple.  
2d. grey.  
1/- black on green.

**Bechuanaland Protectorate.** The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* chronicles the current 6d. stamp of Transvaal overprinted for use in the Protectorate.

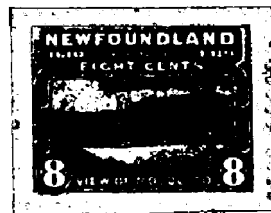
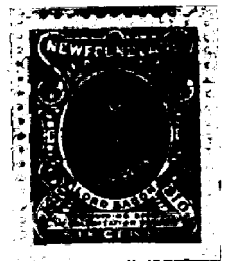
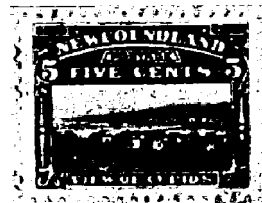
*Adhesive.*  
Transvaal stamp overprinted.  
6d. black and orange.

**Mauritius.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the 10 rupees stamp.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
Multiple wmk. Chalky paper.  
10 rupees green and red on green.

**Newfoundland.** We have received a set of the new stamps issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the earliest settlement in the British Empire. These stamps, if such a term can be applied to such rubbish, are pitiful productions. The 15c. value is the first stamp to bear a portrait of King George the V.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. green.  
2c. red.  
3c. olive brown.  
4c. violet.  
5c. blue.  
6c. purple.  
8c. bistre.  
9c. olive green.  
10c. slate.  
13c. red-brown.  
15c. black.





**St. Kitts-Nevis.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 1/- stamp on multiple chalky paper.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk. Chalky paper. 1/- orange and green.

**St. Vincent.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the new 2½d. stamps, uniform with the three values chronicled in January last.

*Adhesive.* Redrawn type, with period below the D. 2½d. blue.

**Transvaal.** Messrs. Bright & Son write us as follows:—

"We have by this mail received from the Transvaal the 6d. multiple on ordinary paper. We do not think this stamp has been previously listed. It may be of interest to your readers."

*Adhesive.* King's Head, multiple wmk. 6d. black and orange.

**Victoria.** A correspondent to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* write as follows:—

"The £2 stamps now on sale are all perf. 11 again, whilst the 5/- perf. 11 is quite out of issue. The stock of 1/- pale yellow shade is also exhausted. Our correspondent reports the purchase of a booklet in which the ½d. stamps are perf. 11."

The same paper chronicles the existence of two plates for the 5d. value. The chief difference is said to be found in the row of dots on either side of the bar under "Postage." In die I, these came close up to the bar; in die II, there is a wide space on either side of the bar.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Austria.** We have now received the stamps mentioned in last month's *P.J.G.B.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"The new Commemorative stamps were issued on the 18th ultimo; we send you a complete set herewith. Our Vienna correspondent writes us that on the 18th ult., before the head Post Office was opened, the street was blocked with a crowd of about 10,000 people waiting to buy the stamps. Two hours after the Post Office was opened the entire stock was sold out, and no more are to be

issued; on the same day the stamps were selling among dealers in Vienna at 50% over face value.

"In addition to the stamps sold at the Vienna Post Office, there were also small supplies sent to the chief towns in Austria, but none of these received more than 100 sets, so that it is practically certain none of these are obtainable at any Austrian Post Office now, except the 5, 10 and 25 heller values, the only one which were sold separately."

TEN THOUSAND stamp collectors waiting for their pap—we wish we had a photo of the event!!



**Brazil.** We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following information:

"The sale of the recently issued 'Pan-American' stamps has been stopped for the present, the reason given being that Portugal has objected to them as being contrary to postal convention in regard to their size, and letters prepaid with these stamps, addressed to Portugal, have been treated as unpaid, and double postage collected."

What a lovely chance for the nut people to perforate their gumpaps through the centre, and sell them as provisionals! Wouldn't collectors rush for them!

**Chile.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly write us as follows:—

"We think we recently informed you that the 20c. stamps of the first issue were to be reprinted in various colours, and overprinted with high denominations; our Chilean correspondent now informs us that the President of the Republic has stopped this issue, for what reason our correspondent does not say, but it is not very difficult to guess"

Something else dreadful will happen, so what is the good of feeling elated about the salvation of the old 20c. plate.

**Colombia.** Messrs. Bright & Son send us specimens of new stamps for this country. Of late years we have not welcomed new issues from this troubled Republic with any pleasure, but this new set is so well printed that, by contrast, it is a distinct acquisition.

The stamps are unnecessarily large, but this fault serves to set off the fine engraving of the American Bank Note Co. The stamps before us are of the values  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 *centavos* for ordinary postage, 5 *centavos* for acknowledgement of receipt and 10 *centavos* for registration. Each value, except the Registration stamp, bears a different portrait of some national celebrity.

Messrs. Bright & Son write:—"We understand that there are also 1 and 10 *pesos* values. Our correspondent informs us that the 5c. A.R. is likely to be scarce, and is already exhausted at Bogota. The 10c., Registered, is also expected to be rare, as the Government has ordered its withdrawal from circulation, the reason being because the Spanish Minister at Bogota objects to the picture on same, which represents Colombian citizens shot by the Spanish Government in 1816."

From another source we hear that there is also a 50 *centavos*.

*Adhesive. Perf. 12.*

- 3c. black and violet.
- 1c. green.
- 2c. red.
- 5c. blue.
- 10c. purple.
- 20c. sepia.

*Acknowledgment of Receipt Stamp.*

- 5c. orange and green.

*Registration Stamp.*

- 10c. red and black.

**Finland.**—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* contains the following:—

"A client in Russia who is a specialist in the stamps of Finland tells us that he has in his collection a rare uncatalogued variety. This is the issue of 1856, 5 kop., blue (large oval), on *vertically laid* paper. This stamp is complete, and has half of another stamp above it, proving that it cannot be from an envelope. This variety will become No. 5 in our Catalogue."

**Salvador.** Four more values of the new set are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

*Adhesives. Wmkd.*

- 4c. carmine and black.
- 12c. blue and black.
- 18c. chocolate and black.
- 29c. lilac brown and black.

**Spain.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 25c. stamp, new type.

*Adhesive. Perf. 13x12½.*

- 25c. blue.



## New Leaves to Cut.

### GIBBONS' 1911. PART II.

We have just received the new edition of *Gibbons' Catalogue, Part II.* only, and we understand that Part I. or that relating to the stamps of the British Empire, will not be ready for a month or two.

It is quite like old times to go through a new catalogue, as we do with the one under notice, and find so many advances in prices. For several years past the quotations for non-colonial stamps have been almost stationary, but we find now, in country after country, a general advance. Of course this does not surprise us; the demand for old stamps in fine condition has been so marked during the eighteen months which have elapsed since the last edition was published, that we should have been astonished indeed if this firmness had not been strongly reflected.

In addition to the alterations in prices, many of the countries have been re-written, notably the South American countries. It is in this section that the greatest changes have occurred. The lists of the early issues of Argentine Republic, Buenos Aires, Brazil, Chili, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, are almost unrecognizable. This of course is a direct result of the visit of Mr. C. J. Phillips to South America, where he had the opportunity of seeing many very fine specialized collections. As now listed the first issues of Chili and Argentine are as difficult for the average collector to follow as those of Transvaal and Greece. Even the most experienced collector will be unable to classify his engraved Chilians and his Rivadavia issue of Argentine with any certainty. This highly technical study of printings and papers and shades is certainly intensely interesting to specialists, but it makes *Gibbons' Catalogue* less intelligible to the general collector, who, we presume, is still, collectively, its biggest patron. But for ourselves, speaking with some little knowledge of the stamps in question, we find the new arrangement of these stamps most diverting even if we have not yet mastered their intricacies.

To descend to particulars, we find that the 1864 to 67 issue of Argentine Republic, which comprised fourteen stamps in the last edition, is now expanded into 41 items, and the prices are mostly higher. (The quotation of 5/- for the deep blue 15c. perforated, is obviously a misprint for 15/-). The later issues have also been re-written, but few alterations were necessary here.

In Chili the number of varieties comprising the issues in the first type have increased from 26 to 52 (exactly double). While some of the varieties have been slightly reduced in price the majority have gone up and the quotations for some of the rarer varieties of the 5c. and

roc. are a revelation. The other South American countries do not reveal so many changes, but all those mentioned above have received many additions, particularly Brazil, where the number of postal varieties has increased from 361 to 401. The first (bull's-eye) issue is subdivided into fine impressions and rough impressions, an arrangement which raises the old, old, question as to what is to be done with those which are neither one nor the other. In the 1891 issue we notice, with surprise, that the stamps which have the colour showing on the back are listed. The varieties of this stamp, which hitherto seemed to be sufficiently well recognized to the number of 14, have now expanded to 21.

Peru has been entirely re-written and arranged after the latest list of the Peru Philatelic Society and with the assistance of Mr. T. W. Hall. The feature here is the inclusion of the local issues of Arequipa, Moquegua, etc., under their correct dates, among the ordinary issues. Another feature is the great increase in the prices of many of the surcharged provisionals of 1880 to 1883, especially unused.

In addition to the South Americans, we find that Afghanistan, Bosnia, China, Japan, Nicaragua, and Siam have been re-written. Of these Bosnia and Japan were the two which most needed this attention, and the new lists are marked improvements. Japan has had the pruning knife used on it to great advantage, but not so fully as was required. Why are those vexatious so-called "wove" papers of the first, imperf., issue still included?

They are not true varieties but merely specimens in which the laid lines are not distinct. In the 1872-73 issues the thick and thin varieties of the native papers, which were hitherto so hard to classify, are now not differentiated, while the few perforation varieties formerly given have also been deleted. The issue of 1876 to '83, are now much more intelligibly listed, the perforations given in the last edition being very inaccurate and confusing. The stamps are now, at last, separated into their natural divisions, namely, medium, to thick, paper, and thin bluish-white paper, and the lists of perforations are as complete and accurate as it is necessary to make them.

The method of giving minor varieties, double-surcharges, etc., in small type, with the same numbers as the main variety followed by a letter *a*, *b*, *c*, etc., which we have always advocated in these columns, and which is the usual practice in foreign catalogues, has been tried in the lists of some of the South American countries.

We are told in the preface that if this plan meets with general approval it will gradually be extended to the other countries. We cannot but think that the system will be heartily welcomed. It has the merit of simplicity and puts minor varieties in their correct

perspective; it will also go far to solve the problem of keeping the rapidly growing volume to a reasonable size.

Altogether the new catalogue is a great improvement and bears evidence of careful editing throughout.

#### POLAND.\*

We have received from Mr. George W. Linn, publisher of the *American Stamp Collector*, a dainty little booklet dealing with the historical and philatelic story of Poland. This very tastefully "gotten" up little book is, we believe, intended as a souvenir of the twenty-fifth Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Society held at Detroit last month. Messrs. George R. Smith, Jr., Henry S. Adair and Geo. W. Linn are the gentlemen whose names are inscribed on the title page and we congratulate them on the extremely choice little treatise they have given to the philatelic public.

The first half of the book is devoted to an historical account of the once great kingdom of Poland, while the second half is given over to an interesting history of the one stamp and the various envelopes that did postal duty until suppressed early in 1865.

Prices from various catalogues and a necessarily short check list complete a novel, but excellent little addition to our philatelic library.

The following extract shows how patriotic Poles were treated by the Russians at the time (1865) Polish stamps were suppressed.

"From this date the stamps of Russia alone were receivable for postal duty in Poland, although many attempts were made to frank letters with the Polish stamps. The Russian government strictly suppressed their use and even confiscated all letters not addressed in the Russian language, so fierce was their determination to denationalize the Poles. When finding a letter so stamped or even addressed in Polish though bearing the Russian stamp, the person to whom it was addressed was fined in proportion to his ability to pay."

#### Robinson Crusoe's Island.

Paris, Tuesday.

THE *Petit Journal* to-day publishes a despatch from its correspondent at Santiago, Chili, to the effect that the Chilean Government has decided to establish on the Island of Juan Fernandez, where Alexander Selkirk laid the foundations of Defoe's immortal story of "Robinson Crusoe," a wireless telegraphic station. The island is now used as a penal settlement.—*Central News*.

\*Published by the *Stamp Collector*, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A. Price 50c.



## September, 1910, 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).

### NOTICES.

The Committee met at Essex Hall on Thursday, 8th inst., when it was decided to give a Smoking Concert during the season in addition to the usual monthly meetings as last year. The arrangements will be carried out by the sub-committee as before. The opening meeting of the season will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, October 13, at 7.30 p.m., when a display will be given.

All members and any visitors cordially welcomed. It is hoped to publish the full programme for the season in next report.

The circulation of the exchange packets

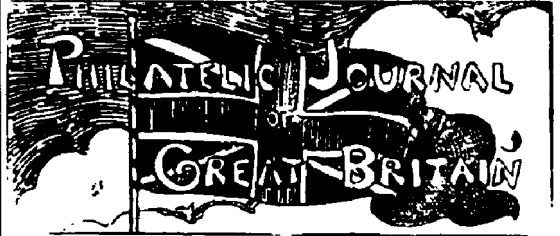
recommences in October, and Dr. Marx will be glad to hear from all members interested.

Any subscriptions and donations to the Forgery Collection will be gladly received and duly acknowledged.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

Sept. 14th, 1910.



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# The Berne Exhibition.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE recently held Exhibition has undoubtedly been a great success, not only in regard to the number and rarity of the exhibits, but also for the international character of the visitors. The Casino, where the Exhibition was held was admirably suited for the successful arranging of a great number of stamp exhibits, the light, the main factor, being admirable, except in regard to a few of the frames which came within the shadow of the balcony in the big hall.

I was at Berne from Sunday afternoon until Thursday night but did not attend the Banquet when the awards were announced, so cannot speak authoritatively regarding the festive side of the great Exhibition, but from all accounts I hear everything was managed with good judgment and taste.

Messrs. Furi, Arnold, Zumstein, and others of the Committee whom I had the pleasure of meeting were most indefatigable in their efforts to make their visitors at home and the success of the Exhibition was mainly due to the excellent work accomplished by the Committee of Organization.

Many very well known collectors and dealers paid a visit to Berne during the Exhibition, amongst others being Messrs. Reichenheim, Ashby, Harland, Peckitt, Melville, Warren, Dr. Chiesa, Field, Ewen, Wade, Griebert, Jacoby, Osborn (San Francisco), Lemaire, Bacon, Phillips, Manus, Szekula, Coyette, &c.

Fortunately the weather, which plays such a big part in many public functions, was, on the whole very fine. On Monday, it is true, it rained incessantly—while Tuesday was not very hopeful—but the remainder of the time was bright.

In these brief remarks it would be quite impossible to describe all—or even many of the exhibits, but I should like to refer to one or two which interested me above the average. Mr. Hausburg's Victorias—although I have seen them on several occasions always fascinate me—these being awarded the Grand Prix, in the Championship class, being only their due, as the judges would be well able to estimate the wonderful amount of study and research that is inseparable from these stamps.

Mr. Jaggli-Weber's Swiss, which won the Grand Prix in the class for Swiss stamps were a superb lot, as were also those of Mr. Victor Beaujeux, of London.

Mr. Guggenheim's French, awarded a silver medal, consisted of a huge accumulation of stamps, arranged in a somewhat haphazard fashion, but the condition of the specimens was so superb, the number and variety of blocks and strips so profuse, that this exhibit

was one of great interest. His frames of French stamps used in Turkey, China, etc., were very fine.

Mr. Warren's Dutch stamps were very much to the fore, they have been added to since they were shown at Amsterdam. The amount of research shown in this collection is very great. This exhibit might have been more neatly written up.

All the exhibits of Mr. C. L. Pack (U.S.A.), were exceptionally fine, notably his New Zealands and Brazils, although it would not be fair to individualise these two countries. The impression Mr. Pack's stamps gave me was that they were more the result of fortunate accumulation than of study. His retouched specimens of the 2d. New Zealand were very fine, including at least one mint pair of the 2d. orange. The Brazils were of note because of the inclusion of so many mint copies of used pairs, blocks and strips.

Space prevents even a most cursory reference to others of the notable exhibits. A list of the principal awards is appended.

## CLASS I.—SWITZERLAND.

### GRAND PRIZE: CUP.

*For the finest collection of Swiss stamps.*

Monsieur. Jäggli-Weber, Winterthur, for his collection of Swiss stamps.

### GOLD MEDAL.

H. J. Duveen, London, for his collection of Swiss Cantonal stamps.

### SECTION A.

*For general collections, not specialized, of the Cantonal transitionary and Federal issues.*

Chs. Seinet-Jeanneret, Neuchatel. Silver Medal.  
Mme. E. Rauber-Borter, Intertaken. Bronze Medal.

### SECTION B.

*For specialised collections of the Cantonal and transitionary stamps.*

Victor Beaujeux, London. Silver Medal.  
Fritz Klarbach, Essen-Ruhr. Bronze Medal.

### SECTION C.

*For specialised collections of the Federal stamps from 1850 to date.*

Victor Beaujeux, London. Silver-gilt Medal.  
Alph. Thommen, Môtiers. Silver     "  
A. Strässle-Cottet, Berne.     "     "

### SECTION D.

*For collections of obliterations on stamps and on entires.*

Peter Halter, Hochdorf. Bronze Medal.  
K. Lemp-Wyss, Berne.     "

## SECTION E.

*For collections of entires.*

Chs. Seinet-Jeaneret, Neuchatel. Silver-gilt Medal  
Philipp Kosack, Berlin. Bronze Medal.

## SECTION F.

*For Collection of official essays.*

Dr. O. Steiner-Weiss, Berne. Silver Medal.

## SECTION G.

*For Collection of fiscals.*

Chs. Eugène Hoffman, St. Imier. Silver-gilt Medal with the congratulations of the Jury for the MSS. catalogue which accompanied the collection.

## CLASS II.—CHAMPIONSHIP.

## GRAND PRIZE: CUP.

*For collections of postage stamps of any country which have already obtained a gold medal at an International Philatelic Exhibition.*

L. L. R. Hausburg, Weybridge, for his collection of Victoria.

## GOLD MEDAL.

Monsieur Cavalière Avv. Auguste Cave Bondi, Livourne, for his collection of Italy and Italian States.

## DIPLOMA OF HONOUR.

Franz. Reichenheim, London, for his magnificent collection of France.

## CLASS III.—EUROPE.

## GOLD MEDAL.

Dr. Achillito Chiesa, Milan, for his collection of Sicily.

## SECTION A.

*For collections of postage stamps of Germany with German States and Levant, France with French Levant, Great Britain with English Levant and Italy with Italian Levant.*

J. Schieb, Berne. Silver-gilt Medal.  
*for Great Britain and Levant.*

Constant Guggenheim, Basle. Silver Medal.  
(Medal offered by M. A. Cayette, of Paris).  
*for France.*

Hauptm. a. D. Paul Ohrt, Dusseldorf. Bronze Medal.  
*for German States.*

Jules Roussette, Turin. " "  
*for France.*

Louis M. Koing, Vienna. Diploma.  
*for Germany and Levant.*

## SECTION B.

*For collections of Belgium, Bosnia, Finland, Greece, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Holland, Austria-Hungary with Levant, Portugal, Roumania with Levant, Russia with Levant and Poland, Scandinavia, Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, Spain, Turkey.*

A. J. Warren, Epsom. Silver-gilt Medal.  
*for Holland.*

E. J. Mertzanoff, Rome. " "  
*for Greece.*

Ch. Lathrop Pack, New Jersey. " "  
*for Spain.*

Maurice Jonas, London. Silver Medal.  
*for Greece.*

Adolf Passer, Vienna. " "  
*for Turkey.*

W. von Polansky, Varsovie. Bronze Medal.  
*for Russia.*

Mrs. A. H. Bridson, Dartmouth. " "  
*for Portugal.*

Berthold Mathez, Tramelan. Diploma.  
*for Greece.*

## SECTION C.

*For collections of any single European Country not classed as an independent State under sections A or B; for example one of the small German or Italian States, such as Oldenburg, Wurtemberg, Sicily, Modena, Crete, Monaco, Sweden.*

Dr. E. Diena, Rome. Silver-gilt Medal.  
*for Lombardy-Venetia.*

The Earl of Crawford, London. " "  
*for Naples.*

Karl Günther, Chemnitz. " "  
*for Saxony.*

Baron Eric de Leyonhuford, Nissafors. " "  
*for Sweden.*

Sigm. Heidrich, jun., Gablonz a. N. Silver Medal.  
*for Sicily.*

Ernst. Zumstein, Berne. " "  
*for Oldenburg.*

Hauptm. a. D. Paul Ohert, Dusseldorf. " "  
*for Oldenburg.*

Bronze Medals were awarded to F. Robert of Berne, for Sicily; Hermann Dietsche of Waldshut, for Baden; Friedr. Doll, Oberndorf a. N for Wurtemberg; Ferdinand Kleeblatt of Beled, for Hungary.

## CLASS IV.—COLONIES.

## GOLD MEDAL.

H. J. Duveen, London, for his collection of Mauritius.

## SECTION A.

*For collections of German, French, Spanish, Dutch or Portuguese Colonies.*

M. Erich Unger, Forst. Silver-gilt Medal.  
(Medal offered by A. Friedemann, Leipzig).  
*for German Colonies.*

Jules Roussette, Turin. Silver-gilt Medal.  
*for French Colonies.*

A. J. Warren, Epsom. Silver-gilt Medal.  
*for Dutch Colonies.*

Isaac Blanco, Paris. Bronze Medal.  
*for Spanish West Indies.*

## SECTION A BIS.

*For collections of the stamps of the British Colonies.*

Mrs. Edith Field, London. Silver-gilt Medal,  
*for Great Britain and Colonies.*

Albert Reisen, Brienne. Bronze Medal.  
*for Great Britain and Colonies.*



## SECTION B.

*For collections of an English Colony in Africa or in Asia, of the Philippines or Portuguese Indies.*

- M. Z. Booleman, Amsterdam. Silver-gilt Medal.  
for Transvaal.  
Chas. Lathrop Pack, New Jersey. " "  
for Cape of Good Hope.  
P. M. Bright, Bournemouth. Silver Medal.  
for Cape of Good Hope.

## SECTION C.

*For collections of an English Colony in America.*

- M. P. Castle, Brighton. Silver-gilt Medal.  
(Medal offered by the Jury for study).  
for Trinidad.  
Albert Leon Adutt, London. Bronze Medal.  
for Cayman Isles.  
John E. Williams, Manchester. " "  
for Cayman Isles.

## SECTION D.

*For collections of an English Colony in Oceania and New Zealand.*

- Ch. Lathrop Pack, New Jersey. Silver-gilt Medal.  
for New Zealand.

## SECTION E.

*For collections of a single Colony of a European State classed in Section A, with Danish West Indies, Cyprus, Eritrea, Gibraltar, Heligoland, Ionian Isles, Malta, Italian Somaliland.*

- Alph. Vuillemin, Lausanne. Bronze Medal.  
for Cyprus.

## CLASS V.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

*The gold medal offered for the best collection in this Class was not awarded.*

## SECTION A.

*For collections of an Asiatic or African State, except Colonies of a European country, for example—Abyssinia, China, Congo, Egypt, Japan, Liberia, Persia, etc.*

- Col. F. H. Hancock, London. Silver Medal.  
for Afghanistan.  
W. Jacoby, London. " "  
for Shanghai.  
Rittmeister A. Markl, Korneuburg. Bronze Medal.  
for Abyssinia.  
P. Jorissen, P. Czn., Rotterdam. Diploma.  
for Egypt.  
Dr. Jur. Meyer, Herisau. " "  
for Afghanistan.  
Ernst Rufener, Berne. " "  
for Siam.

## SECTION B.

*For collections of stamps of the United States of America, Confederate States, Colombia, Argentine, Brazil, Buenos Aires, Mexico, Uruguay or Hawaii.*

- Dr. Achillito Chiesa, Milan. Silver-gilt Medal.  
for Argentine.  
Ch. Lathrop Pack, New Jersey. " "  
for Brazil.

- M. K pfer, Berne. Bronze Medal.  
for United States.

## SECTION C.

*For collectons of Chili, Samoa, Tonga, etc., including the other countries of America and of Oceania not mentioned under Section B, except the Colonies of European States.*

- E. M. Taylor, London. Silver Medal.  
for Tonga.  
Jules Sessely, Geneva. Diploma.  
for Chili.

## CLASS VI.—RARITIES.

## SECTION A.

*For 25 to 30 Rarities shown by a Collector.*

- Dr. Achillito Chiesa, Milan. Silver-gilt Medal.  
Prince A. Doria Pamphily, Rome. Silver Medal.  
Maurice Picard, Paris. Bronze Medal.  
W. P. Costerus, Pz. Edam. Diploma.

## SECTION B.

*From 25 to 30 Rarities shown by a Dealer.*

- Ernest Zumstein, Berne. Silver Medal.  
Alberto Bolaffi, Turin. Diploma.

## CLASS VII.—GENERAL COLLECTIONS.

## GOLD MEDAL.

- S. Rod. Ferrario, Como. (Medal offered by the Handlerverein of Berlin).

A detailed list of the medal-winners in the various sections of this class, and in the five other classes, would not be very interesting to our readers and would take up a great deal of space, we will therefore only mention those few which came to England.

Mr. Owen Fearnley, of Westcliffe, won the principal award, a silver-gilt medal, for the best general collection of fewer than 10,000 pieces.

Miss Kitty Nelke, of London, won the silver-gilt medal offered by the Junior Philatelic Society of London, for the best general collection of at least 4,000 varieties shown by a collector under 18 years of age.

Mr. Hugo Griebert won a silver medal in the literature class for his book "A Study of the Stamps of Uruguay" and Mr. B. W. H. Poole, a former editor of the *Ph. J. of G.B.* was awarded a bronze medal for his book on Sarawak.

No medals were offered for Philatelic Journals, only diplomas. We are pleased to be able to record that the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* received one of these, and like honours were bestowed on *The Philatelic Record*, the *Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society* and *The Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship*.

In the "Albums" section, diplomas were awarded to Mr. W. S. Lincoln and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



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THE officers of the Society desire to draw the members' attention to the opening meeting on October 12th, when it is hoped that a large number will turn up so as to make a pleasant reunion after the summer recess. It is hoped that everybody will do their best to bring something of interest to add to the display of Recent Acquisitions and Novelties. New issues and anything of original philatelic interest will be very welcome. The discussion following the President's address will be an opportunity for members to bring forward new ideas.

All London members are particularly reminded of the accessibility of the Society's meeting place in Liverpool Street, the attendance, good as it is, might certainly be improved.

### PROGRAMME SEASON, 1910-11.

1910.

October 12th—

President's Opening Address.

Display by Members of Recent Acquisitions and Novelties.

November 9th—

Papers and Display, "Great Britain, 1d. and 2d., of 1840." G. A. Higlett.

Competitive Display, "Independent Asiatic States."

December 14th—

Display, "British Africans." W. Phillips.

1911.

January 11th—

Display by Members of Gold Coast.

Competitive Display, "Twenty-five Stamps Showing the greatest variety of colour."

Multi-colours and coloured papers excluded.

February 8th—

Display with Notes, "British Guiana from 1876, British Honduras and Falklands." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.

Paper and Display, by H. W. Westcott.

March 8th—

Paper and Display, "Roumania." J. A. Leon.  
Competitive Display, "Thirty Surcharged Stamps."

April 12th—

Paper and Display, "Stamps of the American Bank Note Company." J. Read Burton.

Nomination of Officers for next session.

May 10th—

Annual General Meeting.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

It was bad enough to have the new 2d. and 6d. Falkland Island stamps chronicled in every shade of philatelic publication under the sun—worse still to have many of the smaller rags repudiating them, but finding that they are duly catalogued and priced in the new "Normal Catalogue" is the worst blow of all. Next time the editor of this paper asks me to squeeze in late news relating to newly issued Falkland Islands, or even Fiji Condominiums, he will get seriously laid up in bed.

I am sorry to learn that the *Philatelic World*, as a separate publication, has now ceased to exist. Editor Alexander played the game, with practically no outside help for more than two years, and filled many very excellent numbers with his contributions. The last number, in a parting kick, tells us that Mr. L. L. R. Hamburg was appointed to act on one of the recent Congress Committees. Surely this will cause jealousy, Messrs. C. J. Philippines, L. W. Foochow, and Mr. W. Dorning Bogota won't like such favouritism of the German States.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, in an extracted article, says:

Not alone are Lord Crawford's personal characteristics described, but his scientific attainments are mentioned as well. His ruddy locks, beard and mustache are sprinkled with many silver hairs. It is told that habitually, he wears blue spectacles resting on "a very aquiline nose." He is usually dressed in a sack suit of dark blue with his left usually in the pocket.

We sincerely hope that when his lordship sports another sack suit that he will see it has at least two pockets, surely his right must want a rest occasionally.

A friend of mine, of the Clan McTavish, sent me from Berne a list of visitors staying in that town. At the Grand Hotel I see

there were many noted stamp people, including Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of London. A little lower down on the list I see that a Mr. N. H. Peechitt, of Chislehurst, was also a visitor. Personally I don't think the disguise a good one, I feel sure Mr. Ewen would penetrate it. I wonder whether our two 10% over face men discussed Swiss doorsteps, and the cooling effects of sitting on them during a chilly September.

Another visitor at the Grand, whom I strongly suspect of being a well known stamp man, especially as he bought a very nice lot of Sicilies, was Mr. H. Nade, of Leeds. If Mr. Nade had contented himself with only buying Chili stamps nobody would have recognized his disguise.

Another distinguished visitor who adopted an alias was Mr. H. P. Marcus, of Amsterdam. Methinks the booking clerk on duty that night was not an authority on caligraphy, especially as the dear old Kentish town of Ye Pantilles masqueraded as Turnbridge Nells.

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## New Zealand News.

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—*Auckland Weekly News.*



## City of London Philatelic Society.

### Honorary Presidents:

J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, ESQ., B.A., W. B. EDWARDS, ESQ.,  
B.Sc.

### President:

J. R. BURTON, ESQ., F.R.P.S.L.

### Vice-Presidents:

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, ESQ., H. W. WESTCOTT, ESQ.,  
J. A. LEON, ESQ.

### Honorary Exchange Superintendent:

A. G. KERRISON, 143, Culverly Road, Catford.

### Hon. Counterfeit Detector:

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

### Hon. Librarian:

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

### Hon. Secretary:

D. H. JACKSON, 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green, N.

### Hon. Treasurer:

W. H. EASTWOOD, 169, Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, N.

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LEON, SEPI, AND WESTCOTT.

### Publication Committee:

Messrs. BURTON, CONSTANTINIDES, AND EDWARDS.

### Official Organ:

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,  
14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.  
(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

THE officers of the Society desire to draw the members' attention to the opening meeting on October 12th, when it is hoped that a large number will turn up so as to make a pleasant reunion after the summer recess. It is hoped that everybody will do their best to bring something of interest to add to the display of Recent Acquisitions and Novelties. New issues and anything of original philatelic interest will be very welcome. The discussion following the President's address will be an opportunity for members to bring forward new ideas.

All London members are particularly reminded of the accessibility of the Society's meeting place in Liverpool Street, the attendance, good as it is, might certainly be improved.

### PROGRAMME SEASON, 1910-11.

1910.

October 12th—

President's Opening Address.

Display by Members of Recent Acquisitions and Novelties.

November 9th—

Papers and Display, "Great Britain, 1d. and 2d., of 1840." G. A. Higlett.

Competitive Display, "Independent Asiatic States."

December 14th—

Display, "British Africans." W. Phillips.

1911.

January 11th—

Display, by Members of Gold Coast.

Competitive Display, "Twenty-five Stamps Showing the greatest variety of colour."

Multi-colours and coloured papers excluded.

February 8th—

Display with Notes, "British Guiana from 1876, British Honduras and Falklands." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.

Paper and Display, by H. W. Westcott.

March 8th—

Paper and Display, "Roumania." J. A. Leon.

Competitive Display, "Thirty Surcharged Stamps."

April 12th—

Paper and Display, "Stamps of the American Bank Note Company." J. Read Burton.

Nomination of Officers for next session.

May 10th—

Annual General Meeting.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

IT was bad enough to have the new 2d. and 6d. Falkland Island stamps chronicled in every shade of philatelic publication under the sun—worse still to have many of the smaller rags repudiating them, but finding that they are duly catalogued and priced in the new "Normal Catalogue" is the worst blow of all. Next time the editor of this paper asks me to squeeze in late news relating to newly issued Falkland Islands, or even Fiji Condominiums, he will get seriously laid up in bed.

I am sorry to learn that the *Philatelic World*, as a separate publication, has now ceased to exist. Editor Alexander played the game, with practically no outside help for more than two years, and filled many very excellent numbers with his contributions. The last number, in a parting kick, tells us that Mr. L. L. R. Hamburg was appointed to act on one of the recent Congress Committees. Surely this will cause jealousy, Messrs. C. J. Philippines, L. W. Foochow, and Mr. W. Dorning Bogota won't like such favouritism of the German States.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, in an extracted article, says:

Not alone are Lord Crawford's personal characteristics described, but his scientific attainments are mentioned as well. His ruddy locks, beard and mustache are sprinkled with many silver hairs. It is told that habitually, he wears blue spectacles resting on "a very aquiline nose." He is always dressed in a sack suit of dark blue with his left usually in the pocket.

We sincerely hope that when his lordship sports another sack suit that he will see it has at least two pockets, surely his right must want a rest occasionally.

A friend of mine, of the Clan McTavish, sent me from Berne a list of visitors staying in that town. At the Grand Hotel I see

there were many noted stamp people, including Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of London. A little lower down on the list I see that a Mr. N. H. Peechitt, of Chislehurst, was also a visitor. Personally I don't think the disguise a good one, I feel sure Mr. Ewen would penetrate it. I wonder whether our two 10% over face men discussed Swiss doorsteps, and the cooling effects of sitting on them during a chilly September.

Another visitor at the Grand, whom I strongly suspect of being a well known stamp man, especially as he bought a very nice lot of Sicilies, was Mr. H. Nade, of Leeds. If Mr. Nade had contented himself with only buying Chili stamps nobody would have recognized his disguise.

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## Liverpool Philatelic Society.

WE congratulate this Society on the efforts it is making to keep itself well to the front. In order to encourage its members to exhibit their stamps at the meetings, it is continuing its system of giving prizes for the best collections of the countries which are down for display at the various meetings. There is a prize of 20/- for the best series of displays by collectors whose collections number over 7,500 stamps, and another of 10/- to be competed for by those whose collections are smaller. A prize of 10/- is offered for the best exhibit of any one country on the programme shown during the session. In addition to these there are two smaller prizes which members may compete for.

This idea is a distinctly good one and might be copied, with advantage, by other Societies who find it difficult to get their members to take an active interest in the meetings. The prizes are not great in value, but they must engender a healthy spirit of competition which will be all for the good of the Society.

## Correspondence.

### McTAVISH ON THE CONTINENT.

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

Sept., 1910.

DEAR EDITOR,

You were so extremely rude to me last month in the way you publicly ridiculed my most serious ailments that it is only with a great deal of persuasion that I have now promised to let you have a full account of the Berne Exhibition and all the stamps I saw there. Before I do this, however, I must hark back to Halmstad where you so unmannerly left me last month. It was here\*

.....  
..... I think you will agree with me that it was a very weird experience.

Fortunately the trip over to Boulogne was perfect with the result that I faced the Customs people with a courage bred of the good American frozen beef of Old England and not, as I usually do with unpleasant reminiscences of dim and distant junketings. The run thro' France, and that portion of the German Empire which the Germans collared from their Gallic neighbours, to Basle is not particularly exciting, except when one is wakened up at the German frontier to undergo a Customs' examination, a most absurd regulation, when it only takes an hour or so to run into Swiss territory, where again the family piece of soap is again blue chalked.

\*No it was not, McTavish; we cannot have you doing any more "harking," especially as there are no more Exhibitions or holidays for you for a long time to come.—Ed., *P.J.G.B.*

At the Swiss Clapham Junction I missed the fast train thro' to Berne, as the man whom I had to see on your behalf about that bob-tailed sheep dog, kept me such a long time. The result being that I hold the record for taking the longest time to travel between Olten and Berne, of course I had to stay at Olten for nearly two hours, but I have done that before, as has everybody who has meandered (not Cooked) thro' Switzerland. Everything comes to the waiter, so I finally reached the Berne Casino and duly inspected a lot of stamps, many being the same I saw last year at Amsterdam. I thought this a pity—don't you? Surely some of the collectors might have re-dressed their collections.

The most comfortable hotel in Berne is undoubtedly the Hotel Bären where they did for me and Mrs. McTavish for nearly five days. I don't know anything about the other Berne hotels, but I can confidently recommend the old Bear as being one of the best for comfort and attention. A great feature in its favour is that it is not overrun with American and English tourists, you, dear Editor, with your extensive knowledge of hotels, would appreciate this. The only English people whom I could spot at the Bären were Messrs. Harland and Ashby. I guess they knew too much to put up at a certain well known hotel, where the catering was so poor that many of the collectors staying there preferred to feed out.

Well, now that I have given you a full description of the stamps, and all the stamp people I must tell you about the return trip to Paris, *via* Interlaken. I am the discoverer of this route and think the idea a capital one for getting to gay Paris quickly. Many travellers still go from Berne to Basle and thence on; or from Berne to Neuchatel and thro' Pontarlier. Both of these routes are good, but not so picturesque as the one I have invented, namely second-class *billet d'aller et retour* to Interlaken (*via* Thun) and then on from Berne to Basle, or Neuchatel.

Two very prominent stamp men whom I saw at the Casino didn't see me. Mr. Phillips was too busy buying, while Mr. Peckitt had a far away look, as if he were trying to calculate what  $1/1\frac{1}{2}$  in the 1/- was on 100 sheets of 2c., 3c., and 5c. Swiss stamps, minus the tête bêche pairs.

Other collectors and dealers however were kind to the poor wee laddie—especially Messrs. Reichenheim, Wade, Furi, and Zumstein, all of whom helped to make my enjoyment of the Exhibition more permanent.

From Berne to Paris is but a day's outing, while everybody knows the gay city, so I think I will tell you more about Switzerland and †

† The great charm about McTavish's letters is that they can be squeezed into any odd corner of the *P.J.G.B.*—it doesn't matter in the slightest when or where they stop.—Ed., *P.J.G.B.*



SEPTEMBER 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

The August *Philatelic Record* contains further interesting instalments of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förenings "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," "Quilps," "British Abnormals," and Mr. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland"; this last title would not lead one to expect that the writer describes the wrappers of Switzerland. He does so however.

"Quilp" in his most capable article says, referring to plate 2 of the tenpence, and other "abnormals":—

Again, we have an example of a plate prepared and registered but not brought into use, owing to the discontinuance of stamps of that value; in this case the Ten Pence was "out of stock" from 1877 till 1890.

Plate 2 was registered in the colour and on the paper of the regular issue, on 30th August, 1867, but there were never produced more than the usual five spare sheets. Most of the known used copies come from letters written by Messrs. Crosse and Blackwell to their Indian branch, and at least one unused, though not mint, copy has been found. Copies from plate 1 of this stamp are known, printed on the Emblems paper, but I look upon them as errors, not abnormals, a *sine quâ non* of these being registration in the colour then in use, or on a paper not employed for the particular plate when put to press in the ordinary way.

ONE SHILLING, Plate 3 ("2" and "hair-lines").

This plate is correctly numbered "3" on its margins, but the stamps themselves bear the figure "2," that is, the second plate from the die with corner-lettering. The stamps have a "hair-line" across the exterior angle of each letter-block, as in the Nine Pence, plate 3.

There was a warrant for only one sheet of paper at the time (16th June, 1862) of the registration of plate 3, but as perforated and imperforate copies are known, some extra sheets must have been printed. Used perforated copies have not yet been discovered, and the few known unused specimens—said to be from a single pane (20) put through a perforating machine—can hardly be looked upon as having been issued, especially as the perforation seems to be similar to that of the unused Three Pence ("dot") stamps already mentioned. Plate 3 was never put to press owing to a change in the design of the stamp of this value.

ONE SHILLING, Plate 5, on Emblems.

On 28th March, 1866, this plate was registered on Emblems paper, but it was not until 20th February, 1871, that it was put to press, and in the meantime the paper used for the One Shilling had been changed to Spray.

There is nothing in either the paper warrant or creation warrant books to justify a positive statement that the usual number of sheets were printed, and until a used perforated copy is found we can only suppose that the official practice was followed in this case also.

ONE SHILLING, Plate 14, in green, on Spray.

Before this plate was brought into use, the colour and paper of the One Shilling value had been changed from green and Spray to pale red-brown and Imperial Crown, and the arrangement of the stamps was altered from twelve panes to two only. There is no record as to the number of sheets printed at the time of registration, 5th January, 1876, and no perforated copy has yet been found.

TWO SHILLINGS, Plate 3.

The discovery of the first copy was made in Australia by the Rev. P. E. Kaynor in 1893, and since then other used copies and one unused have been found.

Plate 3, approved on 23rd January, 1868, was never required, owing to the withdrawal from the official list (while plate 1 was nominally at press in 1880) of this value, of which no subsequent issue has taken place. The *imprimatur* and spare sheets, for which there does not appear to have been a special warrant, were printed in a pale shade of blue.

Some Notes and News, New Issues, Auction Report, etc., complete our review.

The *British Philatelist* for July contains another chapter of "The Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain," dealing with the well known one penny lilac stamps of 1881. The author, perhaps the best authority on British stamps, says:

In 1884, the contractors (De La Rue & Co) introduced a system of checking the deliveries of this stamp, of which enormous quantities were printed, by inserting in the printing forme, outside the actual plate, and immediately under the last stamp but one, a sans-serif capital letter, which was changed from time to time as necessitated by the exigencies of book-keeping. A so-called mistake was made in the lettering on one occasion, the letter "N" being cancelled by two bars, and the letter "O" printed by its side: it was however, intentionally done, some of the "multiples" of the plates then in use not being at all worn, and it was to enable them to be detected that the original letter was retained and cancelled, with the new letter alongside, the latter being the same ("O") as on the new multiples. The two letters and the cancelling bar were printed at one and the same operation.

Since May, 1887, a line of "printers' rule" was placed round each of the two panes to relieve the edges of the plates from the pressure, which, in printing, always fall more heavily on those parts; and the latest addition, made with the same object, was a row of 48 short vertical line-blocks between the panes, the sudden break between which sometimes caused the adjoining horizontal rows to be defective.

The "Jubilee" line and account-letter varieties are:—Without the line, "A" to "J"; with line, "G" to "W"; the "error" cancelled "N" with "O"; and with line and central line-blocks, "W" and "X." These varieties are sometimes further sub-divided according to the manner in which the sheet has been perforated, *i.e.*, whether it has been inserted top or bottom first, and is consequently vertically perforated or imperforate as regards the margin on which the account-letter appears. Imperforate copies have been issued.

This stamp was in use for some months after the demise of Queen Victoria, being superseded by that bearing the head of King Edward VII., and printed in scarlet.

We also find a short account of those firms who have held the contracts for printing English stamps and stationery from 1840 to date, together with particulars of the work they have turned out.

The *London Philatelist* for August is largely devoted to a continuation of the Earl of Crawford's Abstracts from the U.S.A. Patent Office. The majority of these patented ideas seem to deal with the ink to be employed for printing stamps. A Mr. M. S. Clark, however, patented the following bright idea:—

A paper composed of two layers, one being perforated (in a pattern, etc.), the two being united and the printing done on the perforated side, the gumming on the imperforate side. Any attempt to clean the stamp or soak it off a letter or document, the two layers become separated. But one is no use without the other, as the printing on the upper layer impresses part of the design through the perforated holes on to the lower layer of paper—so the design is only complete when the one is over the other.

Mr. Samuel R. Dummer goes one better by suggesting the following:—

*Principle involved.*—Tearing off part of the stamp, thus destroying it for future use.

*Method proposed.*—In the face of a finished stamp two slits are cut, and through the slit is threaded a slip of paper, which is gummed to the back of the stamp between the slits, and the other end projects and lies loose on the face.

Pulling at this slip tears away that portion of the stamp to which the end of the slip is gummed, destroying it, and leaving a hole in it. Doing this would tear the envelope also, but this is overcome by putting a patch or "re enforcing piece" on the back of the stamp larger than the part to be torn away. This is gummed round the edges to the back of the stamp, and on it a device may be printed.

Therefore when the slip is torn away the surface of the stamp is destroyed, and below the part removed is disclosed the device, till then hidden.

(Impracticable.)

Mr. M. P. Castle writes about the new printing contract for British stamps. He retrospectively refers to the excellent work Messrs. De la Rue turned out, and,

at the same time hopes that the new printers will give us stamps befitting the Empire's greatness. Numerous "Occasional Notes," a New Issue list, Correspondence, and the usual auction report completes, with the exception of several pages devoted to Reviews, the contents of our contemporary.

The book reviews are well written, notably that reviewing Mr. Hugo Griebert's recently published book entitled "A Study of the Stamps of Uruguay." Mr. T. W. Hall, perhaps the most competent criticiser who could review a book dealing with the stamps of this country, does not lavish too many encomiums, in fact he is inclined to damn Mr. Griebert's book with faint praise.

The September number of the *Stamp Lover* contains, as usual, a number of interesting articles. Mr. Harold Row continues his admirable paper dealing with the stamps of Siam. Mr. Fred. Edwards writes about the Local Stamps of Scandinavia. Mr. Herbert Clark contributes a lengthy paper entitled "The Various Classes of Stamps," in the course of his remarks Mr. Clark divides stamps into five divisions, namely:—Postage Stamps, Railway Letter Fee Stamps, Telegraph Stamps, Railway Stamps for Newspapers, Parcels, etc., and Fiscal Stamps. Each of these classes is treated at length—especially class I.—which has many subdivisions. Concerning fiscal stamps authorized for use as postage stamps, Mr. Clark says:

#### AUTHORISED FISCAL POSTALS.

There is great need for inexperienced collectors to be careful when buying stamps of this class. It is not enough to have a fiscal stamp with a postmark upon it, even if we absolutely know it has been through the post. In the first place, the stamp, to be worthy of our notice, must have been officially authorised for use as a postage stamp. Next, the postmark must be genuine. In cases where the stamp is common cancelled (used as a fiscal) dishonest persons have removed the cancellation and applied a forged postmark. To be fairly certain of this class of stamp one needs to have them upon the entire envelope, and even then it is a little unsatisfactory to find that a fiscal with a higher face value than the required postal charge has been used. In such cases it is likely that the stamp is a cleaned fiscal. It is most probable that a good number of the fiscal postal stamps offered for sale have been postmarked by obliging officials.

Various J.P.S. Reports and some other matter make up a good number.

The July number of the *Philatelic World* is a capital publication, containing several interesting short articles. We grieve to learn that this number will be the last as,



in future, the *Philatelic World* will be merged into the *West End Philatelist*—Mr. Field's popular little monthly.

Mr. Séfi is the contributor-in-chief and we find his paper dealing with Swiss stamps of special interest. Describing the 5 and 10 rappen stamps of the silk thread issue he illustrates many "flaws," many of which, if not all, are plate varieties. Another interesting contribution is his paper dealing with the so-called "double strike" variety of the 3d. imperforate Canada, while yet another of his short articles deals with the Reprints of the Stamps of the Papal States.

Two or three reprinted articles and some Notes complete a very excellent number. We shall miss our quarterly exchange and regret very much that no more numbers are to be issued. Mr. Séfi has played almost a lone hand and with the material at his command has done exceptionally well, his paper has always been of interest—while he has not relied too heavily on extracts from other papers to fill his columns.

In the August *West End Philatelist* we find a continuation of Mr. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Sierra Leone, he deals with the King's Head stamps, also a couple of short papers dealing respectively with the 1865 issue of Belgium and "Errors of Colour." The following extract relates to Spanish stamps that have been printed in wrong colours:—

Spain provides us with two errors of colour. The first of these occurred in the issue of Jan. 1st, 1851, the 2 reales being found in blue instead of red. The error was caused by a cliché of the 2r. value being inadvertently included in the plate of the 6r. It was promptly discovered and rectified, and only a very few of the errors could have got into circulation. From the earliest days of philately there were disputes as to the status of this stamp, and while the majority of experts were convinced that it was only an essay, others, including the late Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, were equally confident it was a legitimate error. The discovery of an unused pair of 6r. and 2r. *se tenant* in 1899 settled the matter definitely and proved the genuineness of the error. It is one of the rarest of the world's postage stamps, and the pair previously alluded to is a piece of unique interest and considerable value.

The other error occurred in the issue of April 1st, 1855. The plates of this set consisted of 100 separate electrotypes clamped together, and in making up the forme for the 1r. a 2r. cliché was accidentally included. Consequently the 2r. may be found in blue instead of violet. The error was corrected before the later issues of 1856, printed from the same plate, were made. Unused, it is extremely rare, and used it is now catalogued at £16.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* dated August 13th contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and the

Italian Colonies," he writes about the postcards in use between the years 1877 and 1883. Mr. F. J. Melville contributes another chapter of his capital paper dealing with the manufacture of postage stamps. We also find a page of Topical Notes from the pen of Mr. Phillips; a long chapter of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Twentieth Century Colonials," dealing with stamps of the Orange River Colony, together with a couple of pages devoted to the well written, but extremely uninteresting "Debates of the Tyro Stamp Club."

In the copy dated August 20th Mr. F. J. Melville continues his article, Major Evans does likewise with his paper dealing with the stamps of Soruth: Mr. W. T. Elliot has quite a lot to say about lithographed Papua stamps, Mr. F. G. S. Thomas is the author of a readable schoolboy yarn, while Mr. C. J. Phillips is responsible for a page of "Topical Notes." Last, but first in point of interest, we find another translated instalment of the article dealing with the Rivadavia Stamps of the Argentine Republic. We learn that it is still unknown who were the engravers of the plates from which these stamps were printed, it only being known that they were made in England, possibly by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., although that firm cannot trace any transaction to that effect.

The following extract will interest our readers.

The plates, as we have already mentioned, are of steeled copper *electrotype*, prepared to make the impression in *taille douce*; they contain 100 stamps, in ten rows of 10, and do not afford the slightest indication as to who made them. The original dies were probably engraved in steel, and from them were produced in copper, by means of the galvano-plastic process, the clichés necessary to form the plates; when this had been done, the printing plates were also obtained by the same process, and by the same method they were given a light coating of steel. The artist charged with this operation did not exercise sufficient care, in arranging the clichés, to make them accurately equidistant, so that the spaces between the stamps are unequal. In the 5 centavos, for instance, they vary, vertically, from 1 to 2½ mm., and horizontally from 1½ to 2½; in the 10 centavos, from 1½ to 2½ mm. vertically, and from 2 to 2½ horizontally; and finally, in the 15 centavos, they vary from 1½ to 3 mm. vertically, and from 2 to 3 mm. horizontally.

These measurements we have taken from the plates deposited in the Post Office, and from a proof sheet of 5 centavos which exists in our collection.

The size of the plates, the printing portion, is as follows:—

5c., 211 × 265 mm.  
10c., 217 × 265 mm.  
15c., 215 × 267 mm.

Their thickness is, at the sides, 1 mm., and in the centre from 1½ to 2 mm.

The number of plates which were received from

London does not agree with that of the plates broken up on the 17th March, 1893, and as the list of these was then published we must proceed to clear up this point.

The plates from London were :—  
 4 of 5 centavos  
 (two of which were sent out later).  
 2 of 10 centavos.  
 2 of 15 "

Whereas only the following were cancelled :—  
 2 of 5 centavos.  
 1 of 10 "  
 1 of 15 "

So that only half the number of plates was destroyed.

The reason for this is that, at that date, the remaining plates could not be found at the Post Office, having disappeared many years before.

In the Continental Exhibition, which was held in this city in 1882, the whole of the plates from which the Argentine stamps had been printed in Buenos Ayres were exhibited, and, with the exception of the plate for the "Ship" stamps of 3 pesos, which had four clichés missing, all the plates were intact.

Three or four years later, not only had the above-mentioned plates for the Rivadavia stamps disappeared, but also most of the clichés which formed the plates for the "barquitos" of "IN PS," 2 and 3 pesos, and the whole of the plate for the "TO PS"; those called "cabecitas" (little heads) of Buenos Ayres, although they were of copper and of great thickness, had been sawn through and ten stamps taken from each.

In order to prevent the remaining plates from disappearing in the same fashion, we, in virtue of the position which we then held in the Post Office, caused them to be cancelled, much to our regret. As a historic record, although rendered useless, they still remain in the Post Office, and it is probable there they will remain; but it is tolerably certain that had they been left intact, they also would have disappeared.

Dr. Marco Del Pont's action in thus cancelling the plates met with a good deal of adverse criticism—notably from M. Pierre Mahé—his reply however, although he admitted that in theory he was wrong, took the form of the following Spanish proverb :—

"Each one understands best the bullocks with which he ploughs."

In the copy dated August 27th Mr. Melville's admirable article is continued, in this instalment he deals with various watermarks, from the Belgian parcel post stamps watermarked with the Belgian Arms to the stamps of Cochin which show an umbrella in the paper. M. L. Hanciau continues his article dealing with the Postal Issues of Italy and Colonies, he continues to describe the post cards of Italy. "G.W.H." contributes an interesting account of India and the Postal arrangements of the various States controlled by the Indian Postal Officials.

A goodly budget of Notes, both Topical and Foreign, a New Issue List, Correspondence, and a long South American letter complete a capital number of our contemporary.

The following extract from the South American letter will be of interest, as the stamps of Uruguay are now so popular. Mr. A. H. Davis says :—

Contrary to the notice published by the Postal authorities to the effect that the Commemorative set of 2c. and 5c. stamps, issued on May 22nd last, would be available for one week only, I see that these stamps are still being used, and I am told it is now intended to keep them on sale until the stock is exhausted, as the Argentine authorities are doing the same with their Centenary issue.

The Director-General has recently had many offers, from English, American, and German dealers, to buy up the whole of the Uruguayan remainders, but of the old issues there is absolutely no stock whatever, because in former years anyone who had charge of these stamps helped himself pretty freely, and of the later issues many of the good stamps are also missing; so the Director-General is now considering the advisability of having the whole stock destroyed, in order to prevent the depreciation in the value of Uruguayan stamps to collectors. A friend of mine, who was formerly employed in the Post Office, told me a few weeks ago that on one occasion he was ordered to arrange a stock of stamps, but found it an impossible task as it was in a most chaotic condition. A great many of the sheets were stuck together by the damp, and others were found kicking about the floor or crumpled up behind books and boxes. Many of the sheets were soaked in water to separate them, but as this operation took a long time a good many were torn up and thrown away. This, perhaps, explains why the 1c. black, of 1866 (S.G. Nos. 108, 109), is so seldom found with full gum. I have had occasion recently to make inquiries for this stamp from dealers in England and France, and all the stocks offered me have been without gum; and although blocks are plentiful, full sheets are very rare. These stamps are catalogued at 4d. and 1/- respectively, but they are really scarce and are worth much more. In the local market No. 108 sells easily at 30c. (1s. 3d.).

I have just been informed that the current issue of Official stamps is shortly to be sold to collectors, but that to obtain them it is necessary to write a petition to the Director-General, as is done in Paraguay.

The September 3rd edition contains yet a further chapter of Mr. Melville's serial, another instalment of the translated Argentine article, short doses of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's Twentieth Century Colonials (Rhodesia) and the "Debates of the Tyro Stamp Club." Some Topical Notes, New Issues, Notes and Queries, and, last, but nevertheless the *bon bouche* of the week, a capital paper contributed by Mr. A. J. Warren, entitled "Perforations Galore, or the Last Word (to date) on the Perforations of the "Holland and Colonies Stamps" completes our review. Mr. Warren illustrates his remarks with no fewer than 21 big blocks, showing from two to thirty stamps each, all of which show clearly the various methods of perforation. A study of Mr. Warren's paper, with its superb plates of illustrations, will repay any collector interested in Dutch stamps, to say nothing of the envious feelings which a sight of a block of thirty unused 15

cents of the second issue, and fifteen cents of the third issue, and other trifles, will arouse. The following extract illustrates Mr. Warren's methods.

The next group to consider is that of the  $13\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $13\frac{3}{4}$ , and 14 perforations, small or large holes.

We shall find here a dodging backwards and forwards between "Comb" and "Line" machines, the cause of which is, I think, explained by my newly acquired strips.

If you will look at Illustration No. 1, and compare it with No. 10, it can be seen that when the stamps have been placed too close together we do not get a proper perforation between them with the "Comb." In such a case a better perforation was secured by a Line machine, as shown in the illustrations of "perf. 14" (see also the use in the nineties of the " $11\frac{1}{2}$ " Line machines for various-sized stamps). We shall therefore find that a " $13\frac{1}{2}$  Comb" had its *vertical bars removed*, and was thus turned into a "Guillotine." Probably the " $13\frac{3}{4}$  Comb" suffered the same fate.

The 1867 issue of Holland was first perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ , and after a year we find the  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$  perforation in use, and the  $13\frac{1}{2}$  (my earliest date, February 14th, 1869) and the 14, used first for the "Newspaper" stamps of January, 1869.

The " $13\frac{1}{2}$  all round" was a Comb machine, Illustrations Nos. 4 and 5 show this clearly. It has hitherto been considered, both by myself and others, to have been done by a Line machine, because we find " $13\frac{1}{2}$ " in combination with "14," but we come to this presently.

The "14 all round" was a Line machine, in the form of a "wheel," the perforation running the whole length or width of the paper as shown in Illustrations 6 and 7.

Later on, in 1874, we get the "perf. 14, large holes," which I have always been inclined to think was made by altering the pins of the existing 14 machine, but Illustration 8, a corner block of Curaçao, shows that the perforation was no longer carried through the margins.

The "Newspaper" stamps of 1869 were "perf. 14," but the issue of the following year is found "perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  all round." This was a Comb machine, see Illustrations 9 and 10. The remainders of these stamps were perforated, in 1875, with another "Comb  $13\frac{1}{2}$ " shown in Illustrations 11 and 12; this was much the finest perforation of the lot, which, however, we never see again.

Why was not the whole issue finished off with " $13\frac{1}{2}$  small holes," both this and the "Postage Dues" of 1870?

Because the *vertical lines of pins were taken off* to enable Messrs. Enschedé to get on quicker, in 1871-2, with the other work, the stamps of the 1867 issue being too small for the comb. Their work had greatly increased, as stamps were also wanted for Dutch Indies, Curaçao and Surinam, and by using the " $13\frac{1}{2}$ " machine as a "Guillotine" for the horizontal perforations, and the "14" for the vertical, the work was done quicker. Therefore, " $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ " is found in Holland, in 1872, and in Dutch Indies in 1873-4.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for Sept. 10th we find that Messrs. Hanciau and Melville contribute further instalments of their respective articles, while Mr. B. W. H. Poole commences a discourse on Holland in his *Countries of the World* series. "Tim Brologie" continues his paper dealing with the stamps of the Sudan and Mr. W. T. Elliott contributes a readable paper, wherein he pleads on behalf of Commemorative stamps.

The August 20th *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains another of Mr. Irwin Faris's interesting papers dealing with New Zealand stamps. He writes about the difficulty sometimes experienced in correctly gauging perforations—also gives a lengthy list of varieties of Postage Due stamps, which will be found of value to those collectors who specialize in these labels.

Mr. P. C. Bishop contributes an article entitled "The Law as to Philatelic Illustrations," wherein he points out the many annoying restrictions that Somerset House places in the way of stamp journalists and dealers who wish to illustrate postage stamps by the aid of "half-tone" or other blocks.

Mr. Charles H. Greenwood, of Huddersfield, is the Philatelist of To-Day.

In the copy dated Sept. 3rd we find the first instalment of Mr. Fred W. Edwards' "The Rurals of Russia"; a short article cleverly written, dealing with the stamps of one country overprinted for use in another, together with several columns devoted to New Issues, the Stamp Market, etc., etc. Mr. Leon Adutt, of Margate, is the Well-known Philatelist. We regret very much to learn from the columns of our contemporary of the death of Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge.

## Philately on the Continent.

IN *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for August 15th, M. Pierre Mahé continues his remarks about the rarest stamps in the world. Having discussed the "Post Office" Mauritius and Réunion in a former number, and having explained that the "Post Office" are not the rarest but merely the best advertised stamps, he now chats, in his usual entertaining style, about stamps, which are, in fact much rarer. Of these the first is, of course, the one cent British Guiana, black on magenta, of 1856, of which the only known specimen is in the collection of a well-known Parisian collector. M. Mahé recalls that recently an English journal, *The Globe*, announced that a second example had been discovered in Derbyshire, news which caused a great sensation in the philatelic world. Unfortunately for the finder this proved to be the 1 cent, magenta, of 1852, and not that of 1856! Another British Guiana stamp occupies the second place in M. Mahé's list, namely, the 2 cents, black on rose, circular stamp, of which fewer specimens are known than of either of the celebrated

Mauritius stamps. In spite of this fact the highest price which it has attained is 18,000 francs. The 2 cents "missionary" stamp of Hawaii, 1851-52, occupies the third place, of course. This is followed by the "Post Office" Mauritius, which thus occupy fourth place. The article winds up with a reference to the Boscawen stamp of the United States of which only one specimen is known, and that in the collection of Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, New Jersey, who values it at \$7,000. This stamp consists merely of the words PAID 5 CENTS in three lines, hand struck in deep blue on white and is one of the series known as "Postmasters" stamps.

The same number of *L'Echo* contains a vigorous protest against the growing practise of issuing commemorative stamps at more than their face value. The writer recalls that it was New South Wales that started this deplorable system with its 1d. and 2½d. charity stamps, which were sold at 1/- and 2/6 respectively. Queensland and Victoria followed, then Russia, with its war stamps, Roumania with its horrible picture series; this year Belgium and Sicily join the ranks. The numbers sold of the Belgian Charity stamps are given as follows:—

45,000 stamps at 1c.,	sold at 2c.
25,000	" 2c. " 4c.
19,000	" 5c. " 10c.
18,000	" 10c. " 15c.

Most of these are said to have been bought by dealers, the issue having been greeted with derision by the ordinary Belgian public.

The Garibaldi stamps of Sicily were so successful that two more stamps, to celebrate some other centenary, are about to be, if they have not already been issued. There is also talk of an issue at Turin, in 1911, of a set of four stamps of 2, 5, 10 and 15 centimes, also to be sold at more than face value.

Our contemporary says that this sort of thing will not stop until vigorous action is taken by publishers of albums and catalogues who are advised to ignore these issues. But after all we cannot see that commemorative, or unnecessary issues, sold at more than face value, are much worse than the same stamps sold at or under the prices printed on them. The last thing expected of either is that they should be sent through the post. And yet, if we remember aright, *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* made very merry over the petition which was addressed by a committee of English philatelists last year to the Universal Postal Union praying that some action should be taken to prevent the appearance of speculative issues. In England we have long seen the danger of speculative issues, and our first efforts to discourage them took the form of a combination of dealers who were more or less pledged not to deal in them. That effort failed, and now, if we read aright, a similar effort is to be made in France in respect of those stamps sold at an advance on face

value. We confidently predict failure for this well-intentioned movement, and we may yet see French philatelists, as a last resort, petitioning the Postal Union!

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The September number of the same periodical supplies plenty of interesting fare. A long and interesting review of the new Senf Catalogue from the pen of Herr Kosack, occupies the post of honour. Then follows a long indictment of the Austrian Post Office for its recent issue of Jubilee stamps. Articles on Thurn and Taxis, the 1843 issue of Brazil, and another instalment of Herr Louis Senf's reminiscences, make up an eminently readable number.

## Philately Elsewhere.

The *Australian Philatelist* for July contains a long and valuable article dealing with the recent and current perforations of Australian stamps. Mr. Smyth treats of the stamps of each of the six States and we extract particulars relating to South Australians.

South Australian stamps bristle with problems. In the early days single-line machines, gauging 10, 11½ and 12½, were used indiscriminately, the three being at times found on the same stamp. In 1895 a new single-line machine, gauging 11½, 12½, large holes, was introduced, and has been the cause of much worry to perforation specialists. It was, however, found eventually that the gauge was very irregular, being 11½ in some parts and 12½ in others. This machine was used for the long stamps, and the above statement was proved by seeing on a strip, both gauges without a break in the alignment. We have had also several long stamps brought under our notice with one half of the vertical perf. 11½ and the other half 12½.

In 1893 a comb machine, gauging 15, was used on the normal sized stamps, i.e. ¾d. (two perforated as one, and subsequently perforated between on a single-line machine), 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 5d. and 6d. This machine was two years later converted into a perf. 13.

In 1897 and 1902 there were fresh printings of the old 9d., 1/- and 2/- stamps; these were perforated on the single-line machines with large holes. The following varieties have been seen on nearly all the three values, viz.:—11½, 12½, 11½×12½, 12½×11½, 11½ on three sides×12½ and 12½ on three sides×11½. These, in our opinion, were all the product of one machine.

In 1902 the type of the long high value stamps was used for some of the lower values, which were perforated 11½. Some are seen 12½ and some are also seen compound. In this instance the machine with large holes does not appear to have been used.

About 1903 a new single-line machine, gauging 12, was introduced, and used up till the time the printing of South Australian stamps was transferred to Melbourne (about April, 1909). Indeed, we understand the perforating machines were taken over, but the single-line cutters have not since been erected.

In 1904 the comb machine was fitted with a new head gauging 12×11½. This has been in use since. So far as we can ascertain very few South Australian stamps have, up to the present, been printed or perforated in the Melbourne office. The 8d. and 9d. have appeared perf. 12½, small holes, the machine used being in evidence on the stamps of other States and Papua, also prepared there.

In the course of time, and until the issue of a Commonwealth series, new printings of South Australian stamps will have Melbourne characteristics in their perforations.

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From the page devoted to "Notes" we extract the following item.

Some extremely dangerous forgeries of some of the rarer errors of the Indian Convention States have recently appeared. Among others we may particularly mention the Gwalior "Sersiv" misprints, Jhind curved reversed prints, "Jeind" errors, "Auttialla" ditto, and others. In all cases the rarer values only have been forged. Buyers should be careful when purchasing these errors and should only buy from expert sources. For obvious reasons we do not describe the differences between the genuine stamps and the forgeries.

The July number of the same publication contains a further long instalment of the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon," another wearisome list of New Issues, a couple of pages devoted to reviews, some notes relating to Indian stamps and a reprinted list of prices realized at the Seybold sale.

We have received the April, June, and July numbers of a new paper, published in Canada, devoted entirely to stamps. It is called *The Canadian Philatelist*.

Each number contains an illustrated interview with a well-known Canadian collector, a brightly written philatelic

short story, and many pages devoted to readable items of stamp news. We welcome our new contemporary—its Editor, Mr. S. Golder, of Regina, does not seem imbued with the idea of using the columns of his paper to stir up all the philatelic mud of the North American Continent. He is a keen philatelist and gives his readers the benefit of mature years—may his paper come to be bound into many thick volumes.

In the July number a correspondent writes as follows:—

"Looking over a collection recently of rare old British North American stamps, the writer was shown a perfect used specimen of the rare Connell stamp. Pasted under the stamp was an affidavit made before a commissioner by the person that received it through the post, stating it was received by him in the ordinary course through the mail. The owner of this rarity says he has seen a complete sheet of this stamp unused and knows the owner.

If the above news is authentic specialists in Canadian stamps will be on the lookout for yet other discoveries.

The July 15th and August 1st numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of America* are made up completely from pirated articles from the London stamp papers. Entire articles have been reproduced—together with the illustrations—a method which does not reflect any credit on the publishers of our contemporary. Surely there is room in America for a stamp paper, of some pretensions, that does not steal its literary views from English papers. Mr. Charles Haviland Mekeel seems to consider that his editorial duties consist of the generous application of scissors and paste, with a few haphazard blatant and bombastic editorial remarks.

The August *Stamp Collector* is a very good publication—in fact, in less than a year it has climbed to nearly, if not quite the top of the tree of American philatelic journalism. Unfortunately this kind of tree doesn't attain a very great height in the U.S.A.

Like most Yankee publications the personal note is however too pronounced. Billikins little monthly is now incorporated with the *Stamp Collector* and we extract the following jingle from Billy's page.

#### THE STAMP FIEND.

This dizzy old planet goes spinning around,

Heigh-ho! merrily,

And all sorts of faddists upon it are found,

Heigh-ho, cheerily.

The baseball fan thinks it elegant fun

To sit on the bleachers and roast in the sun,

Damning the umpire, applauding each run—

Sing heigh-ho! merrily.

Mauritius stamps. In spite of this fact the highest price which it has attained is 18,000 francs. The 2 cents "missionary" stamp of Hawaii, 1851-52, occupies the third place, of course. This is followed by the "Post Office" Mauritius, which thus occupy fourth place. The article winds up with a reference to the Boscawen stamp of the United States of which only one specimen is known, and that in the collection of Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, New Jersey, who values it at \$7,000. This stamp consists merely of the words PAID 5 CENTS in three lines, hand struck in deep blue on white and is one of the series known as "Postmasters" stamps.

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The *Philatelic Journal of India* for June contains another long instalment of the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon; a long and uninteresting New Issue List, an all too short review of some of the English stamp papers, a page of Notes, and last, but most interesting of all, an extract from the Ecuador Postal Report of 1907-8. This provides some out-of-the-way information, which we hope to take the liberty of reproducing in these pages next month.

From the page devoted to "Notes" we extract the following item.

Some extremely dangerous forgeries of some of the rarer errors of the Indian Convention States have recently appeared. Among others we may particularly mention the Gwalior "Sersiv" misprints, Jhind curved reversed prints, "Jeind" errors, "Auttialla" ditto, and others. In all cases the rarer values only have been forged. Buyers should be careful when purchasing these errors and should only buy from expert sources. For obvious reasons we do not describe the differences between the genuine stamps and the forgeries.

The July number of the same publication contains a further long instalment of the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon," another wearisome list of New Issues, a couple of pages devoted to reviews, some notes relating to Indian stamps and a reprinted list of prices realized at the Seybold sale.

We have received the April, June, and July numbers of a new paper, published in Canada, devoted entirely to stamps. It is called *The Canadian Philatelist*.

Each number contains an illustrated interview with a well-known Canadian collector, a brightly written philatelic

short story, and many pages devoted to readable items of stamp news. We welcome our new contemporary—its Editor, Mr. S. Golder, of Regina, does not seem imbued with the idea of using the columns of his paper to stir up all the philatelic mud of the North American Continent. He is a keen philatelist and gives his readers the benefit of mature years—may his paper come to be bound into many thick volumes.

In the July number a correspondent writes as follows:—

"Looking over a collection recently of rare old British North American stamps, the writer was shown a perfect used specimen of the rare Connell stamp. Pasted under the stamp was an affidavit made before a commissioner by the person that received it through the post, stating it was received by him in the ordinary course through the mail. The owner of this rarity says he has seen a complete sheet of this stamp unused and knows the owner.

If the above news is authentic specialists in Canadian stamps will be on the lookout for yet other discoveries.

The July 15th and August 1st numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of America* are made up completely from pirated articles from the London stamp papers. Entire articles have been reproduced—together with the illustrations—a method which does not reflect any credit on the publishers of our contemporary. Surely there is room in America for a stamp paper, of some pretensions, that does not steal its literary views from English papers. Mr. Charles Haviland Mekeel seems to consider that his editorial duties consist of the generous application of scissors and paste, with a few haphazard blatant and bombastic editorial remarks.

The August *Stamp Collector* is a very good publication—in fact, in less than a year it has climbed to nearly, if not quite the top of the tree of American philatelic journalism. Unfortunately this kind of tree doesn't attain a very great height in the U.S.A.

Like most Yankee publications the personal note is however too pronounced. Billikins little monthly is now incorporated with the *Stamp Collector* and we extract the following jingle from Billy's page.

#### THE STAMP FIEND.

This dizzy old planet goes spinning around,  
Heigh-ho! merrily,  
And all sorts of faddists upon it are found,  
Heigh-ho, cheerily.

The baseball fan thinks it elegant fun  
To sit on the bleachers and roast in the sun,  
Damning the umpire, applauding each run—  
Sing heigh-ho! merrily.

Ex-presidents scoot to far Africa's shore,  
 Heigh-ho! merrily,  
 Where fierce pollywogs everlastingly roar,  
 Heigh-ho! cheerily.  
 A forty-pound gun on his shoulders, all day  
 He hikes through the underbrush, keen for the fray,  
 The wild hipponoceros seeking to slay,  
 Sing heigh-ho! merrily.

But give me the pleasure that has no alarms,  
 Heigh-ho! merrily,  
 To woo at my leasure philately's charms,  
 Heigh-ho! cheerily.  
 To Hades with football or heavy-weight "champs,"  
 From golfing and polo to jungelized tramps  
 Contented I turn to my album of stamps,  
 Evermore, merrily, cheerily!

C. S. S.

## As Others See Us.

OF late the daily papers have paid no little attention to the hobby of stamp collecting, generally with but little success. One of the *Ed.* papers has, however, managed to secure the services of a real live philatelic correspondent. The following is the result:

"Owing not a little to the accession of the King, whose fondness for the hobby is well known, stamp-collecting has become more than ever popular. The rage for it of some years back has revived.

"A director of a well-known firm of philatelists told the *Daily Mirror* that King George's accession had already had a most marked effect in the stamp-collecting world.

"Quite a dozen or more persons closely connected with the Court," he said, "have decided to start collections, and have come to us as clients.

"Then others who had formerly collected quietly are now devoting much more of their time to their collections, and are worrying their friends for stamps.

"Really," he continued, "the infection has spread to all classes; great numbers of lawyers and city men are taking to stamp-collecting, as we know by our books.

### ON SCIENTIFIC LINES.

"Naturally, the impending new issue of postage stamps has great interest for all collectors, but the new movement of which I speak cuts very much deeper than that.

"As the Earl of Crawford remarked recently, stamp-collecting merely as a boy's hobby is dead, but stamp-collecting as a science is only just beginning. And, of course, his Majesty has done a very great deal towards getting stamp-collecting recognised as a scientific study.

"The boyish interest in stamps is centred chiefly in having a large number of fairly uncommon and obviously different specimens, and a better collection than other boys. There it stops.

"But the new scientific interest in stamp-collecting that is slowly but surely getting a firm hold of the intelligent public lies much more in possessing stamps with only the veriest shade of difference in them, and collecting entire sets.

"For instance, almost all stamps really worth collecting have been printed from a wooden 'sheet'—a sheet being the piece of wood upon which the engraver has carved out a compact square of twelve or more impressions.

### BERNE CONVENTION'S WORK.

"Though the engraver would aim at perfect similarity, each of those twelve impressions would produce stamps with, to the trained eye, quite distinct markings upon them. So the intelligent collector sets to work to procure a specimen of all the twelve impressions. And so on.

"Just at present all interest in the stamp-collecting world centres on the Berne Convention, an authority which meets at Berne and decides all questions relating to the issue of stamps for all the post offices in the world.

"There is a meeting this week, and his Majesty's collecting agent has just set out for Berne.

"It was under a rule of the Berne Convention which forbids the issue of a new set of stamps bearing the head of a deceased monarch that the English Post Office has just had to destroy the new twopenny stamps which had been got ready for issue."

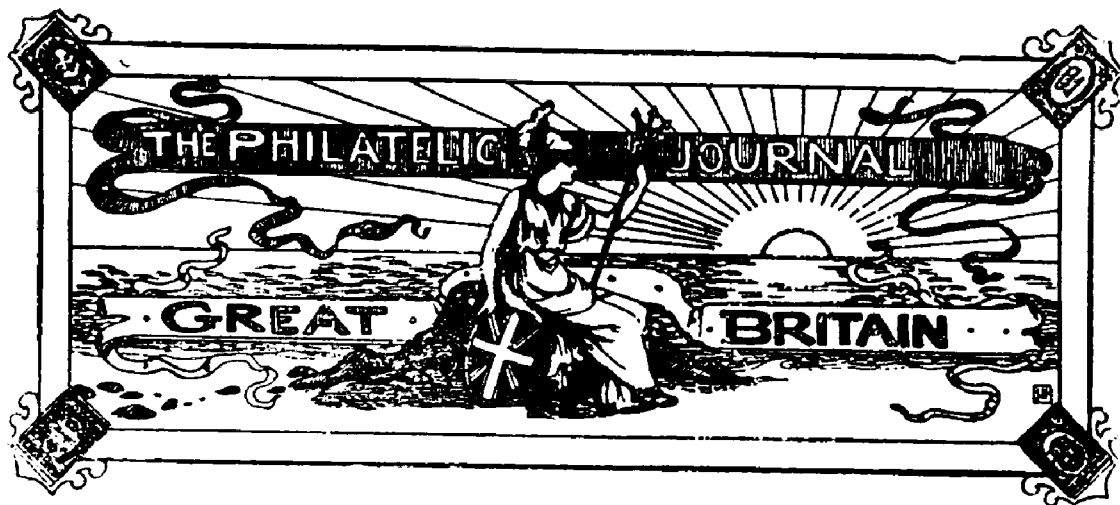
—*Daily Mirror*.

With great luck his Majesty's agent may be in time to secure a specimen of the recently issued redrawn 5c.

## "Le Fac-Simile."

UNDER the above title the notorious Fournier, well known as a manufacturer of imitations of stamps, has started a monthly journal in defence of his trade. In addition to seeking to justify his mischievous "works of art" as he describes them, he fills several pages with denunciations of various members of the stamp trade whom he humorously refers to as "anti-facsimilists." It may be perfectly true that Fournier only sells the forgeries as "fac-similes" and at a fraction of what the genuine stamps would be worth, but it must be evident to the meanest intelligence that the imitations, some of which are remarkably well done, are a source of danger when they get into circulation, even supposing that any of his customers buy them with innocent intentions. The practice of selling imitations which are not branded as such is so indefensible as to make the issue of this so-called journal a monument of impudence and cynicism.





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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE philatelic season has opened with quite a little sensation in the shape of the publication of a circular-letter which has been addressed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governors of all the British Crown Colonies. Philatelists may well feel flattered to think that their hobby has grown so important as to cause the promulgation of a new set of regulations for the guidance of post-masters. The circular is reproduced in another column and our readers will judge for themselves how beneficial its provisions must be to our hobby.

While the growth of philately and the trade in stamps has rendered necessary the issue of this circular, we must not lay the flattering unction to our souls that it was issued entirely for the benefit of philatelists. It was, of course, formulated for the purpose of making the work of the Department run smoothly and of removing temptations from the way of the officials. We have known postal reforms in the past which were not altogether beneficial to philately, as, for instance, the adoption of postage stamps for fiscal as well as for postal purposes and, in more recent times, the introduction of "chalky" paper with its coincident enrichment and strengthening of the stamp collector's vocabulary. We

can also imagine reforms which would be equally unpleasant for votaries of our hobby, such as the introduction of thicker and more aggressive-looking obliterators, or, indeed, the abolition of adhesive stamps in favour of some other method of keeping accounts, but in the case of the reforms now published we find nothing which will not, incidentally, benefit stamp-collecting.

The most welcome news is that relating to surcharging. In future local provisionals of the Cayman Islands and Gambia variety will only be issued at the peril of the "Officer Administering the Government, the Colonial Secretary, and the Colonial Post-master of the various Crown Colonies and the Protectorates" who will, collectively and individually, be held responsible for any little lapse of this sort which may occur. The prohibition is accompanied by some charmingly simple advice for abolishing any need for provisionals. This is to the effect that an adequate stock of stamps should always be on hand, especially of the half-penny and penny values, "which could always be used, either separately or in combination with other stamps in the event of a temporary shortage in any stamp of a higher denomination."

It would be an insult to the intelligence of our Colonial officers to suggest that this excellent plan had never occurred to them before. However that may be, the impor-

tant fact is that if it does not occur to them in the future, something else will.

The new regulation forbidding postal officials to affix stamps to letters at the request of others, or to cancel stamps which are not affixed to letters, will have the effect of making high values of the various colonies yet more difficult to obtain in used condition, while it will abolish for good the hideous practice of postmarking stamps in sheets. As a matter of fact, this latter trick has never been resorted to, in the Crown Colonies, to such an inordinate extent as in Labuan, Borneo, and in many foreign countries, but it is satisfactory to know that no British official will be

allowed, in future, to manufacture hybrids which are neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring.

We also welcome the unequivocal manner in which all officials connected with the Post-office are reminded of the penalties they are liable to if they have any dealings in stamps for private profit. It is well known that in recent years many small issues, especially of provisionals, have never got as far as the Post-office counters, with the consequence that certain officials or their agents, have netted large profits at the expense of dealers and collectors. It is to be hoped that this renewed warning will have its effect.

## Portugal and Her Colonies.

A BRIEF RESUMÉ OF THEIR GENERAL AND PHILATELIC HISTORY.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE recent momentous events which have taken place in Portugal, resulting in the overthrow of the Monarchical Government and the proclamation of a Republic will have an effect on the stamps of Portugal, and, probably on the issues of her colonies. At the time of writing it is quite impossible to say what the near future may hold in store. It is not without the bounds of possibility that King Manuel may yet be reinstated on his throne, in which case, provided the Revolutionaries (or Republicans as we suppose they style themselves) do not issue a set of stamps for Lisbon, Oporto, and the other rebellious towns, we may yet find that the upheaval of the past few days will leave no mark on philately's page.

Such an event, however, is not at all likely, the idea of a Portuguese Republic seems to fit in with the ideas of the majority of the Portuguese; and the loyalists, although fairly numerous, are without a leader.

At the time of writing the new Republic has been proclaimed in three of the colonies, namely the Azores, in Goa, and in Lourenço Marques, in all places the new régime was announced and received with general rejoicing.

The Portuguese have been patient under many years of Monarchical rule. They have been exploited and abused, and it can therefore come as no surprize that many of the best thinkers and workers in Portugal have combined to make an end of an almost intolerable state of things.

It remains to be seen whether the Revolutionaries can better the state of affairs. It

is most likely that they have not forgotten how the Brazilians set their house in order. Rio Janeiro and Lisbon are in close touch, and the Republican movement which overthrew Emperor Dom Pedro was so successful that possibly it is now having an effect, after many years, in the mother country.

In these notes, however, we must try and confine ourselves to the purely philatelic view of the situation. Granted that the Revolutionaries are by now entirely successful and the establishment of a Portuguese Republic *un fait accompli* it stands to reason that we may look forward to an issue of stamps not bearing the effigy of King Manuel. Fortunately, from a philatelic point of view, only one of the Colonies, Azores, has followed the mother country in issuing a set of stamps with the young King's head.

For a precedent, no doubt French stamps will offer an illustration of what we may expect; in all likelihood the current stamps will not be overprinted but will be replaced, as soon as possible by a new issue bearing an emblematic design.

To take a retrospective view of the stamps of Portugal we find that they form a most interesting group, while they abound in those varieties so dear to the specialist's heart. The first issue took place in 1853, whilst Queen Maria was still holding the guiding reins of Portugal's destiny, consequently, the four values, which in those days were considered sufficient for postal needs, all bear her effigy. In 1855, the same values appeared bearing the so-called likeness of King Pedro V.

In 1862, owing to the death of King Pedro in 1861, we find another issue of stamps, this time with a new value, the 10r., included, all bearing the effigy of the new ruler, King Luiz. These stamps, with many changes of design, were in use until 1891 or 2, when the issue bearing the portrait of the recently murdered King Carlos was put into circulation. These stamps, so familiar to even the youngest and newest of collectors, were not replaced until January of this year when King Manuel, the boy King, now a fugitive from his own country, had his portrait on the fourteen values now in use.

On glancing back at Portugal's philatelic history, it is interesting to note that all her stamps, with the exception of two Commemorative sets, have been produced in Lisbon. Of engravers, she has had many, notably, M. Mouchon, of Paris, and M. Wiener, of Brussels. Like many other European countries, Portugal was slow to follow the lead of England when that country introduced the perforating machine, but, nevertheless, she provides us with an entirely original variation of separation, namely, rouletting by the means of cross cuts, or, as more familiarly known to collectors, as *percé en croix*.

Unfortunately, many of the early stamps of Portugal have been reprinted; fortunately, however, some of these reprints are of considerable rarity, so they are not likely to bother collectors. The recent issues have also been reprinted, some sets being made to the order of King Manuel, but these are not likely to worry the general collector, while the advanced specialist with his special knowledge will be able to discriminate.

From this brief review it will be seen that during the past sixty years there have been five rulers of Portugal, all of whom descend to posterity through the medium of the stamp album, if by no other means.

At first glance the catalogue of Portuguese stamps seems rather overwhelming, but on closer inspection we find that many of the varieties are due to the use of three distinct perforating machines. Two other machines were in use for a short time, but stamps from them are very scarce. Although three machines were in constant use for many years, no such thing as a stamp showing compound perforations is known; this is due to the whole pane of stamps being perforated at one operation.

The more recent issues however offer more scope for perforation varieties, especially the three Commemorative sets, and the current King Manuel stamps. Of the Commemoratives it is interesting to note that the most picturesque were printed and perforated by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons of London.

What the future will bring forth it is impossible to predict—possibly make-shift "provisionals" for both the mother country and the numerous colonies. Regarding the latter, it

is interesting to note that Portugal possesses one of the four greatest Colonial Empires of the world.

This fact will come less as a surprise to philatelists than to non-collectors.

Those who have a liking for geographical and historical details will find a most fascinating article in the *Daily Telegraph* for October 8th, wherein is set out in detail a list of the Portuguese Colonies and many interesting particulars relating to them. I am deeply indebted to this article.

Portugal, a mere strip of land, less than a third the size of the United Kingdom, has not so many inhabitants as London. Surely this should excite the imagination of stamp collectors and non stamp collectors alike!

The following extract is so full of references familiar to philatelists, that there is no apology needed for its inclusion in these pages, and it would almost seem that a philatelist had contributed it to the columns of our leading daily paper.

The Portuguese Colonies were well won. They are the fruit of centuries of splendid enterprise and daring unsurpassed in all the history of European seamen. Prince Henry the Navigator and his fifteenth century captains who set out to discover a way to India by sea did discover the wealth of the Guinea coast in West Africa. It was a greater triumph when Vasco da Gama doubled the Cape of Good Hope, and after a year's perilous voyaging anchored off the Indian coast. For that adventurous journey brought rich gain to all the Western world. To Vasco da Gama Portugal owes her Colonial possessions in India, China, and the Malay Archipelago. To the sea captains who, following in his wake, explored the coasts of Mozambique and Madagascar she is indebted for the wide extent of Portuguese East Africa. That it was a Portuguese sailor who discovered Brazil and a Portuguese who first visited the River Plate is still worth record, though for many a year Portugal has owned no part of her once vast territories in South America.

Her possessions in the Eastern hemisphere suffice to make her the fourth of Colonial Powers. England, of course, stands first without a competitor, even though we exclude India from the calculation, but Portugal's place is by no means inconsiderable. The figures are interesting:

	Area of Colonial Empire.	Population.
England ...	9,438,900 sq. miles ...	49,581,000
France ...	4,000,000 ,, ...	40,000,000
Germany ...	1,000,000 ,, ...	13,000,000
Portugal ...	800,000 ,, ...	9,144,000

As accuracy with regard to the African territories of Portugal is impossible, the total given is the lowest estimate.

The importance to our South African dominion of Delagoa Bay, the natural port of the Transvaal, has made the East African

territory the most familiar to us of all the Portuguese colonies. Delagoa Bay is the finest natural harbour in South Africa. It is only fifty-two miles from the Transvaal border and less than 300 from Pretoria. Ever since the Transvaal was colonised, it has inevitably been a place of the first significance to South African trade and government. In 1868 the Transvaal laid claim to it, and, in reply, England and Portugal set up counter pretensions. The dispute was referred to the arbitration of President MacMahon, who gave his award in favour of Portugal.

One other port in the East African territory is of high importance to British trade. Beira, some 400 miles due north of Delagoa Bay, is connected by railway and telegraph with Salisbury and Bulawayo, and serves as an outlet for much of the trade of Matabeleland and Rhodesia. Though its imports are, as compared with Delagoa Bay's figures, of minor importance, its exports are far larger, to the value in 1908 of some £300,000.

By what we can only consider as a strange oversight the *Daily Telegraph* makes no mention of the Azores, that group of islands in the North Atlantic, so well known to stamp collectors. Not only have we the general issue of Portugal from 1866, to the Prince Henry Commemoratives of 1894 overprinted for use in the islands but we have separate issues for the islands (or towns) of Angra, Horta (capital of Fayal Island), and Ponta Delgada (São Miguel Island). No mention either is made of the island of Madeira, where again collectors are familiar with the overprinted stamps of the mother country.

Resuming our extract we find that Portuguese East Africa has a coast-line of 1,430 miles, bounded on the north by German and on the south by English territory. Its chief products are vegetable oils of various kinds, indiarubber, wax, gums, coffee, and tobacco. In the north gold mining is carried on, mainly by British subjects. The territory there is administrated under Royal charter by the Mozambique Company. The rest of the Colony is under a Governor-General appointed for three years, who resides at Lourenço Marques, the town of Delagoa Bay. He is advised by a council of officials and representatives elected by the commercial, industrial and agricultural classes, and has to support his authority an army of 3,000 men, chiefly natives. The Colony is to a large extent undeveloped territory, and even imperfectly explored. It is estimated at 300,000 square miles, with a population of 3,000,000, but the figures should be taken with some reserve.

The attention of English people has lately been directed to another of the African possessions of Portugal, San Thomé and Príncipe. From these islands comes one-fifth of the world's supply of cocoa. As the consumption of cocoa is annually increasing in every part

of the world, the economic importance of the islands is obvious. They are situated in the Gulf of Guinea, and though their area is only 454 square miles they exported goods to the value of nearly £1,500,000 in the last year for which the statistics are available. This remarkable total is due to the extraordinary fertility of the island soil and to the valuable nature of the crops cultivated—cocoa, coffee, rubber, and cinchona.

The servile labour of the "Cocoa Islands" comes, for the most, part from Angola, one of the oldest and largest of the Portuguese colonies. It occupies the territory south of the Congo Free State and north of the territory in South-West Africa which has given Germany so much trouble. It is supposed to be some half-million square miles in area, with 5,000,000 inhabitants, but the figures are to be received with caution. The greater part of the country is still in the hands of the native tribes, and its undeveloped character may be seen from the fact that there are less than 400 miles of railway in operation. A line of more than 1,200 miles in length is, however, under construction, from the coast to Katanga, where there are rich copper mines.

The remaining African colonies of Portugal, Portuguese Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands, call for little consideration. The islands are chiefly important by reason of the coaling station at St. Vincent, a half-way house between the Canary Islands and Brazil or West African ports. The population is less than 150,000, the majority being negroes. Portuguese Guinea is a small colony of 4,400 square miles, about the mouth of the Rio Grande, encompassed on the land side by the French Senegambian provinces. It produces some considerable quantity of rubber.

Though the Portuguese were pioneers in the European discovery or rediscovery of Asia their Asian possessions have always been small. In India Portugal owns two towns, with one small island appertaining thereto. Goa is a town with a past, but there are no signs that it is to have a great future. It was once the seat of a huge trade, but has now fallen into decay. Goa lies south of Bombay, on the Malabar coast, far away from Damao, the other Portuguese town, which is 100 miles north of Bombay. One hundred and forty miles from Damao is Diu, a small island, which also flies the Portuguese flag. All three places manufacture salt, and Goa and Damao have some transit trade with the interior of British India.

The one Chinese possession of Portugal is Macao, an island at the mouth of the Canton River, with two smaller islands close by. The whole population is about 80,000, nearly all of whom are Chinese. The trade is chiefly in transit to the mainland, for the whole area of the islands is only five square miles. Macao has, however, the distinction of being one of the few Portuguese colonies with a surplus.

Of this it has to contribute some portion to the most remote of the colonies of Portugal, Timor. This consists of a part of an island at the southern extremity of the Malay Archipelago. It exports coffee in some quantity, but the island is quite undeveloped, and to Europeans almost unknown. Like the greater part of Portugal's great inheritance it is the fallow land of Empire.

All the geographical and historical names in the above very lengthy extract are so familiar to stamp collectors that there is little for us to add. In the case of Delagoa Bay, however, we are more accustomed to use the name Lourenzo Marques, while Mozambique, Nyassa, Zambesia and Inhambane (a town

and district 200 miles N.E. of Delagoa Bay) are more homely to us than the comprehensive title of Portuguese East Africa. A perusal of the 1911, Part II. of Gibbons' Catalogue, will soon reveal the various dates of issue of the stamps issued in the Portuguese possessions, we have not room in these columns, especially after such generous extracts, to refer to them. Generally speaking, the stamps of Portugal and Colonies are of great interest, especially if we ignore the commemorative sets and a good many of the unnecessarily overprinted issues, while to the collector who aims at completeness they offer a very difficult problem to solve.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Australian Commonwealth.** Mr. J. H. Smyth kindly sends us the following extract from the *Sydney Sun*, of August 27th.

MELBOURNE, Saturday.

The Federal Government proposes to introduce a uniform system of stamps for postage payments. On January 1st next the present stocks of stamps in hand will be superimposed with the words Commonwealth of Australia. They will then carry a letter throughout any portion of the Commonwealth. As soon as the stocks in hand have been used up, there will be a new issue with a Commonwealth design. A penny rate will not necessarily be introduced throughout the Commonwealth, but Mr. Fisher hopes it will not be long delayed. He stated that the introduction of penny postage within those States which at present charged twopence for country letters was hardly worth bothering about, and that when action is taken it will be in the direction of introducing a uniform minimum postage of one penny throughout the Commonwealth. He hopes this will be preparatory to a uniform charge of one penny throughout the Empire.

In his covering letter Mr. Smyth says;—

The accompanying extract from the *Sun*, Sydney, 27th August, may interest your readers. It has since transpired that the overprint may be the word "Australia" only. There is already an outcry by philatelists at the innovation, and there is a possibility that representations may be made to the Postmaster-General on the subject. It will be pointed out that there is ample time between now and the 1st January to prepare a new

issue and that the extra printing of the word "Australia" on the stamps will be an unnecessary expense.

**Barbados.** From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we learn that the current 5d. and 10d. stamps are to be withdrawn at the end of the year. Any remaining will be destroyed.

**Cook Islands.** We extract the following from the *Australian Philatelist*.

Mr. A. R. D. Watson has sent us for inspection a vertical pair of 1d. black first type, imperforated between. The top of the upper stamp and the bottom of the lower stamp are perforated.

1d. black, variety, imperf. horizontally.

**Dominica.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following novelty.

Adhesive.

1/- black on green.

**Gibraltar.**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have now received the 4/- stamps printed in black with value in red on white paper. We do not think we have yet chronicled this variety.

Adhesive. King's Head.

Multiple CA watermark.

4/- black and red on white.

**Gilbert & Ellice Protectorate.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that "specimen" stamps for this group of islands have been distributed by the Postal Union.

Adhesives.

Overprinted on the current stamps of Fiji.

4d. green.

1d. red.

2d. grey.

24d. blue.

5d. violet and mauve.

6d. purple.

1/- black on green.

**Malta.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 5d. stamp printed in olive-green instead of vermilion. The change is pleasing.



*Adhesive.* Change of colour.  
Multiple wmk. ordinary paper.  
5d. olive-green.

**Malay States. Trengganu.** The *Colonial Office Journal* for October states that the new stamps for Trengganu have been supplied. The colours of the values mentioned in the *P.F.G.B.* for April last will conform to the new colour scheme. The values are 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20 and 50 cents and \$1.

**New South Wales.** The colour of the current 2d. stamps has been altered to a deep bright ultramarine.

*Adhesive.*  
Wmk. Cr. and A., perf. 12×11½.  
2d. deep bright ultramarine.

**Papua.** A correspondent informs us that he has the following variety in the current type:—

*Adhesive.*  
Wmk. Cr. and A. sideways, perf. 12½×11.  
2d. black and violet.

We make the following long extract from the August number of the *Australian Philatelist*.

We received from Port Moresby, on 23rd ult., another parcel of stamps, and an intimation that no change had, up till that date, been made in colours. The 23rd stamp, in all the values except the 2/6, shows the so-called "rift in clouds," probably caused by a workman drawing his finger nail across that number on the stone. One of our friends in Melbourne, who has been privileged to inspect the original plate, and the lithographic transfer on the stone, says that the "rift" does not now appear on either. Our informant is not quite clear on the point, but evidently one (black) centre is used for all values, and got worn out, with the result that a fresh transfer had to be prepared, from which the 2/6 values were printed. We understand that another printing of some values in two colours has since taken place—these do not show any rift. There is plenty of food here for speculation, we have just touched on the fringe of the subject.

"The recent and current perforations of the Papuan stamps" would make an article in itself. One of our correspondents in Auckland sends us for inspection several values. Some are perf. 11 (two sizes of holes) and some are 12½ (two sizes of holes), the latter are more distinct than the former. We would rather not chronicle these until the matter has been more fully investigated and the list is made complete.

Yellow gum has given place to white gum, the watermark on those with the former is mostly upright, and that on the latter horizontal.

**St. Vincent.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us a specimen of the re-engraved ¼d. stamp, with dot under the D.

*Adhesive.* Re-engraved.  
¼d. green.

**South African Commonwealth.** Miss Killick, of Johannesburg, very kindly sends us the following information:—

The special postage stamps which are to be used in commemoration of the Union of South Africa have now been despatched to Pretoria. The stamp is to be of the value of 2½d., and will be dark blue in colour. The head of King George makes the central figure, framed in an oval, and at the corners are the coats of arms of two of the old colonies, the Cape and Natal, and the shields of the late Republics of the Transvaal and the Free State. The preparation of a general set of postage stamps for use by the Union has not yet been put in hand, there still being a large stock of stamps of the respective colonies to be used up.

Messrs. Bright & Son also write us as follows:—

No doubt you are aware that any of the African stamps are interchangeable in any of the Union Countries; even V.R.I. Orange River Colony can be used.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Bosnia.** Mr. Charlick has shown us specimens of the 5 and 10h. pictorial stamps perforated 9½ and 10½ and 12½. Messrs. Nissen & Co. tell us they also have the 25h. and 35h. similarly treated. Doubtless these compounds all came from the same parcel.

*Adhesives.*  
Pictorial issue. Perf. 9½ and 10½ and 12½ compound.  
5 heller green.  
10 .. red.  
25 .. blue.  
35 .. blue-black.

**China.** Lt.-Col. Norris Newman sends us an interesting letter from Tientsin. In the course of his remarks he says:—

"Just a line to let you know that the I.C.P. Office has raised the rate of local (city) postage from 1 cent to 1½ cents for 10 grammes; and also the domestic (China) rate from 2 cents to 3 cents; so that we are to have two new stamps shortly, viz., a 1½ cents and an 8 cent, the latter being for the domestic rate and registration, because all foreigners and most Chinese register all letters passing through the I.C.P. Offices.

"As there is a shortage of ¼ cent stamps, there being no rate for this value, many are using a 1 cent and half of a 1 cent stamp for local postage, which duly pass the Post Office."

**Italy. Eritrea.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us a specimen of a newly issued pictorial stamp. This we suppose is a Commemorative, especially as it has a neat postmark and full gum. The design, however, is very pleasing.

Adhesive.  
25c. blue.

**Mexico.** We have received from a correspondent in Mexico City two stamps which we understand are part of a new set, issued to mark the Centenary of National Independence. We illustrate them herewith.



Adhesive.  
5c. orange.  
20c. red.

**Panama.** Messrs. Bright & Son kindly send us a specimen of the current 2½c. stamp handstamped "Retardo"—they say:—

"Our correspondent states that these were issued about the end of August as the ordinary 2½c. "Too late" stamps had all been used up, and these were used waiting a further supply from the United States. They are only likely to be in use a short time."



**Russian China.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

We have received a fresh supply from this place and find several new varieties amongst them, the 25 kopecs stamp is now printed in a pale emerald instead of deep green, the surcharge is also in blue instead of in red as before, a specimen of this is enclosed. The 14 kopecs blue and red and 15 kopecs purple and blue now have the surcharge in black and also have the diamond pattern of varnished lines which appear on the current Russian stamps, the 50 kopecs also has the varnished lines but there is no alteration in the surcharge, which is in blue.

**Salvador.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the 50c. uniform with the values chronicled last month. They also inform us they have the 100c. value, which completes the set.

Adhesives.  
50c. yellow and black  
100c. ?

We find we have neglected to list the following values—2c., 3c. and 10c.

**Sweden.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the first of the new official stamps, the 5 ore, and says two other values will be issued shortly.

Official Stamps. Perf. 13.  
5 ore green.  
10 .. carmine.  
30 .. brown.

**Switzerland.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. very kindly send us a set of the recently issued Postage Dues.



Postage Dues. Perf. 11½.  
1c blue-green and red.  
3c. " "  
5c. " "  
10c. " "  
15c. " "  
20c. " "  
25c. " "  
50c. " "

These stamps are on watermarked paper (Cross) but the watermark is usually difficult to detect.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS McTAVISH.

A writer in one of the weekly stamp papers, describing some fakes, says: "They have not withstood boiling for half-an-hour."

I don't suppose they did; in fact I know plenty of genuine stamps that wouldn't. One of these days we shall find dealers advertising packets of stamps guaranteed proof against two hours in the wash tub, while collapsible boilers, drawing room size, are already projected by one leading firm of tweezer makers.

A correspondent to the above mentioned paper wants to know whether a postmarked fiscal, which was known not to have paid postage, can be described as used, or unused. The editor of our contemporary seems to consider this a rather knotty conundrum.

Personally, I should class the inadvertently postmarked fiscal with the strip of four blue Ionian Islands, which became used by falling out of a hansom cab and getting run over by

**Malta.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 5d. stamp printed in olive-green instead of vermilion. The change is pleasing.



*Adhesive.* Change of colour.  
Multiple wmk. ordinary paper.  
5d. olive-green.

**Malay States. Trengganu.** The *Colonial Office Journal* for October states that the new stamps for Trengganu have been supplied. The colours of the values mentioned in the *P.F.G.B.* for April last will conform to the new colour scheme. The values are 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20 and 50 cents and \$1.

**New South Wales.** The colour of the current 2d. stamps has been altered to a deep bright ultramarine.

*Adhesive.*  
Wmk. Cr. and A., perf. 12 x 11½.  
2d. deep bright ultramarine.

**Papua.** A correspondent informs us that he has the following variety in the current type:—

*Adhesive.*  
Wmk. Cr. and A. sideways, perf. 12½ x 11.  
2d. black and violet.

We make the following long extract from the August number of the *Australian Philatelist*.

We received from Port Moresby, on 23rd ult., another parcel of stamps, and an intimation that no change had, up till that date, been made in colours. The 23rd stamp, in all the values except the 2/6, shows the so-called "rift in clouds," probably caused by a workman drawing his finger nail across that number on the stone. One of our friends in Melbourne, who has been privileged to inspect the original plate, and the lithographic transfer on the stone, says that the "rift" does not now appear on either. Our informant is not quite clear on the point, but evidently one (black) centre is used for all values, and got worn out, with the result that a fresh transfer had to be prepared, from which the 2/6 values were printed. We understand that another printing of some values in two colours has since taken place—these do not show any rift. There is plenty of food here for speculation, we have just touched on the fringe of the subject.

"The recent and current perforations of the Papuan stamps" would make an article in itself. One of our correspondents in Auckland sends us for inspection several values. Some are perf. 11 (two sizes of holes) and some are 12½ (two sizes of holes), the latter are more distinct than the former. We would rather not chronicle these until the matter has been more fully investigated and the list is made complete.

Yellow gum has given place to white gum, the watermark on those with the former is mostly upright, and that on the latter horizontal.

**St. Vincent.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us a specimen of the re-engraved ½d. stamp, with dot under the D.

*Adhesive.* Re-engraved.  
½d. green.

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25c. blue.

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30 " brown.

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3c. " "  
5c. " "  
10c. " "  
15c. " "  
20c. " "  
25c. " "  
50c. " "

These stamps are on watermarked paper (Cross) but the watermark is usually difficult to detect.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

A writer in one of the weekly stamp papers, describing some fakes, says: "They have not withstood boiling for half-an-hour."

I don't suppose they did; in fact I know plenty of genuine stamps that wouldn't. One of these days we shall find dealers advertising packets of stamps guaranteed proof against two hours in the wash tub, while collapsible boilers, drawing room size, are already projected by one leading firm of tweezer makers.

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Personally, I should class the inadvertently postmarked fiscal with the strip of four blue Ionian Islands, which became used by falling out of a hansom cab and getting run over by

a Putney bus. What I should like to know is this: If the Editor of a well known stamp paper worried a post-office clerk, until the clerk lost his temper and hit the well known Editor of the well known weekly paper, with a well-inked cancelling stamp, would the well known Editor become a used Afghanistan postage stamp?

Last month H.H. the Editor of the *P.J.G.B.* went to Berne; what for I don't know. Unfortunately, he described some of the exhibits; amongst others, Mr. Pack's superb Brazils, which he considered of note because of "the inclusion of so many mint copies of used pairs." I hope in Vienna next year they will have the refreshment room at some distance from the stamp exhibits; at Berne it was too handy.

Mr. Eustace B. Power, writing in *G.S.W.*, says: "In Paris I was nearly killed by the taxi-drivers, in London by too many eight course dinners, and in Sing-sing by the want of them." Like the one and only Eustace I, too, have been nearly killed by the Parisian drivers, who bowl you over and hoot afterwards. A good remedy, however, against the ill-effects of eight course dinners, is to limit them to seven courses and a little soup. Sing-sing I haven't paid a visit to yet, although I am sure many of my readers would only be too pleased to have me there. Does an ex-resident of Sing-sing become a Singer? If so, does E.B.P. like singing lessons?

A writer in the current number of the *Captain*, that most excellent monthly magazine for boys, says, writing about stamp bargains, that he has "come across nice lots at auction sales," one lot in particular which cost only three or four shillings, contained "magnificent specimens of the first issue of Victoria, including the 2d. lilac with fine background and fine border." The writer of this reminiscence owns up to being aged *fifteen!* Perhaps he is the same youthful enthusiast who ran me up for a lot of Natal's at the Anderton's Hotel stamp auctions in the autumn of 1895.

I see in the *S.C.F.* it stated that "Messrs. Bright & Son, for a long time past, have been advertising in successive numbers of the *S.C.F.* for stamps of various countries, some of them quite ordinary, not to say common, varieties; yet they get little or no response from collectors."

This is certainly one of the things the *advertisement* manager of the *S.C.F.* would have put differently.

The *S.C.F.*, resuming the subject, says, "Almost invariably the lots they do receive are sent in by dealers."

I don't wonder at this, the remaining ten collectors of Great Britain must be too busy returning dealers' and collector-dealers' selections, to have any time to look out their duplicates; what will happen, when the gallant

ten turn dealers in sheer self defence, I don't know.

Auction catalogues are sometimes weird things, especially when they describe a stamp as being "a fine used copy full gum," but when they come to describing Natal stamps as measuring 30x32mm., I think it time to protest. In a few years time we shall probably read as follows:—

Lot 1709. Twenty fine postmarked copies of the rare Gilbert & Ellice £25. Average weight of specimens '0597 oz., average size 72x104mm. Photos, and copies of full references of previous owners given. Stud numbers 178569a. to 178588a. Medical certificates given with eighteen of these stamps. Nos. 1 to 7 have green gum, 8 to 10 purple gum, the remainder a delicate puce. Average thickness of gum '0763, etc., etc., etc.

I see that Messrs. Rapkin & Son have brought out a machine for gauging the perforations of a stamp; it also combines a watermark detector, a magnifying glass, and a deep well for mounts. The operator places the stamp in position and turns a handle until the gauge with the correct perforation turns up.

I think the idea a capital one, future patents should have a musical box attached; also a lawn mower, a cistafle, a vacuum cleaner and a foot warmer. Anyway, a deep well seems a dampish sort of place to keep stamp mounts in.

What is also needed is a stamp mount that whistles when it has been licked more than twenty times. I don't mean a continuously whistling mount, that would be too dreadful, but a common or garden peelable that would gently whistle when it was licked for the twenty-first time.

Possibly some collectors don't see the need for this—some because they remount every fresh stamp—others, because they have no sense of taste or smell, but I think the idea a good one, provided the new mounts were no thicker than those now in use.

A contributor to the *S.C.F.* says, referring to the 2 kr. Austrian stamp, but mentioning no price, that "One would think that a fine specimen of the last-mentioned should be worth all that is asked for it."

I think likewise, and have marked my 183 duplicates at 12/7 each. The trouble seems to find somebody to buy them.

*Meeke's Weekly Stamp News* for Sept. 24th, 1910, contains the following:—

"The Editorial of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for August, encourages the collector of stamps with dated postmarks on their face."

Poor chaps, they would want a little encouragement.



## October, 1910, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWABACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

*Committee:*

J. E. JOSLIN. MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E. W. E. LINCOLN.  
A. B. KAY. F. F. LAMB. P. L. PEMBERTON.  
GUY SEMPLE, E. W. WETHERELL.

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.,  
11, Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW,  
Grove Park, Lec, Kent.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING,  
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Walbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are *ex-officio* Members of the Committee.

### 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 was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, Oct. 13, when there were present J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwartz, Guy Semple, A. B. Kay, F. F. Lamb, P. L. Pemberton, and the Hon. Sec. Mr. P. L. Pemberton read an interesting paper on the stamps of the Oil Rivers and Niger Coast, the interest of which was enhanced by a display of these stamps by the President. A hearty vote of thanks to both gentlemen concluded a pleasant evening—(the paper will be found on another page).

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall

on Thursday, Nov. 10, 7.30 p.m., when Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg will give a display with notes of the stamps of Queensland.

The remainder of the Programme for the Season is as follows:—

Nov. 14.—Smoking Concert at the Horseshoe Restaurant, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.  
Dec. 8.—Display, British Guiana, British Honduras, and Falkland Islands. E. Heginbottom, B.A.

1911.

Jan. 12.—Display, Brazil and Uruguay; Postage Stamps, A. H. L. Giles, R.N.; Fiscal Stamps, W. Schwabacher.

Feb. 9.—Display, Colombia. T. W. Hall.

Mar. 9.—Display with Notes, Servia. J. H. Abbott.

Apr. 6.—Paper, illustrated by Reference Collection, "Great Britain, the Stamps and Entires of King Edward's Reign." L. W. Fulcher, B.Sc.

Display: Great Britain Early 1d. and 2d., Officials, &c., E. Heginbottom, B.A.

May 11.—Annual General Meeting, and Displays of 12 stamps, with Notes by Members present.

N.B.—Members are urgently requested to support the Committee in making these Meetings a success, by attending as many as possible, bringing with them any Visitors, who will be welcome.

The Hon. Librarian acknowledges with thanks a box of Catalogues, etc., from Mr. A. Levy, and *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, monthly, from Mons. A. Lemaire, Paris.

Dr. Marx has started the October packet and on the opening of the season desires increased support from members to make this section a success.

DEATH.—The death of the Rev. Conrad Banckaert, an old and esteemed member, is announced with much regret.

EXHIBITIONS.—Hearty congratulations are due to the following members for successes gained at BERNE:—L. L. R. Hausburg, Esq., Grand Prix (Cup) for Victoria; F. Reichenheim, Esq., Diplomas of Honour for France, Argentine Centennial, Buenos Aires; A. H. Tanner, Esq., Silver Medal for General Collections of Postage and Revenue Stamps, and Bronze Medal for General Collection of Telegraph Stamps.

The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive any proposals for Membership, also further donations to the Forgery Collection which is on view at all meetings of the Society.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

Oct. 14th, 1910.

Few stamps are more interesting than the early stamps of Queensland and Gt. Britain. Collectors, therefore, have a splendid opportunity early next month, when Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg and Mr. G. A. Higlett show portions of their collections before the I.P.U. and the City of London Philatelic Societies respectively. Visitors welcome.

## City of London Philatelic Society.

### Honorary Presidents:

J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, Esq., B.A., W. B. EDWARDS, Esq.,  
B.Sc.

### President:

J. R. BURTON, Esq., F.R.P.S.L.

### Vice-Presidents:

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, Esq., H. W. WESTCOTT, Esq.,  
J. A. LEON, Esq.

### Honorary Exchange Superintendent:

A. G. KERRISON, 143, Culverly Road, Catford.

### Hon. Counterfeit Detector:

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

### Hon. Librarian:

H. V. BRAND, 8, Broad Street Station, E.C.

### Hon. Secretary:

D. H. JACKSON, 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green, N.

### Hon. Treasurer:

W. H. EASTWOOD, 169, Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, N.

### Committee:

Messrs. BRAND, BURTON, CAMROUX, CONSTANTINIDES,  
W. H. EASTWOOD, GOWER, G. A. HIGLETT, JACKSON,  
KERRISON, LEON, SEPI, AND WESTCOTT.

### Publication Committee:

Messrs. BURTON, CONSTANTINIDES, AND EDWARDS.

### Official Organ:

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,

14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.

(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

THE opening meeting of the season was held at Mills' Restaurant, Liverpool Street, on the 12th, and in spite of the inclement weather a goodly number of members assembled at what proved to be a very pleasant réunion.

The President, Mr. John R. Burton, was in the chair, and, after various formal business had been disposed of, including the election of nine new members, gave an address dealing with the work of the past session and the possibilities of the forthcoming one both as regards the City of London Society and Philately at large. The President touched upon a number of subjects in a lighthearted manner.

The value of the City of London Society to the medium collector, who has passed the stage of juniorship, but has not yet attained to the dignity of being a full blown "Mogul," but is none the less anxious to do serious spade work in new directions such as the investigation of issues hitherto not thoroughly studied, was insisted upon. The accessibility and comfort of the Society's quarters at Mills' Restaurant, in Liverpool Street, combined with the hour of philatelic friendship which precedes each meeting, was a reason, why not only should the London membership be larger, but also that the existing members should attend more frequently.

The forthcoming Congress at Birmingham was referred to and the necessity for philatelic

federation emphasised. Mention was made of the Syllabus for the forthcoming session, particular attention being drawn to the new ground to be covered by some of the members, and the opportunities offered to all members by the carefully arranged competitions.

The speaker had the meeting with him when commending the Colonial Secretary's circular to the Governors and Postmasters of the Crown Colonies, and also when denouncing the want of patriotism evinced by Australia, which throughout the late King's reign printed only two stamps bearing his effigy, and these, the £1 and £2 Victoria, which, owing to their high value, are practically inaccessible to the ordinary collector.\*

The possible South American boom was rather welcomed, there being such a large field for exploration in the issues of the Southern Continent, and a note was made of the many changes amongst the rulers of the Sovereign States of the world, such as in Norway, Belgium, Turkey, Korea, and latest of all—Portugal. The chief interest, however, would undoubtedly now centre in the forthcoming issues of the British Empire. The work of the new stamp producers for the Government will be eagerly awaited. It is a matter of speculation whether they will secure also the orders for the Crown Colonies. In any case, Messrs. De la Rue & Co. will most likely have a large plant partly idle, which may lead them to enter into competition with Messrs. Waterlow, the American Bank Note Co., and other firms, for the stamp printing trade of countries, for whose business they have not hitherto competed; we may thus, in the next few years, see a great number of quite new styles and issues all over the world.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9th, when Mr. G. A. Higlett will give a paper and display, "Great Britain, 1d. and 2d., of 1840"; and there will be a competitive display of "Independent Asiatic States," i.e., countries now independent of European control, such as Afghanistan, Siam, China and Japan, and not States comprised within the Indian Empire.

Will members kindly note the dates of meetings in their diaries, and bring new issues and new discoveries and interesting pieces to display each month. At the first meeting many rare and interesting things were shown, including Great Britain, errors of letters in corners (Mr. Higlett) The Club-Foot Lion 1st Issue of Norway in a magnificent pair (Mr. Séfi); Rare French "Used Abroads" in Levant, Rome, (Austrian War), Mexico, &c., (Messrs. Homsey and Higlett); newly discovered perfs. of Luxemburg and Turkey (Mr. Edwards); New Zealand Automatic Stamp (Mr. Camroux), &c., &c.

\* Australian papers please copy.

# Papers for Moderate Specialists.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

## No. XIV.—NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

THE geography of the British Colonies around the delta of the river Niger has always been rather a puzzle to the average collector and it becomes even more so to anyone who takes a cursory look at a map. One has to study several maps, of different dates, and hunt up various topographical authorities, before one can get a fair idea of how the colonies which are now known as Northern and Southern Nigeria were formerly split up.

In the year 1892, when the Niger Coast Protectorate (then called the Oil Rivers Protectorate) first issued stamps, the basin and delta of the Nile was divided into two separate portions, of which the Protectorate was administered under a Governor by the home Government, and the other by a private trading company, known as the Royal Niger Company, which had been granted a charter. Of these two territories the largest and most important was that of the Company, which, though it had an area of 500,000 square miles and an estimated population of 30,000,000, issued no stamps of its own.

As the correspondence from this region was conducted entirely by the officials of the Company and by a missionary society, there was not a very great demand for stamps, and this demand was met by the use of uncharged stamps of Great Britain of the 1887 issue, which were employed under some arrangement with the British Post Office. There were apparently only three post offices in the whole territory, namely, at Akassa, Burutu and Lokoja. Stamps bearing these obliterations are by no means common; the postmarks used were very distinctive and were generally struck in violet, for which reason they may easily be mistaken, when only a small part of the obliteration can be seen, for fiscal cancellations. A full account of these cancellations with illustrations was published in this Journal in April, 1907. The territory of the Royal Niger Company extended up the basin of the Niger to the town of Say, (more than half-way to Timbuctoo), and also up the basin of the Niger's great tributary the Benue, as far as the town of Yola. The delta of the Niger which is composed of twenty different rivers, was divided between the Company and the Protectorate, though the most important of them, namely, those between the left bank of the river Forcados and the right bank of the river Brass, which includes the principal mouth of the Niger which is called the Nun, belonged to the Company.

The territory of the Protectorate comprised the west of the Nile delta from the Forcados to the boundary of the Colony of Lagos and the east of the delta from the Brass river to the Rio del Rey. It will thus be seen that the Protectorate was cut right in two by the territory of the Chartered Company.

On the 28th of December, 1899, the Company was bought out by the Imperial Government and its territory being joined to that of the Protectorate the whole region was re-named Nigeria and divided into the Colonies of Northern and Southern Nigeria. At a later date the Colony of Lagos was merged into that of Southern Nigeria and thus the geography of the district becomes much easier to understand.

THE first issue of stamps was made in July, 1892. Though the Philatelic Society's book on Africa, Part III., queries the month, it is generally agreed to be correct—at any rate, no used copies with an earlier date have been recorded. They were first described in the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Zeitung* in August of that year, from specimens which had been sent to the Post Office Museum at Berlin. Speaking from memory, I believe it was several months before the dealers could get any large supplies of the stamps, and I recollect that for several months used copies of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. were retailed at from 1/6 to 2/6 each, and the higher values at commensurately higher prices. Office boys in the merchants' offices in Liverpool and Manchester, whence most of the trade with the Oil Rivers went, probably have more lively recollections of the time than I!

The stamps were the then current adhesives of Great Britain, overprinted in black with the words "British Protectorate" in two lines at top, and "Oil Rivers" in one line at foot, all in *sans serif* capitals. The values were  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 5d. and 1/-.

In an article in *The Philatelic Record* for March, 1901, by the late Mr. Nankivell, we learn that the numbers of each value overprinted were as follows:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	50,000	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	72,500
1d.	50,000	5d.	36,000
2d.	42,000	1/-	11,000

Total, 261,500.

The following table, which is taken from the same source, shows how the stamps were distributed among the various post-offices of the Protectorate, and should be of interest to those who collect the various postmarks:—

	Old Calabar	Benin	Bonny	Brass	Opobo	Wari
½d.	10,000	7,500	10,000	7,500	7,500	7,500
1d.	10,000	7,500	10,000	7,500	7,500	7,500
2d.	8,000	6,500	8,000	6,500	6,500	6,500
2½d.	32,000	7,500	10,000	7,500	7,500	7,500
5d.	8,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
1/-	2,000	1,500	2,000	1,500	1,500	1,500

It will be noticed that Old Calabar, the principal town, received the lion's share of the ½d. value, while as to the other values a similar number of each was apportioned between Old Calabar and Bonny; the other four stations were treated exactly alike, though they received fewer of the four lowest values. As the postmarks are generally distinct and always bear the name of the town, it would be an interesting task for a collector to get together six complete sets. Although Benin, Brass, Opobo and Wari all received the same number of stamps, those bearing the postmark of Wari are, in my experience, much rarer than any of the others. Specialists will also find that the postmarks vary in type and that some of them occur in red ink. Stamps bearing the ship's postmark "PAID—LIVERPOOL—PACKET, with date, in four horizontal lines, within a circle, are also often met with.

Blocks of four, unused, are still obtainable, in all values, and the issue presents no difficulties if taken unused. The overprinting was done by Messrs. De la Rue, and consequently reveals no errors.

#### THE PROVISIONALS OF 1893.

This series of stamps is a heart-breaking one for the advanced specialist and is hopeless from the point of view of the "moderate specialist," as it contains several stamps of which only one or two specimens are known. As completeness is therefore out of the question, I advise my readers not to let the existence of these stamps deter them from collecting the commoner varieties. I know one or two very nice collections in which these stamps are ignored altogether. I should, however, advise collectors to take any of the varieties he may be able to afford in order to show the types.

In spite of the storm of indignation which the appearance of these surcharges aroused among all classes of philatelists when they were first issued, the question whether they were issued as a philatelic speculation or not is now rarely raised and certainly troubles no one. They may be said to have lived down the odium which was heaped upon them at birth. It is also a curious fact that, in spite of the outcry that greeted their appearance, they were eagerly bought from the first and the high prices which they soon commanded have held very firm ever since.

The first of the tribe was the *half-penny* on half of the 1d. lilac, issued September 3rd, 1893. Whatever may be the true history of

the later ones there is no doubt that this was produced to supply a real demand. The surcharge consisted of a vertical line from the upper right to the lower left corner, with the value "½d.," on either side of the line. The surcharge was hand-stamped, and on the first sheet the top row of twelve stamps were struck in violet ink; this apparently was not considered a suitable colour, so the rest of the sheet was done in vermilion, as also were the other three sheets which constituted the whole of the issue. The total numbers of these two varieties were, therefore, as follows:

½d. in vermilion on half of 1d., 1896.  
 ½d. ,, violet " " 24.

The latter figures will show my readers quite clearly that the stamp to which they relate will not trouble them very much unless they are willing to spend £30 on it, that being the last quotation I heard of for a copy.

As might be expected from a hand-struck surcharge, inverted and double examples are known, though these are exceedingly scarce. The Philatelic Society's book records, on the authority of Mr. C. W. Perryman, that an entire sheet has been seen in which the third and ninth stamps in the third row had the dividing line from left to right.

A month or two later, namely, in December, 1893, more halfpenny stamps were wanted and the difficulty was overcome by surcharging twenty sheets of the 2d. and 2½d. of the first issue. At the same time more 1/- stamps were required and these were supplied by surcharging the 2d. of the first issued with the required value. Some 5/- and 10/- stamps were furnished in the same way and a few 20/- stamps were made from the 1/- value. For an account of these I cannot do better than quote at length from the Philatelic Society's book which presents the history in as concise and clear a way as possible.

"For the Halfpenny the printer had sufficient stamps sent him to make £5 worth, *i.e.* 2,450, or 20 sheets of 120 stamps each. There being no printing press in the country, the only means of making the surcharges was by using the different types from a small box of printer's materials, which was kept for printing the Governor's 'menus' and such small articles. All the surcharges were struck by hand by natives. The two sheets first surcharged of the Two Pence Halfpenny contained mixed types of the surcharge 'Half Penny' in various colours, as samples to choose from, but both of these were sent to the Post Office with the remaining eighteen sheets (as all the £5 worth of stamps had to be accounted for) and the stamps from all the twenty sheets were sold in the ordinary way of business over the counter."

"For the One Shilling, three, or some say four, sheets of the Two Pence of Issue I., *i.e.*, 360 or 480 stamps were used. The first of these had the surcharge 'One Shilling' struck

in vermilion on some of the stamps, in violet on others, while eight of the stamps were surcharged in black, and some of the surcharges were struck inverted or sideways. One of the other sheets was surcharged entirely in violet, and another sheet had all the surcharges struck in vermilion. About the same period a small number of three other provisional stamps of the value of Five Shillings, Ten Shillings, and Twenty Shillings was made by surcharging '5/-' , '10/-' , and '20/-' respectively on the Two Pence, Five Pence, and One Shilling stamps of Issue 1. Of the first, twenty-eight specimens are said to have been made with the surcharge in violet; of the second, thirty-two specimens with the surcharge in vermilion; while of the Twenty Shillings only eight specimens were made; of these, five had the surcharges in violet, two had it struck in vermilion, while on one specimen the surcharge was in black. Besides the surcharged value all the five provisionals have a surcharged bar cancelling the original value of the stamps. These surcharged stamps were duly authorised and issued by the then Postmaster-General, who was not a philatelist, and as long as stamps were obtained no notice was taken of the colour or type of the surcharge."

The Half Penny surcharge was struck in four varieties of type, namely, *sans-serif* capitals, italics with capital initials, fancy ornamental capitals and italic capitals. The changes were rung on seven different coloured inks, namely, vermilion, carmine, green, blue, violet, black and bluish black. The *sans-serif* capitals type is found in all these colours, the next two types in five of them, the black and bluish-black being missed, and the fourth (*italic capitals*), in green and vermilion only.

(To be continued.)

## The North London Philatelic Society.

1910-11.

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SYLLABUS, 1910-1911.

Oct. 6.—Opening Night. President's Evening.

Oct. 20.—Paper and Display, "British Curiosities" & "English used abroad." D. Thompson.

Nov. 3.—Informal Meeting. (See Note 1).

Nov. 17.—Paper & Display, "Postage Stamp Printers and their Work," by Alexander J. Séfi.

Dec. 1.—Members' Display: Postcards and Postal Stationery.

Dec. 15.—Paper & Display, "Farthing Stamps or their equivalents of the world," by Miss E. M. Merrington.

Jan. 5.—Informal Meeting. (See Note 1).

Jan. 19.—Paper and Display, "British Guiana from '76, British Honduras, and Falkland Isles," by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

Paper, "Automatic Franking," A. R. Maisey.

Feb. 2.—Members' Display, "South American States." (See Note 2).

Feb. 16.—

March 2.—Informal Meeting. (See Note 1).

March 16.—Paper and Display, "Ceylon and Hong Kong, by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L. Paper, "A Comparison between Gibbons' 1887 and 1911 Catalogues," by A. W. Merrington.

April 6.—Members' Display, "France." (See Note 2).

April 20.—Display, "Colonials," by J. C. Sidebotham.

May 4.—Informal Meeting. (See Note 1).

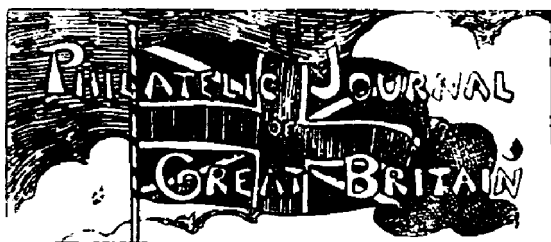
May 18.—Annual General Meeting.

Note 1.—These meetings have been arranged on the recommendation of the Annual General Meeting. Members are requested to bring anything interesting in the way of discoveries, new issues, etc., or short articles from Philatelic Papers.

Note 2.—Members are requested to bring their collections of these countries, however small. The Committee will award a diploma on each Member's Display, not necessarily to the largest collection, but for points, as, completeness, condition, neatness in arrangement, &c.

After all the business had been transacted Mr. Séfi read a short paper on the Postmasters' Stamps of St. Louis, U.S.A., forming one of a series of "Chats on Rare Stamps." Mr. Séfi gave a very complete history of the different plates and illustrated his remarks with a superb reconstructed sheet from the original plate consisting of three 5c. and three 10c. stamps.

WITH this number of the *P.J.G.B.* we are circulating our publishers' inset, detailing their List of Approval Books. If you are an active collector, and have not yet seen one or more of these books, you have probably been paying too much for your stamps. Write and ask for the stamps of the country you are most interested in.



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## Lord Crewe's Circular to Colonial Governors.

Downing Street,

July 13, 1910.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that my attention has recently been called on several occasions to disputes and irregularities in various Crown Colonies arising in connection

with the sale of postage stamps to persons who deal in them for purposes of trade.

1. The more serious difficulties which have recently been experienced have been connected with issues of surcharged stamps. Attention was called to the objections to such issues in Lord Ripon's circular despatch of August 18, 1893, in which it was pointed out that surcharging should be unnecessary if proper care is taken to maintain a sufficient supply of stamps. I concur in this view, and, with the object of avoiding such issues for the future, I have decided that the Officer Administering the Government, the Colonial Secretary, and the Colonial Postmaster of the various Crown Colonies and the Protectorates should be held collectively and individually responsible for ensuring that an adequate stock of stamps is kept in the Colony or Protectorate, and for ordering a fresh supply as soon as the stock in hand falls below the amount normally required for a period of, say, six months.

2. It will, I believe, be found in practice that no difficulties will arise if a large supply of halfpenny and penny stamps is always kept in hand. Multiples of these could always be used either separately or in combination with other stamps in the event of a temporary shortage in any stamp of a higher denomination.

3. I find that in certain cases Colonial Governors have accepted from dealers standing orders for the supply of new issues, &c. Such arrangements are calculated to lead to irregularities and complaints, and should be discontinued. They are quite outside the ordinary functions of a Post Office, and I consider that any dealer making such a proposal should be informed that his order can only be accepted if it is for a definite supply of stamps in current use.

4. While it is, no doubt, generally understood by members of the Civil Service of the Colonies and Protectorates that dealings in postage stamps for purposes of private profit are not allowed. I desire to impress on all Postmasters, Treasurers, or other financial officers that they will render themselves liable to grave censure if they engage in any transactions of this nature.

5. In this connection I think it well to lay down, following the practice of the General Post Office in this country, that all officials should refuse to comply with requests to affix stamps to letters or to cancel stamps which are not affixed to letters. You will be good enough to see that this rule is adopted throughout the territory under your Government.

I have, &c.,

(signed) CREWE.

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for kindly sending us a copy of the above circular.





OCTOBER 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

The *Philatelic Record* for September contains, as do all the other philatelic papers, a long list of the Berne Exhibition awards. We also find continuations of the *Record's* serials, namely, the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905"; M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland," in which he deals with post-cards; and Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." The following very interesting extract is made from this article. Mr. Leavy refers, of course, to the perforated stamps of 1863.

It must be remembered that the plates of three hundred impressions made in 1861 were used for these perforated printings, and that the one and ten centimes with re-cut lines at top or bottom, or re-cut outer lines of lower ornaments, are to be found in all the printings when the perforations have not cut away that part of the stamp; the impressions were set so closely together upon the plate that it is almost impossible to find specimens that are complete, a portion of the design being almost invariably cut away by the perforation.

The plate for the one centime stamp was treated to a second re-cutting just prior to the seventh printing last listed, which would be about the end of 1864, but this second re-cutting consisted only in strengthening the outer frame and adding an inner frame in most cases; the design proper was not touched, being much too worn to permit of it.

The order of issue, and the causes for the various perforations, I believe to have been as follows:—Gouvellos Frères were in possession of a single line stationer's perforation machine, gauging 12½, which they used to perforate stamps privately. At the time of taking over the Government contract to perforate five hundred sheets of stamps a day they ordered a similar machine, which, however, gauged 13½, so that they found it convenient and time saving to set up this machine at right angles to the other, so that the sheets could be perforated horizontally on the first machine and passed on to the second to be perforated vertically without turning the sheet, hence the 12½ by 13½ perforation. The punches, or needles, became so worn that they failed to perforate properly, and in 1865 two new sets of punches, or needles, were ordered; being under contract to perforate five hundred sheets of stamps a day, Gouvellos Frères

could not afford to place both machines out of commission at the same time, so they first changed the punches of the machine gauging 13½, continuing to use the 12½ machine, thus accounting for the late return to the first perforation used, and the stamps from the badly worn plates perforated 12½ all round. The new punches substituted in the old machine gauged 14½ instead of 13½, and this machine was used while the punches were changed on the 12½ machine—the new punches for this latter machine, by the way, gauged 14. The perforations, therefore, appeared in the following order: 12½ private perforation, 12½ by 13½ first Government perforation, 12½ again, and 14½. The stamps were not delivered to Gouvellos Frères direct from the printing works, but from the office of the Custodian of Stamps, in small quantities of mixed values, arranged according to the condition of the supply in his hands.

These stamps were acceptable for postage until 1st July, 1866; three months later they, and all preceding issues were demonetized, and the stock in the hands of the Custodian of Stamps ordered to be destroyed by burning.

According to the published statistics of the Belgian Post Office, the quantities of these perforated stamps sold to the public were as follows: 45,765,961 stamps of 1 centime, 47,040,681 stamps of 10 centimes, 31,074,299 stamps of 20 centimes, and 7,168,723 stamps of 40 centimes. These figures, of course, do not include the stamps privately perforated by Gouvellos Frères. At first glance it is hard to reconcile the large quantity of 1 centime stamps used with the known scarcity of the stamp, but it must be remembered that this stamp was used only on newspapers, circulars, and printed matter generally, which would not as a rule be preserved, the mailing regulations with regard to printed matter required that it be surrounded by a band only, upon which the address was written or printed, and that the stamp be affixed partly to the band and partly to the printed matter, so that unless deliberately saved the stamp was bound to be torn in two parts.

The *London Philatelist* for September is mainly devoted to a long account of the recently held Berne Exhibition. There are also some readable "Occasional Notes," "Reviews," a "New Issue" list, and a capable Editorial.

We make the following extract from the latter:—

The principal lever of attraction to philatelic societies is undoubtedly a fine display of stamps, and it is inevitable that the holders of the very finest collections can be only limited in number. There are therefore two points to bear in mind. Anything like a slack attendance when a really fine Display is given (or important Paper read) means a slight, however unintentional, to the exhibitor, and is likely to deter

him from again placing his services at his fellow-members' disposal.

The second point in connection herewith is one that may with advantage be mentioned. The only practical way to ensure a perfect examination of a Display is by passing round the leaves among the members. There are some doubting disciples who will not credit the carefully annotated description of watermarks or perforations accompanying a well-arranged collection, but wish to turn up the specimens and verify these data themselves. Now many of the stamps shown are not only valuable, but some are almost priceless, and the handling of stamps by members, however careful, is a process that should only be resorted to in the last extremity and with the consent of the exhibitor.

Mr. Castle's remarks are rather trenchant, and, we believe, very necessary. We hope some of the members of a well-known and very old established Society, whose meeting place is not very far from Essex Hall, will take Mr. Castle's first paragraph to heart.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for Sept. 17th contains a number of more or less readable contributions. The only two, however, of importance are further instalments of Mr. F. J. Melville's paper dealing with the manufacture of stamps, and Dr. Marco del Pont's "Rivadavia Stamps of the Argentine Republic." The first of these is of interest, because it consists of a careful compilation of details, while the second embodies a good deal of original research.

The following extract makes good reading:—

Some years ago, in this *Journal* (Nos. 21, 27, and 28), there was a controversy between Señor Juan D. Borchers and Señor León Brummer, because the latter had stated in the *Review Das Postwertzeichen*, of Munich, that rouletted copies of these stamps existed.

Although mistaken, the statement of Señor Brummer had some foundation in fact, because there are some of the 5c. stamps which have the appearance of being rouletted.

This peculiarity, although rare, is met with in some of the carmine stamps, used in 1867 and the end of 1866; as a rule, it appears only on one side or part of it, and copies which present this peculiarity on all four sides must be extremely rare, if indeed such exist.

The perforating machine, which was never good, was in very bad condition at the period when the stamps of this colour were printed. The paper, thick and hard as a rule, contributed to render the operation more difficult, so much so that we have not seen one of these stamps in which the needles have succeeded in cutting out all the little round pieces of paper. The public and the postal officials were obliged to use scissors to separate the stamps, neglecting entirely this pretence of perforation, because when an attempt was made to separate them in this fashion, the stamps were nearly always torn, and sometimes in such a way as to present the appearance of being rouletted.

In other cases the needles made such minute holes that they appeared to be farther apart than they really were, and produced the appearance of what is called pin-perforated, a class of perforation which has also been supposed to exist with these stamps.

Before proceeding further, we have to observe that the 10 centavos stamps genuinely unperforated are extremely rare, and the 15 centavos still more so, and that nearly all those now in circulation are perforated stamps from which the perforation has been cut.

The fraud is not limited to the use of scissors, because for the use of these exceptional copies would be required and such are difficult to find, and as the stamps are rare and much sought after, ingenuity has been whetted and stimulated.

We have recently discovered several systems of fraud and we proceed to explain them, hoping that by so doing we may render a service to collectors.

The first method is very simple; it consists merely in finding copies which show only the needle-marks of the perforating machine, and from which none of the paper had been cut out; the paper is softened, and when this has been done every indication of the perforation is made to disappear, an operation which is easily effected. This is the most dangerous fraud.

Second method—artificial margins, veritable works of art; those which have passed through our hands have been 15c. stamps in mint condition, but they have not withstood boiling for half an hour.

A third method, as ingenious and artistic as the last, consists in reducing the paper of the original stamp to the thinnest possible substance, and then affixing it to a paper of similar appearance to the genuine, upon which a false watermark is impressed. We have only seen 10c. stamps treated in this fashion, but we see no reason why the 15c. should not also exist. Half an hour's boiling at the outside is sufficient to destroy this patient and artistic work.

The Sept. 24th *Gibbons Weekly* is almost entirely given over to a very capable account of the recently held Berne Exhibition. Mr. C. J. Phillips devotes fourteen pages to a detailed account of the principal exhibits; this will be appreciated by the many English collectors who were unable to go to Switzerland.

In the Oct. 1st copy, we find the completion of Mr. Phillips account of the Berne Exhibition; another instalment of Mr. Melville's paper; the same of M. L. Hanciau's Italian article; and some other interesting matter.

Mr. Melville's article is continued in the next week's number, also Dr. Marco del Pont's paper dealing with the Rivadavia stamps of the Argentine Republic. In the latter article, proofs of these interesting stamps are fully described. We make a rather lengthy extract relating to the locally printed proofs.

We have, for instance, the 5c., 10c. and 15c. printed on thin plain paper, which the authorities forwarded as specimens to foreign postal administrations, stamped, as a rule, on the back, in blue ink, with the seal of the Director-General, we suppose to prove their authenticity. Sometimes in addition to this the word "Muestra" (specimen) was written in black ink also on the reverse side and across two stamps.

These proofs were printed in 1867; those of the 5c. in rose; the 10c. in green, not quite so yellow as is usual in this value, and presenting a blurred appearance which is noticeable; the 15c. in slate-blue and in dark blue, the latter also much blurred. Previous to this, there was used for the same purpose, but without

the stamped seal at the back, a printing of the 5c., on paper of medium thickness, printed in a carmine tint.

We cannot account for this proceeding, because genuine stamps existed with the overprint "MUESTRA"; the three values are found in the collection of Messrs. Miguel Gambin and Gregorio F. Rodriguez. Probably there was only a small quantity of these—at least their rarity leads us to suppose so—and the stock being exhausted others were provided to replace them, printed on ordinary paper, we may suppose as printer's proofs, in order to avoid having to enter them in the accounts, with the necessary intervention of the Accountant-General of the Nation; or having to buy stamps with funds intended for emergencies, as happened with the first supply of stamps which were engraved in the United States. However, this would not have prevented their using the word "MUESTRA" instead of applying the seal of the Director-General to the back of the stamps.

These proofs were not all employed for the purpose stated; the remaining stock was used, it appears, by Senor Posadas for making presents to foreign post offices and sometimes to private individuals.

Numerous other proofs exist, which we believe were merely printing trials, probably made to test the condition of the plates or the colour of the inks.

Those of the 5c. are very plentiful; they exist on several kinds of ordinary paper, and in many different shades. We know the following: On thick laid paper, in carmine and brick-red; on smooth wove paper, of varying thickness, in brick-red, red, carmine-red, greyish red, and yellowish red.

Of the 10c. we have only seen the proofs on card, and those which we have already mentioned.

Of the 15 centavos, besides those mentioned above, there exists an impression in a dark blue colour on thick smooth paper.

The date 1867, which we have given for the proofs of the 5c., 10c. and 15c., is that fixed by M. Moens; but it is tolerably certain that they were printed earlier than this.

Since writing the preceding paragraphs, we have seen, in the collection of Dr. Achillito Chièsa, one of these proofs of the 10c., used in Rossario de Santa Fe, bearing on the back the blue seal of the Director-General and part of a manuscript inscription which looks like the word "Muestra." The postmark does not inspire us with any confidence whatever, but at the same time it might easily happen that copies could be found which have really done postal duty, as there was absolutely no indication on the face of the stamps to prove that they were only proofs, and the employees therefore could not recognize them, so that if it occurred to any one to use them for franking letters, they would perforce have to pass them.

Mr. B. W. H. Poole continues to write about the stamps of Holland in his "Countries of the World" series, while we also find a reprinted article dealing with a third type of the 2 mark "Deutsches Reich" stamp, together with some "New Issues," etc.—altogether a capital number of our leading weekly stamp paper.

The *Stamp Lover* for October is entitled a South African Special Number, and as such contains several articles relating to South African philately. None of these papers is of very great interest. The remaining contribution is an account of the Stock Exchange Forgery of the 1/- English, which has been reprinted from the *Postage Stamp*.

Our contemporary has contained so many capital articles of late months that we grudge a retrograde movement.

The Sept. number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the completion of Mr. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Sierra Leone; the first instalment of a short article in his "Historical Errors" series, dealing with the 1c. British Guiana of 1856; and also four pages from Mr. Field's pen, relating to the Berne Exhibition. From the Sierra Leone article we make a very short extract relating to the stamps overprinted "Revenue." These labels are well known to most collectors, but their history perhaps is not such common knowledge.

About the same time another lot of revenue stamps for temporary use were printed in London by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and dispatched to the Colony. These were printed from the postage plates then in use, the values being 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-. They were all printed in lilac, and the values on the 1d., 3d. and 1/- were inserted in carmine, brown and blue respectively. They were all surcharged "REVENUE" in black, and the word "POSTAGE" was barred out on the 1d., 3d. and 1/- values.

But although sent to the Colony, it was decided they were unsuitable, and consequently they were never issued. The whole stock was sold to an English dealer, and though postally used copies have been reported from time to time, we know that none were ever issued for postage or revenue purposes. The postmarked copies, therefore, certainly never paid postage, and are thus of no philatelic interest whatsoever.

The most interesting feature of the Sept. 17th *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* is an illustrated interview with Mr. H. A. Slade, an old friend of our readers; a brief account of the Berne Exhibition; the completion of Mr. F. W. Edwards' "The Rurals of Russia"; and some "odds and ends" complete a not very interesting number.

The Oct. 1st *S.C.F.* is a grand "New Season Number" and contains a good deal of very readable matter. Mr. W. Mead, of Brighton, is the "Philatelist of To-day." A good deal of space is devoted to Lord Crewe's Circular to Colonial Governors, together with two or three London dealers' comments regarding it. The only original articles dealing directly with stamps are Mr. H. W. Hawkins' paper, entitled, "The Missionary Postage Stamps of Madagascar," and Mr. Irwin Faris' "New Zealand Notes."

Mr. Hawkins describes the Missionary labels very carefully, they seem as collectible as the Uganda typewritten labels. He says:—

In whatsoever measure hitherto missionaries have been instrumental for the introduction of civilization abroad, it is seldom such a stage is reached as that of issuing postage stamps, even if a post was established by "runners" or otherwise. This, however, was the case, as is known in the British Protectorate of Uganda in the years 1895-6. But a similar case existed, even at an earlier date, in the Island of Madagascar, viz., in the year 1889 or earlier, when the Norwegian Missionary Society first established a post. The origin of this mail was with a view to economy, and the primary motive seems to have been to establish a "Parcel Post"; but from the very commencement this carried the correspondence of missionaries, which I have on no less an authority than the Superintendent of Norwegian Missions in Madagascar. It, however, very soon grew into an important letter mail, as will be seen. This post, that kept up a weekly or two-weekly (according to the distances) mail between all the stations of the Society to and from the Capital, served as useful a purpose as can well nigh be perceived. Let it be noted that this "Post" started as a private one, hence the Malagasy Government's authority did not have to be obtained, moreover, it did not interfere with any institution existing at the time. This is the way the "ball was set rolling," this is the way it got a beginning and a legitimate one too. When the "Post" was well established it was used by the public for letters, each one franked with the stamps of the Mission. The public enjoyed its use, its privileges and convenience for so many years, that "Custom became Law"; there certainly was no talk of the authorities suppressing the mail, which they never did. Indeed, even the Government authorities sent correspondence by this mail, but as these were "On Government Service" there was no charge made for them. Thus we see that this "Post" was most prominently recognised by the Malagasy Government at this period. surely an important item to remember this!

Other pages of our contemporary are devoted to all kinds of "newsy" paragraphs, reprinted articles, and other philatelic matter. A good half-hour's solid reading for one penny is generous measure.

The *Monthly Report* for October is mostly devoted to the official reports of the Herts Philatelic Society. Mr. Reichenheim, however, contributes a short, concise report of the recently held Berne Exhibition. We also find a couple of pages devoted to some very readable reviews of new and recently published philatelic publications.

## Philately on the Continent.

*Der Philatelist* reproduces the following paragraph from the *Appenzeller Zeitung*, a non-philatelic paper, of the 2nd July, on the subject of the forthcoming British stamps:—

In place of the old stamps there will be a series of new designs based on the Austro-Hungarian (*sic*) Jubilee stamps. The new English stamps will represent celebrated scenes from English history, thereby depicting the historical developments and doughty deeds of England, in which all the celebrated rulers, from Queen Ann and Queen Elizabeth (*sic*) downwards will be represented. The designs are being carried out by celebrated artists.

The *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* concludes its investigations on the subject of the reprints of Portugal and Colonies. The anonymous writer has examined no less than 168 collections of this country, and the result of his research is that he has found the percentage of reprints to be no less than 30!

Dr. Moschkau devotes a large portion of his monthly article in *Der Philatelist* to the apotheosis of the German "Normal-Katalog." This excellent periodical is the official organ of the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, under whose imprimatur the "Normal-Katalog" is also published. The veteran philatelist also deals with the scandal of the recent Austrian Jubilee stamps, which he treats as they deserve. He is most emphatic in his warning to collectors not to pay fancy prices for these labels. This sage counsel will, however, probably fall on deaf ears.

Herr G. Hartmann deals with recent reprints of Thurn and Taxis, but as there is not much difficulty in recognizing them, it is not necessary to more than mention his interesting study.

It is rather curious to note that whereas most of our German contemporaries devote many pages to the recent Congress at Kiel, the International Exhibition at Berne is dismissed in a few short paragraphs.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* has nothing of note this month, if we except a highly favourable review of the new *Senf Catalogue*.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, for September 15th, contains a good account of the Berne Philatelic Exhibition, from which we learn that our neighbours across the Channel are in complete unanimity with ourselves in acclaiming it as one of the most successful and enjoyable exhibitions ever held.

In the same number we read the following account of the issue of the latest Austrian Jubilee stamps, taken from a daily newspaper of Linz, Austria:—

"It is certain that the first day of issue of the new Jubilee stamps was also the last. As early as 8.30 a.m. several values were sold out. At 7.30, on the opening of the Post Office, the throng was so great that one would have believed himself at the door of a theatre on the day of a presentation promising a great success. Thanks to the excellent arrangements at the *guichets* there was no disorder. For the sale of the stamps four *guichets* were provided, one at which all values were sold, two for 5h. and 10h., and the last for buyers desiring the impression of the obliteration: "18 VIII. 1910." At half-past nine in the morning the values 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 20, 50, 60h., 1 and 10kr., were all sold out. This rapid clearance can easily be understood if one remembers the small number of stamps issued. The general post office at Linz had at its disposal only 400 of the 1h., 200 of the 2h.,

400 of 3h., 40,000 of 5h., 400 of 6h., 48,000 of 10h., 400 of 12h., 400 of 20h., 4,000 of 25h., 400 of 30h., 400 of 35h., 250 of 50h., 250 of 60h., 250 of 1 kr., 420 of 2 kr., 420 of 5 kr. and 60 of 10 kr. In order to furnish this office with such a number of stamps it had been necessary to restrict the quantity in secondary offices."

The paragraph goes on to say that although many people wished to order and pay for stamps in advance, one order being for no fewer than 5,000 complete sets, these were all refused.

*L'Echo* for September 30th contains a further chapter of M. Pierre Mahé's article on rare stamps, former instalments of which we have referred to in recent numbers. Leaving normal, or standard stamps, he now turns to varieties and refers to two of each of which only one is known. These are *tête-bêche* varieties of the first issue of France, namely, the 15 centimes, green, of which one used pair is known, and the 1 franc, vermilion, which is known in an unused block of four. The former was sold for 7,000 fr.=£280 and the latter for only 3,200 fr.=£135. M. Mahé thinks that if these pieces were put on the market to-day they would command much higher prices. A third *tête-bêche*, namely, that of the 20 centimes blue, imperf., of the issue of 1853-60 is, we are told, although several specimens are known, also of extraordinary rarity, and latterly a value higher than that of the 15c. green and 1 fr. vermilion of the Republic has been attributed to it. A fourth great rarity of the same class is the *tête-bêche* of the 1 fr. red-brown of the Empire, original printing. It is as impossible, says M. Mahé to fix a value for this as for the 20c. of 1853, but it is enormous, and would be greater still if the specimen is with wide margin showing a portion of the frame which surrounds the sheet. Those that are occasionally met with are, of course, the reprints of 1862, and these, which are also rare, have already attained a big price.

The article then goes on to deal with errors, which are classified under three general headings and several sub-divisions. This subject gives M. Mahé an opportunity for displaying his extensive knowledge of stamps of all kinds, also for exercising his peculiar gift for classification and the making of definitions.

In the new issue column we learn that the inscription under the portrait on the 6c. commemorative stamp of Newfoundland should be "Sir Bacon" and not "Lord Bacon." We cannot laugh at our French friends for not knowing how to use an English title when we find a more ridiculous error printed on a stamp of a British Colony.



## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The August number of the *Australian Philatelist* seems to be mainly devoted to reports of Philatelic Societies. Mr. Fred. Hagen contributes a few notes relating to the Tapling collection, he also describes his hurried rush thro' Scotland, Ireland and the West of England. An uninteresting London letter, some readable "Brevities," a capital New Issue list, together with a short letter from Mr. Irwin Faris, completes our review.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for August is devoted to a long and extremely uninteresting new issue list, a reprinted article from the *Philatelic Record*, and a further long instalment of the excellent paper dealing with the "Fiscal and Telegraphic Stamps of Ceylon." Unfortunately our knowledge, or rather lack of knowledge of these stamps, does not permit us to criticise this contribution, but it appears to be excellent and is certainly well illustrated.

We have received No. 1 of a new American stamp paper called the *Philatelic Gazette*. Our new confrere is published by the Philatelic Publishing Co., 99, Nassau Street, New York, and is edited by Mr. W. M. Randall. The contents are decidedly good and consist of articles dealing with the Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes, by Mr. Edward H. Mason; the 1902 Series of the U.S., by Mr. J. Murray Bartels; two pages, contributed by Mr. Victor M. Berthold, are devoted to U.S. Envelopes; while we also find a number of interesting paragraphs and notes. Mr. Bartels also contributes a short article dealing with the Reprints of New Brunswick. The following extracted letter relates to the quantity of these reprints:—

Ottawa, 21st June, 1897.

Dear Mr. Blair,—Some years ago, when Mr. Haggard was Postmaster General, he authorized a limited reprint of obsolete New Brunswick postage stamps. Of course, these reprints were perfectly worthless, both for postage and commercial purposes. Very few of them were given out to stamp collectors and the bulk of them have, up to the present remained in our vaults. Similar reprints of Nova Scotia obsolete stamps were, some time ago, sent to Mr. ———, and I think that the best thing that can be done with the New Brunswick reprints is to transfer them to you, which I now beg to do. Subjoined is a memorandum showing quantities and denominations of these re-

prints. Perhaps you will be good enough to let me have a receipt for them at your early convenience.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

WM. WHITE.

	New Brunswick.	Quantity.
3 sheets (160 each sheet) 3d. ..	..	480
2 broken sheets (148-140) 3d. ..	..	288
3 sheets (160 each) 6d. ..	..	480
2 broken sheets (150-140) 6d. ..	..	290
2 sheets (160 each) 1/- ..	..	320
3 broken sheets (146-140-110) 1/- ..	..	396
Total 2254 stamps.		

From the above it will be seen that the lot consisted originally of five sheets of each value containing one hundred and sixty specimens each, or in all, eight hundred copies of each value. However, it must be stated that forty specimens consisting of four rows of ten of the 1/- on each sheet were worthless, as they had been completely smudged with the violet black ink in which the 6d. and 1/- had been printed; evidently something had happened to that portion of the plate. It is furthermore quite evident from the above list that up to that time only the following quantities had ever been distributed: 3p., 32; 6p., 30; 1/-, 84. One complete sheet of each value immediately went into the collection of a well-known Canadian philatelist. Quite a number of collectors acquired blocks of four. A goodly portion of the find was sold to a prominent European dealer. Therefore those now remaining are very limited in number, and after a few more blocks have been placed, the supply will be exhausted.

Little is known about the present hiding place of the Nova Scotia reprints. It is probable that the same number of sheets or specimens of these were also printed at the time the New Brunswick were made. It is, however, not known how many there were on a sheet.

We wish the *Philatelic Gazette*, a long life, it is ably conducted and should, if it keeps to its present standard have a very good circulation. It is rarely we are able to take such a lengthy extract from any of our American exchanges.

We have received several numbers of Roessler's *Stamp News*, a little go-ahead trade paper, published monthly at 10½, Clay Street Newark, N.J., U.S.A. The October number contains a short article wherein the writer claims to have discovered a re-engraved 3c. of the 1899 issue of Cuba. The existence or non-existence of this variety has long perturbed the minds of our American cousins.

The secret marks of the Cuban set are recognized in every catalogue, but only the 1c., 2c., 5c. and 10c. values are listed. The other denomination, the 3c. purple, never has been given in any catalogue as re-engraved.

Through the kindness of Mr. Chas. R. Morris, of Washington, D.C., we are enabled to give details of a discovery which will necessitate the recognition of the secret marks on the 3c. value. Mr. Morris had prepared the information for Melville's book on U.S. Colonials, but when so many of our readers were interested, kindly consented to permit *The Stamp News* to print the story.

One of the paragraphs in this paper advertised the Cuban re-engraved set, adding that the 3c. was not re-engraved, but was included in the set to properly balance the album page. Mr. Morris wrote us that he had a copy of the 3c. with the secret marks. We asked

several of the most experienced dealers in this city, and all were positive that they had never seen any but the first issue 3c. All added that if the stamp had been given a secret mark it would have been chronicled months ago. This latter statement usually clinched the argument in the minds of the experts.

Before placing the discovery in our columns we thoroughly investigated the matter, and the fact that we publish it is evidence of our belief that the stamp was re-engraved and placed in circulation.

One of the paths in our investigation lead to the Bureau. Mr. J. E. Ralph, the director, graciously replied in part as follows:—

"I beg to state that the 3c. Cuban postage stamp was given secret marks and the die was delivered to the Cuban Government."

The stamp was issued. Mr. Morris has a copy (perhaps more) in his possession. The photographs were taken from the stamps, not proofs. It is believed, however, that it is very scarce. We will be pleased to buy copies at a VERY FAIR price.

Many students of stamps have written us giving what was believed to be the secret marks. In fact, so many wrote that they were sure they had it that we believed it was commoner than the regular issue. Apparently they overlooked the following facts which readily distinguish the two issues:—

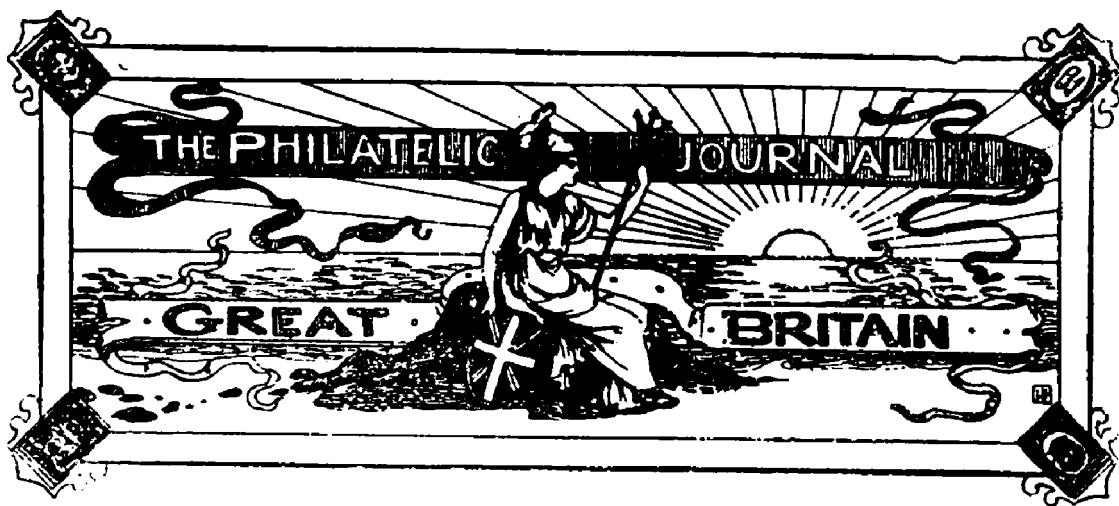
1. On the re-engraved the paper is unwatermarked. The regular issue is on paper watermarked U.S.—C.
2. The paper of the re-engraved is very white. First issue, yellowish tinge.
3. The two issues are printed in distinct shades. First, dark; second, light.
4. The perforations of the re-engraved set are spaced 1mm. wider than the Bureau specimens.

These four points in addition to the secret marks should make the difference easily distinguishable. If your re-engraved 3c. Cuba stands the test you have a rare stamp.

## The J.P.U. Smoking Concert.

THE sixth annual concert of the International Philatelic Union will be held at the Horse Shoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, on Monday, November 14th. Members and others who intend to be present should provide themselves with tickets as early as possible as they will be limited to 200. Further particulars will be found in our advertisement columns.

Mr. William Brown, of St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury, has sent us a neat little illustrated booklet dealing with his well-known "Sans Pareil" series of Special Variety Packets of Stamps. These packets contain really desirable stamps and are worth buying by even advanced collectors, while they are the very thing for general collectors and beginners. Mr. Brown is, as is well known, a very clever black and white artist, and his little booklet is admirably illustrated by numerous sketches from his pen. Write for a copy.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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NOVEMBER 20, 1910.

[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE fifty-sixth annual report of the Postmaster-General for the year ended March 31st last, has now been issued. Nearly 3,000,000,000 letters were delivered, 974,000,000 halfpenny packets, 866,000,000 postcards, nearly 2,000,000 newspapers, and 118,000,000 parcels.

The newspaper figures alone show a decrease compared with the previous year. In London there is a decrease for the first time for several years, though it is only of 1 per cent. The report attributes the decline partially to the increasing use of the telephone.

Since 1900 the number of letters per head of the population delivered in the United Kingdom has increased from 57 to 65. London is chiefly responsible for the decrease in newspapers, while Ireland shows the largest increase (6.8 per cent.) which has been recorded for nine years. Express delivery services increased by over 11 per cent., the figures being over 2,000,000.

Undelivered packets were estimated at over 31,000,000, or an increase of 2.4 per cent., while the amount of cash found in addressed or unaddressed packets reached the enormous total of £647,832, of which £15,127 was in cash and banknotes, and

£632,705 in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders, and postage stamps.

Packets posted without any address numbered 427,000.

In connection with the American mail it is interesting to learn that the amount of correspondence sent by letter post from this country to the United States has increased by about 32 per cent. since the rate of postage was reduced in October, 1908, with an increase in the reverse direction of about 29 per cent. Roughly speaking, two-thirds of this increase may be put down as being the result of the introduction of penny postage, the remaining third representing normal annual growth in the mails at the rate of about 5 per cent.

The weight of newspapers, magazines, and trade journals sent to Canada by magazine post during 1909 is estimated at 2,910,000lb., compared with a weight of 2,328,000lb. sent in 1908, the first complete year after the introduction of the post, which took place in May, 1907.

Parcels sent abroad numbered 3,063,200, and parcels received from abroad 1,621,084, an increase, taking both totals together, of about 8 per cent.

Turning to telegraphs it appears that 86,884,000 telegrams passed over the Post Office wire during the year ended March

31st, 1910, compared with 84,825,000 in the previous twelve months. This increase, which came after a period of steady decrease, is to be accounted for in part by the General Election and by renewed activity on the Stock Exchange.

In connection with the election it is stated that in the Central Telegraph Office alone the number of messages dealt with during the last fortnight in January exceeded that for the corresponding period in 1909 by nearly 200,000.

## Papers for Moderate Specialists.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

### No. XIV.—NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

(Continued from page 191).

Mr. C. W. Perryman has compiled the following list of the approximate numbers printed of each variety, the table being given in the Philatelic Society's work. The numbers are those of Gibbons' catalogue:—

No. 9	120	No. 20	2
" 10	120	" 21	9
" 11	360	" 22	120
" 12	120	" 23	60
" 13	120	" 24	60
" 14	19	" 25	120
" 15	23	" 26	120
" 16	120	" 27	22
" 17	360	" 28	120
" 18	4	" 29	6
" 19	240		

Here again we find some varieties—seven to be exact—of which fewer than 60 copies can possibly exist. It is true that the above list only accounts for 2,245 stamps out of the 2,400 which were printed, but the odd 155 stamps would not make a very great difference unless they were all of one kind.

The rarest of all the provisionals is the 20/- in black on the 1/-, of which only one was printed. This was in the collection of Mr. C. J. Daun, which, I believe, is complete, including, as it does, the Halfpenny in carmine, italics, on 2½d. (Gib. No. 20) and the 20/- in vermilion on the 1/-, of each of which only two specimens were printed.

There are several minor varieties of some of the surcharges, including some inverted specimens, but I think I have said enough to show that this series is not one for the serious consideration of the "Moderate Specialist."

#### ISSUE OF 1893.

The Governor of the Oil Rivers Protectorate, Sir Claude Macdonald, had ordered, probably before the issue of the overprinted British stamps, a set of stamps of distinctive designs, from Messrs. Waterlow, of London. The dies for these were ready early in 1893. But on the 13th May of that year, a notice in the *London Gazette* announced that the name of the territory was changed to "Niger Coast



Protectorate," instead of "Oil Rivers Protectorate." As the dies which had been prepared were inscribed with the old name, an alteration had to be made on each of them, and this was effected by drawing five lines over the words "Oil Rivers" and engraving the words



"Niger Coast" at the top of the stamp. This latter operation was done in a peculiar manner, the lower portions of the letters cutting into the upper part of the original design of the stamps. The effect of these alterations was to give the stamps a very unconventional appearance, while detracting but little from their artistic appearance. The engravings were some of the finest of Messrs. Waterlow's work, and the set is an exceedingly attractive one.

The actual date of issue is again uncertain. The set was chronicled, in various stamp journals, in August and September, 1893, but this was probably on the strength of proofs which had been seen in London. According



to "Africa," part iii., specimens are known dated Dec., 2nd, 1893, so the date of issue (of some of the values, at least) is assumed to be Nov., 1893. The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and perforated "Waterlow," that is to say, in the same way as all other stamps produced by that firm, the gauge on different parts of the sheets varying from 12 to 15. As these various gauges are said to be the work of one machine they are not worth collecting, though the specialist might well show the two extremes. The paper varies somewhat in thickness, and also in tone, sometimes it is quite white, while on many specimens it is almost a buff colour. The 1/- value shows this difference most clearly, it is found on paper varying from thin white to stout yellowish-toned. The last mentioned is the scarcer variety.

The sizes of the sheets were, presumably, regulated so as to facilitate the keeping of accounts. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2d were issued in sheets of 60; six horizontal rows of ten. The  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. was in sheets of 48; six horizontal rows of eight (thus bringing the value to 10/-). The 5d. and 1/- were printed in sheets of 30, in five horizontal rows of six.

According to Nankivell, in the article already quoted, there were two printings of this issue, as follows:—

Value.	Colour.	First Printing.	Second Printing.	Total.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	vermilion	8,000	8,000	16,000
1d.	blue	10,000	10,000	20,000
2d.	green	5,000	5,000	10,000
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	carmine-lake	15,000	15,000	30,000
5d.	lilac	8,000	8,000	16,000
1/-	black	5,000	5,000	10,000
Total		51,000	51,000	102,000

These two printings account, no doubt, for some of the variations in shade, which are most marked in the case of the 1d. and 5d. Both can be found in dull and bright shades, and there are one or two shades of the latter value which can only be due to deterioration, lilac being a pigment which is very liable to attack by various influences. The best shade is a clear, rather bright, lilac, with no tinge of grey in its composition. Another good shade is the dark grey-lilac, which is said to belong to the second printing.

The 2d. of this issue has always been the most difficult stamp of the set to procure. I believe this is due to an attempt to corner it shortly after it became obsolete. All values can still be got in blocks while, until recently, entire sheets were not uncommon, but I have seen none of the latter lately.

The postmarks of this issue are, for the most part, similar to those of the first issue, with the addition of the well-known square mark, formed of four concentric circles with solid triangular blocks completing a square, with the name and date in the centre. I have also seen some of the stamps postmarked "Free-

town, Sierra Leone," a fact for which I cannot account.

Proofs on card, printed in colours, of all values, taken from the original dies before the name was altered, are known, and these, of course, form a handsome addition to a specialized collection, but they are very scarce.

The 1d. and 2d. of this issue are sometimes found cut in halves, and each half used as  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 1d. I have seen entire envelopes, with these curiosities on, which have been addressed to England, and which have undoubtedly done regular postal duty, but I believe their use was unauthorized and that they were passed with the connivance of some postal official.

This issue had a life of only six months, being then superseded by—

#### THE ISSUE OF MAY, 1894.

The new stamps were in new designs which, however, bear a strong family resemblance to those of the previous issue. The name "Niger Coast Protectorate" now appears, properly inscribed, on each stamp. The paper, without watermark, and the perforation, are identical with those of the 1893 set. In order to meet the requirements of the Postal Union the colours of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. were altered to green, vermilion and blue. This necessitated an alteration in the colour of the 2d. also, and this value was printed in lake.

The sheets were the same sizes as before for the respective values, with the exception of the 5d., which, in this issue was enlarged to one of 48, in six horizontal rows of eight, thus conforming in size with that of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

There were several printings of each value and consequently we find more variations in shade than in the previous issue, but I know of no shade in any of the values which is much rarer than any other.

The total number printed varied from 172,000 of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 41,000 of the 1/-. In most cases the number was about three times as great as in the case of the corresponding values of the previous issue.

After being in use for three years these stamps were, in 1897, superseded by the

#### SET WATERMARKED CROWN & CA.

In other respects these are identical with the former. The shades of the lower values are slightly different, but these differences are too small to describe.

The numbers printed of this set, as given in the Royal Society's work, are rather interesting when compared with those of the unwatermarked issue. Of the 2d. CA, which is now quoted at 6d., there were 109,000, while of the 2d. no wmk., which is quoted at 1/6 unused, having dropped somewhat in recent years, there were actually 111,000, or 3,000 more. Of the 5d. CA, quoted at 1/-, there were only 39,600, whereas of the no wmk. stamp, quoted at 1/3, there were 80,700,

or more than twice as many. In the case of the 1/- the disparity in prices is not so marked; of the no wmk., quoted at 3/., there were 40,000, and of the CA, quoted at 3/6, there were 25,000. These figures prove that it takes a long time for recent issues to find their true proportional values, but that they do so in time has been shown in numerous instances, and will almost certainly be shown in this also, as, while the prices of the no wmk. have been gradually dropping or remaining stationary, those of the CA values have been gradually going up during the past few years.

#### THE PROVISIONALS OF MAY TO OCTOBER, 1894.

Owing to a shortage of ½d. and 1d. stamps at the post offices of Opobo, the postmaster of that place once more had recourse to manufacturing provisionals. At Opobo this was done by bisecting the 1d. of 1893, vertically and surcharging each half with a ½ in red. For this purpose two entire sheets were used up, the first sheet, which was dark blue, in May, and the second, in the light blue shade, in August. The total issue of this provisional therefore amounted to 120 of each shade. Later on in the same year, more half-penny stamps being required, two sheets of the 1d. vermilion of 1893 were cut up and surcharged in the same way but in this case the monotony was broken by surcharging some of the halves in violet, some in blue, and some in black ink, and the changes were further rung by cutting some of the stamps vertically and some diagonally. The blue and the violet surcharges are much scarcer than the black.

At about the same time, 1d. stamps were made by bisecting the 2d. of the first, Oil Rivers, issue, and surcharging each half with a figure 1 in vermilion measuring 12mm. in height. A sheet and a half of the 2d. stamp was used up in this way. A variety is known surcharged with a figure 1 measuring only 4½mm. high and printed in carmine instead of vermilion. Of this, only three or four specimens are known. Much doubt was thrown upon their authenticity when the variety was first discovered, but from a letter from the then postmaster, Mr. A. G. Griffith, published in the *London Philatelist* in Feb. 1904, that gentleman, without giving any positive information, thinks that the overprint is genuine and represents a trial surcharge, which was almost immediately abandoned in favour of the larger numeral.

All the provisionals which I have just described were issued at Opobo and are only known with the Opobo postmark.

In August of the same year the Postmaster of Old Calabar found himself in the same difficulty as his *compère* of Opobo, but his half-penny provisional was a much more respectable looking stamp. He used up twenty sheets of the 2½d. stamp of 1894, no wmk., and, having command of a printing press he surcharged them "one-half-penny" in two lines in small *sans-serif* capitals, while the old value

at each side and at foot was obliterated by two black bars. The surcharge was applied in rows of eight, the last stamp of each row having a broken N in the word ONE, making it look like an "1." The total issue was 960 and so the stamp is much commoner than the Opobo provisionals. It is known with a distinct double surcharge.

#### LATER CA VALUES.

I will now revert to the ordinary issue, namely, that watermarked Crown and CA. This was augmented in June 1898 by three new values, viz.: a 6d. brown, 2/6 olive-brown and 10/- purple. Of the latter there are two distinct shades. These were issued in rather large quantities, the 10/- amounting to over 6,000, which is quite enough to keep a stamp of this kind at somewhere near face value for a long time to come.

The Niger Coast Protectorate ceased to issue stamps after the 1st of January, 1900, when, as I have already explained, the territory was incorporated with the Chartered Company's possessions, and formed into the Colonies of Northern and Southern Nigeria.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.\*

THE translated edition of M. Ernst Zumstein's work on the postage stamps of Switzerland, which has been appearing for some time past in the columns of the *Philatelic Record*, has now made its appearance in book form. This excellent work, published as the sixth of the *Philatelic Record* Handbooks will appeal to many collectors, and will well maintain the traditions of its predecessors published under the auspices of our premier monthly stamp paper.

From the preface of the work in question we find that it has not been considered desirable that the translation from the German should be quite literal. The main alteration, however, seems to be the omission of all prices and the curtailment of the chapters relating to postmarks.

Commencing with the Cantonal stamps M. Zumstein deals with all issues down to the stamps issued as recently as last year, while he also includes chapters describing telegraph stamps and postal stationery.

Throughout the work there are numerous text illustrations, while of collotype plates there are no fewer than six, namely, one illustrating a reconstructed sheet of one hundred of the Zurich 6 rappen stamps, four, showing respectively reconstructed panes of forty of the 2½ rappen "Ortspost," the 2½ rappen "Poste Locale," and the 5 and 10 rappen of 1850. The sixth plate shows three recon-

\* No. 6 of the *Philatelic Record* Handbooks. Published for the Proprietors by William Lewis & Son, 174, Fleet Street, E.C. Price 3/6 nett.

structed blocks of ten, illustrating the types of the three stamps of 1852.

To take the chapters separately we find that the first deals fairly exhaustively with the Cantonal stamps, those interesting and mostly very rare locals issued respectively at Zurich, Geneva and Basle; also the stamps issued at Geneva and Zurich after the Confederation had taken over the Postal Service. All these stamps have been so fully studied and written up that we do not expect to find much original information relating to them. M. Zumstein, however, places within the reach of everybody a concise account of their history.

As is well known, there is a retouched variety of the Zurich 6 rappen stamp. The following short extract relates to it:—

The retouching of the 6 rappen was done upon the stone, and was necessitated by the faulty nature of the lithographed transfer or design No. 98: the oblique lines in the upper left background were repaired with coarse strokes. A copy of the stamp which occurs as No. 39 in the sheet, which was described by Mr. M. P. Castle in the *London Philatelist*, January 1897, is not to be regarded as retouched. All examples printed up to 1846 show no flaw, but those issued between 1846 and 1849 show a white spot. The type was not, however, retouched. There was on the whole plate only one single retouch which was done before the issue.

M. Zumstein's work is sub-divided into six parts, but, for the purpose of review it is sometimes more convenient to divide the parts further into chapters; for instance, Part II. deals with the issues of April 1850 to 1909. In Chapter II., therefore, we find the Federal stamps issued by the Confederate Postal Administration fully described.

Regarding the stamps of 1852, M. Zumstein says:—

The stamps of this issue, which the lithographer Durheim proposed to print in black, white and red, were, owing to lesser cost of production, produced in a single colour only. The shield is now hatched in perpendicular lines (the heraldic "tincture" for red), and the cross framed. For the production of the stamp the original stone of the "Ortspost" served, and transfers of the second and third vertical rows were used, (the first row being probably avoided as it had become somewhat worn). The inscription and the figures of value were removed and "Rayon III." and "15 Rp." inserted. After the first printing, with small figures of value, the letters "Rp." were erased from the 160 stamps on the stone and "Cts" was put in by hand.

Although the issue of the above stamps was intended to be a provisional one only, it was found necessary, owing to the delay in the preparation of the new stamps (1854), for a further issue to be made. This time the transfers were taken from the fourth and fifth vertical rows of the "Ortspost" original stone, while the figures of value were drawn larger.

To many collectors of Swiss stamps the stamps now to be dealt with, namely, those known as the "silk thread issues," or, as M. Zumstein describes them "Helvetia Seated Imperforate" are the most interesting of all Swiss issues. Unfortunately, in our opinion, these very interesting stamps have not been so fully dealt with as might have been the case,

M. Zumstein, nevertheless, devotes six pages to their history. In many instances the quantities printed of each value are given. We also learn that, owing to there being a postal charge, between Switzerland and Italy on printed matter of 3 rappen that it was permissible, and in fact authorised, that the 2 rappen stamp could be halved, each half being used with a 2 rappen stamp to prepay the rate.

The following chapter deals with the perforated stamps of 1862-1882, and in it we find a great deal of interesting information. We also find an account of the labels (probably printed at Berne) for use on the letters sent by the French Army (under General Bourbaki), which, during the Franco-Prussian war, entered Swiss territory in January, 1871. At the end of this chapter (or sub-division of part II.) we find a table showing the sale of Swiss stamps from 1852 to 1882.

The later issues of Swiss stamps are fully dealt with, an especially interesting chapter being devoted to the Jubilee stamps of 1900. These labels abound in minor varieties, a full list being given. Part III. of M. Zumstein's book deals exhaustively with Unpaid letter stamps, while Part IV. briefly describes (many illustrations) some of the best known cancellations to be found on the imperforate stamps. A later chapter of Part IV. deals with Proofs and Essays. Parts V. and VI. deal respectively with (1) Telegraph stamps, and (2) Envelopes, Wrappers and Postcards.

As is only to be expected the typographical features of this handbook are all that could be desired, while the price, 3/6 net, is absurdly low for such a valuable addition to the literature of philately. Only 300 copies have been printed.

#### LES TIMBRES DU CHILI.\*

This little work is a translation by M. Sigismond Jean from the Spanish of Rafael Aguirre Mercado and is edited by M. Georges Brunel. Coming at a time when we are hunting feverishly for the elusive products of Gillet and Desmadryl, but lately introduced to notoriety by Mr. C. J. Phillips, we should have welcomed this pamphlet if it had explained how we might recognize these desiderata when we met with them. Unfortunately we find no mention of these well-meaning but troublesome gentlemen in M. Jean's pages—surely a serious omission in an "up-to-date" publication! Truth to tell, "Les Timbres du Chili" is a very elementary work and cannot appeal to any serious specialists in the stamps of this difficult country. It is a plain straightforward account of the various issues, and is nicely printed, but it omits some of the most interesting facts, even among the later issues.

\* "Les Timbres du Chili," adapted by Sigismond Jean from the work of R. A. Mercado. Illustrated. Ch. Mendel, 118 bis rue d'Assas, Paris. 67 pp., paper covers, 1 fr. 50 net.

### THE CATALOGUE YVERT & TELLIER —CHAMPION, FOR 1911.\*

THE fifteenth edition of the Standard French Catalogue appears to contain no new features, the only alterations which we have been able to trace being an extended list, with larger illustrations of Ceylon Telegraph stamps, the revision of prices (nearly always in an upward direction), and the addition of the new issues of the past twelve months.

In spite of the additions the number of pages, exclusive of advertisements, etc., has been reduced from 706 to 699. This apparent miracle has been effected by numerous small economies of space, which by themselves are hardly noticeable, and the omission of one or two unimportant illustrations.

The merits of this catalogue are too well known to need pointing out by us. For a general collector, of the old-fashioned type, it is an excellent work to take as a text-book. For medium and common stamps of all countries the prices quoted more nearly reflect the market prices than do those of many other well-known catalogues. As we have already said the prices generally show an upward tendency, but we notice none of those sensational rises which we sometimes meet with in England, Messrs. Yvert et Tellier rarely raise a price more than from 10 to 15%, save in the case of some very recent issue, where the actual value was not previously known with any exactness.

In a work which bears such evident signs of careful editing, we are surprised to see a mistake which crept into the last edition repeated in the new. This occurs in connection with the two Chili stamps of 5 *centavos* on bluish paper, of which the scarcer one is priced at 1 fr. and the commoner at 10 fr. This, of course, is only a slip, and we should not have mentioned it but that we hope the publishers will make a note of it for their next edition.

### WHITFIELD KING'S CATALOGUE, 1911.†

OUR old friend, the Whitfield King catalogue has now reached its eleventh edition. We find, on reference to the preface the publishers so kindly write, that the volume for 1911 lists a total of 23,404 stamps, against the 22,926 of last year. On glancing through the pages of the new edition we find that, generally speaking British Colonial stamps, except perhaps King's Heads on multiple watermarked paper, show very little appreciation in value.

What we have said of this catalogue in previous years still holds good. It is un-

doubtedly the best for beginners and general collectors who only take an interest in standard varieties. The illustrations (3791 in number) are one-fourth the size of the original stamps, while the price remains the same as last year, namely, 2/-. To take a rather cursory glance through the new Whitfield King, we find that the 1892 issue of Angra shows a marked rise in value. This appreciation in Portuguese Colonial stamps holds good throughout the whole series. Antigua stamps remain unchanged, Argentines likewise show no alteration. In Austria the current set 1 heller to 10 kr. is priced at 31/-; this should be decidedly cheap to anybody desiring these undesirable labels. Baden stamps have undergone no change as regards pricing, neither have Bavarians, Belgians, nor many other standard Europeans. Canadians show no alteration. Amongst early Ceylon stamps we only find one which has advanced in price, namely, the 8d. imperforate, now £15 against last year's £10. The quotation of 38/8 for the "numeral" set of unused King's Head Ceylons should be remarkably cheap. Chili stamps have undergone a weird and wonderful change, the 5c. *lake* of 1852-62, whatever stamp that may be, is now priced 3/- instead of 3d.; other early values show a similar heavenly tendency.

It would take up too much space were we to individualise every important country; we must content ourselves with recommending our readers to invest in a copy of the new edition, study the prices, and order those stamps they think priced at bargain rates, they will find many; the bargain hunter, and the genuine filler-up-of-blank-spaces, will find many quotations that please.

### SCOTT'S 1911 CATALOGUE.\*

THE seventieth edition of the Standard American Catalogue is duly to hand. As in previous years we can only reiterate that the publication is one which shows very many admirable features, chief of which is that minor varieties are listed in small type—an idea which the "green" Gibbons for 1911 has commenced to follow.

Reviewing an American catalogue we naturally first turn to American stamps, with the result that we find, comparatively speaking, but few alterations. Amongst early Argentine stamps we find but one or two trifling alterations, chief of which is the reduction from \$60 to \$50 in the price of the imperforate 15c. blue Rivadavia stamp of 1864. Generally speaking, Scott's prices for South American stamps are more reasonable than those of Gibbons. The 5p. of 1891 is priced in the American catalogue \$10.00 and \$3.50, unused and used; Gibbons prices being 50/- and 20/-. The 5p., however, of the 1892-95 issue, is priced used at 60c. against the 1/3 of our standard price list.

\* "Catalogue Prix Courant de Timbres-Poste," 1911. Yvert et Tellier, 37 Rue des Jacobins, Amiens. Cloth; 3/8 net.

† Published by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. Price 2/- nett.

\* Published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., New York. Price, paper bound, 50c. cloth bound, 65c. Postage, 10c.

The 12c. yellow-buff of the 1908, "San Martin" set is listed by Scott at 60c. unused, just half what Gibbons quote it at. The other values however of this set are nearly all priced higher in America than is the case in England. Under the heading of Chili we find that a few of the early stamps show an appreciation in value, some of the later values are however worth comparing with Gibbons' list, namely the 30c. of 1899 (S.G. No. 67) priced 75c. and 35c., against 4/- and 1/-, and the 50c. of 1901-2 40c. used, versus Gibbons 1/-, while the 12c. and 1p. of the current set are priced, unused, 50c. and \$1.25. These figures are certainly (at present) nearer the mark than those of S.G. & Co.'s., namely 3d. and 1/9. Brazilian stamps, at least the early issues, show no change, the same applies to the early stamps of Peru. Uruguay stamps however show a marked tendency to soar upwards—

due no doubt to the specializing tendency of one of America's greatest collectors.

The stamps of the United States show a steady upward tendency—but nothing very startling, while last but not least we find that here and there an odd Canadian evinces the same desire to get out of reach of the modest pursued collector. The 7½d. green of 1887 has soared from \$15 to \$18, while the considerably more humble 10c. and 12½c. of the next issue have also "got a move on them." The "big head" 5c. of 1875 has risen from one dollar to "one twenty-five."

Lack of space prevents further comparing of prices, we can only continue to recommend as we have in past years, all English collectors to invest in a copy of Messrs. Scott's Catalogue, if for no other reason than that it contains a great number of varieties not listed by any English cataloguers.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Bahamas.** The *Colonial Office Journal* states that the 1d. Queen's Staircase stamp will shortly be issued on multiple water-marked paper.



**Bermuda.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 1d. label uniform with the halfpenny stamp chronicled last August.



Adhesive. Multiple watermark.  
1d. rose.

**Cayman Islands.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 6d. stamp in a new shade.

Adhesive. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
6d. pale purple (formerly dark lilac).

**Fiji.** We have seen copies of the 2½d. stamp, all one colour.

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple wmk.  
2½d. ultramarine on white.

**Gold Coast.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the 2/- in the new colours.

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple wmk., ordinary paper.  
2/- purple on blue

**Hong Kong.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 1c. stamp, as described below.

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple watermark.  
1c. brown.

**Jamaica.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt very kindly sends us specimens of the new 2½d., 1/- and 2/- stamps. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also tell us they have received the 4d. value as well.

Adhesives. Multiple wmk.

2½d. blue on white.  
4d. black on yellow.  
1/- black on green.  
2/- purple on blue.

The first is the "arms" type, and the three higher values bear the portrait of Queen Victoria.

**Newfoundland.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the following interesting letter. "In looking over our stock we have discovered

a remarkable error in the 6c. stamps of the new issue, it appears that a mistake was made on the plate, the letter "z" in "colonization" being reversed, the oblique stroke running from left to right instead of from right to left. This error was soon discovered and the plate rectified, the stamps already printed off where however sent off to Newfoundland and our first consignment must have consisted entirely of the errors which were distributed to our new issue customers. We enclose a specimen of both varieties for comparison, how many sheets of the errors were printed we do not know, but we are trying to find out."

**New South Wales.** Mr. J. H. Smyth, of Sydney tells us that "within the past few weeks a new issue of 2d. stamps appeared. The original wood block die was recut in some places and a fresh electro made therefrom."

The *Australian Philatelist* adds that some of the lines have been deepened, noticeable in the lines to the right of "Wales," the lines from below the ear right down the neck are uniform and flat, and do not show the connection of the face with the neck.

Our contemporary chronicles the following.

*Adhesive.* Current type. Perf. 11½, 12×11.  
½d. green.

**New Zealand.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current ½d., 1d., and 6d. stamps with the overprint "official." We have already twice listed the lowest value, so will not do so again, but the other two values are, we think, new to our readers. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* also chronicles the 3d. and 1/- stamps.

*Official Stamps.*  
Dominion of New Zealand.  
1d. red.

King's Head type.  
3d. chestnut.  
6d. carmine.  
1/- vermilion.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 6d. King's Head stamp (without overprint), perforated 14×14½.

**North Borneo.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has very kindly shown us copies of the recently issued \$5 and \$10 stamps overprinted "British Protectorate" in red.

*Adhesives.*  
\$5 bright purple.  
\$10 brown.

**Northern Nigeria.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt kindly sends us the 2½d. stamp all one colour.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple wmk.  
2½d. blue.

**Papua.** We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the following.

"We have received specimens of the 2d. value with the inscription 'PAPUA' in large lettering like the 2/6 and the first ½d., and Mr. Oswald Marsh has shown us the 1d. value similarly altered."

*Adhesives.* "PAPUA" in large letters. Watermarked Crown and A (upright) perf. 12½.  
1d. rose and black.  
2d. violet.  
2/6 light brown and black.

**St. Kitts-Nevis.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us the 1/- pictorial stamp on chalky paper

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
1/- grey-green and orange.

**South African Union.** We have received copies of the new stamp illustrated below.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* says, *apropos* these stamps:—



"The stamps are line-engraved, and are printed in Prussian blue direct from the plate, on white paper watermarked Multiple Quatre-foil, the perforation gauging 14. The entire sheet consists of 120 stamps arranged in one large pane, of ten horizontal rows of twelve each, a line in each of the margins (which are otherwise quite plain) indicating the places for division into quarter-sheets.

With one or two exceptions, blue ink is so very tenacious that it is practically impossible, even in hand-work, to wipe the plate quite clean; and this is the reason why, as in the present case, the surface of the paper has a bluish tinge.

The engraving of the stamp is of the highest excellence, but the printing might be improved either by further wiping of the plate or the use of another ink more suitable for recess-work.

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa has kindly sent us a die proof, which, being in black, shows up the excellence of the engraving to a high degree.

In the stamp itself, there are one or two things which invite adverse criticism—first, why should the facial value of Twopence Halfpenny have been selected: surely, a stamp of One Penny is, in these days of cheap postage, in much greater demand than of the value chosen? The portrait of King George is, though easily recognisable, not so good as it might be; but it is, we know, very difficult to "catch" an expression.

There is a glaring inconsistency in the treatment of the Arms in the two lower corners: as depicted, one shield bears the Arms of, and is so described, the Orange Free State, a (late) independent republic; but the

other, though showing the Arms of the old South African Republic, is labelled "Transvaal", the name of a British possession. We submit it should have been "Orange Free State" and "South African Republic", or "Orange River Colony" (why not "Orangia"?) and "Transvaal".

Finally, why has Quatrefoil paper been used: is it the only kind made in a size to fit this plate, or is "Quatrefoil" supposed to be peculiarly applicable to the union of four countries?"

*Adhesive.* Perf. 14. Wmkd. multiple Quatrefoil. 2½d. Prussian blue.

**South Australia.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has kindly shown us a copy of the £1, long stamp with the 12½ small holes perforations.

*Adhesive.* Perf. 12½, small holes. £1 blue.

**Southern Nigeria.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the 1d. stamps are now "printed from a 240 set plate at one operation." From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we learn that the value "1d." is larger and that the "d" is almost on a level with the "1" instead of raised.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Belgian Congo.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have the following high values with altered inscription (bilingual).

*Adhesives.*

40c. blue-green and black.	
50c. green	..
1f. red	..
3f. rose	..
5f. lake	..
10f. green	..

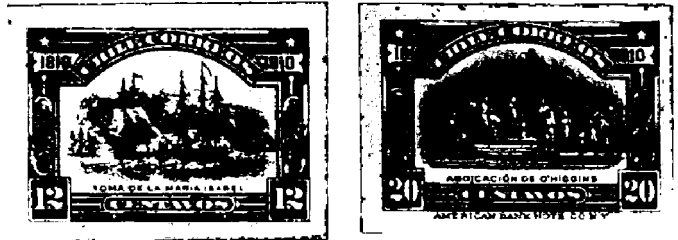
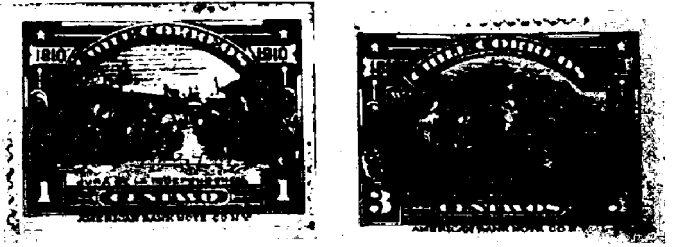
**Bosnia.** Last month we chronicled three or four varieties of perforation in the pictorial set. Mr. Charlick has now shown us the following. The list is appalling.

*Adhesives.* Pictorial issues of 1906-7.

1 heller, perf.	12½ × 10½ × 9½.
1 .. ..	10½ × 12½.
2 .. ..	10½ × 12½.
3 .. ..	..
3 .. ..	9½ × 10½ × 12½.
6 .. ..	10½ × 12½.
6 .. ..	12½ × 9½ × 10½.
20 .. ..	12½ × 10½.
20 .. ..	12½ × 10½ × 9½.
30 .. ..	12½ × 9½ × 10½.
40 .. ..	10½ × 9½ × 12½.
40 .. ..	12½ × 10½.
40 .. ..	10½ × 12½ × 9½.

We have given the list of these weird and wonderful varieties in full. Specialists in Bosnian stamps can wrestle with it at leisure. All the above were found in a big parcel of stamps and are all postally used.

**Chili.** We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. eleven of the new Commemorative stamps. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* also chronicled the 2c., 5c. and 2p. values.



*Commemoratives.*

1c. green and black.	
2c. rose-lake	..
3c. red-brown	..
5c. dull blue	..
10c. brown	..
12c. red	..
20c. orange	..
25c. ultramarine	..
30c. lilac	..
50c. sage-green	..
1p. yellow	..
2p. red	..
5p. green	..
10p. purple	..

**Crete.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows. "We have now received all values of the current set of postage stamps with the large block surcharge printed in London, except the 2 drachmæ which still exists with the fancy surcharge only. All values of the Postage Due set have also been issued with the new surcharge."

**Italy.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicled the 5c. of the 1901 issue in an imperforate condition. The 1c. of this set is already catalogued.

*Adhesive.* 1901 issue, variety imperf. 5c. green.

**Mexico.** Last month we listed two values of a commemorative set. We now learn, from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that the following values have also been issued.

Wmkd. portions of letters.  
1c. dull purple.  
2c. green.  
3c. chestnut.  
10c. orange and blue.  
15c. lake and dull ultramarine.  
20c. blue and rose.  
50c. blue and red.  
1p. blue and black.  
5p. lake and black.

**Nicaragua.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us specimens of the 3c. and 15c. stamps surcharged "Vale" and new value.

*Adhesives.*  
2c. on 3c. orange.  
10c. on 15c. black.

**Portugal.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the new "Republica" stamps. We illustrate it below, but will wait until later before we attempt to chronicle the various stamps which are likely to receive the new overprint.



**Portugal. Funchal.** A correspondent to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* says he has the whole of the 1897-99 set perforated  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ .

**Russian Levant.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the current 5k. stamp surcharged "20 PARA."

*Adhesive.*  
20 pa. on 5k. purple.

**Uruguay.** Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, kindly sends us a specimen of the latest surcharge, as illustrated below.



*Adhesive.* Surcharged in blue.  
5 centesimos on 50c. red.

Mr. Davis tells us that this provisional was issued October 6th, and that only 300,000 were printed.

Just as we go to press we learn that the British South Africa Co. has issued a set of labels inscribed Rhodesia. The design seems to be a palpable imitation of the  $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Canada Quebec Commemoratives.



## November, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

## 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:—Albert Schwabacher, West Kensington, S.W.; proposed by W. Schwabacher, seconded by T. H. Hinton.

## NOTICES.

The second meeting of the Season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, Nov. 10, present J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarte, O. Marsh, A. Levy, W. E. Lincoln, F. F. Lamb, A. B. Kay, Guy Semple, P. L. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec. and one visitor. Mr. G. F. C. Woods, Hon. Sec. South Wales and Monmouthshire Society. To the great regret of all present, Mr. L. L. R.



Hausburg, was unable to be present to give his display of Queensland, owing to illness. Mr. Pemberton kindly took charge of the collection and gave the display on behalf of Mr. Hausburg. Needless to say the collection is most highly specialized and written up, and afforded much pleasure to all present, and a hearty vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Schwarte, seconded by Mr. Marsh was carried unanimously and the Hon. Sec. was directed to forward the same to Mr. Hausburg with the expression of the sincere sympathy of the meeting with him in his indisposition and their hopes for his speedy recovery.

**SMOKING CONCERT.**—The Sixth Annual Concert was held at the Horse Shoe Restaurant, on Monday, 14th, and thanks to Messrs. Lincoln and Pemberton and the other members of the sub-committee was a great success, a most enjoyable evening being spent by upwards of one hundred members and friends. A full report appears in another column.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7.30 p.m. (*Committee 7 p.m.*), when in addition to the display of British Guiana, British Honduras and Falklands by Mr. Heginbottom, B.A., Mr. Victor Beaujeux has kindly consented to give a display of his collection of Switzerland, which was awarded a silver medal at the recent Exhibition at Berne. All members and any visitors heartily welcomed.

The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive proposals for Membership, any donation to the Forgery Collection on view at all meetings, and any subscriptions still due, of which notices have been sent to members.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

Nov. 15th, 1910.

A NEW enlarged edition of the Empire Postage Stamp Album has just been published.

All the recent issues, including Caymans Solomon Islands, Maldives, Nyasaland, New Hebrides, Papua, etc., are provided for, and all stamp issuing countries are brought up to date. While among the illustrations are philatelic portraits of King George, Queen Mary, Queen Alexandra and the late King Edward.

MESSRS. HARMER ROOKE & Co., the well-known philatelic auctioneers, tell us that last season they offered the record number of 24,736 lots. This is, we believe, the greatest number of lots sold by any firm of stamp auctioneers.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

IN a recent number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* I read that Mr. Phillips has decided to give up the *Weekly*. I am not surprised, now that Antonio Buster (the one and only temporary rival to McTavish) has gone to America, Mr. Phillips must find it difficult to get good matter for his columns.

I also read that the dear old *Monthly Journal* is to be resurrected. In intelligent anticipation of what he knows will happen, Mr. Phillips writes:—

"We do not wish for any contributions of stamp stories, poetry, or snippy paragraphs."

I guess when C.J.P. had read the same "snippy" paragraph from a dozen different correspondents, he asked Stanley for a pen and ink and penned the *Weekly's* death warrant. I shan't send him that paragraph I cut out of the morning paper the other day, relating to King George being a stamp collector. What a nasty unkind blow for philatelic poets, to say nothing of those youthful authors who actually get paid for copying information out of Gibbons' catalogue, giving it a long title, and sending it up for publication.

When I start a weekly stamp paper I shall try to go to press the week I publish, not a few weeks in advance of my date of publication. 'Nuf said.

The *Postage Stamp* for Oct. 22nd contained the following advertisement:—

Wanted, a strong Magnifying Glass and nickel-plated Tweezers in exchange for 220 stamps, all different; good specimens.—H. —, Hope Street, Cape Town.

As my duplicate magnifying glass, is suffering from a strained socket (due to the size of the latest Austrians) I am unable to send it in response to the above. If the resident in Hope Street would entertain the exchange of a good pair of steel tweezers (minus one tong) a big box full of very second-hand stamp mounts, a cracked saucer (very useful for storing stamps in) and a small piece of a blue Australian stamp I am his man. I should want to see the 220 stamps first though.

The author of "Notes and News," in the current number of the *Philatelic Record*, says: "Among philatelists, general regret was expressed at the disappearance six years ago of the *Monthly Journal*." Personally I can't remember the disappearing trick the *M.J.* did six years ago, but it couldn't have been anything like so sensational as the strange disappearance of the penny blacks in 1820. Possibly the six years ago disappearance was a dress rehearsal for the autumn exit of 1908.

I receive a good many letters in the course of the year, the majority, however, are of much too personal a character to admit of

publication in this column. The following, however, from friend Haggis (Chief of the West African Clan McHaggis), is rather amusing:—

31st October, 1910.

DEAR MCTAVISH,

I believe that Shakespeare or "some other feller" has written that "Sweet are the uses of advertisement," or something like that. I am experiencing the sweet uses of publicity in the *P. F. G. B.*, which has recorded that I displayed certain stamps at a meeting of the City of London Philatelic Society, and then I became the recipient of all sorts of items from enterprising caterers for the supply of philatelic needs. But what is one to do with a communication like this:—"Having noticed in the *P. F. G. B.* that you go in specially for the stamps of (let us say for purposes of anonymity) Iceland, I send you herewith a specialized collection of (say) Soudan, and shall be pleased to allow you a discount of 25% off marked prices."

It is somewhat like the case of the lady who was advertised as wearing the famous B.C. (or A.D.) . . . . . \* and received from a tailor a range of samples of his new Trouserings at 13/-. But the lady could throw away the samples, or make them into patchwork, † or give them to a charity, but I cannot very well do this and am expected to pay 7d. return postage on things I am not interested in from a person I do not know. In all I have received five approval selections.

Yours faithfully,  
HAGGIS.

"Haggis" should turn dealer and advertise in the *P. F. G. B.*, every stamp dealer and collector reads it.

Some weeks ago a London dealer courted notoriety by stating that stamp collecting was on the wane owing to the counter attractions of—among other things—motor cars! Absurd as this statement was, it would do no good to stamp dealers, I am therefore pleased to find a displayed advertisement in a recent stamp journal to the effect that the advertiser wishes to exchange a "Stevens-Duryer 1906 4-cyl. Touring Car, etc., etc., cash value \$900.00, for a 20th Century Collection worth \$700 to \$1500"! Has anybody here seen . . . . . ? If not, has he gone to America ?

From a big displayed advertisement in a recent number of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* I see that Stanley Gibbons, Inc. of New York ("The People With the Goods") are advertising that a multi-millionaire has given them orders to secure certain U.S. stamps for him. Some of these items are enumerated and the advertisement finishes. "Also any other imperf. U.S., unused in large pieces." Looking up my duplicates I find I have a large imperf. piece of the 1909, 2c. imperf. Lincoln. I can't be quite certain about its being unused, but I will send it along. I also have a fair sized piece of one of the low values of the 1869 issue, but it has perfs. on the nor'west corner, and there isn't room for me to cut them off.

Does anybody here know . . . . . ?

\* It grieves me to have to delete a word.—McTav.

† Patchwork trousers are not now worn.—McTav.

## The I.P.U. Smoker.

UPWARDS of 100 members and friends of the International Philatelic Union assembled at the Horse Shoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, on Monday, November 14th, on the occasion of the sixth annual smoking concert of the Society.

The efforts of the sub-committee to beat all previous records were crowned with complete success, as the attendance was the largest, and the programme, under the able direction of Mr. W. E. Lincoln, easily the best, in the series of enjoyable concerts promoted by the I.P.U.

The chair was taken at 8 o'clock by the President, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, and from that time until shortly after 11 the audience was kept in the best of spirits by the clever Artistes engaged.

Of the concert itself it would be impossible to give more than a list of the performers, but special mention must be made of Mr. Selwyn Driver who kept the audience in roars of laughter with his Humorous Sketches at the Piano. Mr. W. E. Lincoln, who was, no doubt, harrassed by his duties as Musical Director, did not perform until late in the evening. He received a tremendous ovation on his appearance; he told of the humorous adventures of a lighthouse keeper, in his own well-known manner. As an encore he appeared in a new rôle, as far as the I.P.U. Concerts are concerned, by singing a song, to his own accompaniment, about the efforts of a dude to keep the creases in his trousers.

Mr. Owen Way, who had the difficult task of opening the concert, was very well received, as also were the two other comedians, Messrs. Jack Lennol and Edward Sydney. Miss Doris Lee sang three capital songs and put the audience in high good humour when they were invited to join in the chorus of "The Pretty Little Girl from Nowhere," which they did with full voice.

A novel turn was that of Mr. Jack Treval, who did some very clever imitations of various musical instruments and animals.

Unfortunately Mr. Charles Cheshir and Miss Lilian Smith were both unable to come, but their defection was in part compensated for by Mr. Harold Childe, who rendered two serious songs, which were received with great applause.

Mr. Mansell Stevens at the piano gave skilful assistance to all the performers.

The health of the chairman was proposed by Mr. Hinton in a neat speech, which was responded to by Mr. Sidebotham who, in turn proposed the health of the sub-committee, coupled with the name of Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Lincoln replied in the shortest speech on record, as he was anxious to get on with the serious business of the evening.

## City of London Philatelic Society.

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### Official Organ :

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Head Quarters for Meetings :

MILLS' RESTAURANT,  
14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.  
(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

THE usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, Nov. 9th, and in spite of the inclement weather there was a very good muster. The President being absent owing to illness the chair was taken by Mr. W. H. Westcott. Several new members were elected and then the business of the evening was proceeded with, the principal item being a Paper by Mr. Higlett on the first 1d. and 2d. stamps of Great Britain. The Paper turned out to be a model of concise arrangement of all the known facts in connection with these pioneers of philatelic treasures, and was illuminated with a very pretty wit and illustrated by Mr. Higlett's own excellent collection which contained many interesting proofs and very beautiful specimens.

The next item on the programme was the competition, the subject being the "Independent Asiatic States," such as Afghanistan, Japan, Siam, etc. Unfortunately this did not provoke the display which it should have done, although many members of the Society having general collections must have very good selections, if only they were not too shy to bring them forward, it is hoped that on other occasions the members will avail themselves of the officers' efforts to offer them opportunities of displaying portions of their

undoubtedly admirable collections. There still being some time left Mr. Higlett was good enough to send round for inspection a great number of "French Used Abroads." These are much more numerous than the ordinary collector would think, as French stamps during the reign of Napoleon III. followed the Eagles of the Army to all sorts of unexpected quarters.

During the evening various members sent round some very interesting things in the way of new issues, curiosities, and new discoveries, this feature of the Society's meetings seems to be very highly appreciated.

### NEXT MEETING.

On December 7th Mr. Phillips will show his magnificent collection of British Africans.

Members will be well rewarded if they will turn up to see this superb display.

The Secretary will be glad if members will return, duly signed, the form of assent to the rules which is sent out with the report.

## Correspondence.

### THE LATEST BRITISH FORGERY.

71, Fleet Street,  
London, E.C.  
10th November, 1910.

To the Editor, "P.J.G.B."

DEAR SIR,

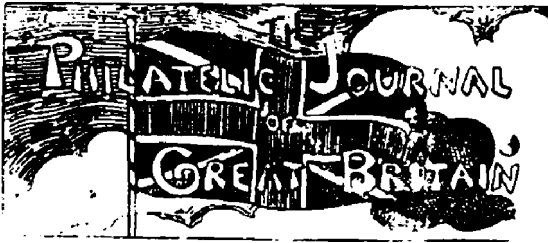
We have lately been offered some fine used copies of the 10/- grey-green, Great Britain, watermark Anchor, perf. 14 (Gibbons No. 135). Upon examination we find they are very deceptive forgeries. They were offered us in good faith, but we understand they came originally from Italy. The forgeries are printed on genuine watermarked and perforated paper obtained by discharging the colour from some fiscal stamp, of which there are several that can be so utilized.

Apparently, the design is reproduced by some photographic process, as we can find no actual difference, save that the appearance is more scratchy and blurred than the genuine, probably owing to the paper being absorbent after chemical treatment. The white parts are, if anything, slightly thicker and more prominent, especially on the head, and corner letters are also larger than on the genuine. The letterings on specimens we have had are DF-FD and EB-BE. The postmarks which are also well forged are "Kensington BO, Young St. S.W. Ju. 19/82" and "York St. Manchester, Sp. 18/83".

Trusting these particulars may prevent any further distribution of this forgery.

We are, yours truly,

BRIDGER & KAY.



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All communications to be addressed to—

**P. L. PEMBERTON & Co.,**

68, High Holborn, London, W.C.

NEXT month's *P. J. G. B.* will be a grand Xmas number. It will contain many articles of interest, and, as is usual at Christmas time, our covers will contain nearly double their usual share of pages. Don't, if you are a collector, miss this number—it will be full of interesting information. If you are a dealer it will pay you to see that your advertisement is an attractive one.

The Xmas *P. J. G. B.* for 1910 will be a publication that will be read by a very big percentage of the world's active collectors.

## Postal Difficulties in Central America.

The following notes are extracted from the Annual Report on the Posts of Ecuador 1907-08.

Reproduced from the *Philatelic Journal of India.*

THE rural posts in connection with the railway line were also improved. This is especially the case for the postal communication between Baños, in the province of Tungurahua crossed by the railway, and the town Andoas, situated in the Eastern part of the country where population is very scarce, which was thoroughly reorganized. A difficult and dangerous road crosses long and inhospitable forests. Between Baños and the intermediary station of Canelos, the mails are transported by four carriers, who, two together, make a trip every fortnight. Each carrier has to carry up to 3 arrobas\* in weight and receives 10 sucres† a journey. From Canelos to Andoas the mails are transported twice a month in a boat worked by three rowers. Each rower receives 7 sucres a journey; the Post has also to pay 4 sucres for the hire of the boat. Considering that the return journey takes over 20 days when the water is high, the indemnity may be regarded as very modest. The number of post offices amounted to 169 at the close of the financial year.

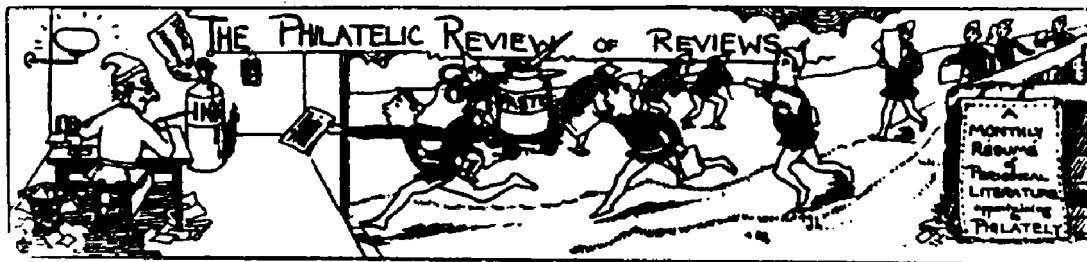
The sale of postage stamps is in the hands of the schoolmasters.

The post office of Guayaquil receives in sealed sacks all foreign letter and parcel mails. Owing to the lack of sacks for the further transmission of these mails to the interior of the country, that office also makes use of foreign sacks, which thus circulate all over the country and are returned with much delay to the country of origin; it sometimes happens that these sacks are lost en route. For 1904 France claimed an indemnity for 214 such sacks. In 1905 and 1906 a number of foreign sacks were also lost; for 1907 the losses are not yet known. In order to remedy this evil, the Director-General of Posts proposes to buy a stock of sacks sufficient for the domestic service.

The postage stamps sold from June 1st to December 31st 1907 amounted to 47,757 sucres. This sum does not however include the sale of the provinces of Pichincha, León, Tungurahua, Azuay and Manabi, the persons entrusted with the sale of stamps in these provinces not having given notice to the Treasury of the fortnightly sale as requested by the regulations. During the last seven months of 1907 the expenditure amounted to 152,954 sucres. The statistical records known are only those of the offices of Guayaquil and Quito.

\*1 arroba=11.5 kilograms.

†1 sucre of 100 centavos=2 francs 10 centimes.



NOVEMBER 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

THE *London Philatelist* for October contains, as an editorial, some admirable comments by Mr. Castle on Lord Crewe's now famous Circular.

The Earl of Crawford contributes a lengthy instalment of his "Abstracts from the Specifications of Patents connected with Postage and Revenue Stamps, granted by the United States Patent Office from 1863 to 1898." Two pages of our contemporary are devoted to news relating to Australian Commonwealth Stamps. We find several extracts from the *Australian Philatelist*, also the following: "The present issues of Western Australia and Tasmania contain pictorial and other hideous designs." Surely this is rather a thoughtless way of describing current West Australians.

We are also told that "the issues (current) of Victoria and Queensland are ineffective and not uniform, and bear mostly portraits of the late Queen."

We admit the impeachment where Victorian stamps are concerned, but surely the current Queenslanders, excepting the 4d. and 9d. values, are suitable. Their fault seems to be that they still bear Queen Victoria's portrait, which, by-the-bye, shares with the well-known Swan of Western Australia the honour of being described as a "hideous design!"

From an interesting batch of "Occasional Notes" we extract the following:—

Mr. H. Köhler, the Paris philatelic auctioneer, was a visitor at a recent meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club, where he gave an interesting *résumé* of the Paris auctions, some items of which, as detailed in the minutes of the Society, we reproduce for the information of our readers.

Mr. Köhler stated that the Paris auctions of recent years have caused great satisfaction to collectors, and have given an important impetus to French collecting, as many amateurs who had attended to make pur-

chases were led to extend their field of operations by the sight of the fine stamps of other countries on sale. This has had the result of drawing many collectors out of their shell, it being well known that although there is an extraordinary number of collectors in France, the majority, including most of the leaders, had always remained in obscurity. This statement of Mr. Köhler's is beyond doubt true, as testified by the experience of many Philatelists in this country, and, indeed, has always been a source of regret.

The success of philatelic societies in France has, however, not been uniform, and the isolation of the leading collectors is probably largely due to this fact. The remarkable absorption of the huge quantities of stamps submitted for sale at Paris during the last few years, however, amply bears out Mr. Köhler's statement as to the large number of French collectors.

The observation that "the seller of a collection mostly loses thereby whether sold at auction or to dealers" is one that, we think, is capable of modification, especially having regard to the remarkable prices attained for fine or rare stamps, many instances of which were quoted by Mr. Köhler. The principal cause of these losses are stated by Mr. Köhler as arising from the presence of "faked" stamps, the following being quoted as especially dangerous specimens:—

Montserrat, 4d., C.A. "Antigua" faded out and "Montserrat" printed thereon.

Lagos, 5s. "Two pence" faded out and "Five shillings" inserted.

Lagos, 10s. "Specimen" scratched out and false postmark imposed.

Oldenburg, first issue, all values, unused. Made out of two stamps joined together. Lightly obliterated specimens are chosen with portions untouched by postmark, and these, often with original gum, are marvellously joined together.

Thurn and Taxis, first issue. The coloured impressions of later issues are chemically changed to black and the paper then coloured.

Buenos Ayres, 5 pesos, yellow. Chemically changed from the 1 peso, blue.

Switzerland, double Geneva, one half forged. "Vaud," 4c., made out of the 5c.—an extremely dangerous forgery.

France, 1 franc, *tête-bêche*. Two stamps joined together on original.

Mr. Köhler gave a salutary warning as to the dangers of purchasing the (at present popular) stamps on entire, as he says the most dangerous "fakes" occur in this class, and he avers that 10 to 15 per cent. of all the Swiss Cantonals on entire that pass through his hands are repaired or faked up in some manner, and frequently so marvellously well executed as to practically defy detection. We can bear testimony to this by recent experience, and think it advisable to issue this little note of warning to all whom it may concern.

It is undoubtedly true that there are many faked entires about, but, in propor-

tion, not nearly as many as there are faked stamps. To forge a complete envelope, with postmarks, only adds to the liability of detection. At the same time, as Mr. Köhler rightly points out, the "original envelope" acts as a decoy duck; but, surely, a forged stamp should be no more difficult to detect (or at least require only a little more careful examination), because it is stuck on an envelope! We quite agree with M. Köhler that the percentage of Cantonals on entires would give 10 to 15% of fakes. But the same, or even up to 25%, would hold good of these stamps off the envelopes, granted of course they came from equally miscellaneous sources.

The October number of the *Philatelic Record* contains the completion of "Quilp's" article, entitled "British 'Abnormals.'" He deals with telegraph stamps, also gives a synopsis of both postage and telegraph stamps.

Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace contributes a capital article, entitled "The Significance of the Shades in the Surcharged Issues of China, 1897." We make the following extract, and can, at the same time, recommend those of our readers, who are interested in Chinese stamps, to read Mr. Harte-Lovelace's article in its entirety.

The stamps of the 1894 issue were designed by M. de Villard, a Frenchman in the employment of the Chinese Government, and his drawings were sent to a Japanese firm of printers, who reproduced them by the process of lithography. In January, 1897, the Post Office was separated from the Customs, and constituted a separate department. The occasion was considered a good one on which to introduce the Western currency of dollars and cents in place of the native tael, mace and candarin. Fresh stamps with different designs showing the new currency were ordered from Japan, and in the meantime the stock in hand of the old issue was surcharged with the values in cents. It was evidently thought at first that this stock would hold out until the arrival of the new stamps, but it soon became evident that unless some other provision was made there would be a serious shortage of stamps long before the new ones appeared. All post offices were ordered to search for any old stock they might have, and to return it to be surcharged; some sheets of the 1885 issue were discovered in Shanghai and overprinted; so were nearly a million copies of a stamp which had been obtained for certain prospective fiscal purposes, but never used, in fact the Post Office overprinted every stamp it could lay its hands on. But none of these devices succeeded in filling the awkward interim, and at last the authorities decided to reprint the 1894 designs and surcharge them for use until the new stamps arrived from Japan. There was no time to be lost, and consequently the reprinting was done at home in Shanghai. Even one reprinting was not found sufficient, and of some values two or three were made, as we shall see, before the new stamps arrived from Japan in August. Now it is an interesting fact that these reprints can be

easily distinguished from the original Japanese prints by the inferior workmanship, and by the varying shades. Three separate printings of the surcharges were made, in January, March, and May. These are easily distinguishable; the first having an Arabic figure 2 mm. high, the second having an Arabic figure 3 mm. high and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. distant from the nearest Chinese character, the third an Arabic figure 3 mm. high and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. distant from the nearest Chinese character. Since odd supplies kept coming in from the more distant post offices—all of these being, of course, the original Japanese prints, though Pakhoi sent up amongst the rest a number of sheets of the 1885 issue as well!—most values may be found overprinted with each type of overprint on these *original prints*, besides on the reprints and the second reprints.

I will now show how to distinguish them, and will end with a list of those I have seen, which, though fairly complete, cannot, of course, claim to be absolutely exhaustive. The most convenient way will be to take the values one by one, describing the differences in shades, and mentioning with what type of overprint each is found.

At the commencement I will remark that the reprints are not so well printed as the originals, having generally a soft, oily and rather smudgy look, while the original Japanese prints are hard and sharp in outline.

The *Record* also contains a further, and not very interesting instalment, of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905"; a New Issue list, and the other regular features of our contemporary.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for October 15th contains another long instalment of Mr. Melville's very capable and interesting article relating to the manufacture of Postage stamps. He deals with stamp designs procured by artists' competitions; N.S.W. (Centennial issue), New Zealand (Pictorials), and other stamps are illustrated. M. Hanciau continues his inexhaustible article, entitled, "The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies." He still continues to describe postcards. Mr. B. W. H. Poole continues his article dealing with the stamps of Holland (Countries of the World series). The following extract, although containing no new information, is of interest. Mr. Poole refers of course to the stamps of the first type.

The plates—the first one, at any rate—were supplied by M. Weiner, together with all the appliances necessary for the printing of the stamps. They were manufactured by the Mint, at Utrecht, and at first the authorities of the Mint controlled the whole work of production. By a royal decree, dated January 28th, 1853, an inspector was appointed to supervise the printing and take charge of the plates, etc. By 1860 the demand for stamps had increased to such an extent that the accommodation at the Mint was found inadequate, and it was ultimately decided to acquire a building adjoining and carry out the manufacture of the stamps there.

How many plates were made it is impossible to say

with certainty. There were at least three for the 10 cents, and though specialists can only state with positiveness that there were two for the 5c., it is probable there were more, judging by the numbers printed. According to the *N. derlandsche Tijdschrift* the total quantities were as follows:—

5 cents	.. ..	20,874,200
10 .. ..	.. ..	17,043,300
15 .. ..	.. ..	2,382,500

The second (?) plate for the 10c., can be identified by the appearance of a prominent flaw caused either by an accident to the die or to the impression on the transfer roll. The flaw consists of a long uncoloured horn-like projection from the centre of the forehead above the eyebrows. Mr. A. J. Warren has a dated copy showing this flaw used in August 17th, 1861, and another used in July, 1862. Some time after this latter date the plate was repaired, the horn-like projection being carefully removed from each of the one hundred stamps. Early in 1863 a new plate was made, and from this the impressions are quite clear and distinct. In the same year a new plate was made for the 5c., the impressions from this also being characterized by exceptional clearness and distinctness in all details of the design. It is quite possible, as we stated before, that there were other plates, but there is, at present at any rate, no means of identifying these.

The plates, being of copper, showed signs of wear at a comparatively early date, and there is no doubt that the thick, hard paper used had a lot to do with this. From time to time certain stamps were retouched to strengthen lines which had disappeared from the plate altogether or which failed to show in printing. To Mr. R. W. Wilkinson, of Gateshead, belongs the distinction of first having noted these retouches, while, we believe, they were first mentioned in print in Mr. Melville's little brochure on the stamps of Holland.

A good New Issue list and a South American letter complete a good number.

In the Oct. 22nd *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find a continuation of M. Hanciau's article. He deals with the stamps of Italy, overprinted with the word "Esterio."

The following very lengthy extract will, we think, be much appreciated by our readers.

Turkey had on various occasions, September 6, 1874, May 26, 1879, and December 10, 1883, made representations to Italy, complaining that its postal revenue had diminished considerably since the establishment of the Italian offices in Turkey, and insisted upon their removal.

In compliance with these requests, the Italian Government, towards the end of December, 1883, suppressed the post offices that had been opened at Beyrouth, Constantinople, and Smyrna; but this concession was more apparent than real, as we shall see later.

The establishment of foreign post offices in Turkey dates from the commencement of the eighteenth century. As early as that period the Austrian Consul at Constantinople despatched his official communications by a land route, through the services of a private post; while those addressed to the Republic of Venice were sent by sea. Towards the middle of the eighteenth century Austrian Post Offices were opened at Smyrna, Salonica, and in other places.

The commercial treaty, concluded on the 10th of June, 1783, between Turkey and Russia, conceded the same right to the latter country, and this right was then recognized as belonging to all the other powers. It was thus that France made use of the same privilege

in 1812, Great Britain in 1832, and Greece in 1834. The latter at once established post offices at Alexandria, Candia, Constantinople, and Smyrna (and even at Marseilles and Messina), which were under the charge of its consuls; in 1835 and 1836 the Greek consuls at Salonica and the Dardanelles were entrusted with the same duties. In 1849 the most important of the improvements "adopted during that year" was considered to be the regulation of the Greek Post Office at Constantinople, entrusted to special officials, which put an end to the irregularities and caprices of the censorship exercised by the Turkish functionaries. In August, 1852, the Consul and Vice-Consul at Janina and Arla were in charge of the Greek Post Offices in those two towns; in 1853 the same was the case at Prevesa; in 1854, through the interruption of relations with Turkey during the Crimean War, the office at Constantinople was temporarily suppressed, but it was re-established in December, 1855. In 1857 the management of the post offices at Smyrna and Alexandria was placed on the same footing as that at Constantinople, and in the same year offices were opened at Bucharest and Ibraila, and a little later at Jassy, and finally, in January, 1860, at Galatz and Larissa.

Germany in its turn opened post offices in Turkey in 1870, then came Egypt; in 1896 Roumania attempted to establish a postal agency in Constantinople, but this disappeared almost immediately.

At the International Postal Congress of 1874, at Berne, the Turkish Delegates demanded the suppression of the foreign post offices, but the Congress disclaimed competence to deal with the question. In 1901 a fresh attempt was made on the part of Turkey, on the opening of the railway from Salonica which connected the Turkish system with the railways of Europe. An attempt was even made at that time to suppress the foreign post offices by force, by taking possession of the mails both to and from abroad at the railway station at Constantinople. But the protests of the powers prevailed against this attempt.

In 1908, at the request of Italian subjects, the Minister for Foreign Affairs reversed the decision of 1883 and decided upon re-establishing Italian Post Offices at Constantinople and Smyrna, and also opened other offices at Jerusalem, Salonica and Valona.

We also find another instalment of Dr. Marco Del Pont's article dealing with the Rivadavia stamps of the Argentine Republic; also various "Notes and Queries," etc., all of interest.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, writing under the heading "Topical Notes," informs us that at the end of December next he intends to discontinue the publication of the *Weekly*.

The *Monthly Journal* is to be resurrected in January 1911, so we shall gain infinitely more than we shall lose.

The reason given for Mr. Phillips' decision is that *G.S.W.* does not pay; it involves a loss of about £1,250 a year—also that it is no easy matter to find new and interesting articles to fill its pages week by week.

For some reasons we shall be sorry to say good-bye to our weekly friend. It has contained very many valuable articles; at the same time, however, we are very pleased to anticipate a diminution in the

publication of a lot of useless matter, the publication of which has almost amounted to an insult to the philatelic intelligence of many of *G.S.W.* readers.

From a later paragraph we gather that Mr. Phillips himself has grown tired of would-be philatelic authors, for he says:

Major Evans will be pleased to receive *original articles* of philatelic interest, and for such liberal payment will be made; we do *not* wish for any contributions of stamp stories, poetry or snippy paragraphs, but only desire to receive serious articles that contain information likely to be of use to collectors.

Poetry, unless it were Tancred's! would reduce the circulation of any stamp paper.

In the copy for October 29th we find a long instalment of Mr. Melville's article. He commences a biographical index of the artists and engravers, who have designed and engraved stamps.

Mr. Poole continues to write about the stamps of Holland. "Tim Brologie," D. B. Armstrong, and Eustace B. Power, also help to make this number of the *Weekly*, a good one.

Messrs. Melville and Poole, a week later, contribute lengthy instalments of their respective articles. M. Hanciau is also responsible for a long chapter of his Italian treatise. Some American Notes, New Issue list, etc., complete our review of the November 5th *Weekly*.

The November 12th number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* contains further instalments of Messrs. Hanciau's and Melville's respective serials; Mr. D. B. Armstrong continues his article dealing with the "Twentieth Century Issues of Sierra Leone." A page of Notes, New Issues, etc., all help to fill up the pages of our Strand contemporary.

The principal contents of the November number of the *Stamp Lover* consist of a continuation of Mr. R. W. Harold Row's article dealing with the adhesive Postage stamps of Siam; Mr. Melville's "History in the Making," being a resumé of modern Revolution as recorded by the various issues of postage stamps; and Mr. D. B. Armstrong's article, entitled, "Early Australian Posts." All three articles are of considerable general interest.

We make several extracts from Mr. Armstrong's letter, likely, we think, to interest our readers.

At the end of 1838, the government of Port Phillip entered into an agreement with Mr. Joseph Hawdon for the conveyance of a fortnightly mail between Melbourne and Sydney. Transit occupied three weeks,

and the single letter rate was 1s. 3d. So popular was this service and so rapid did the volume of business increase that within a few months the service was made a weekly one, and the time of the journey considerably shortened.

Meanwhile, the staff of the General Post Office at Sydney had undergone a considerable increase, and comprised at that time a Postmaster-General, one accountant, six clerks, six letter carriers, and office-keeper; fifteen persons in all.

An amendment of the New South Wales Postal Act of 1835 was carried out in this year by which further reductions in the existing postal rates were effected.

There were at this time, in all, forty post offices in operation under the control of the New South Wales Government, including those in the Port Phillip and Moreton Bay districts, and an agency at Kororereka, New Zealand, and the Colonial postal service gave employment to a total of fifty-two persons. That these post offices were maintained at a loss, however, is clearly shown by the returns for the year 1838, which give the postal revenue as £8391, as against an expenditure of £10,357. During the same year 48,772 letters and 297,245 newspapers were dealt with by the General Post Office, at Sydney, and 7424 letters and 2795 newspapers by the Port Phillip Agency, the revenue of this latter office amounting to £230.

Early in 1839, the first direct mail from Port Phillip to England was dispatched by the barque "Thomas Laurie," whilst on June 17th of that year, the first direct mail from England was received in Melbourne.

On January 4th, 1841, the price of the local embossed envelopes in Sydney was reduced to 1/- per dozen.

A weekly mail service between the townships of Guildford and York in Western Australia was inaugurated on June 23rd of the same year, and also a monthly overland mail between Perth and King George's Sound.

There were then 102 post offices in the whole of Australia, including 56 in New South Wales, and three in the Port Phillip district. The volume of postal business had also undergone a considerable increase, as will be seen from the following statistics representing the mail matter handled by the post offices of New South Wales and Port Phillip respectively during the year 1841.

	Letters, etc.	Newspapers.
New South Wales	720,168	1,126,873
Port Phillip	56,704	120,227

The year 1845 saw an unsuccessful attempt to have the Melbourne mails dropped at Port Phillip Head, instead of being taken on to Sydney by the mail steamer and thence returned, involving considerable delay.

The first contract mail steamer, the "Chusan," of the Peninsular and Orient Line, sailed from Sydney in September, 1852, for Singapore, via Melbourne, Adelaide, and King George's Sound. A previous contract concluded between the New South Wales Government and a steamship line known as the Indian and Australian Steamship Company became null and void owing to the Company going into liquidation and failing to fulfil their obligations.

In this year also the first ocean mail was landed at Albany, Western Australia, from the Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company's s.s. "Australian." It is recorded that it took two horses six days and a half to convey this mail to Perth.

The November number of the *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society contains a good deal of interesting matter beyond those pages devoted solely to the



reports of the Society. Mr. F. Reichenheim contributes three pages of capital "Philatelic Crumbs," also the conclusion of his account of the Berlin Exhibition. Mr. Harry L. Hayman and Mr. C. C. Tait also contribute some short, but interesting Topical Notes. The latter gentleman, writing from Oporto, says:—

As it may be of interest to the readers of the "Monthly Report," I enclose translations of two notices in the Official Gazette of the Portuguese Government with regard to the overprinting of the current stamps. I use this word advisedly, because it is probably more correct than the term "surcharge," and one has to be so careful now-a-days!

It would appear that the overprint will be applied not only to the Portuguese, but also to the Colonial postage stamps. Now, as the Mint has not yet used up all the Colonial stamps that were surcharged with new values or overprinted with the blessed word "Provisorio" in 1903, it is quite possible that the "Republica" overprint may be applied to these.

Take, for example, a 5 reis of 1886 issue surcharged in red with the value 400 reis and ornaments in 1903. We may expect the new overprint, also in red, which would rather remind us of the vagaries of some of the South American Republics.

The only cause for congratulation is that the only Colony that has Dom Manuel stamps is the Azores. Otherwise we would have had a perfect deluge of provisionals. Matters are bad enough as it is.

EXTRACT FROM THE "DIARIO DO GOVERNO,"  
OF OCTOBER 15TH, 1910.

TRANSLATION.

I decree that, until an issue of new stamps and other forms for payment of postage is made, those at present in circulation shall be overprinted diagonally by the Mint with the word "Republica" in red or green, according as it may be more distinct from the colour of the same.

Given at the Palace of the Government of the Republic, this 13th day of October, 1910.

The Minister of Promotion,

(Signed) ANTONIO LUIS GOMES.

(In the original the title of the Minister is "O Ministro do Fomento." This fully translated would appear to mean Minister for Promotion (or Increasing) Commercial and Treasury Interests).

EXTRACT FROM THE "DIARIO DO GOVERNO,"  
OF OCTOBER 15TH, 1910.

TRANSLATION.

The Provisional Government of the Portuguese Republic orders, through the Minister of Promotion, that the stamps and other forms for the payment of postage of the former régime at present in circulation will be substituted by others with the surcharge "Republica," in conformity with the Decree of this date, according as the Mint may be able to make the said change, which shall be effected in the shortest possible space of time and in the manner which the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs may determine in combination with the Director General of the Treasury.

Given at the Palace of the Government, this 13th day of October, 1910.

The Minister of Promotion,

(Signed) ANTONIO LUIS GOMES.

We also find a couple of pages devoted to some short but excellent reviews of recent philatelic publications.

The October 15th copy of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. Rudolph Frenzel. We also find another of Mr. Irwin Faris' articles; in this instance he writes about perforations, and not about New Zealand stamps, as is usually the case. Some reprinted matter, a New Issue list, a lengthy letter from Mr. Heginbottom (of Rochdale), and some odd notes complete the contents. Our contemporary has been ascertaining the views of various dealers relating to Lord Crewe's now famous Circular. Mr. D. Field writes to our exchange as follows:

No. 2: I think this will benefit philatelists generally, as tending to check unnecessary and speculative issues.

No. 3: It will be necessary to keep a very large stock of the ½d. stamps to prevent speculation. I was offered some time back a parcel of 18,000 surcharged stamps of this value of a British Colony by two foreigners, who had in their possession 36,000 unsurcharged stamps of the same denomination, and they readily admitted that they bought these up in order to cause an issue of provisionals, the greater portion of which they also secured.

No. 4: I quite agree with this provision; it inflicts no hardship as all are treated alike.

No. 5: This is a very important provision, as postal officials and civil servants generally are very serious offenders in this respect. Many a recently obsolete so-called rarity has dropped enormously in value when the officials' little lot has been unloaded. But the authorities themselves set a very bad example by dealing in stamps on a large scale, as witness the sale of Cayman Islands single-colour series, mult. wmk., and British Somaliland surcharged series.

No. 6: I think practically all philatelists will agree with this provision, as preventing the cancelled-to-order variety.

A fortnight later our Chancery Lane contemporary prints an illustrated interview with Mr. Albert H. Harris, the well-known Secretary of the Modern Collectors' Philatelic Exchange. We also find a lengthy and interesting report of the paper read by the President (Mr. W. H. Lawson) at his Presidential address to the Liverpool Philatelic Society. Reviews, New Issues, The Stamp Market, and other features, all help to make the *S.C.F.* an extremely interesting publication.

The August and September numbers of the *British Philatelist* contain further long instalments of the "Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain." The 1881-84 issue is fully dealt with.

The following brief extract illustrates the thorough manner in which our contemporary treats the subject:—

Of the fifteen stamps, current as from 1st April, 1884, the first of those remaining to be considered is the three-halfpence.

The design consists of a small diademed profile of

Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, enclosed in a shield-shaped band, inscribed in small uncoloured sans-serif capitals "POSTAGE AND REVENUE THREE HALFPENCE", with the value in figures at the base; coloured check-letters are in the corners, which are otherwise quite plain.

Two plates only were used, each made up of 240 impressions in two vertically-disposed panes of 120 each, arranged in ten horizontal rows of twelve, the corner letters running from "A.A.-A.A." to "L.T.-T.L." Both plates were put to press on the 20th October, 1883, and were destroyed in January, 1888.

For this, and the subsequent values up to and including the One Shilling, the Imperial Crown paper, already described, was employed, the watermark showing sideways on those stamps of a transverse rectangular shape.

The colour is doubly-fugitive, varying from lilac to a light purplish tone, and the perforation for all the values up to and including the Five Pounds is uniformly 14.

It may be mentioned here that copies of the Three Halfpence, of the higher values up to Six Pence, of the One Shilling, and of the Five Shillings, are to be met with perforated 12, generally overprinted "SPECIMEN," but very rarely without that addition; these were never issued, but are from portions of waste sheets which were utilised at Somerset House for various official purposes, and which, not being capable of perforation by the ordinary 14-machines (which could only deal with entire sheets) were perforated at a treadle-machine of a larger gauge.

This Three Halfpence was superseded on the 1st January, 1887, by that of the so-called "Jubilee" issue.

The October number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the first instalment, in the form of some Introductory Notes, of an article entitled "The Postage Stamps of Bermuda." Mr. B. W. H. Poole also continues his "Things Worth Knowing" article. He describes various errors of colour from Africa (French Congo and Liberia); also many from America (mostly Columbians and Central Americans).

The same writer chats interestingly about the 1847 issue of the United States.

We have not, for some years, received a copy of the *Stamp Collector*. It comes, therefore, as rather a surprise that we should be favoured with a copy of the September number. The contents consist of an Editorial note, apparently *not* contributed by the Editor, a list of the Berne Exhibition awards, a continuation of what seems to be a series of Notes relating to Recent Issues of South Australia, a New Issue list, and a few pages devoted to Reviews and Notes.

Judging from its contents, our Birmingham contemporary has suffered a change of Editors since we last saw a copy. The present Editor seems sadly to need elementary instruction in English grammar.

In our humble opinion, and we do not wish to appear sarcastic, it would have

been better for Senf's catalogue if the following review had never been penned:

Once more Autumn brings us our annual edition of the leading Senf Catalogue. This year neatly bound in blue, it is otherwise practically similar in every way, especially size.

To our mind, we think that the Senf Catalogue—if not the premier typographically alongside Gibbons—is one of the most trustworthy as regards pricing. It is more especially useful, inasmuch that it prices British Colonials throughout in a used condition—a feature missing from the English catalogues. In fact the French (Yvert & Tellier) and Senf are the only catalogues that give a maximum of "used" prices. Since the majority of philatelists are in favour and collect used specimens, we but wonder why several firms still cater for a minimum of custom by only dealing, seemingly, in unused current specimens.

The following extract from another page of our contemporary is yet another illustration of how English should not be written:—

For the first time in its existence—and we are proud to note that we are in our fourteenth year—the *Stamp Collector* is being composed and edited outside Great Britain.

True this number will still be printed in England, but this copy will have to cross the North Sea from the Land of its Birth, so as to speak.

A pity the "copy" didn't get shipwrecked. So as to say!

## Philately on the Continent.

COLLECTORS of Mexican stamps are badly in need of a little light from modern specialists, as it is a very long time since we have seen any important contribution to philatelic literature dealing with this subject. Whether M. Mennevée will supply the illumination in his article on the "Postal Issues of the Mexican Republic," begun in *Le Timbre-Poste* a month or so ago, remains to be seen. Certainly the third chapter, which appears in the October number, promises something useful. It is devoted to the stamps of the first issue, and includes a list of facsimile illustrations of the names of towns which are overprinted upon them, with all the principal varieties of such overprints. The previous chapters contained a history of the post in Mexico.

In the same number of *Le Timbre-Poste* there is a continuation of the article on the "Stamps of Roumania," which deals with the issues of 1868 and 1870. This will be of use to collectors of these stamps, as it gives details by which we may reconstruct a block of eight types of each of the values, 2, 4 and 8 *bani* of 1868, as they were originally drawn for reproduction. The issue of 1870 is treated in the same way, and here we find the four types of each value fully described. The same number, which is an exceptionally good one, includes a further instalment of Dr. José Marco del Pont's article on the "Argentine Confederation," describing the types and the

manner in which they were arranged, in the sheets of the unissued stamps, namely, those with large figures of value.

M. Pierre Mahé's article on Rare Stamps is continued in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for Oct. 15th and concluded in the number dated Oct. 31st. We are sorry that this interesting discourse has come to an end, as we have taken great pleasure in reading the fortnightly instalments during the last two or three months. In the two numbers before us M. Mahé classifies all different forms and causes of errors connected with the production of stamps, citing examples of each. As an example we quote the following:—

*"Errors of colour of paper."*

The use, for the impression from a plate, of a paper of which the colour was special to a stamp of another value. Examples: Baden, 1851, figure in a circle; 9 *Kreuzer*, black on green (instead of rose).—Colombia, 1892-7, Arms in an ornamental rectangle; 20 *centavos*, brown on yellow (instead of blue).—British Guiana, 1850, value in a circle; 2 *cents* pale blue (instead of rose). Only one specimen is known of this error, of inestimable value. Mexico, 1861, portrait of Rivadavia in an oval, black on colour. The so-called errors of paper of this issue are fantastic printings made at the same time as the reprints and with forged obliterations."

This short extract will give some idea of the amount of interesting information which M. Mahé crowds into his pages.

In the same number of the French Fortnightly is a useful article on the stamps of Oldenburg, with diagrams illustrating the types of the 10th and 15th *thaler* of the first issue. The most dangerous forgeries of the 1855 issue are minutely described by the aid of diagrams.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

THE September number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains an excellent Editorial dealing with the proposed overprinting of all Australian stamps with the words, "Commonwealth of Australia." The following extract illustrates what a heterogeneous lot of stamps would have to be defaced, especially as it refers to the stamps of one State only—namely, N.S.W.

The existing State stamps are indeed a motley and nondescript lot! To cite one series only—our own State—the 1d. is a modification of the 1d. die prepared in 1862 by De la Rue & Co., bearing a conventional portrait of the late Queen when a comparatively young woman. The 1d. bears the arms of this State as they were in 1897, and is a local product—design, die, and

plate. The 2d. shows the late Queen at the period of the Diamond Jubilee, and the 2½d. depicts her late Majesty in a slightly different manner. These two are both the "Record Reign" period (1897). The 3d. is from the 54-year-old steel plate engraved by Perkins, Bacon & Co., and bears a fourth variety of her late Majesty's portrait. The 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1/- are survivals of the locally designed and produced commonplace set of varying, and more or less local, designs, that announced to a startled world the completion of New South Wales' first century of existence, and all bear the words "One hundred years"—words that for twenty-two years have lost all significance. The 5d. is a veritable antique, with 56 years of unbroken service, with her late Majesty in a fifth variety of portraiture. The 9d. is the curious hybrid with the double inscription, "Commonwealth of Australia," and "New South Wales." The 10d. is from an old die engraved by De la Rue & Co., in 1867. The 2/6 is a recent (post-federation) adaptation of the Centennial 8d. die. The 5/- is from a steel plate engraved by Perkins, Bacon & Co., in 1860, with a sixth type of Queen Victoria's portrait. The 10/- is a hybrid, manufactured from an old stamp duty plate, with the word "Postage" overprinted, and the £1 is the 1888 Centennial stamp, bearing portraits of Governors Phillip (1788) and Carrington (1888).

The writer does not seem to be very enamoured with the stamps of (presumably) his own country. He goes on to state:

And now the proposal is to inflict upon along-suffering philatelic world the whole of these varied designs, with the addition of an overprint! Apart entirely from this, however (for consideration of the poor philatelist's pocket can hardly be expected from the authorities), such a cheap and nasty expedient deserves nothing but condemnation. It is ugly, unnecessary and derogatory to the dignity of the Commonwealth.

From other columns of our Australian contemporary we learn that Mr. F. Hagen had a most enthusiastic welcome on his return to Australia. He pays a graceful appreciation to British philatelists.

Mr. Hagen gave an entertaining, though necessarily brief, resume of his experiences with the philatelists of the Old Country, and he refuted the idea that the English were a reserved and unsociable people, knowing that he could not possibly have been more kindly treated and entertained, no matter where he went. He also paid tribute to the extensive knowledge of all the minute details of philately possessed by a large number of collectors in Great Britain, and the greater number of specialists in some form or other, he met with; methods that may well be copied in Australian philately.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for September contains a further long and instructive instalment of "The Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon," a couple of pages of Afghanistan notes and a long and tedious list of New Issues. We also find three pages devoted to auction prices. Mr. Wetherell's name is still on the cover of our contemporary as Editor; for many months, however, we have failed to recognise Tancred's magic touch.

The September 15th number of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, a capital

production, is largely devoted to a lengthy and well-written article, entitled, "The Stamps of Montenegro," by Mr. William Evans. All issues, from the first in 1874 to the current set issued in 1907, are described, while we also find a chapter devoted to Postage Dues and "Acknowledgment of Receipt stamps." Throughout the course of his article, Mr. Evans refers to "Phillips," meaning, we suppose, Mr. C. J. Phillips, who contributed a lengthy article on these stamps to the pages of the *Monthly Journal* some three or four years ago.

To what extent Mr. Evans is indebted to the *M.J.* we cannot say, as we have not a copy of that publication at hand, but he has written a very full description of the various stamps and the very numerous flaws and minor varieties to be found in the various overprints. Montenegro is, as Mr. Evans states, an unpopular country with collectors; doubtless such a painstaking article will do much to attract attention to these stamps, especially in America. Mr. Evans concludes his paper with a lengthy check list.

The same number of our American contemporary contains an interesting letter from Major F. L. Palmer, U.S.A., relating to Philippine Insurgent stamps; also a capital portrait of Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack, the well known American collector.

We take the following extract from Major Palmer's letter:—

Moreover, the only copies of the 8c. which I have ever seen used on original documents were on original registered covers of letters. I have two such in my own collection, one used from Dagupan to Malolos, the other from LALOC to YLAGAN; each has a 2c. for postage besides the 8c. green for registration; and neither has any other stamps. Both are marked with registry number, and one bears below this number a signature, apparently that of the local postmaster.

Original covers bearing the Revolutionary issues are naturally very scarce, when one remembers that a proclamation of the American Military Governor-General for a long time prohibited the having in one's possession or displaying (for sale or otherwise) any Filipino Revolutionary flags, stamps, or other tokens which might indicate loyalty to the Insurgent Government; I have no doubt that this proclamation resulted in the destruction by their possessors of the greater portion of any such correspondence as had till then been preserved, except by philatelists who concealed their supplies and waited for a change. In 1899, and before this proclamation was published, I purchased a set of the Insurgent issues from a shop in Manila where they were displayed for sale, only to discover later that they were "reprints," or, more properly, counterfeits.

Another reason for rarity of these covers is that, after the outbreak of hostilities, in February, 1899, Revolutionary post offices and mail routes were not regular or fixed, as before, because the American forces kept the Insurgents pretty well "on the move."

Until that time conditions had been different, and a few letters bearing only Revolutionary issues actually passed through the U.S. post office in Manila and were delivered or forwarded without additional postage, as I was informed by Mr. Nolting (postmaster at Manila, 1905-07), who had been in the office ever since 1898 I believe. Conditions did not, therefore, favour the retention of such covers, and they seem to have been preserved only when they fell into the hands of philatelists.

The October 1st number also contains a good deal of interesting matter. We find a full account of the Berne Exhibition; also nearly four pages of Mr. Séfi's article (fully illustrated) on Swiss "silk threads," from a recent number of the *Philatelic World*. A really capital new issue list, a number of chatty paragraphs, and a lengthy account of Lord Crewe's Downing Street Circular, together with various comments on it (from the English stamp papers), completes a good number. The October 15th edition of our "twice-a-month" American contemporary is almost entirely devoted to extracted articles from London papers.

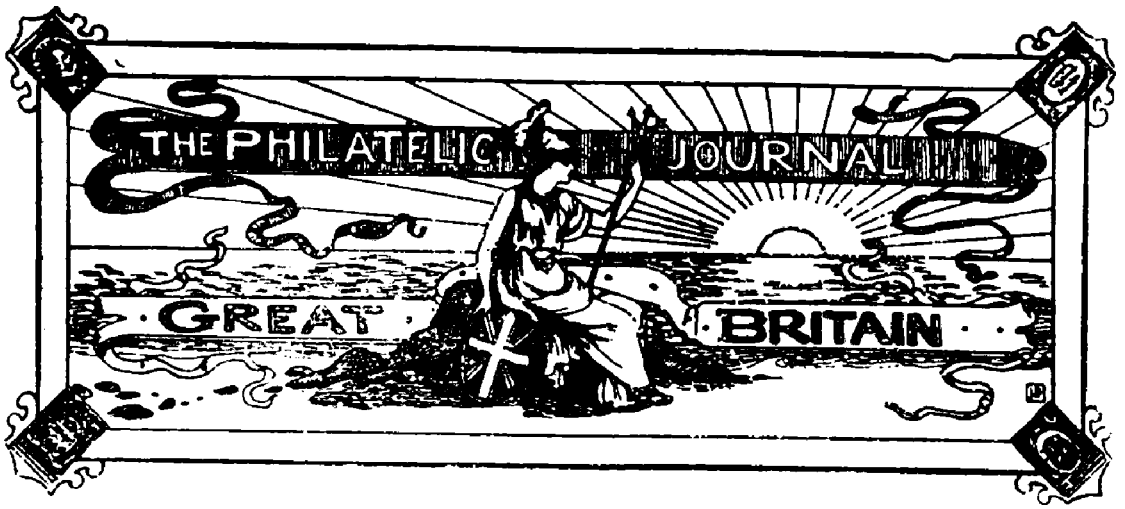
The October number of the *Stamp Journal*, a grand "New Season" number is brim full of short philatelic paragraphs and advertisements.

Truly American dealers are great on advertisements, whole pages devoted to lists of stamps, none of which seem to have a catalogue value of more than a few cents.

The only lengthy article is a continuation of Mr. William Evans' paper dealing with Canal Zone stamps, he writes about the 8c. on 50c. bistre-brown stamps.

The editor of the *P.J.G.B.* is reprimanded for venturing to remark, in a previous number of this journal, that the *Stamp Journal* "relies mainly on extracts and notes." We still maintain the righteousness of our criticism. We did not infer that the "notes" were not original, or the extracts uninteresting, but merely that our contemporary, a standard American publication, devoted its columns to short instalments of information.

It is certainly not our business whether American collectors like to take their monthly literature in homœopathic doses, if they do the *Stamp Journal* fills a long-felt want. Our Florida contemporary is, as we have previously pointed out in these pages, an up-to-date, *clean*, newsy, and essentially interesting monthly; as such we wish it every success.



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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

SO much time is now-a-days spent in the pursuit of philatelic knowledge, that we sometimes wonder whether a few of our most learned and esteemed philatelists are not becoming obsessed with the importance of stamp collecting. We know

**Moderation.** of several instances where the acquisition of knowledge, or of specimens, is considered of such vital necessity that outdoor recreation and other hobbies—to say nothing of literature, except that branch dealing with stamps—are entirely neglected. Dealers, or at least those of the fraternity who have not already climbed to the top of the tree, have, as a necessity, to work with stamps during the greater part of the day, but we do not like to think that this should be considered an absolute *sine qua non* on the part of many collectors. Philately is the ideal hobby, but when her charms pall or when time spent in her service becomes irksome, then we think it is time to cry halt and not, as some collectors do, to continue working, with the possibility of totally losing interest in a most fascinating pursuit. Dealers, however fond they may be of the stamps of some countries, must frequently grow weary when they have to arrange and price the speculative and objectionable out-crop of some prolific country; this feeling should, however, never be experienced

by the real collector, who should be able, immediately he feels the slightest trace of *ennui*, to be able to put his albums away until such time as he feels tempted to again woo the Goddess. Unfortunately there are collectors who, although experiencing this feeling of *ennui*, feel bound to continue their work, with the result that they deify their hobby, and sometimes themselves, until they come to believe that stamp collecting and stamp research are the *Alpha* and *Omega* of their existence.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, that most remarkable man, who has recently bored his way across Africa in his search of something to kill, has in his book some remarks about philately. It was a perusal of his writings that led to our penning the above little homily, so readers who have been inflicted by our loquacity must please lay the blame to the debit of America's mighty Nimrod.

Mr. Roosevelt says, apropos the love of killing to obtain record trophies:

"But to let the desire for 'record' heads, to the exclusion of all else, become a craze, is absurd. The making of such a collection is in itself not only proper, but meritorious; all I object to is the loss of all sense of proportion in connection therewith. It is just as with philately, or heraldry, or collecting the signatures of famous men.

The study of stamps, or of Coats-of-Arms, or the collecting of autographs, is an entirely legitimate amusement, and may be more than a mere amusement; it is

only when the student or collector allows himself utterly to mis-estimate the importance of his pursuit, that it becomes ridiculous."

## Notes on the Line-Engraved 1d. and 2d. Stamps of Great Britain, 1840.

*A Paper read before the City of London Philatelic Society, November 9th, 1910.*

BY G. A. HIGLETT.

I SHALL not weary you with a big display of stamps, which you can only glance at hurriedly, and then go your ways from this meeting, and straightway forget what manner of things you have seen (by which I mean the stamps, and not your fellow-members), as my subject concerns two stamps only. But these two stamps are the two stamps about which every collector is supposed to know something, and as I am afraid that there are those present who know more about my subject than I do, my observations are likely to be rather stale and second-hand to at least many of you. With such a widely studied subject as the first Postage Stamps of 1840, I do not hope to tell you anything either new or original.

It is not my intention to burden you with the biographies of the people concerned in the production of the early British stamps, Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, Bacon & Co., the brewers; Hill and Sons, the confectioners; Old King Cole; Heath, the hatter; Archer, the jockey; and all the other celebrities. I fear I have not given you their names quite correctly, but their proper names, and their acts, are recorded in the books of the chronicles of the kings of philately to be found on the shelves of the library of the City of London Philatelic Society. If any of you have not read them, it is your own fault. All the great men I have referred to now sleep with their fathers, and Samuel (the M.P., and not the prophet) reigns in their stead at the General Post Office.

A paper on the subject of the first Postage Stamps of the world is a sort of introduction to the study of postage stamps in general. In order to understand them, it is necessary to know something of the way in which they were produced.

First of all, some water colour drawings, in black and blue, were submitted to the Treasury for approval, these were intended to show the sort of thing it was proposed to make, both for size and general appearance.

Then the effigy of Queen Victoria to be actually copied was chosen from a medal struck to commemorate the first visit of the young

Queen to the City of London; next a drawing was made from this medal by an artist, for the engraver to copy upon the steel die.

The steel die was a small block of steel, three inches square and a little over half an inch thick. It was first "softened" for the engraving work, and then, when the engraving was completed, it was "hardened" again, and became the matrix, or mother die, or original die, or what the catalogues term Die I.

In speaking of the steel as being "soft" or "hard" I use the term in a comparative sense, as I do not intend to imply that the one was as soft as our heads, for example, or the other as dense as our intelligence.

This small block of steel, softened, first had the engine-turned background engraved upon it. Then the space to be occupied by the Queen's head was outlined, and scraped out, and then the head was engraved.

It is known that two trial Dies were first made. On the first trial Die the head was not satisfactory to the engraver in the matter of size, and another was made with a different background and the head of the size finally adopted. Then the final Die, the so-called Original Die, was made with the same background as the first essay and with the head of the second essay. The next process was to add the top and bottom labels, while crosses were engraved in the top corners, and the design was complete except for the lower corners, which were left blank. Then this steel Die was hardened and so became capable of almost endless reproduction.

You will understand that all the lines of the engraving are cut into the steel surface, so that the design is in recess, or in intaglio, and is reversed to that appearing on the stamps.

As all reproductions come from this one Original Die, it will be seen that there can be no variation in any part of the design on any stamps produced therefrom, except for flaws of printing, and for the additions made to the Plate, and for the alteration of the label of value for the Twopenny stamps.

Before the Plate could be made, an inter-

mediate process was necessary. This was the Transfer Roll. This transfer roll is softened, and the hardened Die impressed thereon, under very heavy pressure, transferring the design to the roll. The design on the transfer roll is naturally now as it will appear on the stamps, and it is raised, or in relief, or in cameo. This impression is made several times on the Transfer Roll, which is then hardened, and becomes ready for transferring the design to the Plate.

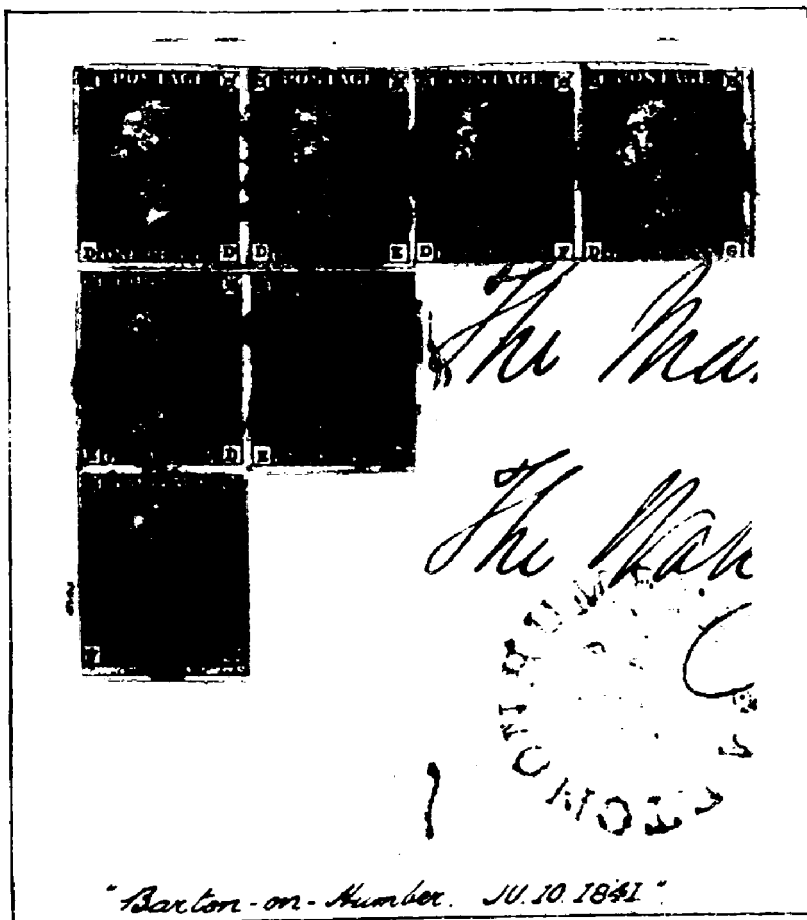
A flat steel Plate was obtained, and softened. Very fine guide lines were cut on the surface, to assist the workman in transferring the design exactly in the proper places, and, if the work was done quite accurately, these guide lines would be covered up by the design and would not appear on the stamp. But the impressions were not always accurately made, and so there came into existence the minor variety of stamps shewing these guide lines.

The hardened Transfer Roll was impressed upon the Plate 240 times. Although there were several impressions from the Die upon

the Transfer Roll, one only of these was used for one Plate, so as to ensure the greatest possible accuracy.

The lower corners of the design of each stamp on the Plate were still blank, for the insertion of the check letters. These check letters were intended as a protection against forgery, as it was thought that every stamp having different letters, and forgeries being likely to be of one particular stamp only, the considerable sale or use of stamps having all the same lettering would necessarily attract attention and lead to enquiry and discovery. Later on these check letters were extended to the upper corners also, as it was also considered advisable to take precautions against parts of the two stamps being put together and used as one.

The check letters were inserted by means of hard steel hand-punches, each bearing a letter in relief. This work being done by hand, there are irregularities in position, the letters are frequently misplaced, and sometimes we get the errors of double letters, which arise



AN INTERESTING COVER IN MR. HIGLETT'S COLLECTION.

from the same punch being twice struck, or the wrong letter being struck, and then the correct one impressed over it.

Lastly, the Plate number was added to the margin and sundry marginal inscriptions, as you may see from the illustration of a half-sheet being sent round, and the Plate was then hardened and became ready for printing from.

Plate proofs in black ink were struck before any proper stamps were actually printed. These were examined and checked for errors and then destroyed by the Inland Revenue Officer supervising the work.

Many Plates were made from this original Die, or Die No. I. as it is called, but for the issue of 1840, Plates numbered 1 to 11 were used for the One Penny value, and Plates numbered 1 and 2 for the Two-pence value.

The paper was supplied by the Government, and was a hand-made paper of varying thickness, grey-white or brownish-white in colour, and it bore the watermark known as the Small Crown.

The Plate was put upon the bed of the printing press and ink was rubbed into the engraved lines, filling them, and then the surplus ink was rubbed off the polished surface, first by cloth or rags, and finally by hand, leaving the ink in the engraved lines only.

Then the sheet of paper, first damped, was laid upon the Plate, the workman turned the handle running both Plate and paper between two cylinders, and the heavy pressure squeezed out the ink from the engraved lines on to the paper, and the sheet of stamps was printed.

After printing, the sheets were gummed, and then dried. The gum was made from potato starch only, slightly toasted or burnt, and varies in colour from white to brownish yellow.

Imprimatur Sheets were printed off and approved when the Plates were completed.

The colour was a deep black, becoming less intense as the Plates wore away. Owing to the great hurry, some of the Plates were printed from immediately upon completion of the engraving, and before being hardened. Five hundred sheets were printed from Plate 1, and 1500 from Plate 2, before those Plates were hardened, and it is likely that Plate 5 was never hardened at all.

As early as the 30th May, 1840, official complaints were made of defective printing, and the printers declined responsibility, as they were being compelled to print twice as many as they had contracted for, and therefore obliged to print from worn plates which ought to have been discarded.

Printing commenced on 15th April, 1840, and it was originally intended that the stamps should be issued to the public and come into use on the 1st May, but the necessary arrangements could not be completed in time, and

the date was postponed for five days, until the 6th May.

On the 27th and 29th April, 18 sheets were despatched to the General Post Office, and on the 29th April, a circular to which a specimen stamp was attached, was sent out to the postmasters. These "specimens" were taken from the 18 sheets provided for the purpose.

The despatch of sheets to country postmasters commenced on 29th April, and continued daily, so that by the 6th May about 23,000 sheets had been sent to over 500 post offices, but, by a clerical error in the official instructions, none were sent to the G.P.O. or any of the London offices for some time, and it was not until the end of May or the beginning of June that the issue of the stamps to the public became general in London.

A uniform postmark, or obliteration, was ordered, consisting of what is generally known as a Maltese Cross, to be struck on the stamps, while the place and date were to be struck separately on another part of the cover. At first this obliteration was ordered to be in red, and each postmaster had to make up his own obliterating ink from an official recipe sent to him. It is likely that this red cancellation was first ordered because Post Office Officials had for long been accustomed to stamp in red everything that was paid. Sometimes the postmasters did not use the right colour, and so we find occasionally all sorts of colours, carmine, brown, violet, grey, etc.

Before the end of May, 1840, it was found that this red obliteration could be cleaned off, and that some people were using the cleaned stamps over again, and numerous experiments were made with a view to prevent this. What is known as the "Rainbow Series" was then produced from the Die, for experimental purposes.

The left corner of the Die was coated with wax, to prevent a complete impression, and trial prints were taken in all sorts of colours. These were generally gummed, and then further experiments were made with various obliterating inks.

I have sent round a sheet containing several of these "Rainbow Proofs," and I show also two specimens with official experimental obliterations and attempted cleaning of same.

The obliteration in black is known dated as early as the 1st June. This may possibly be an error of colour, for it was in August, 1840, that the red was officially ordered to be changed to black. The postmasters did not carry out the official instructions promptly and the red ink only passed out of use gradually during the following months. Very early dated copies with black postmarks are sought after.

Then another complication arose. A black obliteration upon a black stamp is not very distinct, and this new difficulty was overcome by changing the colour of the stamps, and in September, 1840, it was decided that the



colour of the Penny value should be changed to red.

In this connection (of change of colour) a rather curious thing happened. On 18th December, 1840, the printing of 10,000 sheets in black was ordered. The next day it was ordered that all Penny stamps were for the future to be printed in red, and accordingly, from the 4th Jan. to the 18th Jan., 1841, there were printed 26,000 sheets in red.

Then there came an unexpected demand, and as the stocks were very low, and they were not yet ready to issue the new red stamps, on 26th January, 1841, the printing of 20,000 sheets in black was ordered, and carried out. Plate 11 had been used for printing the red stamps, and was now used again for this last printing of Penny Blacks.

The new Penny Stamps in Red were first issued to the public on the 10th February, 1841.

The line-engraved stamps were never printed upon blued paper. There were certain chemicals in the ink of the early stamps, which, combined with some impurities to be found in the chemicals used in the manufacture of the paper, gave a bluish or greenish tinge, especially noticeable at the backs of the stamps. This became very prominent in the later issues printed with changed inks.

In the later Penny Reds, the extent of the damping of the sheets probably accounts for the varying degree of blueing.

In the Rainbow Proofs, it can be seen that the proof in blue gives a very decided blueing at the back.

I may add that the copies with inverted watermark and with errors of double lettering are of some rarity, and worth looking out for.

Now to turn for a few minutes only to the Twopenny blue without lines.

I have not read anywhere exactly how the Die for this value was produced from the original Die. I presume a transfer was made upon another block of steel, and the raised inscription of value—One Penny—cut off, leaving a blank tablet. Then another transfer was, I presume, made upon a new Die, on which the value "Two Pence" was engraved.

There were two Plates only used for this issue, Nos. 1 and 2.

The issue of these stamps to country postmasters commenced on 30th April, 1840, but, as with the penny blacks the London offices were not supplied until later. On the 5th May 18 sheets were sent to the General Post Office for use as specimens, and on the 8th May circulars were sent to all postmasters enclosing two specimens of the stamps, taken from these 18 sheets, but it was not until the 13th May that the first supply was sent to the G.P.O. for issue to the public.

Plate 1 was hurriedly printed from before the usual hardening process was carried out, and it was never hardened at all, In conse-

quence of this it wore away rapidly, and it was discarded when Plate 2 came into use on the 27th July 1840. Plate 2 was in use for about one month only, until 31st August 1840, and there were no later printings of this issue. Plate 1 produced 19,500 sheets, and Plate 2 produced 9,100 sheets.

The shade ranges from a deep blue, or violet blue, down to a pale blue. I find it very difficult to get hold of fine copies of the pale blue shade.

It is well to note that these stamps continued to be issued for some time afterwards. There were official instructions for 2000 to 4000 sheets to be kept always in stock at Somerset House. It is known that for the first six months there were only 2634 sheets issued, and it is likely that they continued to be issued, generally, until the end of 1841, and naturally, at many country post-offices, they would remain in use much longer.

In Messrs. Wright & Creeke's great work, they state that there are no errors of lettering in the Twopenny value of 1840. Mr. Creeke, Junior, has told me that they had seen none at the time; there is however more than one variety of this double lettering.

In connection with the change made in obliterating inks which I have already referred to, a change was also made in the composition of the blue ink for the twopenny stamps, and in order that the printings in the new inks should be distinguishable from the older issue it was officially ordered that some slight alteration should be made in the design, and accordingly white lines were added to the design, and the printing from Plate 3 of the altered design began in February, 1841.

My display of the stamps I have attempted to describe is not a very large or exhaustive one, but even if it cannot be called a very advanced collection, I hope that the specimens submitted present to you a fair idea of the field of study there is in these, the first stamps of the world, which are amongst the most interesting and beautiful productions of their kind.

My paper is mostly a matter of scissors and paste, and I owe my facts to Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby, Wright & Creeke, Melville, and others. I can only hope that I have been able to impart to you some small measure of the great interest and pleasure it has been to me to prepare it, and I thank you for your attention.

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JUDGING from the price quoted for unused British 7d. stamps in the new Gibbons' Catalogue it would appear that Mr. C. J. Phillips is trying to undersell the Right Hon. Herbert Samuel. Personally I back Mr. Samuel; he has a bigger stock. Anyhow its not clanish.

A. McTAV.

# Countries for the Old Fashioned Collector.

BY ONEHUNGA.

No. I.—BADEN.

COLLECTORS on the look-out for an interesting and profitable little group of stamps might do worse than pay attention to the issues of Baden. These stamps, although certainly not offering a wide field for research, are of great interest, and their completion, in good condition, is not entirely a matter of dealers' stock and approval books.

In common with other old German States, the stamps of Baden in the 1911 standard English catalogue show a marked appreciation in value. A comparison with the previous catalogue proves that out of the fifty-two varieties listed, no fewer than thirty-five, in a used state, show a rise in price. One stamp, namely, the 12k. Rural, is now not priced, thus doing away with last year's absurd quotation of a stamp listed at 5d. unused and £12 postmarked! One stamp, apparently suffering from the fickleness of Messrs. Gibbons' sometimes erratic pricing, is reduced from 6d. to 5d.! Why, out of a total of fifty-two stamps, one should be reduced in price to the extent of one penny, while thirty-five show an appreciation, in most cases of 50 or 100 per cent., is beyond my understanding, especially as the stamp in question is as scarce, in proportion, as the other two shades of the same value, which are now priced double what they were in the last catalogue.

It is not my intention, however, to draw attention to the inaccuracies of pricing in Gibbons' catalogue, for one reason they are too numerous. I should like, however, to express my opinion that in most instances the 1911 prices, although showing such an all round upward trend, are *still too low*. I refer of course to stamps in very fine condition.

Before I leave the question of prices in Gibbons catalogue, it might be of interest were I to point out that only eight Baden stamps in an unused condition have appreciated in value, against, as already mentioned, thirty-five used.

For some years now I have collected, in a quiet way, the stamps of the Duchy of Baden, with the result that I feel confident it is an eminently safe country to recommend. It is true that of stamps of a sort there are plenty, but well centred copies are hard to procure, even the "remainders" of the 1862 and 1868 issues provide but a small percentage of well centred copies.

On referring to back numbers of this journal, in quest of information, I find that Mr. Pemberton, in June, 1902, contributed a short

article dealing with the stamps of Baden. As the information then printed, has not been or is likely to be bettered, I will content myself with extracting, almost verbatim, the article in question. Before doing so, however, I should like to warn my readers against some very good forgeries, also against forged postmarks. These impostors are cleverly executed and constitute, to the beginner, a difficulty not to be lightly overcome, while even for the more advanced collector they call for a certain amount of carefulness.

A collection of Baden stamps, were only single copies taken (and probably inferior ones at that) could be easily got together. To collect on these lines, however, does not appeal to me, nor would it, I feel sure, appeal to many of my readers, who, by-the-by, have already proved their patience—that most necessary virtue for a collector to own—by following me so far.

To be of interest a collection of Baden stamps should contain a representative lot of postmarks, also a few stamps on original dated covers.

The Grand Duchy of Baden followed Bavaria and Saxony in joining the Postal Union formed between Prussia and Austria in 1850. Before that date the postal service of the State was in the hands of the Thurn and Taxis administration. The Articles of the Convention laid down, among other things, that correspondence should be prepaid,



and that stamps should be used. The first issue was made on May 1st, 1851, and consisted of four values. They were engraved by C. Naumann, of Frankfort, and printed by Hasper, of Carlsruhe. The design is shown in the accompanying illustration, and was the same for all values except that the background of the circle containing the numeral of value differed in each case. The inscription, reading downwards on the right hand label, is "Vertrag v. 6 April 1850," which means "Convention of April 6th 1850." The 1 kr. was printed first in sheets of forty-five in five rows of nine, and at the second printing in

sheets of 50. The other values were printed at first in sheets of 90 in ten rows of nine, and afterwards in sheets of 100. The gum of this issue was brown and "crackly."

Reprints of the 1851 issue were made of all values except the 9 kr. in 1867. These are difficult to distinguish from the originals, but the paper is decidedly thicker and the gum is too white.

Alterations were made in the colours of the 1, 3 and 6 kr. in 1853. By this change the 3 kr. took the colour of the 6kr., and *vice versa*. In 1858 the 3kr. was again changed in colour, this time to blue. These were all printed in sheets of 100.

Reprints of the 1854-58 issue were also made in 1867. With the exception of the 6 kr. yellow the paper was too thick, and the colours of the green and blue were somewhat duller than the originals.

It was found that the plates from which the first type of stamps were printed wore very quickly, and an issue in a new design was decided upon. The Arms of the Grand Duchy



were chosen as the central device, and the stamps were printed in colour on white paper. Perforations were introduced with this issue, the first machine (which for economy was shared with Wurtemberg) gauging 13½. The design was by Louis Kurz, of Frankfurt, who made 110 electrotypes of each value, and the stamps were printed, like the previous issue, at Carlsruhe. All values were printed in sheets of 100 in ten rows of ten. At first they were gummed with bone glue composition, similar to that used for Austrian stamps, afterwards the purer and whiter gum used for the Saxony stamps was resorted to.

When the plates from which these stamps were printed had been in use for five or six years the background of lines and the Arms became so indistinct that it was decided to modify the design, and so the lines of the background were cut away. By this means, a much better effect was obtained, as will be seen by the accompanying illustration. The



3 kr. was the first value to appear in this type, according to Westoby 2,000 sheets were perforated 13½ and delivered in March, 1862.

Mr. Duerst, on the authority of Dr. Rommell, writing in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for January, 1900, gives the number of sheets as 200 only. We should think the former estimate is nearer the mark, as, though scarce, it is not so rare as to make us believe that only 20,000 stamps were issued. Later in the same year it appeared perforated 10, together with two higher values which were now found necessary. These latter were the 18 and 30 kr., specimens of which are now scarce, though a large number of remainders of the 30 kr. has made that value common in an unused state. The other values of the set namely, 1 kr., 6 kr. and 9 kr., continued to be issued with the lined background until 1864 but the perforation was changed to 10 when the values mentioned above appeared. It was not until July, 1864, that the 6 kr. and 9 kr. were issued with the white background, and they were followed later in the same year by the 1 kr. black. In altering the design they also changed the colours of the 6 kr. and 9 kr. which now appeared in blue and brown respectively. The shades of all the stamps vary considerably.

There were no reprints of any of these or subsequent issues of Bavaria.

A change in the postal rates in 1867 created a necessity for a new value, 7 kreuzer. As so often happens, the opportunity was taken to create a new design. The work was entrusted to Maier, of Carlsruhe, and it cannot be said that the result was an improvement.



The name and value were made bolder and the word "FREIMARKE" was repeated at the right in place of "POSTVEREIN," which word in some mysterious way gave offence to the Prussian authorities. Besides the 7 kr., the 1 kr., and 3 kr. were issued in this design, but as there was a sufficient stock on hand of the other values there was no necessity for a new issue of these values, which remained in use until December 31st, 1871, when the Grand Duchy was incorporated with the German Empire. On and after January 1st, 1872, only the stamps of the German Empire were used.

The postmarks of Baden form an exceedingly interesting side study, as they provide a wide range of variety. The stamps of the first type are rarely found with any cancellation but that consisting of five circles with a numeral or numerals in the centre. Towards the end of the 'fifties however we find a date stamp came into use with the result that we get the later stamps of the first type, and those in use during the early 'sixties—with town cancella-

tions. Usually the town name is enclosed in the outer of two circles; these circles vary considerably in size. The later issues are usually found with a town cancellation, consisting of the name of the place and date (usually the month only) within one big circle.

With the exception of the stamps of the first type, which are seldom found with any but the usual cancellation consisting of five circles, we find that all issues are commonly found cancelled with the name of the consigning town in big capital letters enclosed in a single lined narrow rectangular frame. This cancellation is a most effective one, sometimes, but rarely, it is met with in red.

There are other varieties of postmarks but those already mentioned were generally used.

An effective variety of the five circles type is that which has the outer circle serrated,—if I may so describe it,—making it appear a little like the well-known “cart wheel” cancellation found on the early Bavarian stamps.

With the exception of the two high values, all the regular varieties of Baden stamps can be fairly easily obtained on original covers, in this condition, provided they are clean, they make a very effective and interesting display.

## Correspondence.

88, King Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

THE EDITOR OF THE *P.J. of G.B.*  
STAMPS OF SAMOA.

DEAR SIR,

I was much interested in Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigk's fine article on the Samoa Express in your August number.

I notice however that he did not go into the question of perforations at all, and the result of the study of same by one who has such a knowledge of the stamps and opportunity to examine stocks would be, I think, very valuable.

Personally I have had a good many of the Samoa Express stamps through my hands and all that are undoubtedly genuine have been perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; all reprints that I am quite sure were reprints that I have handled have been perf. 11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  or 12 (never  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ). But; I have had some perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  or 12 that I would be very much inclined to consider genuine but for the fact that the known reprints were this perf.

Perhaps Mr. Dalwigk could enlighten us per medium of your esteemed paper.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER A. HULL.

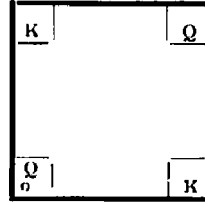
3, Belgrave Terrace,  
Hillhead, Glasgow,  
18th Nov., 1910.

TO THE EDITOR *P.J.G.B.*  
BRITISH VARIETIES, ETC.

DEAR SIR,—

It may interest some of your many readers

to know that I have discovered the 1/- orange-brown Gt. Britain, plate 13, with “Spray” inverted (S.G. No. 151), also that I recently purchased the 1/- green, 1867-80 (S.G. No. 117), “Spray” watermark, plate 4, *imperforate*. It has good margins on three sides and is genuinely used.\* I also have Gt. Britain, No. 80, 4d. pale red, in a pair, one stamp showing a small circle beside the lower left letter. This variety† is clearly visible to the naked eye.



When in Chili during the end of 1907 I bought quite a number of stamps at the G.P.O. Valparaiso, amongst others the 12c. on 5c. (S.G. No. 103). When I examined these stamps I found some had a broken E in “Correos,” a variety I thought worth cataloguing. I wrote home to a leading London firm and they, in answering my communication, informed me they had looked at their stock and had the variety, but they “took no notice of broken letters!”

Hoping I have not bothered you with these details.

Yours truly,

A. MACMILLAN POLLOCK.

WE have received the following interesting list of minor varieties from Mr. B. J. H. Somake. In some instances these varieties will not be new to our readers, while the Indian one anna C.E.F. stamp is, we think, undoubtedly a forgery.

Unfortunately we cannot reproduce the photograph Mr. Somake sent.

To the Editor, “*P.J.G.B.*”

DEAR SIR,

The following list of uncatalogued varieties may interest your readers.

Yours truly,

B. J. H. SOMAKE.

### SOME MINOR VARIETIES.

No. 1.—British East Africa on Zanzibar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna, green, the two i's of “British” undotted and S of “East” omitted.

No. 2.—PERAK on Straits Settlements, Two Cents rose-carmine, inverted v for A in “PERAK”; this is not a broken A, but a distinct v.

\*We trust our correspondent has not been deceived with a marginal stamp with its perforations cut off.—ED., *P.J.G.B.*

†We also have seen this flaw, so it must be fairly constant.—ED., *P.J.G.B.*

No. 3.—One anna, plum, Jhind State Service, curved surcharge, showing E of "SERVICE" omitted.

No. 4.—British East Africa, Company's stamp, 3as. black on dull red, surcharged "BRITISH EAST AFRICA"; showing "AFRICA" omitted.

No. 5.—C.E.F. on India, one anna, purple-brown, smaller and irregular surcharge.

No. 6.—Gwalior,  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna, King, Service, misplaced surcharge, showing "Service" on top and "Gwalior" below. The one anna, King, is also known with this surcharge.

No. 7.—A block of 4 Puttiala State,  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna green, red surcharge, showing the top right-hand stamp with the error, "PUTTIALA." The 1 anna, surcharged in black, and the 2 annas, surcharged in red, of the above issue is also known with this error. I have seen the 2 annas, but not the 1 anna.

The error "PUTTILLA" chronicled by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., does not exist.

No. 8.—Patiala Service, Two Annas, on King's Head stamp, shows a normal stamp with an error, "SERVICE" spaced, thus: "SER VICE." This is an interesting variety and worthy of note. I cannot say what position this stamp occupies on the sheet, nor whether the variety exists in other values.

No. 9.—Patiala State, 1 anna, on King's Head, pair with normal and error showing "1" in place of second "T" of STATE. I have the  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  and 1 anna with this error and cannot say if other values exist with this error, or what position it occupies on the sheet.

No. 10.—This is the Afghanistan stamp, of 1908 engraved type, 1 abasi green, showing the stamp doubly impressed. Sir David Masson, in his note in the Handbook of "Stamps of Afghanistan," in referring to this issue, states that doubly impressed stamps are also known.

Nos. 11, 12 & 13.—These are the 3 ch. on 5 ch. and 6 ch. on 10 ch. of Persia, surcharge, double. No. 12 has already been noticed in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* and also chronicled in their catalogue of 1909. No. 13 is also a double surcharge, but differing in position from that in No. 12. These stamps, being hand surcharged, double surcharges are likely to be found in many positions, but at the same time they are not frequently met with. I have come across these among a lot of over fifteen thousand stamps that have passed through my hands.

No. 14.—British Levant, 80 paras on 5d., showing small "o" in 80. Bright's catalogue for 1910 chronicles this error on King's Head, but not the Queen's Head.

No. 15.—Persia, 9 chahis on 1 kran, showing error double figure "9," one of which appears in the right-hand centre.

No. 16.—Persia, 5 chahis on 8 chahis, brown, surcharged in purple. The English figure "5" shown double, one at top and one at bottom.

## The North London Philatelic Society.

7, Canonbury Sq., Upper St., Islington, N.

President.

ALEXANDER J. SEFI, Esq.

Hon. Sec.

Mr. C. S. MURATORI,

41, Navarino Mansions, Navarino Road,  
Dalston, N.E.

THE 49th Ordinary Meeting of the above Society was held at Headquarters on Thursday, Nov. 17th, the Chair being occupied by Mr. Alexander J. Séfi.

After the Minutes of the previous Meeting had been read and confirmed, Mr. A. J. Séfi proceeded to give the first portion of his Display with Notes, on "Postage Stamp Printers and their Work." Mr. Séfi, in opening, stated that this evening he intended to devote to the work of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. He then proceeded to show his stamps, giving various notes on the different specimens shown, among which, worthy of special mention, were the following:—Great Britain, 1d. black, mint pair, also a used corner block of four with margins showing the plate number 6; Cape of Good Hope, 1855, 1d. brick red and 1/- deep green, mint pair of each; Ceylon, 1857, 2d. deep green, 1/9 yellow-green, both mint, 1861, mint pair, 1/- lilac; Grenada, 1863, 1d. green, mint block of six; Ionian Isles, mint block of six of each colour. Mauritius, 1854, green, surcharged "FOURPENCE," mint; N. Brunswick, 1/- violet, a superb used copy; Newfoundland, 1857, 2d. scarlet-vermilion; St. Lucia, 1860, rose-red, mint block of four; St. Vincent, 1866, 4d. deep blue, mint block of four; S. Australia, 1855, 1d. deep green, mint; Tasmania, 1855, 4d. deep blue, mint strip of four; West Australia, 1860, 2d. pale orange, mint strip of four; Liberia, 1892, 4c. black and green, centre inverted, mint block of four; and many others, also a large number of proofs, essays, etc. At the conclusion of the display, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Séfi, who will give the second portion of his display on Thursday, Feb. 16th, 1911, when all interested are invited to attend.

The best Album on the market for the general collector is the Lincoln. A very old favourite, and going stronger than ever.



# The Post Office of India.

BY SIR EDMUND C. COX, BART.

*Reprinted from the October "Empire Gazette."*

THE Indian Postal Department is a triumph of British organisation. From the time of its constitution, on modern lines, by Lord Dalhousie, a few years before the great Mutiny, it has achieved the most marvellous success. Its popularity among the natives is undoubted; and it is one of the few blessings introduced by British rule which has been free from adverse criticism. The charges made by the Post Office are phenomenally low. In a country more than half the size of Europe, a half-anna or half-penny stamp will take a letter from Peshawar to Comorin, or from Quetta to Mandalay. A postcard costs one farthing. This does not represent only the face value, but includes the card itself; and it is not necessary to purchase a whole packet, a single card being obtainable in any office in exchange for a pice, or farthing placed on the counter. There is a more generous spirit in the Indian than in the English Post Office. Thus an embossed envelope bearing a half-anna stamp can be obtained, envelope and all, for exactly the face value of the stamp; and here again one can be purchased at a time. A post office order up to the value of five rupees costs the sum of one penny. There is no need to send a postal receipt of any document to the person who is to receive the amount. The sender merely fills up a form, on one corner of which he can write any brief message that he likes; and the postman at the other end delivers the money to the payee, handing over to him any communication that the sender may have recorded. The cost of registering a letter is only one penny. Parcel post was introduced into India for many years before the conservative officials at St. Martin Le Grand's ventured on the experiment. For many years, also, India has enjoyed the advantage of the "V.P.P." or Value Payable Post. This is what is known in America as "C.O.D." or Cash on Delivery. By this system a person in any part of India can write to a firm in any other locality and order goods of the value, say, of a hundred rupees to be sent by post. The postman delivers the articles, and receives the hundred rupees, plus a small commission, while the Post Office hands over the money to the firm concerned. The arrangement is a very simple one, and eminently satisfactory. Like many other good things, it has its drawbacks; and the objection is that it can lend itself to fraud and swindling.

However, in spite of this risk the V.P.P. is very popular with bonà-fide customers and dealers.

The total staff of the department in 1909 numbered 91,187. Taking into consideration the very low pay of the subordinates it is wonderful how very few cases of dishonesty occur. In the above year the number of instances in which the servants of the Post Office were found guilty of offences punishable by the law was only 553. Defalcations and losses amounted to £4,346, an infinitesimal amount in comparison with the vast totals dealt with by the department. As a rule the postmen and other employes are entirely honest and trustworthy, though they are surrounded by temptations.

Most of the postmen have little or no education. They can just read enough of their own vernacular, whatever that may be, to enable them to deliver letters at the right addresses. English is of course a sealed book to them. So the postmaster at the delivering office has to write on each envelope addressed in English sufficient details in the language of the district to enable the missive to reach its destination. Of course in a country like India there are innumerable languages. If a native of Madras posts a letter which is addressed in Tamil or Telagu, to a correspondent in the Punjab, there will be no one in that part of the world who is able to decipher the superscription. Therefore the postmaster at the transmitting office has to examine each packet addressed in the vernacular; and if he sees that it is to travel further than the language that is employed happens to extend, he writes the address in English. There is always some one who can read this.

The total length of postal lines is 156,633 miles. Of all these miles the railway accounts for only 31,485. For the rest there are numerous modes of conveyance, including tongas, or mailcarts, bullock-carts, ponies, camels, runners, steamers, and country-boats. The drivers or carriers sometimes undergo experiences which are more exciting than pleasant. In 1909 there were no less than 35 cases in which the mails were plundered by highway robbers, 27 of these being in British territory and eight in Native States.

In most Native States the post office is worked by British organisation. Some, however, prefer to make their own arrangements. The result of this is sometimes peculiar. In

one of the leading States so untrustworthy is the postal administration that natives almost invariably send their letters unstamped, leaving the recipient to pay a double fee. The reason alleged for this curious practice is that if the letter is stamped the post office has received all that it can expect, and has therefore no object in taking the trouble to deliver the letter, which may be consigned to the nearest ditch; while if there is a fee to be collected it is sure to reach its destination.

It may be interesting to give some of the figures relating to the year 1909. There were 18,399 post offices, 43,577 letter boxes, and 8,299 village postmen. These men carry letters to villages where there is no post office; and so there is no village which a letter will not reach. The number of letters and post-cards reached 767,922,728. The total number of articles received for delivery, including money orders, was nearly 900 millions. For the insurance of letters or parcels the office received £20,562. As payment in respect of claims amounted to only £547 the insurance system paid well. The small amount of claims testifies to the carefulness of the department in dealing with insured articles. The number of savings bank accounts stood at 1,262,763, and represented deposits amounting to more than ten million pounds. The post office amongst other miscellaneous items of business issues life insurances and annuities, and sells quinine.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

A WHOLE year spent in teaching English dealers the art of playing bridge, and snooker pool, also in trotting about Europe, seeing the sights, sampling the local cock tails, losing return tickets, and all the other frivolities of youth seem to have done friend Hagen a world of good. Since he has got back to Sydney he has made his paper, the *Australian Philatelist*, sit up; the current number "knocks spots" off many of its English competitors. My word! So good is the October number that I regret to come across the following paragraph.

"It is well known to the majority of stamp collectors that the wealthiest and most lavish of the craft is the gentleman known as the Duke von Ferrary, but who for family reasons, declined both the title and great wealth left him by his father, and insists on being addressed as plain Mr. la Renotiere. It is doubtful if anyone has been able to give anything like an approximate value of his collection. As he has been collecting for over 40 years, and it is known that his annual expenditure with one firm alone has been well over £50,000 some idea of the extent of his collection and philatelic treasures can be gauged."

An annual expenditure with one firm alone of over £50,000, extending over a period of 40 years! My word, I guess the year in Europe wasn't misspent after all. I wonder whether Mr. Hagen picked up the above little yarn when he was staying at Sevenoaks or Chislehurst. Awfully sad about the Duke giving up his paternal fortune. What a plucky thing to do to leave himself with only a beggarly few millions to spend on stamps. One of these days he may want to buy a complete collection of the Cayman Islands, and what will happen then?

Mr. C. J. Phillips "reviewed" a new book in a recent number of *G.S.W.* His first paragraph reads:—

"I am more than pleased to welcome a book upon the issues of any of the interesting Republics of South America."

After saying some nasty things about the publication (which were mostly deserved), Mr. Phillips' last paragraph reads:—

"I am always glad to welcome new hand-books on stamps, but one must protest against publications such as this, which is full of inaccuracies from beginning to end."

When the McTavish handbook on the stamps of Patagonia is published, I sincerely hope Mr. C. J. P. won't read it. He mightn't even welcome it, and then what would the pair laddie do? Stop at home and reverse the family doormat?

Friend "Senex," who so regularly contributes a column of stamp chatter to the *S.C.F.* under the heading "The Stamp Market" sometimes makes some very cryptic remarks. In the *S.C.F.* for Nov. 26th, for instance, he says:

"I am constantly protesting against the sundry little tricks practised by some collectors when purchasing, and it is not a bad plan, if you can afford it, to "drop" a customer of this type, and to reward the faithful payers with a gift."

Senex drops this bolt, quite *apropos* of nothing, on the heads of his devoted readers.

As I am not quite sure as to "Senex's" identity I shall steer clear of stamp dealers who live on first floors, in case they cannot resist the temptation to "drop" me, London pavements are so hard. What a "show night" it would make at the — Philatelic Society if the members would give a display of their sundry little tricks!

As to the "gift" clause I haven't much to say, altho' at first I thought I had identified "Senex," so I went to a well-known philatelic gift house in the Strand and watched the "faithful" coming out. Judging from their hard expressions I think some of them wished they hadn't been so lavish with their "tuppences."

Mr. Upcott Gill has just published a

readable little work, entitled: "The Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases." Personally I don't in the least object to the first word of the title; brother Poole may, however. On page 3 I find that the definition of the word "album" is given as follows:

"Collections are kept in albums." Bravo! Dr. Johnson, Junior.

When the McTavish dictionary comes along, don't be surprised when you turn up the word "collector" to find it described as "one who collects," or "dealer" as "one who deals." Dash it all, what is the use of knowledge unless it is disseminated.

I sincerely hope that the few scores of philatelic editors, who writhed last month under the lash of the *S.C.F.*, are now able to sit up and take a little nourishment. It would be too bad had they to suffer an unhappy Xmas because they forgot what the *S.C.F.* published so long ago as January, 1903. The *S.C.F.* got so worked up that we find Britain spelt with a K, which letter, although a favourite with the office boy, isn't really the correct one to use.

When I spoke to friend Kay, who knows more about forgeries than nearly all the London dealers put together, about his not remembering that the 10/- British was an old impostor, he merely winked. The *Daily Mail* chronicled that wink, however, as a serious gale, while the noise of it echoed through and through the I.P.U. cellars.

One of these days I shall dig up a few good old Isaacs and Bumpies, and see if I can't get 'em chronicled.

An enterprising, but youthful dealer has sent me a copy of his latest circular. On page 2 I read:—

Send ME THE STAMPS,

or make appointment,

I DO THE REST.

My youthful correspondent (brother in philately) will surely own a big shop in the Strand one of these days. The same ingenious person also says:—

"I have practically retired from philatelic dealing over half-a-year." Why, I wonder, did he not stick to the profession for eight months?

Yet again I read, *apropos* the idea of collecting accounts:—

"For this I charge a small commission, but more often received (sic) stamps off entire correspondents."

At what age does a correspondent become "entire"? Also, what causes them to "shed" stamps. The annual bath?

In the *Southern Philatelist*, a bright little American contemporary of the *P.F.G.B.*, I see that a dealer is advertising that he has "a large number of stamps, largely 10th century. Most of these were obtained from old collections and auction lots."

Storyteller! In those days collectors hadn't commenced to sell their stamps by auction.

The same amusing little paper informs its readers that it did not enter the philatelic world with the view of "filling a long fella want." Possibly not, but why be so partial, good collectors are not judged by their inches.

Why is it that contributors to stamp papers like to employ such lengthy headings, also why do they nearly always append one or more of their Christian names.

Surely "Notes on the 1862 issue of Switzerland," by A. C. Juggins, is as comprehensive as "A few Stray Notes on 2 Rappen grey of Switzerland, 1862, inscribed with the trilingual inscriptions: Rappen, Centesimi, and Centimas, Imperforate, etc., etc.," contributed by Augustus Cuthbert Juggins.

Being an extremely modest sort of chap I don't like intruding the personal note in these columns, it is a thing, as you who read me regularly, month by month, must well know. It comes therefore somewhat as a shock to find myself reading what I have just written, and that is

*A very Happy Xmas and Prosperous New Year to Angus McTavish.*

## New Leaves to Cut.

JAMAICA.\*

By F. J. MELVILLE.

THE first of the new season's little handbooks, written by Mr. Melville, deals with the stamps of Jamaica, and is, as are most of Mr. Melville's "Handbooks," a wonderful example of good value for the money.

From the introduction, we learn that this is the Jubilee year of the establishment of Jamaica's Post Office under Colonial management.

As is customary with Mr. Melville, he gives a very able *resumé* of the early postal history of the Island, before stamps came into use in 1860.

We learn, for instance, that in 1688 an Order in Council authorised the establishment of a Post Office in the town of Port Royall, in His Majesty's Island of Jamaica. In 1858 the British Post Office began to supply the stamps of Great Britain to Jamaica, it having been found that the use of these stamps in Malta, Gibraltar and Constantinople had not led to forgery. From the first issue of Jamaica stamps in 1860 to the multiple watermarks of 1910, Mr. Melville fully describes the stamps and their history. He treats of each issue and his work embodies extracts from every important article which has appeared. Of late years the stamps of Jamaica have been popular, and many articles

\*No. 12 of the Melville Stamp Books. 47, Strand, W.C. Price 6d.



concerning them have been published in the philatelic press, of these Mr. Melville has taken full advantage, with the result that his latest work is a concise account of all that is of importance relating to these stamps.

As is usual, with the Melville Stamp Books, the one under review is tastefully printed, well illustrated and, in addition to the 90 pages of letter-press, is furnished with a pocket, containing plates of the settings of the Provisional overprints, also a sheet of gummed labels for use in blank albums.

Would-be specialists on the look-out for an eminently suitable country, would do well to procure a copy of this little book; so also should those collectors to whom the charm of the "pine" has already appealed.

### GREAT BRITAIN LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

By F. J. MELVILLE.

*A second, and revised edition of No. 1 of the Melville Stamp Books.*

We have received from Mr. W. H. Peckitt a second edition of the first (and, in our opinion, still the best) of Mr. Melville's series of popular little handbooks.

In this edition we find several corrections and several additions, which add to its value and make it, even more than its predecessor, a book which should be in the hands of every collector of the stamps of the Homeland. As this work was reviewed in our column's for January, 1909, we cannot spare space to again refer to its merits.

### DICTIONARY OF PHILATELIC TERMS AND PHRASES.\*

We have received a copy of an extremely useful little handbook bearing the above title, from the well-known firm of Upcott Gill. This little book contains, in handy form, the articles which have already been published in the columns of the *Bazaar*, *Exchange and Mart*, and should prove a regular *multum in parvo* to youthful collectors, especially to those who are not familiar with the weekly stamp papers, or with either Mr. Hinton's or Mr. Melville's excellent little guidebooks for beginners.

The reader of philatelic papers will also find the latest of Mr. Gill's philatelic works of use for reference purposes as it is, apart from other features, a capital gazetteer, such places as Comayagua, Harper, Tumaco, etc., can, if anybody should so desire, be easily turned up for reference.

The Dictionary contains definitions of a great many of the various technical words and phrases used in philately, the significance of surcharges, variations of paper, most of the methods of printing, the geographical situation of stamp-issuing countries and states,

the coinage represented by the stamps and a great deal of other matter. Also, there are several errors of commission and many of omission.

There are 163 pages of letterpress and illustrations and the "Dictionary" should certainly appeal to a wide circle of readers—especially to those, who, as we have already stated, are not subscribers to the recognized monthly and weekly philatelic papers.

### THE CAYMAN ISLANDS: THEIR STAMPS AND POST OFFICE.\*

By D. B. ARMSTRONG.

The interesting history of the stamps of the Cayman Islands, which has recently appeared as a serial in the columns of the *Stamp Lover*, has now been published in book form. The author, Mr. D. B. Armstrong and his collaborators, Messrs. C. B. Bostwick and A. J. Watkin, have compiled a really very interesting, thoroughly well illustrated history of all pertaining to the philatelic story of the Cayman Islands.

The first chapter is devoted to a concise geographical and historical account of the islands, the second, to a capital description of the early days (postal) and *resumé* of the postal charges and a list of the Jamaica stamps used in the Caymans. Chapters III. to XI. are devoted to full accounts of the various postage stamps, Chapter XII. to Postal Stationery, Chapter XIII. deals with Essays, Proofs, and Colour Trials, while Chapter XIV. is given over to a study of postmarks.

So complete is this handbook that it seems almost impossible that its authors can have left anything unsaid, while it is undoubtedly *the* book for collectors interested in the unexciting emissions of the Cayman Islands.

### STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE.

PART I. †

After several false alarms we have at length received a copy of the long expected Part I. The distribution of these catalogues was, in our opinion, very badly carried out, and must have caused a good deal of annoyance to many collectors.

Advertised in the daily press as published on, if not before, the 1st of December, it was not until the 8th that collectors—with the exception of a favoured few—possibly to the extent of 500—were able to obtain a copy of the catalogue. Dealers who had supplies on order were unable to secure a delivery until at least a week after the catalogues were advertised as being ready! To turn to the work itself we find that it is, as usual, the *vade mecum* for collectors of British Colonial stamps. Many of the prices have

\*Published by the Junior Philatelic Society, 44, Fleet Street, E.C. Price 2/- nett.

†Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391, Strand, W.C. Price 2/6.

\*Published by L. Upcott Gill, Bazaar Buildings, Drury Lane, W.C. Price, 1/6 net.

received attention, and we find a general upward tendency, especially as regards recent issues. In some instances these stamps are now finding their level with the result that a few of the sensational advances of the last catalogue have now had a set back; for instance Grenada 10/- multiple now 40/- instead of 80/-. In many countries a few stamps—here and there—have been considerably reduced, for instance, the 1/- orange-brown, St. Lucia, has fallen from £5 to 75/-, the 4d. of the same issue from 10/- to 6/6 and so on.

It would be quite impossible for us, with a limited space at our disposal, to individualise a tithe of the alterations in price, we can only generalize and say that many of the cheaper varieties of line-engraved stamps and early C.C.'s show a marked upward tendency. Such old popular stamps as the Jamaicas with pineapple wmk., for instance, show a distinct desire to climb out of the reach of junior collectors.

One very needed change in the present Part I. is the omission of three lists of quotations for Labuan and North Borneo stamps; the inclusion of prices for "post-marked to order" stamps is now a thing of the past.

With the exception of the list for Tonga, we find no country has been re-written. The "warning" published in the introduction of the last edition to the effect that collectors were warned with regard to over speculation in modern issues of British Colonies, as these stamps are already beginning to come on the market at cheap prices, is now not deemed necessary. Instead, we find the prices for these stamps considerably raised! !

The new catalogue is thoroughly up-to-date, even to the inclusion of the Union of South Africa and new Rhodesia stamps and, as of old, reflects to a very great extent the real market value of most of the grand old stamps of philately.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Australian Commonwealth.** Mr. S. Dalby, of Brisbane, very kindly sends us the following letter:—

"The ten-year book-keeping period of the Australian Commonwealth has ended, the financial adjustments between the six States and the Federal Government having become the subject of a *per capita* agreement. Consequently there no longer exists the necessity for separate States' postage stamps. It has been announced that a Commonwealth stamp will be issued on 1st January next, 1911, and pending the selection of a suitable permanent design it was likely that one of the States' series would be utilized by overprinting the word 'Australia.' Since the 13th of October it has been permitted to affix any of the States' stamps to a letter, irrespective of where the letter is posted in Australia. For instance, a letter posted in Victoria or Queensland may bear stamps of Tasmania, New South Wales, &c."

Our publishers have shown us envelopes posted in Queensland franked with stamps from all the States, also similar covers from Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and other towns.

**Gibraltar.** Mr. G. A. Higlett has shown us a 2½d. stamp, S.G. No. 11, used on piece of entire dated November 26th, 1886.

**Leeward Islands.** Mr. Charles Davies kindly tells us that he has received used copies

of the 3d. stamp postmarked St. John's, Antigua, 28th October, 1910.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. New colour.  
Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
3d. brown on yellow.

**New Zealand.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us the current 1/- stamp perforated 14 × 14½.

*Adhesive.*  
King's Head type. Perf. 14 × 14½.  
1/- vermilion.

A correspondent of the *Australian Philatelist* says he has the 6d. red brown of the 1863-66 issue perforated with the "13 Dunedin perforation."

**Papua.** Mr. C. Davies kindly tells us that he has received the 6d. stamp with the large inscription similar to the varieties we chronicled last month.

*Adhesive.*  
"Papua" in large letters.  
6d. black and green.

**Rhodesia.** We are now able to illustrate the design of the new stamps, also a list of the varieties.



- Adhesives.** No wmk.  
 3d. green.  
 1d. carmine.  
 2d. grey and dark grey.  
 3d. yellow and mauve.  
 4d. orange and indigo.  
 5d. olive-green and brown.  
 6d. mauve and brown.  
 8d. violet and grey.  
 10d. mauve and red.  
 1/- emerald and indigo.  
 2/- ultramarine and black.  
 2/6 pink and black.  
 3/- violet and green.  
 5/- yellow-green and red.  
 7/6 red and blue.  
 10/- orange and green.  
 £1 black and red.

**South African Union.** Messrs. Bright & Son, and Mr. A. W. Wright, of Cape Town, have shown us two distinct shades of the recently issued "Union" stamp.

**South Australia.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us a specimen of the 2/6 violet, perf. 12½ small holes. This variety will be 376 in the new catalogue.

- Adhesive.**  
 Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½, small holes.  
 2/6 bright violet.

**Straits Settlements.** Mr. W. H. Peckitt has kindly shown us two new and attractive stamps. The values 21c. and 45c. are also novelties.



- Adhesives.** Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
 21c. marone and lilac.  
 45c. black on green.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Bosnia.** Lately we have been chronicling some wierd compounds of the pictorial labels. Not to be out-done *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* now lists the 6h. orange brown, perf. 13½ all round. When will the remaining values of the set turn up?

**Brazil.** Mr. Dias Silva, of St. Paulo, has very kindly sent us specimens of the new 600 reis stamps for general use, also the same value in the current Postage Due design. Our correspondent also informs us that a 10,000 reis stamp bearing a portrait of Dr. Nilo Pecanha has also been issued. These varieties together with a 5,000 reis Postage Due were placed on sale November 15th.



- Adhesives.**  
 600 reis olive-green.  
 10,000 .. brown.  
**Postage Dues.**  
 600 reis olive-green.  
 5,000 .. ?

Our Brazilian correspondent kindly sends us the following information regarding the PAN AMERICAN STAMP.

The Philatelic Press has unjustly designated Portugal as the only country responsible for the momentary suspension of the sale of this stamp. Other countries ought to be named also and not Portugal alone. The protests coming from Portugal were, without doubt, the most numerous, for this simple reason, that the relations between Brazil and that country are very extensive, but we must cite Italy also, which country has very extensive relations with Brazil, as well as other countries, as having taxed the Pan American stamps. There has I think been a misunderstanding apropos of the adjective "Pan American" of which the true meaning is not yet generally known. (Pan American—the whole of North America, Central and South America, joined by the isthmus of Panama). The history of the transformation of this special stamp into an ordinary stamp serving for the whole of the postal union is well-known, a transformation which took effect in consequence of the general reduction in postal rates brought about by the postal reforms in Brazil, but it was only after re-iterated demands that certain Administrations would realise the difference which might exist between a local stamp and one of limited employment (such as the Brazilian Commemorative stamp of the Pan American Congress, held at Rio-le-Janerio, in 1906), and a stamp really Pan American issued at no matter what period and transformed later into an ordinary stamp without being commemorative of any congress whatever.

**Chili.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send another value, presumably completing the set of Centenary stamps.



*Adhesive.*

15c. greenish-black and black.

**France.** *New Hebrides.* The *Australian Philatelist* for October, chronicles the French New Hebrides stamps with the word "Condominium" added to the overprint.

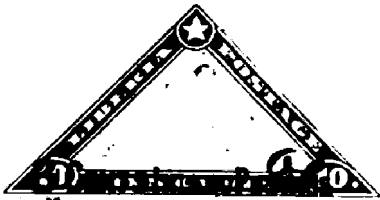
**Italy.** We have received from Mr. W. S. Lincoln copies of the recently issued stamps to commemorate the entry of Garibaldi into Naples, which resulted in Italy becoming a Kingdom. These stamps are likely to become scarce.

*Commemoratives.*

5c. red.

15c. green.

**Liberia.** Mr. H. L. Hayman very kindly sends us specimens of the recently issued triangular stamps, with a surcharge as illustrated below.

*Adhesive.*

3c. on 10c. black and purple.

*Official Stamp.*

3c. on 10c. blue and black.

**Philippine Islands.** The *Philatelic Gazette* chronicles the current 2c. stamp in a new shade, namely yellow green instead of dark green.

*Adhesive. 1906 Type.*

2c. yellow-green.

**Portugal.** All the stamps of the current set have been overprinted "Republica."

*Adhesives. Overprinted "Republica."*

2r. lilac.

5r. black.

10r. grey-green.

15r. pale purple-brown.

20r. rose-red.

25r. chocolate.

50r. indigo-blue.

75r. yellow-brown.

80r. French grey.

100r. brown on green.

200r. deep green on salmon.

300r. black on azure.

500r. chocolate and olive.

1000r. black and indigo.

**Azores.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 25 reis of the short lived King Manoel stamps, perforated 11½. Why not?

**Macao.** We extract the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*:—"Messrs. Graça and Co. write us as follows: 'We have much pleasure to inform you about the first Macao provisional postage stamp issued by the Portuguese Republican Government.'

"The stamps of ½, 1, and 2 avos of current issue (1898-1905) were all sold out, and the Government was compelled to issue provisionals for the use of the public.

"The Postage Due stamps of ½, 1, and 2

avos were taken by the Government to meet the demand, and the stamps were issued provisionally with the two thick black lines covering the words 'PORTEADO' at the top and 'RECEBER' at the bottom. The ½ avo was issued on the 15th inst., 1 avo on the 17th inst., and the 2 avos on the 18th inst. We understand that the issue of all the provisionals is small, as the Government is expecting soon to receive the new supply from home. We post this letter at Macao, with the above stamps for your information."

1910. Issued by the Republican Government, with words "PORTEADO" and "RECEBER" cancelled with black bars. Name and value in black. Perf. 11½.

½ avo blue-green.

1 " yellow-green.

2 avos slate.

**Russian Levant.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current 10 kopecs of Russia surcharged "2 PIASTRES," for use in Turkey.

*Adhesive.*

1 piast. on 10k. deep blue.

**Salvador.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the following list of "Official Stamps." The design is the same as that on the postage stamps, which we have recently listed, with the exception that the word "Official" is inserted beneath the head.

*Official Stamps. Wmk. Circles.*

1c. brown and black.

2c. green "

3c. orange "

4c. carmine "

5c. bright violet "

6c. scarlet "

10c. bright violet "

12c. blue &amp; black "

**Sweden.** From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., we have received the first stamp of the new series, showing a portrait of King Gustaf V. The other values will be issued as the old stocks are exhausted.

*Adhesive.*

10 Öre scarlet.

**Switzerland.** According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* the redrawn low values have now appeared *tête bêche*.

*Adhesives.*

2c. yellow.

3c. brown.

5c. green.

**Uruguay.** Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, kindly sends us the following interesting letter.

"I beg to enclose a specimen of the new 5 mills provisional of Uruguay issued on the 9th inst. Half-a-million of these stamps have been printed. Sixty thousand of the 50c. rose,

of 1st July, 1907, have also been surcharged '5 centesimos provisorio 1910' but I am sorry I cannot send you a specimen for illustration as the authorities refuse to sell any unless they are allowed to affix the stamps to the letters. The excuse given is to prevent speculation but recent events clearly prove that this is only a flagrant piece of jobbery and that everyone concerned, from the D.G. downwards, is busily engaged in cornering these provisionals. The last 5c. provisional only lasted 20 days although it was given out that 300,000 had been printed."



Provisionals.  
5 mila. on 1c. green.  
5 .. 50c. rose.



## December, 1910, Report.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### 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.

Albert Schwabacher, West Kensington.

The third meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, December 8th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwarte, A. B. Kay, H. F. Johnson, W. E. Lincoln, P. L. Pemberton, W. S. King, F. F. Lamb, the Hon. Sec., and Messrs. Victor Beaujeux and J. Wagenham, visitors. On behalf of Mr. Heginbottom, the Hon. Sec. displayed the British Guiana, British Honduras and Falkland Islands portions of this well known collection. Each country being very complete in used state, for which a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded.

Mr. Victor Beaujeux followed with a display of the first portion of his highly specialised and complete collection of Switzerland, including all the rare Cantonal issues and the Festival issues down to 1882, on entire originals, used and unused, and reconstructed plates. Among the many fine things in this collection may be noted a superb double Geneva on original, strip of five 6 rappen Zurich unused, a block of 5 cent Geneva with marginal print unused, Basle used on entire, Poste Locale 4c.—the five types of 4 and 6 rappen Zurich, an unused sheet of 10 rappen 1850, and many other rarities too numerous to mention here. This collection is the result of many years most painstaking effort, and the highest praise is due to Mr. Beaujeux for the most artistic manner in which the stamps are mounted and arranged in a special album of his own construction. In replying to the unanimous vote of thanks moved by the Hon. Sec. and seconded by Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Beaujeux kindly promised to display the second portion of the collection next season and the meeting closed at a late hour after a most enjoyable evening.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, January 12th, at 7.30 p.m. (Committee 7 p.m.), when a display of the stamps of Brazil and Uruguay will be given, Postage Stamps by Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., Fiscals by Mr. Schwabacher. All members and any visitors heartily welcomed.

The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive proposals for membership, any donation to the Forgery Collection on view at all meetings and any subscriptions still due as per notice sent to members.

THOS. H. HINTON,  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Int. Phil. Union.  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.  
Dec. 10th, 1910.

## A Stamp Evening.

BY D. TREMENS.

It was Christmas Eve and the study looked invitingly cosy. There was still a bright glow from the fire, though our owner had just turned the key in our cupboard and gone upstairs to bed. Footsteps resounded in the room above for a little time, but soon the heavy silence of the house proclaimed that all its inmates were slumbering.

We waited until the clock in the hall struck twelve and then, according to custom, we slid off our pages and, in scrambling, squabbling shoals, slipped through the crevices of the cupboard on to the floor.

From the cupboard to the hearthrug was an easy journey for those of us who, like myself, had good sound perforations, and in stampic progression the length being of more service than the number of legs I was one of the first to reach it. I should explain that I am a Finland 8 penni, black on green, born in 1867, and my legs, according to Gibbons are 2½ mm. long. I flatter myself that I am a very good-looking specimen. My owner sets the more store by me because I am slightly ribbed on the face. What is more, I have never been degraded by being stuck on a letter, so, as I have all my gum, I was careful, when I reached the hearthrug, not to get too near the fire, for the heat would have curled me up horribly.

The other values of my set were also among the first to take up their positions for the meeting, and we were soon joined by the rest of the perfs., who approached, for the most part, with a graceful rhythmic movement. It was very different with my imperforate fellows. Their progress was painfully slow and un-gainly (though many of them brought their mounts.) However, in good time all these laggards were jerked into position. Most of us were on the rug, but it was not large enough to accommodate us all, and the maimed, mended, postmarked-to-order speculative and other suspects were forced to take up positions as near it as they could, amid a good deal of pushing and quarrelling.

We were now only awaiting the arrival of our President who had been elected to that office because he is supposed to be the rarest stamp in the collection. For my own part I think a better choice could have been made among the old Europeans, but as the majority in our collection are British Colonials, we cannot expect just treatment, especially as our owner shows such marked favouritism. So you can understand why an ugly, dirty thing like 8 cents British Guiana, 1850, should have been chosen to be our head. He has several infirmities, *besides being cut to shape*, and I could hardly restrain my indignation at the sycophantic applause which greeted him as he rolled solemnly like a bobbin label, through an avenue made for him by his fellow colonists into the centre of the hearthrug.

"Order" having been called by 1/- scarlet, Newfoundland, who looked very handsome as the firelight fell on her face, the President began his annual address.

"Postages and Revenues" he said, "It is once more my privilege to address you on the progress and changes which twelve months have brought about in our little community. Our number has been added to considerably, though—and I hope I shall not hurt the feelings of anybody present when I say this—I cannot congratulate the owner on his preference for new issues."

At this point there were loud interjections from the outer fringe of the crowd, and it was some moments before order could be sufficiently restored to allow the speaker to continue.

"Speaking as one of the oldest stamps here think I am voicing the general sense of this meeting when I assert that we of the old brigade have been slighted, that our interests have not been studied and, in short, that our owner is drifting into a mere accumulator of showy and gaudy labels who have not . . . (loud uproar from the same quarter as before, which drowned the rest of the sentence). There are many gaps in our ranks which we have always been led to understand would be filled up as opportunity occurred. ('Opportunity is a fine thing' shrieked ½d. Cayman). No effort appears to have been made to procure any others of my own noble family; I hardly expect to see '2 cents,' but I certainly think '4 cents' and '8 cents' might have been procured, and I venture to say that such acquisitions would add greatly to our dignity as a collection." ("He'd sing smaller if 81 paras was here" whispered 2 *novic* Bosnia in my ear). Then there are my Canadian friends who have to put up with a 12d. which has "specimen" printed across her face.

"On the other hand, we are happy to be able to welcome many Australian brothers who have only recently joined our pages; there are the Sydneys, a well set-up trio, though 3d. affords a very poor view. The Swans, too, are in fine feather, though it is my own opinion that one of the latest comers would not bear floating on water. In Ceylon we have also had some additions of note: I am sure we all extend a hearty welcome to 8d., imperf., and congratulate her on the size of her margins (hear, hear). At the risk of giving a little offence to one of our latest arrivals, I should like to say that when I was young orange-red *was* orange-red, and not a mere deep orange, so while we must all admire the fiery appearance of 10d. CC Ceylon, we must also admit that she is too much like her sister to be the true variety."

At this point there was a slight disturbance in the Ceylon camp, where the impostor, feebly protesting, was being patronised by some sympathisers.

"I must now touch upon a very serious matter," continued the President, "I have been told that one or two new-comers are not all they should be (cries of 'shame!') I have heard rumours that at least two of them are wearing forged surcharges! (Here two British Officials fainted and the Beirut provisional turned pale). This comes of buying from miscellaneous sources. I understand that the unfortunate stamps which I have just referred to come from Exchange Clubs. I do not wish to be hard on Exchange Clubs—many of you have been through them, many of you have spent weary months, nay years, in trying to get off them, and many of you have lost your bloom in their service—but from what I am told the Company is very mixed and our owner should be very careful in recruiting from them. Then again there are some among you who have been crippled and had bones mended, sinews re-set, teeth filled and faces painted; I know there are several such who have joined us this year (a voice—"look at home") and" continued the President, wisely unheeding the interruption, "I know them and where they come from."

Amid great sensation, *id.* Trinidad, blue, lithographed, who had always boasted of the fineness of her lines, became hysterical and was lifted into a saucer of water which had been put out for the household dog, where she promptly came to pieces.

The excitement that this incident gave rise to caused us all to forget the President and his speech, and though I could see that he was still holding forth to a small group of old fogies, I heard no more of what he had to say.

"The old boy is getting unbearable" said my pert friend *jd.* Cayman who was standing by my side. I don't call this much of a Christmas entertainment; nothing but personalities and slanders. When *2jd.* on *4d.* is President I warrant that our annual address will be much more interesting."

"No unused stamp is fit to make an address" put in an Imperial Frenchman "I should like to know how many of your *2jd.* on *4d.* have ever seen a real address—I mean an address on a letter!"

The conversation now became general, and presently the whole collection was talking at once.

All at once, when the din was at its highest, an American newspaper stamp mounted a buffet and called out in a loud voice:

"Take your partners for the dance."

At the same time a German newspaper band, which our owner had mercifully preserved among other odds and ends, mounted the buffet and struck up a lively waltz tune. The scene that followed I find it difficult to describe. In two or three minutes the talking and quarrelling had ceased, and the floor was covered with a good humoured crowd of dancers. There were Chinamen paired with Hawaiians, Turks with Virgins, bold Prussians

with demure little Haytians, early Newfoundland with earlier Spanish, and every conceivable mixture of nationality, costume and age.

And so we passed the rest of the night, and when our owner looked at us in the morning he little knew how we had enjoyed ourselves. Some days later, however, when showing us to a friend, he grew profane when he came to the lithographed Trinidad! Few collectors suspect how these things happen.

## Postal Reforms.

IN reply to Mr. P. Williams the Postmaster-General made a statement in the House of Commons foreshadowing important concessions to the public in regard to post office business. Mr. Samuel said:—

"I propose on the occasion of the issue next year, probably at the time of the Coronation, of the stamps and cards of the new reign, to carry out a reform which has long been effected in most other countries, and which has long been desired in this, and to sell the thin halfpenny postcards and the penny letter cards at one halfpenny and a penny each respectively, without the additional charge now imposed as the price of the cards themselves.

"Stamped wrappers and envelopes will be sold at prices slightly lower than at present, and for sums of more even amounts than those now charged. As the Board of Inland Revenue have been able to arrange contracts for the supply of stamps and stationery on more favourable terms than hitherto, and, as I anticipate I shall be able to secure a considerably increased revenue from the advertisements inserted in the books of stamps, I am glad to say that these concessions can be effected without imposing any additional charge upon the Exchequer. I have given directions that printed matter on thin paper shall no longer be forbidden to be affixed to inland postcards.

"The suggestion has been made to me that many commercial men would be glad to be enabled to obtain certificates of the posting of letters for a fee of a halfpenny each, it being understood that such a certificate did not carry with it the guarantee of special security in transmission, or of compensation in the event of loss, which is given by registration at the minimum fee of *2d.* Should I receive assurances from chambers of commerce or trade societies that a system of certificates of that character would be of value to the trading community, I should be happy to consider its establishment at an early date."

THE next meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society will be held on Tuesday, December 20th. Mr. Harry Hayman, the genial Vice-President will display his collection of Belgian Congo.

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### Official Organ:

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,  
14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.  
(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

THE usual monthly meeting was held at Mills' Restaurant on the 15th inst., the President occupying the Chair. Owing to the inclement weather and the nearness of Xmas, the attendance was not quite up to the average. Four new members were duly elected and the usual interesting assortment of New Issues and Varieties was passed round, the most notable being a very dangerous forgery of the 4d. blue Cape of Good Hope Triangular stamp, engraved, with impressed single lined anchor wmk. Mr. J. W. Phillips' magnificent collection of British Africans was then displayed. It proved to be almost complete, and, as practically the whole was in fine unused condition, it proved to be a very valuable display, both from a philatelic and a monetary point of view. Some very fine early Mauritius and Cape of Good Hope were noticeable, while the Zanzibars were very strong in varieties of the surcharged stamps. The gem of the lot was undoubtedly the section devoted to the Transvaal, the older issues being represented by a series of grand specimens, including many fine pieces from the late Mr. Nankivell's collection. It took until ten o'clock to pass round this extensive display, and at the close a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Phillips.

The next meeting will be at Mills' Restaurant, on January 11th, and will include a

display of "Gold Coast." All members being particularly asked to bring their stamps of this Colony. There is also to be a competitive display of twenty-five stamps showing the greatest variety of colour. Multi-coloured stamps and coloured papers being excluded. It is hoped that this Competition being eminently suitable to the general collector will be warmly taken up.

## Hanoverian Stamps Sold.

BERLIN.

WHEN Hanover was incorporated in the Kingdom of Prussia the stocks of stamps in the safes of its post office were destroyed. By the carelessness of an official, however, a few sheets had got interleaved with certain records, and lay concealed and unsuspected for nearly half a century. Brought to light last year on the occasion of moving, they were to-day put up to auction in Berlin, and fetched a total of over £4,400. The best price was realised by 1,500 green ten groschens, which were sold in lots, and brought in close upon £1,750. These stamps have lately been catalogued here at £3 each.

—Daily Telegraph.

### THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THESE REMAINDERS.

		1859-61. Imperf.
1 gr., red	.. ..	45,850 stamps.
2 ,, blue	.. ..	12,960 ,,
3 ,, brown	.. ..	5,040 ,,
10 ,, green	.. ..	1,560 ,,
		1864. Rouletted.
3 pf., green, red gum,		1,653 stamps.
3 pf., ,, white gum,		3,149 ,,
1 gr., red, red gum,		3,000 ,,
1 gr., ,, white gum,		8,169 ,,
2 gr., blue	.. ..	99 ,,
2 gr., green	.. ..	519 ,,

### Envelopes, 1863.

1 gr., 230 3 gr., 5.

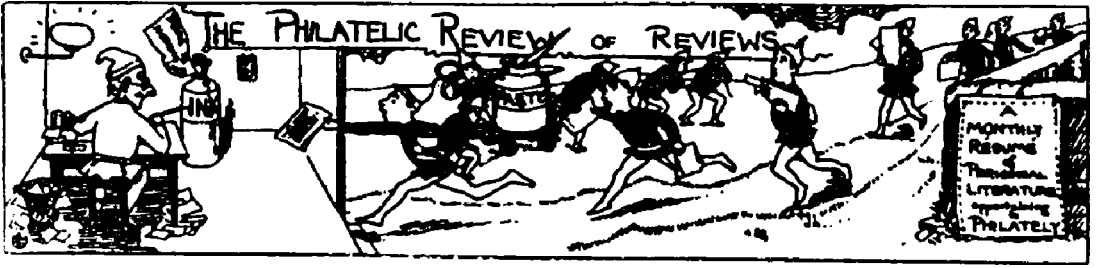
Of the imperf. stamps more than half are defective, gum stained or dirty. There are also many damaged among the rouletted issues.

TO

## Intending New Subscribers.

WITH our next number (January, 1911) we commence a new volume. This is therefore the best time to begin subscribing to the *P.J.G.B.* On the other hand new subscribers who would like to have the back numbers for 1910 can date their subscriptions back to commence with any month. The annual subscription is 2/6 post free to any part of the world. A subscription to this Journal would make a very good Christmas present to a collector at home or abroad.





DECEMBER 20, 1910.

## Philately at Home.

The November *London Philatelist* is the best number of that publication we have seen for very many months.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg contributes an article entitled "The Colonial Perforations of Queensland." It would be quite unnecessary for us to inform our readers that this article embodies a good deal of original research. We cannot resist taking a lengthy, but nevertheless all too short, extract.

Although these notes are entitled "Perforations of Queensland" in the programme, I do not propose to inflict on you any repetition of the history of the Perkins Bacon perforations, so ably described by Messrs. E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier in the "Grenada" handbook, but I should like to try and throw a little light on the perforations of the unwatermarked stamps of 1862, and of the subsequent issues.

In most catalogues the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. on unwatermarked paper are said to be perforated "12½ to 13, square holes." In Bright's catalogue we find this series subdivided into two: (1) "Roughly perforated 13 (which often has the appearance of a pin perforation)", and (2) "Perforated 12½ × 13." This is a step in the right direction, but the list is incomplete.

There appear to have been two quite different machines used for these stamps. One of them at first made more or less circular holes, but the pins must have very quickly become blunted, as in most cases the holes are like pin perforations. The gauge is 13 and sometimes between 13 and 13½, but *never under* 13. This is a most important point, and of great assistance in distinguishing the work of this machine from the next one. The 13 machine could perforate a length of 19½in., and it was worked by hand. There is no doubt that this was the first machine used locally, as Mr. Basset Hull, in *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, Vol. VI., p. 160, states that the first printing of the 1d. on the unwatermarked paper was in the so-called "Indian red" shade (which by the way is a totally different colour from that of the 2d. Western Australia which goes by the same name), and this shade is always found perforated by the 13 machine in its early state.

Some time in 1863 another machine came into use, which made a much cleaner hole, more square than circular, with a gauge between 12½ and 13, but never quite 13. It was a shorter machine than the first one, and could only perforate a length of 12½in., and was therefore only used for the horizontal lines. This is

also a most important point to bear in mind. For the sake of simplicity I shall call this the 12½ machine.

All the five values—1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.—are found perforated 13 as well as 12½ × 13, but all except the 3d. and 1s. are quite scarce with the compound perforation, the 6d. especially.

The use of the unwatermarked paper was continued up till the middle of 1864, when the Registration stamps were printed on the Perkins Bacon "Small Star" paper; and this was followed early in 1865 by printings of the 1d., 2d., and 6d. on the same paper. The 1d. exists with the perforation 12½ (square, clean-cut holes) compound with 13, but the other two values and the Registration stamp I have only seen perforated 13.

Further printings of the 1d. and 2d. were made late in 1865 on the "script watermark" paper, and perforated 13; but after that the printers were obliged to fall back on the unwatermarked paper, as all the "script" paper had been used up for Treasury Notes and Bills.

Under the heading "New South Wales: another discovery in the Diadem Issue," we learn that another copy of the 2d. Diadem, watermarked double lined  $\mathcal{E}$ , has turned up, also that this stamp (normal watermark) exists *lithographed*. The following extract from our contemporary refers to this really remarkable discovery, and proves, yet once again, that even common and much hunted-over stamps, will sometimes yield up undreamed-of treasures.

The first specimen of this lithograph was discovered by Mr. Hamilton Smith, of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., about eighteen months since, among a quantity of mixed stamps of no value. Attracted by its curious and apparently lithographic appearance, Mr. Hamilton Smith submitted it to several of the best-known experts in this country, who unanimously agreed that the specimen was a lithographic production. Since that time about five or six copies of undoubted lithographs have been discovered. The specimens are all of a pale blue shade, which is not exactly matched upon the engraved specimens, and have the flat and blurred characteristics of lithographic impressions. Full information hereon will be given in the forthcoming work on New South Wales. The suggestion to take a transfer by lithography of the Two-penny plate was made and approved by the Treasury of New South Wales on the 21st July, 1859, but, as stated by Mr. Basset Hull, he was unable to find any record of anything having been done in this direction. Search for these varieties in New South Wales will doubtless reveal the existence of other copies.

The two contributions we have made such generous extracts from, would alone make the current number of the *London Philatelist* of great value, we however, find more good matter in the nature of a capital editorial, five pages of "Occasional Notes," two pages of "Reviews" and the other standing features of our contemporary.

The *Philatelic Record* for November contains one or two articles which are of a distinctly statistical nature. For instance, the current instalment of the Sveriges Filatelist-Förenings' "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905" is almost entirely devoted to a detailed list of the Swedish stamps, and entires, their quantity and value, sent out to the Post Offices between the years 1875 and 1904.

Three more pages of our worthy contemporary are devoted to figures in connection with the recently discovered remainders of Hanover stamps. The "conditions of sale" of these stamps makes interesting reading.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher contributes the first instalment of an article entitled, "The Stamps and Entires of Great Britain issued during the Reign of King Edward." Apart from the fact that the title constitutes another injustice to Ireland, we find Mr. Fulcher's paper of interest. Collectors who like to know the exact date when certain "control" varieties, etc., were issued will find this article of value. The remaining contribution of merit is a continuation of Mr. Joseph B. Leavy's, "The Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." The present instalment is in the form of a synopsis of the varieties he has already described.

Some of our readers are, we know, interested in the Control Letters found on the sheets of English stamps, so we make the following extract from Mr. Fulcher's paper.:

#### "ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS"

I consider that the logical way of displaying these in a specialized collection, is in the order of issue, and this is the order of arrangement in what follows:—

One halfpenny, blue-green. Registered 26th September, 1901. Issued 1st January 1902, though copies obtained by favour passed through the post two or three days earlier. Printed in sheets of 240, in two panes of 120, ten rows of twelve. A row of lined blocks between the panes and "Jubilee" line round them. At first this line is continuous, but afterwards in sections the width of a stamp. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 14. A "control" letter, afterwards with figure indicating the date added, below the last stamp but one on the sheet or below the second

stamp on the bottom row. A list of these control letters is given below. The colour was changed in November, 1904, to "light green" (see below.) A series of "cuts" exist in the frame lines round the panes in some sheets, but although the subject was extensively investigated in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (see Nos. 262 *et seq.*, especially No. 274) their significance remains unknown, and the lists of the varieties drawn up do not appear to have led to any useful result.

#### VARIETIES OF "CONTROL" LETTERS.

##### (a) With continuous line.

A	Right corner of sheet	1	1	02
B	" " "	22	12	02
C	Left corner of sheet	12	12	03
C4	" " "	8	2	04
D4	" " "	16	4	04

##### (b) With broken line.

B	Right corner of sheet	19	3	04
C	" " "	18	2	04
C	Left corner of sheet	7	4	04
C4	Right corner of sheet	27	1	04
C4	Left corner of sheet	13	2	04
D4	" " "	16	4	04

The dates given are approximately those when the respective varieties were first noticed. The letters A and B are sans serif capitals. C and D have serifs.

One penny red. Registered 14th October, 1901. Issued 1st January, 1902, though, as in the case of the ½d., copies passed through the post two or three days previous to this date. Sheets with frame lines and control letters as in the ½d., but the control letters are always at the right hand corner of the sheet. Similar "cuts" to those found in the frame lines round the panes of the ½d., also exist. Wmk. Crown. Perf. 14.

#### VARIETIES OF "CONTROL" LETTERS.

##### (a) With continuous lines.

A	1	1	02	C4	6	2	04
B	22	12	02	D4	11	4	04
C	29	12	03	D5	21	7	05

##### (b) With broken lines.

C	29	12	03	G7	5	10	07
C4	1	2	04	G8	7	7	08
D4	11	4	04	H8	8	10	08
D5	30	6	05	H9	10	7	09
E5	23	8	05	I9	8	10	09
E6	14	7	06	I10	5	7	10
F6	12	9	06	J10	15	9	10
F7	5	7	07				

The dates given are approximately those when the respective varieties were first noticed.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for November 19th contains a further long instalment of Mr. Melville's admirable article dealing with the manufacture of stamps. He completes his biographical index of Artists and Engravers. Mr. Poole continues to write about the stamps of Holland. Mr. Stanley Phillips briefly reviews several of the October stamp journals, while Mr. Norman Thornton contributes a page of "Foreign Notes," translated from the Continental papers. Three pages are devoted to a controversy between Major-Evans and Mr. Henry J. Crocker regarding the "so-called Re-issues or Reprints of the 5c. and 13c. 1853 type of Hawaii."

Mr. Crocker believes in the authenticity of these stamps—Major Evans does not—

consequently the article in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* is of rather an acrimonious nature, as the controversy is no new one. Major Evans opens fire with the statement that it is "with extreme regret that we find ourselves compelled to lay before our readers a very long article, by Mr. Crocker." Later on he says (relating to a statement Mr. Crocker has made) that "Mr. Crocker has never studied the philatelic history of these stamps at all."

We are not particularly interested in early Hawaiian stamps, mainly because we do not get the opportunity to see many, but Major Evans *versus* Mr. Henry Crocker promises to be very amusing, at present it looks like "Pistols for two and coffee for the survivor."

The usual capital "New Issue" list, and some "Correspondence" complete a good number of our leading *Weekly*.

In the November 26th number we find a continuation of M. L. Hanciau's Italian article, he writes about the stamps overprinted for use in Crete. The instalment of Dr. Marco Del Pont's article dealing with the Rivadavia stamps of the Argentine Republic is not so interesting as usual, the currency, then in use in the Argentine, being discussed. Mr. Buckland Edwards contributes a couple of pages of chatty notes dealing with the ever popular stamps of Jamaica. Although Mr. Edwards tells us nothing new his notes are very interesting and we make the following extract relating to the "pine-apples."

The first issue, with its appropriate Pineapple watermark, seems to be getting scarce, if condition be taken into account, as it ought to be. A perfectly well-centred, unfaded, lightly cancelled copy of the 4d., for instance, is not to be found every day, and the 2d. value is nearly as elusive. The colouring matter of these stamps seems to be fugitive, and deep shades are quite the exception. I have, however, come across several values in colours of a depth which, if normal, can only mean that 99 per cent. of the copies one usually sees are faded, which can hardly be the case. It is much more likely that they represent a fresh printing, of small dimensions, but only dated copies could give a clue to their year of issue, and unfortunately the early stamps of Jamaica, like those of many other colonies, are rarely found with the dated portion of the postmark on the stamp. I have the 1s. purple-brown in a rich deep shade, and if the Catalogue order is correct, these deep shades may represent the first printing in each case, but the 2d. deep rose is placed after the paler shade, although I have seen no copy of this value, or of the 4d. in the extra deep shades now under discussion. I have one copy of the 1d. in deep blue, on paper so thin that the watermark shows through the stamp, and gives it quite a dirty appearance, although it is actually mint. I have seen the 4d. in a like predicament. The 3d. and 6d., in deep shades, are also in my collection; the

former is noticeable, since the stamp is not uncommon, but its colour varies less than that of any other value in the first issue.

The thin paper just mentioned is another feature to be noted by a specialist, although it might be expected with hand-made paper. It is hard and almost pelure, and probably all values may be found printed upon it, but I have yet to find the 3d. green, which value, however, is the only one I have on really thick paper, which is evidently far scarcer. Since both the purple-brown, and dull brown 1s. exist on the pelure paper, it cannot well have been a special supply, but merely a variation in the ordinary supply, to the probable extent of 5 per cent.

One of Mr. Emil Tamsen's capital South African letters, and a couple of pages of the resuscitated Hawaiian controversy concludes the principal contents

In the December 3rd number we find Major Evans still pegging away at Mr. Crocker; a long instalment of Mr. Melville's article; a lengthy dose of M. L. Hanciau's Italian treatise, in which he deals with the stamps overprinted for use in Tripoli, also Eritrea. Mr. J. H. Smyth contributes a capital Australian letter, while we also find an article dealing with the first issue of Siam, Mr. C. J. Phillips is responsible for a page or so of his ever readable "Topical Notes," from which we extract the following:—

A friend in Cairo has been good enough to send me some notes.

A philatelic society has been formed there, and meetings are being held regularly. This should be of use to the many collectors who spend part of the winter in that bright city.

I am asked to publish a warning against forgeries of Egypt, first issue, error 5 piastres, rose, with the overprint of the 10 piastres. Two blocks of six stamps were shown at a recent meeting of the Cairo Philatelic Society; they were imperforate, and appeared to be a new printing. The owner stated that they were genuine, and that he had blocks of all the values of the first issue, from 5 paras to 10 piastres, both imperf. and perforated, and that as he could not sell them in Egypt he was going to send them to England for sale. The well-known Egyptian collector, Henri Cantel Bey, was at this meeting, and pronounced the stamps to be forgeries.

A week later we find that Major Evans brings his wordy warfare with Mr. H. J. Crocker to an end. Major Evans will undoubtedly, we should say, be adjudicated the winner on this side of the "pond," but we guess Mr. Crocker and his supporters will still have quite a lot to say concerning these stamps. Messrs. Hanciau and Melville contribute lengthy instalments of their respective serials to the same number of *G.S.W.*, and we also find a lengthy chapter of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's paper, in the "Countries of the World" series, dealing with the "middle" issue of Dutch "newspaper" stamps.

Collectors interested in the recent issues of Brazil will find a short article, contributed by Mr. C. J. Phillips, of great interest. We make a short extract.

1900. SECOND ISSUE.

The stamps now being each in one colour, it was decided to do away with the double printing altogether, and to use only one stone for each value. A new die was therefore made for the 100r., which I term Die B; this is easily distinguished from Die A, as there is no coloured line round the inner oval, but a broad white space.

A new die was also made for the 200 reis, which I term Die B; the chief differences are:—Short neck to Head of Liberty, and a white space between the thin line round the oval and the horizontal lines of the background.

At the same time it was decided to place the stamps further apart, in order to allow more space for the perforations, and in this issue the stamps are slightly over 1½ mm. apart horizontally, and from 1¾ to 2 mm. apart vertically. Paper thin as before.

(i) Perf. 12½-14.

369. 100r. pale carmine, Die B. (Aug. 14th, 1900.)  
370. 200r. blue, Die B. (July 17th, 1900.)

NOTE.—Both these stamps are really rare; of the 100r. only 24 were found in a parcel of 28,000, and of the 200r. only 23 were found in a parcel of 20,000.

(ii) Perf. 11-11½.

371. 50r. pale green. (June 2nd, 1904.)  
372. 100r. pale carmine, Die B (Mar. 5th, 1900.)  
a. Thick paper ,, (May 2nd, 1900.)  
373. 100r. deep carmine ,, (Oct. 7th, 1901.)  
374. 100r. pink ,, (Aug. 17th, 1904.)  
375. 200r. blue ,, (Feb. 19th, 1900.)  
376. 200r. deep blue ,,  
a. Thick paper ,, (Mar. 10th, 1900.)

NOTE.—The 50r. I find rather scarce, and the 200r. on thick paper is rare; only 16 were found in a parcel of 30,000.

(iii) Perf. compound of 12½-14 and 11-11½.

376a. 100r. carmine, Die B. (May 2nd, 1901)  
376b. 200r. blue ,, (June 10th, 1900)

NOTE.—The 100r. is rather scarce, 400 being found in 30,000; the 200r. is rare, only 21 being found in a parcel of 20,000.

The December number of the *Monthly Report* contains a detailed account of the various scarce, quaint, or desirable stamps, which were shown by some of the members of the Herts Philatelic Society at their last meeting. Amongst other treasures, Mr. H. L. Hayman exhibited a 5/- B.C.A. Nigger type, imperforate, mint. British Guiana, 1863, 24c. green, postally used imperforate copy. N.S.W., 1854, strip of 5d. green, imperf. and mint. Mr. F. Reichenheim, a block of French, 1870, 1c. olive-green, in which the lower right hand block of twelve stamps has been inserted from another sheet, probably to replace some stamps that had been damaged. The stamps were perforated after the block was inserted. A detailed description of this curious piece was given in the *P.J.G.B.* for June, 1909. He also exhibited a strip and a pair of the 25c. ultramarine, of 1876,

showing types I. and II. *se tenant*, also several other rare and interesting French stamps.

Lack of space prevents our mentioning more of the stamps shown.

Mr. Hayman contributes a short note dealing with the recently issued Union of South Africa stamp. He points out that it is quite correctly inscribed Orange Free State

"as the framers of the Act of Union desired to get rid of all the signs of conquest, they resolved to give to the provinces their historical names, so the name of the Orange River Colony was replaced by the old name of the Orange Free State."

One of these days we shall find Germany issuing a special set for Alsace Lorraine inscribed in French, with the French flag as a centre piece.

Mr. Reichenheim contributes several pages of capital "Philatelic Crumbs" and "Reviews," while Mr. Frentzel writes about the "Cancellations of the Local Stamps of Guadalajara, 1867-1868.

The November *Stamp Collector* is a very different number from that which we reviewed last month. This month it is full of well-considered and well-written articles. The editorial contributed by our well-known friend, "B.W.W.," is entitled "History in Stamps," and makes interesting reading.

"B.W.W." holds, as is only to be expected, a brief for old stamps *versus* their rivals (?) of recent date. He says:—

As one of the old school whose delight was to get any sort of a postage stamp—battered and torn sometimes preferred—that had seen legitimate service or done its duty in franking a letter, and to cherish it tenderly, as others do those human beings who have fought the fight of working life and arrived at an age when they should have peaceful rest, my earliest treasures were the stamps on my first letter received in 1852, the next being some used American Carriers' stamps and envelopes of about the same period, given to me ten years later, along with such unprepossessing scraps of paper as a Buenos Aires, a Corrientes, and Brazilian numeral stamps. But where is the modern young collector who would not readily swap an early Mauritius, a British Guiana of postmark type, or such as those just named, if he had found them in a grandfather's scrap book, for stamps on which were represented a motor car or a monkey, a steamship or a hippopotamus, or say, a commemorative series of Roumania, 1906. Yet those ugly old stamps of mine could not be exchanged for a perfectly complete series of all the pictorial new issues of the present century.

Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson contributes an all too short article entitled "Victoria," wherein he writes about the "Six Pence Black of March, 1862." We make a brief extract.

The engraved steel punch for this stamp was in two parts, the piece with the head fitting a "collar" of equal thickness upon which the frame was engraved,

the original intention being to use one head for several values, and engrave only the outer portion of such stamps as would be required. The head on this stamp is the same as on the Six Pence orange and Six Pence black (beaded oval of 1860), the outer portion of the design having been cut away, leaving only the head in the oval. A separate piece, having an oval-shaped hole through the centre to fit the portion containing the head, was then engraved with the value, etc., for the outer portion of the design. In striking the lead moulds for the electrotypes it was found that the lead was forced between the two parts of the punch, causing the head to be slightly lower than the outer frame. Consequently the oval did not always take the colour fully.

It will be readily seen from the above explanation that the fact of specimens showing a white space in the oval surrounding the head does not mean of necessity a worn plate, but was due to the working of the punch. The defects in the outer frame in the printing of later supplies are due to the wearing of the electros. The plate contained 120 impressions arranged in ten horizontal rows of 12, with perforation a uniform 12.

Another important contribution to our Birmingham contemporary is entitled "Sierra Leone: Early King's Heads." Collectors of recent issues, to say nothing of speculators, would do well to read this article.

Mr. Richard Hollick, President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society is the subject of an illustrated interview. Mr. J. E. Heginbottom concludes his remarks dealing with recent issues of South Australia. We also find several pages devoted to "New Issues," "Reviews," and "Notes & News." From the latter we learn that our contemporary has a new editor! This item of news is hardly necessary when we compare the present number with that published a month earlier.

The only fault we can find with the *West End Philatelist* is that each month's number is exactly like the previous edition. As the contents however, are always good, this does not constitute a serious grumble on our part. In the November *W.E.P.* we find a continuation of Mr. Poole's "Postage Stamps of Bermuda," in which he writes about the Postmaster's Stamps. We also find short articles dealing with the 1869 issue of the U.S.A. with inverted centres, "Errors of Colour," and the "1847 Issue of the United States."

The October number of our tiny contemporary, the *British Philatelist* is, as usual, devoted to British stamps. We find a continuation of the "Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain," dealing with the 5/-, 10/- and £1 stamps of the 1883-84 issue. There are also a couple of interest-

ing replies to correspondents, one explaining the meaning of the laurel and oak branches which surround the portrait of our late King on some of the current stamps, and another dealing with a minor variety to be found on the line-engraved 1½d. stamp.

We extract the latter information in full.

Dr. G. H. Mills kindly sends for our inspection a copy of the old line-engraved Three Halfpence, plate 1, bearing the letter "I" in each of the four corners. The peculiarity in this particular stamp—and it is a peculiarity which was more or less constant throughout the life of the plate—lies in the way in which the corner letters have been added: this, as all our readers know, was effected by means of small steel punches on which the letters were cut in high relief.

The letter "I," especially when *sans serif*, is practically a small blunt chisel, and the blow necessary to indent on the plate a less simple letter would be sufficient to cut deeply into the comparatively soft metal. In the present case the punch has, for each of the four letters, been struck so hard that not only has the projecting letter been completely sunk into the plate, but the "shoulder" of the punch has come into sharp contact with the metal, and has left its impress in the shape of an oval line, showing far more clearly on the left of the letter, but which would, on the plate, be on the right hand of the workman, who would most likely incline the punch (if at all) to that side when striking it with the hammer.

We have previously seen similar copies, but never one which shows so very clearly the thin, almost complete, oval frame surrounding each of the letters: this is a variety which may well be accepted by collectors specializing in our line-engraved stamps.

The November 12th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. Harold Kjellstedt, the well known International Secretary of the American Philatelic Society, an interesting *resumé* of the postal history of the Siege of Paris, contributed by Dr. H. Armstrong, a short instalment of Mr. Irwin Faris's paper entitled "The Gauging of Perforations," and the usual regular features which all help to make our contemporary so popular.

The following extract from Dr. Armstrong's paper will prove of interest.

The pigeons, to which a chance reference has been made, were obviously intended to make the return journey, and indeed, except for the very occasional advent of a venturesome courier, they proved the only source of information from the outside world. A pigeon could not carry any great weight of letters, so an ingenious system of reply-postcards was hit upon. A card was sent from Paris along with the writer's letter. On it were spaces for name and address of sender and addressee and for the answers, "yes" and "no" only, to four questions which had been asked in the accompanying letter. This postcard, when filled in, was posted to the temporary headquarters of the Post Office at Bordeaux, where its message was reduced to a code, photographed microscopically small, and sent on its way to Paris along with 30,000 or 40,000 others in the tail of a pigeon. There they were enlarged by means of a magic lantern, copied out afresh and delivered much as a telegram. Not all the pigeons got through, and messages were repeated, sometimes

as often as thirty times, till their receipt had been acknowledged by balloon post. After December the rigour of the winter was such that only 5% of the pigeons liberated reached their destination. But the postage paid on the messages delivered by one of these birds amounted to more than £12,000! Fortunately—or is it unfortunately?—no special stamps were designed as a "siege issue." A printing from the dies of the first issue, but perforated, had however to be made to supply a deficiency in the stamps of the current imperial effigy, and a variety, not very easily either to be found or to be distinguished, is the 20 centimes printed during the Commune on thinner and more brittle paper. The re-issue of these "head of Ceres" stamps lost its significance as a memorial of the siege, however, being continued for many years longer, until superseded by the "Peace and Commerce" type.

The principal item in the *S.C.F.* dated November 26th is an article dealing with the recently discovered forgery of the 10/- grey-green English stamp. We learn that this impostor is really an old enemy, which was exposed in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* some seven years ago.

Our contemporary is so pleased with itself that it bursts forth with several startling headlines, possibly as a gentle reminder to dealers and contemporaries of their carelessness in not *immediately* remembering what the *S.C.F.* published in the beginning of 1903.

Mr. Richard Hollick, of Birmingham, is the "Philatelist of To-Day," while we find a number of readable, but somewhat "scrapy," short articles and notes.

The Xmas number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* is dated December 10th, and contains a capital assortment of varied and capable reading matter. Mr. Edward Alexander, Jun., is the "Philatelist of To-Day." Mr. A. B. Creeke, Jun., contributes a capital article entitled "The 1840 Penny Die," he provided a good deal of "thinking matter" for specialists in early British stamps, as the following extract, *apropos* the theory that a portion of the die, in the form of a profile was scraped out, will show.

But, consider the effect of "scraping out" so as to erase all the fine engine-turning and leave a plain surface. It would not be practicable to "knock up" from the back a thick piece of steel, without irretrievably ruining the work, so as to bring up the scraped-out portion to a level with such parts of the die as were left at their original height.

If all this could be done, then Mr. Heath could have proceeded with the engraving of the Head.

Now for my theory, which I have worked out as follows:—The first piece of steel was engraved, by the aid of the Rose-engine, with the intricate pattern of "coloured" lines—that is, the lines were cut into the metal—probably in the shape of an oval or circle, sufficiently large to cover a rectangular space the size of the intended stamp. To this size the en-

graved surface was reduced, by cutting bodily away the parts lying outside the rectangle frame, which was doubtless cut after, and over, the reticulated pattern.

From this piece of steel (1), duly hardened, a reversed impression was taken on another, and soft, piece of steel (2); and this latter would show an indentation the size and shape of a stamp, having at the bottom a copy of the engine-turning raised up, instead of recessed.

On this reversed impression, the Rose engine is brought to bear, cutting the side reticulations down to the same depth as (or even deeper than) the indentations corresponding to the original plane surface of steel No. 1. At the same time the corner-squares were cut out, and the inscriptions engraved on the upper and lower labels, of which the background had—whilst in the first stage—been further engraved to give it a darker and more solid appearance.

Now was the time to scrape out the portion "in the form of a profile," the "scraping" being done by a clean cut down to the depth of the white side-lines.

This steel No. 2 was then hardened, and an impression taken from it on to a third piece of metal.

On this steel No. 3, the "coloured" engraving—*viz.*, the reticulated background, the frame line, and the darkened labels—appear cut in, as on the steel No. 1; and the portions cut away from steel No. 2—*viz.*, the corner squares, the inscriptions, and the plain profile—stand out to the original plane level.

It only remained to cut the stars on the upper corners, and the die—steel No. 3—was ready for Mr. Heath.

Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigg contributes an article dealing with the stamps of Sicily and their retouches. Mr. M. P. Castle, in a short article entitled "What is Collecting" breaks a lance in favour of philately *v.* collecting. He replies to the criticism of Mr. E. T. Phillips, who, apparently is a "single copy" man. Mr. Castle's last paragraph, like the P.S. of a lady's letter has a bit of a sting in it.

When Mr. Phillips has been collecting stamps as long as I have, he may find that Philately means a good deal more than putting in single specimens according to the instructions of a printed album.

Another interesting contribution is Mr. Fred W. Edwards' "The Spanish Peninsula: Its Local and Military Posts," this article deals with the following subjects

- (1) Locals for Madrid, 1853.
- (2) Military Expedition Postmarks, 1859-75.
- (3) Provisional Government Overprints, 1868.
- (4) Authors' Franking Stamps, 1870-81.
- (5) Carlist Stamps, 1873-74.
- (6) Deputies' Stamps, 1895.

and should prove of exceptional interest to numerous collectors on the look-out for by-paths of philately.

Several more original contributions and a host of extracts, etc., complete our review of the very best Sixteenth X'mas Number our blue and white contemporary has ever published.

The December number of the *Stamp Lover* is a "Xmas Literary Number" and given over largely to reviews of recent

philatelic books and a lengthy account of the various libraries of philatelic bibliophiles, the latter contributed by Mr. Herbert Clark. Mr. Harte-Lovelace writes interestingly about Chinese stamps. Lack of space prevents our making extracts from any of the articles, or reviews, the X'mas number of our contemporary, however, is full of interest to the general collector.

## Philately on the Continent.

IN reviewing *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* we only refer occasionally to the article on Russian Rural stamps, which has been running now for many months. This article must, however, be of the greatest interest to that small section of philatists who go in for locals. Besides giving an account of the stamps, fully illustrated, there are full geographical and historical accounts of all the towns and district which have issued stamps. In the *Echo* for November 15th, we reach Pskow.

The same number opens with an article entitled "Philately and Numismatics" which is of considerable interest. In this we are told the origin of the names of all the principal coins of the world. The practice of giving to coins the name of the sovereign is exemplified by the *Louis* of France, which was first so called in the reign of Louis XIII., the name being reserved only for gold pieces; silver pieces were called *écus*. The change of régime naturally caused the change of name to that of *Napoleon*. The *Caroline*, from the Latin—"Carolus," a coin of Bavaria, Sweden, Hungary, Wurtemberg, etc., belongs to the same order.

It will be news to many of our readers to learn that the English word *penny* has the same origin as the Servian *dinar*, the Peruvian *dinero* and the German *pfennig*, though the corruption of the word is more accentuated in the last mentioned. All these names come from the Latin "denarius." The initial of this word is still preserved in the diminutive "d" to indicate "pence." In the same way *pound* was originally *livre*, and is still represented by "L."

The following number of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* contains two interesting articles. One is on the *tête-bêche* stamps of France, and is from the pen of Dr. M. Fage, who calls attention to the curious fact that although a marginal *tête-bêche* pair of the 20c. black of 1849, used on entire is known to exist, in a well-known collection, yet all writers on French stamps, including Marconnet and Maury, concur in saying that there is only one *tête-bêche* of this value, which occurs, as is proved by the existence of an entire sheet, on the third stamp of the tenth row. Now the *tête-bêche* of the 20c. in M. G.

Grenouilleau's collection, the authenticity of which, we presume, is beyond question, cannot possibly be the third stamp in a row, seeing that it is in a pair with the side margin of the sheet. Dr. Fage does not attempt an explanation. This pair was illustrated in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* of January 31st, 1904, and has been seen and examined by many experts. But the most remarkable part of the whole matter is, we are told, the existence in the same collection, of an entire letter franked with a marginal *tête-bêche* pair of the 20 centimes blue of 1870 (the perforated issue). As these stamps are said to have been printed from the actual plate used for the first issue, this would appear to be corroborative evidence. The question now is, are these two pairs authentic or have all the authorities in French stamps been caught napping?

The other article referred to above relates to an innovation in Belgian postal obliterations. It has been decided that in those localities in Belgium where both the French and Flemish languages are in use, postage stamps will in future be obliterated with bi-lingual date stamps.

*Le Timbre-Poste* for November contains further instalments of its articles on Roumania, by Brunel and Marinescu; Mexico, by Mennevée, and Argentine Confederation, by Marco del Pont. There is also an interesting article by Victor Flandrin on pen obliterations, in which he pleads for those much-abused outcasts of philately. In the course of his article M. Flandrin never once mentions the fact that as far as British and Colonials are concerned most pen-marked stamps have been used fiscally, and professes not to understand the prevailing dislike for such things. He gives a list of countries whose stamps may be found.

If he means that in the countries mentioned in this list it was a frequent practice to obliterate stamps on letters by pen and ink, as was certainly the case in Colombia up to 1876, and in Réunion in 1852, we must take exception to the inclusion of the following:—

Antigua, 1860 and 1880.  
Bermuda, 1865.  
Cape of Good Hope, 1853, '55, '58.  
Dominica, 1874.

and many other British Colonies which are included in the list. It may be that isolated cases exist in which some of these stamps were postally obliterated by pen and ink, but it was certainly not a practise in any of them, and if they are included on this slender pretext why not give a complete list of all stamp-issuing countries? If, on the other hand, the list is intended to be one of countries whose stamps are frequently found pen-marked through being used fiscally, as indeed it appears to be, why leave out Queensland and New Zealand?

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* complains that the current stamps of the Philippines are obliterated in such a manner as to render them impossible for embodying in a collection. It appears that there is a shortage of obliterations in the majority of the local offices, and the difficulty is overcome by dipping the thumb and forefinger in ink and smearing them over the face of the stamps. The writer of the note believes that he can identify the fingerprint of a negro on some of his stamps. (Are there any negroes in the Philippines?—Ed. B. J. G. B.)

The same number resumes its discussion of the 13c. and 1 peso values of Chili and also gives an account of the Juan Fernandez overprint.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of October 15th has an entertaining letter from Herr C. L. Eimsieder, in which he compares glaring inconsistencies in the prices in the new Senf and Kohl catalogues. His letter is accompanied by a table, from which we cull the following:—

	Senf.	Kohl-
Denmark, 1904, 20 öre unused ..	3m.	10m.
50 " " " " " " " " " "	3m.	15m.
N. German Conf. 1869, 10 gr. unused..	20m.	10m.
France, 40c. Bordeaux, used ..	8m.	20m.
Wurtemberg, 1851, 9 kr. rose, unused	300m.	550m.

In the same journal of October 31st, Herr Kosack discourses at length the forthcoming sale in Berlin of the Hanover remainders; he foretells that this sale will result in the fall of prices of the values offered, and that the other values will experience a corresponding rise.

The November number of *Der Philatelist* brings an opportune article by Consul-General George on the philatelic future of Portugal.

He points out that the decree ordering the word "Republica" to be overprinted on all stamps at present in circulation will produce a total of 755 varieties so overprinted, a truly pleasing prospect!

From *Der Deutsche Philatelist* we gather that postmarking to order has now been strictly prohibited by the Roumanian postal authorities, who are so bent on cleansing their Augean stables, that they will not permit the cancellation of stamps on covers unless these represent the proper amount of postage for the weight of the letter.

(Supposing a letter weighing half-an-ounce is franked with a 2 lei stamp, will the Roumanian authorities treat it as unpaid?—Ed. P. J. G. B.)

In the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* Dr. Nordheim has the first instalment of an article on Afghanistan, which he is striving to popularise in Germany. But we venture to doubt whether his well-written notes will have the desired effect. Philatelists have a weakness for being able to read—if not to understand—the inscriptions on the stamps they collect.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The October number of the *Australian Philatelist*, contains several capital contributions. Among them we find a suggestion that there should be an Australian Philatelic Congress. We hope our Antipodean cousins will shortly be able to put this idea into execution.

Mr. Fred. Hagen contributes a couple of pages of Papuan notes, of interest to non-collectors, as well as to collectors of these picturesque labels. He deals mostly with the lithographic transfers of these stamps and the following extract will be found of interest.

Mr. W. T. Elliot, B.A., in his notes on Papua in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* has given some extensive lists of the minor varieties on each sheet, but many of these so-called varieties are due to careless printing, bad transferring, and the artistic (?) retouching of the design by the litho artist before printing. It is well known that litho stones have to be kept continually wet to prevent the printing ink taking effect on the parts of the stone not covered with the design, thereby causing lines and letters to be blurred, and if the moisture is not consistent the design is also liable to be worn away and fine lines get broken. Particles of dust flying about the machine room settle on the stone or roller, and if not carefully watched, cause dots and white spots to appear in the design, according to whether the offending particle is greasy or otherwise. All these troubles can be avoided by a careful machinist with the aid of acid, which eradicates the offending particles. The fixing of the transfer of names is a delicate job, and requires a very accurate eye, a hair's breadth up or down will cause a corresponding thickness on either side of the tablet, and when transferred on to the stone, it is often found that portions of the transfer have not been transmitted. The litho artist has then to be called in to touch up the design, i.e., repair the places where the ink has not taken. If he is a skilled artist the touching up is only noticeable in a minor degree, but if an apprentice gets on the job we get many of the varieties mentioned by Mr. Elliott.

The 2/6 value is to my mind a quite distinct issue from the other values. I have examined two lots of these, one received some time ago, and the second to hand only a few days ago. The first lot is printed in deep rich brown and perforated 11; the second printing is more of a red-brown, perforated 12½. Unfortunately I was only able to compare a top corner block with margin of the first lot with a sheet of the second, and without taking any note of the difference of colour found that the numerals of value in the tablet of the first lot were quite different to those in the second lot, and also different to each other. This led me to examine the whole sheet of the value perforated 12½, and I found that all the numerals differed more or less from each other. From this I concluded that all the numerals of both first and second printings were drawn into the design on the stone; the fact of the second printing being different to the first is due to the fact that the printers, thinking that the demand for the 2/6 value would not be very great, and that the one printing would suffice.



Consequently the design of the first printing was rubbed off the stone, and a fresh stone had to be prepared for the second order, and all the values drawn in again. I have since been informed that all values were treated in the same manner.

We also find a lengthy article entitled "Plating the 2d. Re-engraved Laureated of N.S.W."; this paper secured a prize at the recent competition of the Sydney Philatelic Club, needless to say it is of interest to all collectors of Australian stamps. A page of Brevities, New Issue columns, Correspondence, and other regular features, all help to make the October number of our Australian contemporary the best we have seen for some years.

The October number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains the concluding chapter of the excellent article on Ceylon Fiscal and Telegraph stamps, which has been appearing for some months.

We are pleased to welcome the return of "Tancred" to the columns of our contemporary. He contributes five pages of very excellent "Topical Notes."

A number of reprinted articles, a new issue list, and a very caustic criticism of an article entitled "The Empire of India," published in a recent number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, complete the contents of a very good number of our Indian exchange.

The writer of the article, in criticising his brother scribe, unduly strains at gnats, amongst other things he takes offence at the statement "The average collector knows little of the political geography of the Empire of India, beyond the general facts known by those both in and out of Philately." Our splitter of straws thinks "collector" is an unfortunate word to use with regard to India, he goes on to say "presumably the writer means stamp collector." Our interpretation of the word "collector," in a paper devoted entirely to philately, would of course refer to a collector of peanuts, or tadpoles. Why, too, should the term "collector" not be happily applied to India?

Number "2" of the *Philatelic Gazette* contains a capital article contributed by Mr. C. L. Pack, dealing with the 1 Real Vermilion Diligencia Stamp of Uruguay. Mr. Pack has succeeded in finding the four missing types of this value, which he illustrates, together with the other 31 types already known, in the form of a re-constructed sheet. As no pairs or blocks

of this value are known, it is not claimed that this re-construction is correct—the point being that all 35 types are now shown together for the first time. Our up-to-date American contemporary also contains an instalment of Mr. J. Murray Bartels' "1902 Series of the U.S." also another chapter of Mr. Victor Berthold's paper dealing with U.S. envelopes. Mr. H. J. Crocker contributes a short article entitled "Two Rare Hawaiian Stamps."

We are afraid Major Evans will not like this article.

Mr. Edward H. Mason continues to write about "Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes." If our latest contemporary continues to publish so much original matter it will have no difficulty in outclassing all its U.S. competitors.

British collectors should write to 99, Nassau St., New York, for a specimen copy.

The November number contains an account of the new watermarked paper for U.S. stamps, and a continuation of Mr. Berthold's article dealing with U.S. envelopes, another chapter of Mr. Mason's paper entitled, "Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes," and a number of "Notes."

*The Stamp Journal* for November contains another long instalment of Mr. William Evans' "Stamps of the Canal Zone." We regret to notice that our contemporary is commencing to boast, and shew signs of putting on a great deal of what we believe is styled "swank." We are told for instance that the *S.J.s'* English correspondent is "without a peer among English journalists," etc., etc. Don't do it *Stamp Journal*—you are too young.

The *Stamp Collector* for November is largely devoted to a reprint of Messrs. Smith, Adair, & Linn's excellent little booklet dealing with the historical and philatelic history of Poland. This little booklet was sent out as a Souvenir of the Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Society and was reviewed by us in our September number. We are glad to see that it has now been reproduced in the columns of, shall we say? our leading American contemporary. We make the following extract for the benefit of those of our readers who have not seen the work in question.

A wise philosopher once said: "Sing me the songs of a nation and I will tell you of its people."

This can be no more true than "Show me the stamps of a country and I will tell you of its people and its history." The philatelic history of Poland, while brief is closely interwoven with its political destiny.

Following the natural course of events the postal system was adopted by Russia in 1857. The vast extent of the Russian territories rendered it impossible to carry out in them the system of centralization which was then in vogue in France, and consequently the different provinces had each a semi-independent administration of their own, extending to postage stamps as well as other matters. It is worthy of note that not only in Poland, but in Finland and Russia proper the issue of envelopes preceded that of adhesives. In Poland, however, the first issue was merely for local use in the city of Warsaw and the envelopes bore only a rough hand stamped device.

There were two varieties differing slightly in size and also in the position of the inscription, which in the one was in two lines above a double headed spread-eagle, and in the other in two lines above and two below.

Both of these were of the same value,  $\frac{1}{2}$  kopec, and were used for the same purpose namely, to frank visiting cards sent through the posts in Warsaw and are now extremely rare. One and one-half kopecs were charged for these stamped envelopes; the extra kopec covering the cost of the envelope itself. M. Moens in his illustrations mentions that each of the envelopes bore the signatures of the two clerks whose duty it was to attend to their distribution, the stamp and paper not being deemed sufficient guarantee of their authenticity.

These handstamps consisted of: (a) large Russian Arms in centre with small post horns below, on plain circular disc, two long lines of inscription above, the upper Russian, the lower Polish. Impression to right of envelope. Value  $\frac{1}{2}$  kopec. Red. Wove paper. (b) circular disc inscribed with two lines, Russian above and Polish below. In the centre the Russian Arms with post horn below. Impression to right of envelope. Value  $\frac{1}{2}$  kopec. Red. Wove paper.

Reprints of these envelopes were made in 1869 in St. Petersburg on the same paper as the original issue. The imprint of these reprints is on the left and they are without the signatures of the distributing clerks.

On the first day of January, 1860, the Russian adhesives which had hitherto been used in Poland were superseded by a special issue of adhesive stamps and envelopes for that province, but the hand stamped envelopes remained in use for nearly a year and a half after the issue of the new series and were suppressed together with the minor post office through which they passed on September 16th, 1861.

Our contemporary also contains a number of editorial notes, and the "trimmings" so beloved by American collectors. We also find a short article devoted to the 5c. perforated beaver stamp of Canada, wherein a variety, consisting of a break in the lines, surrounding the inscription, and above the "o" of "Postage," is described and illustrated.

We are very pleased to welcome the first number of a new little contemporary entitled "The South African Philatelist." This paper is to be published monthly under the auspices of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society, and is "stage number two" of their type-written journal.

The copy before us is largely devoted

to Mr. Henderson's paper entitled "Sweet are the Uses of — Philately," a paper—full of humour—which was published in the *P.J.G.B.* two or three years ago. We also find the first instalment of a paper entitled "The Complete Philatelist, or the Making of a Mogul" which, if we mistake not, is also from Mr. Henderson's ready pen. Some Editorial Notes, Notes and Queries, and other matter make the first type-set number of the *S.A.P.* a very welcome visitor.



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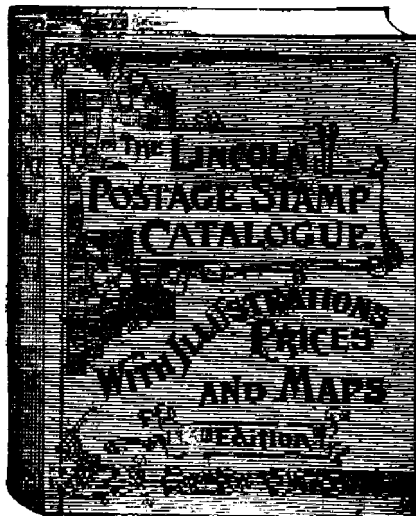
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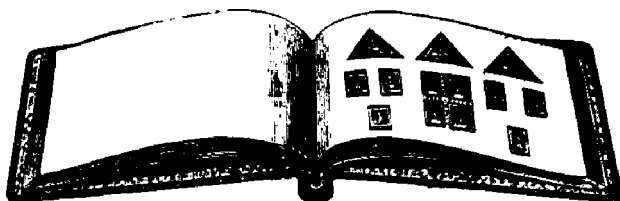
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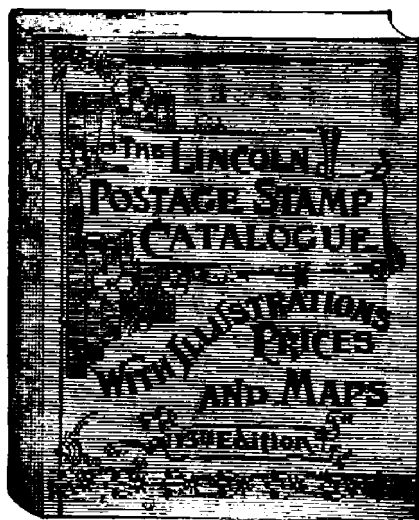
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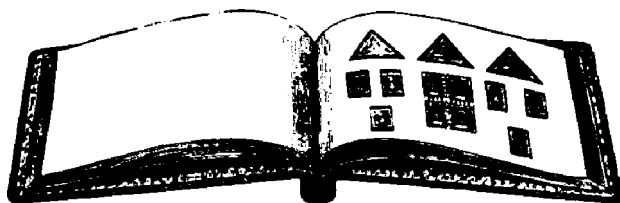
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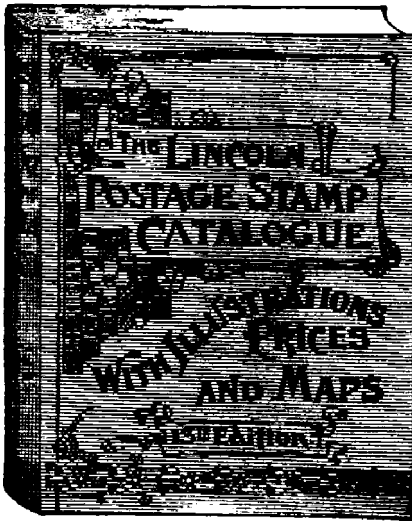
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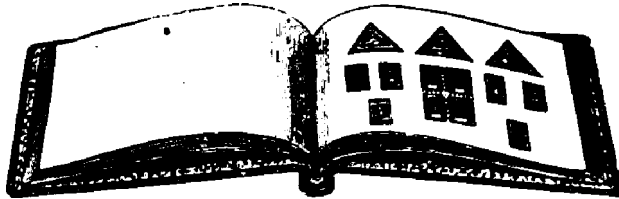
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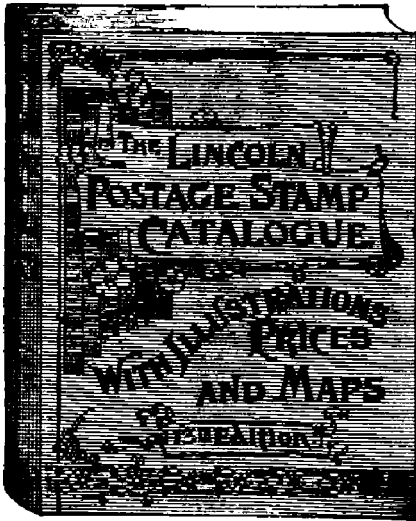
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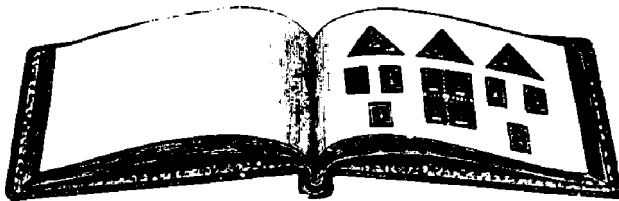
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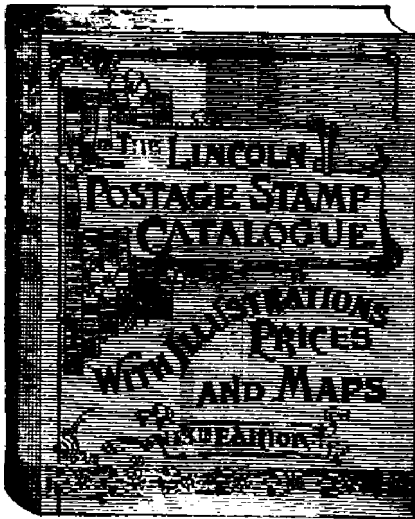
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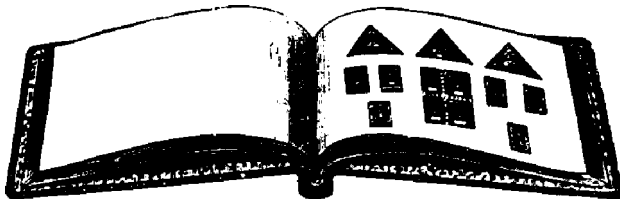
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AND

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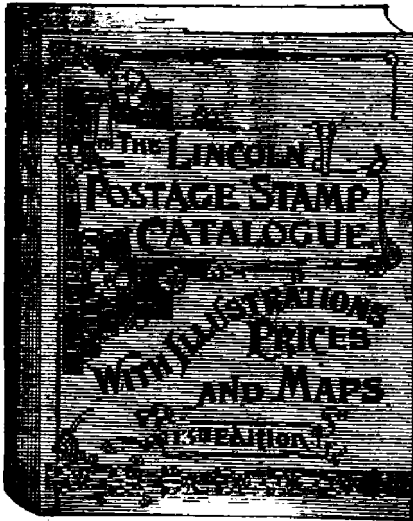
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 54 Uganda, June 1896, V. 96. R. \*5 (c.) to 100 (c.), complete set of 10, cat. £39/10/- Gibbons', in Yvert and Tellier's fr. 1625, and in Senf's M. 1005, superb unused copies, for ... £18

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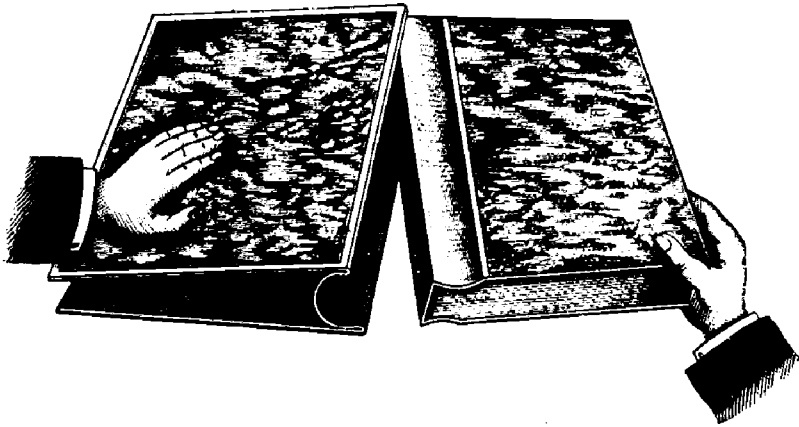
No. of set	(We quote prices for 370 Sets).	No. in set	Price
96	Cook Is., 1892, *1st issue, 1, 1½, 2½ and 10d....	4	6/9
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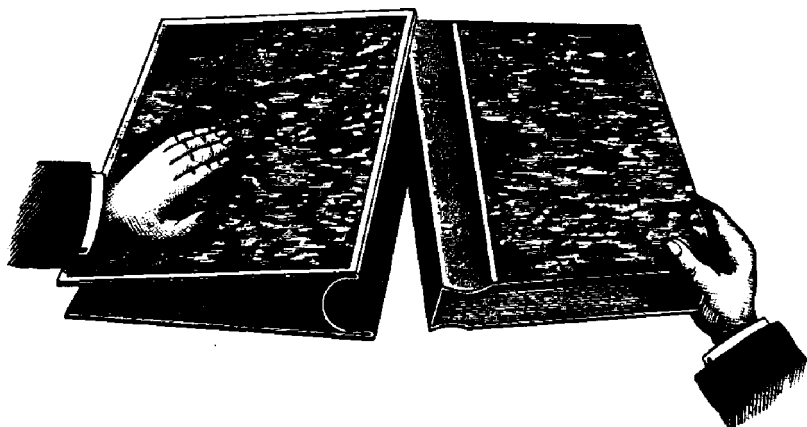
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# The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

AND

## PHILATELIC REVIEW OF REVIEWS.

EDITED BY F. F. LAMB.

PUBLISHED BY P. L. PEMBERTON & CO., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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AUGUST 20, 1910.

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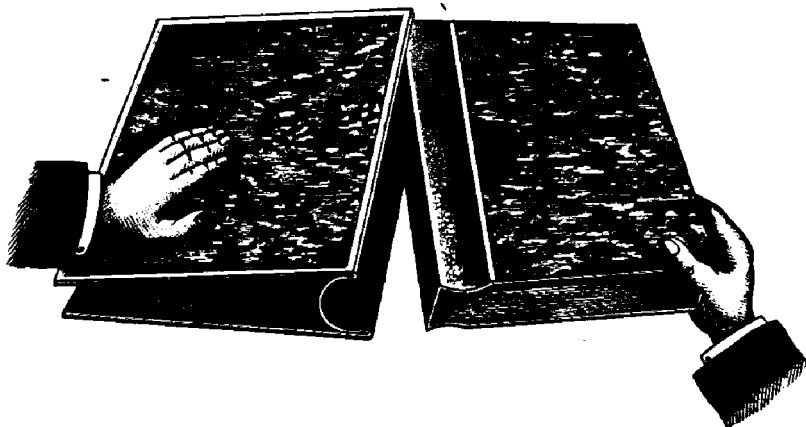
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[226]

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# The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

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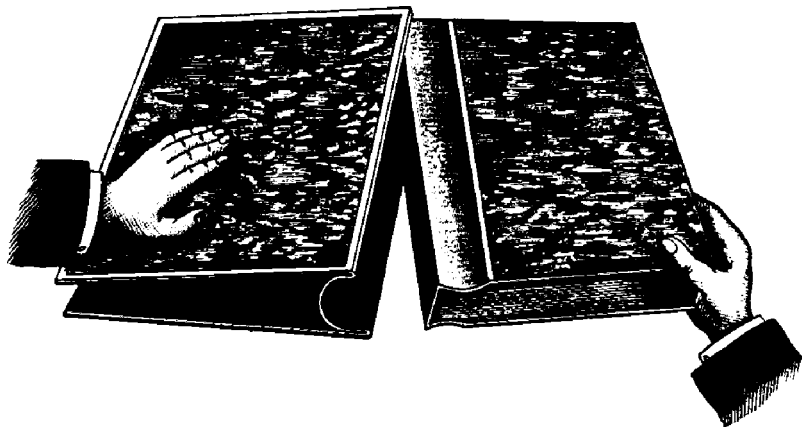
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Holding as I do one of the finest stocks of Colonial stamps extant, and having made very large purchases of recent years, I have been frequently asked by my customers to issue a Priced Catalogue, and I propose therefore to include in my Monthly Circular a Price List of Colonials.

This will not at the present take the form of a complete or exhaustive Catalogue of Colonials, but will merely consist of a list, with prices attached, of the unused and used Colonials at present in stock.

The quotations will be most carefully considered, and the prices will be found, consistent with fine condition, to be most moderate.

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The first instalment of the List will appear with the October number, published on the 26th of that month. The Circular, enlarged as above, will be sent gratis and post free regularly to any applicant.

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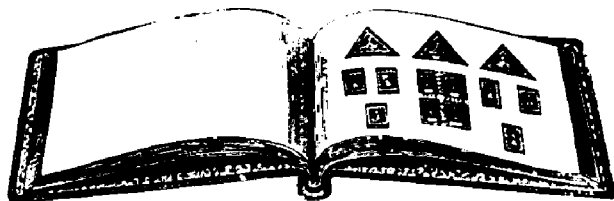
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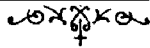
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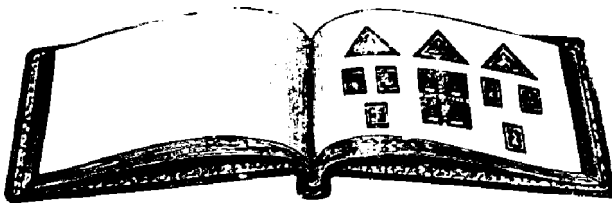
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NAPLES, $\frac{1}{2}$ grano, pale lake, fine pair .. ..	15/0
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# The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

AND

## PHILATELIC REVIEW OF REVIEWS.

EDITED BY F. F. LAMB.

PUBLISHED BY P. L. PEMBERTON & CO., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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DECEMBER 20, 1910.

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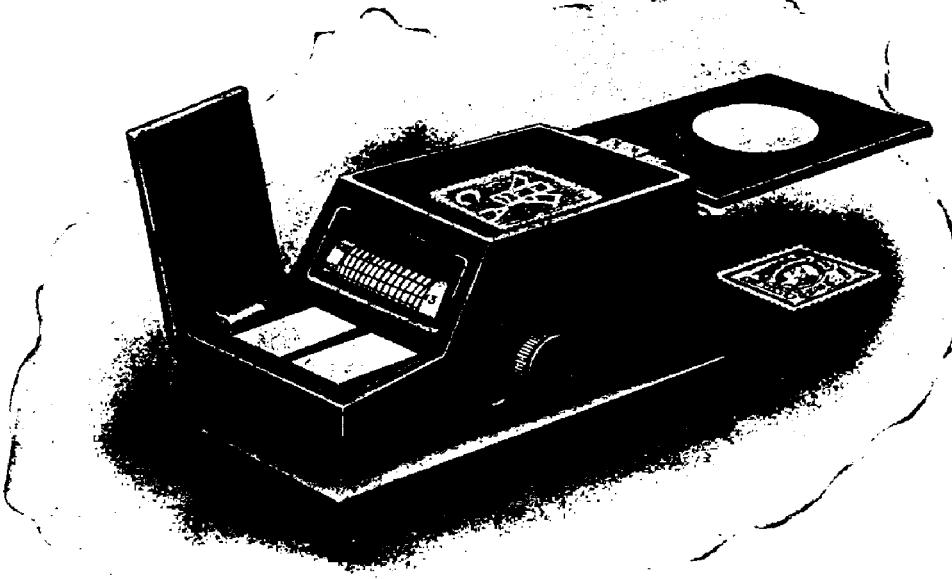
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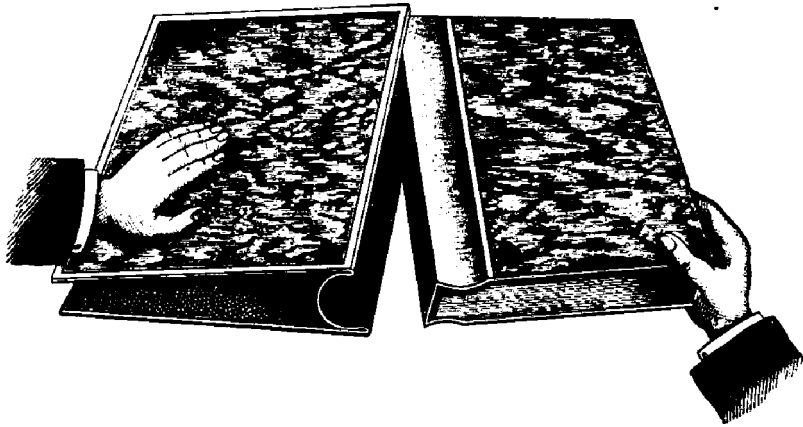
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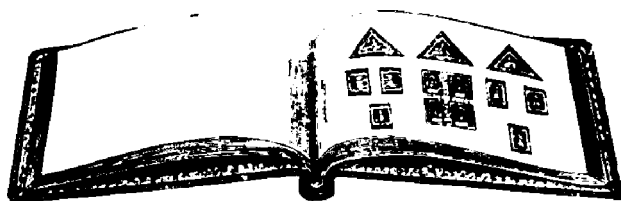
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