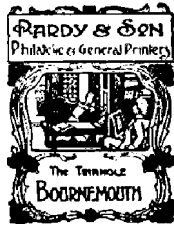


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TO
THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN,
1911.



THE
PHILATELIC JOURNAL
OF GREAT BRITAIN,
AND
Philatelic Review of Reviews

EDITOR - - F. F. LAMB.

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

VOL. XXI.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1911.

LONDON :

P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

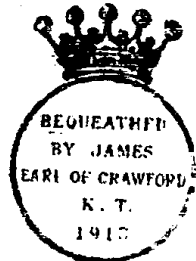
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The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 241. VOL. XXI.

JANUARY 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE coming-of-age period occurs but once in the life of any journal, philatelic or otherwise, so we trust our readers will forgive us if we devote this page to a brief *resumé* of our past, and a brief forecast of our future hopes.

It is common knowledge in the publishing world that a journal's subscription list wants completely revising every seven years, or, in other words, that subscribers seldom remain faithful to any one monthly or weekly publication for a longer period.

This being the case, it is not surprising that we have but few readers who have been subscribers from No. 1; there are, however, a few, and to them we tender our very best wishes, together with our thanks for their having put up with our many shortcomings during the past twenty years. We have, we are proud to say, some hundreds of subscribers who have followed our fortunes for a period of seven or more years. Like the generality of the world's smaller magazines the *P.J.G.B.* has suffered vicissitudes, mostly of an editorial nature, but it is, we are proud to state, our boast, that we can look back on an unbroken record of twenty years.

Although the Editors of this journal have been rather numerous, the present writer having served the longest term, we are pleased to be able to point to only one

change of proprietorship, namely, that which took place when Mr. Pemberton, then in partnership with Mr. W. B. Kirkpatrick, purchased the journal from its founder, Mr. W. Brown, of Salisbury.

As quite a few of our readers have been born, breeched, and made into good collectors since the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* first began to be a power in the small world of philately, we shall not, we hope, be boring the majority if we venture to recall the prominent facts connected with our history.

Many of our recent subscribers may not be aware that the first number, indeed the first nine volumes, of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, appeared in the old Cathedral City of Salisbury. Though its birthplace was so far removed from the hub of the philatelic world, the venture of Mr. William Brown, its originator, was received with great favour by stamp collectors all over the world. The first Editor was Mr. S. C. Skipton, whose early death, some few years ago, robbed us of a very able philatelist.

On joining Mr. Brown as a partner in his business, Mr. Skipton was unable to spare the time for editorial duties and the chair was occupied, in 1892, by Mr. Percy C. Bishop, the present Editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. It was this gentleman who introduced that important feature of our journal—the Review of

Reviews, and with the beginning of Volume II. the title of the publication was lengthened, in order to proclaim this improvement. This section of the journal at once became very popular and though some succeeding Editors did not pay so much attention to it as was shown by Mr. Bishop, we think we may say that during the past few years it has again become one of the most important and distinctive features of the journal.

The next Editor was Mr. J. Scott Stokes, who, though not a philatelist, was a most able journalist. He was greatly assisted in the work by his wife. Mr. Stokes' reign will be remembered by those lively and exceedingly entertaining papers which he contributed under the *pseudonym* of "Old File."

In 1897 Mr. G. B. Duerst, of Manchester, a collector who was, and is, well known as a specialist in Roumanian stamps, besides being a well-informed philatelist in every branch of the subject, took the reins. The *P.J.G.B.* prospered under his guidance until the end of 1899 when Mr. Brown disposed of the journal to Messrs. Pemberton & Kirkpatrick.

Commencing with the January number of 1900 we find Mr. Pemberton in the joint position of half proprietor and sole editor—a position he occupied for a year or so, until he found the editorial duties too irksome, or perhaps we should say too much in opposition to his business career. Two gentlemen, both well known in the collecting world, now successively essayed editorial distinction for a short time, we refer to Messrs. B. W. Warhurst and M. Z. Kutner. It was not however until Mr. B. W. H. Poole occupied the editorial arm-chair that we settled down to a period of comparative calm.

Early in 1906, February we think, the present writer came upon the scene.

Regarding our hopes for the future we trust to maintain this journal's right to style itself the most popular of the philatelic monthlies.

We are quite aware that there are monthlies of a more scientific nature, therefore, from a philatelic point of view of more value than ourselves, but we find (by the simple method of referring to our list of paid subscriptions) that there are sufficient collectors, who are pleased with

our efforts, to make us satisfied that many philatelists like to have a monthly paper of a not too deeply scientific nature.

By strict attention to business—as tradesmen in other wares say—we hope to see our subscription list grow longer every year.

A few collectors, fortunately a very few, object to any stamp publication that is published by the trade. The *P.J.G.B.*, in common with the majority of philatelic publications, is a house-organ, a fact we do not deplore, as the more expert our knowledge may become the better pleased we shall be to place it at our readers' disposal. Even the select few would hardly deny that knowledge is derived from experience, and that a dealer's general knowledge is practically certain to be more extensive than a collector's.

In concluding this, our longest editorial, we would like to appeal to our readers for co-operation; many of our subscribers have made interesting discoveries, but are too indifferent, diffident, or afraid that their knowledge should become common property, to communicate them to their fellow collectors.

We should like our readers, especially those who are members of the two very influential clubs for which we have the honour of acting as official organ, to look on this paper as a medium of communication. If only ten per cent. were to write down half their discoveries, and allow us to publish them, we should have enough matter to make the *P.J.B.G.*, for many, many numbers, the most scientific, as well as the most interesting, of the monthlies.

In return for inflicting our readers with such a lengthy editorial, we are going to make two offers. The first of these will appeal only to members of the International Philatelic Union, and the City of London Philatelic Society. It is briefly that our publishers will permit members of either Society to insert, free of charge, in our private advertisement columns, three (or more) advertisements per annum. The total number of words not to exceed seventy for the whole year. Right to refuse any advertisement is reserved.

Our second offer will appeal to a much wider circle of readers; it is that our publishers, who have a first-class working

library, will place their books and journals at their subscribers' disposal. In most instances the book or journal required will be lent for a period not exceeding seven

days. Country subscribers will, of course, have to pay postage both ways.

We hope these two offers will meet with a generous response.

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.

Fiji. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the 6d. and 1/- stamps, as below.

Adhesives. King's Heads, multiple wmk., chalky paper.
6d. purple.
1/- black on green.

The last value, although chronicled nearly a year ago, has, it appears, only recently been sent out to the Islands.

India. *Gwalior.* *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 2 and 3 rupees, King's Head stamps.

Adhesives. India stamps overprinted "Gwalior."
2 rupees, rose and bistre.
3 " brown and green.

Leeward Islands. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the following novelty:—

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple wmk., chalky paper.
5/- green and red on yellow.

Malta. Messrs. Bright & Son tell us that they have received the current 4d. stamp in a much darker shade, also that they have the 5/- King's Head stamp.

Adhesive. Multiple wmk.
5/- red and green on yellow.

New South Wales. The *Australian Stamp Journal* chronicles the following batch of novelties:—

"We have seen the current 2/6 stamp perforated all round on a single line machine gauging 11, and the same stamp perforated 11 on three sides and imperforated on the marginal side, which is a somewhat uncommon occurrence for recent New South Wales stamps.

"We have before us a copy of the 1/- black with O.S. in red, wmk. large crown, perf. 10 x 12½. This stamp is not chronicled in Gibbons' catalogue. It should follow 659a. The same variety is listed without the O.S., No. 271.

Wmk. Cr. & A.

2/6 emerald green perf. 11.

2/6 emerald green perf. 11 on three sides and imperf. on marginal side.

Wmk. Large Cr. & N.S.W.

1/- black, O.S. in red, perf. 10 x 12½."



Mr. W. H. Peckitt and Messrs. Bright & Son have kindly sent us specimens of the 2/6 perforated 11.

New Zealand. We extract the following paragraph from the December number of the *Australian Philatelist*:—

"Mr. Percy B. Phipson informs us that Mr. Hamilton has shown him an interesting variety of the 5/- Official—the 'L' of 'OFFICIAL' showing a decided split at the top side like a Y; this variety occurs once in every sheet. He also mentions that the 2/- Official is known perf. 14 horizontally and imperforate vertically."

Papua. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send up the 2½ stamp, with the large "Papua" lettering. This value is now printed in a rich violet-blue.

Wmk. Crown and A upright. Perf. 12½.
2½ violet-blue and black.

We are also informed that no more stamps punctured or perforated with the initials "O.S." will be sold to the public either unused or used, hitherto they have been supplied at face value, but only in postmarked condition.

From the December number of the *Australian Philatelist* we extract the following:—

"Our correspondent in Papua informs us that a fresh printing of all values was received

from Melbourne in August, with the word 'Papua,' large type, perforated 12½, small holes; but they are only being issued as the older stocks become exhausted. So far, we have chronicled the 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d. and 2/6 values. Our correspondent states that the shades are of quite a different nature in all values, and are much more roughly printed than the earlier issues. Nothing appears to be known locally of the electros prepared for the future printing in one colour, beyond the fact that the local authorities have told Melbourne they may print in one colour if they choose; this was before the last consignment (August) was ordered. The first intimation of the electros being ready for printing was received through authoritative information, which we published in *The Australian Philatelist* for October."

Queensland. The December *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the following batch of new shades:—

Adhesives. Wmkd. Crown and A.
3d. pale brown.
5d. deep brown.
2½/- deep bluish-green.
2/6 bright vermilion.

St. Lucia. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the 6d. stamp, printed in one colour.

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple wmk., chalky paper.
6d. purple.

Straits Settlements. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the \$1 stamp, as follows:—

Adhesive. King's Head.
\$1 black and red on blue.

Tasmania. The *Australian Philatelist* says that the 9d. and 1/- values on Crown & A. paper are now perforated 12½ small holes.

Victoria. The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 6d. stamps on Crown and A. paper, perforated 11.

Adhesive. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
6d. green.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. The following paragraph is extracted from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—

"The new set of stamps, with portrait of the Prince Regent Liutpold will, unless anything unforeseen occurs, appear in March 1911, and will include new high values, running up to 20 marks."

Brazil. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a compound perforation variety of the 300 reis of the 1899 issue, also a similar variety of the 1000r. of the 1894-1904 series.

Adhesive. Perf. compound 11-11½ × 5½-7.
300 reis black and emerald.
Perf. 12½-14 × 11-11½.
1000 reis mauve and green.

The same journal chronicles an imperforate pair of the 100r. scarlet commemorative stamp of 1900.

Greece. Our Publishers have shown us a used pair of the 25 *lepta*, *ultramarine*, of the 1889-99 issue, perforated 11½. This stamp has not hitherto been chronicled in any other condition than imperf., but as all the other stamps of the set were issued both perforated and unperforated the discovery of this variety is not surprising.

Adhesive. Athens print, 1889-99, perf. 11½.
25 lep. ultramarine.

Italy. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that a new 10 lire stamp has been issued. It is in the same design as the current 1 lira stamp.

Adhesive. Wmk. Crown, perf. 14.
10 lire, red and olive-green.

Philippine Islands. Three more values have been printed in new colours. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles them as follows:—

Adhesives.
6 centavos, bright purple.
10 .. light blue.
30 .. ultramarine.

Portugal. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has very kindly shown us a specimen of the recently overprinted 50 reis Manoel stamp of Portugal, with the overprint inverted.

Adhesive. Overprint "Republica" inverted.
50r. blue.

Azores. All the Manoel stamps have been overprinted "Republica," uniform with the Portuguese stamps chronicled last month. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the lower values.

Sweden. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the new 1, 8 and 15 öre official stamp, also a 2c. orange for general use, uniform with the 4c. we chronicled last May.



Adhesive. Wmkd. Crown. Perf. 13.
2 öre, orange.

Official Stamps.
1 öre, black.
8 .. claret.
15 .. brown.

Turkey. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a new permanent 2 para stamp for printed matter to take the place of the surcharged provisional.

Adhesive. Perf. 12.
2 para olive.

Uruguay. Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, kindly sends us particulars of the recently issued stamps. He says:—

"Herewith enclosed please find specimen of the new Uruguayan set, printed by Waterlow and issued on 21/11/10. This set is to be used with the current stamps until the stock of the latter has been disposed of. The values are ½c. mauve, 1c. green, 2c. brick red, 5c. steel blue, 8c. grey-black, 20c. brown, all same design as specimen. Also 23c. dark blue, 50c. orange-yellow, and \$1 vermilion; design, an allegorical figure and picture representing Industry and Commerce. The portrait of Artigas is by Blanes, a local artist. You will notice that in this set the 7c., 10c., \$2 and \$3 values have been dispensed with, while 8c. and 23c. stamps now appear."



Adhesives.
5 mils. mauve.
1c. green.
2c. brick-red.
5c. slate-blue.
8c. grey-black.
20c. brown.
23c. dark blue.
50c. orange-yellow.
1 peso vermilion.

Leicester Philatelic Society.

THE usual Monthly Meeting was held on Wednesday, Jan. 4th, at Winchester House. Dr. Payne, the President, occupied the chair, and a large number of members were present.

Mr. Herbert Clark, of Brighton, gave a most instructive paper upon "Forgeries and Reprints," and passed round for inspection a portion of his collection of these stamps. The collection contained a number of genuine stamps placed alongside the forgeries for purposes of comparison. A large number of the reprints and forgeries were shown in entire sheets; among the sheets of reprints may be mentioned those of Bergedorf, which were reprinted four times in various sized sheets; the first reprints are very rare in sheets. The immense amount of research done by Mr. Clark illustrated the great advantage of all collectors identifying themselves with some Society, in order to help to suppress the work of the forger, whose victim is always the unwary isolated collector who has not the advantage of the knowledge available to Society members.

Dr. Payne proposed, and Mr. Shankland seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, for his address, and the Secretary (Mr. T. B. Widdowson) explained that Mr. Clark's services were at the disposal of any member during his stay in Leicester.

Vienna Philatelic Exhibition.

TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER, 1911.

THE following letter has been sent by the Committee:—

"The Twenty-third German Philatelistentag will be held in Vienna in September, 1911.

"Considering that learning by example is better than mere tuition, that living pictures leave a deeper impression than spoken words, the United Philatelic Societies of Vienna have resolved to combine this Philatelic Congress with an International Philatelic Exhibition, under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Richard Weiskirchner. Hon. Sec.: A. Passer, 4 Müllnergasse, Vienna IX.

"We beg to appeal to philatelists all over the world, to societies as well as collectors and dealers, to support this Exhibition in two ways. First, by coming in person to Vienna, that ancient imperial city whose good name is in itself a sympathetic invitation; secondly, by sending as complete and as interesting exhibits as they can manage with convenience.

"The exhibits of the Ministry of Commerce and of the Postal Department will comprise many rare and uncatalogued specimens, and will be of highest interest. A careful grouping of classes and sections will offer wide competition for general collections as well as for specialized ones of single countries or groups; of Telegraph stamps, fiscals, entires, and other philatelic exhibits. Prizes and medals will be awarded for the best entries.

"The Exhibition having been duly inspected guides will be placed at the disposal of visitors to see the environments of the city and its pleasure resorts. Thus Philately and recreation would be agreeably combined.

"Such is the programme, which we trust will be heartily supported by all philatelists. Every effort will be made to ensure a complete success of this Exhibition, which will exemplify the great strides made in our beloved hobby and science during the thirty years that have elapsed since the first Philatelic Exhibition was held in the Austrian capital.

"Full information will be furnished on application to the Hon. Sec., 4, Müllnergasse, Vienna IX.

"THE COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONALE
POSTWERTZEICHEN-AUSSTELLUNG, WIEN,
1911.

"A. PASSER, *Hon. Sec.*

DR. VON WOERZ, *President.*"



The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

INTRODUCTION.

EXACTLY ten years ago I wrote a series of articles on the Stamps of Greece, which appeared in the pages of this journal. I have reason to believe that those notes were much appreciated by the somewhat limited number of collectors who, at that time, specialised in the stamps of the first type of head. There has lately been a large accession to the ranks of grecophiles and I have often been asked to write another history of the stamps, embodying information which was not available ten years ago.

So much has been learned about the stamps during the past decade, both as to the chronology of the printings and the methods by which the printers obtained such varying results from the same plates, that I think the time is now ripe for a further treatise on the subject. It is true that there is still very much to learn, but I believe that this will always be the case, the very nature of the stamps precluding the possibility of a "last word." This being so, there is no particular advantage in delaying the publication of the results of my further study of the difficult and fascinating problems presented by these stamps.

The bibliography of the subject is a very limited one. By far the most important work—the one which laid down the lines on which Greek stamps will always be studied—was that of Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, published in *The Philatelic Record*, in 1897. We may safely say that the study of Greek stamps dates from the publication of that work; before then there had been nothing to guide would-be specialists, with the exception of occasional notes in the Philatelic Journals, and one useful, but short article by Lieut. Napier in one of the volumes of *The Stamp News Annual* published in the early '90's.

Continental collectors were better off, as an important work was published by Mr. Glasewald in 1896. This was a most useful work, but did not go so deeply into the subject as did that of Beckton, and was, of course, of no use to the great majority of English collectors, as it was written in German with obsolete spelling.

The only other important treatise in English on Greek stamps is that of Mr. T. W. Morris, which ran through the pages of the *Stamp Collector*, in 1907. This is much on the same lines as Beckton's and contains little that is new, except a study of the minor flaws which abound in all values. Flaws and scratches are not, in themselves, of very great interest, but in the case of Greece they are of some use in helping us to fix approximate dates to some of the printings, as I will explain later on. In

this way, therefore, I have been able to get some assistance from Morris's articles.

About eighteen months ago a very ambitious work was published in France by M. Georges Brunel whose treatment of the subject was original though often inaccurate. The classification there set forth involves the acceptance of the theory that there are eight types of the stamps, of which the Paris print is one and the different stages of the Athens prints provide the other seven. I confess I am unable to find eight (and eight only) different states of printing; a very slight acquaintance with the subject will show anyone that the variations are almost infinite and that it is impossible to make all of them agree with one or other of the so-called eight "types."

I have not yet met anyone who could make head or tail of the arrangement, and though it has been adopted, (most unwisely, I think), by Messrs. Yvert et Tellier in their Catalogue, I think I may safely ignore this system of classification, which, according to its author, disposes of all difficulties in the arrangement of Greek stamps. There is, however, one section of Brunel's work which is excellent, and that is his chapter dealing with the manufacture of the plates and the preparation of the roller used in the actual printing. The information which he gives under this head accounts in a precise and satisfactory manner for the extraordinarily different results obtained at different times from the same printing plates, and proves that those appearances of some of the values, notably the 1 *lepton* and 20 *lepta*, which were hitherto regarded as due merely to the cleaning of the plates, in reality owed less to that cause than to the manner of printing.

While I have been able to take much information from the three principal works which I have mentioned, I find myself able to pursue quite an independent line in my classification. I have been studying the stamps for the past fifteen years and have gathered together a large number of dated specimens, from which, I believe, I am able to compile a list of printings which is more complete and more accurate than any that has hitherto been published. I am also greatly indebted to Mr. Maurice Jonas who has very kindly placed his magnificent collection at my disposal for study.

CHAPTER I.

Greece was rather backward in organizing its postal service, and it was not until 1855 that a law was passed which provided that letters should be prepaid by affixing adhesive stamps. Another article of the same law

prescribed the form that the stamps should take. For some reason or another nothing more was done, and several other enactments were made before the stamps finally appeared in 1861. Before the actual type was agreed upon it is only natural to suppose that there should have been many suggestions as to the subjects that should be depicted upon them. Yet there are no essays extant which we can say for certain belong to this period.

One or two essays are known; some of them are still by no means rare. Though their status is not above suspicion, a description of them will not be out of place. The one most frequently met with is a transverse rectangle (21 x 25mm.), bearing a portrait, in an upright beaded oval, of King George I., with a repre-



sentation of the Parthenon for a background. This design is found engraved and also lithographed, in a great variety of colours. The engraved ones are scarce, but the lithographs are quite plentiful. The following is a list of the colours in which I have found these stamps:—

ENGRAVED.

Black.	Yellow-orange.
Rose.	Pearl-grey.
Green (two shades).	Brown.
Yellow.	Purple-brown.
Chrome-yellow.	Deep Prussian blue.
Brown-orange.	Blue.

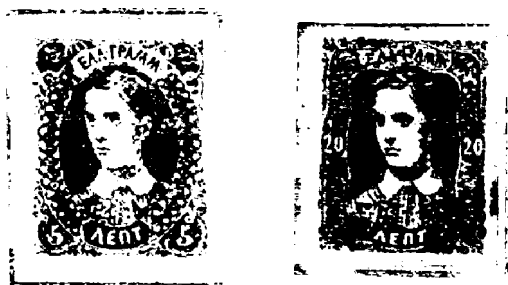
LITHOGRAPHED.

Black.	Brown.
Rose.	Brown-lilac.
Deep rose.	Rusty brown.
Pale red.	Lilac.
Pale claret.	Deep blue.
Vermilion.	Pale cobalt.
Chrome-yellow.	Blue.
Yellow-orange.	Blue-green.
Dull orange.	Deep grey-green.
Orange.	Pale sage-green.

It is likely that there are other shades, especially of the engraved set.

Another essay, in an almost identical design, but with the portrait smaller and with figures in the upper corners larger, the whole roughly lithographed on thin white card, is occasionally met with, but it is very much rarer than the one first described. It also exists in many different colours, of which I am unable to give a list.

A set of essays of the same period, comprising three values, 5, 20 and 40 lep., also bears a portrait of King George I. The designs of this set are upright rectangles (25 x 20mm.), rather larger than the average stamp.



Those I have seen are all lithographs and are not bad examples of the lithographic art, though the portrait, especially on the 5 and 40 lep., is anything but artistic. These designs were the work of a Milanese artist. They were printed in strips, showing the three values side by side. They are not rare, but are nothing like so plentiful as the first one which I have described.

As in the previous set the stamps were printed on fairly stout but not very well finished white paper, though they are frequently found mounted on card. Again there is a great variety of colour. Sets may be found in each of the following, and probably in other, shades:—

Rose.	Purple-brown.
Deep rose.	Yellow-green.
Turkey-red.	Myrtle-green.
Orange.	Blue.
Lilac.	Black.
	Grey-black.

Also on white card printed in gold.

These essays may have been submitted to the Greek Government before the issue of stamps in 1861, but from the fact that they were not known to collectors until 1864, when they were chronicled in *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, it is more likely that they were submitted after the issue of stamps in the vain hope that they would find more favour in the eyes of the Greeks than the beautiful design which was already in use. There is another possibility, namely, that they were made for collectors! In the 60's all kinds of essays were eagerly sought after by most collectors and many undoubtedly bogus sets, purporting to be genuine essays of various countries were put on the market and duly exposed. It is true that the authenticity of these essays was never seriously questioned, but a letter signed

"No Essays" published in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for December, 1864, contained the following passage:—"I am informed by Mr. Mavrogordato, most probably of the Athens post office, that the so-called Greek essays have never been seen in Greece, that they have not been suggested, and that it is not the intention of the authorities to issue other stamps than those in use at the present time." This is not conclusive evidence, of course, and whether the essays were submitted or not to the Greek Government, their age entitles them to a certain amount of attention from specialists, if only as curiosities.

The mention of Mr. Mavrogordato in the letter which I have quoted above is interesting, as a fine collection of Greek stamps formed by a gentleman of the same name, living at Odessa, was bought by Mr. Jonas several years ago, and this Mr. Mavrogordato was also supposed to have had some connection with the Greek Post Office. Possibly he was the same, or at least a relative of the one mentioned in the old *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*—at any rate his collection included a fine lot of these essays, as well as several specimens of an essay which are undoubtedly French. This is the well-known Andrien design, representing a head of Minerva to left in a pearled oval, with French emblems—the cock, scales, etc., in the angles. The size of these labels (38mm. square) shows that they were never intended for postage stamps, but they may have been submitted to the Greek authorities as samples of colour; we know from M. Arthur Maury's book on French stamps that they were submitted to the French Government for that purpose. Finding them in a specialized collection, formed by one who held an official position in the Greek Post-office, makes it quite feasible to suppose that they were sent to Athens for the same purpose. They are printed in blue of the same tint as the 20 lepta Paris print, but in various shades—from pale to deep. One of them is obliterated with a lozenge-shaped impression formed of dots, with a number in the centre.

The *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for 1865 informs its readers that a new stamp for Prince George of Greece was being prepared at Munich. Needless to say, no such stamp was ever issued, nor do I know of any essay which might have been prepared there. Mr. Glasewald however, describes, on the authority of Dr. Moschkau, an essay which I have never seen, under the date 1866. This is said to be larger than the officially issued stamps, with a numeral in the centre, no value expressed, with the abbreviated equivalent in Greek of the words "Greek Postage" (as it appears at the top of the issued stamps) on all four sides.

I know of no other designs which have any pretensions to be styled Greek essays. Proofs, colour trials, and unissued stamps are numerous; I shall refer to them under their respective issues.

(To be continued).



January, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911.

- 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. JOSELIN. 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.
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11, Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.
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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).

The following are now proposed in accordance with the above:—William J. Pryer, Lymington, Hants; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by J. E. Joselin. Walter Scott, Cardiff; proposed by Dr. Marx, seconded by T. H. Hinton. A. S. Hourmouziou, Cyprus; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by P. L. Pemberton.

NOTICES.

The fourth meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall, on Thursday, January 12th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, W. Schwartz, J. E. Joselin, W. E. Lincoln, Guy Semple, A. H. L. Giles, P. L. Pemberton, A. B. Kay, W. S. King and the Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the President announced to the great regret of all present, the sad

intelligence of the death of His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C. On the motion of Mr. Joselin, seconded by Mr. Schwabacher and supported by Mr. Schwarte, a vote of condolence and sincere sympathy with his family in their bereavement was carried unanimously. The late Judge Philbrick joined the Union in January, 1895, was elected President in May following, and actively carried out the duties until his removal into the country, and in 1898 became Honorary President. A full biography appears in another column.

A display of the stamps of Brazil and Uruguay was given; Postage Stamps, by Mr. A. H. L. Giles; Fiscals by Mr. Schwabacher, both collections being very complete and affording much interest to those present. A unanimous vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Joselin and seconded by Mr. King, concluded the meeting.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, February 9th, at 7.30 p.m. (committee 7 p.m.), when Mr. T. W. Hall will give a display of the stamps of Colombia. All members and any visitors heartily welcome.

The Hon. Sec. acknowledges with thanks donations to the Forgery Collection from Messrs. George S. Richards, A. H. L. Giles, and F. F. Lamb. Will be glad to receive and duly acknowledge subscriptions now due and proposals for membership.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Jan. 14th, 1911.

Correspondence.

The Birches,
London Road,
Worcester Park,
Surrey,
20th Dec. 1910.

THE PUTTILLA ERROR.

To THE EDITOR, "P. J. G. B."

DEAR SIR,

I notice in the current number of the *P. J. G. B.* a statement on page 229 that the Error Puttilla chronicled by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons does not exist. This is rather a bold statement. The error was chronicled in the first edition of the Indian Society's work, but before the second edition appeared the Indian Society came to the conclusion that the "Puttillas" were reprints. This view was not accepted by everyone, and I may state that about 1894 I purchased from Mr. Hadlow a block of the 2 annas (12 in number), which contained two of the "Puttilla" varieties. Mr. Hadlow told me that he got them from

M. Moens. So far I have never seen a sheet or block of reprints with the error.

Yours faithfully,

R. B. YARDLEY.

P.S.—I believe the Indian Society suggest that the "Puttillas" belong to the reprint series, but I cannot find that anyone has produced a sheet of reprints containing the error; at any rate, repeated twice, as in the block I have.

Sydall Cottage,
West Beach,
Lytham,

Dec. 29th, 1910.

To THE EDITOR *P. J. G. B.*

CHILIAN STAMPS, INFORMATION REQUIRED.

DEAR SIR,

I have been re-reading Mr. Burton's delightful articles on "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili" in the *P. J. G. B.*, 1909, with great pleasure and profit, and I should be glad to have a few of my difficulties cleared up.

Mr. Burton states (page 180): "the beginning of the war"—that is 1879-80—"synchronized with the first use of fiscal and telegraph stamps for postal purposes." Now Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue gives the date of issue of "Telegraph Stamps used for Postage" as 1891. Which is correct?

Again, Mr. Burton states (page 140): "Chili, being a member of the Postal Union, led the captured provinces within the fold, hence an additional surcharge, 'Union Postal Universal,' within a horseshoe, above the word 'Peru.'" Now Peru entered the Universal Postal Union on April 1st, 1879—the war broke out about February, 1879—but Chili did not enter the Postal Union until April 1st, 1881. So, surely, there must be some error in Mr. Burton's statement. The stamps in question were printed and then overprinted by the American Bank Note Co., of New York. Might I suggest that Peru had these stamps overprinted to celebrate their entry into the Universal Postal Union; that these stamps were captured by the Chilians and then hand-stamped with the Arms of Chili before issue.

Just one point with regard to the surcharged Telegraph stamps of 1904. In Stanley Gibbons' catalogue the stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co. are put first. Would it not be more correct chronologically to put the stamps printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. first? They were the first to print these stamps. Or is it that those prepared by the American Bank Co. were the first to be used for postal purposes?

Yours faithfully,

"INQUIRENS."

P.S.—I enclose my card.

We will draw Mr. J. R. Burton's attention to the above letter; no doubt he will reply to it through these columns.—ED., *P. J. G. B.*

South Australia,
Nov. 23rd, 1910.

COMMONWEALTH NEWS.

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

DEAR SIR,

I regret to have overlooked the matter of renewing my subscription to the *P.J.G.B.*, but I now enclose the amount of 2/6 in stamps, current. Your August and September numbers only reached me by the same mail a week before your October number, although plainly addressed; they must have travelled elsewhere. I presume you have already heard that we are spared the infliction of having all our stamps overprinted "Australia," as was threatened by the postal authorities a short time back. Now the stamps of any Australian State are admissible for postage throughout the Commonwealth. *Re* the Commonwealth issue, nothing is definitely known so far as I am aware; the calling for designs has not been carried out yet, and no one really seems to know whether the issue is actually being prepared or not. Possibly the stamps may appear in April next, when penny postage throughout Australia comes into operation.

I have a block of four of the current long 3d. of S. Australia, perf. 11, Melbourne machine. Very few of these have been seen, and it is said that they were issued nearly two years ago. The bottom stamps of my block have an extra line of perf. at the top of the value tablet, giving them an appearance somewhat like the Belgian Sunday labels. So far, these perf. 11 stamps have not been chronicled to my knowledge.

I take this opportunity of wishing you the compliments of the season.

And remain,

Yours sincerely,

(REV.) T. P. DAVIS.

New Leaves to Cut.

CATALOGUE OF HANDBOOKS, JOURNALS, &c., IN THE LIBRARY OF THE HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.*

WE have received from Mr. Reichenheim, the Editor of the *Monthly Report*, an extremely handy little catalogue of the publications at the disposal of members of the Herts Philatelic Society. Consisting of over 50 pages, this work should be of great value to all the British members of the Society, as it will enable them to see at a glance the very numerous works to which they can, if so desired, refer.

Arranged alphabetically, the list is most comprehensive, and includes practically all

* Published by the Editor of the *Monthly Report*, 29, Holland Villas Road, Kensington, W.

the standard works of philately, together with files, in many cases complete, of fully a hundred philatelic journals.

The index has been most carefully compiled, and is so arranged that the work of reference of any country can be easily located; for instance, we find St. Vincent listed as follows:

"St. Vincent," by F. H. Napier and E. D. Bacon. (Stanley Gibbons Handbook, No. 4).

"St. Vincent," *vide* "Postage Stamps, etc., of the British Colonies in the West Indies, etc." (Published by the Philatelic Society, London).

This publication, which is sent free to members of the Herts Society, will be found very useful to all serious collectors. Copies, 6d. each, post free, can be obtained by non-members from the publisher.

The late Judge Philbrick, K.C.

IT is with great regret we have to announce the death of His Honour Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick, K.C., which took place on Christmas Day, at his residence, Bodorgan House, Bournemouth.

For very many years Judge Philbrick was an active member of the International Philatelic Union, during which period his services, as legal adviser, were several times of great benefit to the Society. Of late years he was Hon. President to the Union.

The revised rules of the I.P.U. and its Exchange Section were drawn up by Judge Philbrick, assisted by Mr. Oldfield. As this Society was the first to commence an exchange branch, now so universally followed, these rules became the basis for all present day clubs.

The early days of philately are so full of reminiscences of his collecting enthusiasm that we can only briefly touch on a few of the most important details. He was the first Vice-President and second President of the London Philatelic Society. As a writer he was famous for his share of "Philbrick and Westoby's" "Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain," published in 1881. Unfortunately of late years His Honour did not take an active part in philately, he sold his general collection as far back as 1882, while his British were dispersed in 1894. As one of the grand old pioneers, all present day collectors owe a deep debt of gratitude to Judge Philbrick.

In the hope that our readers, some of whom will have pleasant recollections of evenings spent in the company of the late Judge, when he was an active member of the International Philatelic Union, and of the London Society, we append a fairly full biography. We are indebted to the *Essex County Standard*, published at Colchester, for most of our information.

The late Judge Philbrick was in his 76th year, having been born at Colchester in June, 1835. He was the eldest son of the late Mr.

Frederick B. Philbrick, solicitor, who was Town Clerk of Colchester in 1836-7, and was again re-appointed to that office in 1880, continuing to be Town Clerk until 1884, when he retired from active life. The late Judge's grandfather was a doctor, who had an extensive practice in Colchester and the neighbourhood.

Judge Philbrick was educated at the Colchester Royal Grammar School, under the headmastership of the Rev. J. Dunningham, and at the London University, and was a Barrister of the Middle Temple. He graduated as B.A. in 1853, and in 1854 was articled as a clerk in his father's office at Colchester. In November, 1857, he passed the examination required previous to admission as an attorney in the Courts at Westminster, being at the head of the list and taking two prizes awarded on such occasions, the one from the Law Institution and the other from the Society of Clifford's Inn.

In Easter term, 1858, Judge Philbrick entered the Hon. Society of the Middle Temple as a student, and at the public examination of students of the Inns of Court, at Michaelmas, 1858, he was the most distinguished student, and the Council of Legal Education conferred on him the studentship, of the annual value of 50 guineas.

He was appointed Recorder of Colchester in November, 1870, and became Queen's Counsel in 1874. Judge Philbrick was a J.P. for Somerset, Wilts, Hants, and Dorset, and also for the Borough of Colchester.

As a barrister, Judge Philbrick enjoyed for many years a large and lucrative practice, his services being specially in requisition in connection with railway company litigation. He practised on the Home Circuit and at Essex and Colchester Quarter Sessions, and had a great reputation for his knowledge of the law and for his success as an advocate. His principal practice, however, was in the High Courts at Westminster.

On several occasions his services were called into requisition to assist the Judges of Assize in the Home Circuit and in other Circuits.

Judge Philbrick was a collector of many things, and his library was a famous one and included many rare books, including remarkable collections of editions of the 17th century publication, "Eikon Basilike," of Walton's "Compleat Angler" and of the works of La Fontaine, besides specimens of rare early printed books and costly bindings by the most celebrated of the ancient bookbinders. He also had a valuable collection of law books, which he presented to the borough of Colchester.

His Honour was a prominent Freemason and held some of the most important offices in the craft, and he won for himself the esteem and affection of the Brethren for his untiring interest in the Order. He was a member of many of what are known as the Higher Orders in connection with Free-

masonry, but was particularly interested in that of the Order of the Secret Monitor, of which the Earl of Warwick is Supreme Ruler and the late Judge was Deputy Ruler.

Judge Philbrick was appointed a Judge to the County Courts (Dorset, etc.) in 1895. He has been in failing health for several years and has had many serious illnesses, but his remarkable vitality and energy enabled him to rally from these and to resume his work at intervals with his accustomed ability and strenuousness.

The last appearance of His Honour at Colchester was at the Borough Quarter Sessions on October 21st last, when, though feeble bodily, he conducted the business with his usual precision and acumen.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place on Friday, Dec. 30th, in the picturesque Cemetery at Bournemouth, amongst those present being Mr. Ernest Philbrick (son), Misses Madeleine, Kitty and Barbara Philbrick (daughters), Mrs. Ernest Philbrick, Mrs. Arthur Philbrick (daughters-in-law).

The Masonic Body was represented by Mr. Thos. J. Ralling, Provincial Grand Scribe, Essex; Mr. Spratling, Registrar; and Mr. C. R. Tison, Past Grand Guide of the Secret Monitor; Mr. A. Tippar, Registrar, Order of the Scarlet Cord; and some members of the Horsa Craft Lodge, of which the late Judge was an honorary member.

The legal profession was represented by Mr. Druitt, Registrar of the local County Court, and a number of solicitors, and there were also representatives of the Corporation, and many residents.

Wreaths were sent by the Earl of Warwick, the Grand Lodge of England, the Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex, the Order of the Secret Monitor, the Horsa Lodge, and many others.

Mr. Arthur Philbrick (son), and Miss Philbrick (sister), of Halstead, were prevented attending, the former being in West Africa.

City of London Philatelic Society.

THE Monthly Meeting was held as usual at Mill's Restaurant Liverpool Street on the 11th and in spite of the inclement weather there was a very good muster of members and friends.

The President was in the chair and after various formal business, including the election of several new members, he called for the usual display of new issues and curiosities.

Mr. Leon showed a number of the former, including several new Colonial stamps in the universal colours, and amongst the latter Mr. Higlett showed a 10 cent black, first issue France, postmarked "Lavour 1st June 1849,"

an exceedingly early date obliterated with the town name, as the defacing stamps consisting of a number of dots had not then been issued.

There were also shown a number of Emperor's Head French Essays, postally used; and a sheet of forgeries six stamps wide and eight high; the left-hand half of the sheet being one franc Emperor's head and the right-hand half one franc first type Republic; they would be decidedly dangerous sold singly to the ordinary stamp buyer who is not something of a specialist as well.

Mr. Jackson showed the New Union of South Africa stamps in three distinct shades, purchased on different dates at different places, also a 1d. carmine South Australia with inverted "O.S." surcharge.

Three members, Messrs. Jackson, Simpson, and Higlett, then passed round their collections of Gold Coast and each contributed information and remarks to the discussion which took place.

Mr. Simpson's collection with the exception of one stamp consisted entirely of mint copies and was complete, some very distinct shades were shown in all issues, but the gem of the collection was a 6d. CC. Perf. 14 with the value in most distinct carmine.

Mr. Higlett and Mr. Jackson showed various provisionals used at the smaller ports including two and-a-half CC. 1d. stamps used as 2½d., postmarked B27. Half twopenny green CC. used as 1d. for inland postage on 20th December, 1883. A 2d. and quarter of 2d. green CC. used for 2½d. One-and-a-half 2d. grey CA. used as 3d. They also showed a number of stamps postmarked with sealing wax seals of some of the small places including Elmira, Ada and Winnebah.

Amongst other interesting stamps was the 4d. CA. with Jubilee line which has not been chronicled before.

Mr. Higlett gave some interesting particulars of the postal service during his considerable period of residence in the Colony, he explained that the scarcity of the £1 red and green was due to the fact that the whole of the stock at Accra was stolen, only 37 stamps having been sold over the counter, the thief was captured and a postal official was deputed to destroy all stamps which were recovered. Other interesting things were a specimen of the 1898 2½d. stamp with the "T" at the end of Gold Coast only half the ordinary height, and some panes of the surcharged stamps of the Colony in Mr. Simpson's collection, which were voted by the members present to be the kind of "Panels" that Philatelists would suffer gladly.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the three gentlemen for giving such interesting displays and information.

After this a competition was held on the question of stamp colours, 25 different specimens having to be shown, and in this Mr. Constantinides came out winner for a very scientific display, showing first the primary

colours and then their various combinations set out very ingeniously in the form of a diagram. J.R.B.

The next meeting will be held on the second Wednesday in February, i.e., 8th, when Mr. Heginbottom is giving a Display with notes of his fine collection of British Guiana from 1876, British Honduras, and Falklands, and Mr. Westcott will give a paper on "Random Philatelic Notes."

Will members also kindly note that at the March meeting Mr. Leon has changed the subject of his display and paper to the "Mystery of Bois-le-Duc." What this title embraces will not be disclosed until the night of the meeting, but we may give a hint that perfervid members will do well to be present.

The King's Head Stamps of Gibraltar and Agencies.

By J. HOWARD ROSKILLY.

In the January number of the *P.F.G.B.*, 1908, appeared an article under the above heading, which dealt fully with the Queen's Head issues. Since then important and interesting changes have occurred, which are briefly outlined below. In May, 1903, a complete set of new stamps made its appearance, bearing the head of King Edward VII., the preceding issue having been withdrawn from circulation on April 30th. The wmk. and perf. remained as before, and the stamps were printed by Messrs. De La Rue, from a plate bearing a numeral (1) in the usual position. The set is remarkable for the addition of four high values—2/-, 4/-, 8/- and



£1 stamps. The ½d. to 1/- values, containing no value of 4d., were printed in sheets of 120. two panes of 60, or ten rows of six. The "Duty" plate was composed of ten rows of six (sixty stamps), thus completing a pane at a time. The high values, being of abnormal size, were printed in sheets of 60 stamps, the King's head being enclosed in an oval, bearing the name of the Colony and the words "Postage and Revenue." There were probably two printings of the 2½d., one printing being a much darker shade than the other.

This value is further noted as containing a marked variety, occurring twice in a sheet—

a large "2" in the fraction of 2½d.—being really Nos. 55 and 115 of the sheet. The year 1904 is remarkable for the adoption of the multiple wmk. in the manufacture of paper for postage stamp printing, and this innovation caused quite a sensation in philatelic circles. The year, however, had half run its course before the first value with the new wmk. made its appearance in this Colony. The series consisted of the values ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d., 1/- and 2/-, still from plate 1. Sensation number two quickly followed, the multiple ordinary paper giving way to chalk-surface paper in 1905. The series consisted of ½d. (shades), 1d., 2d., 2½d. (shades), 6d. 1/- (shades), 2/-, 4/- and £1 (shades), with the same fractional variety in all shades of the 2½d.

Owing to the reduction of the Postal Union Rates, and the adoption by the Colony of the British Colonial Colour Scheme, a new series of stamps was decided on, the first to make its appearance being the penny rose, in January, 1907, printed in sheets of 240. The following values have since been added—½d., 2d., 2½d., 1/-, 2/-, 4/-, all except the three last-named are to be found in shades, the 2½d. also



with the fractional variety. The perf. and wmk. remain as before, but the ½d., 1d., 2d. and 2½d. are printed in one colour on ordinary paper, whilst the 1/- black, and 2/- bi-coloured are printed on green and blue "chalky" paper respectively, and the bi-coloured 4/- on white "surfaced" paper. Only the 6d. value remains to be issued to complete the series; but with so many prospective new issues this stamp may never make its appearance.

Printed at the same time as the Gibraltar "King" series was a new issue for the Morocco Agencies. The stamps were similar to those used on the opposite side of the Straits—Gibraltar head plate numbered (1) with special "Duty" plate inscribed "centimos" instead of "pence," all having the same overprint ("Morocco Agencies") as the "Queen" series of 1899. There were the same varieties—long serif to "M" in "Morocco," and the so-called hyphen between "nc" of "Agencies." The issue consisted of seven values, the 5c., 10c., 20c., 25c., 50c., 1 pes. and 2 pes. They were not issued simultaneously as at Gibraltar, but

as necessity arose. The 25c. and 10c. were the only values put in circulation in 1903.

There were but limited printings of the 50c. and 2 pes. stamps, hence their enhanced catalogue value. In the strictest sense the 50c. was never issued to the public as the whole stock was bought up by a speculator who for some time controlled the market. For years the fixed price of the stamp was 25/-. It can now be obtained for less than half that amount. Probably these Morocco Agencies 50c. and 2 pes. varieties "M" and "n-c," are the most valuable of all the King's Head series. A second printing of the 25c. took place in 1905, the variety "n-c" disappearing from the sheet. Previous to this, however, printings of the multiple Crown and CA. series had been commenced, as the 5c. multiple is known with the "n-c" variety. There were only three values printed on ordinary paper with the multiple watermark, viz., 5c., 10c., 20c., and except for the 5c. just noted all sheets were free of the "n-c" variety. Variety long-serif "M" is found on all. The 5c. "n-c" variety is very rare, probably the *rarest* of the series. A block showing the 25c. second printing with "n-c" corrected is also rare. The 10c. are found with reversed wmk. including "M" variety. Quickly following the multiple ordinary came the much discussed chalk-surface paper series, consisting of six values: 5c., 10c., 25c., 50c., 1 pes., 2 pes., the four last-named being the first issued. The 25c. did not appear till May, 1906. All four values were undoubtedly printed before the 5c. and 10c. as the long-serif "M" variety is not found in either of these values.

On December 31st all the Gibraltar overprinted stamps were withdrawn from circulation, and on January 1st, 1907, British stamps, specially overprinted in black, with sans-serif capitals—"Morocco Agencies"—at top, and value in centimos, or pesetas, at foot, being substituted.

The values overprinted were the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 10d., 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, doing duty as 5c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., 50c., 1p., 3p. and 6p. respectively. In November of the same year the 4d. was overprinted 40c., and this was superseded in 1910 by the orange 4d., similarly surcharged. Interesting varieties of the 5c. and 10c. are the lower corner pairs or strips with marginal control letter. Known varieties of the former, are—F6, G7, G8, H8, and of the latter—F6, G7, G8, H9. April of the same year saw the commencement of still another series, issued for parcel post purposes, consisting of British stamps as before, but without the values expressed in Spanish currency, namely—½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/- and 2/6. The ½d. and 1d. were both issued with marginal variety F6, but the former also exists showing F7. Again, these British stamps were printed on chalk-surface paper, except the ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d. (orange), 5/- and 10/- values, which are on ordinary paper.

Notes on the 1909 Issue of Peru.

BY THE LATE AUGUSTUS TOOT.

THE 1909 issue of Peru is of remarkable interest. It consists, according to the latest edition of the green Gibbons, of nine stamps. At first glance, should anybody be fortunate enough to possess a complete set, it would appear that but one design had done duty for all values. This however is not the case, for, on close inspection I find that each stamp differs, usually in the lower half where the numerals, expressing the value, are placed.

Another curious fact, and one I believe *never before alluded to* in the philatelic press, is, that although each of the nine values bears a representation of a human face, *each one of these faces is different.*

This proves I think that more than one die was used. Some of the faces have hair on them. Some haven't. I don't think it is possible to grow hair on a steel die, if so, it clearly *PROVES* the certainty of more than one die having been used. I do not know to whom these faces once belonged, Gibbons doesn't say. My researches, up to the time of going to press, do not enable me to definitely state who were the printers of these stamps—the usually chatty green Gibbons doesn't know either—I rather think however that they were printed at the office of *The Fiji Times*, Levuka, Fiji. At this early stage of my investigations I can't be certain but the work turned out in Fiji bears a marked resemblance to the Omaha stamps of America. This I am afraid is not strictly bearing on the matter in hand. As a philatelic item of interest however, it is worth mentioning. According to Gibbons's catalogue these stamps are perf. 12. The word "Perf." I should explain to my readers is a slovenly abbreviation of the word "perforated."

Unfortunately I cannot, with certainty, say whether these stamps are on watermarked, or unwatermarked paper, I have again referred to Gibbons', but he evinces a marked disregard of the essential details of these stamps. The paper they are printed on varies a good deal, it is sometimes a shade heavier, or a shade lighter, just as the case may be.

Should any of my readers have one or more of these stamps, I should be deeply indebted if they would let me have them, to examine for a few days. I feel quite sure that they could be plated. If this could be accomplished we should then know how many stamps there were to the yard, sheet, I mean.

Although I have been able to clear up one or two very knotty points regarding these most interesting stamps, I am quite unable definitely to state whether they were lithographed from woodblock electros, or from a steel matrix. I have consulted the Royal Society's work, the *Stamps of Africa*, Messrs. Bacon & Napier's

"*Saint Vincent*," Mr. B. W. H. Poole's *Seychelles*, and *not one* of these leading authorities says a word as to how these stamps were printed.

Before I conclude this paper, which I trust may be of some slight value to our leading specialists in South Australian stamps I should like to point out that these labels all bear a word, or words, under the medallion. I cannot make all out but on No. 2 it appears to be "Colon." Everybody of course knows what that is, it being so generally used when the writer doesn't know how to punctuate correctly. No. 3 has the word "Pizarro." This, I think, is something North Borneo residents sit on, or under. No. 4 "San Martin," must, I think, be a misprint for "Day and Martin." No. 5 "Bolivar" is something like a pewter sixpenny piece, which isn't worth as much as it ought to be. No. 8 "Grau," I don't know what this is, but I think "Grau" was a friend of Mr. J. R. Burton's. No. 9 which reads "Bolognesi" is evidently a stamp to commemorate the opening of the first sausage shop in Boulogne. Nos. 1, 6 and 7 are very badly printed.

I should like to say that these stamps are referred to on page 477, Vol. XXI. of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons catalogue, Part II. They are numbered consecutively 376 to 384. Some are priced; some are not. In conclusion I should like to mention the fact that, as far as I know I have never actually seen any of this issue.

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

IN the X'mas number of the *S.C.F.* a Birkenhead contributor suggests a series of designs for the new British stamps. Some of his ideas are most original; for instance he thinks that the 5d. value should bear a "portrait of Indian subject in native dress"! If the photo was taken in hot weather the new 5 penny label would be a good seller. The 4d. stamp might have a "map of England and Colonies"! This idea is sensible because the 4d. label could then be used as a chart by navigators.

Friend Hagen, in the *Australian Philatelist*, makes a most cruel and heartrending statement regarding the pair wee laddie. He says:—

"Friend McTavish was good enough to send us a card from Berne, but it was not very legible; we assume it must have been written at the banquet—probably after the waiter, knowing the voracious appetite of our friend, had started to re-serve the whole dinner to him a second time. However, we forgive him."

Oh, the heartless wretch! and what an insinuation to make, after I had spent nearly half-a-month's wages on sending him a postcard, fully prepaid! Oh, the base in-

gratitude for all the times I tucked him up in his little bed at the Hotel Russell.

The publisher of a new little stamp paper, hailing from the wilds of Sydney, Australia, in his first number states:—

Many high-class philatelic journals are published abroad, with which we have no desire to enter into competition.

We breathe again.

There are I see some new (or at least new to me) mounts being advertised, they are listed as the B & F Mounts, medium, per 1,000, 10d.; ditto, larger size, 1/-. The ampersand prevents my writing for a half portion, otherwise I know somebody who would like a few.

A New York paper says that "the backbone of American philately is its literature." Gee whiz! The same journal has the following isolated paragraph:

Beginning with volume four we shall discontinue at once upon expiration.

If that doesn't make some subscribers sit up, it ought to.

Writing about the pictorial stamps of Bosnia, Mr. C. J. Phillips refers to them as the "bathroom paper" set. I think the bathroom too good for them.

The same authority, says, apropos being able to purchase the *M. J.* at Smith's book-stalls, "this system did very well for a cheap paper like *G.S.W.*"

Surely a rather unhappy choice of an adjective.

The December number of the *Stamp Journal* (New York) in outlining the proposed contents of its January number says:—

"Of course we are unable to announce the topics of the valuable contributions—already widely quoted—of our regular writers. The occasional articles by our assistant and contributing editors—the foremost experts in their respective lines in the world—will continue, as heretofore, to make the magazine deservedly popular throughout the nation and the world."

I have ventured to print a couple of lines in big type, the *S. J.*, of course, couldn't modestly do so.

I shall look forward to the January number, especially the "valuable contributions—already widely quoted." That's the worst of original stuff, it always has been widely quoted, usually without acknowledgment.

Another American publication, the *Philatelic Journal of America* in its Nov. 15th number contains another typical paragraph. It is as follows:—

EDITORIAL.

The personal affairs of the Editor have prevented his giving the journal usual attention this month. Our readers however understand that they must view our work as a volume and the numbers must be arranged for his convenience.

Judging from recent numbers of the *P. J. of*

A., Editor Charles Haviland Mekeel, has had a good deal of personal business to transact lately. I wonder if some miserable worm wrote asking for the return of his dollar and a half?

In the November number of the *P. J. of India* "Tancred," the prince of jesters, makes merry over the wording of an advertisement in a recent number of the *P. J. G. B.* Having nothing to do—a common complaint with the laird McTavish—I waded thro' the "Ad" pages of the November *P. J. of India*. Page 1 was productive because I found there a 3c. Madria stamp of Spain offered at £11 10s. od. For £8 5s. od. I could have, if so "disposed," a "4c. Zurich Her lines"; to add a 4c. Geneva, Type 94 (the very one lacking) to my album would cost £15 5s. od.! while the scarce 60 Crayis of Tuscany was also procurable.

I don't think it fair to offer such really rare varieties to collectors in India, they ought to be satisfied with the surcharged Natalis of 1805, which another dealer is offering in the same number of the *P. J. of India*. The European rarities offered will be sent on approval, I read:—

Any of the above gladly sent on approval, reference fine stock of medium European in fine condition.

If they are only for reference purposes I suppose it's all right. I should like to have a glance at the 4c. "Zurich Her lines."

The January *Monthly Journal* is being extensively advertised in the philatelic press. Among other contents I see the following feature—"Meetings of all Philatelic Societies are fully described each month."

Surely an exaggerated statement, if not, who will censor the weekly report of the Stow-in-the-Wold Philatelic Society? The night they feast themselves on H.'s collection of West Indian postmarks (on stamps) should cost C.J.P. something for printing expenses.

There were a lot of little notes and beams in the Xmas *P. J. G. B.*, the funniest however was in the I.P.U. Report, where I see that Mr. Beaujeux's collection of Swiss contained all the "rare Cantonal issues and the Festival issues down to 1882."

For the Xmas number, "Festival," was rather appropriate. Eh, what? It only shows what chaps those printer's devils are for having their little jokes.

THE South Essex Philatelic Society is holding an Exhibition of Postage Stamps at Walthamstow next month, from the 4th to the 11th. Full particulars will be found on page 24.

THE next number of the *P. J. G. B.* will contain a further instalment of Mr. Pemberton's article dealing with the stamps of Greece, a short paper dealing with some uncatalogued varieties of Leeward Island stamps, together with other original interesting matter.



JANUARY 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The December number of the *London Philatelist* is principally devoted to the Earl of Crawford's paper—read before the Royal Society on October 20th—entitled "Benjamin Cheverton." This article provides most interesting reading as it deals with Benjamin Cheverton's proposals to Rowland Hill relating to the manufacture, prevention of forgery, etc., of the 1840 stamps.

The Earl of Crawford says Cheverton's letter

may be divided into two main heads—*Administration and Technical Details*.

The first of these is the development of a system by which the State Revenue should be efficiently guarded against forgery or dishonest dealing with stamps from the moment of *production* throughout the period that they *remain* in the hands of the officials of the Post Office—that is, until their purchase by the public to be used—and thus indicating a sound and economical system of distribution throughout the kingdom, each link of the chain with its check and counter-check.

The possibility of forgery is discussed and precautions indicated, and incidentally design, size, paper, watermark, are treated upon.

The Technical side describes the form which he advocated and the use of his invention for the identical reproduction of design. He proposes that the stamps should be printed, or, I should say, embossed, on a special machine on paper in the form of tape, and the embossing to be effected by passing the tape between two rolling cylinders, the one engraved in relief, the other sunken in counterpart.

Estimates of initial cost and production are given, details of gum, etc.

My impression is that the £100 prize was given for the scheme of Administration and Distribution, rather than for the Technical suggestions put forward. I was in great hopes that some of the actual labels sent in as "Essays" would be found among the papers, but it was not so; on the other hand, Miss Cooper found a little soft metal die which was used, and I have been permitted to take casts from it—one for our Patron, one for the Society, one for Miss Cooper, one for the British Museum, and one for myself.

From the letter itself we make a short extract:—

MANUFACTURE OF PAPER.

We commence, therefore, with the making of the paper. I propose that it shall be made in long narrow

slips of the exact width of the stamp—say three-quarters of an inch. Each length may be a mile long, which will form a coil of convenient size, to be wound on spindles to serve as axes of rotation for after purposes. Now these slips of paper will have the rough edges as naturally formed in the manufacture, and which it is impossible to counterfeit. To possess them, the paper must be made on purpose, and it must be made by means of a *paper-making machine*, and this machine must be adapted to the express purpose. In addition to which a strong and peculiar zigzag watermark may be introduced along the middle of the paper. Both of these would form very distinguishable marks for recognition of the Post Office, and every single step would possess them. If thought necessary, Mr. Dickinson's paper may be used for the purpose, in which lines of thread or silk are stretched through it, but it must be manufactured in the mode proposed, for it is by this simple expedient of every pound's worth of stamps being in a roll containing a length of about sixteen feet that hand-made paper manufactured by the forger for the purpose of introducing any peculiarity in the paper itself would offer no resource to him.

Indeed, the peculiarities which I have suggested could scarcely be introduced at all into hand-made paper—there would be no facility in the production of such narrow slips in necessarily short lengths, whilst in a paper-making machine many of these slips would be proceeding from the vat at the same time. Thus the peculiarity in the texture of the paper would be a check upon the petty forger for the case of single stamps, whilst the peculiarity of form would check an enterprising fraud which had in contemplation a more wholesale disposal of them.

The extent of establishment and machinery for machine-made paper to which the forger must be driven is too well known to require further notice, neither is it necessary to insist on the consequent risks and ultimately inevitable detection. That protective measures should extend to the manufacture of the paper will readily be allowed, but if any description of printing be allowed, the peculiarity in the texture of the paper will be obscured by it, and its recognition at the Post Office be prevented, for there is not the means, as in bank-notes, to examine it before a light.

An editorial dealing with Australian Commonwealth stamps, a brief obituary notice of Judge Philbrick, the usual New Issue list, Correspondence, etc., completes our review.

The December number of the *Philatelic Record* is not of particular interest. Mr. L. W. Fulcher concludes his article dealing with the stamps and entires of Great Britain issued during the reign of

King Edward. He lists carefully the varieties of envelopes, post cards, letter cards, and newspaper wrappers together with the "Unappropriated Dies." Mr. Fulcher has evidently devoted a good deal of time to this very neglected branch of our hobby, a study, which, we are afraid, will only be appreciated by a very select few of his readers.

The instalment of the Sveriges Filatelisters-Förenings' "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905" is monotonous, and to the general collector or specialist, quite, in our opinion, without interest. It principally deals with the commission paid by the authorities to the vendors of stamps, also with the compulsory payment of postage by means of stamps.

Four pages of our contemporary are devoted to the Postmaster-General's Report for 1909-10!

Some "Reviews," "Notes," "New Issues," "Auction Reports," etc., together with the reports of various societies complete our review. From the report of the November 18th meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society, when Mr. Nathan Heywood read a paper on the stamps of Thurn and Taxis, we extract the following:—

The postal circuit of Thurn and Taxis was divided into two districts, according to currency, two sets of stamps being necessary. Those States using thaler and silbergroschen, formed the Northern District, and those having florins and kreuzer, the Southern District. The general administration was in Frankfort, and stamps for both districts were issued simultaneously on 1 July, 1852. In 1866 sixteen smaller states and free Towns still employed the Thurn and Taxis post, but this came to an end 1 July, 1867, when its postal monopoly was ceded to Prussia in return for a payment of £450,000. The whole of the old stock of Thurn and Taxis stamps remaining on hand was subsequently sold, hence the reason why the later issues of the district can be had for a few pence.

The design of the stamps for the Northern District consisted of large figures of value within square frames, at first (1852) printed in black on coloured papers and imperforate, six values, and in 1859 five values in coloured impressions, still imperforate, and from 1865 rouletted. The most frequent cancellation is a figure surrounded by four concentric circles, and occasionally cancellations in red are met with. Several values are also found to have been printed on the gummed side of the paper, or possibly gummed over the printed side of the paper in error.

The stamps of the Southern District were of four values, the design a large central numeral of value on an engine-turned ground, within a circular band, and the numeral repeated in each corner. The stamps were printed by Herr C. Naumann, at Frankfort, and issued in exactly the same manner as those of the Northern District, black impressions on coloured paper first, then coloured impressions, both imperforate, and later issued rouletted.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly for December 17th, contains a further long instalment of

Mr. F. J. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making," a continuation of Dr. Marcó Del Pont's article dealing with the "Rivadavia Stamps of the Argentine Republic," another chapter of Mr. Poole's paper dealing with the stamps of Holland in the Countries of the World Series, and a dose of Mr. Armstrong's "Twentieth Century Colonials," concerning the stamps of British Somaliland. Mr. Phillips contributes a few "Notes," while we find the usual up-to-date list of New Issues.

Writing about the fourth printing of the Rivadavia stamps Dr. Marcó Del Pont says:

The fourth printing was commenced on the 4th of Oct., 1865,* and like the previous one it consisted of
600,000 stamps of 5 centavos,
50,000 " 10 "
33,400 " 15 "
representing 40,010 silver pesos; the printing was finished on the 13th of Jan., 1866.

This printing, so far as the 5c. stamps are concerned, is easy to distinguish, because they employed the new ink, of a gooseberry rose colour, which had arrived in September of that year.

This printing is the one that was most carelessly made, and that was done from the most worn plates; so that for both these reasons it is the worst of them all.

As a rule the plates were badly cleaned, and other times they were badly inked, so much so that stamps may frequently be found the lower portion of which is a thick and irregular blotch of colour. Others are found not uncommonly which have shifted in the printing, and present, in consequence, a double impression, total or partial. There exist copies so badly printed that the inscriptions have disappeared and the portrait of Rivadavia is a mere smudge.

The ink was very badly prepared; it is nearly always of an opaque colour, dirty, washed-out looking, which gives to the stamps an ugly appearance: very few copies are well printed and of good colour.

There exist some, uncommon, specimens, which have an extremely curious appearance; at first sight the idea immediately occurs to one that they were produced from a retouched plate, because although some parts appear to be worn, others—the shading of the face, for example—are much more distinct; nevertheless, none of these plates were retouched, so that the appearance of these curious stamps is a simple phenomenon caused by the extremely bad printing, done with badly mixed ink and worn plates.

With these can be formed an interesting group, taking as the characteristic feature the negro or mulatto appearance presented by Rivadavia, who, in some instances, has an almost white head of hair. The gooseberry colour varies considerably; in certain specimens, printed from a dirty plate with a very opaque ink, the whole head is barely distinguishable from the background.

Setting aside this group, the variations of colour of the stamps of this printing are very numerous; from a very pale, dirty gooseberry tint to a deep rose almost carmine, which might be confused with that of the following printing.

In some copies taken from worn plates, the letters of the inscriptions, instead of being solid, as they should be, are formed of double lines; the word "CINCO" is often to be seen in this condition.

From this printing come the stamps impressed on

*On the 2nd Oct., the day on which Señor Posadas applied for authority and sufficient paper to carry out this printing there only existed in store stamps to the value of \$3,010.

very thin paper; in our collection we have two on really tissue paper, one of a bright gooseberry colour, and the other of a very dark gooseberry. As a rule, the paper is of medium thickness, but, as in all the printings, there are stamps on very thick paper.

In the collection of Señor Tardaguila, of Montevideo, there is a stamp of this printing, of a deep gooseberry colour, on laid paper; this is the only specimen that we have seen.

The copy of our Strand contemporary dated December 24th, is a grand double number—containing the extra pages that should rightly have appeared on Dec. 31st. Mr. Melville contributes many pages of his serial, Dr. Marco Del Pont does likewise with his capital Rivadavia article, so likewise does Mr. Poole with his Holland contribution. Mr. Armstrong is responsible for four more pages of his paper dealing with British Somaliland stamps. All four articles are to be continued in the *Monthly Journal*.

Other contributions consist of the concluding instalment of M. Hanciau's "The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies." He writes interestingly about the stamps, etc., used in Benadir.

M. Hanciau was contributing instalments of this monumental article to the old *M.J.*, at least four years ago. We do not know how the new *M.J.* will get along without a chapter or two.

Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes another of his excellent short papers. He writes about the 1891-7 and 1899-1900 stamps of Brazil; his article will appeal to all specialists, while even the more humble? general collector will find something of interest. Mr. W. T. Elliot writes (three pages of it) about the 1/- and 2/6 stamps of Papua.

Some contributions of lesser importance, reviews, new issues, etc., completes, with the exception of a very readable article entitled, "The British Empire in the Pacific," our review of the last number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

We shall sincerely miss our regular white-backed weekly visitor, our grief only being assuaged by the knowledge that the dear old *Monthly Journal* is to make its appearance again at the end of each month.

The weekly paper has contained many first class contributions and we shall treasure our bound copies amongst our most valuable works of philatelic reference.

As this is our last opportunity we are making lengthy extracts from Dr. Marcó

Del Pont's article. We extract the following:—

In another letter addressed on the 16th of April of the same year (1867) to the Postmaster of Goya, Señor Posadas says that "difficulties, which the Department has had to contend with during the last printing of postage stamps, have delayed until to-day the despatch of the supply of 5c. which you asked for."

The difficulty could have been no other than the inability to use the perforating machine.

This delay obliged that Postmaster to permit the bisection of the 10c. stamps, to take the place of those of 5c. In the office at Parana in that same month of April the stamps of this value also gave out; and its Postmaster ordered that letters should be despatched with the old mark "FRANCA."

Señor Posadas repeatedly prohibited the use of these marks, in order to avoid the abuses to which they lent themselves, and insisted that requisitions for stamps should be sent in good time. As, in spite of this, several offices continued to use this mark from time to time, he forwarded to all of them, on the 4th of December, 1867, the following:—

" CIRCULAR.

"As postage stamps have been adopted for the prepayment of postage on correspondence, and as all post offices have been supplied with cancelling stamps for use with the ink with which the postage stamps should be obliterated, we have to add that this Department is obliged to withdraw from all the offices the old mark 'FRANCA,' already out of use, in order to be able to continue the publication of the Register which figures in the fourth Annual of the Post Office published in 1862, and I have to request that you will forward to me, at your earliest convenience, the said 'FRANCA' mark, for the above-mentioned purpose, and because it is now in all respects unnecessary. God keep you."

In compliance with this order, this mark was returned by the offices of Catamarca, Concordia, Cordoba, Corrientes, Gualeguaychu, Jujuy, Nogoya, Parana, Paso de los Libres, Rioja, San Juan, San Luis, Santiago del Estero, Tucumán, Uruguay, and Victoria. Mendoza and Santa Fé did not send anything, and the Postmaster of Salta stated that when he took charge of the office this stamp no longer existed.

Señor Posadas delayed the despatch of the stamps, hoping, it seems, that he might be able to send them perforated; however, they were sent unperforated to Paso de los Libres, and they were also used thus in the Central Post Office; they were likewise employed in Rosario de Santa Fé; and we have a copy on a letter the postmark on which appears to be that of the travelling Post Office of the Southern Railway: but most of the known copies proceed from the above two offices.

From Mr. C. J. Phillips' paper on Brazilian stamps, we extract the following relating to a clever forgery of the 300 reis.

In our Catalogue, under No. 281, we list a 300 reis, black and emerald-green, perf. 11-11½, on thick paper. This has hitherto been considered a very rare stamp, and in sorting 3,300 stamps of 300 reis we were glad to find three copies of the variety in question.

On further examination, however, these turned out to be clever forgeries, which must have passed the post and defrauded the Brazil Government.

I annex enlargements, eight times the size of the originals, from an examination of which many points of difference will be noted.

Captain Napier, who drew my attention to this forgery, says he has also found a reference to a 500 reis of this date as having been forged and used postally, but so far we have not seen a specimen.

<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Forgery.</i>
Paper, thick, white, and soft.	Paper, thick, buff, and hard.
"s" in "REIS" wide.	"s" in "REIS" narrow and thinner.
Letters of "UNIDOS" and "BRAZIL" do not fill up the coloured band.	Letters of "UNIDOS" and "BRAZIL" too high, filling up the coloured band.
Ornament before "CORREIO" is about 1mm. from the letter "C."	Ornament almost touches the "C."

The January number of the *Stamp Lover* is principally devoted to a very lengthy, and very capable instalment of Mr. Harold Row's article, "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Siam." This article will appeal to all collectors of Siamese stamps, it is written by an authority and is well illustrated. The current chapters deal with the surcharged ("Large Roman" type) stamps of 1894.

Mr. Melville contributes a short article entitled "The British Railway Administration Stamps of China." A short paper dealing with the N.P.B. postmarks to be found on English stamps, and some other matter completes a good number of our contemporary.

The January number of the *Herts Monthly Report* contains Mr. H. L. Hayman's notes relating to his superb collection of Belgian Congo and Congo Free State stamps, exhibited before the Herts Society on Dec. 20th, 1910, together with Mr. Percy Ashley's paper, entitled "Notes on the Congo Free State."

Mr. A. J. Warren contributes a short article entitled "Plates of the First Issue of Holland." Mr. S. Chapman, writing about Mexican stamps, describes the Provisional Stamp of Chalco. "Reviews," "Correspondence," etc., complete our brief review of a very excellent number of our esteemed contemporary.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for Dec. 24th contains an illustrated interview with Mr. F. J. Melville (the President of the J.P.S.), the first instalment of Mr. George Milne's paper entitled "Line-Engraved, Lithographed, and Surface-Printed Stamps," wherein he proceeds to tell his readers of the mysteries of stamp printing—a somewhat hackneyed topic at the present moment. The usual regular features, list of new issues, stamp market, etc., mostly of a rather scrappy nature, complete the contents. The January 7th *S.C.F.* contains the conclusion of Mr. Milne's article, an illustrated interview with Mr. E. T. Phillips, of Northampton,

and the usual new issue columns and other regular features.

From Mr. Milne's paper we extract the following:—

The third and last method of printing, which concerns us at present, is the process known under the name of lithography or flat surface printing; the success of it being due to the chemical affinity of calcium carbonate for greasy ink and water. Calcium carbonate is known as Solenhofn limestone, and most commonly as litho-stone.

The lithographic stone is a homogeneous limestone, which is quarried at Kelheim or Solenhofn, in Bavaria. It has been found in other parts of the world, but nowhere of such uniform quality, nor from any other stone can such certain results be obtained. Excellence of materials is as much desired in lithography as in any other form of art. The stone is cut into plates of varying thickness; it ranges in colour from an ivory tint to a more positive yellow; very beautiful to draw upon, and the surface is susceptible of a high polish. The simplest fashion of working upon stone is to draw as upon paper, using a greasy, fatty ink, called transfer ink. In drawing upon the stone one should be careful not to touch it with the hands, as any dampness or grease from the fingers will act on the stone's surface as the transfer ink.

The sole advantage of writing upon transfer paper is portability: a stone of any size weighs many pounds, a sheet of transfer paper weighs just as much as any other sheet of paper.

The design or drawing may be formed on the stone's surface in a great variety of ways, and the work, when ready to be printed, will be seen to be in bas-relief.

The paper used to transfer a design to the stone surface is called transfer paper. This paper is prepared by coating ordinary white paper with a composition of gelatine and flour paste, gamboge being added for colouring matter. This composition may be dissolved in warm water. When a drawing is finished by the litho artist the transfer prepared by him is placed face downwards on stone (the surface of the stone being wet, or the paper may be damped), and the stone, with the paper laid on it, is then passed through a lithographic press several times with heavy pressure. The coating on the paper is dissolved by chemical affinity; the greasy drawing in ink, which has really never been attached to the paper, but only to the composition with which it is coated, adheres to the stone, the damping and the pressure fix it, and the only difference is that ink lines, instead of being looked at from one side, are in reverse. There is no change whatever in the quality of the drawing or the lines themselves, it is merely that when the paper is wetted the chemical affinity of the grease in the ink is greater for the stone than it is for the paper. The ink does not penetrate the composition on the paper's surface and it not only adheres to the stone but penetrates it. It is the grease and the fat alone in the ink that produce the print, and if you can extract them from the drawing and can deposit them on the surface of the stone you will have a drawing equal to the original drawing on paper.

The *British Philatelist* for December is principally devoted to a lengthy instalment of a revised edition of "British Stamps Used Abroad," contributed by Messrs. Bernstein & Nissen. This article ran through *G.S.W.* for many months and is now to be thoroughly revised and brought up-to-date.

As these stamps—or rather postmarks—have much interest, we make an extract.

A field that has hitherto been comparatively neglected is the extra-territorial use of certain stamps which form the pre-(philatelic) historical provisional issues of certain countries. We mean by this the use of certain stamps, notably British, in various foreign countries and British Colonies before such places had stamps of their own, or before such territories had concluded treaties that gave their stamps, franking powers outside their own borders. These stamps are interesting, therefore, to the specialists of the various countries where these offices happened to have been established, as being provisional issues of that country. They also appeal to specialists of Great Britain as being a distinct branch of Post Office business.

These stamps can be distinguished from ordinary British only by the postmark, and have been called variously "Colonial English," "British stamps with foreign postmark," or "Used abroad." This last term is by far the most correct, as British stamps have been used in places which are not by any means British Colonies. "Foreign postmarks" is scarcely correct—more particularly as the postmarks themselves were allotted to the various offices by the British Post Office.

British offices abroad were opened at various dates between the years 1857 and 1878. The use of surcharges was not fashionable in those days, or this catalogue would not have been needed; the various varieties—and who knows how many minor varieties?—would have had a place in the standard Catalogue. In that case everybody would have wanted them, and a large number would now rank as great rarities. When the majority of these offices were closed in 1886, the only ones retained (those of the Levant) adopted a surcharge in local currency to prevent the stamps being used at home, although at the time un-surcharged British stamps remained available and on sale there.

The British post offices in the Levant have overprinted all the values now used there, either in local currency or with the word "Levant." The other countries having joined the Postal Union, the British offices have been closed; so it may now be asserted that the use of British stamps abroad has ceased, except in Army post offices.

The December number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a further long instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's "Postage Stamps of Bermuda," together with two short articles contributed by the same versatile writer. The first of these deals with Registration Stamps, the second with the famous Cape of Good Hope Woodblock errors of colour.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for November contains a capital short article dealing with the 1889 issue of Costa Rica. Mr. Wetherell points out that for each of the ten values there was a separate die made. The same writer contributes the first short instalment of an article entitled "Preliminary Note on the 1891 Issue of the Newspaper Stamps of Brazil." As these stamps are really interesting, and as

Mr. Wetherell's "Note" is rather short we extract it in full.

The stamps of this issue have received very little attention from Collectors. They are, however, of no little interest on account of the unusual method of their production. When numbers of these stamps are examined the first thing noticeable is that some of the 10 reis value (those on tinted paper), together with the light green and emerald green shades of the 20 reis value, show the white portions standing out in relief, while the blue stamps on white paper, the bright green 20 reis, and all the 50 reis appear as flat prints. It would appear that the former are printed from blocks and the latter are from lithographic transfers.

The 20 reis value stand alone, while the 10 and 50 reis values show many flaws which are constant for both values. All lightly printed copies of the 10 and 50 reis stamps show the following constant flaws:—

- (a) Two small white lines running diagonally through the bottom of the "o" of the "50" in the lower left corner.
- (b) A white line running parallel to the axes of the second "O" of Correo, touching it near the top.
- (c) A white diagonal line in the Southern Cross parallel to the axes of the "B" of Brazil.
- (d) A small notch in the right outer frame line about two-thirds of the way down.

None of these defects are present on the 20 reis stamps.

If we examine the figures of value, we find that the "o" is the same as on the 20 reis, but the "5" of the "50" obviously have been inserted, and a feeble attempt has been made to shade the background thereof similar to that behind the "o"—with indifferent success. An oval plug seems to have been used in the first instance for this inserted value. It is noteworthy that the "5" on the left side is very much smaller than that on the right, and of quite a different shape. A little touching up was done to the background behind the "o," the dotted lines of shading (of the 20 reis) having been changed to straight lines. There is one flaw which is present on the 50 reis and not on the 10—this is a thin white line before the "B" of "Brazil."

In the case of the 10 reis the "1" also has been inserted, and the background shaded, far more successfully than in the case of the 50 reis.

From the above points I should judge that the 20 reis emerald green and pale green were the first to appear. A second plate was made for the 10 reis by substituting a "1" for "2," and in doing this certain defects appeared. The 10 reis on tinted paper is therefore the next to appear. Lithographic transfers were subsequently made for both the 20 reis and the 10 reis, and from the 10 reis value a new stone was prepared for printing stamps of the value of 50 reis.

The order appears to be:—

	20 reis, emerald.
	20 ,, pale green.
	10 ,, on tinted paper.
	10 ,, pale blue, ultramarine, cobalt,
	dull blue.
Lithographed	{ 20 ,, green, bright green.
	50 ,, bright yellow-green.

Several pages of reprinted matter, New Issue List, Reviews, etc., together with several pages of "Tancred's" delightful "Topical Notes," completes our review.

We extract the following:—

"COLLECTORS who are interested in postmarks and like their stamps in absolutely A1 condition on large pieces of the original should write at once, as Mr. A. K. Dingwall regrets to see many of the best stamps still leaving every week for the Continent."

The above appears in an advertisement in the

P.F.G.B. I am sorry about those dissolute stamps going out on the loose.

A naught young stamp
Of Ionian Isles,
Stuck tight on original cover,
Has succumbed I am told
To some motorish wiles
And eloped to Berlin with her "shover."
And a lovely Lubeck
"On a very large piece"
Gallivants every Sunday in Calais,
While a Paris—print Greek
(Which was not made in Greece)
Has joined a Parisian ballet.

The *Australian Philatelist* for Nov. 12th is certainly not up to its usual standard. The only original contribution, with the exception of New Issues and Societies Reports, seems to be a short article entitled "The New Order of Things," wherein we are told that there is no likelihood of the stamps of the various States being overprinted "Australia." As Australian stamps are very much to the fore at the present time, we make a short extract:—

Up to the present we have not heard what progress is being made towards the new issue of postage stamps. We have looked in vain for the advertisement calling for designs, as the Department proposed to do. Seeing that it has already sprung two surprises on the public, it is quite on the cards that it may take the matter of designing the new issue entirely in its own hands, and adopt designs planned by one of the officers of the Department. These might offend the artistic section of the public, but we have a Government in power which has already shown that whilst professing to study the interests of the public, it acknowledges no will but its own. Whether the process of printing the stamps will be as before will likely depend on whether the new steel-plate printing machines to be used for the printing of the Federal banknotes can be made available also for the printing of stamps.

The pooling of the Commonwealth stamps suggests a problem to collectors which is not easily solved. Under what heading do the stamps issued after October 13th come under? To all intents and purposes they are a Federal issue, but without a distinctive design. Some advanced collectors may desire to possess stamps belonging to one State, yet which have done duty in another State, and no collector who wishes to see his collection of Australians as complete as possible, should be without them. This, however, entails the collection of entires, objected to by the majority. The question is one that may well engage the serious attention of the philatelic club.

From other pages of our contemporary we learn that the Sydney Philatelic Society, with the co-operation of other Australian Societies, suggests the holding of another big philatelic exhibition in Sydney. We also learn that every member of the Commonwealth Parliament will be presented with a full set of Australian stamps, to commemorate the abolition of the postal State boundaries.

Number 2 of the *South African Philatelist*

is a capital publication, the lighter side of philately is much to the fore—a fact we welcome after having to peruse innumerable so-called scientific articles in the English press. The paper entitled "The Complete Philatelist, or the Making of a Mogul," which was commenced last month, is completed. We also find a capital "essay," contributed by "Alister Macalister." Reports from the Johannesburg United, and from the Rhodesia Societies, make good reading. We extract the following item from the Nov. 15th report of the latter society:—

In Mr. Woollacott's collection of Bechuanaland was shown a variety of the 1d. English, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" (Gibbons' 34), with a full stop in the centre of the letter "C" in Bechuanaland, making the letter look like an "E." The 2d. unappropriated die overprinted in red (Gibbons' 26) with a comma instead of a full stop was another interesting stamp in this collection.

The new Rhodesians were displayed, and were unanimously condemned as being anything but a credit to the printers.

A very interesting variety was discovered, consisting of a mark on the ear of the Queen's head, caused apparently by the accidental dropping of a tool on the plate. This variety appears on the second stamp on the first horizontal row of each pane, and so far has not been noted on the ½d., 1d. or 2½d. stamps.

Some verses from *Punch*, Feb. 14th, 1842, are reproduced. They are new to us (maybe we forget having read them at the time of publication!) possibly some of our readers—like those of the *S.A.P.* will like to refresh their memories.

From "*Punch*," February 14th, 1842.

When was a folly so pestilent hit upon,
As folks running mad to collect every spit-upon
Post Office stamp that's been soil'd and been writ upon?
Oh for Swift! such a subject his spleen to emit upon!
'Tis said that some fool in mustachios had split upon
The rock of a bet,
To avoid loss and debt,
And, therefore, must get
Half the town as collectors, to waste time and wit upon,
Bothering and forcing their friends to submit upon
Pain of displeasure
To fill a peck measure
With the coveted treasure
Of as many old stamps as perforce can be lit upon,
To paper a room, or stuff cushions to sit upon.
Oh, dearest *Punch*, let fly a sharp skit upon
This new pursuit, and an ass's head fit upon
The crest of the order of Knights of the Spit-upon.

We have received the first number of a new Australian stamp paper, namely the *Australian Stamp Journal*, published by J. H. Smyth, Ltd., 50, Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Mr. Smyth was for some years with the well known firm of Fred Hagen, Ltd., also editing their journal, the *Australian Philatelist*.

The new comer is in appearance

and general get up, with the exception of the cover, a very palpable imitation of Mr. Hagen's well known publication. The contents are of interest, and, if kept up to the present standard, our latest contemporary will be a welcome addition to our exchange table.

Mr. Smyth contributes three pages of very interesting matter entitled "Random Notes on Victorian Stamps." We extract a few paragraphs.

A close scrutiny of the portraits of Queen Victoria on the various stamps discloses some highly amusing disparities, the most grotesque being the "washer-woman" type and the *gd.*, which was first issued in 1873, and is still on sale. While the stamps with the "emblems in corners" are very pretty, the design being exceedingly artistic, I think that the prettiest and most majestic stamp of the lot is the 5/- value, which has now been in existence for 40 years without intermission. This stamp, printed in blue ink on yellow paper, is fully as scarce as its price in the Catalogue would indicate. In this connection I would like to say that the 6d. orange, beaded oval, No. 84 in the Catalogue, is, in my opinion, much scarcer in fine condition than is supposed.

Owing to the flimsy texture of the paper this particular stamp is very seldom seen in perfect condition. All the stamps of the "beaded oval" type, 1860-63 issues, are, as a rule, found in poor condition, owing to the same reason, namely, the flimsy texture of the paper.

The stamps known as the "laureated" type, from the fact that the Queen's portrait bears a laurel wreath instead of a crown, are very effective, and are much appreciated by collectors. Here, again, we find instances of the promiscuous handling of the numeral watermarked-papers, owing probably to a desire to use up the remaining stock before the introduction of the V and Crown paper. The same remarks apply to the 3d. and 6d. values, which were issued between 1865-70. In this case, however, if one must accept the Catalogue as correct, the 6d. stamps printed on papers bearing various watermarks were issued in 1871, but I am inclined to the opinion that these stamps, from 135 to 144 in the Catalogue, should be listed after 132, and were really printed at an earlier date than that given.

That two dies or electros of the 5/- stamps were prepared is possible, from the fact, that while one has a blue line under the crown, the other has not. It will be noticed that the current stamp has not got the red line under the blue crown, consequently it must be considered as type two. I am not prepared to account for this, but as these stamps, being in two colours, must be printed at two operations (the crown and the letters being in one colour), it may have been considered desirable to remove the little line under the crown, which may have prevented correct registration; a comparison of the two types will explain my meaning.

The most important item of news which our new contemporary contains is the announcement that Australian stamps are not to be overprinted "Australia." This welcome information is conveyed as follows:—

The Postmaster-General announced in August last that at the 1st of January next year all Australian stamps would be overprinted with the word "Australia." The members of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and Victorian Philatelic Society, believing that at this late

stage it was hardly worth while going to the trouble and expense of having the stamps overprinted, they instructed their Secretaries to write to the Postmaster-General and ask him to re-consider his decision, which he did, and announced on the 13th ult., that from that date stamps used in the various States would be valid for all postal purposes within the Commonwealth. Any stamp used by any State may be used in any other State.

Mr. Williams, Hon. Secretary of the Sydney Philatelic Club, has shown us an official letter from the Secretary of the Postmaster-General, dated the 18th October, to the effect that it is not now intended to overprint the current stamps with the word "Australia."

A good New Issue List, Editorial Notes, etc., complete our review. We wish our new confrère all good luck—may its pages never be fewer.

One of the brightest and best of the smaller American publications is the *Southern Philatelist*, published at Shreveport, La., U.S.A. The December number contains the first instalment of a capable yarn entitled "Autobiography of an Ecuador Stamp," together with a good deal of other readable matter.

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for Dec. 24th contains a long article contributed by Major F. L. Palmer, dealing with the 5c. and 10c. stamps of the 1859 issue of the Philippines. He says:—

My studies have resulted in a belief that there were at least three different printings of the 5c., and may have been a fourth; that there were at least two printings of the 10c., but probably no more; and that all of these printings were from four lithographic stones (on which the values were changed for printing the 10c.) which were arranged as shown on the following page (the various stones being numbered 1-2-3-4 and the three groups representing the three different printings).

Diagrams showing the various settings are illustrated. Collectors of these stamps will find Major Palmer's article of great interest.

In the *Philatelic Gazette* for December Major Palmer contributes the first lengthy instalment of what promises to be a very excellent article dealing with the postal issues of the Philippines.

We extract the following, relating principally to stamps on original covers.

The ideal way to collect used stamps is, of course, on the original cover. But original covers bearing the stamps of Spanish issues of the Philippines are exceedingly rare, and are greatly to be cherished when found. Some have been preserved by collectors, but "finds" are very rare. Neither the climate nor the style of buildings fosters preservation of unnecessary documents, as covers would be regarded by the non-philatelist. And where such covers have been preserved they are usually found to have suffered greatly from the "Anay," an ever prevalent ant which feeds, by choice, on any paper which bears gum. For example, it has been the writer's good fortune to see three full sheets, postally used, of the one real stamp

of 1854, but each of them had one or more stamps ant-eaten, to the marring of their beauty as well as value.

From all of which would appear that, except when hampered as, alas! most of us are, by financial reasons, "mint" specimens should be our goal. But here, too, we are faced by the fact that most of the unused specimens have no gum remaining. And, by the way, many have doubtless been puzzled by the number of cancelled specimens which seem to have full gum. While many of these doubtless belong to the "cancelled-to-order" class, it remains the fact that the gum used on the Spanish issues was a rice gum which is not readily soluble in water. Hence one may himself soak off a stamp from its cover, and find that, after drying, it still seems to show the full original gum.

Practically all of the stamps issued since 1887 are fairly plentiful in "mint" condition, this is largely due to the sale at auction by the U.S. authorities, of the remainders found on hand when the government offices were occupied in 1898. All of the later Spanish issues (including the Aguinaldo or Revolutionary issues) are very much scarcer in used than in "mint" condition. This is also true of certain values of the U.S. surcharged issues.

Another interesting, but short, contribution deals with the Postage Due stamps of the Danish West Indies.

We also find further instalments of Mr. J. Murray Bartel's article entitled "The 1902 Series of the U.S.," and Mr. Edward H. Mason's "Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes."

Mr. Victor Berthold writes about U.S. envelopes, copiously illustrating his letter-press, while we also find several short articles dealing with the stamps of the United States and Possessions.

We extract the following relating to U.S. stamps printed on both sides.

U.S. stamps printed on both sides of the paper are a thing practically unknown. The Standard Catalogue does not note a single instance in which this occurs, while Gibbons lists the 24c. slate of 1861. Of the latter, two copies were found in New York about five years ago, both of them on covers from the same source. One of them has since then passed into the collection of a famous U.S. specialist in London, while the other has remained in New York.

Quite recently the 2c. black of the same issue was discovered in a collection found in Europe. The double impression is somewhat fainter on the back than the regular printing on the face of the stamp, but it is still quite plain, every letter of the inscription being legible (and, of course, not reading backwards, as it would be merely an offset in that case). The specimen is used and in very fine condition.

The specimen at hand is cancelled "San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 23, 1864." It is a well centred copy from the upper right hand corner of the left pane of the sheet of 200.

A New York philatelist claims that he has seen the 12c. of the same issue, also printed on both sides, but it is not known whatever became of the stamp.

The 24c. is valued by its present owner at four hundred dollars.

The *Philatelic Gazette* for December contains, we should think, more original matter than all the rest of the American monthlies and weeklies put together.

Philately on the Continent.

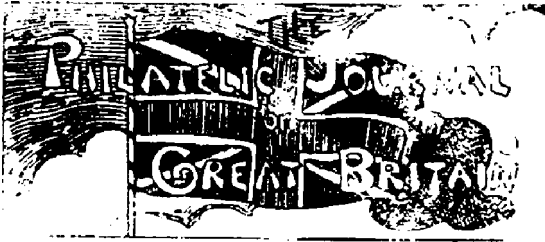
L'Echo de la Timbrologie for December 15th contains a further reference to the *tête-bêche* 20c. of France, in a short article by Dr. M. Fage. A reference to our review last month will remind our readers that a 20c. black of 1849 had been found in a *tête bêche* pair, which was obviously from the margin of a sheet, whereas in an entire sheet which is in existence the only inverted stamp is shown to be the *third* stamp in the tenth horizontal row. M. Fage has since heard from other collectors who also describe marginal *tête-bêche* pairs of the same stamp which they possess. Happily, M. J. Bernichon, the well-known expert, has been able to throw some light on the subject, as the following will show:—

"Having recently had the honour of being received by M. Bernichon, and having submitted the question to him, I have received from this expert, whose authority is incontestible, the statement that the stamps of 1849 were printed in two sheets of 150 each, one to the left and the other to the right; that the *tête-bêche* No. 93 existed on the left-hand sheet and that there were other *tête-bêche* varieties on the right-hand sheet, whose positions he could not remember." As he goes on to say that the sheets are in the possession of M. le Comte Durrieu, we cannot understand, firstly, why the positions have not hitherto been recorded and, secondly, why the storm cannot be removed immediately from the metaphoric teapot by referring to that sheet.

The principal article in the number of *L'Echo* which is under review, is a further chapter on "Some Little-known French Postmarks," an article which has been appearing spasmodically for some time. This is, no doubt, of great interest to collectors who take note of such things. We find that in the present chapter the first portion of the work, namely, that dealing with postmarks of France proper, is wound up with descriptions of some contemporary marks, and the beginning of the second part, namely, that dealing with French Colonial marks, is published. This treats of pre-philatelic times; several marks of the eighteenth century are described.

We learn, from the same number, that "one of the finest collections in France" is shortly to be dispersed. It is that of M. Boulett, a wealthy banker of Corbie, who besides being a philatelist had the finest collection of moths and butterflies in France. This he gave, five or six years ago, to the Natural History Museum of Paris, for which he was decorated with the Legion of Honour. Though he had parted with this entomological collection he has never ceased to take an interest in it and to add to it whenever possible. Now philatelists will learn to their chagrin that the proceeds of the sale of his magnificent stamp collection are to be used for the purpose of

enriching still further the collections of moths and butterflies in the Museum. M. Boulet had a penchant for the most difficult countries, such as Afghanistan, Kashmir, etc., but he was also a general collector and he only took unused stamps in the most perfect condition. Truly his secession will be a loss to Philately.



The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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Essex Stamp Exhibition.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING SENDS
EXHIBITS.

SIR JOHN SIMON TO PERFORM OPENING
CEREMONY.

Competitions Open to All.

ARRANGEMENTS for the opening of the Essex Stamp Exhibition, to be held under the auspices of the South Essex Philatelic Society, at the Walthamstow Public Library, from February 4th to 11th next, are nearing completion. Sir John Simon, K.C., M.P., the Patron of the Society will perform the opening ceremony, supported by the Hon. Patron, Mr. L. Stanley Johnson. The time for opening has been fixed for 3 p.m. Special invitation tickets can be had from the Hon. Sec. upon application.

His Majesty the King has kindly consented to assist the Committee to complete, as far as possible, their main exhibit, "The History and Evolutions of our Penny Postage Stamp." He is lending from his own collection the following:—

The original water colour sketch of the 1d. and 2d. stamps, by Sir Rowland Hill.

The original pencil sketch of the Mulready envelope, by W. Mulready.

The proof of the last 1d. stamp, signed by the late King Edward, showing head leaning too far forward, and the 2d. magenta recently prepared for use but withdrawn. This subject will be shown from 1510 to present day, and several splendid collections will also be on view.

The trade will be represented by Messrs. C. Nissen & Co. and Mr. W. S. Lincoln, who will occupy the two stalls at the disposal of the Committee.

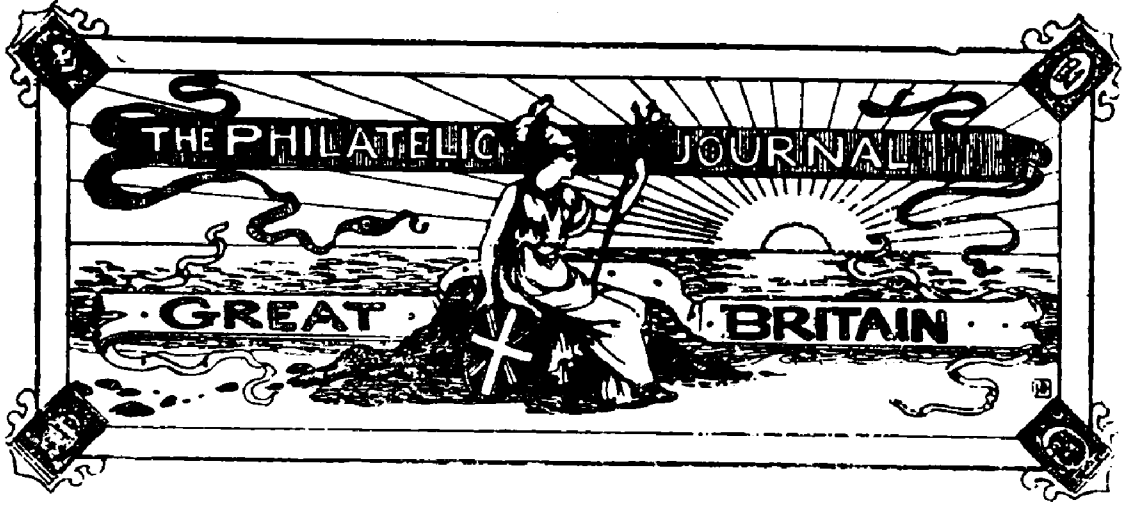
A special printing of the Catalogue has been decided upon, to enable a copy to be sent to His Majesty the King, together with the original copy of the special diploma which is being designed by Mr. T. R. Turner.

The Committee will be pleased to hear from anyone desirous of acting as a Steward.

Donations to the "Exhibition Funds" will be very welcome, as the Committee are anxious to cover all the outlay of the Exhibition.

The nearest stations within easy reach of the Public Library are Hoe Street, Gt. Eastern; Walthamstow, Midland. Further particulars upon application. Arrangements are being made for a continuous musical programme.

Tickets of admission will be sent to anyone sending a stamped envelope to the Hon. Sec., R. H. CLARKE, c/o A. B. C. Dyer, 133, Hoe Street, Walthamstow.



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

No. 242. VOL. XXI. FEBRUARY 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE recent Exhibition of stamps at Walthamstow, held under the auspices of the South Essex Philatelic Society, proved a great success. Although held on a much more modest scale than the International Exhibitions of late years there is a possibility that the Walthamstow week will do more in proportion for the advancement of Philately than the recent overwhelming shows of London, Manchester and elsewhere. The small collector,

Another Successful Exhibition.

who is the backbone of our hobby, has no possible hope of competing with the great Moguls at the big exhibitions. If he plucks up courage to send his modest specialised collection he is sure to be heavily outclassed by some advanced specialist who shows whole panes where only single stamps were dreamed of. At the South Essex Exhibition all this was changed, the great Mogul gave way to the beginner and to the less wealthy collector, with the result that the exhibits were of much greater interest to the medium specialist and the general collector. It was quite possible to view many of the exhibits without afterwards experiencing a feeling of hopelessness as far as possible emulation was concerned. Not only so, but many collectors were tempted to show stamps and collections which they have been too modest to exhibit at the larger exhibitions.

Mr. A. H. Clarke and his officers were most energetic, and no small praise is due to them for having planned and carried out so interesting a show. The South Essex Society is of recent date with a big proportion of junior members, and much credit is due to them for having achieved what several of the older and bigger societies have been afraid to tackle.

The big exhibitions, where the very advanced collector sweeps the board with his hundreds of rarities, are of great scientific and social benefit, but we doubt if they bring many new recruits to our ranks. The more humble Walthamstow week will, however, if we err not, result in a number of new collectors taking up stamps as a recreation, it will also possibly have the effect of reviving dormant enthusiasm, also of increasing to fever pitch the fervour of already keen collectors. If it does any of these things it is a step in the right direction and we again offer our congratulations to the South Essex Philatelic Society.

During the past few months, in fact ever since the accession of King George to the throne, stamp collecting has been prominently before the reading public, while two important newspapers, the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Evening News*, devote a column once a week to the interests of collectors. This being the case we were not surprised to find the opening of

the Walthamstow Exhibition fully reported in nearly all the daily papers, with the result that a number of people, who otherwise would have remained in ignorance were induced to visit the Exhibition. Another, and perhaps the greatest reason why so many non-collectors made the

pilgrimage to Walthamstow was the fact that His Majesty the King loaned one or two items from his own collection. Such a royal act of graciousness was duly appreciated by all concerned, while it undoubtedly contributed in no slight measure to make the Exhibition the success it was.

Colonial Stamps.

AN ARTICLE OF GREAT INTEREST TO COLLECTORS OF KING'S HEAD AND
OTHER RECENT STAMPS.

(From the *Colonial Office Journal*.)

IN view of the necessity for an early decision, as to any changes which the various Colonies may wish to make in their issues of stamps in consequence of the accession of H.M. King George V., it may be of interest if we recapitulate shortly the courses which are open and explain their several advantages.

The majority of the Colonies, which have stamps carrying the King's head as the central portion of the design, make use of one or more of the general keyplates for which no charge is made, having already purchased border or duty plates to fit the keyplate.

The four keyplates may be for clearness divided into two divisions:—

(A) The keyplate used by Sierra Leone, Seychelles, etc. This carries not only the King's head, but also either the word—(1) "Postage" on each side, (2) "Revenue" on each side, or (3) "Postage" on one side and "& Revenue" on the other. These are three distinct keyplates, each of which is fitted by the plate bearing only the name of the Colony and the value. The advantage of using this keyplate is that either of the three kinds of keyplates can be used at will with one set of duty plates, producing postage stamps, revenue stamps, or stamps for both purposes. Thus Sierra Leone uses the double purpose stamps, whereas Seychelles has two distinct series. The latter plan naturally facilitates the discrimination between revenue from postal and fiscal sources, but is not so convenient to the users.

(B) The keyplate, which has been comparatively recently introduced, carrying the King's head alone in an oval, the name of the Colony, the value and the use to which the stamp can be put being supplied from the border plate, e.g., the Nyasaland Protectorate stamps. The appearance of stamps printed from this keyplate is very much the finer, but, as the

purpose for which the stamps may be used is indicated in the border plate, unless so-called "unified" or double purpose stamps are required or stamps for one purpose only, it is necessary to have two sets of border plates—one for postage and the other for revenue stamps.

There are, however, certain Colonies, such as Ceylon, which purchase their own keyplate as well as border plates. On the present occasion such Colonies will have to decide between buying a fresh keyplate or a set of border plates for use with one or other of the general keyplates. Where the number of values required is comparatively small, the latter course would be the less expensive, as, in buying a new keyplate, it is necessary also to contribute to the cost of the original King's Head die from which the special keyplate is made.

The remaining Colonies which use stamps carrying the King's Head are the Falkland Islands and the Turks Islands. In both cases the head, unfortunately, appears without a crown. They are printed by the copper plate process, which is decidedly more expensive than the surface process, and at one operation, so that a complete set of new plates will be required.

Colonies which have adopted their own badge or arms as the design of their stamps, can, at a very small cost, show the King's Head on a certain number of values, as Mauritius does, by ordering duty plates for some values to fit one of the universal keyplates.

The disadvantage of a Colony using its own keyplate of the King's Head design is apparent at the present moment from the necessity of having a new one made instead of using one which is supplied gratuitously. Colonies which use the universal keyplate will be put to no expense by the present change.

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.

British Solomon Islands. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 4d. stamps have been despatched.

Brunei. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has very kindly shewn us a specimen of the \$5 stamp. He also tells us that he has the \$25 stamp.

\$5 red on green.
\$25 black on red.

Ceylon. The *Colonial Office Journal* chronicles new 2c. and 3c. stamps, the former in a slightly different shade, the latter in the same colour as before, but showing the value in solid figures on a white ground.

Federated Malay States. Kelantan. The *Colonial Office Journal* says:—

Another of the three States on the Eastern side of the Malay Peninsula, which came under British protection in July, 1909, *i.e.*, Kelantan, has now been supplied with a set of stamps of the following values: 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 30 and 50 cents, and 1, 2, 5 and 25 dollars. They have been printed by the keyplate system and the surface process, the first six being on unsurfaced and the last six on surfaced paper. The colours of the stamps follow the Federated Malay States series, value for value, with the exception of the 30 cents stamp, which is substituted for the 20 cents stamp, and is printed with purple centre and red border.

Trengganu. Mr. Camroux has kindly shown us the lower values of the new set. We are also indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt and to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for full sets.



Adhesives.
1c. green.
3c. carmine.
5c. slate.
4c. orange.
8c. blue.
10c. orange.
20c. purple.
50c. green.
\$1 black on red.

Gilbert and Ellice Protectorate. We are indebted to the *Colonial Office Journal* for the following:—"Gilbert and Ellice Islands and Protectorate has now been provided with a series of stamps showing a representation of a Pandanus tree or Screw pine. The values are the same as those which we reported in our last issue, and the colours are those of the colour scheme designed for steel-plate stamps, by which process they have been produced." "Screw" pine is decidedly good.

Jamaica. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that Jamaica has now been supplied with a 2d. stamp printed from the new Universal key-plate, *i.e.*, that showing the late King's Head in an oval.

Malta. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us a copy of the 2½d. King's Head stamp, all one colour.

Adhesive. King's Head, multiple wmk.
2½d. blue.

Northern Nigeria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 6d. and 1/- stamps in new colours.

Adhesives. King's Heads, multiple chalky paper.
6d. purple.
1/- black on green.

Papua. We extract the following information from the *Australian Stamp Journal*:—

Mrs. Wallis, of this city, has shown us two stamps which we do not recollect having seen before. They are the 4d. with "rift in clouds," watermarked upright, perf. 12½, large holes, and the 1/- with rift watermarked upright, perf. 11. As, however, these stamps are already known with "Papua" in small letters, it is only natural to assume that the "rift in clouds" will be in the same sheets.

1/- orange and black, large "Papua," wmk. Cr. and A., perf. 12½.

The same paper chronicles the 1/- stamp with large "Papua." We do not appear to have chronicled this variety.

Adhesive.
Large Papua. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.
1/- orange and black.

Straits Settlements. Johore.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 1, 2, 3, and 4c. stamps on chalk surface paper.

Adhesives.
Chalky Paper. 1c. lilac and green.
2c. .. carmine.
3c. .. black.
4c. .. carmine.

Western Australia. The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, perf. 11.

Adhesive. Crown CA paper, perf. 11.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green.

Adhesives.

"1" on 20c. ultramarine.
"5" on 20c.
"10" on 20c. deep blue.

Italy. Eritrea. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a 15c. stamp uniform in design to the 25c. stamp we chronicled last October.

Adhesive. Perf. 14.
15c. slate.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the 1, 2, 3 and 5 mark stamps are now printed on paper watermarked with *horizontal wavy lines close together.*

Adhesives. New wmk., white paper.

1 mark, violet.
2 marks, orange.
3 " brown.
5 " green.

Postage Dues.

5r. brown.
10r. orange.
20r. mauve.
30r. green.
40r. lilac.
50r. carmine.
100r. blue.

Finland. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send us a set of the new stamps with the following particulars:

We send you a new set of five values which were issued on the 23rd ultimo, you will note that the designs are identical with some of the current Russian, with the exception of the values, and that the colours of the 40 peni are the same as those of the 15 kopec stamp, these new stamps are for inland use only, letters for places outside Finland still require to be prepaid with Russian stamps.

French Gaboon. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send us one of the redrawn stamps. An alteration has been made consisting of the substitution of the words "Afrique Equatoriale" instead of "Congo Français." In other respects the designs and colours are as before.



Honduras. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 20c. stamp of 1907 overprinted for provisional use.

Portugal. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly shown us the following postage due stamps, overprinted "Republica."

Russian Levant. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly tell us that the current Russian stamps are now overprinted for use in the Russian Post Offices in the Levant. The following values have been so maltreated:—

1 kopec, surcharged	5 paras.
2 kopecs	10 "
4 "	20 "
10 "	1 piastre.
50 "	5 piastres.
70 "	7 "
1 rouble	10 "

All in blue except the 10 paras and 1 piastre, which are in red.

Uruguay. Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, kindly write us as follows: Herewith please find a specimen of the commemorative stamp issued in Uruguay yesterday (8th) to celebrate the inauguration of the first South American Postal Congress. 200,000 of this stamp have been printed in panes of 50 by the South American Bank Note Co., of Buenos Aires, and will be available for postage to all parts of South America until the 31st inst.



Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

A DEALER, advertising in the *Australian Stamp Journal* that he has recently purchased several general collections, says:—

The collections above referred to contain Australasian, British Colonial, and Foreign Stamps.

Until I read that I thought that one, at least, of the general collections might have contained a few butterflies, or even a great Auk's egg or two.

In the same paper I find the following quarter page advertisement:—

D. COLLINS, JEWELLER AND PAWNBROKER,
65, Oxford St., Sydney.

Advances made on Stamp Collections at a reasonable rate of interest.

D.C. is an old Philatelist and is well-known to stamp collectors in this city.

References permitted to the publishers of this Journal.

What a nasty one for Sydney collectors. I suppose on club nights there is a bit of a run on No. 65. Next time I am in Sydney I shall know where to raise the price of a long, cool—cup of tea.

Until Coughsky, the well-known collector went off his head he was quite a nice chap. Now that he is just a little mad he is chock full of ideas for the well-being of philately. One of his latest ideas, about which he has written to Sir Jesse Boot, Sir Thomas Lipton and Sir Joseph Lyons, is that no postage stamp should be less than 2 square feet in size. He thinks that were his idea adopted it would be a great saving of all kinds of wrapping and string, as it would only be necessary to do up a parcel in the stamp, and stick the edges down.

Another great idea of his is to do away with the expenses of having postmen, and, indeed, all postal officials. He suggests a trained corps of stamps, all with a small biplane attached. When you have written a letter you ring up the nearest what-you-may-call'em and ask for a stamp to be sent round; when it comes you re-write the letter on its back—give it a dose of diluted essence of herring—stick a corn plaster on its safety valve—and tell it to go at once to Hanwell, Port Moresby, or Chapel-en-le-Frith, just as the case may be.

Nothing I could say would convince Coughsky that this plan was too complicated to become really popular.

One day last month I chanced on a well-known dealer when he was trying to convince a very irate female that a dozen or so ½d. and 1d. King's Head used Transvaal stamps were of no value.

She would insist on calling them the rare first issue of the Transvaal, and when she was shown a stock book containing several

dozens of each value, she only accused the dealer of trading in forged stamps as it was impossible for any one person to have honestly come by so many of the stamps.

A great proof of this was that the majority of the dealer's stamps were unused—hers were used—or, as she described them, "travelled" stamps!

The following paragraph is from the Dec. number of the *Stamp Collector* (U.S.A.).

We are told that a certain collector in Chicago now owns two copies of the Post Office Mauritius. It is a fact that the two copies in the collection of King George of England came from this city and it is said that there are more where those came from.

In my ignorance, I thought Chicago was only famous for tinned dog, and she's. Now it seems these were only "dime" exhibits.

Last summer Mr. B. W. H. Poole left our sunny shores for the bleak and bleary wastes of California. New York's only Eustace B. Power met him on his arrival in the States. Days, weeks, yea even months, passed and I searched in vain in the American press for the signature of the writer whose manuscripts were too numerous to be contained in Britain's chilly Isles. The last day of 1910 brought relief, for, behold, on the last but one page of *Mekeel's Weekly* I find a couple of columns, entitled "With the Boy Philatelist," while underneath this original title is written "Edited by Bertram W. H. Poole." Watch him grow.

I know who is going to get the Lindenberg medal next year. It isn't going to be awarded for literary efforts either. It is going to the man with the quite quiet little smile who lives in the Strand and reads his "Current Chatter" immediately he gets his *P. J. G. B.* As the postman arrives at 8 a.m. and the matutinal egg and bacon is timed for 8.45, the feat of reading "Current Chatter" is achieved on an empty "tummy." What a digestion to possess—even a sight of the Newfoundland "Guys" wouldn't upset it.

A correspondent has written to me, of all persons, to enquire if I can tell him who the late Augustus Toot was—he enjoyed Mr. Toot's article on Brazilian stamps so much in last month's *P. J. G. B.*, that he wishes he were an angel so that he could now be near so clever, delightful and researchful a philatelist.

Judging from a slight acquaintance with the late Mr. Toot, I don't think that being an angel would be much use to my correspondent if he desired to be near Mr. Toot. Mr. Toot's demise was dreadfully sudden, when the Editor of the *P. J. G. B.*, had read the Brazilian treatise, he gathered six odd feet of editorial greatness out of his arm chair, and went for a walk. When he came back there was a far away look of rapture in his eyes also a few grease spots on his immaculate waistcoat. That's how Mr. Augustus Toot became late.

On several occasions I have drawn attention

to the weird and wonderful stamps sometimes offered for sale by auction. In Messrs. Plumridge's catalogue for Jan. 27th, I spotted a couple of lots I should like to have secured :

NEW HEBRIDES : Feb., 1860, perf. 12, 3d. blue-green and 5d. green, both unused, but some perfs. cut.

That's the worst of those early New Hebrides, they grow such infernally long perfs. that they simply *have* to be cut.

Lot 2 reads :—

STELLALAND : Black surcharge inverted, 5/-, brilliant mint.

Another brilliant of the first water.

I hear that the Walthamstow week was a huge success. One pilgrim who attended the opening ceremony at least thought so. I am told that he was put into a late train at Hoe Street carefully tied on to an umbrella labelled for Liverpool Street. As no stamp men have been missed lately it can safely be presumed that the umbrella took him home in safety.

I also hear that there were some fine stamps exhibited at Walthamstow—somebody told me that H.M. the King was an exhibitor. Was that so I wonder? One collection of Cayman Island stamps was pretty hot stuff—especially two stamps therein—similar in every respect—*each* of which was labelled unique!

Writing of His Majesty reminds me that members of a certain London stamp club, are, so I am told, likely to be prosecuted for *lèse majesté*. Some of them jolly well deserve it, especially friend W., who positively made the Chili man blush.

Somebody tells me that Mr. W. E. Lincoln's exhibit of War stamps is so very incomplete that it doesn't even contain a specimen relating to the famous battle of Stepney! Is that so?

Correspondence.

THE "PUTTILLA" ERROR.

76, Loraine Mansions,
London, N.,
26th January, 1911.

To the Editor, "P.F.G.B."

DEAR SIR,

In your January issue, Mr. Yardley contends that the "Puttilla" misprint is a genuine variety, but I do not know if he means to refer to the 2as. value alone, or to all the series.

When Mr. Stewart-Wilson included these errors in the first edition of his handbook, he did *not* illustrate one, not having a copy of any of the values, but he merely included them on the strength of their having already been chronicled in the press. When I collaborated with Mr. Stewart-Wilson in the second edition of his handbook (1904) I was of opinion that these "Puttilla" misprints were bogus, but Mr. Stewart-Wilson gave

them the benefit of the doubt, and so they were included. However, within a short time of the book being published, we obtained positive evidence that these misprints were from certain sheets that had been officially forged, and in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, January, 1905, I conclusively *proved* that they were not genuine varieties.

Mr. Yardley accepts the "Puttilla" error on the evidence of once having possessed a block of twelve 2 annas stamps (which contained *two* of the errors) but which is now lost sight of altogether. If his contention is that it only exists in this value, it narrows down the question; but if he argues that, because he knows of it in this one value it therefore exists in all values of this issue, I am afraid all the facts bearing on the subject are opposite to this view. Apparently the only printing in which the error could have occurred is that of March, 1885, but it has been proved that this printing did *not* contain it; the only supposition that remains is that there was another unknown printing of the 2 annas value of which no records exists. This theory seems practically impossible, as the records of all printings are filed in three Government departments (*i.e.*, the Stamps and Stationery Department, which issues the stamps to be overprinted; the Government of India Press, which overprints them; and the Indian Postal Department, which issues them to the State that has indented for them.) It is fairly obvious that a printing could hardly have taken place and yet have left no record whatever in any one of these three departments.

If this "Puttilla" misprint was a genuine one, it must have occurred in the same printing as the "Auttialla" misprint, but as Mr. Yardley had *two* errors in the same block, the numbers printed would be *at least* double that of the "Auttialla" error, which only occurred once in each panel of 120 stamps. The totals issued of the "Auttialla" errors are as follows :—

Red surcharge. Ord., $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, 2,000; 2 as., 716; 1 rupee, 30. Service, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna (with *small black* "Service"), 3,000.

Black surcharge. Ord., 1 anna, 400; 8 as., 40. Service, 1 anna (with *small* "Service"), 4,000.

Now, although even the rarest of these "Auttialla" errors are occasionally met with, and the commoner ones are seen everywhere, the "Puttilla" errors, which ought to be twice as common, are of extraordinary rarity. Their rarity is, however, explained when it is known that only two sheets of each value of this issue were reprinted, and that therefore only *four* of each error could exist. (The "Puttilla" error is the top right corner stamp in each panel of the reprinted sheets, so it will be impossible for anyone to fulfil Mr. Yardley's desire and show him a block of the *reprints* showing the error repeated *twice*. In the reprints two varieties of type were

included which did not exist in the genuine issue, *i.e.*, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna with "Service" in *large red* instead of *small black* type, and 1 anna with "Service" in *large* instead of *small black* type. The "Puttilla" error is known in both these varieties (Mr. Peckitt has, or recently had, a copy of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, and Baron A. de Reuter-skiöld has a copy of the 1 anna), and the proof thus afforded that these errors are the product of the reprinted sheets places the matter beyond the region of doubt or controversy. Further, Gibbons catalogue No. 115, 2 as. Service, could not exist from the March 1885 printing as this value was not included then but was added later in a separate printing; this, however, was also reprinted, and this "Puttilla" error could only come from the reprinted sheets. (It is recorded in Mr. Stewart-Wilson's handbook as an unique event that the State authorities discovered and objected to the "Auttialla" error on these sheets, so if the "Puttilla" error had also existed on the same sheets—and in two places—it could not possibly have been overlooked).

Finally, even supposing that the block Mr. Yardley had *did* come from a sheet of an unknown isolated printing of the 2 annas value, which contained two or more "Puttilla" errors in each pane, Gibbons' Catalogue cannot logically insist on including *all* the values of this issue (sheets of some of the lower values, and right top corner blocks of all values, are known, but none show the error anywhere); No. 27 may therefore be permitted to remain by enthusiasts, but Nos. 26, 28 to 31, 111 and 115 (?) most certainly ought to be omitted.

I feel sure that if the block Mr. Yardley had could be re-examined it would be found to be a portion of a proof sheet which Moens had somehow obtained. Possibly it might even be found to be something worse!

Yours faithfully,

B. GORDON JONES.

21st January, 1911.

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

DEAR SIR,

I think that if you will read the report of the C. of L.P.S. in your current number, you will agree with me something is wrong. I think it will necessitate steps to be taken to examine the status of the coffee supplied to the worthy gentlemen who compile the report for your valuable journal.

I exhibited some French stamps postmarked in the beginning of *January*, 1849, before the issue of the "grille" postmark. There was a written statement by me that there were two obliterations authorised:—

1. The dated postmark.
2. Pen-marked crosses (barré d'une croix à la plume).

My specimens were:—

1. 20c. black with dated postmark,

Lavour, 1st January, 1849 (the first day of issue).

2. A pair ditto on entire, with pen-marked crosses, &c.

Now I read a five-line account of same with four or five mis-statements.

1. "Mr. Higlett showed a 10c. black." The strong coffee had evidently affected their eyesight, but instead of seeing double, they saw but half.
2. "Postmarked Lavour."
3. Postmarked "1st June, 1849."
4. An exceedingly early date. Why this qualification? or rather why so expressed! It said underneath "first day of issue," and stated that the "grille post-stamps were issued late in January. Could it be earlier than the first day?
5. "The defacing stamps consisting of a number of dots had not then been issued." I had written "grille." They saw "dots."

Please turn up at next meeting and investigate this coffee question.

Yours faithfully,

G. A. HIGLETT.

CHILIAN STAMPS.

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

DEAR SIR,

In reply to "Inquirens," I would point out that my statement was that fiscal and telegraph stamps—as opposed to proper postage stamps—began to be first used for postal purposes in 1879. Note the order in which they are referred to, "fiscal" then "telegraph." In my collection I had numerous copies of the fiscal stamps postmarked particularly in the Northern Provinces in 1879 and 1880. I forget the earliest dates on the Telegraph stamps, but they were probably later. As regards the question of the Postal Union, considering that all the Peruvian ports were blockaded or occupied by Chili, perhaps excepting Paita, Peru's entry into the Postal Union was probably purely nominal and the "Universal" stamps were certainly seized by the Chilians and issued by them. I imagine that whatever was nominally the case the Postal Union stamps were actually first issued under the auspices of Chili even if the date was as late as 1881 at which period it must be remembered (January 15th), even Lima the capital of Peru was in Chilian hands.

Coming to the surcharged telegraph stamps of 1904, probably both the Bradbury, Wilkinson and the American Bank Note Co. stamps were overprinted at the same time but as the former were undoubtedly the older they might very well be put first in the catalogue. We must, however, be thankful that in the matter of dates and arrangements the catalogue of 1911

is now much nearer to the facts than its predecessor. There still remains plenty of work for the ardent searcher after dated postmarks which would help further to clear up the interesting questions raised in Inquirers' letter.

Yours truly,
J. READ BURTON.

The Walthamstow Exhibition

BY THE EDITOR.

THERE can be no doubt but that the recently held Essex Stamp Exhibition, organized by the South Essex Philatelic Society, proved a far greater success than even its most sanguine supporters dared hope. The Exhibition was opened on Saturday afternoon (Feb. 4th) by Sir John Simon, K.C., M.P., who, after a brief speech made a tour of the exhibits.

Probably the principal attraction of the Exhibition was his Majesty's exhibit, which consisted of the following:—

The Original Watercolour Sketches of the First Penny and Twopenny Stamps of 1840, by Sir Rowland Hill.

The Original Pencil Sketch of the Mulready Envelope, by W. Mulready, R.A.

1901.—Proof of the Penny Scarlet Stamp showing the head leaning too far forward, signed by the late King Edward's own hand.

The "Twopenny" Magenta Stamp recently prepared for use, but withdrawn. A mint pair, also a used copy (Strand, W.C.), on the entire.

Lack of space will not allow me to mention as many of the exhibits as I could wish, the following however proved the most interesting from my point of view.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

A small collection of these interesting stamps, mostly on entires. These have been exhibited before but are exceedingly difficult to secure on entire envelopes, so I think the following details may be of interest.

Mr. Owen Fearnley has unused: ½d. single, 1d. pair, 2d. pair from corner of sheet showing full margins. Used: eighteen on entires including four ½d., strip of three 1d. and strip of three 2d., also various combinations of the values.

The exhibit also includes several interesting entires showing the postmarks employed prior to the introduction of adhesives, and concludes with an entire showing the introduction of the stamps of Greece, but cancelled with the date stamp employed for the British issue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Mrs. Field exhibited her well known collection of the triangular issues of this country. The following items, in superb mint condition are a noted feature of this collection.

1853 issue on blued paper—1d. red and 4d. blue.

1855, 6d. slate-lilac—blued paper.

1861, 1d red woodblock, 4d. blue woodblock, and the rare dark blue woodblock, unused, very fine mint pairs of the 6d. mauve and 1/- deep green and emerald green, and many fine shades of the later issues, the 3d. on 3d. dull rose with double surcharge was shown. This specimen is said to be the only one known.

NOVA SCOTIA.

A few picked copies of the early stamps, exhibited by Mr. H. H. Harland. An interesting piece was a pair of 3d. stamps used with half a 3d. stamp to make up the 7½d. postal rate.

ST. HELENA.

Another of Mr. Harland's exhibits consisted of a few interesting St. Helena stamps, including a couple of entire sheets of the last line engraved stamps. These sheets are made up in twenty rows of twelve.

HONG KONG.

Mr. T. H. Hinton exhibited his well known collection of Hong Kong stamps. This is practically complete and is rich in stamps in good condition, also in scarce postmarks, etc.

SIRMOOR.

An interesting collection of these neglected stamps was exhibited by Mr. M. Z. Kuttner.

HOLLAND.

An extremely interesting collection of the two first types shown by Mr. B. B. Kirby. This exhibit was attractively mounted and contained some fine copies on entire, also a number of the retouched 5 and 10 cents of the imperforate issue.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. W. V. Morten exhibited a number of items from his well known collection, consisting of early post office notices, correspondence, prints, pamphlets, proofs, essays and other postal curiosities.

CRETE.

A small collection of these stamps was shown by Mr. L. J. Magnani.

GT. BRITAIN.

Mr. C. E. Page shewed an extremely nice collection, especially strong in out-of-the-way varieties of the early stamps. I was very envious of a superb strip of ten penny blacks, a nice block of six 2d. no lines, a block of nine 1/- embossed, and other choice items.

GUATEMALA.

Mr. W. J. C. Pope exhibited a small collection of these stamps.

There were dozens of other equally instructive exhibits. Unfortunately it would take up too much room to describe them, even in the briefest fashion. Mention, however, must be made of Mr. Sydney R. Turner's stamps

on original covers, full of interest to all lovers of our hobby. Mr. Léon Adutt's famous collection of

CAYMAN ISLANDS

considerably added to since shown at Berne last year. Mr. P. Ashby's almost equally famous exhibit of

BRITISH NEW GUINEA,

showing many Queensland stamps with the B.N.G. obliterations. In fact, I think all values from the ½d. to the 2½ (excepting the 2/-) were shown thus postmarked.

Messrs. C. Nissen & Co. exhibited a number of valuable and instructive proofs, essays, etc., while last, but by no means least, I was delighted to find Mr. W. E. Lincoln's fine collection of War stamps. This last exhibit is rich in historical reminiscences and contained some very out of the way things. One, at least, of the "War" issues was new to me, namely, Indian stamps used in the Abyssinian War. One or two entires postmarked "Field Force Post Office Abyssinia," on which the stamps were obliterated with the letters F.F. in a square illustrated this almost forgotten war.

I paid three visits to Walthamstow, and found on each occasion, plenty of stewards on duty—while plenty of visitors were in evidence. Such facts speak for themselves, and demonstrate that a well planned out exhibition—although local, and organised by a young society must do a vast amount of good as far as popularising our hobby is concerned.

The North London Philatelic Society.

President.

ALEXANDER J. SEFI, Esq.

Hon. Sec.

Mr. C. S. MURATORI,

41, Navarino Mansions, Navarino Road,
Dalston, N.E.

THE 54th Ordinary Meeting of the above Society took place on Thursday, Feb. 2nd, Mr. A. J. Sefi occupying the chair.

The programme for the meeting was a Competitive Display of South American States.

Twelve collections were shown by members, the result being that the Society's Diploma was awarded to Mr. H. S. Wymer for a fine display of perfect copies of single, pairs, and blocks.

After an interesting discussion on the collection shown, the meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Members are reminded that another competitive display of the stamps of France will take place on Thursday, April 6th, when many interesting exhibits are promised.



February, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911.

Hon. President: H. R. OLDFIELD.

Hon. Vice-Presidents:

W. DORNING BECKETON. H. L. HAYMAN.

President: J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Vice-Presidents:

W. SCHWARACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTE.

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, Lee, 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).

NEW MEMBERS.

William J. Pryer, Lymington, Hants.

Walter Scott, Cardiff.

A. S. Hourmouzios, Cyprus.

NOTICES.

The fifth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), J. E. Joselin, L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, W. Schwarte, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, Herbert F. Johnson, T. W. Hall and L. E. Hall (visitors), and the Hon. Sec. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and on the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by the President, H. R. Oldfield, Esq., was unanimously elected Honorary President of the Union.

Mr. T. W. Hall then gave a display of his superb specialised collection of Colombia, ac-

companied by a paper conveying much valuable information on the stamps of this country and of great interest to all present.

A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Fulcher and seconded by Mr. Joselin, was carried unanimously, and in putting it to the meeting the President regretted there were not more members present to profit by the display.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, March 9th, at 7.30 p.m. (Committee, 7 p.m.), when displays will be given by Mr. J. H. Abbott, of Manchester, "Servia," and Mr. Wade, of Leeds, "Sicily." It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend and help in giving these gentlemen a hearty welcome.

The Hon. Librarian acknowledges with thanks "The Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1911," from Messrs. C. Nissen & Co., and *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, from Monsieur Lemaire, Paris. Any donations to the library gladly received and duly acknowledged.

The Hon. Sec. acknowledges with thanks a donation to the Forgery Collection from Mr. L. W. Fulcher. The Collection is on the table at all Meetings and further Contributions to it will be gladly received and duly acknowledged, also Subscriptions due on January 1st, and further proposals for membership.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Feb. 14th, 1911.

New Leaves to Cut.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL, 1911.*

THIS welcome Annual, now in its eighth year of publication, still continues to be a good investment from the purchaser's point of view.

The article most likely to appeal to the majority of readers is one contributed by Mr. Chas. Nissen and is entitled the "Stamps of King Edward." Mr. Nissen has compiled a complete list (illustrated), of all the stamps issued bearing the head of King Edward VII., together with a number of geographical and other notes. Those collectors who limit themselves to these stamps will find such a list most useful.

Another very carefully compiled, and valuable contribution, is Mr. P. C. Bishop's "Philatelic Literary Index for 1910." This enables readers at a glance to learn where the best articles on stamps are to be found. The only article dealing directly with the stamps of any one country is entitled the "Postage Stamps of Portugal." The author—who prefers to blush unseen—is responsible for a well written—but all too short—*résumé*

of Portuguese postal history. Collectors who like their countries well boiled down will be interested in this contribution.

Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun., writing under the title "Great Britain: The Queen's Head Controls Letters," tells his readers all that there is to be told concerning these minor varieties.

Mr. Albert H. Harris contributes a lengthy, and from a club member's point of view, interesting article entitled "Exchange Club Grumbles—and a suggestion or two."

Other articles, dealing with other subjects are to be found in the *Annual*; those of our readers who have not secured a copy should do so, and peruse at leisure.

City of London Philatelic Society.

THE monthly meeting was held at Mills' Restaurant on the 8th inst. There was a very good attendance and the President was in the chair.

After the usual formal business, Mr. Camroux showed new issues including the 4d. Jamaica in the universal colours, but still of the old Queen's Head design. It is believed, however, that the authorities have heard of the Accession of King Edward and we shall shortly see his head on the stamps, and possibly by the time the millenium is reached King George V. will stand a chance of figuring on the philatelic issues of this patriotic and up-to-date Colony!

Mr. Higlett showed a block of six Gambia showing all three varieties of the ½d. surcharge and an envelope franked with two ½d. Virgin Islands stamps, one with the centre bar of the "F" missing and the other with "F" instead of "E" in "penny."

Mr. J. Reid Burton showed a small collection of forgeries, reprints, and fakes including dangerous things in imperf. Gambia, 5 franc Monaco, Argentine Commemoratives, 1st Issue Egypt, U.S.A. Grills, etc.

The meeting proceeded to consider Mr. Heginbottom's display and notes on British Guiana from 1876, British Honduras, and also Falkland Islands. As is usual with Mr. Heginbottom's collections, these countries were practically complete used.

The members very much enjoyed this instructive display, in the course of discussing which it was mentioned that the beautiful Queen's Head on the stamps of Falkland Islands was engraved by the late Mr. Bourne, father of the stamp dealer.

After this, the Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Westcott, gave a paper, entitled "Random Philatelic Notes." These proved both to be instructive and highly amusing. Mr. Westcott referred to numerous uncatalogued varieties,

*Published by Chas. Nissen & Co., 52, Chancery Lane, W.C.
Price, 1/1 nett.

such as the two dies of the Lagos ½d. He mentioned scarce postmarks such as "F.F." on the Indian stamps used in the Abyssinian War. In addition he had a collection of philatelic quotations from Shakespeare, beginning with:

"Throw down your gauge"—for the perf. maniac.

"The packet is not come"—for the Exchange Superintendent.

"Nine changes of the watery star have been"—for Perkins Bacon & Co.

To

"But there is little reason in your G"—for Griqualand specialists.

He also showed a selection of stamps illustrating plays now running at the London Theatres.

We hope to be able to reproduce Mr. Westcott's paper in next month's *P.J.G.B.*—Ed.

The President, Mr. Higlett and Mr. Eastwood joined in the discussion which followed, introducing further humorous, anecdotes, philatelic and non-philatelic. A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom and Mr. Westcott brought a jovial evening to a close.

The next meeting will be on March 8th, when Mr. Leon will give what from private information we know will prove a most unusual and interesting paper entitled, 'The Mystery of Bois-le-Duc.' There will also be a competitive display of thirty different surcharged stamps. Stamps may be shown in blocks, and each variety of surcharge will be counted as a different stamp. It is hoped that a great number of members will participate in this easy yet very interesting competition. Collectors have practically the whole world to choose from and it should be easy for any one to get together thirty stamps showing different surcharges.

The Earl of Crawford's Philatelic Library.

THE Catalogue of the Philatelic Library of the Earl of Crawford, K.T., is now in the press and will shortly be published. This portion of the famous Bibliotheca Lindesiana is by far the most extensive collection extant of the literature relating to postage stamps, stamp collecting and kindred subjects, and for all practical purposes may be considered as complete. Its formation has occupied its owner for a number of years, and its arrangement, collating and cataloguing have been the assiduous care of Mr. E. D. Bacon, President of the Philatelic Literature Society, and the leading authority in the world on philatelic literature.

The scope of this great catalogue is immense. Every handbook, pamphlet, periodical, catalogue and price list, whether important or not, relating to stamps and stamp collecting, posts and postal service,

and all cognate subjects, comes within its purview, and the Catalogue, besides listing the works contained in the Library also indicates the known omissions. The fullest possible bibliographical details are given as to edition, collating, illustrating, etc., the particulars being often furnished in extensive notes to each entry, and the addition of subject entries for all monographs renders the work especially useful. As a whole the volume will rank as one of the finest contributions to bibliography ever issued.

It will be published about the end of February 1911, in one volume of 470 pages, 14 by 10½ inches, printed in double columns on specially made paper. 300 copies only will be printed, of which 200 are offered for sale, and the type will be distributed. The price will be Two Guineas net, and since a considerable proportion of the issue will be absorbed by Societies and Public Institutions, application should be made *immediately*, as in no case can the above number of copies be exceeded, and the work can never be reprinted.

All communications should be addressed to
Mr. F. J. PEFLOW,
Hon. Secretary,
Philatelic Literature Society,
185 Barry Road, Dulwich,
London, S.E.

Our Twenty-first Birthday.

WE have to thank very many of our readers for so kindly wishing us many happy returns of the day. We can only spare space to print two of the numerous letters received.

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

23rd Jan., 1911.

DEAR SIR,

AS one of those—probably a somewhat limited number—who have subscribed to the *P.J. of G.B.* from the issue of No. 1 until now, I write to congratulate you on this most interesting monthly having attained its majority and to wish it the continued success which it deserves.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

GEO. BEALE PINYON.

Salisbury, Feb. 2nd, 1911.

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

DEAR SIR,

I have only just opened the *P.J.G.B.* and read your leading article; please allow me to thank you very cordially for your kind expressions towards me as the founder of the *P.J.G.B.* and to my late partner, Mr. S. C. Skipton, as first editor of the journal. I can assure you that your remarks were quite appreciated, and I most sincerely hope the *P.J.G.B.* will reach its diamond jubilee.

With kind regards to yourself and best wishes to all your readers,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

W. BROWN.

Additional Correspondence.

1909 ISSUE OF PERU & PUERILE
PIFFLE.

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

UNNEARD SIR,—

Wy is pore Gus Toot "late"? Seems to me he wrz too preevyus. Cummin in these Daze of Sizzurs and Paste & pages of weak Speshul Skotch umorisks (seems to me the Skotch is decomposed of Wiskey & Wiskers). Ther waz no room for his umble but interestin & umorush eforts.

We kood do wiv a foo more riters like im, wot kood rite a fillet elik artikle wot wozent dryasdus like most Flatterlists.

Well if poor little Toot is reely ded heres a mocker for his toomstone.

"Wen he interred Filaetlik Jurnlism
he got his deserts
& died off first."

Yours fecksheruntly

ORFIS BOY.

P.S. Wy not put a foo plums in Currant
Chatter, Sumtimes?

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

DEAR SIR,

Herewith I enclose a few notes that may be of interest to the Executors of the late Augustus Toot.

Yours faithfully,

OBIDAH AZAPARDO.

THE 1909 ISSUE OF PERU.

[An article in last month's journal on the 1909 Stamps of Peru, interested many of our readers, otherwise we should have consigned Mr. Azapardo's letter to the waste paper basket. Mr. A.'s theory regarding the printing of these stamps differs from that held by the late Mr. Toot.—ED., P. J. G. B.]

Coming back to the subject of these notes it will be observed that the laurel leaves signify success, and the olive branch, peace to the recipient. The figures of value are repeated four times and denote the value of the stamp, thus the first stamp of the set has:— $1+1+1+1=4$ centavos, the price charged for the stamp. Those who can follow simple arithmetical calculations can work out the other values for themselves, the second value being $2+2+2+2$ and so on. The stamps having each four corners symbolize that they will frank correspondence to the four corners of the globe, the two hemispheres being represented by the circles at the top. The decorated shields at the base are those of Justice and Liberty displayed on the columns

of strength, but such details which must be apparent and wearisome to intelligent persons I leave to the reader's observation. It will be noticed there is no watermark, the mere suggestion of this liquid being abhorrent to a true friend of liberty.

Regarding the production of the stamps this is interesting in many particulars. The original die was etched in mezzotint on a tin plate, and nine impressions transferred to a wooden roller, hardened in the usual way by the application of acid and cardboard. The heads of the well-known celebrities, and the necessary hairlines were added separately. Electrotyped papier maché blocks were prepared and arranged in spiral staircase form. A special ink is poured on at the top and owing to the chemical action of the various clichés the various colours are produced, the highest value which is at the bottom being a mixture of all colours. The prints are on endless strips of paper and can only be displayed in an entire "sheet" wound on a tube.

[The first seventy-six (and the last eighteen) pages of Mr. A.'s letter will not be published in these columns. — ED.]

The Walthamstow Competition.

WE are able to announce the result of the very interesting competition which Mr. W. S. Lincoln held at his stall at the recent Stamp Exhibition. Competitors had to guess the number of stamps there were in a glass jar, and the following is a list of prize winners:—

- 1st Prize, Lincoln Stamp Album, value 18/-.
Miss Marion Eastaway.
- 2nd Prize, Lincoln Stamp Album, value 7/6. Mr. Hubert Preddy.
- 3rd Prize, Lincoln Stamp Album, value 5/-.
Mr. J. F. Turpin.
- 4th Prize, Lincoln Stamp Album, value 3/-.
Mr. E. J. Pedder.
- 5th Prize, Lincoln Stamp Catalogue, value 3/-.
Mr. P. L. Pemberton.
- Consolation Prizes, Stamp Collecting Notes, value 1/-. Messrs. W. Wright, F. Schwad, H. T. Ross, M. E. Tayler, C. J. Slade, C. B. Morgan, T. H. Wellum, A. H. Toyndee, W. T. Cerdell, R. Catt, A. Parbutt.

OWING to pressure on our space we have been compelled to hold over an article dealing with the stamps of the Leeward Islands. We hope to be able to publish this, together with other interesting contributions, next month.

The Stamps of Greece.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 8).

THE official decrees which I referred to in the last chapter were not acted upon at once, and more than six years elapsed between the first reference to adhesives stamps and their issue on Oct. 1, 1861. During the intervening period several laws relating to the issue of the stamps, and the attendant postal reforms, were passed. Translations of some of these were published by Mr. Beckton, in his article to which I have already referred. These decrees are somewhat lengthy; I will therefore content myself with extracting a few of the clauses which are of special interest.

The first clause of the law passed on May 24th, 1860, prescribed the rates of postage as follows:—

All inland letters weighing up to 15 grammes will be charged 20 lepta; if up to 30 grammes, 40 lepta; if up to 60 grammes, 60 lepta; and if up to 100 grammes, 80 lepta.

Any letter weighing above 100 grammes will be charged 80 lepta for every 100 grammes or fraction of it.

Letters for delivery in the same town, viz., local letters, are to be charged half of the above charges.

Registered letters to be charged double.

Other clauses relating to postal rates are as follows:—

Patterns, when posted in unsealed wrappers, are charged half rate of the letters.

Newspapers and periodicals, in loose wrappers covering not more than the third, are charged 1 lepton, if weighing 30 grammes or less; 2 lepta, if weighing up to 50 grammes, and so on, viz., 1 lepton for every 20 grammes. But if weighing above 200 grammes they are charged 10 lepta for every 100 or part thereof.

Circulars, price lists, music, etc., when posted in loose wrappers, and weighing not more than 10 grammes, are charged 4 lepta; if not exceeding 15 grammes, 6 lepta, and so on; viz., 2 lepta for every 5 grammes or fraction thereof; but if the packet weighs above 50 grammes, then the charge is 20 lepta for every 50 grammes or part thereof.

Books are charged at the rate of 10 lepta for every 100 grammes or part thereof.

Foreign letters are charged 20 lepta if their weight does not exceed 15 grammes.

A consideration of these charges will show that the 5 lepta stamp would very seldom be required by itself, as the rates for letters were 20 lepta as a minimum, and additional 20's for heavier letters; for patterns the rates were 10 lepta and multiples of 10; and for circulars, price lists, etc., 4 lepta and multiples of 4. Only for newspapers weighing between 90 and 110 grammes could the 5 lepta be used by itself, but no doubt it was used in fairly large

quantities in combination with other values. It is evident, however, that some modification of these rates was made, probably before the actual issue of the stamps, as the 5 lepta is frequently found on entires used in conjunction with other and higher values.

By a decree of August 24th, 1860, the colours of the postage stamps were fixed as follows:—

1 lepton, chestnut.	10 lepta orange.
2 lepta, pale chestnut.	20 " blue.
5 " green.	40 " purple.
	80 lepta, red.

By an earlier decree (dated June 10th, 1860) the Greek Government had decided that the stamps should bear a portrait of Hermes—a very happy choice of a subject. Hermes (better known to us as Mercury) was the son of Zeus (Jupiter) and Maia, and is represented in the Greek mythology as the messenger of the gods; his claims to representation on a postage stamp do not end here, however, as he was also a titular god of handicrafts, sports and learning. The advantages which have accrued to all handicrafts from cheap postage and efficient postal arrangements are patent to all, nor is the effect in the spread of knowledge any less apparent.

THE PLATES.

This device having been decided upon the work of engraving the die was entrusted to M. Albert Barre, who had just succeeded his father as principal engraver at the French mint, and who, at a later date, designed the laureated issue of France which was issued in 1863. The original die was engraved on steel. The head in its pearled circle was engraved first and some proofs of this were taken; one, at least, of these proofs is still extant—a very good illustration of it appears in Schroeder's book on essays. This having been approved the frame was added and the design completed, with the exception of the numerals of value, spaces for which were left blank.

From this original die the plates for all values were made, of that there can be no doubt, but opinions differ as to how the plates were constructed.

We know that these were not constructed by M. Hulot who made the plates for the French stamps. Mr. Beckton possesses a strip of three of the 20 lep., Paris print, from the bottom of a sheet and shewing an abnormally wide margin, at the foot of which is the inscription "Typographie Ernest Meyer,

Rue de Verneuil, 22 à Paris." This does away with the contention that because the plates were made in Paris and the die engraved by M. A. Barre, the same method of constructing the plates must necessarily have been employed for them as for the French stamps. M. E. Meyer's process evidently differed in some respects from that of M. Hulot, as a study of the stamps will shew.

It will be as well if I now outline the usual method employed in making electrotype plates. The original die is engraved, in relief, on steel or copper. Moulds or impressions are taken from this in some soft metal or other substance. For the first French stamps these impressions were taken, in gutta percha (according to Maury) or lead (according to Westoby). In other countries and at other times wax, plaster of Paris, and even type-metal have been used. A sufficient number of casts are made to complete a plate of the required size. In this case there were 150 impressions, arranged in fifteen rows of ten. The casts are arranged and clamped together in the form that the plate is to take, and a thin coating of copper is deposited all over the surface of the impressions by the electric process. When the copper coating is thick enough the moulds are removed, the copper, with its exact reproductions of the engraving of the die, is backed with type metal, and the printing plate is complete.

Before being put to press the surface of the plate is very carefully examined and any small imperfections may be put right. The casts, especially when taken in plaster of Paris, may show lines which run into one another where not intended by the artist; these can be put right on the plate itself by the skilful use of the *burin* or engraver's tool. White patches, or parts of the impression which have failed to show up in relief on the casts, and which would consequently produce defective impressions, can be filled in with metal which, when hardened, can be engraved upon to finish off the design. This process is laborious and difficult, so rather than resort to it a fresh cast is taken as a rule.

If, as in the case of the early French and Greek stamps, the original die has to serve for several values, differing only in the expression of the numerals, the space or spaces where these are to appear are left blank and the design is impressed on a block of steel, of which the surface has been softened. This is termed a secondary die and on this the numerals of the required value are engraved. It follows that an electrotype plate made from the secondary die would show no variations in the shape or position of the numerals. The French stamps printed by M. Hulot show, by the uniformity of the numerals, that the plates were constructed in this way. On the other hand, a careful examination of a sheet

or large block of any Greek stamps printed from the plates of 1861, will reveal minute differences in the shape and the position of the figures denoting the value. The letters $\Lambda\epsilon\{\}\Gamma$ are identical on every stamp and were evidently on the original die, but the numerals certainly vary, and this proves that the plate could not have been made from one, or even from several secondary dies on which the numerals were engraved. The two new values, 30 and 60 lepta, which were issued in 1876, do not show this peculiarity, and the plates for them were undoubtedly made in the ordinary way.

Mr. Beckton says:—"The numerals of value were inserted separately on each of the 150 electros for each plate." There can be no reasonable doubt that this statement is correct, but how it was done is a mystery, for, as I have already explained, it is only with the greatest labour and difficulty that any considerable alterations can be effected on the extremely delicate copper surface of an electro type. It is true that the figures, which appear uncoloured in the prints, must therefore be in recess on the electros, and that it is not a question of adding to, but of cutting into the copper surface. This would be possible if the layer of copper was of sufficient thickness to bear the pressure of the engraver's tool.

However this may be the figures are there and, though they vary, they were reproduced with remarkable accuracy. But for the undoubted differences in the position of the numerals, both longitudinally and latitudinally, it might be possible to believe that the variations in their shapes could have been caused by the spreading of the ink used for printing, the wearing of the plate, the clogging of the interstices with dirt, or by faulty impressions of the original casts from the mother die. In short I should be prepared to believe that there was a die, cut in relief, for each value, which was transferred to each cliché, either before or after the application of the copper bath; but as I am unable to say whether such an operation is possible, I do no more than suggest it and will leave the solution to those more competent to speak on the subject.

A peculiarity in the stamps printed from the plates of 1861, and one which also points to a different method of making the plates, as compared with the French stamps and the 30 and 60 lep. of 1876, has been pointed out to me by Mr. R. W. Wilkinson. This is the varying width of the uncoloured space between the outer surrounding line of the stamp and the other part of the frame. Sometimes this variation is very marked and is found in different stamps on the same sheet. I think this was probably caused by different degrees of shrinking of the casts in the process of making the electros. This peculiarity is not found on the 30 and 60 lepta.

METHOD OF PRINTING.

I will now crave the attention of my readers to a somewhat lengthy account of the manner in which the stamps of the Paris and some of the succeeding issues were printed. It is a most important point, and proves that practically everything in the appearance of some of the poor printings of Athens, which we have hitherto believed due to wearing of the plates, was caused by careless printing.

The first clue came from M. Maury in his *Histoire des Timbres-Post Français* published in 1907. In that work he described the extraordinary preparations made by M. Hulot for getting the best possible results from his plates in printing the early stamps of France. There can be no doubt that the Paris prints of Greece were produced in the same manner. The printing press was an ordinary hand press, something on the principle of the familiar office copying-press, in which the plate descended vertically on to the sheet which was to receive the impression, though the movement of the *forme* containing the plate was regulated by levers instead of a screw. The sheet to be printed was laid upon what is technically called a "blanket," which was generally a cloth made of swan-skin; this made a more even backing for the sheet when the press descended than a hard surface would have done. We owe the numerous curiosities of printing with which Greek specialists are so familiar, almost entirely to the varying character of the "blanket."

It is easy to understand that if the "blanket" is of the same thickness throughout it will yield an equal pressure to every portion of the printing plate, but that if it could be so cunningly prepared that there was more resistance to the plate in those portions of the design which are to appear solid or heavy in the printing, and less in those places where the lines of the engraving are fine and delicate, the result would be more effective than would otherwise be possible.

In order to produce this result several sheets of stamps were printed. From some of these sheets the whole of the face and neck, the petasus or cap, and the spandrels were cut away with scissors, from every stamp. These are the portions of the design which are not required to be heavily printed. On other sheets only portions of the spandrels and parts of the face were removed, while on others, again, nothing was cut away, but some of the lines which were to appear very fine in the printing were scraped with a knife to produce a slight thinning. These several sheets thus prepared were then pasted firmly one on the top of the other, and formed the blanket, or bed, on which the sheets were placed to receive the impression from the plate. Great care had to be taken in placing this specially prepared backing, so that it exactly fitted the printing

plate when it descended. By this means the pressure was so regulated that there was very little resistance in the more delicate portions of the design, and the lines of shading on the cheek and neck, and in the spandrels, presented that appearance which is characteristic of the Paris prints, while the background, the frame, and the outlines of the petasus, appeared dense and solid. This process is called by M. Maury the *mise en train* and I shall refer to it frequently later on by this convenient name. The cutting of the sheets in the *mise en train* is termed *découpage*, another convenient term which does not appear to have its exact counterpart in English.

M. Brunel, in his recently-published book, also gives an account of this process, as applied to Greek stamps. This differs in no essential detail from Maury's, except that he describes the printing-press as being of a more modern type, in which the plate lies face upwards while the *découpage*, with the unprinted sheet over it, is fixed on a cylinder or roller, which is rolled over the plate to receive the impression—the effect being the same as with the other form of press.

When the *découpage* was not exactly in position the effect on the printing is a cloudy appearance in the background following the outline of the head, neck and petasus, on one side or the other, as the case may be. This can occasionally, though rarely, be traced in Paris prints, while in early Athens impressions, when the *découpage* was neither so carefully made nor so skillfully applied, this cloudy appearance is sometimes so pronounced as to look like a second outline of the face, if the *découpage* was shifted to the right, or of the back of the head and neck if shifted to the left.

It is well known that Parisian workmen were sent to Athens with the plates, printing accessories, etc., after a supply of all values had been printed in Paris. During their stay in the Greek capital they instructed the Greek printers in the niceties of workmanship required to get good results, and there is no doubt that the *découpage* was employed, but it is evident that, once left to themselves, the Greeks neglected many of the hints given to them. An examination of the stamps shows that the *découpage* gradually fell into disuse until 1870, when it was revived with startling results.

(To be continued).





FEBRUARY 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

THE January number of the *Monthly Journal* fully comes up to our expectations; it maintains all the well established traditions.

Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes the first instalment of an exhaustive article on the stamps of Paraguay. This very neglected country will undoubtedly now receive full justice. Mr. Phillips writes about the early essays, bogus stamps, and also describes a scarce postmark to be found on the Rivadavia stamps of Argentine when troops from that country occupied Paraguayan territory.

The stamps of the 1870 issue are fully described.

M. Pierre Mahé commences what promises to be a very capable treatise dealing with the stamps of Brazil. He carefully sifts the evidence relating to the printing of the "bulls eyes" and his article will prove of great value and interest to all collectors of South American stamps.

Mr. Melville contributes a lengthy instalment—continued from *G.S.W.*—of his article entitled "Postage Stamps in the Making." This should prove of value to all collectors who like to know how their stamps were printed; he writes about the various processes of preparing Intaglio Plates.

Mr. C. J. Phillips describes the principal exhibits at the Buenos Ayres Philatelic Exhibition, also contributes three or four pages of readable "Topical Notes."

A very good New Issue list and some Societies' reports, together with an obituary notice of Judge Philbrick, make up an excellent journal.

Our old friend is now dressed in an

attractive new cover, is printed on better paper than of old, and contains no fewer than twenty-eight pages of reading matter. May it long continue to be the leading stamp paper.

As the Stamps of the Argentine are now very popular with English collectors we think that the following extract may be of interest. It is from Mr. Phillip's account of the Buenos Ayres Exhibition and describes Mr. J. D. Simon's exhibit.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

A speciality of this collection is a marvellous lot of these stamps on letters, with almost all known varieties of postmark, also a superb lot of rare varieties of stamps divided and used for half or for one-third of their original value.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

1862. *With accent on "U."*

A unique block of thirty of the 10c. green, unused, and with gum. This is one of the finest things to be found in any Argentine collection; the next largest block that I know of contains only twelve stamps. This block is a fine colour and in beautiful condition. Of singles and pairs there was a fine page of unused and used in all shades.

15c. blue. The finest lot of unused I have ever seen, running through all shades of pale blue, deep blue and the rare ultramarine.

On the fine page of used 15c. there are two copies of the stamp without accent on "U."

1863. *No accent.*

5c. pale rose, entire sheet, and a fine page of unused in all shades, including pairs and blocks.

10c. yellow-green, superb copies in all shades, in mint unused condition.

January, 1864. 5c. brick-red. These stamps, in unused mint condition, are much rarer than most collectors suppose, and are often confused with the early reprints; but Mr. Simons has the real things in beautiful shades, in rows of mint copies.

1864. *The Rivadavia Stamps.*

I believe that Mr. Simons is a bachelor (always a good thing for the dealers!), and I know that he loves this issue as most of us do our wives and children. The result of this affection is that he has got together the most wonderful lot of these stamps in the world.

Of the imperf. stamps with wmk. Mr. Simons has between twenty and twenty-four of the 10c. and 15c.; all these are fine early copies, with the lines clear and distinct. There is a 10c., unused, and a superb 15c., unused, in the rare slate-blue colour, one of the rarest

stamps in the whole Argentine list; there is also a used horizontal pair of the 10c.

Of the 1867 issue on thin paper, no wmk., imperf., there are many 5c., unused; of the 10c., two fine used and several unused; and of the 15c., some beautiful copies unused, and used with various obliterations.

The perforated stamps of the issues 1864-7 are simply wonderful. There are many hundreds, in all known shades, and including a great quantity of unused; among these are some superb blocks of four in mint condition.

Mr. Simons most kindly has given me a photograph, of a very interesting block in his collection; this is the 4c. on 5c. of 1884, in which the surcharge has been misplaced, and two stamps in the block having escaped the surcharge almost entirely, were corrected in the Post Office by having a figure "4" written on each in black ink.

1892. 5c. green, error, three copies.

1899. Centre inverted. Entire and unique sheet of 1 peso, twenty-five stamps.

" 5 pesos, centre inverted, a block of six, the largest block known.

1892-5 and 1896. In these issues Mr. Simons has separated the varieties into sets perf. 11½, perf. 12, and perf. compound. This part of the collection is very strong, and when I was in Buenos Ayres I made a list of the most prominent shades found with each variety of perforation.

All through the collection a speciality is made of unused blocks of four, in which it is extremely strong.

The January number of the *London Philatelist* contains one of Mr. E. D. Bacon's exhaustive articles, also the first instalment of Captain G. F. Napier's paper dealing with the stamps of Brazil. Two such eminent authorities, writing about the stamps of favourite countries, make the official organ of the Royal Society an indispensable paper for all advanced collectors. Mr. Bacon's paper is entitled "The Stamps of Trinidad, printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co." He deals with the stamps supplied between the years 1848 and 1861 and quotes the quantities of each value sent out to the Island. We make a short extract.

Of the stamps with rough perforation there were 126 sheets of the Four Pence, 109 sheets of the Six Pence, and 38 sheets of the One Shilling, and no doubt two printings were made of all three values. Some catalogues give no less than four colours for the One Shilling, viz., "indigo, violet-blue, lilac-blue," and "bright blue." In my opinion there are only two true colours to be found of this value with rough perforation, viz., indigo and deep bluish purple, the latter of which appears in the catalogues as "violet-blue." Both these colours are very easily changed, and remembering the small number of sheets that were sent out of each printing, i.e., 17 and 21 respectively, I believe that the "bright blue" is a colour changing produced from an indigo stamp, and that the "lilac-blue" variety is a colour changing made from a copy of the One Shilling deep bluish purple. I know no more difficult philatelic problem than that of determining and naming correctly the colours of the Trinidad Four Pence and One Shilling stamps of the different printings of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. I have done my best, with the help of the printers, to simplify the ordinary catalogue list, but I cannot hope, nor do I expect, to at once convert every collector to the opinions I have expressed.

To compensate in some measure for the eliminations I have made, I have an addition to make to the stamps pin-perforated 14 of a One Shilling, indigo, a specimen of which is in the collection of Mr. H. J. Duveen. The existence of this variety proves that in the small sending of 3,000 pin-perforated stamps of August, 1859, there were a few printed in indigo, which almost certainly came from surplus sheets left over from the supply of imperforate stamps sent out in April, 1859.

In conclusion, and to refer to the list of the Perkins Bacon stamps for the last time, it will be seen that the final supply sent out by the firm left London on December 21st, 1861. Looking at the increased quantities of stamps that were wanted by the colony in the years 1859-61, clearly shown by the list, and the absence of any issue of provisional stamps in 1862, it appears to be almost a certainty that Messrs. De La Rue and Co. must have forwarded their first printing of Trinidad stamps in that year and not in 1863, which has for many years past been the date assigned for the first De La Rue stamps.

Captain Napier's paper consists of introductory remarks and a short history of the first issue.

A lengthy obituary notice of the late Judge Philbrick, Reviews, "Occasional Notes," New Issue columns, etc., complete our review.

The January number of the *Philatelic Record* contains, under the heading "Philately in 1910," a very thorough reference to all the principal articles which appeared in the philatelic press during the past year. Mr. L. W. Fulcher contributes a paper entitled, "Notes on Some Sheets of the 1867 and 1868 Issues of the Roman States," wherein he carefully describes various marked flaws on the sheets in his possession.

An editorial dealing with the catalogue of the philatelic library of the Earl of Crawford, an obituary notice of the late Judge Philbrick, and a goodly budget of "Notes and News" completes, with the exception of the New Issue list, and other regular features, the contents of a very good number of our contemporary.

The January 21st number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. Leonard Goldsmith, an account of the "Chums Society of Stamp Collectors," the programme of the Essex Philatelic Exhibition, a short list of new issues—some notes on fiscals and an odd paragraph or two dealing indirectly with stamps. We also find a short paper dealing with the bogus stamps of Brunei; this is entitled "The First Issue of Brunei," and embodies a letter from a correspondent who says he has had a considerable number of these stamps genuinely used.

He also writes as follows:—

They arrived through the post in the usual way, with no post-paid marks upon them, and no other postage stamps of any kind. I was charged nothing for the transaction, either by the Postal Authorities at this end or by the agent at the other. This course of action was taken on two separate occasions, one about twelve months after the other.

"These envelopes had a considerable number of stamps on each, and were unfortunately all broken up for disposal. I am sorry, therefore, that I cannot produce one for your inspection.

The *S.C.F.* doesn't doubt the good faith of their correspondent, neither of course do we. We should, however, query his eyesight.

The Feb. 4th number of the same publication is largely devoted to a lengthy programme of the Walthamstow Stamp Exhibition, while very appropriately their "Philatelist of To-Day" is Mr. A. H. Clark, the President of the South Essex Philatelic Society.

Mr. Irwin Faris contributes a lengthy instalment of his very elaborately worked out paper entitled, "The Gauging of Perforations."

The January number of the *British Philatelist* is entirely devoted to a further long instalment of "British Stamps Used Abroad." We make a very short extract; the bulk of the article deals, however, with the various stamps to be found with Maltese obliterations.

The first occasion on which British stamps were used abroad was during the Crimean War, and a special device was employed to take the place of the office numbers then in use at home.

The next three offices to be opened again had special postmarks consisting of the initials of their names, viz., "M" for Malta, "G" for Gibraltar, and "C" for Constantinople.

When, however, in 1858 it was decided to open further offices, this scheme was found to be so limited that a special series was started consisting of the initial "A" and a number for offices in foreign countries—British towns had simply numbers. This idea had, however, not been in operation long before the series of numbers (Nos. 1-997, 002, 997) had all been allotted to post offices in England, and on fresh offices being opened the original scheme was abandoned and the numbers allotted to offices, whether at home or abroad, as occasion demanded. The initials "M" and "G" were abandoned for "A25" and "A26" respectively in 1859, but Constantinople and Stamboul retained the initials "C" and "S" till the use of both numbers and initials was abandoned in 1885 in favour of date stamps.

The *West End Philatelist* for January contains further instalments of "The Postage Stamps of Bermuda," and the article dealing with Registration Stamps, both contributed by Mr. B. W. H. Poole. The following short extract relates to the provisional 1d. stamps of 1875.

Early in 1875 penny stamps ran out of stock, and recourse had again to be made to the printing press to make good the deficiency. The then current 2d., 3d. and 1s. stamps were all requisitioned for the purpose of surcharging; the dates of the various printings, and quantities overprinted being as follows:—

March 11, 1875, 1d. on 1s.	14,400
" 31, 1875, 1d. on 1s.	6,720
" 31, 1875, 1d. on 2d.	4,800
April 16, 1875, 1d. on 1s.	2,380
" 16, 1875, 1d. on 3d.	12,000

The total quantities were therefore, 4,800 1d. on 2d., 12,000 1d. on 3d., and 23,500 1d. on 1s. Considering that nearly twice as many of the 1s. were overprinted than the 3d., the catalogue quotations for these two varieties would appear to be somewhat disproportionate.

The surcharge consisted of the words "One Penny" in ordinary Roman type, arranged in two lines, and printed in black. How many stamps were surcharged at a time is not known, but it seems probable the same setting was employed for each printing. All three varieties are found without the period after the word "Penny," and the 1s. is known with surcharge inverted.

Early in 1894 it was announced in various philatelic journals that copies of the 3d., perf. 14×12½, had been found with the "One Penny" surcharge, but these have never been properly authenticated, and are most probably forgeries.

The *Stamp Lover* for February contains several very excellent articles.

Mr. Nils Strandell, translates, with the permission of the author, Mr. Henrick Dethloff, a very interesting article entitled, "Norwegian Stamps in the Redrawn Type." This appeared in the *Nordisk Filatelisteske Tidsskrift*, and will interest all collectors of modern Norwegians.

Mr. R. W. Harold Row contributes a lengthy instalment of his capable article entitled, "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Siam." He writes about the "Small Roman" surcharges of 1894-5, and succeeding issue, and treats his subject in a very thorough manner.

Some "Correspondence" relating to the "B.R.A." stamps of China and a couple of "Ten-Minute" papers entitled "The Reprints and Official Imitations of Denmark, 1851," and "The Stamps of King Edward VII." read respectively by Messrs. Herbert Clark and B. Morley make good reading.

We also find an article under, the signature of G. G. Duncombe which is described as a ten minute paper read at Brighton on December 8th, 1910. We congratulate Mr. Duncombe on his excellent paper and have no doubt his brother members considered it a very able contribution to their evening's amusement.

We regret, however, to notice that Mr.

G. G. Duncombe forgot to mention (at least no acknowledgment appears in the *Stamp Lover*) that he had appropriated the work of somebody else's brains. The article in question appeared in the *P.J.G.B.* as an original contribution in Dec., 1909.

If Mr. G. G. Duncombe perseveres in his clever efforts there is no doubt that he will continue to entertain his fellow members, provided he continues to crib his literary matter. We trust, however, that the next writer who is favoured with Mr. G. G. Duncombe's attention, will not quote from the *Rubâyât*, otherwise Mr. G. G. Duncombe, or at least his proof reader, will have another chance of exhibiting great ignorance.

The December and January numbers of the *Stamp Collector* both contain a good deal of interesting reading matter. In the earlier number we find the first instalment of an article on the stamps of Antigua, contributed by Mr. John J. Darlow. In the January copy we find this paper continued, also the first instalment of an article, by Mr. J. E. Heginbotton, dealing with the stamps of Tasmania. Illustrated interviews with Messrs George Johnson and William Pimm, both of the Birmingham Philatelic Society; and other matter, make our Birmingham exchange a welcome visitor.

Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers for February contains a very complete article dealing with the little known stamps of Cordoba. Mr. Griebert writes as follows:

The first stamps of Cordoba appeared on October 28th.

5 Centavos blue.
10 Centavos black.

The firm of Larsch, Buenos Aires, produced these by lithography.

A die without the inscription "Cordoba" and "5 Cen." was used for the production, and this was repeated thirty times by transferring to the lithographic stone. The "CORDOBA" and "5 CEN" were drawn separately on the stone, and by this means there arose thirty different types which I have fully described later on.

The sheet contained therefore 30 stamps, consisting of three horizontal rows of 10 stamps each. The horizontal length of each 10 stamps is 16½ centimetres, the vertical length of each 3 stamps is 7 centimetres. The distance between the stamps is only ¼-1mm. next to one another, and only ½-1½mm. below one another.

The stamps show very fine separating lines, which, however, are scarcely visible on some of them. The stamps were printed on paper with wide horizontal lines (usually called laid paper) and each original sheet shows also about seven vertical lines at a distance of about 26mm. The outer margins of the sheet are about 5mm. wide at the top and at the bottom, while on the left and the right they show margins up to 28mm.

Sheets have been found in which the left or right margin has no lines, and so the first or last vertical row of stamps appears sometimes to be printed on

ordinary unlined or wove paper. This was a mere accident, and whole sheets on wove paper have never been found nor were they ever issued.

Mr. Griebert carefully describes the thirty varieties, illustrating his remarks by the aid of a plate shewing one of the stamps enlarged many times.

Another capital article is entitled "Specialized Collections." The writer recommends the following list of groups as being worthy of collectors' attention.

Belgium, 1849-1867
Brazil, 1843-1861.
Chili, 1853-1865.
Costa Rica, Guanacaste.
Dominican Rep., 1862-1883.
Cashmere, all issues.
Columbia, 1859-1895.
(a) Antioquia, 1868-1887.
(b) Bolivar, 1863-1878.
(c) Cundinamarca, 1870-1883.
(d) Santander, 1884-1900.
(e) Tolima, 1871-1895.
Liberia, 1860-1885.
Mexico, 1856-1872.
Paraguay, 1870-1884.
Peru, 1858-1873.
Roumania, 1865-1872.
Venezuela, 1858-1880.

With the exception perhaps of the Guanacastes it would be hard to better the above list.

The February number of the *Herts Monthly Report* contains the first instalment of a paper contributed by Mr. A. J. Séfi. He writes about the early history (non philatelic) of Kashmir. Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield is responsible for the first chapter of an article dealing with the Statutory Provisions relating to forged stamps.

A translated article dealing with stamps which have been postmarked to order makes good reading. A lengthy list of stamps so treated is given.

"Philatelic Crumbs," "Reviews," "Correspondence," and other matter, completes a good number of our exchange.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

THE January number of the *Philatelic Gazette* contains a further instalment of Major Palmer's "Postal Issues of the Philippines." He writes about the 1854 stamps, and we make the following extract:—

ISSUED FEBRUARY 1ST 1854.

1. 5 Cuartos, orange, red-orange, and shades (1).
(a) Head on ground of finer lines.

The largest known block of this value contains 37 of the 40 varieties, and was sold at auction at Paris, on

May 27th, 1910. It had been the property of the late M. Mirabaud, but its present owner is unknown.

There are said to have been two plates for this stamp, one having finer lines than the other in the groundwork, and plates of each are said to have been reconstructed. As similar differences may sometimes be distinguished between stamps of the same block of other values, it is doubtful whether different plates were really made or if the result noted is due to wear or retouching of one original plate.

2. 10 Cuartos, carmine and shades (2).

a. Rose-red and shades (3).

The full mint sheet of this stamp from which Scott's electro-plate was made is presumed to be still intact, though its present whereabouts is not known; it may perhaps be in the Taping or Ferrary collections. Two blocks of 15 varieties each, giving 30 of the 40 varieties, have been seen by the writer on the original cover. A full sheet of the rose-red shade in postally used condition was offered for sale a few years since by a dealer in Paris; whether it is still intact is not known.

Mencarini mentions a 10 Cuartos BLACK as having been issued; a Filipino philatelist, a friend and co-worker with Mencarini in the preparation of his stamp work, informed the writer that this stamp was merely an essay cancelled on a cover through favour of post office officials.

3. 1 Rl. Fte., blue, slate-blue and shades of each (4).

a. Ultramarine and shades (4b).

b. Error, "CORROS" instead of "CORREOS" in lower label (4c).

Three full unsevered sheets have been seen by the writer; all were postally used, and each had one or more stamps partially ant-eaten. One of these sheets is in possession of a well-known Baltimore collector.

4. 2 Rs. Fte., green, yellow-green and shades of each (5 and 5a).

A full sheet, but fiscally cancelled, has been seen by the writer in the collection of a well-known collector, formerly of Manila, but now a resident of Japan.

Mr. G. L. Toppan contributes an article entitled, "Notes on Some So-called 'Imperforate Stamps' of the United States," wherein he says that the imperforate copies of the 1895, and earlier stamps of the U.S.A., are only proofs.

An interesting letter from Mr. E. B. Power dealing with the prices of U.S.A. stamps, etc., and several articles of interest to the collectors of U.S.A. envelopes, essays, proofs, etc., make the *Philatelic Gazette* a very capable and desirable publication.

The December 1st number of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, which only came to hand at the end of January, is a "fat" holiday number, containing one or two lengthy articles. The first is translated from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* and deals very thoroughly with the "Three Pfennige Red of Saxony."

Mr. Melville's recent booklet dealing with the stamps of Jamaica is laid under very generous tribute; it provides copy for nearly eight pages. Mr. C. B. Bostwick, an authority on Cayman Island stamps,

contributes a lengthy article dealing with the postmarks of the Cayman Islands.

A lengthy review of a recent American book entitled, the "Wonderland of Stamps," and a number of short paragraphs and "puffs" all help to make this number of the *P. J. of A.* a very readable production.

The December number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains several short articles likely to prove of interest to Australian and other philatelists. Unfortunately no one of these deals directly with the stamps of any single country.

The following paragraph relates to the forthcoming Federal issue:—

NEW AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

The Postmaster-General stated in the House of Representatives on the 22nd November, that it was the intention of the Federal Government to call for competitive designs for a new Australian stamp, within the next week or two. Same old story—nothing definite.

The second number of our new Australian exchange—*The Australian Stamp Journal*—is dated December 10th. It contains a good deal of reading matter.

Mr. J. H. Smyth contributes a paper entitled "Random Remarks on Pacific Island Stamps." These notes were read before a recent meeting of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and do not enrich the literature of philately to a very great extent. Several pages are devoted to some very excellent "Items of Interest." We extract the following paragraph:—

Mr. C. F. Williams has shown us a complete set of Australian stamps, presented to Federal Members of Parliament, to commemorate the introduction of interchangeable postage stamps throughout Australia on the 13th October. All the stamps are "postmarked to order," but the cancellations of those of some of the States are just like ordinary postmarks, and do not savour of the "postmarked to order" variety.

A short article dealing with possible new issues for the New Hebrides, a long review of Mr. Courtenay Smith's book (*The Future of Australian Philately*), a good list of new issues, and a half page devoted to Commonwealth news all make good reading.

We make a short extract:—

The proclamation, formally taking over the Federal capital from New South Wales, was issued on the 6th inst. It will take effect from 1st January next year, and it settles for ever this very much vexed question. Until the proclamation was issued, the decision as to the site could have been revoked. Now that it is an accomplished fact, we understand that one of the first buildings to be erected will be a Federal Government Printing Office, and in due time all postage stamps will be printed there. This may not eventuate for some years, but until that has also become an accomplished fact, philatelists may expect uncertainties.

Meantime the postal authorities are not idle. We

have been informed privately that preparations are being made for the issue of new stamps, but no steps are being taken for the purpose of having them printed by the steel plate process. It was announced in the daily press last week, that competitive designs for the new stamp would be called for, this week, but up to the 6th inst., no particulars have reached us. It is on the cards that penny stamps of the normal size, bearing a portrait of King George will be issued on, or about, the date of His Majesty's coronation, 22nd June. The stamp may be issued to commemorate the introduction of penny postage throughout Australia, the proclamation of which, Mr. Thomas, the Postmaster-General, states, will be issued not later than the first of May next.

The *Stamp Collector* of Columbus, Ohio, for December, contains a rather learned dissertation, entitled "Some Thoughts on Specialism" contributed by Mr. Julian Park. We also find an article dealing with the "Louisiana Exposition Part Perforate." We are told that a sheet of the 2 cent stamps, out of a total of 287, 992, 100, stamps of all five denominations, escaped being perforated horizontally and was placed on sale in this condition by the Government.

Mr. A. W. Weigel writes as follows:—

Nothing unusual attaches to the finding of this sheet of part perforates. These stamps were issued in sheets of 100 and furnished to post offices in this way. On account of the size of a whole sheet they were usually separated in halves for convenience in handling by the clerks. This sheet of part perforated stamps had with others been likewise separated into two blocks of 50, before their presence in this condition was known. One of these blocks of 50 had been cut into single stamps by the clerk and thus sold piece meal as any ordinary stamp.

Happening on the spot as the other block of 50 were about to be cut up, I purchased them at face value, \$1.00. While I made a quiet and unassuming search for several weeks of the stocks of stamps on hand, no more part perforated ones could be found. Of the sheet of 50 cut up and sold to the public none were ever found. Although I immediately made an effort to trace them not a single specimen could be located.

Number 3 of the *South African Philatelist* contains many capital South African Notes, reports of local Societies, and other matter interesting to Union readers.

Our new contemporary is a bright, up-to-date addition to the literature of philately; may it long continue to flourish. We make the following extract:—

NOTES FROM RHODESIA.

(Contributed by the Rhodesian Society.)

The £1 stamp of the new issue has at last been put on sale. Like the majority of the other values, the colours are anything but a happy combination. The centre is a deep magenta, the frame a dark slate, and it is printed on a blued paper.

The 4/- stamp, listed in the Rhodesian Postal Notice, No. 28, has, so far, not been put on sale, and it is believed that no stamp of this denomination has been printed.

Fresh stocks of the new stamps were put on sale at the end of last week, no doubt to the disappointment of a certain enthusiastic philatelist, who, only a few

days previously, paid 2/6 for a 2½d. stamp. There was some excuse for this, as only a limited supply of this denomination was put on sale, and after the first half-hour the Post Office clerks were sold out. Rumours were then current that no further supplies would be available.

Mr. B. W. Bell, of Inyati, records the discovery of a strip of 1d. red, overprinted "Rhodesia," imperforate vertically. This is apparently the first notice of the overprinted stamps being found in this condition, although the same stamps without overprint have been found in most of the denominations, imperforate both vertically and horizontally.

Recent numbers of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* have published Mr. Henry J. Crocker's reply to Major Evans' article in the December number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

This controversy is such an old one that we should not dream of inflicting even a *résumé* upon our readers. From a perusal of Mr. Crocker's article, however, we are compelled to admit that his side of the question has been stated in a more temperate, and less acrimonious fashion than was the article in *G.S.W.* voicing Major Evans' opinions.

Any of our readers interested in Hawaiian stamps would do well to study the writings of both these gentlemen.

The December number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains a short biographical sketch of Mr. Wilmot Corfield. Mr. Corfield is returning home, so what will be India's loss will be England's gain. We trust he will continue, for very many years to come, to contribute to our Indian contemporary.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell contributes the first instalment of an article entitled, "The Stamps Printed for Postal Purposes by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd." He lays special stress on the perforations of these stamps, and compares Gibbons' list with that of Paul Kohl. The conclusion arrived at however, is no new one, namely, that all Waterlow perforations can be described under one heading namely, "Irregular Perforations from Machines Gauging between 12 and 16."

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg's paper, published in the *London Philatelist*, and dealing with the Colonial Perforations of Queensland is reprinted in full. Several pages of "Notes," a very lengthy and carefully compiled New Issue list, a short review of one or two stamp papers, and a couple of pages of Tancred's "Topical Notes" complete the principal items in our one and only Indian exchange.

Philately on the Continent.

THE January number of Kohl's *Mitteilungen* is full of interest.

First comes an article on the stamps of that philatelically debatable land Formosa. The only catalogues which recognise it are the large Kohl, Scott, and Yvert and Tellier. The article deals with the stamps issued by the Chinese and those by the Black Flags; it ceased issuing stamps after the Japanese conquest. Japanese stamps overprinted Formosa are bogus.

There follows the first instalment of a particularly readable article on obliterations, by Dr. Pirl, of Charlottenburg. He shows that the origin of cancellations to order is the desire of (especially German) collectors for used specimens, so as to avoid the fear of being saddled with reprints. The fact that "used" stamps were met with full gum, or that postmarked entires bore no address whatever, and no trace of there ever having been one, did not matter in the least; the copies were *used*, and that was the great desideratum. It was the old question of supply and demand. There was a demand for used stamps of countries with a small correspondence, and thus was born the "postmarked to order" variety. The author gives a list of twenty-nine countries, in each of which he describes some forged postmarks. Among other items of interest we may mention a note on the reconstructed sheet of the 1 real orange-red, Uruguay, of 1856, with photographic reproduction; another note on the 1910 split provisionals of China—altogether a galaxy of highly interesting matter.

The *Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung* draws attention to some dangerous fakes of Basle stamps. These have been produced from a sheet of official essays in green, this colour being changed into blue by chemical means, and red paint being responsible for the rest. They appear to be hawked round the Continent for about £10 a piece.

These fakes are described as exceedingly dangerous. A very good forgery of the 3 leva black of Bulgaria is being offered from Belgium.

Le Timbre-Poste for December contains a useful account of the different settings of the provisional issue of Colombia for the town of Cali, which was rendered necessary by the interruption of communication with the capital during the Civil War of 1878. This article is reproduced from M. Th. Champion's *Bulletin Mensuel*, which we have not had the pleasure of seeing. Collectors who are interested in these perfectly legitimate and interesting provisionals should certainly read this article. It is from the pen of M. H. Desmonts, who has had the opportunity of examining the fine collection of Dr. Gustave Michelsen, Colombian Minister to Germany, who bought at the post-office at Cali, some years after their use, the small stock of remainders of this issue.

The main fact brought out is that the original sheets consisted of ten stamps in two identical blocks of five. Hitherto nothing larger than the block of five were known and this was always believed to constitute the entire sheet. We are also told that there were two settings in addition to the four already known; one of these contains two blocks of four instead of two blocks of five, while the stamps in it are spaced $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart instead of 2mm.

The same journal for January contains an analysis of the new issues for 1910. The figures include telegraph as well as postage stamps, but the number of the former is an almost negligible quantity. The total for the whole world, exclusive of perforation and watermark varieties, is 673, divided as follows:

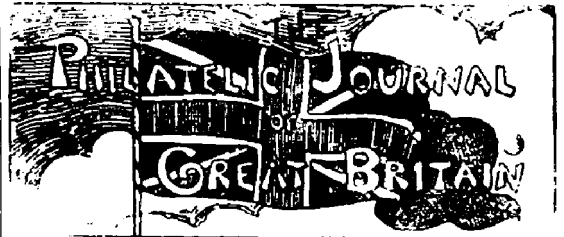
Europe ...	159	Africa ...	133
Asia ...	151	America ...	184
Oceania ...	46		

The following table compares the new issues of 1910 with those of the average of the years 1900-1909.

	Average	1910
France and Colonies ...	142	30
England ..	192	161
Germany ..	33	—
Spain ..	36	43
Italy ..	20	18
Holland ..	13	3
Portugal ..	57	44
United States and Colonies	15	17
Russia and Foreign Offices	9	68
Various ...	303	289

820 673

It will be seen that the output has been far short of the normal, and if it had not been for Russia's misplaced zeal the record would have been even better. We have an idea that the figures for the British section, at the end of this year will bring the average up again!



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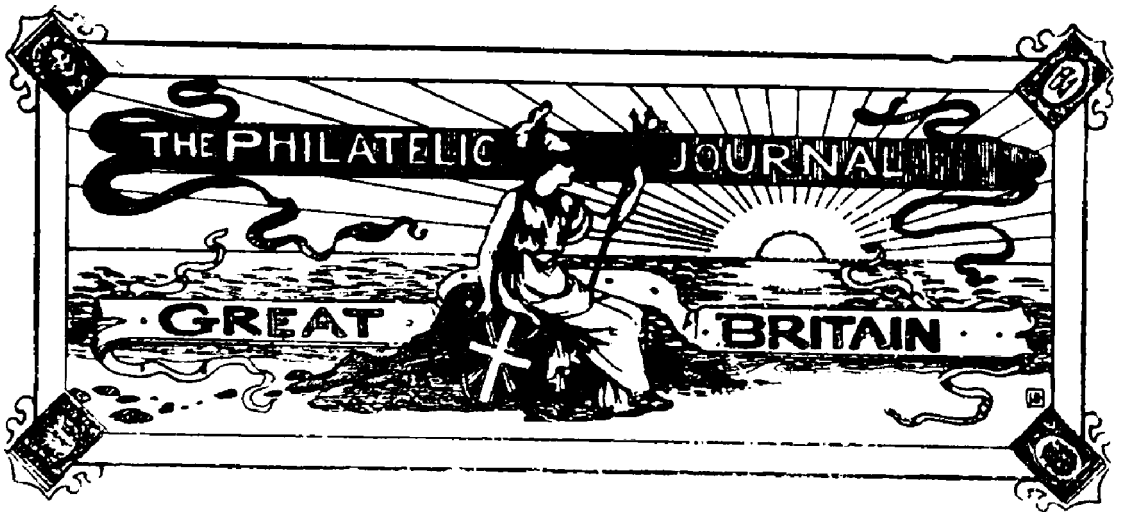
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The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London
Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 243. VOL. XXI.

MARCH 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

COLLECTORS of new issues are likely, if the shadows of coming events are not unduly magnified, to be kept very busy during the present year of grace. From all corners of the world there are new emissions coming, **New Issues Again.** or likely to come to hand, with the result that no man can safely say when *this* diminutive speck of a South Pacific Coral Atoll, or *that* swampy acre of rice land is likely to have an issue of stamps for its own special use.

A few years ago we had the Federation of the Malay States, which resulted in the withdrawal of a number of totally unnecessary stamps. Now, however, we find that the States of Kelantan and Trengannu, which have recently been transferred to the ownership of Great Britain, are to have their own sets of distinctive postage stamps.

In the Pacific Ocean we find another illustration; the insignificant group of islands known as the Gilbert and Ellice Protectorate is to have its own set of stamps. Such indeed was the haste, that a temporary issue was made by overprinting the current stamps of Fiji. We are afraid we fail to see the necessity for these stamps; if they are intended as an intimation to other Powers that Great Britain is in possession, we think such a demonstration a very feeble one; a strongly worded note from Downing

Street would better meet the case. If they are issued for the benefit of some speculative official we sincerely hope that the British public, or at any rate the stamp collecting portion of that mighty institution, will leave them severely alone. Unfortunately the great British public is not constituted that way. If the stamps are issued as a graceful tribute to the letter writing capacities of the half dozen or so traders and beachcombers who are resident in the islands, we marvel at the erudition of these gentlemen.

Whatever the reason for which these "Gilbert and Sullivan" stamps, as they have already been so appropriately called, have been issued, we can confidently predict that the demand will greatly exceed the supply. The natural result will follow, as "night the day," that many collectors will add another quiver to their bow of invectives against stamps and stamp collecting.

In a recent American publication it is stated that a gentleman from the Caymans visited New York with £2,000 worth of Cayman Islands stamps for disposal.

We see no reason to doubt this statement, and the same state of affairs will apply to all the unnecessary stamps which are now being issued by out-of-the-way Colonial dependencies. In a few months, or years, we shall find, as has invariably been the case during the past, that some official or private speculator has

made a corner, with the result that prices, once sky high, suffer a sudden fall.

The instances are so numerous that we have only to glance at a colonial catalogue to find confirmation. Aitutaki, British Guiana, Brunei, Cayman Islands, Ceylon, Falkland Islands, Gambia, Natal, Orange River Colony, and a dozen other countries all bear evidence that the speculator has been a too prominent factor in our pursuit. Unfortunately collectors will continue to burn their fingers, with the result that in the long run they lose all interest in col-

lecting, a regrettable state of affairs, and one likely to reflect no credit on the most popular and fascinating of hobbies. If every collector who so rashly denounces stamp collecting would only bear his losses like a man and turn to old stamps for solace we feel sure we should eventually add a devotee to our ranks and not one who, because he started in at the wrong end, and so never even sampled the real delights of philately, must needs belittle a recreation about which he knows practically nothing.

Correspondence.

THE "PUTTILLA" ERROR.

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

SIR,

All those who are interested in this question will be glad to see the case against the "Puttilla" error, so ably stated by Mr. Gordon Jones in his letter to you in your January number. In reply let me first say that I have never argued in favour of this variety in connection with the half anna or the one rupee, in fact, I agree that Mr. Gordon Jones has made a strong case against the original statement in the Indian Society's Handbook, 1st edition, page 77, that the "Autialla," the "Puttilla" and the so-called "Puttitiialla" errors each existed once in each panel of the printings, March, 1885. The question really is reduced to this—what was the status of my former block of the 2 annas stamps containing two "Puttilla" errors? I have simply protested against condemnation of the block on merely *a priori* grounds. There can be no possible doubt as to the constitution and description of the block. I purchased it from Mr. Hadlow, in 1898, as containing two errors, and Mr. Hadlow is certain that it came from M. Moens. I showed it to Mr. C. J. Phillips, and ultimately divided it into two blocks, each containing one of the errors, and retaining one of such blocks for my own collection, which I disposed of about eight years ago. I sold the other block to Mr. Phillips. Further, I made the following note on page 77 of my copy of the handbook (1st edition) against the statement as to the number of the errors actually printed: ? "only one Autialla on the sheet (*page 75) but I know there were two Puttilla errors one above the other in a block of ten, 2 annas." Mr. Gordon Jones says that official reprints or forgeries were made, two sheets of each value, the setting containing the "Puttilla" error

once (the top right corner stamp of each panel); now it is obvious that my block did not belong to those particular reprints and must therefore have had an entirely different origin. In the first edition of the handbook Mr. Stewart Wilson refers at page 74 to some other reprints, which, however, "contain none of the errors which characterise the genuine stamps"; so these, too, may be dismissed from the consideration of the question. What other explanation can be given of my former block? It seems that there are four possibilities, viz. :—

- (1) That it was part of a third and unknown reprint.
- (2) That it was a private forgery.
- (3) That it was a proof sheet.
- (4) That it was genuine.

If I read Mr. Gordon Jones' letter correctly, his arguments against the genuineness of the block are based on two assumptions: the first, that the list of the deliveries or printings is complete; the second, that only one setting was employed for each delivery. For the first I think he makes a strong case, as I gather from his letter that each sheet was or should have been recorded in three different Departments. Mr. Gordon Jones says it has been *proved* that it did not occur in the March 1885 printings, but how? I imagine only on his second assumption, which I venture to think is the weak point in his case; it is an assumption which I have found fallacious and misleading in other countries, notably the Transvaal as regards the overprinted stamps of the first British occupation, and in that case it was responsible for much of the difficulty experienced by many collectors in following the articles of some of the earlier writers on

these issues. I know nothing of the arrangements of the Government of India Press in the 'eighties, but I can see no reason why the type should not have been dispersed and set up again during the course of printing the stamps of one delivery, even before the completion of the printing of one value, so that possibly the 2 annas of the delivery of March 1885 existed with two distinct settings. Also it is possible that the "Puttilla" error existed in the original setting of the March 1885 deliveries, and was corrected during the printings of the two annas. Now, *Le Timbre Poste* of July, 1886, (page 57) records the arrival of the two annas with the overprint "Service" above and "Puttilla State" in two lines below, all in red, and the text goes on to say that the first of these two words sometimes occurs with the error "Puttilla." It is not clear whether this refers to the Service stamps only or to the ordinary stamps, the arrival of which had already been recorded in *Le Timbre Poste* of December, 1885, (page 105), but, as M. Moens, in the third supplement (dated 1888-1889) to the sixth edition of his catalogue lists the error "Puttilla" only with "Service", I assume that the text referred to the Service stamp. I have never seen this variety in the Service stamps, but this reference is very strong evidence of its existence, because it is a contemporary record of stamps which had already arrived at the office of M. Moens, and it is further notorious that M. Moens obtained most of his stamps from the post offices. Unless it is a fact that Government reprints, containing this error, were in existence some time before July, 1886, I do not see how the existence of a genuine "Puttilla" error, at any rate overprinted "Service", can be controverted in the case of the two annas, and if that be granted, another possibility suggests itself, namely that my block was part of a sheet of the same printing, but from which the word "Service" was omitted, somewhat analogously to the sheet of the 1 anna of the fifth printing, described by Mr. Gordon Jones in his article in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, of January, 1905, in which, it may be noted, he states that the overprint "SERVICE" was separately applied. In fact, as the stamps with the red overprints spelt "PUTTIALLA" remained current until some years later, it would be almost a misnomer to call special printings made in 1886 (if any such were made) at the Government press, reprints or official forgeries, unless they were entirely fraudulent; "special printings" would be a more appropriate term. There is, however, one passage in Mr. Gordon Jones' letter which I do not quite follow; he says, that if my block was re-examined it would be found to be a portion of a proof sheet or something worse. Re-examination certainly might prove it to be a forgery, but how it would prove it to be a proof sheet I fail to understand—there could not have been any-

thing suspicious about it, otherwise Mr. Phillips would not have purchased it. I have never heard of any proof sheets, and I do not know how they would be identified, unless there were notes written on them. There remains the question whether it might be a forgery of a private nature. Against that conclusion may be pleaded its origin. M. Moens purchased most of his stamps from local offices; further, private forgeries of overprinted stamps are rarely made in blocks and sheets with different overprints for such stamps. Of course, there have been exceptions, e.g., in some of the forgeries of the overprinted Transvaal of 1877-1880.

In all the circumstances of the case, especially having regard to the stamps having been obtained from M. Moens, and the fact that the variety of the 2 annas Service in red with the overprint spelt "Puttilla" was recorded in *Le Timbre Poste* so early as July, 1886, I am not prepared to acquiesce in the condemnation of the variety merely on a *priori* grounds involving assumptions which may or may not be true. I can quote another case, not of a surcharge error, but of the number and dates of distinct shades or rather differences of colour which, according to dated specimens, do not fit in with the official list of printings, or rather deliveries of stamps, unless one delivery comprised two distinct printings in different colours, namely, in the case of the Six Pence line-engraved stamps of Tasmania, and I may say that I have felt some difficulty in connection with another error of the British Indian stamps overprinted for the Native States, viz., the 1 rupee "Jeind" error of Jhind. According to the official printings there should have been only four specimens of this variety, yet when I was collecting these stamps there were known to be four copies in collections in London; this would be about 1899; two of these errors, of which one belonged to a London dealer, the other being in my own collection, certainly agreed with the illustration in the handbook, yet presumably at the same moment there were other specimens of the same error in India and on the Continent.

I have not relied on another factor which sometimes disturbs deductions made from official lists of deliveries—namely, the fact that printers of postage stamps sometimes printed numbers in excess of the indent, with the result that subsequent deliveries contain stamps of more than one printing, thus producing peculiar combinations of watermarks, overprints, perforations, &c. This could not well have occurred in the case of overprinting for the Native States actual postage stamps of the Government of India which no doubt were subject to numerous and careful checks and counterchecks.

Yours faithfully,

R. B. YARDLEY.

CALCUTTA,
Feb. 16th, 1911.

To the Editor, "P.F.G.B."

DEAR SIR,

In reference to Mr. Yardley's article re the Puttilla Errors, the opinion on the question of their being genuine issues or reprints differs considerably, but the latter is generally the accepted opinion of Indian philatelists. The Handbook of the Indian Society is not always to be relied upon for accurate information on all errors. So far it is believed none of the "Puttilla" errors have ever been used, whereas the errors "Puttitialla" have been found used. The half anna and two annas in my possession are both used, the latter being on original cover. These varieties have almost escaped notice. Messrs. Bright & Son are the only firm who catalogue them.

Whilst we are on the subject of the accuracy of errors in handbooks, I may point out that I have in my possession the error of the two annas, wmk. Elephant's Head, in the colour of red-brown. This variety was noticed in the Handbook on India published by the London Philatelic Society, and pointed out by Mr. Sassoon Gubbay, who has a fine used copy on original cover, in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, 1906. It is not however noticed in the Handbook on India published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the Indian Philatelic Society. The firm when written to make the bold assertion that the stamp is a changling, but I have the evidence of experts to whom the stamp was shown, and who state that no chemical process (*) could possibly change any two anna stamp into that colour. I would be glad to obtain further opinion on this particular stamp. I have recently purchased a small collection wherein I found an error of the Sarawak stamp, S.G. No. 36 (one cent on three cent), with bar above and below the new value. Perhaps this stamp may be placed in the class of St. Helena errors, vide S.G.'s note under No. 45 of St. Helena, para. two. The reason given may be applied equally to all errors for the simple reason that if care was exercised in the printing of stamps or surcharges, no error would exist!

Yours faithfully,

B. J. H. SOMAKE.

(*) We are afraid that any up-to-date faker can change the colour of practically any stamp.—ED.

ARE you a member of the London Philatelic Society? If not, and you wish to spend an evening, or evenings, in the congenial society of other stamp men, you should join an up-to-date society. This journal is the official organ to the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society and the North London Philatelic Society. Read the secretaries' reports.

Random Philatelic Notes.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE CITY OF LONDON
PHILATELIC SOCIETY, FEB. 1911.

BY H. W. WESTCOTT.

BEING asked the other day if I ever talked in my sleep, I replied, "Rather, that's the only chance a married man gets, except at a philatelic meeting." But what that chance has cost me! The hours of anxiety! For I know you expect to learn something at this monthly meeting and I've nothing of a serious character to broach for discussion. Of course, my topic must have a philatelic flavour at least, so I cudgelled my brains for a title, and fixed upon "Random Philatelic Notes," as a heading that would not only give me an opportunity of "sitting on the fence" but might afford an "open door" through which escape might be effected if necessity should arise.

"Random Philatelic Notes." This title gives a writer immense latitude. Fancy annexing such a heading for a ten minute paper! That's all I promised Mr. Secretary. There's an old saying about the more you have the more you want, and this applies especially to philatelists, more particularly when a "paper" has to be prepared, and it appears that owing to the limitless possibilities afforded by the word "Random," I've been spending much time wandering through miscellaneous notes in search of memoranda sufficiently interesting to work up for you this evening, till I've lost my head in the depths of many pencilled jottings which have been made from time to time with a view to helping me secure at normal prices uncatalogued varieties, etc., etc. You will gather that I have some notes which ought to give "the man in possession" special chances of philatelic, not to say financial, success. True, but is it wise to give those notes *verbatim pro bono publico*?

Take my advice at this stage and make your own notes concerning uncatalogued varieties when discovered or shown at a meeting. It may be years before you want to know specially "what's what." Then you turn up your roughly pencilled record and the chances are that the queried stamp is the very one you failed to record! Yes, I've often experienced that irritating non-existence of notes that *should* have been made, but keep the note box going and you'll often find it useful. Very badly damaged copies of stamps existing in several types might also be added and carefully marked. These, too, are of immense value sometimes, better than a thousand worded explanation of differences between Dies I., II. or III. Papers cut to the size of a lady's visiting card filed on the "card index" system in cigar boxes are, I find, of ample dimensions for this purpose, and can easily be kept in alphabetical and chronological order for immediate reference.

You are accustomed to listen here to erudite essays by such philatelists as Burton, Edwards, Leon, Higlett, &c., and to see stamps which are unique, and as I am unable to provide such entertainment this evening, I intend to break away for once from the orthodox. A poet years ago asserted that—

"A little nonsense now and then
Is relished by the wisest men."

Therefore, with your permission, I will pass round a small portion of my collection and some single stamps whilst relating some incidents connected with them.

Have you ever piloted any of your lady friends through the pages of your album? When I look on this page of Labuans I always blush in memory of a very pleasant half-hour devoted to an exhibition of my few choice stamps. I had been explaining various types, dies and so forth, and as usual mentioned prices paid and the high value some of the less attractive labels had attained since their acquisition. Figures seemed to warm my friend's interest—figures do attract ladies as a rule—especially bad figures! Well, we came to Labuan, when she exclaimed, "Oh, there! these *are* nice." I made no immediate observation concerning them, so she turned and said, "They cost you something, I know!" "A few shillings for the whole page," I said. She was greatly surprised. Why she didn't turn the leaf after this and look at Lagos I don't know, but as if struck with a sudden inspiration, she looked me full in the face and said consolingly, "But if you keep them long enough they will *accumulate*." She doubtless meant *appreciate*. What a chance for the Specialist! Did I hear someone say "Chestnut"?

Queen's heads are, as you have seen to-night, still used for Jamaica stamps. This fact lead me to search for the current colonial stamp that has remained unchanged for the longest period. Do you know which it is? The 5d. New South Wales.

Portugal.—A very fishy set is the series of commemoratives celebrating the 700th anniversary of the birth of St. Anthony of Padua. These are the labels with a Latin prayer on their backs. According to an old Legend the fish came in shoals to listen to St. Anthony while the Portuguese turned deaf ears to his ministrations. The sight of one of these stamps always recalls to my mind an instance in which a Salvation Army lassie scored off a theological heckler. "Do you really believe," he asked, "that Jonah spent three days and nights in the belly of a whale?" I don't know replied the lady of the poke bonnet: "I'll ask him when I get to heaven." "But supposing he isn't there?" said the man. Quick as thought came her reply—"Then you can ask him." (It is said that £10,000 of these stamps were sold by the Portuguese Government and the remainder, some £80,000 worth, were consigned to the flames).

Peru.—I have often wondered why the Sun depicted on some of the stamps of Peru and Montevideo should have eyes, nose and mouth. Can anyone tell me? The moon is often so treated, for we have heard there is a man there; and there must be a woman too, otherwise how do you account for the sun?

U.S.A.—On the 2c. Buffalo Exhibition stamp you have a representation of a railway train travelling at great speed beneath which is carefully engraved "*Fast Express*." The designer must have sometime paid a visit to our South East Coast and intends this as a standing gentle knock to our S.E. and C.R. (slow, easy, and certainly rotten).

U.S.A.—On page 669 of Gibbons' present catalogue the 50c. Omaha is described as "*Western Miners prospecting*." Presumably two miners and one ass. The correct inscription should be *Western Mining Prospector*.

The latest suggested name for the Commonwealth capital is Shakespeare. The Australian Home Secretary says the Federal capital will be the intellectual centre of the Commonwealth, and "Shakespeare is the intellectual centre of the world." Now it is often said that you can find quotations in this poet's works to meet any circumstances, and it seems to me that he must have been capable of seeing far into the future to provide us with applicable quotations for our hobby—a science then unborn. In *King Richard II*, he has a dig at perforation extremists when he makes one of his characters say "Throw down your gage"; whilst in *Love's Labour Lost* he causes another to rail at our Hon. Exchange Supt. by proclaiming "The packet is not come." That he did not overlook the fact that stamps would bear watermarks and that these watermarks would suffer variation is evident in *A Winter's Tale*, for he tells us "Nine changes of the watery star have been"; and as to overprints he rightly (or wrongly?) protested against the Griqualand initial letter by proclaiming in *King John* "But there is little reason in your G".

His powers of foreseeing side industries that would inevitably arise from our insatiable hunger for rarities is also illustrated in this same play for the following denunciation eminently fits the cap on one of our arch enemies:—"You have beguiled me with a counterfeit which being touched and tried, proves valueless!"

This reminds me that I lately received from that wicked old wretch XX., a circular in fairly good English offering forgeries of rarities at quite high prices. But part of his side heading related to terms for repairing damaged stamps, and three lines of this are rich in "English as she is spoke." He says:—

"At the rate of the colossal working what to reach here all days, I see me obliged to rescue all pieces, which catalogue value are under £4."

We have heard recently of more money being made out of Limericks in a day than any of us have made in a week out of stamps. I think the best I've come across in the philatelic line though *not* my own, appeared in one of the stamp journals some years ago, and runs as follows:—

A person of no circumspection,
Stole some stamps from a neighbour's collection,
When he came to examine 'em,
He started a damning 'em,
He'd burgled the Forgery Section.

I think this was in the "S.C.F."

Cyprus. S.G. No. 27.—You occasionally come across stamps similar to the surcharged specimen here shown. Now, 15/- sounds a rather tall price for this to the small philatelist. Why therefore should one not appeal to him as the enterprising tailor did some time ago—through the funny bone, the nervous system. This trader inserted a notice in his window something after this style—"My trousers, 5/- a leg; all seats free." Similarly one might quote "3/9 per numeral, hyphens thrown in," or use an equally seductive "ticket" for such treasures.

Why it is that some philatelists (as soon as they hear of a new pictorial issue) decry it might and main? They will try to stifle the issue by ignoring it or lavishing on it their supreme contempt, and tell you, as one did the other day, "I only collect King's heads." I think I know something more about these men, they are like the fellow who always used a handkerchief, on the centre of which were portraits of the King and Queen, and for a long time I wondered why he should constantly follow this practice. I concluded ultimately, that like the collectors just referred to, he found this the only chance of poking his nose into "Society."

Has it ever occurred to you how the titles of plays running at the present time at our leading theatres might be pictorially presented by various stamps. The following few examples will, I trust, furnish a fitting conclusion to these "Random Philatelic Notes":—

			S.G. No.
Playhouse	A Single Man	Greece	381
Haymarket	The Blue Bird	New S. Wales	324
Savoy	Charley's Aunt	Cook Isles	12
	(Still Running)	Cuba	102
Strand	The Man from Mexico	Mexico	278
Shaftesbury	The Arcadians	Obock	60
Drury Lane	Jack & the Beanstalk	Belgian Congo	72
Royal Opera	Salome	France	274
Wyndham's	Nobody's Daughter	"	145
Savoy	Alice in Wonderland	Swiss	185
Lyric	Chocolate Soldier	N. S. Wales	326
Borough	The Sign of the Cross	Venezuela	205
Aldwych	The Bad Girl of the		
	Family	Martinique	74
	&c., &c., &c., &c., &c., &c.		

BINDING cases for Vol. XX. are now ready and can be had from our publishers. Price 1/3 post free.

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

MR. C. J. PHILLIPS, writing in the *Monthly Journal* says, describing a collection of Argentine stamps and its owner:—

"I believe that Mr. S is a bachelor (always a good thing for the dealers!) and I know that he loves this issue as most of us do our wives and children.

"The result of this affection is that he has got together the most wonderful lot of these stamps in the world."

I sincerely hope that if Mr. S. eventually marries, the result of his affection will still continue to be accumulative. In that case Argentine Commemoratives will be an annual event.

"Senex," who regularly contributes a column entitled "The Stamp Market" to the *S.C.F.*, is a *very* cautious person. If he isn't quite sure about his facts he hedges, for instance he says:—

It may only be fancy, but possibly the 14-on-9 atts Siam is going up; anyhow, it is interesting to watch whether the number of quotations for these surcharges show any signs of decreasing.

Afraid that he has been rather too rash. "Senex" says:

"Some stamps take badly to a postmark; a dark-coloured stamp may not suffer much, a light-coloured stamp may suffer more."

Dear me!

Some kind friend in California kindly sends me a copy of the February *Pacific Stamp News*. Did "Tancred" not still write from Morvi-Kathiawar, I should strongly suspect him of editing this publication. As it is I have my eye on Antonio Buster, once of *G.S.W.*, but last seen wheeling the baby across the rice plains of Dakota. The *P.S.N.* is full of plums, here is one:

"We frequently read of vast stamp collections containing fifty, sixty or eighty thousand specimens and from the perusal of such paragraphs many a collector gains an altogether false notion as to the number of existing varieties. As a matter of fact, only a few more than a thousand distinct varieties of postage stamps have been issued from the appearance of the first postage stamp up to the present time."

What a shock the writer of the above paragraph will get when he first sees a price list.

The only other articles of *philatelic* value in our American contemporary are short enough to be quoted in full—one is entitled "The Stamps of the Bahama Islands." It is replete with information.

THE STAMPS OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS.

The many islands which are grouped together under the general term "West Indies" really comprise three distinct groups: (1) The Bahamas, lying nearest to Florida; (2) The Greater Antilles which include the

larger islands of Cuba, San Domingo, Jamaica and Porto Rico (Jamaica alone of this group belongs to Great Britain). (3) The Lesser Antilles, which are in turn subdivided into the Leeward Islands and the Windward Islands, which finish with the island of Trinidad.

Bravo! I, too, could never see the sense of discriminating between the imperfs. of 1859 and the Queen's Staircases of 1901.

The principal article, however, is entitled "How to Classify Stamps." The names of 27 countries and their "stamp names" are given. I reproduce a few, possibly some of my readers have similar stamps.

Chifire Taxe.....	France.
Fmp. Ottoman.....	Turkey.
Para & Plaster.....	Egypt.
Te Batalew.....	Holland.
Telappas.....	Philippines.
Franco Balls.....	Italy.

Half of the last description is quite correct.

Under the heading "Editorial" I find yet another paragraph, which I simply must reproduce.

"We wish to thank the magazines which announced our discontinuance. The *Vest Pocket Philatelist* was the first paper we saw to make the announcement."

Possibly the *V.P.P.* was unkind enough to send a marked copy; personally however, I hope the *P.S.N.* will long continue to flourish, it is far too good to be lost.

The Jewel Stamp & Co., of Morvi-Kathiawar, India, has kindly sent me a circular letter. I am very much indebted to the Jewel Stamp, also to the Co. Unfortunately, lack of space prevents me making too many extracts. The following will have to suffice.

"RESPECTED SIR,

You will do an immense good to the India Public if you will kindly place the following suggestions, before the Postal Conference for their kind consideration.

(1) The Grand Coronation Darbar to be held at Delhi in December 1911, will be an event, worth recording in letters of gold in the pages of Indian History; our suggestion therefore to the conference is to issue special commemorative stamps as done on such grand and unique occasions by countries like Canada, New Zealand, Mauritius, British South Africa, Trinidad, Newfoundland, Transval, Portugal, Austria, Rumania, and many others, reference of which we feel sure will be a useful guide to the conference in the issue of similar special stamps in this country."

Everybody remembers how well the commemorative issues, printed to celebrate the coronation of the Sultan of New Zealand, sold; while the commemorative labels of the Begam of Australia went off like hot cakes.

"There was a time when the telegraph department used its own stamps halves of which were always returned to the senders being affixed to the official receipts. But of recent years their place is taken by Postal stamps which are affixed to telegraph forms and not to receipts as before. After a fixed period these forms are destroyed along with the stamps on them. The postal report for 1909-10 will inform you that stamps worth 32 lacs of Rupees were used in that year by the Post offices alone. From a Philatelic point of view the destruction of stamps of the enormous value, causes every year not a small and negligible loss to a poor country like India."

Me poor boy, me no Father, me no Mother, you give me enormous stamp, you my Father.

The Jewel goes on to suggest that the "senders of the messages may keep to themselves the used up stamps, which fetch not infrequently a good price in the Philatelic market. The destruction of them far from serving any useful purpose to the telegraph department involves it in spending much labour and energy and a considerable loss to the public to whom by right they should belong.

Hoping to be excused for the trouble."

Not at all. I have heard of the senders of "messages" getting "used up," but probably that isn't what the Jewel means.

At a meeting of the Jo'burg Philatelic Society I read that Mr. J. C. Hand exhibited a current 4d. Tasmanian pictorial, perforated 11½ on three sides, and 18 (eighteen!) on the fourth.

I can't help thinking that the number arrived at for the fourth side savours somewhat of a fluke, perhaps after all the members had had a go with the perforation gauge they decided to average the guesses. I wonder what would happen if the boys got hold of a pictorial Bosnian that had been thro' several different machines.

From one of the smaller American papers, the *Collectors' Review* to wit, I cull the following paragraph:—

"It is said that the kaiser's mail is largest of any individual excepting the pope."

Although I wrestled with the above for nearly ten minutes, it completely beat me. What do you think is meant?

The same newsy publication informs its readers that:—"The perforating machine was invented by an Irishman named Archer. When submitted to the British government the treasury offered him \$3000 for his patent rights. Eventually Archer was awarded \$20,000."

And some people still maintain that America is the home of the "spelling bee."

The *Stamp Collector* for February illustrates the back of an envelope which is of note, because it bears a collection of postmarks. We are told that the letter in question was despatched from Nottingham on November 18th, 1898, to a soldier in India, and which followed him about to Cawnpore, Peshawar, etc., eventually landing back at Southampton on March 26th, 1897.

Even then, I suppose, somebody grumbled at the time it had taken.

A writer in the *Philatelic Record*, reviewing a new paper, says:—

From the two numbers we have seen we seem to be in for an irruption of something similar to that which has made the name of "Tancred" famous, wherein philately (?) appears as an exuberance of facetiousness in two syllables.

Like the Frenchman, I shout *Populus vult decipi, et decepiatur*. What "Tancred," the famous galactophagous paragrammatist, will say when he reads the above, I cannot prognosticate.

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.

India. Mr. R. J. White has shown us an entire bottom strip of the ½a. blue, India, first issue, with full margins and inscriptions, dated June, 1854. This is a transfer which was hitherto unknown. The transfers which are mentioned by Mr. Hausburg in his book on India are dated May (three settings), July, August 1854, and August 1855.

Jamaica. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has kindly shewn us the King's Head 2d. stamps.



Adhesive.
Portrait of King Edward. Multiple wmk. Ordinary paper.
2d. grey.

Newfoundland. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us the following particulars:—

"We have just received a fresh supply of the Guy issue, and find that all values above 5c. are engraved instead of lithographed, and are also on a tougher and harder paper, apparently hand-made. There is no difference in the design or colour, but we send you a specimen of the 6c. so that you can note the difference in the appearance of the stamp and in the texture of the paper."

New Hebrides. Mr. Ahrens has very kindly shewn us a complete set of the new stamps issued for these islands. They are printed on multiple Crown and C.A. paper and conform to the new colour scheme, hence we list them as British Colonial stamps. The values, and the name "Nouvelle Hebrides" are however expressed in French.

Adhesives. Oblong shape. Multiple Crown and C.A. wmk.
5c. green.
10c. red.
20c. grey.
25c. ultramarine.
30c. purple on yellow.
40c. red on yellow.
50c. olive-green.

75c. orange.
1f. red on blue.
2f. violet.
5f. red on green.

Northern Nigeria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a copy of the 5d. stamp in new colours.

Adhesive.
King's Head. Multiple wmk. Chalky paper.
5d. purple and olive.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. We are indebted to the *Monthly Journal* for the following:—

"The mark values of the current type have appeared with wmk. of horizontal wavy lines and perforation 11½, which is a new combination. There has also been a re-issue of the 5 pf., perf. 14½, with perpendicular wmk."

Adhesives. Wmk. horizontal wavy lines. Perf. 11½.
1m. mauve.
2m. orange-yellow.
3m. olive-brown.
5m. pale green.

Bulgaria. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following information:—

"The long expected new stamps have just turned up, and we have pleasure in sending you a set herewith from 1 stotinki to 2 leva inclusive, the 3 leva are not yet issued, not having been delivered by the printers. It was stated that the new stamps were to be engraved by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., but according to the imprint on one of the sheets they appear to have been printed in Rome, unfortunately only one sheet in our consignment had an imprint, as our correspondent had carefully removed the margins from all the other sheets."





Adhesives.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 st. greenish slate. | 25 st. ultramarine and black. |
| 2 st. red and black. | 30 st. blue and black. |
| 3 st. lake | 50 st. yellow, brown and black. |
| 5 st. green and black. | 1 leva brown lake. |
| 10 st. red | 2 leva mauve and black. |

Costa Rica. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 5c. of 1901, in an imperforate state, used, on the original envelope.

Finland. We illustrate one of the stamps chronicled last month.



Honduras. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles a new set of stamps as follows.

Adhesives.

- | |
|---------------------|
| 1 centavo violet. |
| 2 centavos green. |
| 5 .. red. |
| 6 .. ultramarine. |
| 10 .. blue. |
| 20 .. yellow. |
| 50 .. brown. |
| 1 peso brown-olive. |

The design is we believe the same for all values and depicts a river steamboat and a forest landscape.

Italy. The new 10 lire stamp which we chronicled in January, has now, so the *Monthly Journal* informs us, been overprinted for use in Constantinople.

Adhesive.

40 pias. on 19l. pale rose and green.

Panama. Canal Zone. We have received a new stamp from this quarter, namely, a 13c. grey, in Gibbons type 47 and surcharged CANAL ZONE as type 112 with a new value—"10 cts." horizontally, all in black.

Adhesive.

10c. on 13c. grey.

Portugal. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a used copy of the 25r. with the "Republica" overprint in blue instead of in red! We

have also seen three of the values with inverted overprints and one with "Republica" overprinted twice! Truly so long as collectors take these varieties they will be forthcoming.

Azores. A correspondent to the *Monthly Journal* says he has seen the 2½r. of the 1906 issue with the name, letters, and numerals inverted.

Portuguese India. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has very kindly shewn us the first of the Indies stamps to be overprinted "Republica."

Adhesive. Overprinted in red.

1 real, drab.

Nyassa. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"We send you herewith a set of the new stamps as per invoice. We are informed that the superseded Nyassa stamps are not to be overprinted "Republica," and the new issue will not be sold without the overprint. The ship on the high values of the new set is supposed to represent the vessel the celebrated navigator, Vasco de Gama sailed in. The cross on the sails is the cross of the Society of Jesus which a number of ships bore at that time.

Adhesives.

Dromedary Type.

- | |
|------------------------|
| 2½r. violet and black. |
| 5r. black. |
| 10r. green and black. |

Zebra Type.

- | |
|-------------------------|
| 20r. carmine and black. |
| 25r. brown .. |
| 50r. blue .. |

Giraffe Type.

- | |
|-------------------------|
| 75r. brown and black. |
| 100r. on green. |
| 200r. green .. on buff. |

Ship Type.

- | |
|-------------------------|
| 300r. black on blue. |
| 400r. brown and black. |
| 500r. violet and olive. |

Timor. Mr. Ahrens has kindly shown us an uncatalogued variety, namely, the 50 reis, green of Macau, overprinted for use in Timor. This stamp has only hitherto been known in blue.

Adhesive. Perf. 13½.

50 reis green.

Russia. We are indebted to the *London Philatelist* for the following information:—

"Mr. Albert Scheindling tells us he has seen an entire sheet each of the 1910 issue 2 cop., 3 cop., 35 cop., absolutely without safety bars; also a block of 8 of the corner margin of the 3 cop. on which the safety bars are doubly pressed in; so that they are crossing each other, instead of being placed side by side.

Varieties.

- | |
|-----------------------------------|
| 1, without safety bars. |
| 2 cop. green. |
| 3 .. red. |
| 35 .. green and purple. |
| 2. safety bars doubly pressed in. |
| 3 cop. red." |

The Stamps of Greece.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 37).

In order to demonstrate more clearly how the *découpage*, which I described last week, was done, I have prepared three stamps, shewing how portions of the design were cut away, and illustrate them herewith.

Every stamp in one sheet would be cut in a manner similar to that shewn in the first illustration. All the stamps on another sheet would be treated as in the second, which, it will be observed, is not quite so much cut up. On a third sheet all the stamps would merely be scraped where shading occurs, and in the spandrels. These three sheets, probably with the addition of two or three others treated in a similar way, were pasted exactly on the top of one another, thus forming the completed *découpage*, or "overlay" as I am told it is termed by English printers.



THE PARIS PRINTS.

I can find no justification for Mr. Beckton's theory that the stamps were printed by M. Hulot, though the plates were made by M. E. Meyer. The evidence points rather to the printing having been carried out by M. Barre. M. Maury in his *Histoire des Timbres-Poste Français* says that M. Barre was charged, in 1858, with the engraving of the Greek stamps, and also with the organization of all the machinery necessary for printing them. At about the same time M. Barre offered to print the French stamps at a lower price than that charged by M. Hulot. It is therefore evident that he was in a position to turn out the first issue of Greece. Besides this, we know that M. Hulot kept a tight hand on all his proofs and trial sheets, and that very little of this nature came on the market until after his decease in 1892. Now M. Pierre Mahé has told us, in his delightful reminiscences published in the *Monthly Journal*, 1907, that he purchased proof sheets of all values of the Paris prints of Greece from a waste paper merchant in 1868, at a time when they could have been legitimately used in Greece. He

further tells us that, at another time, he bought a large parcel of printer's trial and waste sheets from another rubbish dealer. It is hardly credible that these were thrown away by M. Hulot.

The actual issue first took place in Athens, on October 1st, 1861. With reference to dates it must be borne in mind that the Greek calendar is 12 days behind the Augustine, and that according to our reckoning this date should be October 13th; the same rule must be applied to all other dates which I give in the course of these articles.

The principal feature of the Paris prints, and the one which distinguishes these stamps from all subsequent issues, is the very fine printing. The lines of shading on the cheek are dotted at the ends, the lines at the back of the neck are fine but distinct, and do not run into one another. All the details of the hair, the cap and the ear appear delicately, but firmly, outlined. The wavy lines and minute dots with which the spandrels are ornamented are lightly printed. The background behind the head is quite solid, and does not shew the white specks which can generally be seen in later printings. This artistic result was due entirely to the great care exercised in the *mise en train* and in the printing. We have evidence, in the many and various proofs which still exist, of the successive trials which were made with different forms of *découpage*. In some of the proofs, or trial printings, the shading on the cheek is as heavy as in many Athens prints—in others it is much too indistinct. In some cases, again, the spandrels appear almost white, due to too much cutting away in the *découpage*. We can well imagine, with this evidence before us, with what infinite care and skill the various sheets forming the *découpage* were altered and replaced until, after many trials, satisfactory impressions were obtained. I cannot help thinking that, in the original die, the artist made the lines of shading on the cheek too much the same thickness throughout their length, otherwise so much ingenuity would not have been necessary to obtain good results.

The stamps were printed on well-finished paper which, in the case of the 2, 5 and 20 *lep.* is strongly tinted the colour of the impressions. The 1 and 80 *lep.* are also tinted in the colour of the impressions but much more slightly. The 40 *lep.* is printed in violet on blue paper with a rather greenish tinge. The

10 lep. is in vermilion on blue paper which has a more distinctly greenish tint.

This last mentioned stamp differs from the other values of the set in having numerals of value printed on the back, in the colour of the stamp. These numerals are double-lined and measure 8mm. in height. Normally the heavily shaded sides of the numerals are to the right, but there is a variety in which the figure 1 is inverted and another in which the 0 is inverted. One of each of these errors must occur on each sheet, but in my own experience the one with the inverted 0 is more frequently met with than the other, and it is possible that there were more than one of these to a sheet.

The idea of printing figures on the backs of the stamps originated with M. Albert Barre who, in 1861, submitted to the French Government an essay of a stamp of the 1849 type of France, with the numerals "10" on the back as they appear on the Greek 10 lep. Paris print. The idea was not acted upon in France, and no doubt the 10 lep. value of the first issue of Greece was so treated by way of a trial. The utility of the figures was probably intended to be two-fold. In the first place a set of stamps in which the indication of value in the design was so minute might possibly lead to mistakes, although there were distinctive colours for all values. The numerals appearing boldly at the back of each stamp would be of assistance. In the second place the numerals were thought to be an additional safeguard, slight though it might be, against forgery.

As everybody knows, in the printings made at Athens, up to the year 1879, the numerals at back were employed on all values except the 1 and 2 lepta.

According to Mr. Beckton there were two printings of all values of the Paris issue, except the 10 lep., the second printing differing from the first in the shades, the gum and the heaviness of the printing. I cannot understand why a second printing would be necessary, or when it could have been made, considering that the plates were delivered in Athens together with the stamps, but be this as it may there are certainly marked shades, in some of the values, which go to support the theory. The most prominent of these is the 2 lep., in which the two shades amount almost to different colours. These two shades are generally called olive-bistre and ochre-bistre respectively, the second being deeper and warmer in tone than the first. These two stamps must, of course, be from different printings, and in their appearance typify the differences found, much less markedly, in the other values. The olive-bistre, which is generally accepted to be the first printing, is on yellowish paper, very highly surfaced, and the printing is clear and distinct. The gum is fairly thick and colourless, but it cannot always be described as smooth, though Mr.

Beckton ascribes this characteristic to all the stamps of the first printing. The ochre-bistre is on a deeper-toned paper, almost buff, and not so highly surfaced as the last. The impression, probably owing to the unsuitable nature of the colour, is not so clear. The gum is brownish and thickly applied, and is always very much cracked.

Other values which show pronounced differences of shade and gum are the 1 lep., 20 lep. and 80 lep. There are, however, so many gradations of shade in all these values, which may be found in all shades from light to dark, that it is impossible to divide them into two printings as in the case of the 2 lep. Nor can I find any peculiarity of printing which is constant in any one shade, except in the case of the pale rose shades of the 80 lep., which generally have very light shading on the cheek. On the other hand the thick crackly gum, which is another of Mr. Beckton's guides to the second printings, may be found on some specimens of all these three values. The 80 lep. with thick, crackly gum, is fairly common; in this case the gum appears yellowish. On the 20 lep. the thick gum is very rarely found, and on this value it is only slightly yellowish. The 1 lep. with thick gum is very rare indeed, when found the gum is quite brown. I know a block of four of this variety which is printed in deep brown, whereas Mr. Beckton says that the second printing of the 1 lep. is "reddish chocolate, varying in shade to very light."

In the case of the 5 lep., I have not seen any specimen with gum as thick as that I have just described. There is, however, a scarce shade of this value, with more yellow in its composition than the ordinary one, on which the gum is fairly thick.

How far the thick yellowish gum might affect the shade of a stamp it would be hard to say, but I certainly think its presence always makes the colour appear darker. When the gum is so brown (which sometimes happens) as to stain the paper, it is very difficult to imagine what the colour of the stamp would appear like if the paper were white.

While I agree with Mr. Beckton that two different kinds of gum were used for most values of the Paris prints. I am not convinced that there were two printings, in the ordinary meaning of the word, of any value save the 2 lep. Differences of colour might easily occur in the same printing if sufficient ink is not prepared beforehand, and another mixing is required, while the gumming might be done at different times.

In any case, even if there were two printings, they were almost certainly delivered in Athens at the same time and issued indiscriminately. The important point for the collector is to know what varieties may be

found. Below I append a synopsis of this issue, in which I have described the shades to the best of my ability.

The paper which was used in Paris is of very good texture. It varies from medium to rather thin, but is always hard, with a highly finished surface. I have lately discovered a very remarkable variety of the 20 lep. This is on extremely thin paper, through which every slight detail of the impression shows through on the back. It is as thin as, and even more transparent than, any of the same value issued after 1870. I found it on the entire original letter sheet, to which it still partly adheres. It was used at Levadia on April 29th, 1862. There is no doubt that the stamp is a Paris print, though the lines of shading on the cheek are heavier and the colour rather deeper than is usual in this issue. The paper is so unlike that of any other Paris print that I feel certain it must come from one of the trial sheets which must have been included, probably by accident, among the sheets sent to Athens.

I must now briefly refer to the 10 lep. Paris print without figures on the back. This stamp is always more heavily printed than those with the figures, and the colour is a deeper vermilion, without any orange tint. From the fact that no genuinely used copy has ever been found, there can be no doubt it was never issued. On the other hand, it is always well printed and gummed, and bears no resemblance to the printer's remainders, which were never gummed. We may safely assume, therefore, that it was intended for use and was probably sent to Athens. Why it was never issued is a mystery which probably will never be known, and concerning which it is idle to speculate.

REFERENCE LIST OF THE PARIS PRINTS.

- 1 lepton, chocolate-brown on cream paper.
 1 " pale chocolate-brown " "
 1 " deep chocolate-brown " "
 (and intermediate shades of all three).
 2 lepta, olive-bistre on straw.
 2 " brown-buff on buff.
 5 " emerald-green on greenish.
 5 " pale yellowish-green on greenish.
 10 " red-orange on greenish-blue.
 10 " orange " "
 20 " pale clear blue on bluish.
 20 " blue on bluish.
 20 " dark blue on bluish.
- Variety*: Dull dark blue on extremely thin transparent paper.
 40 lepta, violet on pale blue (slight shades).
 80 " rose, on cream-tinted paper.
 80 " rose-carmine on cream.

Errors.

- 10 lepta, with figure "0" at back inverted.
 10 " " " " " " " "

(To be continued).



March, 1911, Report.

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Hon. Vice-Presidents:

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MEMBERSHIP.

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

NOTICES.

The sixth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, 9th inst. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), H. R. Oldfield, L. W. Fulcher, Guy Semple, A. B. Kay, W. E. Lincoln, W. Schwartz, H. F. Johnson, F. F. Lamb, W. S. King, P. L. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec. and visitors—H. Wade, T. Wagenheim, and A. P. Ereant. The minutes

of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. W. Wade, of Leeds, gave a display of his magnificent specialised collection of the stamps of Sicily, including essays, proofs, and an extremely fine range of shades and scarce retouches. The interest of the display was much enhanced by the concise notes given by Mr. Wade, and a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Oldfield and seconded by Mr. Lincoln, was carried unanimously. The President, on behalf of all present, extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Oldfield as Honorary President, and in his reply Mr. Oldfield expressed his pleasure at being present, congratulated the Society on an enjoyable evening, and wished it continued success. Mr. Abbott, of Manchester, was unfortunately unable to give his display of Servia, but it is hoped he will be able to do so on a future occasion.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, April 6th, at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. L. W. Fulcher will read a paper on "The Stamps and Entires of King Edward's Reign," illustrated by a reference collection. A display of Great Britain early 1d. and 2d., and Officials, will also be given by Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A. All members and any visitors interested in British stamps cordially welcome. At this meeting three delegates will be appointed to represent the Society at the Third Philatelic Congress at Birmingham, June 7th to 9th next.

Subscriptions, proposals for membership or donations to the Forgery Collection gladly received and duly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

March 13th, 1911.

City of London Philatelic Society.

THE monthly meeting was held as usual at Mills Restaurant, Liverpool Street, on the 8th. There was a good attendance of Members and three Visitors were present. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. G. A. Higlett took the chair.

Various new issues were shown, amongst them being the 2d. grey Jamaica in a new type with the late King's Head. Mr. Higlett showed several nice strips of old Europeans and a strip of 6 of the 2d. blue without lines in very fine condition and Mr. Kerrison the four types of the 2c. Jubilee Hongkong.

The first item was a paper and display by Mr. J. A. Leon, entitled the "Mystery of Bois-le-Duc," the subject being the 4c. News-

paper stamp of Holland of 1876, which was found with various double perforations, and some time ago Mr. Leon decided to try and solve the mystery of these additional perforations on which experts on Dutch stamps were unable to agree. Mr. Leon devoted a large amount of time and patience in collecting a mass of detail and the conclusion he arrived at was that this perforation was an unofficial one. Mr. A. J. Warren, who was present, did not altogether agree on this point, and showed several stamps which appeared to contradict Mr. Leon's theory, so that after all the subject is still somewhat of a mystery. It is understood, however, that Mr. Warren is taking the matter up in conjunction with Mr. Leon, so we shall doubtless hear more about this interesting variety in the near future.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Leon for his paper and to Mr. Warren for his kindness in coming to the meeting and giving his views on the subject.

Mr. Leon's paper will appear in next month's *P.J.G.B.*

The second item was a competitive display, for which there were six entries, the voting resulted in favour of Mr. Higlett, to whom the medal will be awarded. This brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close.

Will members please note that the Nomination of Officers for the Season 1911/1912 will take place on the 12th April, after Mr. J. R. Burton's Paper and Display on the Stamps of the American Bank Note Co., when it is hoped there will be a very good muster.

New Leaves to Cut.

UNITED STATES STAMPED ENVELOPES.*

WE have received from the publishers, Messrs. J. M. Bartels, a copy of their Catalogue of United States Stamped Envelopes. Unfortunately, our lack of knowledge of envelope stamps does not allow us to review this important publication. We can only give a few bald facts and trust that at a later date we shall be able to avail ourselves of the services of a competent reviewer.

The book in question is an imposing, well bound publication, containing nearly two hundred 12x9 pages, and is well illustrated. Should any of our readers collect U.S.A. envelopes we feel sure they would do well to write to New York for further particulars.

* Published by J. M. Bartels Co., 99, Nassau Street, New York, U.S.A.





MARCH 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

THE February number of the *Monthly Journal* contains a further instalment of M. Pierre Mahé's elaborate article dealing with the stamps of Brazil. Mr. C. J. Phillips likewise continues to write about the stamps of Paraguay. In the former article the "bull's eyes" stamps are discussed, while from the latter we take the following extract relating to the provisional stamps of 1881.

The following is a translation of the notice that was published authorizing these provisionals:—

"It is hereby made known to the public that from this date there is to be an issue of the nature of provisionals of the following postage stamps with the values hereby assigned to them.

"Green stamp with the inscription of '10 centavos' with the figure 1 in black, value: 'Un centavo fuerte.'

"Green stamp with the inscription of '10 centavos' with the figure 2 in black, value: 'Dos centavos fuertes.'

"Asuncion, July 1, 1881.

"The Administrator.

"MANUEL AVILA."

Two distinct printings of the surcharges are known, the first with the figures in dull pale black, and the second with the figures in intense black; sometimes the ink of these latter appears quite glossy.

Up to quite recently the stamps of this second printing have been classed as reprints, but in reply to inquiries I made in South America I am assured that both printings were made by the postal Authorities, and that both were sold to the public at the head office in Asuncion, and were used postally. I saw several copies with the intense black surcharge, used on portions of letters, and they appeared genuine in all respects.*

The figures were impressed by hand in Asuncion, I think by means of single handstamps, and vary very considerably in shape and impression. I have a block of 28 of the "2" on 10c., and the figure "2" varies according to the way in which it was impressed: if the pressure was heaviest on the lower part of the handstamp, the foot of the "2" is well defined and shows a square end to the figure at the right-hand side with

a thin line at the end; if the pressure was on the top of the "2" the bottom stroke appears weak, the end is often rounded, and no fine line appears at the right-hand side.

The stamps that were surcharged first have the figures "1" and "2" more clearly defined than in the later prints.

In the first prints of the "1" the serif is clear and well separated from the downstroke of the figure; in the later prints the serif is damaged, clogged up, and appears to be joined on to the downstroke.

In the early prints of the "2" the head of the figure is perfect, and well defined, but after very little use a break occurred in the fine line at the top of the "2," and I find this break in the dull pale black printing. In the second printing the break became more pronounced.

The following varieties are known:—

"1" on 10c., double.

" inverted.

pair, one stamp only surcharged.

"2" on 10c., double.

" inverted.

pair, one stamp only surcharged.

Mr. F. J. Melville contributes a lengthy instalment of his capital paper entitled "Postage Stamps in the Making."

An account of the Walthamstow Stamp Exhibition, several pages of "Topical Notes" and "Notes and Queries," together with a very good "new issue" list completes our review.

The *Philatelic Record* for February contains an exhaustive article entitled "A Sketch of the History of the Official One Penny Envelope of Great Britain." Any of our readers who are interested in this branch of our hobby will, we are sure, find this article of paramount importance. Personally it leaves us unmoved. Another contribution to the *Record* is a continuation of Mr. J. B. Leavy's "The Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." Mr. Leavy tabulates a few decrees relating to the issuing of stamps.

Several pages of our contemporary are devoted to "Notes and News," while in the Correspondence column we find a letter from Signor Pio Fabri dealing with the stamps of the Roman States.

* There was a good deal of discussion on the subject of these stamps in *Le Timbre-Poste*, in 1882, the stamps with intense black surcharge being first declared to be forgeries and afterwards to be reprints. Señor M. Avila, however, certified them as genuine, and in view of the fact that genuinely used copies have been found, we may be content to accept them as such.—Ed.M.J.

In the February number of the *London Philatelist* we find the first instalment of Mr. Léon Adutt's paper, given with his display of Cayman Islands stamps, which he showed before the Royal in January. As most of our readers are aware, Mr. Adutt owns *the* collection of these stamps, while his arrangement of them is extremely artistic.

The following short extract refers to Jamaica stamps used in the Caymans.

The first stamps used were those of Jamaica as follows:—

Issue 1883-87. Watermark Crown CA. Perf. 14.
½d. green; 1d. purple and mauve; 2d. green; 2½d. dull purple and blue; 4d. orange-brown.

Issue 1900. Llandovery Falls.
1d. carmine.

Overprinted "Official."
2d. grey.

These stamps were current for ten years previous to the first separate postage stamp issue of the Cayman Islands, and are postmarked by various cancelling stamps. Jamaica stamps with the word "Official" printed across them were also used for administrative correspondence. Although numbers of these stamps must have been used, they are exceedingly scarce and very difficult to find; so far I have only succeeded in obtaining eight specimens, of the following values: ½d., two; 1d., two; 2d., one; and 2½d., three.

Mr. M. P. Castle contributes an excellent paper entitled "Notes on the Royal Philatelic Society," wherein he draws attention to the fact that the attendance of Fellows at the meetings has been very poor. The following list of attendances is given, viz.:—

Dr. James' display of Australians	14.
Mr. E. D. Bacon's Trinidad	17.
Mr. C. L. Pack's New Zealand	13.
Mr. M. P. Castle's British Guiana	13.

We are afraid other Societies have to contend with the same trouble—in fact when we hear, as we so frequently do, that only "one or two" members took the trouble to attend we are reminded of the old proverb about pearls. Mr. Castle, in his paper enumerates some of the treasures contained in the collections of Messrs. James and Pack.

Several pages of "Occasional Notes," some "Reviews," belated and otherwise, "New Issues," and an editorial dealing with the Utopian suggestion of an uniform stamp for the British Empire complete a good number of our exchange.

The February number of the *Stamp Collector* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. C. A. Stephenson, one of the

Vice-Presidents of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, the completion of Mr. J. J. Darlow's readable article dealing with the stamps of Antigua, the first instalment of a paper relating to the 2d. Victorian stamps of Dec., 1852, also another chapter of Mr. Heginbottom's paper dealing with the stamps of Tasmania. We also find several pages of our Birmingham contemporary devoted to topical notes, "New Issues," "Reviews," and the other regular features of an up-to-date stamp paper.

The February 18th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. A. B. C. Dyer, of Walthamstow. This young gentleman took an active part in organising the recent South Essex Exhibition and no small share of its success is due to his efforts. A report of the Walthamstow Exhibition, and various odds and ends help to fill the pages of our contemporary. The March 4th edition of the same publication is a special "Spring" number and contains a good deal of reading matter. Mr. W. S. Lincoln is the "Philatelist of To-Day." Mr. E. Philpot Crowther contributes a paper entitled "Arrangement of a Collection."

We also find two prize essays, some reviews, a short article dealing with the early posts of Denmark, and the completion of Mr. Irwin Faris' article entitled "The Gauging of Perforations."

The *British Philatelist* for February contains instalments of "British Stamps used Abroad" and "The Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain." In the former we find a lengthy list of all the English stamps which are known to have been used at Gibraltar. In the latter we find the £5 stamp of 1882 fully described.

The *West End Philatelist* for February contains the conclusion of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Bermuda, also the completion of the same writer's paper relating to Registration stamps. Commencing with the March number, our small contemporary will, so we are told, have a new editor—Mr. A. J. Séfi to wit. As Mr. Poole, the late editor, has been in America for some months, we are not surprised at the news; we shall, nevertheless, miss friend Poole's capable contributions.

The March number of the *Stamp Lover* is full of good articles.

Mr. Melville contributes some capital notes entitled "A night with the J.P.S." wherein he ably describes the recent meeting when Baron A. de Worms displayed his famous collection of Ceylon stamps.

Mr. G. Herbert Dannatt contributes an exceptionally interesting paper entitled "The Imperforate Issues of Chili" being his paper read before the J.P.S. last December. Mr. Dannatt is a well known authority on these stamps and collectors will find much to interest them in his article.

Mr. W. Harold Row contributes a further instalment of his paper dealing with the stamps of Siam. Other contributions of a general nature, and the intimation that Mr. Frank Melland will lecture at a special J.P.S. Meeting to be held at Caxton Hall, on his remarkable trip across Africa from Rhodesia to the Soudan, all help to make this number of the *Stamp Lover* very interesting.

Philately on the Continent.

Two numbers of the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* lie before us. They present a varied bill of fare. M. Hanciau treats of the Postage dues of Turkey, a generally neglected subject. M. Derocco, of Belgrade, continues his history of Servian stamps. Dr. Hambruger fulminates through both numbers against unnecessary issues, and says that SOMETHING MUST BE DONE! We have heard similar wails before, and do not recollect anything having been done. Many of us will probably remember the S.S.S., and what came of it. Dr. Nordheim suggests the institution of amateur examiners of stamps, and to make a start offers to examine (gratis) any stamps of Afghanistan that may be submitted to him. (Our friend Angus MacTavish has followed suit, and will be very pleased to expertise any postage stamps of Wadhwan). Herr Schneckpeper treats of the 1863 issue of Mexico, and the uses to which the stamps were put. Herr Kosack, himself, has some remarks to make on the obliteration question, which is at present exciting German philatelic circles.

The *Schweizerische Philatelistische Nachrichten* contains the first instalment of a highly interesting and instructive article on the stamps of Baden. Were it not for the recent article on these stamps, which appeared in this journal, we should have given several lengthy extracts. We hope to refer to the article again when it is completed.

In the February number of *der Philatelist*, Dr. Moschkau, in deploring the decease of Messrs. Reinheimer and Umpfenbach, expresses his regret at the loss of two valued contributors to the literature of philately. He likewise deplores the dwindling of the number of philatelists possessing real literary ability.

The same journal has a long article on the Bavarian Jubilee stamps, in which the issue of the two highest values is unsparingly condemned.

In the February number of *der Deutsche Philatelist*, Captain Ohrt has a short article on the gum of the stamps of Hanover. It appears that the object of the rose-coloured gum was to enable the postal authorities to recognize whether a stamp had got detached in course of post. If a stampless letter bore traces of rose gum, it was treated as having been prepaid.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

THE January number of the *Australian Philatelist*, although a very interesting number, is not remarkable for its wealth of original contributions.

We find a brief review of last year's philatelic events, a short article which we take the liberty of reproducing below, and a number of short extracts and paragraphs.

A NEW ZEALAND ERROR.

A valued correspondent sent us the following clipping from a letter which appeared in "The Press" (N.Z.):—"About June last a large number of New Zealand fourpenny stamps (pictorial design) were printed in yellow and dark blue, by the officer in charge of the stamp-printing department, Wellington. Those stamps do not seem to have been sold to the public. They could not have been required for general use, for the simple reason that the Stamp Office held a large supply of the same design printed in brown and blue, and a very large supply of the King's Head design printed in orange. Has the officer in charge of the stamp printing department authority to print postage stamps in any colours he may think fit? It would interest stamp collectors to know how many stamps were printed in yellow and blue, and who were the fortunate purchasers. Printing stamps in colours different from the ordinary issues seems to be "a practice which plays into the hands of stamp (dealers) speculators at the expense of collectors." He adds:—"There is no doubt about the issue, and I hope 'The Australian Philatelist' will take some note of this mysterious issue. We collectors would like to know who authorised the issue, as it was not required, and could only have been made for speculators. A stop should be put to printing stamps in colours not authorised."

We have not seen these stamps, but by the above statements fully believe they have been issued. As regards the letter to the "Press," which, evidently, was penned by a disappointed collector, the statement that mistakes in printing is a practice which plays into

the hands of dealers at the expense of collectors is not always a true one. Any respectable dealer coming into possession of such stamps puts them before their customers in their true light, and with this their responsibility ceases. We fully agree with our correspondent that a stop should be put to the practice of printing stamps in colours not authorised. Much as it concerns all collectors, it affects the New Zealander more so, and we hope to see the philatelic societies there take the matter up and sift it out thoroughly, also do all in their power to prevent a similar action in the future. Collectors have had a good deal to suffer from the numerous vagaries in the New Zealand issues; in fact, the stamps of the Dominion are by far the most troublesome of all the Australasians to collect.

Until more is known about the issue of the unauthorised fourpenny stamp, we must defer further criticism, especially as we do not know yet who is responsible for the mistake.

In the *Australian Stamp Journal* for January we find the following item of news:—

BRITISH ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* published a few days ago, a startling article on this subject, which we reprint in full, as we consider it is of momentous importance to philatelists.

If the Commonwealth takes control of the islands, it is only reasonable to assume that all the stamps required will be printed in Australia, probably one type for the lot, overprinted like the New Zealand island stamps.

Mr. Fisher, the Federal Prime Minister, supports the proposal to remove the office of High Commissioner for the Western Pacific to Australia. He and his colleagues intend to press the matter at the Imperial Conference, which will open on the 22nd of May, of this year.

The project seems to us both rational and feasible, and our readers have certainly not heard the last of it. A big change is likely to eventuate in the near future.

Our Australian contemporary reprints in full the article from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the extract however, which we reproduce contains all the news likely to interest collectors. An article relating to the New Hebrides Condominium stamps, and some other matter makes our new Sydney exchange a most readable production.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for January is an excellent publication and reflects very great credit on its editor, who is responsible for practically the whole of the literary contents. Under the title "Hoary Heads" we find the first instalment of a list of British Colonial stamps which have been—or were—in use for over a quarter of a century. In collaboration with Mr. W. T. Wilson, Mr. Wetherell contributes a short instalment of the article entitled "The 1868 Issue of Mexico." Mr. Wetherell is also responsible for articles entitled "The 10c. de peseta of Spain, 1873," "A Note on the Stamps of the German Empire, 1875-1889," and "A

Philatelic Maze," wherein the writer draws attention to the wording on the stamps of Spain and possessions during the troubled period, 1871-1874.

We also find another article from the same versatile author, entitled "Lithographs after Perkins Bacon's Engravings." A page of "T. MacBlither" and five of "Tancred" truly demonstrate what a host in himself is our worthy Editor, Librarian, and Vice-President.

Sir David Masson describes and illustrates an Afghanistan stamp (?) which he has recently acquired, and which at present he is unable to say is either a previously unknown issue of 1855, or else bogus.

Several pages devoted to "reviews," and other regular features complete a very excellent number of our contemporary.

From Tancred's pages we cull the following:—

THEN AND NOW.

In days of old, say fifty years,
Or thereabouts, ago
They did not care for watermarks
Or "prints by X & Co."

The little holes surrounding stamps
They thought were most annoying,
So cut them off, as oft as not
Their value thus destroying.

Retouches were unknown to them.
They had no taste for errors
I beg to state they did not plate,
New issues had no terrors.

They'd scarcely heard of Scinde, or Ind
And knew not States "Convention,"
They did not care how stamps were made,
Hair lines they'd never mention.

The missing stop and upraised dot
To them were childish humours.
They'd only just commenced to note,
Fakes, forgeries and stumers.

But now a different tale we tell,
We note all marks and dots,
We mount each stamp upon a hinge,
And buy by auction lots.

We learn to spot the difference
Twixt prints by Perkins Bacon
And later work by de la Rue
(They're sometimes *now* mistaken).

And we are called condition cranks,
We hate a stamp that's dicky,
Or slightly thinned or creased or skinned,
Or only partly 'sticky.'

We plate the stamps of many lands,
And reconcile the printings.
We've colour charts and other arts
To recognize the tintings.

We call ourselves Philatelists
Instead of Stamp Collectors
And name the men who "spot a fudge"
Our "Counterfeit Detectors."

Now which do you like the best Monsieur,
Now which of them takes the bun?
The up-to-date condition crank,
Or the man who's "just begun."

The February number of the *South African Philatelist* is a capital production and contains a good deal of interesting matter for collectors of South African stamps. The following budget of Rhodesian notes will be appreciated by our readers.

The 4d. stamp of the new Rhodesian Issue (No. 113) has appeared in new colours. The heads are magenta instead of indigo, while the frame is of a lighter shade of orange. It is hardly possible that the change of colours is due to careless mixing of the ink, the suggested cause of the change of colour in the £1 of the same issue, and it remains to be seen whether changes of colour will also be made in the other denominations.

Whereas in the first supplies of our stamps over-printed "Rhodesia" on sale here, one whole vertical row in each pane of most of the values showed the variety, "no full stop," subsequent printings rectified the error, if error it be, and the stamps without full stop are now hard to get.

One cannot help being struck by some of the catalogue prices of Rhodesian stamps. For instance, the 8d. of the 1896-97 issue (No. 33) is priced, unused, the same as the 8d. of the 1897 issue (No. 57). The former is fairly common, and only a few months back was still on sale here, and even now comes in occasionally on letters from outside districts, while the 8d. of the re-drawn design was on sale in Rhodesia for a very short period only, and indeed very few collections here contain a postally used copy in good condition.

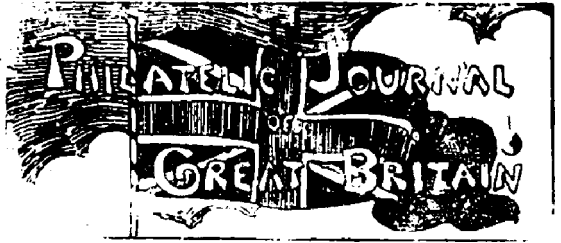
Then, again, why should the 3d. of the 1896-97 issue (No. 30) be priced at 1s., both used and unused, while the 3d. of the 1897 issue (No. 54) is catalogued at 5d. unused and 6d. used? The former stamp is still on sale here and is common.

The 1s. brown of the 1898-1908 issue (No. 75) is absolutely unknown up here—many collectors have been asked, but so far there is no record of one of these stamps having been even seen.

Although in the early days when postal rates were high, it may have been found necessary to use on parcels the higher value stamps, still it can safely be affirmed that no stamp of a higher denomination than 20s. was called for, and therefore stamps of a face value of £2 and over may be considered as Fiscals, pure and simple. There is no reason for their being catalogued, or, if they are retained, then there is nothing against the inclusion of the higher values, namely, £20, £30, £50, £100, and £200, to say nothing of the surcharges, viz.: £50 on £2 (No. 10); £100 on £5 (No. 11); £200 on £10 (No. 12).

Bulawayo, 19th January, 1911.

In the *Philatelic Gazette* for February we find another instalment of Major F. L. Palmer's excellent article entitled the "Postal Issues of the Philippines." He deals with the issues of 1855 and 1856. We also find many pages devoted to the interests of collectors of U.S.A. stamps.



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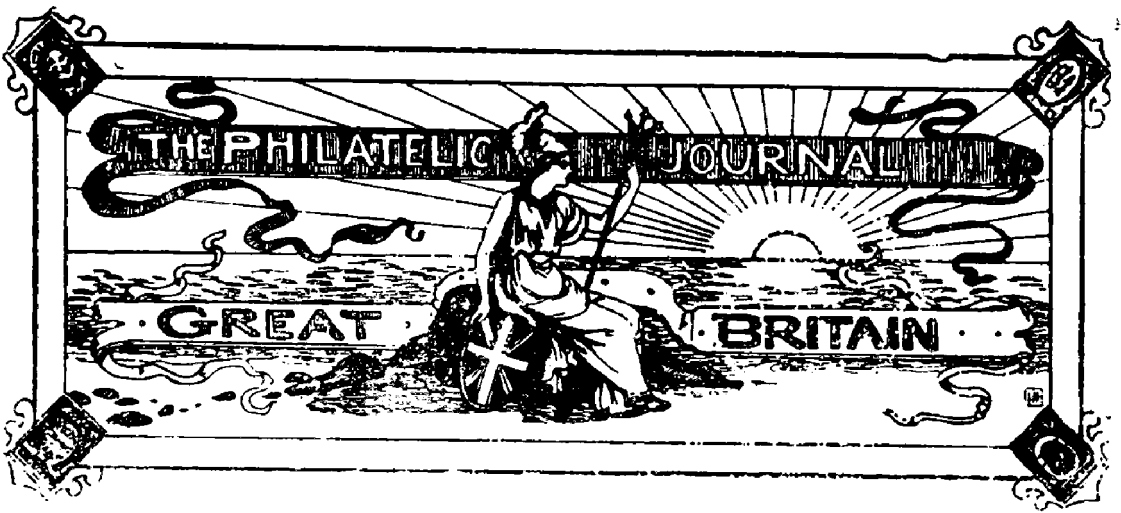
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Publishers' Note.

We very much regret that owing to pressure on our space we are again compelled to hold over the article on Leeward Island stamps which was promised for last month. We hope to publish it in our April number. We should like to take this opportunity of acknowledging our appreciation of the very many new subscriptions which we have received this year. We trust our new readers will avail themselves of the offer made in our January number.



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

No. 244. VOL. XXI.

APRIL 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

EARLY in the month a meeting of proprietors, publishers and editors of magazines, was held in the Club-room of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association, Long Acre, W.C. The object of this meeting was to protest against the unfairness of the present

Cheaper Rates for Magazine Postage. rates of postage charged on magazines, journals and all papers published at greater intervals than of one week. That daily newspapers, and illustrated weeklies, irrespective of size, can be sent through the post for the uniform charge of one halfpenny must be common knowledge amongst our readers; it must also be equally well known that papers, such as the *P.J.G.B.* which are not allowed to be registered as newspapers have to pay letter rates of postage. Such a state of affairs is a gross injustice to the proprietors of all similar journals to our own, while, indirectly it is a loss to the subscribers of all such papers, as the owners have always to remember that the number of pages they can send through the post for 2 ounces is extremely limited, consequently they have to curtail their amount of reading matter.

Although there were, we should think, nearly 200 representatives at the meeting—representing practically every magazine, trade, and other journal in London, we

regret very much that only one other philatelic journal—besides ourselves was represented. Surely the reduction of postage on stamp papers—where ninety or more per cent. of the readers are postal subscribers—should appeal to our *confrères*; it does to us, and we trust will to any of our readers who may possess any influence, political or otherwise, which will tend to cheapen the rates of postage. The reply of Mr. Herbert Samuel to a recent deputation, which visited him regarding this matter, was to the effect that the Post Office suffered a loss on its delivery of newspapers, consequently there was no possibility of reducing the rates. This reply—or a similar one—has been given to previous deputations for many years. The time has now come, however, when cheaper magazine rates of postage should be conceded by the Post Office; the absurdities of the present position must surely be apparent even to Government Postal Officials.

The Post Office is a profitable working asset of the State, so the ancient plea that there is a deficit on newspaper carriage and delivery should at once be knocked on the head; in other words, Mr. Herbert Samuel, knowing that he is making a big profit on the round-a-bouts, should be prepared to lose a little on the swings.

It is, however, extremely problematical,

were so called newspaper rates reduced, whether the State would actually lose by the transaction. In the case of this Journal, and more so in the case of gardening, agricultural and other similar publications which have a large percentage of small and other advertisements, it must be apparent that every copy posted to a subscriber is likely to result in an addition to the daily average of *letters* carried, which, as has been pointed out by the P. M. G., is the most profitable branch of the postal service.

At the meeting held recently, which was addressed by Mr. Edward Owen Greening, editor of the well known *Agricultural Economist and Horticultural Review*, and over which the Hon. H. A. Stanhope presided, it was pointed out that British

postal charges on this useful class of literature are the highest in the civilised world. It was furthermore stated that our post office has exceptional facilities for economical collection, carriage, and delivery; we trust, therefore, that we shall not have long to wait before we are able to give our readers more reading and advertisement matter without having to double our bill for journal postage.

In the meantime, and while we are waiting for the happy consummation of this desire, we trust our readers, or at least those amongst them who are able, will protest against the present anomalous state of affairs, which adversely affects millions of magazine and journal subscribers.

Correspondence.

THE "PUTTILLA" ERROR.

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

DEAR SIR,

I observe from Mr. Yardley's letter in your last number that the question of the "Puttilla" error has now been narrowed down to its existing in the 2 as. value only, both ordinary and Service.

This misprint, as I have shown, was not a constant error of the printing of March, 1885. Even if Mr. Yardley's supposition is correct that there was a second setting used for this printing, it would not explain the Service stamp as that variety was not issued till the end of the year. Mr. Yardley says that he sees "no reason why the type should not have been dispersed and set up again during the course of printing the stamps of one delivery so that possibly the delivery of March, 1885, existed with two distinct settings. Also that the "Puttilla" error was corrected during the printings of the two annas."

In the *P.J. of India*, January, 1905, I showed that the setting used for the next printing, June, 1885, was the same as that used in March, 1885; therefore the only setting that could have been dispersed was this supposed second setting.

The total number of sheets of all values overprinted in March 1885 was only about 5,000, and it seems hardly probable that two settings were arranged for such a small

number; further, if the government press was so lavish with settings as to disperse and re-set them during the progress of the printing of a single invoice (the entire printing having only occupied a day or two), it seems improbable that they would trouble to keep one of the settings standing for some months and use it for the next printing. I have examined numerous sheets and blocks of all values of this issue, and all showed that they came from a *single setting*; this is not an "assumption" but a certainty. Therefore, if Mr. Yardley's block with two errors occurred in the March 1885 printing, we must assume that both "Puttilla" errors were in the original setting, that the sheets of the 2 as. value were taken first to be overprinted, that both were discovered and corrected after a few sheets had been printed (the "Auttialla" error being undisturbed), and that after this the remainder of this value and all the other values were done. Or, if the alternative hypothesis of a second setting is accepted, seeing that all known sheets of the 2 as. stamp are from the first setting, this second setting must have been only used for a few sheets of this value and then not used further, all the remainder of the 5,000 sheets being printed from the first setting. Either explanation will establish the authenticity of Mr. Yardley's block, but neither will cover the 2 as. Service stamp which was not included in this issue,

I was not aware that M. Moens (as now stated by Mr. Yardley) had chronicled the 2 as. Service "Puttilla" error in July, 1886. As the government forgeries or reprints were not made till some years later this puts them out of further consideration. The 2 as. red Service stamps were first printed in November, 1885, and were apparently chronicled by M. Moens seven months later. This setting was one of 240, the printing having been done in sheets, thus differing from the setting used in March and June, which was one of 120, the printing having been done in panels. I have examined numerous sheets of this stamp and find that only one setting was used. M. Moens is as a rule generally correct, so it would not be quite safe to impugn any stamp he has chronicled; but if the sheet he had come from this printing (and there was only *one* printing of this particular variety) the errors must have been corrected very early in the printing (as the Puttialla authorities' complaint of the "Auttialla" error had been made only two months before). The "Service" imprint (as in all the Service stamps of these States) was applied separately, and if Mr. Yardley's block (which also came originally from M. Moens) was also a product of this printing it could not have received the second imprint, and was thus doubly an error. There is no other explanation for it to have existed genuinely.

The way in which these stamps are over-printed is as follows: The State indents for them to the Director-General of the Post Office in India; the requisition is sent to the Stamps and Stationery Office, who supply the exact number of sheets asked for to the Government of India Press; these when ready are returned to the S. and S. Office, who supply them to the D.G. of the P.O., who despatches them to the indenting State. All spoilt or misprinted sheets are returned to the S. and S. Office and replaced by good sheets to the Press. These "waste sheets" are supposed to be destroyed, but formerly a good deal of "leakage" occurred. This leakage was referred to in the second edition of Mr. Stewart-Wilson's handbook, and many recognised varieties (such as the Nabha double curved prints, etc.) were considered by both Mr. Stewart-Wilson and myself to have come from waste sheets, but we included them in the reference lists on the strength of their having been already chronicled by good authorities. In my opinion there is nothing in evidence to disprove my surmise that these "Puttilla" 2as. errors were from waste or proof sheets. M. Moens may have thought them quite genuine, but it seems queer that both varieties of these errors should have reached him alone from the State Post Office. It seems more probable that both blocks were from waste sheets, and that they reached M. Moens through some philatelist in one of the departments who helped in the "leakage."

I think that all the "fors" and "againsts"

regarding this error have now been fully discussed. All the copies of this "Puttilla" error that I have seen were undoubtedly from the reprinted sheets, but both varieties of the 2 as. red stamps which came from M. Moens seem to be in a separate category. Whether from genuinely issued, or from proof or waste sheets is still an open question, but as they seem as good as some other errors which have been already admitted to the sanctuary of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, it will harm no one if these also are included. In any case they will always be among the "unattainables." Nos. 26, 28 to 31 and 111 should however be excluded in future.

As regards the "Jeind" errors, Mr. Yardley thinks the totals given in Mr. Stewart-Wilson's first edition handbook must be wrong. He is right in his surmise. This printing was done in panels of 120 and not in sheets of 240, so that double the number of errors exist than those mentioned by Mr. Stewart-Wilson. This was correctly given in the second edition of the handbook, *i.e.*, 8 as. 16, 1 rupee 8, and the following note was added, "the greater number of these 'Jeind' errors of the lower values are now non-existent, but nearly all the 8 annas and 1 rupee values were detected and saved at the time of issue."

Yours faithfully,

B. GORDON JONES.

London, 25th March, 1911.

THOSE NEW ISSUES.

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

DEAR SIR,

There were two items in the March *P.J.G.B.* which interested me muchly. One was an excellent "Editorial" (why don't all philatelic journals have editorials) and the other was an extract from the *London Philatelist*, wherein Mr. Castle drew attention to the poor attendances at the meetings of the Royal Philatelic Society.

It was the latter item that first won my sympathy. Being a secretary to a philatelic society myself, I know something of the difficulties of keeping up the attendance average at meetings, and, though I felt a pang of regret at the small attendances at the R.P.S., at the same time I felt a comparative—only comparative—glow of pride at the attendance record of my own philatelic society.

Now for the Editorial. Our worthy Editor has a poor opinion of new issues that is evident. As the merits and demerits of Old and New Issues have been well thrashed out on more than one occasion, it is unnecessary to attempt an argument. Collectors, to say nothing of Editors, convinced against their will are of the same opinion still. It being thus evident that editors do not agree and also well known that collectors do not; is it

not possible that lack of sympathy in what the other fellow is showing is responsible for the small attendances at the meetings of philatelic societies? For instance the specialist in the first issues of New Zealand would not be likely to grow enthusiastic over the treasures of the New Hebrides "Specialist" and *vice versa*.

This being the case the question should be considered as to whether it is not possible to form a programme in which all could take part at every meeting.

This at any rate is what I propose to do for Brighton next season if this letter does not result in the appointment of another secretary.

My proposal is to split the meetings into two parts. The first hour will be devoted to the display or paper given by one member or visitor; the second hour to be set aside for the study of one particular country to which all members will be asked to contribute. Each member will be asked for a list of his favourite countries and the countries that obtain the most votes will be those that will form the programme.

Yours faithfully,

J. IRELAND,

Hon. Sec. Brighton Branch of the
Junior Philatelic Society.

The Retouched Stamps of Holland.

BY G. A. HIGLETT.

THE philatelic literature of the past two or three years has contained numerous articles dealing with the re-touches of the first issue of Holland. Many of those who deal (or dabble) with this subject appear to consider that these re-touches are chiefly to be found in either, or both, of the top corners, and more rarely in a lower corner, but they often seem to ignore other re-touches that are quite as clear and perhaps as numerous, viz: those of the outer and inner frame lines.

I have about 400 stamps of this first issue, of which over 150 shew re-touches, and the following remarks are based solely upon what I see, or imagine I see, in these specimens, with a temporary sweet disregard for the expressed opinions of others.

The outer frame line appears to have been generally weak or thin in certain parts, or quite worn away in specimens from worn plates, and these parts may be found re-cut and made much stronger. These re-touches seem to be quite numerous.

Even more apparent are the re-cut inner vertical frames lines. Originally there were thin double inner frame lines at the corners.

At the sides of the stamps the inner frame is a line in places only, the remainder being only

the abrupt termination of the coloured inner design. In many specimens these vertical inner frames may be found re-cut for varying distances, and in some instances for nearly the whole length of the frame. These are to be found on either side, and more rarely on both sides, and are quite prominent.

There are also 10 c. stamps having retouches in three corners as well as in part of the design, and I have several of these. And, of course, there is the "horn" variety repaired.

While the foregoing remarks apply to the 5c. and 10c values, I should like to venture the assertion that there are copies of the 15c. stamp shewing similar re-touches of the outer frame line. It is rash to say this positively in face of the repeated statements by others that the 15c. has no re-touches, but then, now as ever, "fools rush in where angels fear to tread". I have read such statements as "I have examined thousands and have not found any retouches". Therefore is it proved? Not at all, my dear anonymous expert! There are millions of people to-day who might swear that they never saw Mr. Shakespeare write the plays bearing his name, but that does not prove their Baconian authorship. I have not examined "thousands", but I possess thirty, and I believe that at least 2 or 3 of these clearly show re-touches. The left bottom corner appears to be invariably heavily cut or impressed, but the right top and bottom corners are thin and weak, or even worn away. I have copies in which either, or both, of these weak places appear to have been more heavily re-cut, and I think that if others who specialise in early Hollands (not matutinal schnapps) would examine carefully their specimens, corroboration would soon be forthcoming that the plates of all three values were re-touched, and not those of the 5c. and 10c. only.

I should be pleased to show my specimens to any specially interested in the subject.

Notes on Leeward Island Stamps.

BY F. F. L.

So much has been written of late years about the stamps in use for the whole of the Leeward Islands group, that it would seem almost impossible to describe two varieties of these stamps not already well-known to the majority of collectors.

The first of these is a copy of the De la Rue one penny stamp of 1890. These stamps, in common with the well-known issues of a similar type for the Gold Coast, St. Vincent, Grenada, and elsewhere were printed in two colours, one for the name and value, the other for the rest of the design. The body of the stamp was printed from De la Rue's "stock" type of plate, known as the "Head Plate," each plate containing 120 impressions arranged

in two panes of 60. The "duty" plate, which printed the name and value tablet consisted of 60 impressions so that the variety I illustrate may possibly be one of only 60 printed copies.



Messrs. De la Rue are known to be so extremely careful in checking their work that it is somewhat astonishing that such marked evidence of carelessness should have been allowed to pass. The specimen illustrated was purchased in the West Indies, from the Post Office, so there is a possibility that the majority of the stamps in the pane did postal duty, probably on local letters, although I have not heard of a used copy.

The second variety I have to illustrate is a copy of the 1/- King's Head stamp, shewing the "R" in "Leeward" considerably lower than the other letters. Here again we have an unusual by-product of Messrs. De la Rue's work and one I think not duplicated in their printings for other countries.

The King's Head stamps were printed in exactly the same way as were the issues of Queen Victoria, with of course, the exception that an entirely new "head" plate had to be engraved. The "duty" plate however, was the same one used for the Queen's Heads, consequently there is a possibility of this dropped letter variety being found on the 1/- value of 1890.

I have not seen a complete pane, or enough of a pane to enable me to say the position on the sheet of this variety. If any of my readers could enlighten me I should be grateful.



Although certainly not worthy of being catalogued the varieties illustrated are of sufficient interest to be included in a specialised collection of Leeward Islands stamps. The dropped letter, if it is constant on every pane should be fairly easy to procure. The 1d. stamp printed from the badly centred duty plate is of considerable rarity. I am indebted to Mr. G. A. Higlett for the loan of this variety. The pair of 1/- stamps,

curiously enough, also at one time belonged to Mr. Higlett, as that gentleman once showed it, if I remember rightly, amongst other curiosities, before the City of London Philatelic Society.

All eight values of the 1890 issue of the Leeward Islands were overprinted with the word "Sexagenary" and the date "1897" contained in a Garter. These stamps are quite void of any extra interest because they were so defaced. In Bright's catalogue (a publication containing a good deal of interesting information not found in other catalogues) I find the following note. "In 1897 the above stamps were locally treated to a disfigurement of a Garter containing the inscription 'Sexagenary 1897,' enclosing a monogram formed of the letters 'V.R.I.' Such proceedings on the part of the Postal Authorities is beneath contempt and we strongly advise collectors in the interests of Philately not to collect such labels."

All values of these overprinted varieties can be found showing distinct traces of a double strike, sometimes so marked that I am surprised they are not listed in Gibbons' catalogue as double surcharges.

The surcharged stamps of 1902 are quite common, and are of slight interest, except to those collectors whose delight it is to discover minor varieties, consisting of fat, thin, podgy, stumpy, elongated or other distressful letters.

A sidepath of philately, but one becoming well-known to philatelists, is that branch of our hobby dealing with postmarks. Unfortunately, where the postmarks of the Leeward Islands are concerned, there is nothing to be learnt which could prove of any value. As a method, however, of adding value to otherwise uninteresting issues, I think that a collection showing the various values used in the islands of Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Virgin Islands and St. Kitts-Nevis, would be of considerable interest. The majority of these stamps are found under the date stamp of Antigua (St. John's, or other towns). The date stamp of Dominica is also very common. The other islands are not so well represented, and an odd value here or there may be difficult to acquire.

Although all the principal islands comprising the Leeward group have their own distinctive issues, it is surprising how popular the uniform stamps are; while their so general use clearly proves how unnecessary are the pictorial issues of Dominica and Antigua, to say nothing of pseudo-Virgins, St. Kitts-Nevis and Montserrat.

In a small specialised collection of Leeward Island stamps, which my publishers recently purchased, there were one or two out-of-the-way cancellations, notably, the ½d. King's Head, postmarked with four or five concentric rings, probably done on arrival at some Central or South American port; also several stamps with Jamaica and Barbados cancellations. Some with mail packet obliterations, and one or two other weird nondescripts.

The Mystery of 's Hertogenbosch.

A STUDY IN DESTRUCTIVE PHILATELY.

(A Paper read by Mr. J. A. Leon before the City of London Philatelic Society, March 8th, 1911).

FROM one point of view Philately may be regarded as being either constructive or destructive. By destructive philately I understand the discovery of new varieties either by dint of study or by chance. By destructive Philately I understand the proof—the satisfactory proof—that a catalogued or otherwise recognized variety is not entitled to a philatelic status. And I think I am justified in maintaining that the latter is just as much true philately as the former; at all events I hope that my readers will share my view.

The stamp to which I am going to draw your your attention is the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent Holland Newspaper stamp of 1876. It has been known for some time that this stamp is found with additional lines of perforation.

A few months ago I came across some of these stamps and felt tempted to try and discover their history. I therefore proceeded to ransack every London dealer's stock with the result that I got together some eighty copies of this variety. They all are postmarked "'s Hertogenbosch", and I entitled paper "The Mystery of 's Hertogenbosch," because after I had investigated these stamps as far as lay in my power, I saw clearly that I did not possess sufficient material on which to base any satisfactory conclusion. I therefore decided merely to state the facts, and leave the inferences to be derived from them open. By so doing I should not lay myself open to the charge of the theorising upon insufficient premises.

Let us now turn to the stamps and see what we can learn. Nearly all of them have an additional horizontal line of perforation, some few have both a horizontal and a vertical line, and there are likewise a few with two horizontal lines, but there is never more than one additional vertical line. These stamps were, as you would expect, originally perforated by the machines in use in Holland at the time, viz., those gauging 13 to $13\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ (with $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$), $12\frac{1}{2}$ small holes, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ large holes. If we now measure the additional perforations, we find two different gauges, and two only. One of these gauges $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12, and the other $14\frac{1}{2}$. If we now arrange our stamps in order of date according to postmarks, we find that the large perforation occurs only from the 23rd of January 1877 (the earliest date known to me) until 28th September 1883; after this date it completely disappears, and from the 4th October, 1883, until the 15th April, 1893 (the latest date I have met with) we have only the small perforation.

Now what is the meaning of these additional perforations? Let us see what the philatelic press has to say on the subject. First there is the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde*, the leading Dutch periodical. The variety is shortly mentioned in the July number of 1907, and from this brief report has been noted in Kohl's large catalogue. In this Dutch periodical the column dealing with Holland and its colonies is under a kind of dual editorship. Sometimes one gentleman and sometimes the other is responsible for the column, a kind of Box and Cox arrangement. So I shall refer to them as Editor Box and Editor Cox respectively. In May, 1908, Editor Box reports that 42 of these stamps have been sent him by a correspondent, all of them from the years 1878 and 1879. He then remarks that these badly perforated stamps have been known for years, that they are always found with the same postmark and that they emanate from the publishing office of a Roman Catholic periodical. Some people, he says, have taken them to be the handiwork of a practical joker with a sewing machine, but a thorough-going investigation on his part convinces him that all the additional lines of perforation were produced by machines in use at the time. Editor Box's opinion is that the sheets of stamps had been faultily perforated, and that they were re-perforated with either the $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ or the $13\frac{1}{2}$ machines. Now all this is very plausible, but to use a colloquialism it won't wash. In the first place, the sheets were *not* defectively perforated. On the contrary, the stamps are generally well centred, and any "off centre" appearance is usually due to the additional perforations. But even if we assume this theory to be true, why should all these re-perforated sheets have been sent to 's Hertogenbosch exclusively, and this, too, for a period covering upwards of sixteen years? I have also yet to learn of the existence of any official Dutch perforation gauging $14\frac{1}{2}$. And again, the additional lines never show the slightest trace of a $12\frac{1}{2}$ gauge, as they must have shown had the $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ machine been used for the purpose. An additional line of $13\frac{1}{2}$ I have not yet seen, nor do I believe that Editor Box has either; he has probably mistaken an original $13\frac{1}{2}$ perforation for the additional one. His conjecture that they originate from the office of a periodical is probably correct, but I have no evidence that it was a Roman Catholic one. Presently I hope to prove to your satisfaction that they do come from the office of *some* periodical.

We will now pass on to the month of August 1908 and see what Editor Cox has to say. Pish! Pooh! Bah! says Editor Cox. Unquestionably the work of a practical joker; it has been done by a lad or a couple of lads, who have endeavoured to foist a new variety on Dutch philatelic experts. "This is obviously the case," says Editor Cox, "as in several specimens which are before me, not only are the stamps perforated, but also the paper underneath them!" Q.E.D., says Editor Cox.

Unfortunately Editor Cox's assertions will not bear scrutiny. Even supposing that a couple of lads had been amusing themselves in 1877, we must assume that they would have reached years of discretion long before 1893. And why should they make a constant use of only one gauge up to September 1883, and then all of a sudden change it? But perhaps the learned Editor thinks that the stamps were obtained by these lads in used condition, that they were then faked by them, and were finally distributed broadcast? To that I reply:—

(1) These stamps must have been distributed over all parts of Holland, and the difficulty of amassing a large quantity of them must have been very great.

(2) Why should they have confined their attention exclusively to stamps bearing 's Hertogenbosch postmark and to the $\frac{1}{4}$ value?

(3) Why should they have perforated stamps used prior to October 1883 with one gauge, and those used subsequently with another?

(4) What Editor Cox has not looked deeply enough into the perforations through the paper underneath the stamps. (This somewhat mysterious sentence I shall explain later on.)

So much for Messrs. Box & Cox and the Dutch periodical.

Turning nearer home we find that on the 16th of March, 1909, Mr. Warren read a paper on Dutch perforations before the Herts Society. This was published in that Society's Monthly Report in the following May. In it Mr. Warren says he was the first to point out the swindling nature of the $14\frac{1}{2}$ perforation, and that as far as the other perforations were concerned, he adheres to the solution given in page 96 of his collection. I was unfortunately not present when Mr. Warren read his paper, and therefore did not have the privilege of seeing his collection. I am consequently ignorant of his solution, but I can assure him that there is not the faintest suspicion of a swindle attached to the $14\frac{1}{2}$ perforation.

As I remarked before, I tried to make as much as I could out of the 80 odd stamps I had. I arranged them in order of date. I arranged them according to their original perforations. Here it occurred to me to see whether these at all tallied with those of the stamps in use in 's Hertogenbosch at the time. For that purpose I annexed every $\frac{1}{4}$ cent. stamp with that postmark that I could lay my hands on. It was originally my intention to

show you all of these in chronological order. But a piece of luck put me on the track of the mystery, and it has become superfluous. I shall therefore refrain from troubling you with them.

By a very lucky chance I got hold of a large parcel of many thousand Dutch stamps, and among them, to my great delight, I found nearly 300 of the 's Hertogenbosch freaks, many of them on pieces of original. The first thing I did when I found myself in possession of sufficient material, was to test the question of the stamps having been used for some periodical. If this were the case, the dates, as per postmark, would show on the whole regular intervals.



I assumed the correctness of the statement of the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* that they emanated from a Roman Catholic periodical. Knowing that religious periodicals are as a rule published weekly, I looked for seven days intervals, but could not find them. Hence I erroneously came to the conclusion that there could be no question of one particular periodical. And this conclusion seemed to be borne out by the sight of the pieces on original which frequently consisted of printed matter. There were far too many different kinds of type. The language was not invariably Dutch, but sometimes French, German, or English. The subject matter too was very varied. I therefore abandoned the idea of a single periodical and ascribed the origin to a wholesale newsagent, who posted to his customers the various periodicals they ordered. But this solution was wrong, and you will very soon see why.

The copies on pieces of original consist of:

- (1) The stamp.
- (2) The paper to which the stamp was affixed.
- (3) A piece of paper to which in its turn the latter was affixed, and was either a piece of newspaper or a piece of blank paper.

The paper to which the stamp was attached is invariably perforated at the top, bottom and one side, as a rule the right. These perforations mostly, but not invariably, go through the stamp as well. The gauge of these perforations is $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12 in all cases post-marked before October 1883, and $14\frac{1}{2}$ in all subsequent cases. The width between the two horizontal lines of perforation is about

the same as the height of the postage stamp. This paper generally shows some lithographed straight lines running along the lines of perforation, and an additional vertical line at a distance of a stamp's breadth from the perforated vertical line. A few of the larger pieces also show portions of lithographed addresses. The perforations never pass through the paper to which these addressed labels are attached. Hence we may confidently infer that the paper or label with the stamp affixed was perforated before being pasted in.

And now we are able to form one definite conclusion. These strips of perforated paper can only represent address labels. A whole sheet containing a number of different addresses was produced by lithography, the different addresses being separated by lines, and a ruled space was provided for the stamp. The stamps were then affixed in vertical strips and the sheet passed through a perforating machine; of course this would almost invariably also perforate the stamp horizontally, but would frequently miss it in a vertical direction. The strips of stamps would usually be affixed right side up, but the office boy would occasionally put them on upside down. Hence the additional vertical line of perforation through the stamp is as a rule on the right. This is confirmed by the fact that when the vertical perforation falls on the left, the postmark is, as a rule, inverted.

After I had arrived at the above conclusions, I tried to soak off one or two of the stamps on pieces. I then found that whereas the stamp came off readily enough, the perforated paper held on like grim death to that underneath it, and required boiling to remove it. This at once disposed of my newsagent theory, as most people would resent having to remove the address label of their paper by boiling. It therefore follows that this second layer of paper cannot be a portion of the periodical sent. But it might very well be the wrapper. And I know that continental periodicals are frequently sent through the post by publishers wrapped up in any odd bits of paper. This second layer must therefore be the wrapper of the periodical, to which the stamped addressed label was affixed.

I had therefore once more to consider the question of some one periodical. This time I noted down carefully the date of every legible postmark, and ascertained on which day of the week each date fell. This investigation at once bore fruit. The periodical was a bi-weekly one. From 1877 to 1881 it was published on Tuesday and Saturday, from 1882 to 1885 on Wednesday and Saturday, after that year it appears to have become tri-weekly, as we get Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday with almost equal frequency. There are of course numerous instances of other days of the week, but this is only what one would expect in the case of a periodical;

there must be occasional orders for odd numbers, which would be despatched on the same day as received. The predominance of particular days during definite periods makes my hypothesis difficult to assail.

There is, however, one serious difficulty here. In no case have I been able to discover the faintest trace of a postmark on the paper beneath the address label. When the postmark reaches the perforated margin of the label, it abruptly terminates, and is not continued on the paper underneath. But I think that I can account for this. I have in my possession a stamp which I think settles the question. Attached to the bottom of this stamp is a narrow strip from the top of the stamp below. This strip is cut short by the additional horizontal perforation at a distance of little more than 2 millimetres. It bears the beginnings of the postmark, which stops dead at the perforation. There is not the faintest trace of it on the paper.

Now could there be any object in so cancelling a fragment of a stamp unless at the time of cancellation the rest of the stamp was there too? Hence I venture to conjecture that the sheets of address labels were postmarked either before perforation or at all events before separation. The publisher of the magazine, or whatever it was, probably had some arrangement with the post office to have the stamps pre-cancelled on the sheets of address labels, for the convenience of both parties concerned.

I have tried to find out what periodical it was without success. A search at the British Museum revealed the fact that there exists a Roman Catholic publication entitled "De Katholiek." This was published at the Hague, 's Hertogenbosch and Leiden from 1842 to 1885, but from 1886 onwards it was only published at Leiden and Utrecht. It cannot therefore very well be our periodical.

From Sell's Newspaper Press Directory I learn that there exists in 's Hertogenbosch a tri-weekly publication called "Het Huisgezin," but an application to its publisher has unfortunately met with no response.

This brings me to the end of my paper. I think I have proved conclusively that while the extra perforated stamps have no philatelic status, they are the perfectly innocent product of some newspaper office in 's Hertogenbosch.

Before I conclude I have to tender my heartiest thanks to Mr. Jackson and to Mr. Loverius, both of whom very kindly placed their collections of these stamps at my disposal.

"Parturiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus mus."



A New Discovery in "India."

BY L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

A VERY interesting strip of the half anna blue of 1854, the native printed stamp, has just been shewn to me and is illustrated in this number of the *Journal*.*

Entire sheets are known dated in the lower margin, May, July, August, 1854, and August, 1855. The new discovery is, as you will see from the illustration, dated June, 1854. It is known that between the 11th and 24th of May two and a half millions of the half anna value had been printed, and between the latter date and the 14th July nearly twenty millions. In order to do this the printing must have been going on continuously, and therefore it is only reasonable to expect that one would find one or more transfers dated June, 1854.

The extraordinary part of it is that this date had not been seen before. To shew what may also exist and may be found any day, I give a list of possible dates in addition to those already known for the half, one, and four annas of the native printings.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, November, 1854, July, September, October, 1855.

1 anna, July, October, 1854, July, August, September, October, 1855.

4 annas, October, November, December, 1854, May, July, August, September, October, 1855.

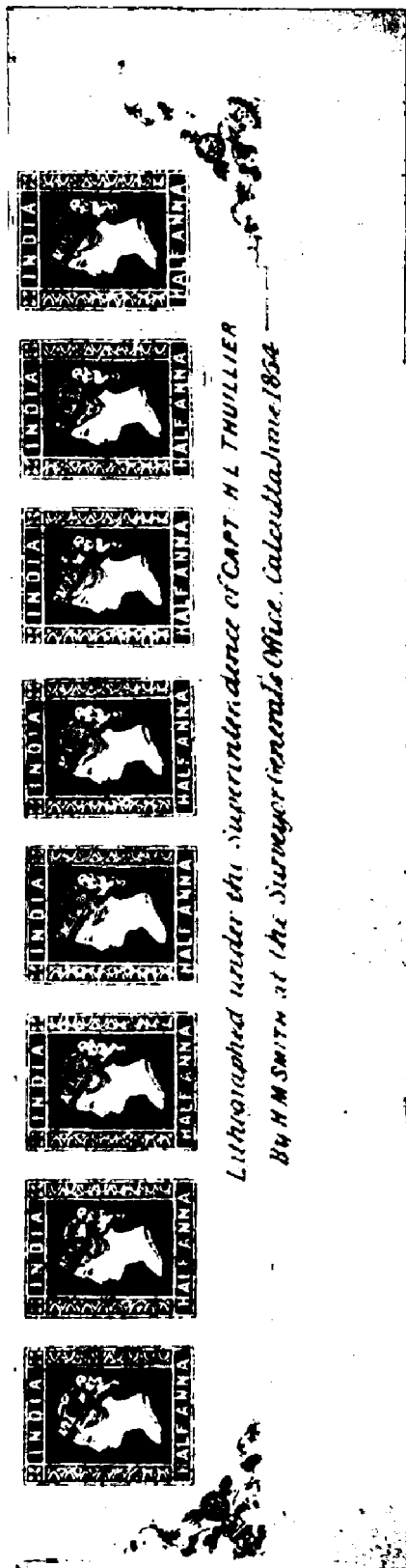
The dates at present known are:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, May, June, July, August, 1854, August, 1855.

1 anna, August, September, 1854.

4 annas, March, April, 1855.

The strip dated "June 1854" has the corner ornaments at approximately the same distance from the corner stamps as those of the July 1854 settings—about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and not like the May transfers, in which the ornaments nearly touch the corner stamps. The setting of the stamps in the "June 1854" strip appears to be the same as that of the lower row of the block of twenty-four, which was used for the May and July transfers, four of these blocks, each consisting of three rows of eight, going to make up the sheet of ninety-six.



Lithographed under the Superintendance of CAPT. H. L. THULLIER
By H. M. SMITH at the Surveyor General's Office, Calcutta June 1854

* We are indebted to Mr. R. J. White for the loan of this interesting strip.

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L.^c PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 54).

PROOFS AND TRIAL PRINTINGS OF THE PARIS ISSUE.

As I have already mentioned, M. Pièrre Mahé, the well-known French dealer, bought, in 1868, an entire sheet of each of the seven values of the Paris prints from a waste paper dealer. He describes this transaction in a very entertaining manner in the *Monthly Journal*, vol. 17, page 100. The sheets were not gummed, but were in the most perfect condition, except that some of the stamps were creased where they had been folded. On tabs attached to the corners of the sheets were particulars of the numbers printed; they were evidently sheets which had been kept by the printers for reference. Unfortunately M. Mahé did not keep these valuable records. It was a good stroke of business for the dealer as he paid 180 francs for the lot and afterwards retailed them at 30 francs per set! These stamps were, we are told, exactly like the issued ones except for the absence of gum.

In a later chapter of his souvenirs (*M. J.*, xvii., p. 194) M. Mahé describes how he bought, in a similar way, a bundle of trial and waste sheets. I give the following account of this lot in his own words:—

"One portion consisted of printer's trial impressions, printed on one side or on both sides, sometimes with the same value and in the same colour, sometimes with the impression in one colour on one side and in another colour on the other; the other portion, the larger, was composed of real trials of colour; there was a great collection of these, some in the colour in which the stamp was issued, some in the colour of some other value, and on many varieties of paper. I recollect, among them, the 5 lepta printed in black upon thin green paper, and 20 lepta in black on white, and there were numerous other varieties, the details of which I have forgotten."

"All having been properly sorted out, I found that it was possible to make up a certain number of sets containing thirty-four distinct varieties, the price of which I fixed at 80 francs the set. This was not an extravagant price, for some of these essays, of which I had only a few copies, were well worth 10 francs apiece. After these came sets of a smaller number of varieties, which I priced at 30 to 40 francs, and the remainder, the commoner varieties, which existed in considerable quantities, went off at 1, 2 and 3 francs each."

In Mr. Jonas' collection, which I have pur-

chased since I started writing these articles, there is a fine series of these trial impressions and colour trials. They are interesting, for they include all gradations of printing, from rough and indistinct, to the finest possible results. In some, especially noticeable in the colour trials of the 1 lepton, the spandrels are much too pale, a defect which was corrected in later trials by an alteration to the *découpage*. In the 20 lepton printed in the medium blue shade, the lines on the cheek are very short, producing an effect very similar to that presented by the Athens-printed 1 lepton of 1870 (Gibbons No. 49). Others of the 1 lep. and 20 lep. show in an exaggerated form the hazy double impression of the head or profile which was so obviously caused by a displacement of the *découpage*.

As in my opinion some of these trials or essays should be included in every specialized collection of Greek stamps, I think a list of the varieties which I have before me as I write will prove of interest. It is possible that other varieties exist, but it will be seen that, by the inclusion of shades they might represent the full set of thirty-five varieties which M. Mahé mentions.

- | | | |
|---|---------|---|
| 1 | lepton, | bright yellow-brown. |
| 1 | " | deep yellowish-brown. |
| 1 | " | light chocolate-brown. |
| 1 | " | deep greyish-brown. |
| 1 | " | " " printed both sides. |
| 1 | " | chocolate-brown with impression of the 20 lep. on back, printed in black. |
| 1 | " | black. |
| 1 | " | black, on card. |
| 1 | " | black on thin green paper, printed both sides. |
| <p><i>Note.</i>—The appearance of the lines of shading on the cheek in this essay is identical with that of the first Athens print.</p> | | |
| 1 | " | chocolate-brown; rough print on poor paper. |
| 1 | " | grey-black; ditto, ditto. |
| 5 | lepta, | yellow-green (much deeper than the issued stamp). |
| 5 | " | rose, on pelure paper. |
| 20 | " | blue. |
| 20 | " | blue, printed both sides. |
| 20 | " | pale blue. |
| 20 | " | pale blue, printed both sides. |
| 20 | " | pale blue on front, and double-printed (once inverted) at back. |
| 20 | " | double-printed, one side only. |
| 20 | " | deep violet-blue, with pale blue impression at back. |

- 20 lepta, black.
 20 " black, on card.
 40 " orange-yellow, on bluish, with an extremely rough and quite indecipherable impression at back, in the same shade, which appears as a blotchy mass of colour.
 40 " deep rose, on thin card, with impression on back as last.
 40 " deep rose, on thin card, printed on back in orange-red.
 40 " deep rose, on thin card, printed on back in pale orange.
 40 " pale rose on pelure.

It will be noticed that I do not include the variety mentioned by M. Mahé, namely, 5 lep. black on green. This is a variety which I have not seen, and I think it likely that M. Mahé's recollection was at fault and that it was the 1 lepton black on green to which he intended to refer.

Some of the varieties which I mention above I have not seen printed on one side of the paper only—but probably some of these exist. In all, my list includes 27 varieties, and these, together with the ordinary printers' trial impressions, more or less in the exact colours of the issued stamps, would just about complete a set of thirty-five. It is a curious fact that no essays, except in the correct colours, are known of the 2, 10 and 80 lep. value.

THE FIRST ATHENS PRINT.

The Parisian printers are said to have sent the plates to Athens in charge of one or two experienced workmen, together with supplies of paper and ink, also *formes* for printing figures on the backs of all but the two lowest values. We should therefore expect the first Athens prints to have been very good impressions. This expectation was only partially fulfilled. So far as the 1, 40 and 80 lepta were concerned the printing left little to be desired, though it was not so good as that done in Paris. On the other hand the 2 lep., 10 lep. and 20 lep. were very rough indeed when compared with the Paris prints, and nothing like so fine as some of the Athens prints which followed them. The printing of the first Athens 5 lep. varies very much indeed, sometimes it is quite rough and at others very fine, between these two classes, being neither poor nor very good.

These variations are, doubtless, due to experiments in the *mise en train*. Owing to the extreme care required for printing by the aid of a well prepared *découpage*, the Greeks were probably first instructed in the use of a "blanket" (which I have already described, on page 37) either with or without the addition of some modified form of *découpage*. By this means the printing is easier than when a paper backing is used alone, but the result is never so good. The use of a "blanket" can sometimes be detected by an indefinite quadrillé appearance in the background of the circle

containing the head, which, in well printed specimens, should appear quite solid. The first Athens 20 lepta, both with and without figures of value at the back sometimes shows this quadrillé background, while the whole appearance of the impression is consistent with this method of printing. The 2 lep. and 10 lep. first Athens also appear to have been printed with the aid of a "blanket," though I have not seen any copies of either of these values which show the so-called quadrillé background. The 1, 40 and 80 lep. were undoubtedly printed with the hard backing or paper *découpage*, as they have the same characteristics as the Paris prints, though without the *finish* of the latter. With regard to the early printings of the 5 lep., I believe that some were produced by one process and some by the other.

The figures at the back of the 5, 10, 20, 40 and 80 lepta were much smaller than those on the 10 lep. Paris print, measuring from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. They were apparently set up from type and it is evident that in later issues there were frequent new settings for all values. The same form of type, however, was used for all printings until the final abolition of the system in 1879, with the single exception of the 5 for which a differently shaped figure was used after the first Athens print.

Before proceeding to describe each value of the first Athens prints I will now refer to certain characteristics which are common to all, and which should be of great assistance to my readers in identifying their stamps. In the first place there is that peculiarity to which I have already referred more than once, namely, the mottled appearance of the background immediately adjoining the entire outline of the back of the head and neck or the outline of the profile and front of the neck. This hazy appearance is never found on *both* sides of the head. If a stamp shows it at the back of the head the profile will be found to be quite sharply defined, and *vice versa*. Fully 50% of first Athens prints do not show this peculiarity at all, and some only show it slightly, but when found it is a sure indication of an early print. It is found most often on the 5, 10 and 20 lep, and its presence on the two latter values proves that the *découpage* was sometimes, if not always, used together with the "blanket." On the 80 lep. first Athens the hazy outline occurs but rarely, thus evidencing the extreme care employed in printing this value.

The paper used for these early Athens printings was good but not so highly finished as that used in Paris. Most of the 10 and 20 lep. of this period were printed on paper which is yellowish on the face and greenish-blue and bluish, respectively, at back. Sometimes one finds the 5 lep. showing the same peculiarity though never to such a marked degree.

The 20 lep., first Athens, is known used in Dec., 1861, and all the other values appeared

presumably, early in 1862, though I have never seen either the 1 or 2 lep. used on entire or with dated postmark, so the date of issue can only be presumed to have been the same as for the other values.

With one exception, none of the Athens prints seem to have been actually required at such an early date, as the Paris prints are constantly found used in 1862-63 and even as late as 1866. The exception is the 20 lep., the Paris prints of which appear to have been used up, in all the principal towns at least, during the first three months of the issue.

The 5, 10 and 80 lep. of the Paris prints seem to have lasted the longest.

(To be continued).

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

The other day I saw a letter from a German dealer who had sent some stamps on appro. His English was rather quaint.

"I do beg you dears Sirs you will be gentlemanous to send to back the stamps any more quickly in lonquests any weekly. Two weeklys is too longtimes by a little."

What Germany would write after having to wait a month would probably be something like this:—

"Four weeks a great too much, In posteriety you come back before going, else I come also to went back and fetch the sents."

A week or so ago I received a letter from "Tancred" asking me "to shoot along a stock book of Cochin and any *entire sheets* you have of either issue; I've just been in that part and am taking it up." I sincerely hope it won't be missed, also that "Tancred" will drop it gently when he has finished with it. If he thinks he is going to get Cochin home to England without anybody missing it, he is mistaken.

As to sending out my entire sheets, why of course I shall be delighted, as a fatter of mact the first consignment left Tilbury last week in 850, 5 cwt. cases, while I am now in negotiations with the P. & O., Orient, Bibby, B.I., and L.C.C. Steamship Companies, for the hire of their fleets to take out my second and final consignment. In the meantime should anybody be good enough to send me a Cochin stamp, I will report on its peculiarities to "Tancred."

In the event of none of my readers being the proud possessors of a single Cochin, perhaps some of them have seen one and would be kind enough to send me a second-hand description of what a Cochin really looks like.

One of these days an enthusiastic collector will buy Australia and write to Europe for entire sheets of the early issues.

The Editor of the *Australian Stamp Journal*

describing a trip to Melbourne, when he was taken to a German National Fete, says:—

The music was good, the cigars and lager-beer were excellent, and although I could not understand the speeches I am sure they were good too, judging by the hilarious manner in which they were received.

Dear old Melbourne lager-beer, how well I remember thy seductive charms.

Some kind friend in India has sent me a copy of a little paper called the *Indian Philocartist*. I am not much of a 'cartist myself but the hobby (?) seems to have its good features. The following short extract explains what its devotees sometimes do.

A complaint was lodged by Asian No. 27 against a mischeivous Parsee girl who used to malpractise with him under the assumed name of one of our most respectable lady members. The fraud was detected by the parents of the said lady and consequently they thought it wise to send in the resignation of their daughter. We are really very much grieved to notice that a strange Parsee girl was so bold to misuse our Club's members' list. We hereby give notice to all such mischief makers that in future we will spare no pains to bring to book all such offenders and the matter will be placed in the hands of our solicitors.

Better stick to stamp collecting after all.

In Part II. of Gibbons' catalogue there is, on page 697, a publisher's note which is rather amusing. It reads:—

"Dangerous forgeries have been made in Montevideo and Paris, and collectors should only purchase such stamps from experts."

That's where the advantage of being known as an expert comes in.

A writer in the *Stamp Lover* replying to the query "What does the J.P.S. do for the country member?" says:—

"If he (the member) sits still and just lets the magazine, and perhaps the exchange packets, arrive in due course month by month, examines them rather lazily, and then puts them on one side, naturally he will not find himself overloaded with advantages."

Especially true when the exchange packets have been on one side for a few months.

One of these days "Senex" of the dear old S.C.F., will irrevocably commit himself to a definite statement. The following paragraph, however, is just a little bit wobbly:—

"Perhaps the 5d. Malta, Ship, is rising; anyway, one would think it ought to; the latest price seems a trifle dearer than formerly."

In *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for Feb. 25th there is a long account of the Twentieth Anniversary celebrations of the Boston Philatelic Society. The following extracted paragraph speaks for itself:—

"Numerous letters of regret were received, notably from Fred J. Melville, who at the last moment found it impossible to attend; also from His Royal Majesty King George, the latter's recognition of the event meeting with hearty applause."

I am told that the publisher of this paper, accompanied by the editor, was seen at Dinant during the Easter vacation. If this was really the case it must have been a great strain on Dinant's resources.

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.

India. *China Expeditionary Force.* Mr. W. T. Wilson has very kindly shown us the following varieties.

Adhesives. King's Head stamps overprinted C.E.F. in black.
 2a. mauve.
 2½a. blue.
 3a. orange-brown.
 4a. olive-green.
 8a. magenta.
 1r. green and carmine.

Malta. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the recently issued 1/- stamp on coloured paper.

Adhesive. Multiple wmk., chalky paper. 1/- black on green.

Northern Nigeria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly inform us that they have the 2/6 and 10/- stamps in the new colours.

Adhesives.
 2/6 black and red on blue.
 10/- green and red on green.

Papua. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the arrival of the ¼d. and 1d. stamps, all one colour.

Adhesives. Wmk. Crown CA.
 ¼d. emerald-green.
 1d. rose-pink.

Sudan. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 10 piastres stamp on multiple wmk. paper.

Adhesive. Wmk. Multiple Star and Crescent. 10p. black and mauve.

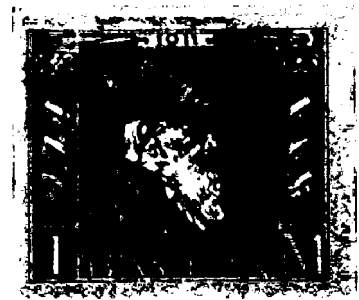
Tasmania. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a sixpenny stamp with the central portion entirely re-drawn. The new stamp has the Waterfall more heavily shaded, while the background of Trees has been entirely re-drawn.



Adhesive. Re-drawn type, Crown and A, perf. 11. 6d. bright lake.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a complete set of the new stamps.



Adhesives. Wmkd. wavy lines, P. 144.
 3 pf. brown on buff.
 5 pf. green on green.
 10 pf. red on buff.
 20 pf. blue on blue.
 25 pf. black-brown on buff.

Wmkd. perpendicular wavy lines.
 30 pf. orange on buff. 2m. green on green.
 40 pf. olive .. 3m. red ..
 50 pf. marone .. 5m. blue ..
 80 pf. violet .. 10m. orange on cream.
 1m. brown .. 20m. sepia ..

These stamps are very handsome productions, while they are already showing a prolific tendency to produce marked shades.

Bulgaria. We are indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt for a copy of the 3 leva stamp, to complete the set we chronicled last month, also for the information that this set was printed by the "Officina Calcografica Italiana" of Rome.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us particulars of the designs on these stamps.

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1 | stotinki. | Ancient Bulgarian Fortress in the Rhodope Mountains. |
| 2 | " | Present day Portrait of King Ferdinand. |
| 3 | " | View of Tirnovo, ancient Bulgarian Capital. |
| 5 | " | King in Summer Uniform. |
| 10 | " | King in Naval Uniform. |
| 15 | " | View in the Valley of the River Iskar. |
| 25 | " | Portrait of King Ferdinand. |
| 30 | " | Interior of the famous Rilo Monastery. |
| 50 | " | King Ferdinand with his two Sons on Horseback. |
| 1 | lev. | Kind Ferdinand in the Costume of the ancient Bulgarian Kings. |
| 2 | leva. | Monastery near Tirnova. |
| 3 | " | Harbour of Varna, Black Sea. |

Adhesive.

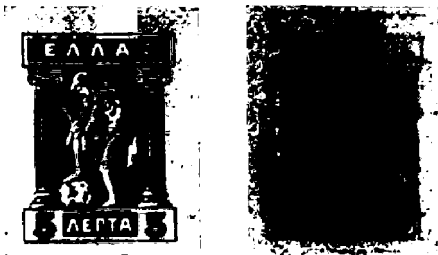
3 leva black and mauve.

Greece. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"We send you two values of the new issue, 5 and 25 lept. These were first put on sale in Athens on March 28th. They are printed at Corfu, by Messrs. G. Aspiotis Freres, and are in sheets of 100. We find some difficulty in getting the stamps apart owing to the rouletting, and we should not be surprised if these were shortly replaced by properly perforated stamps. The other values of the new stamps will only be issued when the corresponding values of the old issue are exhausted."

Adhesives. Rouletted zigzag.

5 lept. green.
25 " blue.



Norway. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"The 1 and 1½ krone are now printed with solid background, and the 2 krone have just come to hand in the re-engraved type with larger head and lined background, similar to the 1 and 1½ krone issued last year."

Panama. The *Monthly Journal* chronicled a ½c. stamp, uniform with the stamp (without surcharge) chronicled in last month's journal.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News also chronicles a 1c. value.

Adhesives.
½c. orange.
1c. green.

Uruguay. Our publishers have shown us a copy of the 10c. sepia of the 1883 issue, perforated 12 all round. The other values (1c., 2c., and 5c.) of this set are catalogued in this perforation, but not the 10c., which is only given 13×12.

Adhesive. 1883 (S.G. type 20).
10c. sepia, perforated 12.

The North London Philatelic Society.

THE 57th Ordinary Meeting of the above Society was held at Headquarters, on Thursday, March 19th, the chair being taken by Mr. A. W. Merrington.

The first business of the evening being a display, with notes, by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.-L, of Ceylon and Hong Kong. Of Ceylon, there was an especially fine lot, all the Pence Issues being represented by fine copies, including the 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/-wink. Star, imperf., all the remaining issues being equally well represented including the Official stamps.

The second business was a display of "British Postmarks," by Mr. A. W. Merrington. These proved very interesting and numbered some 300 sheets, dating from 1660 to the present date, and numbering some twenty thousand different specimens of English, Scotch and Irish Postmarks, this being rather a neglected branch of Philately, but one which really ought to be encouraged, as no doubt in the future it will prove invaluable for reference purposes.

At the conclusion of the Display a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Merrington, closed the meeting.

THE 58th Ordinary Meeting was held on Thursday, April 6th, the chair being taken by Mr. Alex. J. Séfi. After the usual business, Mr. H. Beacham was elected a Member of the Society.

The business of the Meeting being a Competitive Display of the Stamps of France, six Collections were handed in for Competition, the award being given to Mr. H. S. Wymer for a very fine collection comprising unused and used sets of all issues, and also a very fine lot of shades, Susse perforations, and postmarks, and also some very fine blocks, strips, etc.

After the award had been made, a vote of thanks to the Judges, Messrs. P. J. W. Devereil and J. W. Wilgoos, was heartily accorded.



April, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911.

Hon. President: H. R. OLDFIELD.

Hon. Vice-Presidents:

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN.

President: J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Vice-Presidents:

W. SCHWARACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

Committee:

J. E. JOSELIN. MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E. W. E. LINCOLN.
A. B. KAY. F. F. LAMB. P. L. PEMBERTON.
GUY SEMPLE, E. W. WETHERILL.

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, Lee, Kent.

Hon. Librarian: W. S. KING,
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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).

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—John Jacobs, London, W.C.; proposed by R. S. Jacobs, seconded by F. F. Lamb.

NOTICES.

The seventh meeting of the Season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, April 6th. Present—J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarte,

J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, Guy Semple, Oswald Marsh, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, W. S. King, H. Atherley, L. E. Hall (visitor), and the Hon. Sec. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the following delegates were appointed to represent the Society at the Third Annual Congress at Birmingham—F. F. Lamb, W. E. Lincoln and T. H. Hinton. Mr. L. W. Fulcher then read an interesting paper on the "The Stamps and Entires of King Edward's Reign," accompanied by a display of his collection. A portion of Mr. J. E. Heginbottom's well-known collection of used Gt. Britain including the line-engraved ½d., 1d. and 2d., Officials, and high values, was then shown on his behalf by the Hon. Sec. An enjoyable and interesting evening was concluded by a hearty vote of thanks for both items, proposed by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. W. S. King, and carried unanimously. In putting the vote, the President voiced the desire of the meeting that Mr. Fulcher's paper should be published in the Official Organ, and it is hoped to do so next month.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, May 11th, at 7.30 p.m. (Committee Meeting at 7 p.m.). Displays of twelve stamps, with notes, by members present will be given, and all members who can possibly do so are urgently requested to attend.

The Hon. Sec. acknowledges with thanks a donation to the Forgery Collection from Mr. J. E. Joselin. There are many countries still unrepresented in it, and the Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive and acknowledge any further contributions, and, if desired will return any duplicates that may be sent. Subscriptions due and any proposals for membership will also receive prompt attention.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

April 10th, 1911.

Sheffield Philatelic Society.

IN the Windsor Room, at the King's Head Hotel, on Wednesday, April 5th.

Mr. W. C. Fox read a paper on the "Stamps of the United States," and at the same time exhibited a wonderful collection of the stamps of this country. Mr. Fox stated that the first official issue of the United States stamps appeared about the year 1845. These were used to frank New York City letters by the authority of the Postmaster-General. They were commonly known by the name of "Penny

Letters." These letters were delivered by the United States City Despatch Post, a branch of the Post Office department. It was formerly a private concern, and entitled the "City Despatch Post." The stamps bore a portrait of Washington, and were of the value of three cents. This was abandoned shortly afterwards by the Government and reverted to private hands. In 1847 the first Government issue consisted of a 5 cent brown, with the portrait of Franklin, and a 10 cent black with a portrait of Washington. These, like other stamps of the United States, were line-engraved, and were made by Rawdon Wright Hatch, and Edson, of New York. In 1851, the rates of inland postage were lowered and a prepaid rate fixed for letters sent abroad. A new issue of 1, 3 and 12 cents was engraved by Topham, of Philadelphia, who in 1855 also supplied a 5 cent Jefferson, and 10 cent stamp of a new design. In 1869 the National Bank Note Co. produced an entirely new set of designs, smaller than before. In 1870, the new Postmaster-General made the following statement:—

"The adhesive stamps adopted by my predecessor in 1869, having failed to give satisfaction to the public on account of their small size, their unshapely form, the difficulty of cancelling them effectually, and the inefficient quality of the gum used in their manufacture, I find it necessary to issue new stamps of larger sizes, superior quality of gum, and to adopt for designs heads in profile, of distinguished deceased Americans. The 2, 10, 30, and 90 cent stamps to be selected from marble busts. After about three years' trial, it was evident the grill was of little practical use, after being used more or less regularly, it was finally abandoned by the National Bank Note Co., in 1873."

Mr. Fox's exhibition and paper were very much appreciated by the members present. In addition to the above, Mr. Frank Atkin, of Sheffield, exhibited a most *wonderful and complete* collection of the United States stamps. This collection, it is understood, is the most complete collection in Europe, and is valued at something like £1,000. Both Mr. Fox and Mr. Atkin are members of the Sheffield Philatelic Society. A vote of thanks was passed to both these gentlemen, for the pleasure they had given the members in exhibiting these stamps.

MR. W. S. LINCOLN has very kindly shown us a copy of his latest enterprize in the album publishing line. As is only to be expected, from such a popular publisher of these indispensable adjuncts to our hobby, it is all that can be desired. Collectors of the stamps of King Edward VII. will find this book a real *sine qua non*.

A Visit to the New G.P.O.

BY ALBERT H. HARRIS.

Secretary of the Modern Collectors' Club.

At the invitation of the Secretary, a party of members met on Saturday afternoon, March 25th, at the new G.P.O. in King Edward Street, for the purpose of inspecting what is held to be the most up-to-date Post-Office in the world.

The party was first shown the long lines of post-box keys, and the un-erring system kept upon their issuance, under signature, to the postmen. Similarly efficient was the busy room devoted to the changing of the time and date-plugs in the numerous postmarking dies, from each one of which an impression is recorded and filed before it is affixed to the marvellously ingenious cancelling machines.

Mail matter is cancelled at the rate of some 700 to 1,000 letters per minute, this almost incredible speed being rendered possible by the rotary system adopted. Briefly, a stack of letters is gently pressed from a trough against a series of wheels, which continually catch the end letter and carry it swiftly past a rapidly revolving die. This impresses the postmark along the whole of the top of the letter, delivering them at the speed mentioned into a rack at the other side of the machine, from which they are removed by the busy sorters.

From this trough they are passed on to the long lines of sorting racks, extending the whole length of the building on two floors, where they are divided, and sub-divided until they are finally sorted by the postman in the way most convenient for delivery on his round. Only City letters, of course, are so dealt with, those for outlying districts, the country and abroad, being sorted into routes and dispatched for classification at convenient centres.

Some 250,000 missives are dealt with daily in this marvellously organized office, which employs a staff of 4,000 men, while reserves are at call. The sorters, among whom are included the outside men, have no easy time, and to preserve their efficiency they have to undergo a yearly test by "putting up" forty letters per minute for ten minutes at the sorting tables. Two attempts are allowed, and failure to pass means that the sorter must "go into college" for practice, *in his own time*, until he becomes efficient.

The "Blind" department excited a good deal of amusement with its weird assembly of insufficiently addressed, undeciphered, and undecipherable inscriptions, and the translation of some of them by a practical official demonstrated that to remedy the mistakes of the careless and illiterate a nodding familiarity with everywhere is demanded, coupled with the ingenuity of a "Jig-Saw" expert.

All these things, and more, were carefully explained by the two courteous and obliging officials who conducted the party, and after a most enjoyable and instructive afternoon, the members crossed the road to the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, where tea was in readiness.

The party dispersed at about 6 p.m., after congratulating each other upon the efficiency of the country's postal system.

City of London Philatelic Society.

Honorary Presidents:

J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, ESQ., B.A., W. B. EDWARDS, ESQ.,
B.Sc.

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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 monthly meeting was held at Mills' Restaurant, Liverpool Street, on the 12th. There was a good attendance of members, particularly considering the nearness of the Easter Holidays. The time for social intercourse, exchanging of specimens and notes, and the opportunity for a philatelic chat over a cosy meal is now much appreciated by members, and the strength of the coffee served during the evening has become proverbial, its fame having reached even to nearly darkest Africa. Last Wednesday, after the necessary transaction of formal business, the usual batch of interesting stamps and novelties was passed round and contained, things so far apart in point of time as a fine tête-bêche pair of 10c. French and a set of pairs of New Hebrides Condominium. Thereafter the

President, Mr. J. Read Burton, gave his paper and display, "The Postage Stamps of the American Bank Note Co." The display was very nearly complete, the Lecturer explaining that more difficulty had been found in compiling some of the more recent issues than in finding those nearly half a century old. If the South American Boom turns up, many a stamp at present of lowly price in the catalogue will be found to be almost non-existent and "jumps" are to be looked for. On the proposal of Mr. Higlett, seconded by Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Burton for his display, the unanimous opinion of the meeting being that the Company's work, in the uniform excellence of design, good wear of plates, regularity of production—including clearness of impressions, unvariability of colours, absence of watermark or perforation complications, although stretching back to the far past of Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, of New York, and its freedom from the taint of errors such as inverted centres or the disposal of reprints or remainders, was worthy of all commendation and a model to all other stamp producing concerns. Mr. Burton expressed his obligation to Mr. Woodrow, Vice-President of the American Bank Note Co., who had very courteously taken a lot of trouble to elucidate knotty points. We have not the space to enumerate the various fine things which were shown in the collection, which included many complete sheets and panes, nor to give details of the many new facts and discoveries he was able to announce. The description of the early issues of Messrs. Perkins-Bacon and their compeers as "the old Masters of Philately" was much appreciated by the meeting.

It was announced that the important posts of President, Secretary and Treasurer would have to be newly filled at the *Annual Meeting*, which takes place next month, May 10th. Nominations were received for Presidency and Treasurership, but a Secretary is still being sought for.

Death of Mr. B. W. Warhurst.

IT is with very great regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Warhurst, who, as our readers will know, was for many years a well known contributor to the philatelic press. We only learn the sad news as we go to press, but next month we hope to be able to publish a short biography. Mr. Warhurst edited this journal for a short period.



APRIL 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

THE *Monthly Journal* for March contains another instalment of Mr. C. J. Phillips' article dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. He describes the provisional stamp of 1884, together with the very interesting issue of August of the same year. We also find a brief description of the stamps of 1887.

The 1884 stamps are of great interest and Mr. Phillips describes, with the aid of enlargements, some uncatalogued varieties. He separates them into four printings, as follows:—

COMPOSITION OF THE SHEETS.

First Printing.

The stamps issued under this notice were lithographed by Señor Guillermo Kraft, Reconquista 92, Buenos Ayres. They were printed on thin paper and were in sheets of 105 stamps, arranged in seven rows of fifteen.

Three transfers were placed on the stone, and these groups, which contain three minor varieties, were repeated five times in each row.

Owing to the impressions being indistinct, the three minor varieties are not easy to distinguish, but with a good glass certain flaws or breaks will be found, which are repeated in the same positions throughout the sheet. For instance, in the 2c., Type 3, there is a break, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide, in the outer of the two coloured circles round the figure "2" in the right upper corner, which forms a very easy test.

The imprint of the printer occurs eight times in the margin of each sheet, twice at each side and twice at top and bottom. It reads:—

"GUILLERMO KRAFT, RECONQUISTA 92, BS AS"

The perforation is $12\frac{1}{2}$ full, but never going as high as 13. It is made with a single-line machine.

The paper of the first printing is thin and very transparent.

Second Printing.

Towards the end of 1884 a further supply of 5c. stamps was ordered from Señor Kraft, and for some reason unknown to me the size of the sheets was altered, and they consist of fifty stamps only, arranged in ten rows of five. I only know the 5c. in these small sheets—I saw one of them in Buenos Ayres, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, and I have been able to obtain another sheet, which is perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

The stamps are of Die 1.

The imprint occurs ten times on the sheet, three times at each side, and twice at top and bottom, and reads: "LIT. GUILLERMO KRAFT, RECONQUISTA 92." Note that "LIT." is added at the beginning and "BS AS" omitted at the end. The stone was made up of fifty transfers from the one die, and there are thus no varieties on the sheet.

Third Printing.

In 1885 a third supply was ordered from Señor Kraft, and this time all three values were ordered. They were lithographed in sheets of 100 stamps, arranged in ten rows of ten.

The paper is much thicker and rather oily or greasy.

The perforation of this printing is always $11\frac{1}{2}$.

The imprint reads as in the second printing, but does not appear in the side margins; it appears twice at the top, and twice, inverted, at the bottom of each sheet.

Señor E. Latour, in his articles on the early stamps of Paraguay, gives the perforation of this issue as $13\frac{1}{2}$; but as I cannot find any such gauge—in fact, only $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$ —I do not think we can put much faith in his figures.

I find no varieties in the transfers, that are repeated in any order, and I am of opinion that the lithographic stones were made up with 100 impressions from the originals. I think that all the stamps of this printing are Die 2.

Fourth Printing.

Señor Latour notes a fourth printing of the 5c. in 1886 on very thin paper of a yellowish colour, and I have just bought a sheet of 100 stamps that corresponds to this description. The imprint is the same as that of the third printing, and the stamps also are Die 2. In fact, I think it is printed from the same stone. But the paper is quite different, thin, hard and yellowish.

Mr. Phillips describes the two dies used for these stamps. Mr. F. J. Melville contributes another chapter of his article entitled "Postage Stamps in the Making." "Desdichado" commences an article which is to deal with the "Official" stamps of the world. His first chapter treats of the stamps overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL" for use in Great Britain. "Desdichado" is a very capable writer—besides being a well known philatelist of proved capability, so his remarks concerning the danger of buying rare officials should carry weight. He writes:—

Great care should be exercised in purchasing any of the rarer "I.R. Official" stamps, as forgeries—and

very good forgeries, too—of the overprints are becoming comparatively common; and, there being nothing special about the type used for the overprinting, it is difficult, even for experts, to say with absolute certainty that a particular overprint is genuine—in fact, I have heard on very reliable authority that a valuable "I.R. Official," after being pronounced genuine, was, on being submitted by a subsequent owner, denounced as a forgery!

The only really satisfactory way is to obtain these stamps with a perfectly reliable pedigree, traceable through the hands of trustworthy individuals right back to Somerset House.

An article entitled "Colour Naming" contributed by "B.W.W.," several pages of Mr. Phillips' always readable "Topical Notes," an up-to-date list of new issues, together with some "Reviews" complete a very good number.

The *Philatelic Record* for March is an excellent number. Mr. F. J. Peplow contributes the first instalment of what promises to be a very capable article dealing with the stamps of Buenos Aires.

Mr. J. B. Leavy continues to write about Belgian postage stamps, he describes the London printed 1 franc stamps of 1865, the Brussels prints (all values) of the same year, and the stamps (lion type) of the 1865 issue. We also find the following account of the imperforate 1 centime stamps.

About this time the post office demand for the stamps of all values was so great, that the five hundred sheets a day perforated by Gouvellos Frères was not sufficient to keep the offices supplied with perforated stamps of all values. As the one centime stamp was in greatest demand the government therefore ordered that it be issued to the public in an imperforate condition until such time as Gouvellos Frères should be able to bring the stock on hand of the other values up to the requirements. At the same time the government placed an order for an up-to-date perforating machine of Austrian manufacture, that would perforate a sheet of three hundred stamps all at one time. It is claimed that 6,800,000 of the one centime stamps in an imperforate condition, printed in both light and dark grey, were issued to the public from September to December, 1866.

We also find a long instalment of the *Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's* "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," which is of more interest than usual.

This deals with various Post Office regulations, ink used for the cancelling stamps, and the postmarks themselves.

The following extract will doubtless interest those of our readers who are on the look out for scarce obliterations.

As has previously been mentioned, Sweden had a post office of its own at Hamburg, even as late as the period when postage stamps were in use. Founded in the 17th century, this post office was intended to facilitate the exchange of mails between Sweden and foreign countries, and for such purpose a Swedish mail service through Denmark was kept up until 1814.

Thereafter the Danish postal department forwarded the closed mail bags through Danish territory. The Hamburg post office lost most of its importance in 1815, when Sweden surrendered its last possessions on the other side of the Baltic, but it was continuously maintained under the supervision of the local Swedish-Norwegian Minister. In 1856 the post office was re-organised and placed in charge of a post commissary, afterwards called post director, to which position the secretary of the Court Chancery, Johan Carl Hellberg, was appointed. But its time was past; the postal traffic found other routes, and the usefulness of the office was more and more encroached upon by Hamburg's own postal department. When at last, after the second Danish-German war, the North German Confederation could not be persuaded to allow Sweden to send closed mail bags through Schleswig-Holstein from and to the post office at Hamburg, this post office was abolished at the close of March 1869, in accordance with the postal treaty between Sweden and the North German Confederation of 23rd and 24th February of the same year. This Swedish post office did not use postage stamps, but accounted for its revenues in another manner. Swedish postage stamps were, however, cancelled with the obliterating stamp of this post office, when this had not been done in Sweden. A regulation, in force for some time, that the cancelling of postage stamps on letters to foreign countries which were forwarded by mail car should not be done in the car but by the post office at the border, may to some extent have caused the neglect of cancelling in Sweden, and the occurrence of the Hamburg postmarks.

This instalment completes the first part of the Swedish Society's work. Two pages of reproductions of various Swedish postmarks are of interest.

Several pages of topical "Notes and News," Reviews, New Issue Chronicle, and other regular features complete an excellent number.

In the *London Philatelist* for March we find a short editorial note dealing with the subject of philatelic literature. Captain G. F. Napier continues his article dealing with the stamps of Brazil. The issues of 1844 to 1846, known as the "Sloping Figure" series are thoroughly described, while a full sized plate admirably illustrates many retouches and other varieties of these interesting stamps. We also find the continuation of Mr. Léon Adutt's "Notes on the Display of Stamps of the Cayman Islands." A good batch of "Occasional Notes," some "Reviews," and the usual new issue list, etc., complete the March number.

The April number of the *Stamp Lover* contains a very readable paper entitled "The early Issues of Mexico," contributed by Mr. John Hall Barron. He writes interestingly about the early stamps—1856-1861, and gives his readers a good deal of information concerning uncatalogued varieties, etc. The following short extract

relates to the overprints to be found on the early stamps.

The stamps of 1856 and of 1861 bear overprinted—in black, but occasionally in blue, and a red overprint is catalogued—the name of the district in which they were authorised for use. The red overprint is assigned to Campeche, but I have Pachuca (1856, 2 reales) in this colour. There were about fifty of these districts recognised in the case of the 1856 issue and rather fewer in that of 1861, though it is possible that all the districts have not yet been discovered. To some the allocation of a separate consignment may have been complimentary; in other cases it was experimental. Hermosillo, for example, drops out as a self-supplying centre after the 1861 issue and does not re-appear until 1879. The most common overprints in the earliest series are Mexico City, Guadalajara, Queretaro, Vera Cruz, Puebla, and perhaps S.L. Potosi, though the real bearing this overprint seems scarcer than one would have expected. Owing to the handstamps becoming worn out and being replaced, there are several varieties of the overprint for the more active districts. Used copies without any overprint are not very uncommon, but they are not so plentiful as ordinary copies on which there still exists a faint district name or which have been rubbed and are offered as without overprint. In genuine examples the omission arose in some cases from the official hand "skipping" a copy, in others perhaps because the cachet had broken down, but the overprint was obligatory, and the postal servants, if clumsy, were honest, and had no eye to the philatelic (?) interest. The cancellation of all copies purporting to be without overprint should be carefully examined; in fact, throughout these issues a helpful test of genuineness and subsidiarily of rarity is the cancellation, and no specialist can make much headway without a knowledge of the various types and the dates of their use.

Mr. Harold Row contributes another lengthy instalment of his exhaustive article dealing with the stamps of Siam. Some well written general notes, relating to J.P.S. meetings, etc., correspondence, etc., complete a good number of our contemporary.

In the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for March 18th we find the first instalment of an article on the 1885 issue of Finland contributed by Mr. E. Philpot-Crowther. This gentleman has evidently had a great number of these stamps through his hands, and from a study of them has compiled a very good paper. Our only regret is that he has not written about the earlier and more neglected issues.

The following short extract will interest those of our readers who are on the look out for minor varieties:—

I propose to class the varieties in this issue as "Major" and "Minor" plate errors. There are no errors of colour known. The numerous plate errors in this issue have probably arisen through retouching of the old soft metal *clichés* used for printing this issue. The first and most notable error that I shall classify as a "Major" error is undoubtedly that known as the "Cut 5" error. This stamp can be found with the figure "5" in the lower left hand corner, having bottom curved portion completely cut off horizontally. It seems to have occurred in several printings, and its average occurrence appears to be one in every 350 stamps, after an examination of about 25,000 stamps.

This stamp is a well known and officially catalogued plate error, and will be found mentioned in the Helsingfors Society's Official List of the Stamps of Finland.

The separation lines are the next interesting error of print to draw attention to, and may also be classified as a "Major" error. Stamps with a separation line on the left side are comparatively common, and I should average their occurrence at 7%. Stamps with two separation lines on the right side are also to be found, but are rarer and do not average more than 2%. Stamps with separation lines at left and right sides are found, but do not average more than 1%. Stamps with a separation line at the top are very rare indeed, only one copy was found in 25,000 that were carefully examined for this variety.

Mr. E. Philpot-Crowther is appropriately enough, the "S.C.F.'s" "Philatelist of To-Day."

An article entitled "Stamp Colours," together with a list of New Issues completes our review.

A fortnight later we find a continuation of the Finland article; the author contents himself with describing another big batch of so-called "plate errors." A short paper entitled "Our North American Colonies"—being some notes read before the Manchester Society by Mr. J. H. Abbott—and some odds and ends make up a fairly good number.

The March number of the *Stamp Collector* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. B. B. Tilley, a well-known member of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. Mr. C. A. Stephenson continues to write about the two-penny stamps (type 2) of Victoria. Several pages of "Notes," "Reviews," etc., together with an account of some of the scarce stamps recently shewn by the Rev. W. N. Usher (Iceland) and Mr. H. L. Hayman (Spain) before the Birmingham Society complete a good number of our contemporary.

The *West End Philatelist* for March is the first number of that publication to be edited by Mr. A. J. Séfi. We are very pleased to see that he has not introduced any drastic changes in the general make-up of the paper but continues on the well known lines laid down by Mr. Poole. His first serial article deals with the stamps of Grenada, the current instalment promises very well. We also find the first chapter of an article relating to the stamps of Holkar, also three or four pages of "Things Worth Knowing," wherein the 1888 provisional issue of British Guiana and some early stamps of New South Wales are dealt with.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Australian Philatelist* for February contains several articles of interest to collectors of modern Australasian stamps. One of these refers to the so-called N.Z. colour error of the 4d. value. As we made an extract relating to this stamp in last month's journal, we must make room for the following letter from the Secretary of the G.P.O., Wellington:—

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 11th inst., I beg to inform you that mine of the 23rd December was a transcript of the reply received from the Stamp Department. As your letter of the 26th idem called for a more definite reply, I referred the matter back to the Stamp Department, which, in turn, has been in communication with the Government printer. I am now informed that no pictorial stamps were printed in yellow and dark blue about June last, also that none of the pictorial stamps have been printed since April, 1909, and that the inks then used were precisely the same as used previously for same value. No change was made in the colours, and great care is taken to keep them uniform. What has probably given rise to the statement is that, in August last it was decided that future issues of the 2d. King's Head stamp should be printed in yellow to avoid confusion between the colours of the 4d. and 1s. stamps.—Yours, etc..

(Signed) D. ROBERTSON, Secretary.

How is it that our publishers have been offered copies at a price?—Ed., ("A.P.")

A reprinted article from a recent number of the *London Philatelist*, a very capable review of the Australian pages of Gibbons' 1911 catalogue, and other matter make this number of our old friend a welcome visitor.

The *Australian Stamp Journal* for February is almost entirely devoted to a long and detailed account of its editor's recent seven days' trip to Melbourne. Readers who do not know the extremely fine, but nevertheless unexciting capital of Victoria, will not find Mr. Smyth's account of his doings of much value. His list of "Stamps Seen" is of more interest, as he gives a brief resumé of the best things in some of the local collections. Those of our readers who are interested in Australian Proofs will enjoy the following extract.

SURGEON-GENERAL WILLIAMS' COLLECTION.

This is in reality a New South Wales collection, most, if not all, of the stamps I saw having been acquired during the General's residence in Sydney. The volume shown me by Mr. Donne comprised N.S.W. stamps only, its main features being the splendid lot of proofs and plates of views which it contained. Owing to the fact that Surgeon-General Williams is a nephew of the late Sir Daniel Cooper,

first Baronet, at one time Postmaster-General of N.S.W., he had special facilities for securing proofs. Amongst those I noticed were a block of 4, a pair and a single of the penny views, lithographed, the 3d. view and the 6d. laureated. The 1d. views lithographed are mentioned on page 49 of "Oceania." The diadems were present in great variety, and I noticed some very interesting proofs of the "Registered," which included several blocks. The De la Rue types and later issues in proof condition are also to be seen, and in fact this portion of the collection contains some things which I should say are unique. Now that more attention is being paid to proofs, General Williams' wisdom in procuring those he has when he had the opportunity of doing so will be understood.

"Societies' Doings" and a couple of pages of "Items of Interest" complete a good number of our new Australian contemporary.

The February number of *The Stamp Collector* (Ohio, U.S.A.), contains a varied assortment of odds and ends of philatelic information. The most interesting perhaps is the New York letter contributed by one Phil Knickerbocker. The following few items are reproduced.

Quite a scramble for Honduras stamps lately. Some philatelists follow the newspapers closely. The announcement of Ecuador selling a few islands to the U.S. causes a rush for Ecuadorors. A week later the sale is called off and the philatelist's ardor deadens. He follows the Navy. Nicaragua will always be a prime favourite. Its many surcharges seem to be an inducement rather than a discouragement. A big flock of overprints has just been let loose. A promise of a new set in April makes early acquisition of the provisionals advisable.

How can a stamp dealer buy a \$5000 collection, install a three-ton safe, wear a \$300 fur coat and sport a \$200 diamond all in one month? We always thought stamp dealers were broke. Mr. Charlat please write.

The general impression in New York is that Charley McKeel must be selling lots of real estate. (Don't let that pun go over your head.) The last number of the journal was dated Dec. 1.

Fred Melville, the handsome boy editor of England, is expected in New York the middle of this month.

A big batch of 1902-5 imperfs was recently turned on the New York market, but was snapped up quickly at a dollar under catalog.

The March number of the *South African Philatelist* contains a very readable paper—contributed by Mr. J. W. R. Schofield—entitled, "My Views on the direction stamp collecting should take." A continuation of the imaginary discussions of a number of collectors, a number of interesting notes, and "fill ups," an editorial dealing indirectly with the status of philately in South Africa, and various Society reports all help to make our African contemporary a welcome addition to our exchange table.

Our twice a year visitor from British Guiana, the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal*, No. 9, contains a good amount of readable matter. Mr. James Rodway

contributes his paper, read before the Society, entitled "History from a Stamp Album." Mr. W. F. James writes under the heading "Some Curious Stamp Exchange Clubs and Societies." The annual report of the British Guiana Society, reviews, and other matter make capital reading.

The February number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* arrived in a rather emaciated condition; we are, however, promised a good double number for March.

Sir David Masson contributes a few brief notes dealing with Indian, Sirmoor and Patiala Stamps. We extract the latter:—

Sir David Masson informs us of some errors in a recent printing of the Service stamps of this State which are interesting to specialists. They occur in all the catalogued denominations except the 3 annas, which denomination was not included in the printing. The errors are:—

- (a) SER VICE. This occurs on the first stamp of the upper panel.
 (b) SERVICE. This is on the 10th stamp of the fourth row of the same panel.
 (c) SER VICE. On the 12th stamp, first row, lower panel.

On another printing the letters of SERVICE on the 12th stamp of the upper panel must have been loose, and the word measures $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 mms., instead of the normal $11\frac{1}{2}$ mms. This we have seen only on the 4-a and 1-a "Postage" issues.

On yet another printing, on the first stamp of the lower panel, the word reads SERVICE. This we have seen on the 2-a, 4-a and 8-a stamps. On the 4th stamp of the same row there is a distinctly small A in "State"—but this is common, as is also (in the latest printings) STAIE.

A translated article, dealing with the stamps of the Roman States, a brief review of some stamp papers, correspondence, and last but not least, a short article contributed by Mr. E. W. Wetherell, completes our review.

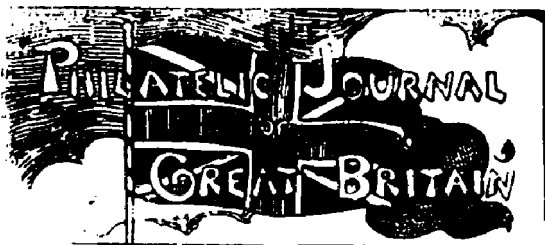
Mr. Wetherell's paper is entitled "The three latest printings of the two Puttans of the 1898 issue of Cochin."

Philately on the Continent.

THE *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of April brings the first instalment of a most amusing article on the perils of specialism, from the point of view of the specialist in Germany. The author relates his own experiences. It seemed to him that he was only short of about a dozen German stamps, when he found out that there existed shades, perforations, and postmarks that had not been dreamt of in his philosophy. He also discovered that there were dealers who would ask twenty marks for

a postmark, and that he was obliged to buy it at that price, as he might have to pay thirty in a year's time. We are looking forward to the continuation of the article in the next number.

In *Kohl's Mitteilungen* it is pointed out that it is possible to distinguish the Bavaria 5 pf. green of 1901 (S.G. 131) from the recently issued similar stamp. The paper of the former is yellowish, the colour is a full deep green, and the details of the arms are generally blurred. In the latter the details of the arms, and more especially of the supporters, are very distinct, the paper is white and more highly surfaced, while the colour is lighter and more inclined towards yellow-green.



The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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

No. 245. VOL. XXI.

MAY 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE cult of philately has gained such a firm hold on all sorts and conditions of men that we have little hesitation in stating our belief that stamp collecting is by far the most popular of all indoor hobbies. Several of our leading daily papers are commencing to recognise this fact, with the result that they

The Importance of Having a Hobby.

devote a portion of their space to the interests of collectors. The *Daily Telegraph*, in our opinion the best of the morning papers, has a column or more every week, while it is to this paper we are indebted for a very capable leading article, the major portion of which we reprint below for the benefit of our readers. The moral we would attach to this extract, is, that stamp collecting is the hobby *par excellence*. Should any of our readers, all of whom we feel sure agree that a hobby is necessary, be in a state of indecision, we hope they will share our views.

The idiosyncrasies of great men are perpetually interesting, because the possession of a hobby is a very salutary and necessary thing. It makes for sanity in the first place, and it makes for happiness in the second. If a man has no hobby, he is either foolish or dangerous—probably ARISTOTLE would describe him as either above or below the ordinary ranks of healthy human beings. For life itself is a very monotonous thing—it must be, if it is lived with proper regard for principles and standards—and the wise man brings into it an interest out of the depths of his own personality which life itself does not intrinsically possess. In other words, he varies and diversifies it by finding interests outside his own work—occu-

pations which relieve and relax the strain, and restore a healthy tone to his jaded nerves. When Lord Salisbury went down, on one occasion, to distribute prizes at the now-defunct Cooper's-hill College, he told the pupils, who were training for forestry and bridge-making in India, that they must each and all try to have a hobby, in order to be able to do their official work with promptitude and zeal. He was himself the best example of his own wise advice. For when immersed in affairs of State, he never failed to turn to his scientific laboratory at Hatfield, as to an oasis of rest and refreshment amid the arid sands of political controversy. "We must cultivate our own garden," said Voltaire—we must make ourselves responsive to all kinds of stimulus, so as to avoid that form of dullness which makes us useless and barren. It matters comparatively little what kind of hobby we pursue, so long as it excites us and draws us out of ourselves. Bridge and golf will do excellently, so long as we exercise moderation, and do not become a nuisance to our fellow citizens. Moreover, it is not unwise to have more than one hobby, if we are to escape being mono-maniacs. The very definition of madness is the terrible obsession of a fixed idea. The man who has only his occupation and his profession to interest him is in danger of something of this sort, and that is the reason why hobbies should be prescribed for all those who have to work hard. But we have known instances in which a sole and supreme hobby exercised a tyrannous fascination. Even a gentle and unambitious golfer, whose handicap is well into double figures, may be a terrible bore as he expatiates on his inglorious exploits.

Be that as it may, the one thing that is absolutely certain is that the possession of a hobby makes for happiness. It is one of the odd characteristics of the human mind that a direct and immediate search for happiness invariably fails. We can only secure it on the condition that we do not make it the object of our quest. It comes as a special boon, as the reward of some work or occupation seemingly totally unconnected with it. When MAURICE MAETERLINCK wrote his beautiful phantasy, 'The Blue Bird'—which is a symbol, of course, of that elusive thing which all men seek for and so few attain—he was quite aware of the psychological paradox to which we have just referred. At the very end of the fairy play the Blue Bird is apparently secured. Then there comes a moment when, despite all the anxious toil that has gone to its capture, TYLTYL incautiously lets it slip through his fingers. The little girl, with a cry of despair, says, "Mother, he is gone!" and bursts into sobs. But TYLTYL, who is a wise philosopher, answers, "Never mind, do not cry. I will catch him again." Then stepping forward to the audience, quite in the spirit of a benevolent PETER PAN, he puts in his plea, "If any of you should find him, would you be so very kind as to give him back to us? We need him for our happiness later on." The moral is obvious. Do not think, says MAETERLINCK, that by clamouring for happiness you will necessarily attain it. No; you are only happy when you do not think about happiness; when you are doing something else.

In any other spirit it is very apt to slip through our fingers, as an elusive, phantom-like thing, which comes only when it is unexpected, and blesses us when we are least aware of its presence. That is one of the reasons why it is so wise for the ordinary human being to have before him some object or endeavour, some pet pursuit, the indulgence in which puts him into that mellow state which we call contentment, and which is itself the prelude to a lasting pleasure. To have a hobby is to be happy, for it is only when we forget ourselves in congenial toil that we suddenly realise how quickly the time can pass, and how blessed is the mood which is not self-analytic, but expansive. Unfortunately, to this, as to many other of the more or less delusive delights of human existence, there is attached a grave penalty. Not only must the hobby correspond with some of the deeper instincts of our nature, but it must also lastingly satisfy us, and that is sometimes a hard condition to fulfil. If a man is frivolous, or fickle in his loves, he will suddenly find that his hobby has deserted him, and then will have painfully to try to discover some fresh interest. HAMLET, who knew a good deal about most things, was well aware of this particular form of tragedy. To the mind which racks itself on its own thoughts, which destroys the springs of action by too intros-

pective an analysis, each ambition, or desire, or pleasure in turn eventually fails to appeal. And so we get the Prince of DENMARK's cry, the bankruptcy of all human interest, "whose epitaph is 'For, O, for, O, the hobby-horse is forgot.'"

The Late Mr. B. W. Warhurst

As briefly announced in last month's journal, it is with very great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. B. W. Warhurst. This gentleman was so well known to readers of stamp papers that we think the following particulars of his career will be appreciated. An added interest lies in the fact that Mr. Warhurst, for a short period, was editor of this journal.

Born in Manchester nearly seventy years ago, Mr. Warhurst left school in 1855 and at an early date commenced to work for his living. The methods and place varied—at one time he acted as secretary to Sir Joseph Paxton. In 1878 he acted in a similar capacity to Lord Waterford, and for twelve years was private secretary to Lord Charles Beresford. He assisted Mr. Archibald Grove, M.P., with the *New Review*, indexed the Parliamentary Debates for some time, and got out statistics relating to the Navy for Sir Charles Dilke. Mr. Warhurst also wrote pamphlets on naval and social topics, and claimed to be the first life member of the Navy League, for which he worked enthusiastically at its inception.

His first introduction to Philately was brought about in 1862, when an American exhibitor at the Exhibition who happened to be staying in the same boarding-house gave him his first stamps, which included such trifles as the black on white Philadelphia and other carrier stamps. It was Mr. Warhurst's boast that he never parted with a single stamp once it had been put in his collection until ten years ago, when he was induced to *exchange*, for sundry bank-notes amounting to a three-figure sum, accompanied by a cheque, his *Transval* error *se tenant* with the normal one, which cost him 3½d. in 1878!

Since 1892 he confined his attention almost exclusively to entires, as he found it impossible to keep up with the increasing flow of new issues. In 1900 he started the "Chelsea Entires Exchange Club," which was of considerable assistance to collectors interested in this branch of our hobby.

Every collector worthy of the name knows that Mr. Warhurst always made a particular study of colours, and the colour names applied to stamps.

His best-known work is his *Colour Dictionary*, which first appeared at the Inter-

national Philatelic Exhibition in his native city of Manchester in 1899, where he secured the special medal offered by Messrs. Winch Bros., and the Society's Medal as well. Very shortly afterwards he became nominally Joint-Editor of *Stamps*, though practically he had sole charge of the paper, but it was only comparatively short-lived, and he was immediately asked to become



sponsor for *The Picture Postcard*, which, however, had to be given up. He then attached himself to the *Stamp Collector*, remaining in closest touch with that paper up to the time of his death. He contributed occasional articles to other philatelic magazines, and it is worthy of remark that a first instalment of his *Notes and Suggestions on Colour Naming* appeared in the last issue of *Gibbons' Monthly Journal*.

As a journalist he had wide experience in writing on all sorts of subjects, from horticulture to social questions. An article from his pen on the Navy appeared in the *Universal Review*; he also published a pamphlet on "Naval Supremacy." His active brain also found an outlet in mechanical inventions, he held half-a-dozen silver and bronze medals for such things as boilers, garden seats, gas stoves, and glass-houses.

After all that we have said, it will come as a painful surprise to most people to learn that, since 1878, he had to walk with a crutch through chronic rheumatism and an injury to his knee. On the top of this came the shock of the news of his only son's loss at sea, which was such a cruel blow that, enfeebled as he was by nearly twenty years of suffering, he lost almost all muscular power and was not able to leave the house or dress himself.

Under these calamities he bore up with wonderful fortitude and strength of purpose, and was never idle for an instant, being busily engaged with his one hand and pen (as he said) as a necessity of existence since the loss of several investments.

We are indebted to a back number of our own journal and also to the April *Stamp Collector*, for the above details.

In conclusion, we can only say that Philately has suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. Warhurst.

City of London Philatelic Society.

THE business meeting concluding the session 1910/11 of the City of London Philatelic Society took place on Wednesday last, at Mills' Restaurant in Liverpool Street, where there was a very good muster of members present. Three new members were elected and five resignations received. The interim reports of the various officers were then received and duly approved, the Secretary reported an increased membership and commented on the fact that the same was by no means nominal, but real in every case. The Treasurer was able to report a larger balance in hand than ever before in the annals of the Society. The Exchange Superintendent was also able to tell of good progress. The comment of the Librarian was that the members did not make that use of the excellent library which they might well do.

Various new issues were shown and amongst the interesting items sent round for inspection there was quite a batch of English. Mr. Weißen showed stamps of King Edward of the old type printed by the new printers; both the blocks shown had the control number 11, but of quite different type in each case, one being in the old style of numeral and the other in a thicker and coarser type with broken lines surrounding the stamps. Captain Freeman showed a block of 12 of the ordinary 5/- Queen's Head, Mr. Sparrow a block of 18 of plate IX. ½d. English, and Mr. Wadham a block of 16 1d. blacks. Colour trials, etc., also went round.

The election of new officers was then proceeded with, several resignations which, however, had been expected for some time past created vacancies which luckily the Society was able to fill with advantage.

Mr. Jackson and Mr. Burton were added to the list of Honorary Presidents, Mr. H. W. Westcott was elected President, and the three Vice-Presidents are to be Messrs. W. H. Eastwood, J. A. Leon, and G. A. Higlett. Mr. A. C. Constantinides becomes Honorary Secretary, and Mr. Green, Treasurer. Mr. Brand was re-elected Librarian and Counterfeit Detector, and Messrs. Camroux, Gower, Séfi,

and Woodward completed the ordinary Committee. The Publication Committee is to consist of Messrs. Burton, Lamb and Westcott. Mr. Eastwood has been appointed with Mr. Green to act as Honorary Trustee to the Society's Funds. The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* was again appointed "Official Organ."

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring officers on the motion of Mr. J. A. Leon, seconded by Mr. Higlett. Mr. Burton in returning thanks, referred to the fact that he had only taken office for a second year under protest, as other public work did not leave him much time for the affairs of the Society, and that he most warmly appreciated the capital support which had been rendered to him by the members and officers of the Society, not least by Messrs. Jackson and Eastwood who were also retiring. He was glad to think that the Society had steadily advanced in numbers and that the finances were in such a healthy condition.

Following this it was proposed and agreed that a sub-committee be appointed to arrange for a Smoking Concert or other festive occasion to take place next session. Messrs. Burton, Lamb, Lincoln, Pemberton and Séfi being the members.

Will members kindly note that after June 14th, Mr. Jackson's address will be

42, Holdenhurst Avenue,
Church End, Finchley.

He will be very glad to receive news of members who are willing to contribute papers or displays in next session's syllabus, as soon as possible.

Will members kindly note that the new officers do not take office until the opening of next session on October 1st.

Vienna Philatelic Exhibition.

WE have received the full prospectus of the Exhibition to be held next September. Unfortunately we cannot spare the space to reproduce this in full, we print however the following details. Collectors who wish fuller particulars should write to the Hon. Sec., Herr Adolf Passer, 4, Müllnergasse, Vienna ix.

The Association of Painters and Artists in Austria have granted us the use of their magnificent and brilliantly lit building, the "Secession," for the greater part of September, and as several of their members have joined our Committee they have proved their interest for the Exhibition, which, arranged on artistic lines, will prove itself worthy of support in all respects. Visitors to the Exhibition will see that the Hall of Arts in the Vienna Friedrichstrasse will really harbour an artistic Philatelic Exhibition, arranged by the co-operation of Artists and Philatelists alike.

We would specially draw attention to the Hall lighted from the roof, while sunlight will be excluded from the exhibits.

The Exhibition will be opened on Thursday, the 7th September, 1911, by the Patron, His Excellency, the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Richard Weiskirchner, and by the Hon. President, the Postmaster-General, Sectionschef Dr. Friedrich Ritter Wagner von Jauregg. Opened daily from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. the Exhibition will be officially closed on Sunday night, the 17th September, when the closing Banquet and the distribution of prizes will take place.

To ensure a proper allotment of space, it is essential that applications should be sent in as early as possible, but not later in any case than the 1st June.

Charges for space will be made on the following scale: For stamps or entires on cards or on loose sheets; 6/8 per square metre, for the first 5 square metres and 4/2 per square metre for any subsequent space. (One square metre equal to 10.8 square feet). For collections in printed albums, or for such in plain albums, with a maximum of 100 sheets per volume, 12/6 for the first volume and 6/8 for every additional volume or 100 sheets. For Class N. (junior collectors only), 8/4 for the first album, and 4/2 for every additional album or volume.

All exhibits sent for competition must be *bona fide* the property of the exhibitor. Exhibits can also be sent to be shown "hors concours."

The Committee will insure all exhibits against fire or theft, except when the exhibitor does not desire this to be done. The insurance will commence from the receipt of the exhibits by the Committee, and will remain in force until the return to the owner, whether personally, or to the post office, or to any forwarding agency, specially advised.

The costs of insurance to be paid by the exhibitor at the rate of K.2.—per K.1000.—with a minimum of K.3.—. By paying this insurance the exhibitor will benefit by the policy effected by the Committee to the extent of the value at which such exhibits are accepted for insurance, but no personal liability is incurred by the Committee in regard to any loss.

All fees for exhibiting and insurance are payable in advance, or at latest on arrival of the exhibits in Vienna. No exhibit will be displayed before such payments are received, nor will the Committee accept any responsibility for any damage sustained by any exhibit before the payment of the insurance charge.

All exhibits must be delivered, post or carriage paid, between the 1st and 5th September, 1911. They must be addressed to Mr. Adolph Passer, Hon. Sec., International Philatelic Exhibition Vienna 1911, 4, Müllnergasse, Vienna IX.

To ensure correct delivery, official labels should be used, which will be despatched to all exhibitors in due course. Arrangements have been made with the Austrian Customs to exempt from duty properly addressed exhibits from abroad, and to deliver them unopened to the Committee. The parcels will be opened in the Exhibition building and inspected by the Custom House Officers in presence of members of the Committee.

Their return will be made in a similar manner. The Jury consists of the following well known philatelists:—

E. D. Bacon, Eugen Bayer, Fr. Brietfuss, M. P. Castle, Albert Coyette, Dr. Emilio Diena, O. W. Friedl, F. Hasler, Hans Kropf, M. Langlois, M. Dr. A. Levin, C. Lindenberg, M. P. Manus, Z. J. Pallausch, A. von Raimann, A. de Reuterskiöld, A. Schomann, Ernst Vicenz, Fr. Walenta, R. B. Yardley.

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.

Canada. From several sources we hear that a full set of Commemoratives is to be issued shortly. The excuse is the King's Coronation.

Gilbert and Ellice Protectorate. As in all likelihood there will be much wailing in the camp of the New Issueites over the fact that the Gilbert and Ellice stamps are difficult to procure, we will do our best to let them know all about the stamps. We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* (March and April) for both extracts.

"Our publishers have shown us early post-marked specimens of these stamps. The Resident Commissioner apparently did not establish all the post offices on the 1st January, the date the postage stamps came into issue; as letters had to be sent from Butaritari, the principal island of the group, on the 21st January, to Ocean Island (two days' steam), and were posted there. The post-mark is a large double circle inscribed 'Gilbert-Ellice Islands Protectorate,' and in the centre in four lines, 'G.P.O., Ocean Island, Jan. 23, '11.' The permanent series for this group of islands will shortly be issued. The design consists of a Pandanus palm tree in the centre, surrounded by an ornamental border inscribed, 'Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate,' with value expressed in numerals at each side. The Pandanus palm is indigenous to the Gilbert Islands, and in some instances is the only tree found on the Island."

"Our publishers have shown us a specimen of the permanent issue, on an envelope dated 4th March. We are unable to state if all the values have been issued, but apparently the stamps are used conjointly with the first issue. We have been officially informed that the Resident Commissioner was unable to supply

the first issue of the Protectorate, as all stamps were required for postal purposes. We have also seen a private letter from one of the officials to a non-philatelic friend, wherein two sets of the first issue were enclosed, with the remark that they were difficult to obtain, as they were all required for postal purposes. It was known in official circles that the non-philatelic friend was not unknown to our publishers. We wonder—and we will let it rest at that."

Hong Kong. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 20, 30 and 50 cents stamps in the new colours have been despatched.

Adhesives.

Wmk. multiple Crown and CA, chalky paper.
2c. olive and violet.
3c. orange.
5c. black on green.

India. C.E.F. Mr. W. T. Wilson very kindly sends us a copy of the 3 pies India overprinted for use in China.

Adhesive.

King's Head. Overprinted C.E.F.
3 pies, grey.

New Zealand. We are indebted to Mr. Martin McDermott for the following information, namely, that: "Mr. Bertram MacKenna, A.R.A., has been commissioned to design the new King George issue of postage stamps for the Dominion. The designs for the new stamps will be approved by Sir Joseph Ward, when in London."

North Borneo. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. very kindly tell me that they have received the following novelties.

Adhesives. Perf. 14.

25c. green and black.
50c. blue and black.
\$1 brown and black.
\$2 purple and black.
\$5 lake and black.
\$10 vermilion and black.

Papua. Lovers of these delectable labels will be able to feast upon the following extract

from the *Australian Philatelist*:—"We have been informed by the Department administering the affairs of Papua, and also by the Acting Secretary of the Postmaster-General's Department, that the new stamps to be issued for the Commonwealth of Australia, will not apply to that Territory. Thus, Papua will still have its own distinctive stamp as at present.

St. Lucia. The *Colonial Office Journal* chronicles the 5/- stamp in the new colours.

Adhesive. King's Head.
Multiple wmk., chalky paper.
5/- green and carmine on yellow.

Sierra Leone. The *Colonial Office Journal* chronicles the £1 stamp in the new colours.

Adhesive.
Multiple wmk., chalky paper.
£1 violet and black on red.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Argentine. Dr. Marx has very kindly sent us the following translation of a notice in a recent Buenos Aires paper:—

"Within four months the new issue of stamps already announced will be ready. The 5c. and 12c. will be steel-engraved by a New York firm from an original drawing by Don Jorge M. Lubary. The cost will be 50c. per 1,000. The Berne Postal Congress has approved the colours proposed to it, viz., red for the 5c. and blue for the 12c. For the other 15 values the process will be typography, and they will be manufactured by the (Buenos Aires) Mint. The design was inspired by a famous work, "La Semeuse," of Roty, adapted to this country in its allegory. While France has represented in her coins and stamps her Republican Sower of Thought, our stamps will show the Argentine people pausing for a moment in the occupation of tilling the soil, in order to contemplate the glorious vision of their future."

Mr. A. H. Davis also kindly advises us to the same effect, also that a stamp of the value of 5c. was to be issued to celebrate the Centenary of Barmiento, on April 3rd, remaining on sale for that day only.

Belgium. The 5c. and 10c. Charity stamps of 1910, both designs, have been overprinted "1911." We saw some of these stamps in a dealer's possession in Brussels as long ago as April 14th. On application at the head post office we were, however, unable to obtain a supply.

Bosnia. Last autumn we chronicled some wierd perforations in the pictorial labels. Messrs. Bright & Son now send us particulars of a few more additions.

Adhesives. Pictorial Issue.
Perf. 12½ × 10½ × 9½.
45h. orange red.

Perf. 12½ × 10½.
25h. blue.
Perf. 6½.
1k. lake red.

Costa Rica. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. very kindly send us a specimen of the 2c. green of 1907 overprinted with the date "1911" in black. The *Monthly Journal* also chronicles this stamp overprinted in red, but in smaller type.

German Empire. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 3 marks stamp on water-marked paper. This value completes the set.

Adhesive. Wmkd. Lozenges.
3 marks, violet-black.

German Morocco. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following information:—

The 30c. on 25pf. and 60c. on 50pf. have been received with watermark lozenges, but these are with the old surcharge spelt "Marocco."

Greece. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us another of the new Greek stamps, namely the 10 lep.

Adhesive.
Head of Hermes. Rouletted.
10l. rose carmine.

From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we learn that the complete set will be as follows:—

(i.) Head of Hermes to the right. Taken from a 2 drachmai coin of the fifth century B.C. issued in Sybrita, Crete.

(ii.) The goddess Iris, the messenger of the gods standing before a temple of Doric style. Taken from an old coin.

(iii.) Hermes, the messenger, standing in front of a temple of Ionic style, putting on his sandals in readiness for some errand. Taken from a fourth century B.C. coin of Sybrita, Crete.

(iv.) Hermes carrying the baby Arcas, at the bidding of some god. From a coin issued in Pheneus, Arcadia, fourth century B.C.

(v.) Same as i., but larger (24 × 31mm.).

Adhesives.
i. 1 l. green.
ii. 2 l. carmine.
i. 3 l. vermilion.
iii. 5 l. green.
i. 10 l. carmine.
ii. 25 l. ultramarine.
iii. 30 l. carmine.
ii. 40 l. blue.
iii. 50 l. violet.
iv. 1 dr. ultramarine.
iv. 2 dr. vermilion.
iv. 3 dr. carmine.
iv. 5 dr. ultramarine.
iv. 10 dr. blue.
v. 25 dr. blue.

Hungary. Mr. W. T. Wilson tells us he has just received the 5k. stamp perforated 15.

Adhesive. Perf. 15.
Wmkd. S.G. Type 10.
5k. dull claret.

Persia. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are the first to inform us that a new set of stamps for this troubled country has made its appearance.

Adhesives.

- Portrait of New Shah.
- 1 shahi, green and orange.
- 2 .. red and sepia.
- 3 .. grey and green.
- 6 .. grey and rose.
- 9 .. brown and purple.
- 10 .. red and brown.
- 13 .. purple and blue.
- 26 .. blue and green.
- 1 kran, blue and rose
- 2 .. green and mauve.
- 3 .. purple and black.
- 5 .. red and blue.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News also chronicles 10, 20 and 30 kran values.

Portugal. Azores. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the whole set of postage due stamps has been overprinted "Republica." The overprint is in red on all the values except the 50 reis, which is in green.

Portugal and Colonies. The *Monthly Journal* gives a very concise little list of the "errors" of overprint.

Mr. J. N. Marsden informs us that the authorities at the Lisbon mint have so much to occupy them that it is intended to issue the Dom Manuel stamps again without the "Republica" overprint. There has been no time to check the stamps properly, with the result that the following varieties have occurred:—

"Republica" inverted on 2½r., 10r., 25r., 50r., and 80r. of the Postage stamps, and on the 20r., 30r. and 40r. Unpaid. "Republica" double on the 5r. and 25r. of Portugal and on the 75r. of Azores.

The Mozambique Co. overprinted their stamps in the Colony, and have sent sets to Berne. The type differs from that of the Lisbon overprint.

The colours of the overprint are red on the 2½r., 10r., 15r., 100r., 400r., and 500r., and green on the 5r., 20r., 25r., 50r., 75r., 115r., 130r., 200r., and 700r.

A further lot has been overprinted in Lisbon, but will not be sold there until a supply reaches the Colony, probably about May, so we shall have two types of overprint (and some varieties!).

Azores. Dr. Paton has shewn us the 500 reis black of the 1882-85 issue, perf. 13½, *chalky paper*, with the small red overprint (Gibbons' type 11), also the 5 reis black (type 13 of Portugal), perf. 11½, unsurfaced paper, with the same type of overprint, also in red.

Mr. W. Ward has shewn us two errors of colour of the current issue.

- 10 reis black (colour of the 5 reis).
- 50 reis carmine (.. .. 20 ..).

Timor. Dr. Paton has shewn us the ¼ avo grey, 1898 issue, perf. 11½.

Portuguese India. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the whole set overprinted "Republica." The overprint is in green on the 1 tanga, and in red on all the other values. We chronicled the 1 real stamp in March.

Adhesives.

- 1½ reis, slate.
- 2 .. orange
- 2½ .. chestnut.
- 3 .. dull blue.
- 4½ .. green
- 6 .. green.
- 9 .. deep lilac.
- 1 tanga, carmine.
- 2 tangas, brown.
- 4 .. blue on blue.

- 5 tangas, brown on straw.
- 8 .. purple on flesh.
- 12 .. green on straw.
- 1 rupee, blue on straw.
- 2 rupees, grey black on straw.

Siam. Our publishers inform us that they have found in their stock a copy of the 2 att on 64 atts (S.G. No. 101) showing a very distinct double surcharge.

Adhesive.

- 1894-5. Double surcharge.
- 2 att on 64 atts.

Spain. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 25c. blue stamp with the 14 perforation.

Adhesive.

- Perf. 14 (instead of 13x12½).
- 25c. blue.

Uruguay. We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the following:—

"The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* chronicles a new set of official stamps. They were issued Feb. 18th, 1911, and the official decree states that these stamps are issued 'exclusively for official use and for sale to collectors.'

- Official rubbish.** Oblong design (seated figure & shield).
- 2c. orange brown.
 - 5c. blue.
 - 8c. black grey.
 - 20c. light brown.
 - 23c. red lilac.
 - 50c. orange yellow.
 - 1c. peso, vermilion.

Third Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

BIRMINGHAM, JUNE 7TH TO 9TH, 1911.

Under the distinguished patronage of—

HER GRACE THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK.
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
(Pres. of the Royal Philatelic Society).

THE RIGHT HON. H. L. SAMUEL, M.P.,
His Majesty's Postmaster-General.

THE RIGHT HON. SYDNEY BUXTON, M.P.,
His Majesty's Late Postmaster-General.

THE RIGHT HON. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,
His Majesty's Late Postmaster-General.

M. P. CASTLE, Esq., J.P. (Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society).

J. HENNIKER HEATON, Esq.

Chairman of Executive Committee:

R. HOLLICK, Esq., C.C.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

COUNCILLOR G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
308, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

The following were elected delegates to the Congress:—Messrs. R. Holick, W. Pimm, C. A. Stephenson, G. Johnson.

The various Sub-Committees are now in full working order, and the Entertainment, Visitors, and Exhibition Committees are well up to time.

The following Donations have been received

since last report:—R. Hollick, £3 3s.; B. B. Tilley, C. A. Stephenson, Dr. T. D. F. Evans, £2 2s. each; W. T. Wilson, £1 1s.; C. Nissen, 10s. 6d.; E. Christofides, 5s.; Stamps from Messrs. B. B. Tilley and T. H. Hinton.

The Agenda will be published and issued to Delegates as soon, and as fully as possible, so that when any voting takes place it may be with the full knowledge and weight of the respective Societies. The following is a rough tentative Programme, which may be some guide just for the present.

Wednesday, June 7th.

2.30 p.m. Opening Meeting:

- (a) Report on Philatelic Terms.
- (b) Process Printing, with Demonstrations.

5. 0 „ Auction in Aid of Congress.

8. 0 „ Reception, etc.

Thursday, June 8th.

9.45 a.m. Bourse opens: rooms to be used as rendezvous for delegates and philatelists generally, and to remain open till 7 p.m.

11. 0 a.m. 2nd Session of Congress:

- (a) Receive Report of Forged Stamps Committee.

Major E. B. Evans.

- (b) Linking up of Societies—Discussion to be started by Mr. C. J. Phillips.

3. 0 p.m. 3rd Session of Congress:

- (a) Colour Question.
- (b) Election of a Permanent Congress Committee.

Mr. F. Reichenheim.

7. 0 p.m. Banquet.

Friday, June 9th. Excursion to Warwick Castle, etc. As the Grand Hotel is making special arrangements for our comfort and convenience we sincerely hope that every delegate will stay there, especially as the terms are very favourable. We suggest that rooms should be booked well in advance, as the various hotels are likely to be filled at that time with other visitors.

All delegates will have a complimentary ticket for the Banquet, and they may purchase tickets for friends at 5/- each—ladies specially invited. No ticket can be purchased after May 26th.

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

CAPTAIN NAPIER, writing about the early stamps of Brazil, says:—

"I recently saw some very clever forgeries of the 10 reis in Paris, but, as they were lithographed, they would not deceive anyone but a beginner."

What a demd, damp, moist, unpleasant nasty one for the beginner

An extract in the *London Philatelist* relating to the new Greek stamps, reads:—

"Of the new issue of postage stamps, the 5, 10, and 25 have only been issued, and we find the perforation so bad that we are afraid the employes of the post offices will be obliged to use again their old pair of scissors."

Dorando will come in useful when the Athens P.O. wants to borrow the pair of scissors from the Patras people.

The private "ad." columns of the *S.C.F.* sometimes provide me with a little amusement. In the issue dated April 29th I notice that somebody has evidently been cornering something very good. The "ad." reads:—

"DOUBLE DOZEN on view stamp card, 6d., 9d., 1/- Philatelic Depot"

Up to the present I haven't even the faintest shadow of a clue. If, however, they are Sydney Views I wouldn't mind having twice twelve at 1/-.

Another, and less cryptographic gentleman hails from the States. He cheerfully advertises for "MAURITIUS POST PAIDS. Early and intermediate or on entire."

I don't think he will get them very early. Maybe he thinks he has discovered England as a happy hunting ground.

Another happy optimist wants "lots of Colonials, all issues. From 6 to 1,000 copies required of every variety, except the very common."

That ought to take the wind out of the Yankee's sails—at least as far as the first 1,000 Post Pairs is concerned.

A little lower down I find the following:—

"Exchange wanted with (medium to rare) collectors in all British Colonies."

That's the trouble, collectors are getting rare.

Another contractor for three lines says:—

"WHY WASTE TIME? Buy complete approval sheets at give away prices."

I also echo, why?

Still another advertiser says:—

"KING'S HEAD.—Complete Price List, single, multiple. Write to-day."

If there is a multiple, surely poor old Cromwell must be a strong competitor.

A collector of English stamps advertises as follows:—

"WANTED (not after May 10th), 1841, 1d. red, unused; etc., etc."

Surely after waiting seventy years he needn't be in such a hurry.

A New Zealand correspondent to the *London Philatelist* has written to that paper giving some information relating to early New South Wales stamps. Our contemporary, commenting on this letter, says:—

"His letter, moreover, clearly and pleasantly indicates the philatelic student in Australia."

Why Australia, I wonder? Why not Macau, St. Helena, or Iceland?

The correspondent in question, says:—

"I enclose photo, not taken by experienced philatelic photographer (though he is good at other work)."

What, I wonder, is the photographer's handicap at tiddley winks?

No two collectors are ever likely to be unanimous as regards stamp colour names; most of them pin their faith to Gibbons and let their own private opinions rip. Those that do this will have to take the colours of the 5c. Columbia of 1863 with a grain of salt, otherwise I don't know how they will be able to swallow a 5c. *yellow-bu* and a 5c. *orangeff*.

Last year friend B. W. H. Poole emigrated to America. In the current number of a New York paper I see he is advertising as B. W. Poole. Why this disguise, Horace?

In the May *Philatelic Circular* the following is to be found:—

FROM ST. JOHN'S, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.
To the Secretary of the "M.C.C.", London.

"Last three shipments of prospectuses all gone. Crowds lining wharf waiting arrival of next shipment. New M.C.C. Buildings just opened by Governor-General. Far too small. What shall we do? Wire instructions."

Buy an atlas, funny wag, and you will find that St. John's doesn't live in New Brunswick.



May, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911-12.

Hon. President: H. R. OLDFIELD.

Hon. Vice-Presidents:

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN.
MAJOR J. DE C. LAFFAN.

President: J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Vice-Presidents:

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

Committee:

A. H. L. GILES, R.N. F. F. LAMB. P. L. PEMBERTON.
A. B. KAY. W. E. LINCOLN. GUY SEMPLE.
E. W. WETHERILL.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer: T. H. HINTON,
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

Hon. Exchange Superintendent: J. E. JOSELIN,
81, Bennerley Road, New Wandsworth, S.W.

Hon. Counterfeit Detector: W. HADLOW,
Grove Park, Lee, Kent.

Hon. Librarian: W. S. KING,
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

Hon. Solicitors: MESSRS. OLDFIELD,
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).

NEW MEMBER,

John Jacobs, London.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee for 1911-12 was held at Essex Hall on Thursday evening, 11th inst., present J. C. Sidebotham (chair), J. E. Joselin, Guy Semple, A. B. Kay, F. F. Lamb, P. L. Pemberton, A. H. L. Giles, R.N., W. E. Lincoln, W. Schwarte and the Hon. Secretary. The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Sec. presented the Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year 1910, showing 101 members on the roll at Jan. 1st, 1911, since which date four new members have joined, and there has been one death, making the present membership 104. During the season the Society had carried out a successful and interesting programme of meetings including a largely attended smoking concert and seven displays and papers. The Hon. Sec. then referred to the lamented death of Mr. B. W. Warhurst, which occurred on April 10th after a long illness patiently endured. He had been a member for 16 years, and from 1895 to 1901 was Hon. Librarian and on the Committee. On the motion of Mr. Joselin, seconded by Mr. Pemberton, a vote of condolence and sincere sympathy with Mrs. Warhurst in her bereavement was carried unanimously and which the Hon. Sec. was instructed to forward. It was then moved by Mr. Schwarte and seconded by Mr. Lincoln and carried that the Report and Balance Sheet be received and adopted subject to audit, Messrs. G. E. Strong and Guy Semple being re-appointed auditors (after audit the balance sheet will be published in the next report). On the motion of Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. Lamb, Mr. Sidebotham was cordially thanked for his services during the past year and unanimously re-elected President. The Vice-Presidents, Messrs. W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher and W. Schwarte were also thanked for their services and re-elected on the motion of Mr. Joselin, seconded by Mr. Semple. Mr. H. R. Oldfield was unanimously elected Hon. President, and Messrs. W. Dorning Beckton, H. L. Hayman and

Major J. de C. Laffan, Hon. Vice-Presidents. The Committee were re-elected with the addition of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N. On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec. was accorded a vote of thanks and unanimously re-elected, and in acknowledging the vote, heartily thanked the Committee for their support during the year. The meeting then received with the greatest regret the resignation of Dr. Marx, M.A., from the office of Exchange Superintendent which he had held for 14 years to the advantage of all concerned, and during which period he carried out many improvements in working the Exchange Packets. On the motion of Mr. Schwarte, seconded by Mr. Semple, he was accorded a cordial vote of thanks and appreciation of his services and the Hon. Sec. was instructed to forward the same to him. On the proposal of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. Kay, Mr. J. E. Joselin was unanimously elected Exchange Superintendent for the ensuing year. The Hon. Librarian, Mr. W. S. King; Hon. Counterfeit Detector, Mr. Hadlow, and Hon. Solicitors, Messrs. Oldfields, were then re-elected. It was arranged that the Committee will meet at Essex Hall, on Thursday, September 7th, to make arrangements for next season, which concluded the formal business. Displays of interesting stamps with notes were then given by the President, including the rare Baden and Saxony errors; Guy Semple, the rare Gt. Britain, 9d. hair lines, used, and 1½d. error, OPPC, unused, France, 1849, 1 franc, strip of three, centre stamp, tête beché, and other rarities; J. E. Joselin, Northern Nigeria, used, on entire envelopes, etc.; and the Hon. Sec., Papal States, used, on entire envelopes. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. Joselin and seconded by Mr. Lincoln, concluded the meeting.

NOTICES.

The Hon. Librarian reports the receipt of the Catalogue of the Philatelic Library of the Earl of Crawford from the Philatelic Literature Society, and that it is at the service of Members. The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive a few arrears of subscriptions as per notices sent out, also any proposals for Membership, or donations to Forgery Collection.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

May 15th, 1911.

OWING to pressure on our space we very much regret that we have to hold over Mr. L. W. Fulcher's paper on the "Edwardian Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland," until next month.

Correspondence.

To the Editor, "P.F.G.B."

THE OVERLAY USED IN PRINTING THE EARLY GREEK STAMPS.

(The following letter received from Dr. A. E. Payne, in the course of correspondence with reference to the possible cause of the lined appearance of the background of some of the early Athens prints, is of such general interest that, with the author's permission we publish it in full.)

Leicester, April 10th, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

With regard to my little theory as to the production of the lined background, I am not quite sure that you gathered, as I intended, that it is the *découpage* (or overlay as I call it) which I surmise to be made of ribbed paper, arranged in layers which have the ribs alternately vertical and horizontal, *i.e.*, the backing actually next to the paper for printing, not the packing or blanket next to the cylinder. From my reading on this matter, *e.g.*, the "Encyclopædia Britt:" and in "Practical Printing" by Southward & Powell, &c. I gathered that the correct nomenclature of these technical processes, *i.e.*, as follows:—

- a. "The Packing" (next to the cylinder or platen) either
 1. "Soft packing"—a blanket with or without paper, the blanket consisting of cloth or chamois leather or similar material.
Fr. Tirage au blanchet.
or
 2. "Hard packing"—consisting of paper, card, or even glazeboard.
Fr. Tirage à sec.
- b. "The Overlay" (Fr. *découpage*) consisting of cut-out layers of paper, generally three or four layers placed in register between the "packing" or "blanket" and the printing paper. This is, I believe, a well-known process in the trade. The layers nowadays are recommended to be constructed of certain papers, each layer of a different kind of paper, but I believe a great deal of discretion is left to the individual workman, and some even favour plate paper. I think that owing to the *découpage* of the 1st Athens prints being badly out of register in many cases, perhaps due to stretching (particularly the 5 lepta yellow-green printing) a fresh *découpage* or overlay was cut, beginning with the 1 lepta (S.G. 23).

This I believe to have been constructed of ribbed paper, possibly with the idea of breaking up the shading on the cheek again as in the Paris prints. Assuming that the operator

chose this method (which failed, if that were his object), I think it is extremely likely that he would in his second layer arrange the ribs at right angles to those of the first layer in order to overcome any too marked lined effect in the background. This would not affect the desired effect on the lines of the cheek, as that part of the design would only be one layer thick in the découpage, and therefore would not be affected by the counteracting second layer.

The considerations which I think prove this to be right are:—

1. As the lining only affects the two or three outer rows of stamps on the sheet it cannot be an effect inherent in the printing paper.

2. The lines are too fine and close together to have been caused by pressure from a cloth blanket operating through the three or four layers of the overlay or découpage.

3. The effect must therefore have come from the découpage or overlay, and assuming this to have been of paper, only ribbing of the paper could cause it.

4. It is undoubted that in the later printing (S.G. 24) the vertical lines begin to have horizontal lines mixed up with them, which more and more predominate but never reach the absolute purity and freedom from chequering which the earlier printings had in vertical lines. I can conceive of nothing that would cause this gradual alteration of appearance, except wear and thinning or flattening of a material like paper. As I have a 2 lep. bistre (dated 64) and an 80 lep. carmine with absolutely identical background, I should take it that the same overlay would be used for these values. I should quite agree with you that some of the coarser effects, e.g., the quadrille background of the 1st Athens 20 lep. may have been due to the material of the blanket.

I believe the technical phrase corresponding with the "Fr. Mise en train" is the "Making ready"; at any rate, "Practical Printing" gives that phrase in inverted commas as the correct term to describe the whole of those processes involved in the construction and application to the cylinder or platen of the "packing" or "overlay." The necessary relief of the overlay has of late been obtained with such materials as gelatine, shellac, resin, chalk, etc., by many processes, and the old cutting-out is now almost abandoned as too expensive, I believe.

If one could be convinced that no "overlay" was used in these printings, it would be easy to accept the view that these markings are due to some wove material with a pronounced warp used in the "packing," e.g., calico, which may be used over several layers of paper in what is called "semi-hard packing." The excellence of the printing, at any rate of No. 23, however, would lead one to think that a carefully constructed overlay was used.

Moreover, almost identical markings are found on the French stamps of 1872—Ceres with large figures, and in this issue an overlay was undoubtedly used. In the Paris printed stamps of Roumania 1872, also, almost identical markings are again to be found, and the fact that both of these latter sets were made by M. Hulot, would seem to afford some justification for the assumption that the printing materials for these Greek stamps emanated from his establishment, and some corroboration of the view that the Paris printed stamps were printed there.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. PAYNE.

71, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.

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

DEAR SIR,

We are shortly publishing, for the Philatelic Society of India, the work of the late C. S. Crofton, on "Ceylon Fiscals and Telegraphs." There are a few particulars needed to complete this important work, and if any readers could answer any of the following queries it would be of great assistance.

- (1) What Ceylon stamps, postal and fiscal, of 1872-80, bore the following current numbers in "in a rectangle with the corners scalloped out," 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12 to 17 inclusive, 19, 20.
- (2) Wanted for examination, to complete the arrangement of types, used copies of Ceylon type-set telegraph provisionals, with *last two* digits of control.

5 cents,	06 or 56,
5 "	24 or 74.
10 "	34 or 84.

Hoping you can render your assistance by inserting in your publication this letter.

We are,

Yours truly,
BRIDGER & KAY.

Epsom,

May 11th, 1911.

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

THE STAMPS OF HOLLAND.

DEAR SIR,

I am always on the look out for something new in the "Holland" line that I can work at and make a display of at some future time . . . to further the study of these issues and incidentally secure Gold Medals at Exhibitions for myself. I have never pretended to find out anything myself, except re-perforations, which many otherwise sane collectors still avoid with horror . . . but the time will come . . . !

In your last month's number Mr. Leon rather spoils his paper by jeering at the

ignorance of those who did not know what he has found out, which is nearly as bad as the worthy man, who, looking at a magnificent new engine at Paddington Station, remarked: "What fools our Grandfathers were!" But, Sir, must I still be held responsible for what I said in 1909? Pity Mr. Leon did not ask me about this before reading his paper, I could then have assured him that I had meant to say that I was the first to point out that the perf. was $14\frac{1}{2}$. . . not 14 . . . and that this was not a perf. used by Messrs. Enschede for any known stamps. If it turns out not to be a "swindle" in the way I then thought, it must always remain a "swindle" in a certain sense to have given half-a-crown for a thing without philatelic value!

Thank goodness, I am still learning something, and am glad to find freakishness even among these 's Hertogenbosch "freaks," and am much struck by the fact that some of them got separated at their own perfs. and not at the $11\frac{1}{2}$ -12 or $14\frac{1}{2}$, which should have done the deed, and one noble scion of his race escaped destruction, even though the $14\frac{1}{2}$ stops abruptly in the middle of him! and two others

pay no attention to vertical perfs. of 12 and $14\frac{1}{2}$. Mr. Leon says that is all nothing, but let us hope he will live to hear what his grandson has to say.

I am principally interested just now in the "Retouches" of the first issue of Holland. I am glad to see Mr. Higlett studying these for himself, and not listening to any "anonymous expert." Regarding the 15 cents I may say that we find corners "weak and thin" in the outer line, and even not joining, in the very earliest stamps of 1852. I have a block in the first deep orange-yellow colour, and in two of the stamps the top outer line projects beyond the left-hand vertical line. I have taken this as showing how these outer lines were made separately, and not as a retouch; in a third stamp the outer lines do not meet at the top right-hand corner.

I have shewn my stamps at more than one exhibition, but, on such occasions, there must always be a superabundance of much more interesting material, and study is nearly impossible.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. WARREN.

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 74.)

The following is a descriptive list of the first Athens prints.

1 lepton, deep chocolate-brown on cream.

This stamp is the exact shade of the Paris prints, from which it can only be distinguished by the shading on the cheek, which is long and continuous instead of being broken up into dots and dashes. This stamp is scarce, especially used.

2 lepta, brown on straw.

The printing of this stamp is similar to that of the 20 lepta described lower down. The spandrels are rather pale, and the shading on the face is light and slightly broken into dashes, but the general appearance of the stamp is rather blotchy and indistinct as compared with the printings which followed. The spandrels are very pale and often show small blots of colour. The colour is the best guide to this printing as it is quite unlike that of any other, and can be recognized at once when seen, though it is very difficult to describe in words. It is rather dark and is browner in tone than that of the deep shades which were issued in the middle sixties, from which it also differs in not having so much yellow in its composition. In my experience this is one of the rarest of the normal printings of Greece; probably only two or three sheets were printed. I have seen several unused copies, but none used.

5 lepta, green to yellow-green on greenish.

This stamp can be identified at once by the figure at the back which is a different shape from that of all later printings. The colour is deep and varies considerably in shade, the most difficult to find being those which have a slightly yellowish appearance on the face. The printing also varies very much, some copies being rather rough and indistinct while others are very clear. The lines of shading on the face are generally long, distinct and unbroken. Signs of a misplaced *découpage* are very common.

There is a prominent variety of this and all succeeding printings of the 5 lepta value, viz.: one in which the lines of shading on the cheek are broken up into dots as in the Paris issue. In clearly printed copies this can be seen with the greatest ease. It is not an accident of printing but occurred on the second stamp in the 8th row on every sheet. The explanation of this is a question at which I cannot attempt to guess.

What is known as the broken circle variety also occurs in this printing (as well as in the Paris) but I regard this merely as a flaw and shall leave it to be treated of in a chapter which I shall devote to such curiosities.

10 lepta, yellow-ochre on greenish blue.

Unlike the three values which I have just described the first Athens print of the 10 lepta

can only be satisfactorily diagnosed when it exhibits the general characteristics of the early Athens prints in a marked degree, as I have some which I know to be very early, but which are indistinguishable from the later printings of 1862 and 1863.

Unless, therefore, you have a specimen with an unmistakably yellowish-green glow on the face of the stamp, you cannot be sure that you have the real thing. The more pronounced this characteristic is the more estimable is the specimen, especially if the other signs are visible, namely,—blotchy outline at the back or front of the head, light and somewhat indefinite shading on the cheek, spandrels rather indistinct, and clear but lightly printed figures on the back. I have seen an unused copy of this on which the gum is thin and colourless, but very much cracked.

A few copies of this stamp are known without figures at the back. Mr. Beckton mentions this as a separate printing, and that the very first, but owing to its extreme rarity I am inclined to think it as an error.

20 lep. deep blue on greyish-blue, without figures at the back.

This stamp, like the first Athens 2 and 10 lep., is a rough looking print, and the general aspect of the impression is also similar to that of those two values. The colour is dark, dull Prussian blue and varies considerably in shade. Many collectors mistake the deep shades of the Paris print for this rarity, but the colour is much duller and deeper, and the lines on the cheek much coarser, than in the most heavily printed of the Paris prints. This printing was undoubtedly the first of any value at Athens, and was no doubt made before the figures of value for printing on the backs of the sheets were set up. In this connection I have recently come across a very remarkable curiosity which, in my opinion, points to the possibility of there having originally been some intention on the part of the printers of using figures of the same size as those employed on the Paris-printed 10 lepta. This curiosity is a 20 lep. of this printing, showing on the back a very distinct *set off* of the figures "20," measuring nearly 9mm. in height. These figures are very clear, and appear on the right lower corner of the back of the stamp, so low down that the lower portions of them are cut away; in the right upper corner there is the faintest possible indication of the lower portions of other numerals, exactly in the position where one would expect to find them.

I think it extremely unlikely that anybody has faked this stamp wilfully, and so risked spoiling a very rare stamp for no apparent reason; it is quite feasible to suppose that the printers were experimenting, at about that time, with figures of a large size for printing at the backs of the sheets and that, a proof having just been struck from this

type, a sheet of the 20 lep. was put over it before it was dry, thus accounting for the set off. This, of course, is only supposition, and the set off may be due to some purely unphilatelic accident.

The paper on which the 20 lep., without figures at back, is printed, varies somewhat in thickness, but is normally rather thin, showing the impression through on the back.

Properly speaking, of course, there can only be one first Athens printing, but the three printings which I am about to describe must have followed the one without figures at the back so closely, that I will stretch the meaning of the word "first" and deal with the stamps here, especially as they are so treated in most catalogues.

20 lep., deep to very deep Prussian blue, on greyish blue paper, with figures at back.

The stamps of this printing are sometimes exactly like those of the last, but with the addition of the figures at the back; more often, however, the colour is very much deeper and brighter. Though great care was apparently taken in the printing, as is evidenced by the *découpage*, which is often strongly marked in this printing, the impression is not good. The lines of shading on the cheek are light but blotchy and the spandrels are very pale, giving that appearance which has generally been termed "worn spandrels." The background sometimes shows a faint quadrillé appearance due to the material used in the backing during printing. Stamps of this printing, especially those specimens printed in very deep blue, are decidedly scarce. This printing was probably made in November, 1861. This and all succeeding printings have figures of value at the back.

20 lep., deep Prussian-blue, on grey-blue paper with a yellowish surface.

This stamp is almost identical with the last, but the paper is stouter and is yellowish on the face. I have already referred to this peculiarity of the paper, for the cause of which I have never heard a satisfactory explanation. Sometimes the yellowish is very faint. The colour is deep but never quite so intense as in the last printing.

20 lep., steel-blue, on grey-blue paper with a yellowish surface.

The colour of this printing is not nearly so deep as the last. I adhere to the colour name by which it is generally known—steel-blue, as it is a good descriptive term, though I think it is really a Prussian-blue. Being a lighter shade than in the last printing, the yellowish surface of the paper gives it a different appearance.

It is evident that the method of printing was altered for this issue. The spandrels are not so pale and the lines of shading on the cheek and neck are clear and distinct. Altogether the impression is more satisfactory in most specimens, though signs of the *découpage* are generally discernible. This printing is

much commoner than any others of this value which I have yet described; specimens with a very decidedly yellowish surface are the ones to look out for—in the majority of cases the yellow is not very distinct.

This printing was made in Dec., 1861, but dated copies are found up to the end of 1862.

40 lep., clear violet on pale blue.

The first Athens print of this value, like those of the 1 and 80 lep., is the best printed of all the Athens prints, differing in this respect from the first Athens prints of all the other values. In colour it is a little brighter than the brightest shades of the Paris issue, from which, indeed, it only differs in having figures of value at the back and continuous, instead of dotted, lines of shading on the cheek. In some very rare specimens some of the upper lines are slightly broken, but this is very unusual. The best test for identifying this stamp is—if at the first glance you think it is a Paris print, and a closer inspection proves you are mistaken, you may be pretty sure that you have the real first Athens (and should be well satisfied, as it is decidedly rare in its best form). It is probable that some Paris paper was used for this printing, as it has a distinctly polished surface.

80 lep., rose-carmine, pale to deep, on cream tinted paper. Vermilion figures at back.

Well printed, with clear lines of shading on the cheek, this stamp is not quite so fine as the first Athens 1 and 40 lep., but is a little better than the best printed of the 5 leps. Fortunately, there is no difficulty in identifying it, as the figures of value at the back are printed in vermilion, whereas all subsequent printings of this value have the figures in carmine. The colour varies very much. Normally, it is a rich rose-carmine, but it runs from a pale tint of the same to an intense deep shade. There is also another shade which is different in tint. It is a fairly deep rose with a slight tinge of claret in it, and is altogether duller than the rose-carmines.

(To be continued).

Sheffield Philatelic Society.

At the King's Head Hotel, Sheffield, on Wednesday, the 26th of April, Mr. J. H. Chapman, one of the oldest members of the Sheffield Philatelic Society, read a paper on the stamps of Australia. Along with this paper Mr. Chapman exhibited some very fine specimens of the stamps of these countries, including a 5d. 1855, imperf. of New South Wales, which is valued at the present time at £7. Also the 20/-, perf. 10, which is valued at £6, and the 1891 ½d., perf. 10, value £4. Also

some exceptional copies of New Zealand and Queensland, including the 1907, Queensland £1 stamp lithographed; in an unused state. In South Australia Mr. Chapman had a very fine collection, dating back from 1875 to the present issues. In Tasmania and Victoria Mr. Chapman also had some very rare and fine stamps. This gentleman has specialised in the above countries for the last 10 or 15 years, and during this time has amassed a very considerable quantity of choice specimens. In addition to the above, Mr. W. C. Fox, a member of the London Philatelic Society, exhibited a very fine lot of stamps, and altogether the meeting was a very successful one. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to both the above gentlemen by the President, Dr. Mays, and seconded by Mr. Shore. This brought a very successful meeting to a close.

The North London Philatelic Society.

President.

ALEXANDER J. SEFI, Esq.

Hon. Sec.

Mr. C. S. MURATORI,

31, Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.

At the usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society held on Thursday, April 20th, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham gave his promised show of Colonials, Mr. Sidebotham's displays always being looked forward to, as collecting only very fine copies, ignoring varieties of perforation, his ranges of distinct shades are always pleasing without being monotonous. This was especially so with his Colonials, although only showing a part of them, among which were noted Vancouver Island, 5c. rose, imp.; B.S. Africa, ½d., 2d., 4d. on 6d. ultramarine, and 8d. on 1/- brown, 1891. 1890, £2, £5, £10 mint. Ceylon pence issues were superb, the 4d. dull rose imperf. and 8d. yellow-brown of the 1857, especially catching the eye, as did five superb shades of the 8d. CC issue. Gibraltar on Bermuda, 1st issue, were another attractive set, all except the ½d. value being mint. In Mauritius, commencing from 1860, was noted the 9d. yellow-green, 1863 issue, used; and Lagos contained the 1884 2/6, 5/-, 10/- mint. Newfoundland's, 1st issues, were well represented and the first Malta were shown by very fine shades. Seychelles and Zululand were shown complete, while Niger Coast contained many of the surcharged values including the 5/- on 2d. St. Lucia, Hong Kong and several other countries were also shown. At the exclusion a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sidebotham, who suitably responded. A vote of thanks to the chair brought the meeting to a close.



MAY 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* for April contains a first long instalment of Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack's paper—read before the Royal Society on March 2nd—relating to the "Diligencia" stamps of Uruguay. Mr. Pack has a wonderful and unique collection of these stamps, and his modestly termed "Comments" will be appreciated by all students of early Uruguayan stamps.

Captain G. F. Napier continues to write about Brazilian stamps. He deals with the small labels of 1850, known as the "Small Upright Figure" series. The following short extract will interest our readers:—

Sixth Issue, 1st January, 1850. Seven values, 10, 30, 60, 90, 180, 300, and 600 reis.

Design:—Upright figures, on an oblong engine-turned background. Size 15mm. high x 19mm. wide. Engraved on steel at the Rio de Janeiro Mint, and printed in the workshops of the Treasury, on wove paper, imperforate.

Paper:—(a) Thin yellowish, to toned, white wove; (b) slightly thinner wove paper of a bluish to greyish tint.

Gum:—At first yellowish, sometimes thick but generally thin; later a thin white shiny gum was used.

Plates:—The plates consisted of 200 stamps in twenty rows of ten. The last plates used are still in existence in the Mint at Rio de Janeiro, and impressions were taken from them in January, 1910, in black, on very thick paper.* I possess several large blocks of the lower values which do not fit anywhere into these plates, but, as this series was in use for sixteen years, it is probable that many plates were used, though it would be impossible to ascertain now how many. In the case of the 30, 60, and 90 reis there is a faint dot in the margin on the right of each stamp and about half way up, evidently a guide mark. This dot is sometimes, but not always, visible on the 180 reis, but I can find no trace of it on the 10, 300 and 600 reis.

Proofs:—Proofs of the 30 reis, on thick laid card

* In the case of the 90 reis the plate was found to be in too bad condition to print from. A transfer was made in copper from a portion of the plate which was perfect, and a small plate of twenty-eight stamps, in seven rows of four, was prepared, from which three impressions were taken.

paper, exist in blue, brown, dull red, and dull green. I have also heard of a proof of the 60 reis in deep blue.

A capital budget of "Occasional Notes," a brief notice of the Crawford Catalogue, New Issue list, etc., etc. complete a capital number of the *London Philatelist*.

In the *Philatelic Record* for April we find a very complimentary review of the recently published *Catalogue of the Philatelic Library of the Earl of Crawford*. Mr. E. D. Bacon who has spent many years on this work is evidently to be heartily congratulated on the result of his efforts.

Mr. F. J. Peplow contributes a second lengthy instalment of his paper, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires," he reproduces a few early postal notices and gives his readers a wealth of old historical lore, principally dealing with the abortive attempt of the British to obtain possession of Buenos Aires, in 1806.

Mr. J. B. Leavy still continues to write about "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." He discusses the Brussels, and Malines printed stamps of 1868, together with the quantities produced of each value.

Another writer, Mr. D. B. Armstrong, commences what promises to be an exhaustive article dealing with the stamps of the Morocco Agencies. True to the traditions of recent contributors to our worthy contemporary, Mr. Armstrong devotes nearly four pages to an encyclopedic account of the history of Morocco. He dates back to 1577. In the near future we shall find philatelic writers delving into the neolithic history of the countries about whose stamps they hope—granted a long lease of life—to write about. Mr. Armstrong writes entertainingly and has evidently given his subject a great deal of thought.

A good list of New Issues, Auction reports, and other regular features complete the contents of an interesting number of our contemporary.

The April number of the *Monthly Journal* contains a wealth of philatelic research. M. Pierre Mahé continues his exhaustive treatise on the stamps of Brazil, the current instalment deals with the second issue (slanting figures) and the later small stamps (upright figures).

The following extract, relating to the perforated varieties of these stamps is of interest:—

In 1866, our stock of the stamps with effigy (issued in that year) having commenced to run short, we sent a second order for these stamps to our correspondent, M. Bertrand Doux, a merchant at Rio de Janeiro. By the return mail we received a supply, but instead of being composed of stamps with the head of Dom Pedro II., it consisted entirely of those with small figures in a rectangle, of the issue of 1850, but provided with a perforation gauging 13½. The letter accompanying the package was to the following effect:—

"It has not been possible for me to send you the stamps with portraits [sic] which you had asked me for, their sale being temporarily suspended at the Post Office. A considerable stock of the preceding issue, with numerals, having been found in store, the government has decided to make use of them, having the stamps 'pricked' like those with the portrait of the emperor, in order that they might not appear out of date. As the sale of these stamps can only be of very short duration, I think I am doing right in sending you a supply of them to an amount equivalent to that of the stamps you had asked for. As soon as the stamps with portraits are again put on sale, I will immediately fill your order."

"Pricked like" does not of course mean here "with the same perforation," but simply "perforated," as were the stamps of 1866 with the effigy.

These stamps were charged to us at face value, and no stock having been sold, there can be no doubt as to the authenticity of the 13½ perforation as applied to the numeral stamp of 1850.

Mr. C. J. Phillips is responsible for another lengthy instalment of his capital article dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. The most interesting variety he describes (numerous illustrations) is the 15c. of 1889, of which stamp it appears there were several distinct printings. The unexciting stamps of 1892 are also listed.

The final instalment of the late Mr. Warhurst's paper entitled "Colour Naming, Notes and Suggestions," a lengthy chapter of Mr. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making," an editorial—dealing with that evidently popular topic—Lord Crawford's library catalogue, all provide good matter for the general reader.

A short note entitled "The Automatic Machine Stamps of New Zealand Catalogue Nos. 304-306," several pages of "Topical Notes," a page of "Foreign"

ditto, Correspondence, New Issues, etc., all help to make up a very excellent number of the world's best stamp trade publication.

From the Topical Note department we make the following extract relating to Austrian Post Offices in the Levant:—

NOW CLOSED.				
	Name.	Opened.	Closed.	
ROUMANIA ..	Baken	1858	1869	
	Berlat	1858	1869	
	Ibralia	1/9/1845	1869	
	Botuschain	before 1838	1869	
	Bucarest	before 1822	1869	
	Crojova	1732	1857	
	Cgernawota	1862	1/15/1879	
	Fokschau	1858	1869	
	Galatz	before 1838	1869	
	Giurgewo	2/20/1855	1869	
	Jassy	1785	1869	
	Kustendje	1862	1/15/1879	
	Piatra	?	?	
	Plojesti	1858	1869	
	Ronian	1858	1869	
BULGARIA ..	Sulina	1852	1/15/1879	
	Takutscha	1858	1869	
	Tultscha	1845	1/15/1879	
	Burgas	1854	1880	
	Philippopel	1859	3/31/1889	
	Rustschuk	1/9/1853	8/31/1884	
	Sofia	1851	1880	
	Varna	1/9/1845	8/31/1884	
	Widdin	1868	1880	
	SERVIA ..	Belgrade	8/1/1841	1/30/1869
		Antivari	1854	1878
	MONTENEGRO	Dulcigno	1879	?
		Corfu	?	?
	GREECE ..	Volo	1854	1881
		Larnaca	1845	1878
CYPRUS ..	Alexandria	1845	9/30/1889	
	Port Said	1869	?	
EGYPT ..	Adrianople	before 1858	4/30/1909	
	Cesure	1898	5/5/1909	
	Gallipoli	9/1/1845	5/5/1909	
	Lagos	1864	5/5/1909	
	Latakia	1854	1906	
	Liros	1879	1888	
	Rodosto	1898	5/5/1909	
	Serres	before 1813	1880	
	Sinope	1854	1868	
	Tenedos	?	1891	
OFFICES STILL OPEN.				
TURKEY ..	Alexandretta		1854	
	Beirut		1845	
	Caifa		1854	
	Cavalla		2/1/1858	
	Constantinople		before 1748	
	Dardanellen		1845	
	Dedeagatsch		1873	
	Durozzo		1854	
	Gneboli		1854	
	Jaffa		1854	
	Janina		1857	
	Jerusalem		1852	
	Kerassunde		1872	
	Messina		1854	
	Metchiuo		1851	
Prevesa		1854		
Rodus		before 1845		
Salonick		1788		
Samsun		9/1/1845		
San Giovanni di Medua		?		
Santi Quaranta		1870		
Scio		1851		

TURKEY	.. Scutari	1855
	Smyrna	before 1813
	Trapezuint	1845
	Tripoli	2/1/1858
	Valona	1854
CRETE	Vathy	1881
	.. Candia	2/1/1858
	Canea	before 1845
	Rettimeo	2/1/1858

The *Stamp Lover* for May is largely devoted to the penny black stamp—and the banquet the Juniors proposed holding to celebrate its seventieth anniversary.

Mr. John Hall Barron continues to write about the early stamps of Mexico; he describes some interesting varieties of the 1864 issue and gives a long list of uncatalogued varieties.

We make the following extract relating to these stamps:—

In 1864 came the fourth and perhaps the most interesting of all the Mexican issues, known as the "Eagles." In this series the portrait of the popular revolutionary was abandoned for the device of a crowned eagle standing on a cactus, his wings outstretched, grasping in his beak the neck of a snake whose tail is clutched by the dexter claw. The stamps were sent out in May-June and comprised five values:— $\frac{1}{2}$ real brown or lilac, 1 real blue, 2 reals yellow, 4 reals green, and 8 reals red, the lowest value, 3 centavos brown, being issued much later. There are many hues of the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 real. The former starts in a true brown, very similar to the 3 centavos; this gives place towards the end of 1864 to a brownish lilac; in 1865 the colour is nearly a true lilac, while in 1866 it is grey. The 1 real is even more various. It begins in a sky-blue colour which is quite distinctive; later in the year it a deep water-blue, and towards the end of 1864 a lighter tint creeps in which passes into an almost grey tinge; finally in the last issues of 1864 it is merely a pale shade of the blue which thereafter became more or less standardised. It is quite easy to date these two values by their colour. The 2 reals varies from a golden orange to a pale lemon colour in which, as far as I can make out, there was only one printing. The shades merge into each other so gradually that if it be sought to establish a catalogued and priced distinction many must be confessed neutral. The 4 reals green, contrary to expectation, is very true to type, but in the middle of 1866 one (?) printing occurs in a marked shade of blue green. The 8 reals varies in the depth of shade, more vivid shades being chiefly esteemed.

The paper is wove or laid. The catalogue mentions a ribbed sort, but confesses that it is hard to distinguish. As it is not nearly so marked as in the 1851 issue of Belgium, for example, I think it might be looked on as an "optional" variety. Though of varying thickness, the paper is consistently stiff. The higher values were bisected—and may have been further divided—for use as lower denominations.

The stamps were overprinted as in the previous issues with the district names to the number of rather over forty, but some of the early copies are found without any overprint.

CONSIGNMENT NUMBERS.

After 117 consignments had been sent out to the district centres, which would represent one consignment to each, with from six to ten subsequent supplies to the busy districts, and the reservation of over thirty lots to Mexico City, it was decided to overprint, at the side, the stamps of each consignment with its successive number and the year in full. This was done at first in thick large figures, which are distinguished

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A good list of New Issues, Auction reports, and other regular features complete the contents of an interesting number of our contemporary.

The April number of the *Monthly Journal* contains a wealth of philatelic research. M. Pierre Mabé continues his exhaustive treatise on the stamps of Brazil, the current instalment deals with the second issue (slanting figures) and the later small stamps (upright figures).

The following extract, relating to the perforated varieties of these stamps is of interest:—

In 1866, our stock of the stamps with effigy (issued in that year) having commenced to run short, we sent a second order for these stamps to our correspondent, M. Bertrand Doux, a merchant at Rio de Janeiro. By the return mail we received a supply, but instead of being composed of stamps with the head of Dom Pedro II., it consisted entirely of those with small figures in a rectangle, of the issue of 1850, but provided with a perforation gauging 13½. The letter accompanying the package was to the following effect:—

"It has not been possible for me to send you the stamps with portraits [*sic*] which you had asked me for, their sale being temporarily suspended at the Post Office. A considerable stock of the preceding issue, with numerals, having been found in store, the government has decided to make use of them, having the stamps 'pricked' like those with the portrait of the emperor, in order that they might not appear out of date. As the sale of these stamps can only be of very short duration, I think I am doing right in sending you a supply of them to an amount equivalent to that of the stamps you had asked for. As soon as the stamps with portraits are again put on sale, I will immediately fill your order."

"Pricked like" does not of course mean here "with the same perforation," but simply "perforated," as were the stamps of 1866 with the effigy.

These stamps were charged to us at face value, and no stock having been sold, there can be no doubt as to the authenticity of the 13½ perforation as applied to the numeral stamp of 1850.

Mr. C. J. Phillips is responsible for another lengthy instalment of his capital article dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. The most interesting variety he describes (numerous illustrations) is the 15c. of 1889, of which stamp it appears there were several distinct printings. The unexciting stamps of 1892 are also listed.

The final instalment of the late Mr. Warhurst's paper entitled "Colour Naming, Notes and Suggestions," a lengthy chapter of Mr. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making," an editorial—dealing with that evidently popular topic—Lord Crawford's library catalogue, all provide good matter for the general reader.

A short note entitled "The Automatic Machine Stamps of New Zealand Catalogue Nos. 304-306," several pages of "Topical Notes," a page of "Foreign"

ditto, Correspondence, New Issues, etc., all help to make up a very excellent number of the world's best stamp trade publication.

From the Topical Note department we make the following extract relating to Austrian Post Offices in the Levant:—

NOW CLOSED.

	Name.	Opened.	Closed.
ROUMANIA ..	Baken	1858	1869
	Berlat	1858	1869
	Ibralia	1/9/1845	1869
	Botuschain	before 1838	1869
	Bucarest	before 1822	1869
	Crojova	1732	1857
	Cgernawota	1862	1/15/1879
	Fokschau	1858	1869
	Galatz	before 1838	1869
	Giurgewo	2/20/1855	1869
	Jassy	1785	1869
	Kustendje	1862	1/15/1879
	Piatra	?	?
	Plojesti	1858	1869
	Ronian	1858	1869
	Sulina	1852	1/15/1879
	Takutscha	1858	1869
BULGARIA ..	Tultscha	1845	1/15/1879
	Burgas	1854	1880
	Philippopel	1859	3/31/1889
	Rustschuk	1/9/1853	8/31/1884
	Sofia	1851	1880
	Varna	1/9/1845	8/31/1884
	Widdin	1868	1880
SERVIA ..	Belgrade	8/1/1841	1/30/1869
	Antivari	1854	1878
MONTENEGRO	Dulcigno	1879	?
	Corfu	?	?
GREECE ..	Volo	1854	1881
	Larnaca	1845	1878
CYPRUS ..	Alexandria	1845	9/30/1889
	Port Said	1869	?
EGYPT ..	Adrianople	before 1858	4/30/1909
	Cesure	1898	5/5/1909
	Gallipoli	9/1/1845	5/5/1909
	Lagos	1864	5/5/1909
	Latakia	1854	1906
	Liros	1879	1888
	Rodosto	1898	5/5/1909
	Serres	before 1813	1880
	Sinope	1854	1868
	Tenedos	?	1891

OFFICES STILL OPEN.

		Opened.
TURKEY ..	Alexandretta	1854
	Beirut	1845
	Caifa	1854
	Cavalla	2/1/1858
	Constantinople	before 1748
	Dardanellen	1845
	Dedeagatsch	1873
	Durozzo	1854
	Gneboli	1854
	Jaffa	1854
	Janina	1857
	Jerusalem	1852
	Kerassunde	1872
	Messina	1854
	Metchino	1851
Prevesa	1854	
Rodus	before 1845	
Salonick	1788	
Samsun	9/1/1845	
San Giovanni di Medua	?	
Santi Quaranta	1870	
Scio	1851	

TURKEY	.. Scutari	1855
	Smyrna	before 1813
	Trapezuint	1845
	Tripoli	2/1/1858
	Valona	1854
CRETE	.. Vathy	1881
	Candia	2/1/1858
	Canea	before 1845
	Rettime	2/1/1858

The *Stamp Lover* for May is largely devoted to the penny black stamp—and the banquet the Juniors proposed holding to celebrate its seventieth anniversary.

Mr. John Hall Barron continues to write about the early stamps of Mexico; he describes some interesting varieties of the 1864 issue and gives a long list of uncatalogued varieties.

We make the following extract relating to these stamps:—

In 1864 came the fourth and perhaps the most interesting of all the Mexican issues, known as the "Eagles." In this series the portrait of the popular revolutionary was abandoned for the device of a crowned eagle standing on a cactus, his wings outstretched, grasping in his beak the neck of a snake whose tail is clutched by the dexter claw. The stamps were sent out in May-June and comprised five values:— $\frac{1}{2}$ real brown or lilac, 1 real blue, 2 reals yellow, 4 reals green, and 8 reals red, the lowest value, 3 centavos brown, being issued much later. There are many hues of the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 real. The former starts in a true brown, very similar to the 3 centavos; this gives place towards the end of 1864 to a brownish lilac; in 1865 the colour is nearly a true lilac, while in 1866 it is grey. The 1 real is even more various. It begins in a sky-blue colour which is quite distinctive; later in the year it a deep water-blue, and towards the end of 1864 a lighter tint creeps in which passes into an almost grey tinge; finally in the last issues of 1864 it is merely a pale shade of the blue which thereafter became more or less standardised. It is quite easy to date these two values by their colour. The 2 reals varies from a golden orange to a pale lemon colour in which, as far as I can make out, there was only one printing. The shades merge into each other so gradually that if it be sought to establish a catalogued and priced distinction many must be confessed neutral. The 4 reals green, contrary to expectation, is very true to type, but in the middle of 1866 one (?) printing occurs in a marked shade of blue green. The 8 reals varies in the depth of shade, more vivid shades being chiefly esteemed.

The paper is wove or laid. The catalogue mentions a ribbed sort, but confesses that it is hard to distinguish. As it is not nearly so marked as in the 1851 issue of Belgium, for example, I think it might be looked on as an "optional" variety. Though of varying thickness, the paper is consistently stiff. The higher values were bisected—and may have been further divided—for use as lower denominations.

The stamps were overprinted as in the previous issues with the district names to the number of rather over forty, but some of the early copies are found without any overprint.

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consider themselves connoisseurs? Therefore, I say, true philately is not merely getting hold of a stamp and going to a dealer and asking "How much is this worth," but knowing one's self all about it, what it is, how produced, and merely making use of the dealer's knowledge to confirm one's own opinion, and if wished, to assign a value to the acquired treasure.

The completion of Mr. Leon Adutt's "Notes on the Provisional Stamps of the Cayman Islands," together with a page of the article entitled "Contributions to the Obliteration Question," some reviews, etc., complete an excellent number of our contemporary.

In the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for April 15th, we find a capital article, entitled "Reprinting, Its Uses and Abuses" contributed by Mr. A. B. Creek, Junr. This writer plainly states his opinion of reprinted stamps, while we feel sure our readers will welcome the following short extract:—

It is said that specialists will collect the reprints of their chosen countries: possibly; what else can they do, if they desire to be complete? It is a doubtful argument, however, when creating something which is not wanted and is more or less calculated to deceive, to say that specialists will take it when so created.

Let us try to keep Philately from becoming *Timbromanie*—remainders (except when they have lain forgotten for years) are not unwelcome; "gum-pap" pictorials, centennials, commemoratives, charities and other unnecessary rubbish may be disliked, though if actually used, have to be accepted; but reprints are not stamps at all—they are simply receipts for money paid to a needy Government or an enterprising postmaster, who, in effect, hold out the vouchers and offer them in exchange for cash. The folly of it—to knowingly buy a worthless and unnecessary thing, specially made to relieve you of your money.

Mr. E. Philpot-Crowther concludes his article dealing with the 1885 issue of Finland. A column of "Senex," an interview with Mr. Humphrey Bennett, and some other matter makes up a good number of our exchange.

A fortnight later we find that Mr. J. Ireland, of Brighton, is the "Philatelist of To-Day," while Mr. Fred. W. Edwards contributes a very readable article, entitled "Great Britain, Her College and Private Posts." Mr. A. B. C. Dyer is responsible for the first instalment of his paper, read before the South Essex Philatelic Society on February 9th, and which is entitled "British South Africa."

Several communicative correspondents to our contemporary express their feelings regarding the "Ideal form of Stamp Collecting."

The April number of the *West-End Philatelist* contains a further instalment of

Mr. Séfi's article, dealing with the stamps of Grenada. We also find the first instalment of a short account of the Postal Communications during the Siege of Paris, 1870. The concluding chapters of Mr. Séfi's "Stamps of Holkar," a short history of the reprinted penny black on large crown paper, and a capable editorial, completes our brief review.

The April number of the *Stamp Collector* contains a biographical sketch of the late Mr. B. W. Warhurst. "C.H.T.H." in an article entitled "The Cult of the 'Colonial,'" bitterly bewails the fact that English collectors pay too much attention to British Colonial stamps, at the expense of foreign stamps.

The following paragraphs make rather amusing reading.

Our insularity is well-known, is displayed on our travels, is pandered to in our Hobbies, and in none more so than in Philately. Is it not time to rescue our Hobby, the best Hobby in the world, from the narrow groove into which it has fallen in England? The "Bulls" have had their way so long, and there is such a large account, that a good slashing attack by the "Bears" must knock prices down to a normal level, and once this is *un fait accompli*, perhaps English Collectors will begin to realize that there are other countries and colonies besides their own, where a vast philatelic territory remains unexplored and practically untouched.

No one worthy of the name of Englishman should fear the dangers. The Seebecks, Parisots, Commemoratives, Reprints, Surcharges, and other wild animals should provide just the extra spice of danger which appeals to our race, and it must always be remembered that even the virtuous colonial stamp is sometimes nearer akin to the Pharisee than the Publican!

Unfortunately we do not agree with "C.H.T.H." At the present time many of our best known collectors are devoting their attention to foreign countries—Peru, Brazil, Columbia, Hayti, U.S.A., Chili, and practically all Europeans are prime favourites.

Mr. J. J. Knowles, of the Birmingham Society, is our contemporary's "well known stamp man."

Mr. J. J. Darlow contributes a readable little article, entitled "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Montserrat," while he also draws attention to the fact that Messrs. De La Rue & Co. are using two perforating machines—a line and a comb, both gauging 14, for the current stamps of St. Vincent. An illustrated history of Warwick Castle, where Her Grace the Countess of Warwick has invited Congress Delegates to have tea; a long and interesting account of Mr. M. P. Castle's West Australian stamps, together with

other matter, makes this number of our Birmingham exchange a very welcome visitor.

In the April number of *Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers* we find a very able article entitled "Generalising: Its Attractions and Charms." Mr. A. B. Creeke very sensibly suggests that, now-a-days, there is too much specialising, and advocates a collection on the following lines:—

Now I do not advocate a "type" collection, or even a "simplified" one: the former is farcical; the latter a delusion and a snare—but I maintain that a general collection, got together on well-defined representative lines, is a thing to be proud of, interesting to a degree, universal in its scope, varied and diversified in design and colour, and finally something which every friend, philatelic or philistine, can look at with enjoyment and appreciation.

And what are those "representative" lines? Answering the question in a negative form, I should say, "Collect everything but the following—varieties of type (e.g. on hand-engraved plates), retouches, varying dies of the same stamp; a "run" of shades where the differences are too slight to describe by such terms as "dark," "light," "dull," etc.; tones of colour, where they are obviously unintentional and merely links in a range of colour extending over numberless separate printings—as, for instance, in the combinations of red and blue, or of red and yellow—being content with one from each end of the line, with (in a long range) an additional mid-way tone; and permutations of perforations, by which I mean, if you have a stamp perforated 12×14, don't trouble about having one perforated 14×12.

We also find an article dealing with Samoa "Express" stamps, which, as it gives a good account of both originals and reprints will be of interest to the specialist.

The *British Philatelist* for March contains a further instalment of Messrs. Bernstein and Nissen's article, entitled "British Stamps Used Abroad." The postmarks of Cyprus are tabulated. We also find another chapter of "The Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain" in the course of which is given a great deal of information concerning the ½d. vermilion, of 1887.

We extract the following from our wee contemporary's Editorial Notes, referring to the error of lettering on the 2½d. lilac, plate 2:—

We remember some ancient proverb about falling into a pit dug for some one else; and a "fake" we have just seen affords a very good example.

The genuine error occurs on the last (the 12th) stamp in the eighth row on plate 2: the letters should be "L H-H L", but are actually L H-F L"; and the stamp on the left is always lettered "K H-H K".

Some enterprising "faker" has obtained a mint pair, lettered "K F-F K" and "L F-F L", both of course from the sixth row; and has altered the "F" in the upper right corner into an "H". The result is a stamp which, by itself, might pass muster as the error; but, when seen in pair with the eleventh stamp in the sixth (instead of the eighth) row, and

with the mistake—if its position be judged by the pair—in the wrong corner, it becomes one of those unique rarities which had better never have existed. This precious pair shewed the plate-number "2," were fully and originally gummed, and had an obliteration, which a little investigation proved to be of comparatively recent origin.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* just to hand consists of a double number—March and April together. We find a number of short articles of merit—principally some notes dealing with the current stamps of Travancore, contributed by Mr. E. W. Wetherell. Sir David Masson briefly describes a few "errors" of overprint on the current Chamba stamps. Several pages of Tancred's excellent prose, and verse, Correspondence, a big budget of Notes, Reviews, etc., complete a very good number of our contemporary.

The editors of English papers are all too busy scratching their own backs to pay any attention to their neighbours. Our Indian *confrère*, however, is able to devote a little time to its exchanges, with the result that we find the following most flattering encomium:—

The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, in its January issue, gives a brief résumé of its past twenty years existence. In perusing this interesting account, we note that, although it has had a large number of Editors, most of them have been men of note in their particular line. The names of Messrs. S. C. Skipton, Percy C. Bishop, J. Scott Stokes, G. B. Duerst, B. W. Warhurst, M. Z. Kutner, B. W. H. Poole, and F. F. Lamb are familiar to all serious collectors. Under such able direction, it is not a matter for surprise that for twenty years this Journal has held an enviable position among the numerous periodicals devoted to Philately. The abilities of its various editors raised its prestige. Each succeeding writer in the Editorial chair introduced some feature of improvement, making it one of the most popular monthlies.

Thanks, brother—praise from the *P.J. of India* is praise indeed. If we are in the land of the living when you celebrate your coming of age we will see what we can do for you.

The March number of the *Australian Philatelist* relies principally on extracted articles for its make up, notably Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg's paper entitled "The Colonial Perforations of Queensland" reproduced from the *London Philatelist*. The editorial of our old friend deals with the forthcoming Sydney Philatelic Congress, while we find a short article entitled "Philatelic Musings," contributed by

"Timbrologist." There are a good many gentlemen with this name about, but we do not think we have previously read this contribution.

The most interesting item in the *A.P.* is reproduced below.

THE LITHOGRAPHED 2d. DIADEM OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

The discovery in England of the lithographed Diadem of New South Wales, as announced in our last issue, and our opinion that a search for this variety would doubtless reveal the existence of other copies, has already borne fruit. Mr. H. L. White has submitted to us two copies which are undoubted lithographs. One of them is of great interest, since it is on part of the original cover, and dated September 12th, 1859. This would stimulate other collectors to carefully examine their copies, and should they be in doubt, we will be pleased to give them our opinion on the matter. As the existence of this variety is now an established fact, it is a remarkable thing that the records of the Post Office make no mention of it.

The *Australian Stamp Journal* for March contains several pages of interesting Notes, some "Reminiscences" contributed by Mr. Courtenay Smith, together with short articles dealing respectively with Tasmanian punctured official stamps and Papuans. A page of "Commonwealth" news, Philatelic Societies' reports, etc., complete a good number.

The April number of the *South African Philatelist* contains a very able criticism, from the pen of Mr. J. W. R. Schofield, dealing with the 1911 Gibbons' catalogue, as compared with the 1909 edition. Mr. W. Raffalovich contributes the first instalment of an article entitled "Some Free State Notes" wherein he draws attention to a number of uncatalogued varieties to be found amongst the surcharged stamps of 1882 to 1896.

From a report of the East London Philatelic Society we learn that one of the members exhibited a pair of Transvaal, (Gibbons number 544.) one stamp normal, the other surcharged "Panny" instead of "Penny." From a Johannesburg United Philatelic Society report we learn that Mr. A. J. Cohen exhibited the following Transvaal overprinted stamps:—

- V.R.I. ½d. green (unused), 1d. (used), 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/- (unused), all with inverted overprint.
- F.R.I. for E.R.I. on the ½d. on 2d. brown and green (one of a mint block of nine, the rest normal).
- V.R.I. on 2½d., pair, inverted, used.
- V.R.I. ½d. with I. omitted.
- V.R.I. 1d. carmine, overprint double.
- V.R.I. 1/-, pair with double overprint, one oblique (uncatalogued).
- E.R.I. ½d. green, a pair, one without E.
- V.R.I. ½d. green, a pair, with V. omitted.

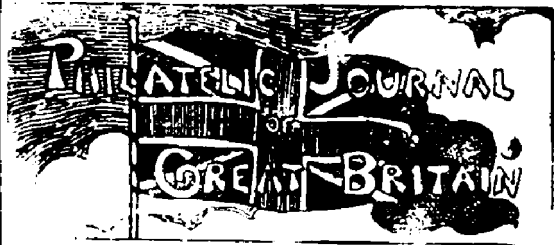
V.I.R. 2d. brown and green (with certificate from R.P.S. Expert Committee).

V.I.R. ½d. and 4d. (not certified but coming from the same source).

A page of "Jottings" and a list of recent auction prices realised by African stamps complete a very good number.

The *Philatelic Gazette* for April contains a long article dealing with the "Diligencia stamps of Uruguay." Mr. Pack, the author, illustrates his paper with numerous blocks.

Major F. G. Palmer continues his capital article dealing with the stamps of the Philippines. He writes about the stamps of 1861-1868. A short article advocating the charms of Confederate States Stamps, the completion of Mr. E. H. Mason's article entitled "The Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes" and a number of "Notes" complete our review.



The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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

No. 246. VOL. XXI.

JUNE 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THERE is a very marked tendency now-a-days for collectors to pay too much attention to certain issues of their favourite countries, with the inevitable result that equally interesting stamps are almost totally neglected.

The Middle Course. This favouritism is probably most strongly developed where the very *early* or the very *late* stamps are concerned; were it confined to partiality for the very first, or even for King's Heads of recent years, we could understand it, but this is not usually the case.

Possibly the collector, in trying to serve two masters, fails, as is always the way, to do justice to either—with the regretful result that we find a fair muster of the early stamps, practically nothing in middle issues and a strong splash of gaudily coloured labels to finish up with. With one authority preaching the cult of imperforates, another the virtues of new issues, it is hardly to be wondered at that the poor collector is between two stools. He usually has a weakness for the early line-engraved classics and indulges his bent to the best of his ability, while at the same time he is horribly afraid of missing some new perforation variety. The result of this curious *mésalliance* is, as we have already pointed out, that the middle issues of most countries are at the present most horribly neglected.

We refer of course to the general collector, with slight specializing tendencies and it is he to whom we would point out the advisability of not overlooking a class of stamps which has an equal claim on a philatelist's attention, as have the veterans and the latest gumpaps. It would be hard to find a country more suitable for purpose of illustration than New Zealand; here we find the first type represented by a good many common examples and the later issues, (their name is legion), represent all that the most fervid of variety hunters may desire. The middle issues, however, of 1873 to 1897, are by many collectors practically ignored, with the result that these labels will be desirable possessions when the pendulum, which now swings so energetically from pole to pole, settles down to the steady swing of years to come.

Other countries besides our own colonies have also suffered from the attentions of the get-there-quick-collector with the result that we find the middle issues of Argentine, Colombia, Cuba, Greece, Holland, Mexico, Roumania, Sweden and other countries all very much neglected. As time goes on, and our more studious collectors find that the early stamps of the world are offering less, and still less chance for original work, they will turn their attention to the later stamps with the result that they will quickly absorb all the likely

material on the market. The issues of to-day, although many of them may become rare, will never offer any openings for the student of the future. The new issue papers see that they are heralded

months before they are issued, and their peculiarities of printing are known to hundreds of eager *devotees* long before the stamps themselves leave the official jobber's hands.

Some Notes on the Edwardian Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland.

(A Paper read before the International Philatelic Union, April 6th, 1911).

By L. W. FULCHER.

THE collection which I show to-night, was brought together mainly for the purpose of a critical study of what literature was to be found in the philatelic journals on the stamps of our own country issued during the reign of King Edward, and in particular, for drawing up a list of the "entires" of the reign, as very few collectors of the present day appear to take any interest in these, and various necessary details as to their history and issue were in danger of becoming irrevocably lost, or, at least, only to be recovered by laborious research at some future date. Such data as I was able to collect were published in the *Philatelic Record* last year, but as there are various points still left to be cleared up, and some further information which I am desirous of ascertaining, I have thought the members of this Society, who are in the habit of attending the meetings regularly, would bear with me for a few minutes if I brought such matters to their notice and would excuse a display, if I may so venture to term it, which has no pretension to compete with those of the extraordinary excellence with which the Society has already been favoured this session.

Except in the case of the four values, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 6d., issued on 1st January, 1902, the conservative traditions of this country were kept up as far as the adhesives of King Edward's reign are concerned, in continuing the designs of the bicoloured series of the last Victorian issue and very similar designs for the high values. There do not seem to be any very noteworthy shades among the printing of the Edwardian stamps, except in the case of the 3d. value on the chalk-surfaced paper, which occurs in at least two well marked shades, pale purple on orange-yellow and deep purple on lemon-yellow. In the remaining values such shades as have been chronicled from time to time are light and dark printings of the same colours. The adoption of chalk-surfaced paper towards the middle of 1905 made a series of annoying varieties for the philatelist to collect, but they cannot be dis-

regarded by the specialist. I have been at some trouble to discover when the various values of the stamps of our own country first appeared on chalk-surfaced paper, as official records take no cognizance of such a detail, and as I fancy the information may be of service to collectors generally, I give them here though I cannot venture to approximate closer than the month. Those who collect "record" dates of use will perhaps, at some future time, be able to assign the days of the month.

2d., Sept., 1905.	6d., Sept., 1905.
3d., Mar., 1906.	9d., June, 1905.
4d., Jan., 1906.	10d., Sept., 1905.
5d., May, 1906.	1/-, Sept., 1905.
2/6, Sept., 1905.	

The collection of control letters of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values appears to be a fairly popular "line" for collectors of the stamps of Great Britain and I look upon both these and also marginal varieties in general as of importance for the specialist. In connection with the control letters of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value there is one matter which particularly requires to be definitely settled. In my paper in the *Philatelic Record* I have included among the control letter varieties of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue-green "C" and "C4" on the right hand corner of the sheet, with broken lines. Since the paper appeared a correspondent wrote to me saying that these varieties do not exist. I must admit that I have not seen them, but in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for 13th February, 1904, it is stated that the variety C4 at right, with broken outer lines "was shown us by Mr. E. Smith." On 27th February, in the same paper, the "C" variety is chronicled and the chronicle for both varieties is repeated on 10th March and 9th April. Further in the *Stamp Collector's Annual for 1908* they are catalogued by Mr. Nissen and priced at 20s. each. From these very definite statements there does not appear to be much room for doubt as to their having been issued, but some confirmation appears necessary.

The ill-fated "2d. magenta," a hideous production, born only to be immolated, gave rise to a revival of the 2d. stamp which it was to have superseded. This re-issue, as we may almost term it, of the 2d., was apparently prepared from old plates with marginal lines of a superseded pattern. This interesting little fact which could only be established by the existence of the marginal lines, shows that the collection of such marginal varieties is of importance for the specialist. In my paper aforesaid I unfortunately had no material available for noting the variations of the marginal lines of the various printings of King Edward's stamps, but I am glad to see that the subject has since been dealt with by Mr. S. C. Buckley in *Oswald Marsh's Weekly Circular*.

From 1st January 1905, by Treasury warrant dated 7th December 1904, all dies used for embossing envelopes were authorized for use as adhesive stamps when cut from stamped paper. I wish to emphasize the fact that in consequence of this decree no specialized collection of the stamps of Great Britain ought to be regarded as complete which ignores what are popularly called "cut squares." From a philatelic point of view I deprecate the cutting up of "postal stationery," i.e., stamped envelopes, post cards or wrappers which are sold over the Post Office counter, but this decree does place "cut squares" in a position for which there was previously no justification and gives them an importance which, as far as I can see, is not yet suitably recognised by philatelists.

I have given a full list of the dies which have been and are still used at Somerset House for the stamping of private stationery in my paper aforesaid, and I think that any one who now tries to make up a set, "cut square," will find it a very hard task. Some of them appear to be exceedingly rare, though it must be remembered that these may have been used on extensive orders sent to some particular part of the country and may turn up in quantity when the place to which they have been sent is discovered.

Up to the beginning of last week (1st April) the Edwardian envelope dies could have been divided into three classes.

1. Those used by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. for Post Office stationery. These consisting of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values, bore the letters "BR" (Bunhill Row) on the base of the neck of the King. These were only used on Post Office stationery.
2. Those used by Messrs. McCorquodale and Co. for Registered Letter Envelopes, numbered at the base of the neck, 2d. Registration and 1d. postage only.
3. The dies used at Somerset House for stamping private stationery, values from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s., all dies numbered on the base of the neck of the King.

Some weeks ago it has transpired from the daily press that the manufacture of Post Office stationery has been transferred from Messrs. De la Rue & Co. to Messrs. McCorquodale and Co. It was not likely that the latter firm would use "BR" dies for stamping the envelopes which they manufactured. Accordingly a change was looked for and in last week's *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the A size Court shaped Post Office envelope is chronicled stamped with "Die 80" of the Somerset House series as that it is evident that until the Georgian series is ready Messrs. McCorquodale & Co. will use these dies.

I regret very much the present decadence of the collecting of entires in this country. No doubt they are troublesome to mount so as to display them properly and there is more than enough occupation for philatelists in collecting adhesives but a real cause of their neglect is no doubt the absence of commercial value. If, however, we claim that philately is a science, they must not be overlooked for they are as much postage stamps as adhesives are. One disastrous result of this want of appreciation is that they are rapidly becoming unobtainable. Even within such a limited range as the Edwardian entires of this country it is now very difficult to bring together a complete collection. I have been collecting them for about eighteen months and there are several "pieces" which I have as yet been unable to obtain even though I have tried to get them in Germany, where at least some interest is taken in "Entires." With regard to the Edwardian series we particularly require to know the exact dates of issue of nearly all the envelopes, postcards and wrappers. I have carefully scanned all the chronicles available and such data as I have got together are published in the paper to which I have already several times referred. These data require verification and possibly correction, while at least in one case, viz., the date of issue of the third $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Reply Card is quite unknown at present. A further detail which requires working out is to complete a list of the dies found on the various issues of Registration Envelopes. I have given such of these as I have seen or have been told of but much remains to be done.

In conclusion I would remark that the near future promises to be an interesting time for collectors of the stamps of our own country. Apart from the Georgian series, which are expected to exhibit some striking novelties, the Edwardian series will doubtless be in use for many months. Since the 1st January the adhesives have been printed by the new contractors, Messrs. Harrison and Sons. These printings have not yet had time to get into circulation, but there will be such matters as possible differences between De la Rue and Harrison prints to look for, with new "controls" or marginal varieties. As to entires there are the printings of Messrs.

McCorquodale & Co. to chronicle and collect. The envelope with the Somerset House Die 80 I have already referred to. No doubt the postcards and wrappers will also show differences.

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

In the *Stamp Journal* (U.S.A.) for April there is published a programme of the Birmingham Philatelic Congress. Amongst the items I see announced that on Wednesday, 7.30 to 8 p.m., there was to be a "Reception followed by Garden Party." I guess that when it got real dark there would be some hide and seek amongst the bushes.

In the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* they give a very useful list of "Coming Events in Philately." Under the heading "Auction Sales" I find the following:—

May 13th (last of this season).—Messrs. Harmer, Rooke & Co., at 69, Fleet Street, E.C., at 2 p.m.

May 15th.—Messrs. Harmer, Rooke & Co., at 69, Fleet Street, E.C., at 4.15 p.m.

Still a little lower down I find the same firm billed to sell on May 18th, also again on May 22nd.

Personally I don't think the interval between the seasons long enough.

Dear old "Senex" of the S.C.F. ought really to be pensioned off, one of his latest paragraphs reads—

Holland Unpaid is usually a good item; some collectors love to count up the stars in the border, and thus determine the relative value of their purchases.

I can, for instance, imagine the Royal Society's Congress Delegates with a Dutch Unpaid, (after the banquet) sitting up in bed (either collectively or singly) counting the stars. I wonder who would see the most? and is it a case of more money, more stars?

A writer in the same publication, discussing the ways of postmen in foreign lands, says:—

They go along like snails in hot weather with only pants, shirt and hat, and always umbrella up.

The next time I meet a snail, male or female, dressed like that, I shall call a policeman.

Another scribe says:—

Until I commenced compiling materials for this paper, I was one of many thousands, I suppose, who daily place letters in the pillar box addressed to all parts of the world.

What *exceedingly* large envelopes would have to be used.

One of America's leading dealers must, I think, contemplate opening an office in the Strand. In a recent circular he says "Our plans for the summer are as yet nebulous but in so far as they may hold interest for our customers they will be announced in due course." In the meantime Europe—played out old Europe—is kept in suspense.

Who is for Cliftonville next year? In the hope of being of service to Mr. Leon Adutt, I venture to suggest the following provisional programme.

FIRST DAY.

- 11.30 a.m. Arrive by steamer from Tilbury.
- 11.45. Cocktails.
- 12.00. Visit to Dumpton Gap.
- 1.45. Lunch.
- 2.45. Congress opens. Mr. Armstrong suggests that the various delegates should draw £7 a day—while delegating—from the Society they represent.
- 3.00. Congress closes.
- 3.2. Refreshments.
- 3.22. Delegates postmark their collars, shirts, straw hats, hankies, forgeries, postal fiscals, and picture postcards with the Congress cancelling stamp.
- 3.45. Bath.
- 4.00. Delegates shewn over the hotel cellars.
- 4.15. Walking excursion to the Old Bear.
- 5.30. Walking excursion back.
- 6.0 p.m. Delegates are presented with a postcard photo. of Sir Herbert Samuel.
- 6.15. Reception in the Hennesey Lounge.
- 6.30. " " Buchanan "
- 6.45. " " Booth "
- 7.00. " " Martell "
- 7.15. 1st dressing gong gongs.
- 7.45. Collar-stud hunt.
- 7.50. Delegates' speeches taken on gramophone records.
- 8.00. Banquet
- 10.15 to 11.45. Toasts.
- 11.50. Hall Porters, Boots, and special Salvage Corps remove banquetters to the Black and White Lounge.
- 11.55 p.m. to 3.45 a.m. Light refreshments and gramophone recitations.

SECOND DAY.

- 11.30 a.m. Breakfast.
- 12.30. Visit to the iron pier at Ramsgate. Delegates may either walk along the cliffs or on the sands, according to the state of the tide.
- 4.0 p.m. Return to Cliftonville—programme as for the previous day—except that the 6.45 p.m. reception in the Booth Lounge will be omitted.

THIRD DAY.

- 3.30 p.m. Breakfast (Not to be continued next month.)

If the above suggested programme doesn't meet with approval I shall be very pleased to draw up another. Perhaps after all the 12.0 o'clock, 2.45 p.m. and 6 p.m. events might be dispensed with.

Apropos the Birmingham Congress I hear that Mr. W. E. Lincoln has already gone into training for the 1912 outing, while it is yet doubtful whether Mr. Lamb won't have to give the Thanet trip a miss in baulk if he is to attend the 1913 Congress in Edinboro.'

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.

Ceylon. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2c. stamp in a new and very marked shade. The value is expressed in words as before, so if the new stamps with numerals added are shortly issued, this new printing may be scarce.

Adhesive.

King's Head, multiple wmk., ordinary paper.
2c. deep golden yellow.

Gibraltar. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the 8/- stamp in the new colours.

Adhesive.

King's Head, multiple wmk., chalky paper.
8/- purple and green.

Grenada. Mr. W. H. Peckitt has very kindly shown us the new 1/- stamp.

Adhesive.

Arms type, multiple wmk.
1/- black on green.

India. Cochin. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are the first to show us the new Cochin stamps. The design is illustrated below.

Adhesives.

2 pies, brown.
3 .. blue.
4 .. green.
9 .. carmine.
1 anna, orange.
1½ annas, mauve.



Concerning these labels our Ipswich correspondents say:—

"A stamp collector residing in this State has kindly sent us 25 sets only of the new issue, one set of which we enclose, but as they are not in full sheets we cannot tell you how many stamps go to a sheet, there are also no margins on those we received. You are probably aware that the postmasters in Cochin State are only allowed to sell the stamps over the counter to personal applicants

and are strictly forbidden to supply any to stamp dealers, but we hope soon to get a sufficient supply by paying a small premium to the correspondent who sent us the 25 sets.

Malta. Messrs. Bright & Son very kindly tell us that the colour of the 4½d. stamps has been changed. They have already received distinct shades—orange and orange yellow.

Adhesive.

Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.
4½d. orange.

Sierra Leone. Mr. W. H. Peckitt tells us he has received the £1 stamp in the new colours.

Adhesive.

Multiple wmk., chalky paper.
£1 black and purple on red.

South Australia. Mr. W. H. Peckitt very kindly informs us that he has received the 2½d. stamp on Crown and A paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12×11½.
2½d. indigo-blue.

Turks & Caicos Islands. We are indebted to the *Monthly Journal* for the following information:—

"We have the ½d. stamp in a new shade of bright carmine. We venture to prophesy a short life for this variety, as the colour is exactly the same as the standard for the 1d. in the colour scheme, and is likely to be looked upon with disfavour by the authorities. Why could not the proscribed brown colour have been adopted at once and save further trouble?"

Adhesive.

½d. carmine.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Argentine Republic. Mr. A. H. Davis, of Buenos Aires, writes as follows:—

As previously advised by me a new issue of Argentine stamps is shortly to appear. For the first time for 20 years the stamps are to be printed abroad by the American Bank Note Co., from the model supplied by Senor Lubary, a local sculptor, the idea being copied from the famous "La Semeuse" of Roty. The 5c. and 12c. values are to be engraved on steel by the above named company while the other values of the same design are to be typographed locally by the Casa de Moneda. Herewith a translation of the Decree authorising this issue.

Buenos Aires,
18th Mar., 1911.

"Seeing the note of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs which recommends the advisability of fixing in a definite form the type of the stamp to be used by the Argentine post office to which end is enclosed a facsimile which, in their opinion, unites the conditions desired, both by the allegory which it symbolises and by its artistic merit.

That it will be more economical to place this order with the American Banknote Company, of New York, which, besides being able to dispose of all the elements necessary to the production of a good impression on steel, offers to deliver each thousand at the price of 50 centavos paper, without charging for the plates; for these reasons:

"The Vice-President of the Argentine Nation, in Council of Ministers Assembled
Decreases:

"Art. 1. Approved the design of the stamp which accompanies the present note, the which will serve for the impression of all the postal values.

"Art. 2. The Direction General of Posts and Telegraphs is authorised to contract with the North American Banknote Company, of New York, the impression on steel of one hundred and twenty millions of stamps (120,000,000), at the price of fifty centavos national currency the thousand (\$0.50 m/n), in the following manner: 110,000,000 of 5c. and 10,000,000 of 12c.

"Art. 3. The expenses incurred to be charged to paragraph 3, item 43 of the existing Budget.

"Art. 4. To be communicated, published, given to the National Register, noted by the Accountant's Office and archived.

Plaza. Indalecio Gómez.
Ernesto Bosch. José M. Rosa.
Juan M. Garro."

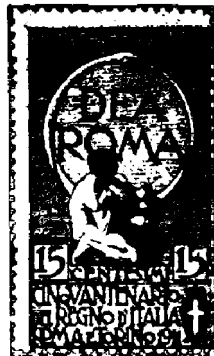
I also enclose a copy of the 5c. Sarmiento Commemorative issued yesterday, and for which I had to pay 40c., eight times face! 400,000 of these were printed in panes of 50 by Casa de Moneda and the issue put on sale at 7 a.m. was exhausted at 1 p.m.



Commemorative.
5c. brown and black.

German Morocco. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the 30, 50, 60c., 1, 1½, 2½, and 6½ peseta stamps with the new overprint "Marokko."

Italy. We have duly received the new commemorative stamps. We illustrate three of the designs below. These stamps, so our Ipswich friends inform us, were issued on the 16th May, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Establishment of the Italian Kingdom. The stamps are not sold at their face value, the prices at which they are sold are as follows:—2c. at 5c. each, 5c. at 10c., 10c. at 15c., 15c. at 20c., the premium on



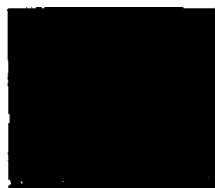
each stamp goes to a fund to pay for the fetes and celebrations.

Gumpaps.
2c. brown. 10c. scarlet.
5c. deep green. 15c. grey.

Sweden. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly sent us a specimen of the recently issued 5 öre stamps. The design is similar to the 10 öre chronicled last December.

Adhesive. Wmk. Crown.
5 öre, green.

Tunis. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that the single rate of postage on letters within Tunis and France having been reduced to 10c., the 15c. stamp is no longer required, and the stock of the pictorial issue of this value has been issued overprinted 10c.



Adhesive.
"10" in black on 15c.



June, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911-12.

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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).

EXCHANGE SECTION.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Owing to pressure on my time I have been obliged to give up the management of the Exchange Section. From June all sheets and communications will have to be sent to

Mr. J. E. Joselin,

81, Bennerley Road,

New Wandsworth,

London, S.W.

I trust all members will support the packets

as before, and if possible, with increased interest.

Ealing, W.,

E. F. MARX, MA.

May 15th, 1911.

BALANCE SHEET.

During the year 1910, nine packets were circulated, value (gross) £2,650.

The sales from these amounted to £138, or about 5 per cent.; 41 members of the I.P.U. availed themselves of this section.

The accounts show:—

REVENUE.		£	s.	d.
Balance from 1909	.. ..	0	15	0
Commission on Sales	.. ..	2	17	5
		<u>£3</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>
EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
Postages	.. ..	1	18	0
Boxes	.. ..	0	12	0
Labels	.. ..	0	5	0
Balance	.. ..	0	17	5
		<u>£3</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>

May, 10th, 1911.

E. F. MARX, M.A.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

June 15th, 1911.

The Third Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

HELD AT BIRMINGHAM, JUNE 7TH TO 9TH.

BY THE EDITOR.

HELD under the auspices of the Birmingham Philatelic Society it is quite unnecessary to tell our readers that the recently held Congress was a great success. It is not our intention to devote pages of this journal to long reports of the various functions—several of our more learned, and possibly more difficult to fill, contemporaries, will doubtless do that.

The Congress was briefly opened on Wednesday afternoon, by which time practically all the delegates and visitors had arrived.

Unfortunately Mr. C. J. Phillips had to announce the sad news of the death of Monsieur Bernichon, of Paris, also the demise of Mr. Henry Hayman, a close relative of our well-known philatelist. Mr. Harry Hayman. After the first Congress there was a successful auction, while in the evening a fairly well

attended smoking concert wiled away a pleasant hour or so.

On Thursday, when the real business of the Congress was transacted there was a very strong muster of delegates and a few non-delegates at both the morning and afternoon meetings. It was an extremely close and sultry day, which probably accounted for the fact that there were a few heated discussions. Mr. Castle's resolution (on behalf of the Royal Philatelic Society) was not moved—owing to the strong feeling which existed that Great Britain should have an annual Philatelic Congress.

Amidst vociferous applause, it was announced by the Chairman that the 1912 Congress would be held in the Isle of Thanet, under the auspices of the Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society, also that the 1913 Congress would meet in Edinburgh, under the auspices of the Scottish Philatelic Society. Messrs. Leon Adutt and A. W. Macgregor respectively promised future delegates a good time when the Congresses were held. The inevitable fate of the colour question, namely, that it should be "placed on the shelf" was decided, while a "Permanent Congress Committee" was chosen.

The Banquet, although held more than half-an-hour late, was a decided success, the menu was simple, the speeches good—notably those of Messrs. Castle, Reichenheim, Hollick, G. Johnson and Melville. At the dinner the few ladies who honoured us with their com-

pany were presented with souvenirs, while the delegates duly received—per letter postman—an envelope containing sets of the Congress labels.

After the dinner there was a highly appreciated musical entertainment.

At 11 p.m. or thereabouts, most of the delegates settled down in one of the comfortable Grand Hotel lounges and spent a couple or so hours swapping stamp yarns and other reminiscences.

On Friday, many of the delegates participated in the excellent excursions arranged for their delectation; unfortunately a business appointment in London prevented our being present.

In concluding these brief, and very crude remarks, we should like to draw attention to the fact, that one or two appointed delegates have, on more than one occasion, allowed themselves to be elected, when they had little, or no intention of attending the various Congresses. Such a proceeding is neither fair to their would-be-hosts nor to the Society to which they belong, as, by promising and not fulfilling, they prevent other members from doing their duty. Needless to say we do not refer to any member, who, through sickness, is prevented from attending.

In conclusion, we can only thank our recent hosts for the very excellent arrangements they made on our behalf—also that we may have the pleasure of meeting all old friends next year.

Correspondence.

THE RE-TOUCHED 1D. LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS OF 1841.

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

DEAR SIR,

The re-touches of the 1841 issue of Great Britain are worthy of more attention than appears to have been paid thereto in the past, if one may judge by what is published on the subject.

One variety only of these very numerous re-touches is generally spoken of, that having frame lines cut at the sides, sometimes described as with "frame lines all round." But an examination of comparatively a small number of Penny Reds will shew that:—

1. The outer frame lines of the four corner squares are frequently worn away before other parts of the design.
2. These outer frame lines of the corner squares are very often partly or entirely re-cut. Sometimes this re-cutting is not true, not in alignment with the rest of the outer frame of the stamp, consequently these re-cut corner squares may

be found having the corner angle either more acute or more obtuse than a proper right angle.

3. In many cases, the re-cutting of the outer frame lines of these corner squares has been extended either down or up the sides of the stamps, sometimes a short way, and sometimes for half the length of the stamp or more.
4. Finally, we get the frame lines re-cut along the whole sides of the stamps, or sometimes on one side.

References to these last varieties are often seen, but the others, with all intermediate stages, appear to be ignored, although presenting a good field for specialism.

It is rather curious that in the case of the first issue of Holland, the re-touches are well-known and sought after, and prices, several times higher than for specimens from the untouched plates, are asked and obtained. Our own British stamps can be bought for a few shillings per thousand, and very few collectors seem to either know or care about the re-touches.

As the Holland re-touches were first studied and described by certain well-known British philatelists, it may be that we shall have to look to Dutch collectors to take up the study of the British re-touches and constitute themselves the authorities on the subject.

The British stamps do not require a long purse, they can be had for a fraction of face value now, although that may not be the case in the near future, and, perhaps if attention is drawn to them in our philatelic press, the reproach of the present neglect and ignorance concerning these re-touches may soon be wiped away.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. HIGLETT.

DUTCH RETOUCHES.

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

Epsom, 16th May, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

I have just bought a corner block of four 15 cts. 1st issue of Holland, the corner stamp has the right lower corner decidedly "touched" showing irregular marks of the tool. To me it looks like a *correcting touch before printing* rather than the "*retouch*" of a *worn plate*. The colour is of the second printing, so I have now to search for such a stamp in the deep orange.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. WARREN.

CAYMAN ISLANDS STAMPS.

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

New York, April 12, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

In your issue of March 20th, you have a little paragraph about Mr. Adutt's Cayman collection, which I have read with a good deal of interest. I am sending you this letter to tell you something about my own stamps.

I have been engaged in direct correspondence with the Cayman Islands for the last four years and have secured much information, besides a large number of *postally used* stamps, which are very hard to get. If you should be interested to see it, I would very gladly prepare and send to you for such review in your paper as you might care to make, a list telling how my Cayman collection is made up. I think Mr. Adutt and I have collected on rather different lines. To the best of my knowledge, he has devoted his attention to unused stamps, whereas it has been my endeavour to get *postally used* copies. For example, Mr. Adutt says that he has eight copies of Jamaicas used in the Cayman Islands. Of these I have five on the entire cover and perhaps forty copies altogether. This does not indicate that these stamps are common, as it has taken me the greater part

of three years to get them. I suppose I have written two or three hundred letters in the course of my search for them.

Mr. Adutt has some very nice unused blocks and panes of the provisionals. On the other hand, my collection is very much stronger indeed in used stamps of all kinds, especially in interesting local covers. This branch of stamp collecting happens to interest me more than the *accumulation of duplicated* mint copies.

I trust that you may find the subject matter of this letter of some interest, and remain

Very truly yours,
C. B. BOSTWICK.

McTAVISH ON THE CONTINENT.

Camp of the Second Wind,
Forty miles from Anywhere,
Holland.

May, 1911.

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

DEAR EDITOR,

My last few scrambles on the Continent have passed unchronicled in the pages of your *most* delightful paper*—possibly you have been considering your married subscribers. I have now, however, such a lot of stamp news to tell, that you simply must cut a big chunk off the Greek article. There are several ways, all very wet, of getting to Holland, none exceptionally nice; as I hadn't previously tried the Batavier line from Tilbury I gave them a show. The boats are very comfortable, spotlessly clean and all that, but I don't recommend the catering. As a rule when on short sea passages I think it more blessed to give than receive, but really it was so extremely millpondy that I *risked* half-a-crown. Some of the 2 cwt. Scandinavian ferry-boats are Carltons in comparison; at least that's my experience, possibly I struck a bad streak in the grub-box.

At Rotterdam they have dams—I saw two or three there, also the novel idea, at the P.O., of a sliding baize-covered tray arrangement, the customer puts his one cent on the end near him, the chap behind the grille makes a mental calculation, detaches the label, places it on his end of the merry-go-round and then shoves. As your wealth disappears the stamp appears in the distance. If you don't follow the idea I can't do any more for you. As it is I wish I wasn't so conscientious in my descriptions.

Although I have passed through Rotterdam a good few times I have never got off there simply to give the local dealers a treat. They, however, appreciated my company very much.

One was afraid I shouldn't get back to England in time for the bun spread at

* Thanks Angus, but we shall be out when you call round at 11.30.—Ed.

Birmingham. Anyway between them they sold me a nice lot of early imperforates (*not* Dutch, *thank* you) in blocks and strips—also some very nice what-you-may-callems and what's-their-names.

After my labours I interviewed the Cockatoos in the Zoo*—quite a nice lot—all chained up opposite a place called the Apenhuis (have you named your new residence? if not don't you think "Apenhuis" a pretty name, sounds like "Edelweis" or "Riverview" doesn't it). Some of the "cockies" (one, I swear, I last met in the Queensland bush, at the top of a very tall Morton-Bay pine†) were very chatty especially my old pal, his language was horrible, I suppose that is why he has to live in a foreign country.

At Antwerp, where they have ants (at least I suppose some of the kiddies have) they weren't very good to me. They told me to have longer intervals between my visits.

Dear old Bruxelles, how fond you are of me, you put up with my little weaknesses every time, and, as the years roll by become more and more Oliver Twisty, even my *penchant* for emerald-green C.A. Cyprus at 20 centimes, and Tongas without fraction bars, at 40 centimes, does not diminish your love. Dear old Bruxelles, the place where the biscuits splash, and the place where we come-home-in-the-morning-before-we-went-out-in-the-evening.

Lilly—I mean Lille—only boasts a couple or so stamp dealers, sometimes something can be picked up there—sometimes it can't—it depends on how long you stay. I can't explain more fully as I am still weak from my effort of getting from Dover to Hastings, by rail, on a Sunday morning.

The distance, as the meadow pipit flies is 40 miles, a few yards shorter per stork, and a few inches longer per golden-crested wren. I arrived at Dover at 3.30 a.m.—quite chirpy—at 6.55, when the first local train left, I was still hopeful. At Ashford, where I arrived by 8 a.m., and found that the first train in the morning for Hastings didn't leave until 11 a.m. I became a little despondent. Mentioning trains reminds me that I fail to see why the French nation should put me to such inconvenience every time I arrive by rail at Bassieu, (where I usually do it), they always make me get out of the carriage and attend tooth brush parade in a draughty waiting room—and then add four insults to eight injuries by making me wait a quarter-of-an-hour before they will let me back to the train. Awfully *redic.*, isn't it? especially when there is only ONE through passenger and a force of twenty customs officers, *gendarmes* and railway employés. I happened to be the only passenger at Calais, so embarked, like a blooming prince, without

the bloom. Have you heard that staid old — of — was seen at Namur with —?

Yours ever,
ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THE STAMP MARKET.

{Some kind friend has sent us the following extract from a fortnightly contemporary. The covering letter is addressed to our Mr. McTavish, as that gentleman cannot read Welsh he has asked us to print the letter in the hope that some kind Taffy will come to the rescue. Our correspondent has done the italicising.—Ed.]

At the "Spotted Duff and paper,"
Empire Day, 1911.

DEAR AHNGUS,

Hoo air ye the noo? But aiblins I mustna worrit ye wi' too much greetin, or I'll no get to the soobject o' my intended wee bit note. Ha' ye seen that bleetherin' airticle by yon pair body "Senex"! Well he might be a Glesga' wroter to the signet ganjin' wi' great caution into legal correspondence. But, heh! mon! he has made a great mistake this time and slippit up. We a' ken weel that pair Senex generally daurna' make a verra definite statement on any subject whatever, but this time! Eh! the audicity o' the mon! He has e'en dared to speer concairning sairtain vablues o' ane issue that they "seem to be less frequently employed than others." Heh! mon! noo's your chance! Slip in to him! Smite the Amalekite and spare not! How dare he be sa bold as to dogmatise and make such sweepin' assairinsions? Let him keep such for his metaphesics and theological discussions. Can ye no get him to change his name?

Wi' a' fond greetins from
HAGGIS.

"Two issues of Servian stamps, in mint condition (the arms type of 1903 and the oblong series of 1904) seem to have suddenly become available in greater quantity than heretofore, and in consequence there may possibly be some prospect of a slightly cheaper rate obtaining for these sets.

Of Austrian Jubilees the 5 and 10 kronen seem in good demand.

Of the Bosnian pictorials of 1906, the 20, 30, 35, 40 and 50 heller values are readily obtainable, but the reader will observe one or two gaps in this enumeration, since some of the values seem to be less frequently employed than others.

Of Bosnia, 1910, the six lowest denominations seem accessible, but for the values beyond these a good price obtains.

Current and recent Portuguese stamps are extensively advertised on the Continent, either in small sets up to the 25 reis, or in sets

* Birds of a feather, etc. Ed.

† What on earth was McTavish doing on the top of a pine tree? Ed.

which cover the complete series. Contemporary Portuguese Colonials seem also in demand.

The 30 and 60 paras of Austria Levant, 1908, are perhaps proving a trifle scarcer than some of the other values.

Bavarian Jubilee seem to cost a percentage over face in used condition.

The Bulgarian series of 1911 will no doubt figure largely in future lists.

Stamps of the German Foreign Offices seem to have a popularity on the Continent similar to our own inclination towards British Colonials.

Of the new stamps of Greece it may be observed that there is a 25 drachmæ value.

Persia, 1911, seems an attractive set."

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 98.)

ATHENS PRINTS, 1862-68.

Having finished with the actual first printings from the plates, which took place late in 1861 for some values, and early in 1862 for others, I will now describe the printings which immediately followed, grouping these with those which succeeded them up to the year 1868. This I find to be a convenient way of grouping the stamps, as there is evidence that at about the end of the year 1867 or the beginning of 1868 the plates were cleaned, and a more careful method of printing resumed, after some very indifferent work in the years 1865 to '67. The stamps of these six years therefore fall naturally into one group. Their general characteristics are as follows:—

Printing.—Very good and clear in the early years, moderate to very bad from 1865-67. The lines of shading on the cheek are clearer and thinner even in the badly printed copies, than in the worst prints of the 70's. The plates were not badly worn, as is proved by the good printings that followed, consequently the bad printings of this period were due entirely to dirty plates and careless printing. After 1870 the plates undoubtedly wore a little, the whole impression having a "flatter" appearance, which can perhaps only be recognized after much experience. One peculiarity which is often to be found in the stamps of this group is that the design is more or less bespattered with small blots of colour, which can be seen in the spandrels, on the cap, in the margins between the outer and inner frame, and on the circle of pearls. These blots are not found in the printings of 1862-3 but are fairly frequent in those of 1866-7. The 1 lep. and 20 lep. show them the most frequently.

Paper.—Speaking generally the paper used for the stamps of this period is fairly thick and of good substance.

Colour.—The shade of colour is often the best and, in some cases the only, sure guide in classifying. I shall endeavour to describe the shades in my detailed descriptions of the printings.

Figures on the back.—All values, except the 1 and 2 lepta, have figures of value at the back; in the early printings these figures are lightly printed and the type is rarely broken or blurred, but from 1865 onwards a large percentage of the figures at the back are badly printed, and often the type is more or less defective or with indefinite outlines. It will often be found that the figures at back are not in the same shade of colour as the stamp itself. This is accounted for by the fact that the two printings were not always done at the same time. I have given a good deal of attention to this matter in the hope that it might lead to some additional assistance in classifying the printings, but so far I have been unable to get any help from it whatever. The 20 lepta value shows most variations in this respect. There are several well-known errors and many minor varieties of the figures at the backs of the stamps of this period, which will be described in their place.

Obliterations.—From 1861 to 1883 only two types of postmarks are commonly found on the stamps. The first, which was used for obliterating stamps on prepaid letters, consisted of a lozenge-shaped pattern of dots with a number in the centre, this being the postal number of the town. Athens was numbered 1, Piræus 2, Corinth 5, and so on. The other type of postmark, which is not so frequently found on the stamps of this period, consisted of two circles enclosing the name of the town, above, and its number, in brackets, below. The date is in the centre. This postmark was only used, in the early years at any rate, on stamps which were affixed to letters to denote postage unpaid. The prepayment of postage was by no means general in Greece at that date and as Postage Due stamps were not introduced until 1875 the ordinary postage stamps were used for the purpose, and these were invariably obliterated with the date stamp of the receiving office. One or two other types of obliteration are known but are extremely scarce. I shall treat of these in a special chapter on postmarks when I have finished with the stamps.

After these general observations I will now proceed to describe the various printings in detail.

A.—1862. 1 lepton, chocolate-brown on cream.

In colour this is very similar to that of the first Athens print, but it is neither so deep nor so rich in tone. The impression is very fine indeed, very nearly as good as the last, from which it differs not only in shade but in the shading on the cheek, the lines of which are finer (though not so distinct) and shorter. The paper is good and well finished.

B.—1862. 1 lepton, chocolate-brown on cream.

This is similar in shade to the last but the lines of shading on the cheek are more like the first Athens. The impression is very clear and good. Paper as last.

C.—1862. 1 lepton, brown on cream.

Impression not quite so good as in B, but still very fine. Colour a full brown, varying in shade from medium to fairly deep, but always with less red in it than A and B. Paper as last. Specimens from the vertical margins of the sheets occasionally shew vertical ribbing in the paper.

D.—Yellowish-brown on cream.

This is the *olive-brown* of Beckton, who dates it April, 1862. I have been unable to find any used on entire or with dated postmark, but there can be no doubt, from the printing, that it is quite early. The impression is very fine, and the spandrels generally appear rather pale. This and all earlier printings of this value sometimes shew signs of the *découpage* out of register. The colour is much paler than any so far described, and really has very little yellow in it, but in comparison with the others the term *yellow-brown* will be found fairly descriptive. Paper as last. This printing is decidedly scarce.

E.—1863. 1 lepton, brown on cream.

The stamps of this printing are the same colour as C, but the impression is very smudgy. Evidently the plates were not properly wiped. The whole of the design is blurred with smudges and little blots of colour, clouding the spandrels and the shading on the face. Sometimes this is so to such a degree as to make the stamp look like a very late impression, but the quality of the paper and the shade of colour clearly indicate that it belongs to this printing.

F.—1864. 1 lepton, reddish-brown on cream.

The impression is now rather coarser than in the last printing, but while the smudges are absent the little spots of colour are generally to be seen in different parts of the design. The colour varies slightly in shade from medium to rather full, but is never so deep as in some later printings. The paper is still good, but is not so well finished as in earlier printings.

G.—1 lepton, pale purple-brown on cream.

Impression similar to the last, but still coarser. The parts of the design which should be solid colour are now flecked with white specks. The little blots of colour are not so much in evidence as in the last printing, though many specimens show them. Paper as last.

H.—1 lepton, deep purple-brown on cream.

As last, except that the colour is very much deeper.

A.—2 lepta, pale yellow-brown on yellowish.

Impression very fine, but the colour being unsuitable the effect is not so good as in early prints of other values. It is, however, far superior to the first Athens printing of the same value. The paper is good, with a smooth surface.

B.—1862. 2 lepta, bistre-brown on deep cream.

Impression heavier than the last, but still good. The lines of shading on the cheek are frequently somewhat broken, shewing dots and dashes, but not to the same extent as in the Paris print. These stamps often show very marked indications of the *découpage*. The colour is something like the lighter shades of the second printing of the Paris issue, but is not so reddish. Paper good, with a strong yellowish cream tint, but not so well finished as the last.

C.—2 lepta, pale bistre-brown on cream.

Impression clear and good, but lines on cheek continuous, except in the best printed specimens. Colour lighter than B. Paper as last.

D.—1863. 2 lepta, brownish bistre on cream.

The characteristic of this printing is that the paper is appreciably thinner than those which preceded it. The impression, though not so good as the last, has a smoother look, probably due to the glossy surface of the paper. The colour is a trifle warmer than the last, with not quite such a yellowish tone.

E.—1863. 2 lepta, dull bistre on cream.

The colour of this printing is very distinctive. It is duller and greyer than any others of this period, and resembles some of the 2 lepta issued in the 70's. The impression is good, but has a flatter and slightly more mottled appearance than the earlier prints. The paper is good and rather stouter than in D, but is not so well finished.

F.—1865. 2 lepta, deep bistre-brown on cream.

Impression heavy, lines of shading less clear, spandrels rough and rather blotchy.

The colour, which is very deep, is the best guide to this printing. Paper thin, as in *D*, but not so well finished.

A.—1862. 5 lepta, bright yellow-green on greenish.

This stamp and all succeeding printings of this value have the figure of value at back, as Type II. of illustration; this differs from Type I., which occurred on the first Athens prints, in being more open and having a rounder body.



TYPE I.



TYPE II.

This printing, which is very rare, resembles the yellow-green shades of the first Athens print in colour, though it is a trifle brighter. At first glance it might be mistaken for the first Athens print, but reference to the figure at back reveals its identity. The paper is good and not very strongly tinted.

B.—1862. 5 lepta, blue-green on greenish.

This is similar to *A*, but different in colour, which is deeper than in any other 5 lepta of this group. The lines of shading on the cheek are distinct and separate. Paper as last, but more strongly tinted. This printing is also scarce.

C.—1862. 5 lepta, yellow-green on greenish.

The colour of this is paler and softer than *A*. The impression varies from fine to indifferent. The paper is similar to *B*. The earliest dated copy I have is June, 1862, but most of them are dated 1864.

D.—1862 (?) 5 lepta, pale yellow-green on paper very slightly tinted green.

I have not seen any dated copies of this printing, but from the clearness and general appearance of the impression it is evidently quite early. It is the most distinctive of all the printings of this value, on account of its colour and the paper, which is hardly tinted green at all and is very stout. It is decidedly scarce.

E.—1864. 5 lepta, dull yellow-green on greenish.

The colour has a slight tinge of sage in it. The impression varies, as in *C*, from fair to indifferent. Paper as in *C*, though not so strongly tinted. Most of the specimens dated 1865-66 are of this printing.

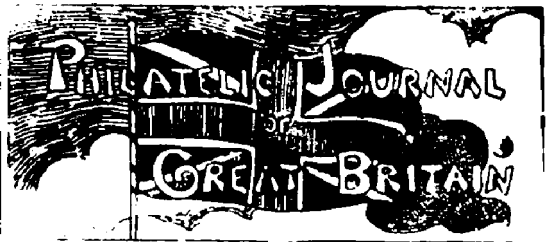
F.—1865. 5 lepta, bluish-green on greenish.

The colour of this printing varies considerably from pale to medium bluish-green. Though some specimens are well printed, the majority are rather indistinct. Paper as in *C*. My earliest dated copy is 5th May, 1865. This printing remained in general use until 1867.

G.—1866. 5 lepta, deep yellow-green on greenish.

In this printing the impression is very bad indeed, the details of the design being very indistinct. It is the worst printed of all the 5 lepta on greenish paper. The paper is of good texture and ordinary thickness, which serves to distinguish it from some printings after 1870. I have a specimen used on entire together with a 10 lep. Paris print and three 20 lepta, used in February, 1866.

(To be continued).



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ELSEWHERE will be found the balance sheet of the exchange section of the International Philatelic Union. Owing to pressure on our space, we are compelled to hold over, until next month, the annual balance sheet.



JUNE 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The *Monthly Journal* for May contains very many readable articles.

Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes a lengthy instalment of his treatise dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. He writes about the provisional stamp of 1895, the telegraph stamps overprinted for use as postals, the provisionals of 1898-1899 and the regular issues of 1900-2.

"Desdichado" continues to write about the world's "Officials," he is still occupied with the stamps of our own country. We make a short extract relating to the well known inverted Government Parcels overprint.

Sometime in 1898, philatelists were considerably startled to find that the well-known firm of De La Rue and Co. had, with all their care and in spite of their numerous "checkings," allowed at least one sheet with inverted overprint to be sent to Somerset House.

How it escaped from Somerset House without being noticed by one or other of the two gentlemen then in charge of the stock—both with philatelic inclinations—is inexplicable; but escape it did, and went to York of the sub-offices.

From one of these minor offices nine unused copies were rescued, and each of these stamps bears a secret mark which would enable it to be identified by the survivor of the two who saw that mark affixed. Curiously enough, and showing how difficult it is to expertize overprinted stamps, one of these very nine was condemned some three or four years ago by a very high authority!

Unused copies leaked out from other offices, but are scarce; the used specimens, however, are comparatively plentiful.

Another "inverted" occurred, this time on the One Shilling; it was not discovered until the stamp had become obsolete. It is far rarer than the inverted lower value, very few copies being known, and they are all, I believe, used.

Mr. Roger Mennève is responsible for the first lengthy instalment of what promises to be a capital article on the stamps of Spain. Judging from the first chapters this paper will appeal to the general collector and medium specialist.

An editorial, dealing with the present attempt to obtain reasonable postal charges for trade, and other magazines, and an anonymous article dealing in a very exhaustive manner with the plates used for the 1850 issue of Brazil, regard being paid to the impressions taken, in January, 1910, from the plates of the 280 and 430 reis.

A good list of New Issues, Correspondence, Topical Notes, etc., complete an excellent number of our most interesting contemporary.

The May number of the *Philatelic Record* contains a further instalment of Mr. F. J. Peplow's "The Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires." We find a lengthy list of instructions to postmasters—also other extracted matter.

The stamps themselves (postage or otherwise) have not yet made their appearance.

The "Sveriges Filatelist-Förening" contributes another chapter of "The Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905." We should describe it as being extremely uninteresting; possibly when the stamps ("1855-1905") come to be written about we shall find more to interest.

It does not say whether this article is "to be continued." Perhaps it has now been completed.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong contributes another instalment of his article entitled "Morocco Agencies." He gives a very concise, account of the first overprinted stamps.

The following extract will be appreciated by our readers:—

The British Postmaster at Tangier having repeatedly urged upon the authorities at Gibraltar, the great desirability of placing some distinguishing mark upon the Gibraltar postage stamps sold at the British Postal Agencies in Morocco, in order that it might be shown in the accounts that their upkeep was justified by the amount of postal business transacted, this request was finally acceded to on 1 June, 1898, when the current postage stamp series of that Colony was

placed on sale at the British Post Offices in Morocco, overprinted with the legend "MOROCCO AGENCIES."

Pending the preparation of electrotype plates for overprinting these stamps by the Government printers in London, an initial supply, intended to meet the requirements of the Morocco Agencies for about six months, had the overprint applied locally in Gibraltar. The overprinting was carried out at the office of the *Gibraltar Chronicle*, from movable type, which had had seen much previous service. An ordinary hand-press was employed and the type set up one hundred and twenty times in order that it might be applied to complete sheets of the stamps (consisting of two horizontal panes of sixty) at a single operation. It consisted of two lines of ordinary Pica type printed on the stamps in black, the word "Morocco" measuring 14mm. and "Agencies" 14½mm., with a space of 5mm. between the two lines. Of this local overprint there were at least three distinct settings, with the possibility of a fourth, and these may be distinguished as follows:—

- (a) The ninety-sixth stamp of the sheet, No. 36 in the right-hand pane, has an inverted "v" in place of the "A" in "Agencies."

On the second stamp in the eighth row of the right-hand pane, No. 104 on the sheet, the letter "s" in "Agencies" has a long lower serif.

- (b) The error of the inverted "v" having been brought to the notice of the Gibraltar postal authorities this was corrected and the type re-set before a further printing was made. This second printing is distinguished by the presence of the undermentioned varieties:—

The first stamp in the left-hand pane, No. 1 on the sheet, has a battered capital "M" in the word "Morocco."

The second stamp in the sixth row of the same pane, No. 32 on the sheet, is minus the serif to the letter "g" in "Agencies."

No. 83 on the sheet, the fifth stamp in the fourth row on the right-hand pane has the letters "en" in "Agencies" joined together.

- (c) A third setting has been recorded in which two new varieties occur, the first having a straight instead of a curved serif to the letter "g" in "Agencies," whilst in the second the letter "n" in the same word slopes slightly to the left. Not having had an opportunity of actually examining sheets of this setting I am unable to assign definite positions to these varieties, but Mr. Poole, by whom they were first noted, states that he has seen the first on the 20 centimos value, and the second on the 5 and 40 centimos, and he is of opinion that they exist on all values of the series. It has been suggested that there was also a fourth setting of this surcharge, as the variety occurring in the second setting, without serif to "g" is also known as the last stamp on the sheet, No. 120; the 10 and 40 centimos values being known with the variety in that position.

"Notes and News," "Auction Report," "New Issues," etc., complete our brief review.

The Editorial in the May *London Philatelist* is entitled "Philatelic Advertisement." Mr. Castle, in the course of his remarks, points out that collectors (and dealers) should not help to bring ridicule on our hobby by communicating to the press—philatelic or public—small details, which, to the outsider, appear absurd. This applies especially to con-

gresses where many things are discussed that are best "left severely alone" in the official minutes. The following extract is very apropos:—

The same caution is also even more desirable in making representations to the postal authorities, who should only be approached when there is something of a definite or pressing nature that requires their consideration. The tendency of Congresses generally is to indulge in a vast amount of oratory, to condense it into a vigorous resolution, to hurl it at some official department, and to leave that body to do the rest! There are, however, as past experience clearly demonstrates, many slips between the academic passing of a resolution and its adoption by an Official Department. We do not think, in a Philatelic Congress, for example, that any resolution inviting official action should be acted upon until it had been approved at a subsequent Congress. The interval would generally be found to mellow the original wisdom, nor fortunately are the problems of the philatelic world of the imperious or pressing nature that brooks no delay.

Captain G. F. Napier contributes another instalment of his "Stamps of Brazil." He gives the translation of one or two Decrees (1842), together with a few paragraphs dealing with the supposed destruction of the plates used for the first issue of Brazil.

The following short extract seems to constitute the only original matter in this month's instalment.

Proofs of the 9th Issue.

M. Mahé, in his article on "Brazil" in the *Monthly Journal* for April (page 124), speaks of a reprint of the 280 reis in deep carmine, and of the 430 in greenish yellow, on hard paper, with wide vertical lines.

I have never seen these stamps, but as this laid paper was used for the die proofs of the 1850 issue, I think that the two stamps mentioned are undoubtedly proofs and not reprints.

The lengthy completion of "Some Comments on the Stamps of Uruguay, with particular reference to Mr. Hugo Griebert's Book" by Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack, takes up a generous seven pages. The programme, etc., of the Third Philatelic Congress is made, by the aid of plenty of big type, to fill nearly four more. A goodly batch of "Occasional Notes," "New Issues," "Correspondence," etc., complete a not, for the general reader, very interesting number of our 6d. contemporary.

The May number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a short editorial dealing with that most elusive of philately's attractions, namely, "The Minor Variety." Mr. Séfi contributes another instalment of his serial dealing with the stamps of Grenada, also a lengthy chapter of his paper entitled "The Siege of Paris, 1870," wherein he describes the various efforts to get letters out of Paris by means of

balloons, and gives a full list, with dates, of the various ascents.

The April number of the *British Philatelist* contains a further instalment of Messrs. Bernstein and Nissen's "British Stamps used Abroad." The postmarks of Constantinople are discussed. The following extract will probably interest our readers:—

This office was opened in 1854, originally as a sorting and forwarding office for the mails of the British army engaged in the Crimean War, and continued as such till the army evacuated the scene of operations in 1857.

The Turkish Government acquiesced in the establishment of an alien post office in the first instance mainly because Great Britain was fighting with and for them, and because their own postal arrangements were inadequate to deal with the correspondence. This inefficiency was the reason for transforming, in September, 1857, this forwarding office into a public one to deal with the correspondence of the British Embassy, Consulate, and residents, for dispatch abroad. Letters were received, but not delivered. They had to be called for, the Turkish Post Office reserving to themselves the right of delivery by postmen. Despite repeated protests by the Porte the office has been maintained till the present day, and the scope has been extended till now money orders, postal orders, and parcels are dealt with as at home. Other Governments have followed the example of the British Government, and to-day most of the Great Powers have offices of their own. The Turkish Government, not being able to regain this valuable source of revenue by diplomacy, has resorted to competition, and has recently issued a series of stamps with an overprint restricting their use to external correspondence, and which are sold at a discount of 20 per cent. off their face value.

We also find a lengthy article, entitled "Tyrian-plum," which, under the heading "Tyre and the Tyrian Purple" appeared many years ago in a boy's magazine.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for May 13th, contains an illustrated interview with Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine, the completion of Mr. A. B. C. Dyer's paper entitled "British South Africa," and the first instalment of a long and interesting paper contributed by Mr. R. S. Archer, Jr., entitled, "Some of the World's Postal Arrangements." A number of letters from collectors voicing their ideas regarding the momentous question of what is the Ideal Form of Stamp Collecting, and some odd notes, etc., made up a very good number of our contemporary.

The same publication, dated May 27th contains its first interview with a lady philatelist, Miss M. Manning is the young lady in question. Mr. Courtenay Smith contributes a short letter—or article—wherein he points out that Solomon Islands stamps are neglected—a fact he

seems much to deplore as he considers them of very considerable interest.

Mr. R. S. Archer, JUN., contributes a second instalment of his "Some of the World's Postal Arrangements." This makes very excellent reading.

The June number of the *Stamp Lover* is very largely devoted to reports, notices, and other matters relating to the "J.P.S."

Mr. John Hall Barron, however, continues to write about the early issues of Mexico. The following is a lengthy and very interesting extract:

PROVISIONAL ISSUE OF 1867.

After the downfall of Maximilian, pending a new supply, the stamps of 1861 (and some of 1856), of which a stock without overprint probably remained at headquarters, were issued for use in Mexico City with the overprint "Mexico" in Gothic characters. It seems preferable to conjecture this reserve, because if an entirely new printing was made the resemblance to the old was effected with unusual and unnecessary skill. We are not now dealing with the professional forger who aims at reproducing the original exactly—and almost invariably blunders—but with a Government anxious to turn out stamps as quickly as possible. Four years had elapsed since these types had been last printed, yet in colour and paper the stamps used in 1867 are the exact counterpart of the earlier issues, with the possible exception of the 4 reales red on yellow, which is said to have been reprinted. Moreover, if a complete new printing had been undertaken it would have obviated the necessity for the four values which were newly printed, and which, with the exception of the 1 real, resemble in their colour scheme the issue of 1856. The new stamps were on thin blue-grey paper watermarked R.P.S. (Renta Papel Sellado). Though the watermark occurs only once vertically in the sheet it is prudent to insist on having a portion on the copies one buys. As for the re-issued 1861 type the forger who reprinted the original issue did not spare the provisional variety, and used either a genuine handstamp or a very good imitation. The bogus overprint figured in the catalogue does not represent this individual's best efforts.

The rest of the country presumably took some time to settle down to the peaceful habit of letter-writing, but the merchants of Vera Cruz must have been able to correspond with other houses, and the relations between the larger towns in the interior, apart from Mexico itself, cannot have been kept up without letters, but how were they franked? The local issues of Guadalajara are well known, and reserves of the stock seem to exist which are carefully put on the market; the Campeche provisional has been immortalised by Mr. Bellows. Chiapas, not a busy place, had its five values—I have been offered an excellent counterfeit of the 2 reales but the genuine copies seem to have almost disappeared. Mr. Chapman has made out a good case for the 2 reales of Chalco. Other types are listed in some catalogues but are pronounced dubious. It is hard to resist the conclusion that these last, and even others, may have actually been used, but the small amount of evidence for or against is rapidly disappearing. Some districts, no doubt, had old stock of the non-imperial issues and examples post-marked in 1867-8 are an interesting quest. I am told that the old fashioned obliteration stamp, FRANCO EN —OR FRANQUEADO EN—was largely used as a frank, but further enlightenment as to the postal facilities of Mexico during this period is much required.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for May contains a couple of short articles on the stamps of the 1898 issue of Cochin, contributed by Mr. E. W. Wetherell. The same author evidently has a bad attack of *Cochinitis*, for we find him conscientiously describing the new Cochin issues. He also contributes a "Note on the Postage Stamps of Denmark, 1851-1864," wherein attention is drawn to the small numerals in the lower corners of the stamps.

Some good 'Reviews,' 'Topical Notes,' and other features make up a good number of our Indian exchange.

The May number of the *South African Philatelist* contains some useful notes on the genuine and forged Vryburg overprints. Mr. Raffalovich has drawn up a careful table showing the points of difference.

We also find a page of controversy relating to the Bechuanaland Protectorate stamp overprinted on the 6d. Transvaal. It still seems to be a mute point whether this stamp should be regarded as a fiscal, or a postal.

Mr. W. L. Simon and Mr. C. C. Woollacott respectively argue the pros and cons whether damaged stamps should be collected. We extract the concluding remarks from Mr. Woollacott's letter:—

There is a considerable business done in repairing stamps, but to my mind a repaired stamp is a close relative to the forgery, and collectors should always be on guard against being taken in by specimens which have undergone any sort of renovating process.

In my opinion, therefore, all stamps from which pieces are missing, or which are otherwise mutilated, should not be collected. I would also exclude stamps which, though complete in form, are so heavily postmarked that the design cannot be distinguished. This, however, is a point which I do not expect all collectors will agree with me upon.

The same writer also contributes a short article relating to the catalogue prices of Rhodesian stamps. Reports from South African Societies, and other matter completes a very excellent number.

The *Australian Philatelist* for April contains a number of short articles and notes, mostly dealing with Australasian stamps. The most important relates to West Australian stamps; we find a list, stated to be from a reliable source, of the De la

Rue printings, following those of Perkins Bacon & Co.

Regarding the new Commonwealth stamps we are told that

Since the definite promise made by the Federal Government that penny postage throughout the Commonwealth shall be installed on the 1st of May next, we had been considering whether a temporary design for this value would be used, pending the appearance of the design for all the values, competition for which will close on the 31st of May, or whether the present conditions will be continued. We now learn from a reliable source that no special design for the "one penny" stamp will be used. This means that things will be as at present, or that one of the States' penny stamps will do duty for the whole of the Commonwealth until the new issue makes its appearance. We also have it direct, verbally that only one design will be chosen for all values, and that the stamps will not be printed from a steel plate, as was suggested to the P.M.G.'s predecessor in office. The Postmaster-General has already in one or two instances shown a certain amount of assertiveness in the administration of his Department, setting aside recommendations without fully inquiring into their value, and, in the matter of the new issue of stamps, when it was pointed out to him that with a stamp larger than the present, and printed from a lithograph, it would afford a forger a fine opportunity to ply his trade in the higher denominations, but he pooh-poohed the matter. As he is not likely to meet with any interference from his colleagues in the Cabinet, it is probable that the new issue will not be much to boast about, unless his ideas change before the design is handed over to the engraver. It has been decided by him to appoint a small board to go through the competing designs, and to allot the awards.

Another extract we are able to make from our interesting contemporary relates to the newly discovered lithographed 2d. N.S.W.

We mentioned in our last issue that Mr. H. L. White had discovered two of those stamps. Acting-Judge Hamilton has reminded us that he had shown us three copies some time previously. Two were on envelopes, bearing date October 17th, 1859, and January 16th, 1860, and were posted from a neighbouring town on the South Coast. These two differ from Mr. White's, both in colour and printing. If it were not for the watermark, one would almost feel inclined to class them as lithographic forgeries; they show distinct signs of retouching in many places. The third copy is, however, similar to Mr. White's, and accords with Mr. Hausburg's description.

The April number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* contains a number of short articles and interesting notes. The one of most value is, we think, a short note illustrated by the aid of four blocks dealing with the recently discovered lithographed 2d. stamps.

Another readable article is entitled "The Relative Values of Recent and Current Australian Stamps." This is compiled on a statistical basis. Some "Cogitations by a Veteran," new issues, Society's Reports, odd notes, humorous and otherwise, all help to make our contemporary very readable.

The *Philatelic Gazette* (New York) still remains the best of the U.S.A. stamp papers. In the May number we find a lengthy interview with Mr. C. J. Phillips, a long article entitled "The Retouched 2 Cent Envelope Dies of the Series of 1903." This is contributed by Mr. Louis G. Barrett and is amply illustrated by the aid of cuts. Major F. L. Palmer continues to write about the Postal Issues of the Philippines. He deals with the 1864 issue and the overprinted stamps of 1868-70. An article on the 1902 series of the U.S.A., some notes relating to Mr. C. L. Pack's unique Uruguays, and other matter makes the *Philatelic Gazette* an exceptionally good exchange.

The following note relating to the 1895 6c. on Revenue paper will probably interest:—

John A. Klemann has shown us a fine strip of three of the U.S. 1895 6c. printed on revenue paper water-marked U. S. I. R. The first copy of this stamp was found by Ralph W. Ashcroft about 1904 and soon passed into the largest collection in this country. For several years it remained unique as far as known. A year or two ago a New York collector bought up all he could find of the 6c. stamps and found, after looking through about 60,000 specimens, just three copies showing either an I. or an R. One of these went to a place in Paris sometimes referred to as the "philatelic graveyard." Another went into the Stanton collection and was recently sold at auction, bringing \$60.00. We believe that in all, nine used copies are so far known. There are still in the stocks of dealers and others thousands of these 6c. stamps which have never been examined, so there are probably still a few yet to be found.

M. Pierre Mahé is contributing an article on the stamps of Brazil to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*. An instalment in the number for March 15th describes the retouched variety of the 10 reis, slanting figures issue (1844). This stamp, we are told, can be recognized by the following points:—

1. The double lines of the frame have been appreciably thickened.

2. The four scalloped corners have submitted to the following malformations. The upper left corner is more widely indented. The lower left corner is correspondingly narrower. The upper right corner forms a shallower bag. No appreciable difference in the shape of the lower right corner.

3. The left side of the octagon has gained half a millimetre in length, *i.e.* 16½mm. instead of 16mm.

4. The two horizontal sides vary in length as follows:—There is a loss of one millimetre in the length of the top line as compared with the ordinary stamp, *i.e.*, 25 instead of 26mm. The line at the bottom of the stamp is 24 instead of 26mm., showing a loss of 2mm. In

addition the double line at the bottom has contracted a slight concavity.

In the same number M. Mahé treats of the reprints of the upright figure issues (1850 and 1854-61). The information about the reprint of the 90 reis black is taken from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, the paragraph being translated. M. Mahé finds the information rather obscure, and is himself of opinion that this particular reprint was made for postal purposes only at the end of the existence of the upright figure issue.

Of the 280 reis and 430 reis there are said to be various reprints. One was made in 1890, of the 280 reis only, in carmine (instead of vermilion) on thick yellowish paper. So lately as January, 1910, reprints were made of both values, one sheet only of each, on thick white paper, in colours which differed from those of the originals—the 280 reis in carmine and the 430 reis in ochre.

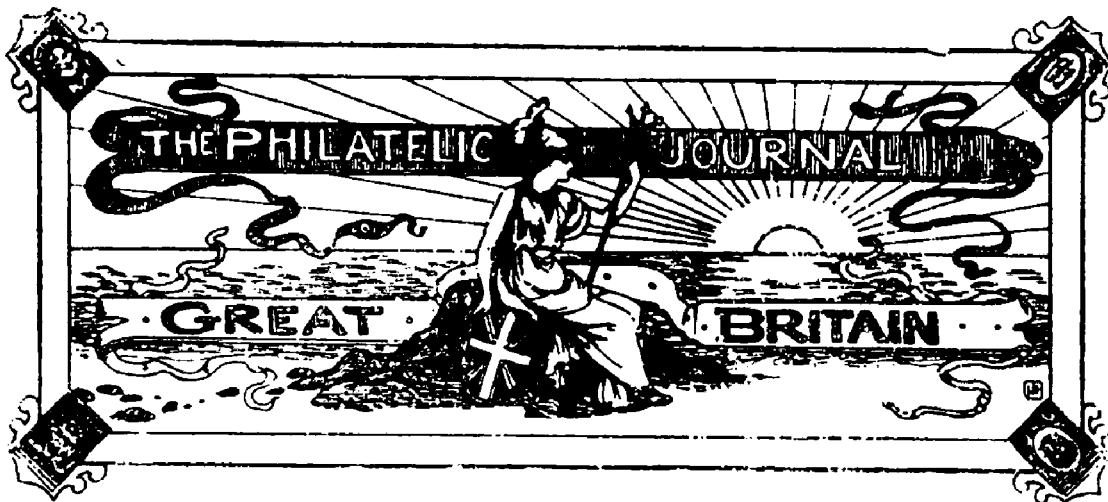
The above mentioned reprints are given on the authority of Gibbon's catalogue of South American stamps. M. Mahé, however, is able to describe a third reprint, which appeared earlier than 1890. In this case the 280 reis was printed in deep carmine and the 430 reis in greenish-yellow, both on paper laid with wide vertical lines.

In the *Echo* for April 30th, M. Mahé has reached the 100 reis, carmine and blue, of 1891, of the varieties of which he gives an excellent account. The same number brings the history of Russian locals, which has been running for so long in the pages of the French fortnightly, as far as the letter R.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* contains a most instructive article on the current stamps of Roumania, dealing with their many shades, papers and perforations. One point was quite new to us. It appears that "mixed perms." are being issued in Roumania. From motives of economy, badly printed or perforated stamps were removed from the sheet and replaced by perfect copies; the sheet was then patched on the back in the various places which required it.

In the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*, of the 6th inst., Admiral von Raimann has an original suggestion for stopping forgeries of obsolete or demonetized stamps in such countries as have no laws against such malpractices. It is simply this—allow all old stamps to be cashed at post offices for a nominal figure, such as ¼ centime per stamp or 1% of the face value; this would at once bring offenders within the meshes of the law.





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

No. 247. VOL. XXI.

JULY 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

WE have received from the Secretary of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, some additions to their rules, adopted at the Annual Meeting on April 24th, when it was decided to form a Committee to deal with the disposal of

A Hint to Philatelic Societies. the collections of deceased members.

A year or so ago this matter was vigorously discussed by the Committee of the International Philatelic Union and the subject, promoted by this Society, was down for discussion by their delegates at the Manchester Philatelic Congress of 1909. We are doubly glad therefore to find that such an influential Society, as is the Liverpool, should frame an admirable code of rules to meet the demand for an unbiassed valuation of a deceased member's collection.

Mr. Savage, the genial new Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, tells us that "as a result of these new Rules we have already been approached by the representative of one of our deceased members with a view of disposing of his collection."

Although we sincerely trust that the Society's new rules did not have an ill-effect on the health of their late member, we emphasize the need there is for all Societies to take up the matter of looking to the interests of their members' heirs. In many

cases only the owner himself has an idea of the amount of money which has been spent on his treasures—which sum, if judiciously invested, should return to his executors a profit, and not a loss as is so frequently the case, when some disinterested (?) friend makes a valuation.

To make a will is the imperative duty of every business man, so also should every stamp man who belongs to a stamp club, see that his Society's rules embrace the all important ones of giving his heirs, should they desire it, the option of having his collection of stamps fairly valued by uninterested and competent men.

For the benefit of Club Secretaries and members, we extract two or three of the new rules formulated by the Liverpool Philatelic Society.

Rule 40 reads:—The Collections Committee will endeavour to dispose of collections entrusted to it to the best advantage, but the Collections Committee, or any member thereof or any member of the Liverpool Philatelic Society assumes no responsibility whatsoever in connection with any question which may arise as to the price realised for any stamp or stamps or collection of stamps or part or accessory thereof or in connection with the methods which the Collections Committee may adopt in disposing of any collection or part thereof.

41.—The Collections Committee will retain out of the proceeds of each collection as remuneration for its services a sum not exceeding three per centum upon the amount realised, such sum to be paid over to the funds of the Society. The proceeds of the disposal of each collection, less out-of-pocket expenses incurred and the amount of the fees of the Collections Committee shall be handed to the representatives of the deceased as soon as possible after the sale has been effected, and shall be accepted by such representatives as a full and final consideration for the collection of stamps which they have entrusted to the Collections Committee for disposal.

42.—Any member of the Society who desires to secure the services of the Collections Committee for his collection is

requested to include the following clause in his Will :

I hereby appoint the Collections Committee of the Liverpool Philatelic Society to sell my collection of stamps and I declare that the said Committee shall be entitled to remunerate itself out of the proceeds for its services in effecting such sale in accordance with the scale of fees which is in force at the time of my death, and also to reimburse itself in respect of any costs or expenses incurred, either directly or indirectly, for any purpose in connection with such sale : and I agree that the Conditions under which the said Committee undertakes such sale, as expressed in the regulations governing such Committee at the time of my death, shall be binding upon my executors and administrators.

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 formally chronicle the two new stamps which were put on sale on Coronation Day, June 22nd. These stamps have been universally condemned by the British press.

Adhesives.
King George V. Perf. 14½ x 14.
½d. green.
1d. carmine.

Newfoundland. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. very kindly send us a completely new set of stamps. Concerning them they say: "We are sending you a complete set of the new stamps which were issued on June 24th, to commemorate the Coronation of King George; only two or three days previous notice was given to the public in Newfoundland, and the issue comes as a complete surprise."



Adhesives. Perf. 13½ to 14 x 14. No wmk.

½c. green	Queen Mary.
2c. rose-red	King George V.
3c. brown	Prince of Wales.
4c. violet	.. Albert.
5c. ultramarine	Princess Mary.
6c. grey	Prince Henry.
8c. Prussian blue	.. George.
9c. slate-blue	.. John.
10c. green	Queen Alexandra.
12c. brown	Duke of Connaught.
15c. lake	Allegorical.

Papua. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., have sent us a copy of the recently issued 2d. stamp in a single colour.

Adhesive.
Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.
2d. bright mauve.

South Australia. Mr. W. H. Peckitt tells us that "a few sheets have been issued of the gd. on Crown over S.A. paper, perforated 12½ small holes."

Adhesive. Perf. 12½, small holes.
Wmkd. Crown and S.A.
9d. dull claret.

Sudan. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the recently issued 10 piastres stamp with multiple wmk., overprinted "Army Service."

Official. Overprinted.
10 piast. mauve and black.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. Messrs. Bright & Son kindly send us specimens of the two new stamps which commemorate the completion of 25 years Regency. These labels only have, we believe, local franking power. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they are printed in sheets of 50.



Commemoratives.
5 pf. green, black and yellow.
10 pf. red, black and yellow.

Chinese F.P.O., Tibet. Mr. W. T. Wilson has very kindly sent us a set of the current Chinese stamps overprinted for use in Tibet. He writes as follows:

"The *raison d'être* of these stamps is as follows, the Imperial Chinese Post Office is negotiating an arrangement with the Indian P.O. for an exchange of mails from Tibet to China and other countries. At present there is no agreement and the Chinese P.O. is charged full rates for all articles handed over to the Indian Authorities at Gyantse and Yatung, the stamps are to recoup the Chinese P.O. and have to be affixed by the sender in Tibet in addition to the Inland postage; as soon as the agreement is entered into the stamps will become obsolete, an additional 1½ annas is charged on registered articles if an acknowledgment is required.

"They are used at the five following Chinese Post Offices in Tibet, viz., Yatung, Phari Jong, Gyantse, Shigatse and Lhassa."



Adhesives.
3 pies on 1c. yellow.
½ anna .. 2c. green.
1 4c. red.
2 annas .. 7c. mauve.
2½ 10c. blue.
3 16c. olive-green.
4 20c. lake.
6 30c. red.
12 50c. green.
1 rupee .. \$1 rose.
2 rupees .. \$2 rose and yellow.

Colombia. Medellin. Messrs. Bright & Son kindly send us specimens of these extremely unnice little labels.



Adhesives. Lithographed. Perf. 12.
1c. green.
1c. mauve.
2c. crimson.

Costa Rica. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly write us as follows:—

"The 5c. stamps of the current issue having become exhausted, the same denomination of the 1907 issue is being brought temporarily into use with a surcharge 'Habilitado 1911.'"

Iceland. Mr. W. T. Wilson very kindly sends us a specimen of a new 4 aur. stamp, as illustrated below. This label is rather attractive and was issued to commemorate the 100th birthday of Jon Sigurdsson, patriot and politician of the Island, who was born June, 1811.



Commemorative. Wmkd. Crown.
4 aur. blue.

Nicaragua. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have shewn us the 50c. (1905) overprinted "Vale 10c."

Portugal Colonies. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly tell us that they have received the following novelties overprinted "Republica."



Angola, Postage Due, 5 to 500 reis.
Cape Verde, 2½ to 700 reis.
Macao, ½, 2 avos.
Portuguese Guinea, 2½, 5, 10 reis.
Portuguese India, Postage Due, 2 reis to 1 rupee.
St. Thome & Principe, 2½ to 700 reis.
Timor, ½, 1, 2 avos.

Mr. W. H. Beckitt has shewn us the 2 reis orange and black of Portuguese India, overprinted "Republica" in red, divided diagonally by a line of perforation into two halves, each half surcharged "1 real." At present this seems to be all that has happened to that unfortunate label.

Roumania. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, states that a new set of postage dues was issued on May 7th, comprising the values 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 50, 60 bani and 2 lei. They are printed in dark green on light green paper and perforated 11½.

Russian China. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the 35r. stamp on "shiny bars" paper overprinted for use in China.

Adhesive.
Overprinted for use in China.
35k. green and purple.

Salvador. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"This Republic has been indulging in another commemorative set, of which we send you specimens; fortunately there are only three denominations, which are printed in sheets of 20, which would seem to indicate that the issue is a very small one, or they would have been in larger sheets. The event it is intended to commemorate is the Centenary of the Insurrection which led to the establishment of the Republic."

Switzerland. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that the Tell design has undergone a further modification.

Adhesives. Modified Design.
The lettering is now serifed, but the difference is very slight in the case of the 2c.
2c. yellow.
5c. green.

Uruguay. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following extract from a letter they have received from Buenos Aires, dated May 24th:—

"On the 17th instant the Uruguayan postal authorities quite unexpectedly issued a commemorative set of 2c. and 5c. stamps to celebrate the Centenary of the Battle of Las Piedras won by General Artigas, the portrait of whom appears on the current set of stamps. 50,000 of the 2c. and 100,000 of the 5c. were printed and the Director-General gave orders that only four of each value were to be sold to each applicant, but on this occasion the postal officials seem to have surpassed themselves because they declared only a few hours after the stamps were put on sale that the 2c. value was exhausted, which of course is perfectly ridiculous, as I am told by several correspondents that it is universally believed that the officials themselves had cornered this value as a speculation.

"From several sources I managed to get forty sets for which I have had to pay *double face* and I enclose on approval nine sets on same terms, as you may like to have them."

Correspondence.

DUTCH RETOUCHES.

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

5th July, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

Referring to Mr. Warren's letter in the June *P.J.G.B.* about the 15c. stamp of the first issue of Holland with the right lower corner altered, I have three copies of this variety, all in used condition.

The first is printed in the early deep orange shade, and is dated 1854, (only the figures representing the year are visible). The second is the end stamp of a strip of five, printed in the orange shade, and postmarked "Rotterdam 9.5.1860" (or 1861.) The third copy is printed in a paler shade and shows slight traces of wear of the plate; the date does not appear on the stamp, most of the postmark having evidently fallen on the envelope.

Like Mr. Warren I am inclined to think that this alteration was a correcting touch before printing rather than a retouch of a worn plate. At the same time slight traces of work on the outer lines of some of the other stamps on the plate of the 15c. value may be found, e.g., two outer lines crossing each other at the corner, instead of exactly meeting, or one outer line projecting beyond the outer line that it should meet. It is therefore just possible that the 15c. plate was retouched owing to wear.

But this is not very likely, for the following reasons:—

I.—Only 23,825 sheets of the 15c. stamps

were printed. For this quantity one plate, even though made of copper faced with nickel, should have sufficed.

II.—Although 15c. stamps showing considerable traces of wear of the plate are found, they do not occur very frequently; from which circumstance it may be inferred that the 15c. plate was used to the full extent of its capacity, and that towards 1864, when the next issue of stamps was introduced, the plate had begun to need to be retouched, but that retouching became unnecessary owing to the issue of the new stamps and the consequent withdrawal of the old plate.

III.—The above mentioned alterations are found on stamps printed in the deep orange used for the early printings, (as well as on stamps in the paler shades of the later printings), which show no traces of wear of the plate.

It may however be urged in favour of the theory that the 15c. plate was retouched owing to wear, that very similar slight retouches may be found on the 10c. stamps printed in 1853 from the first 10c. plate, which however show considerable traces of wear of the plate. But these retouched stamps always show considerable traces of wear while the "touched" 15c. stamps as a rule do not.

It is pretty clear that the 15c. stamp with the prominent alteration in the lower right corner was the last (corner) stamp of one of the four panes of twenty-five stamps of which the sheet was made up, but until a specimen turns up with a large piece of margin, showing the side watermark attached, the exact position of the variety on the sheet must remain doubtful.

Yours faithfully,
D. C. GRAY.

THE NEW STAMPS.

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

7th July, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

Having heard a good deal about recent articles in the daily press concerning the newly issued stamps, and not having read the articles for myself, I am peculiarly qualified to sit in judgement on the newspaper critics. Why should the new issue be so much abused by the daily press, which understands philately as intelligently as a jellyfish understands eschatology? I understand that critics holding generally diverse opinions are agreed upon one point, viz., that the stamps want a lot of licking. One class may refer to the stamp as a work of art, which like every thing of beauty is a joy for ever, and another may refer to the dietetic value of the mucilaginous addition.

The halfpenny design portrays His Majesty as looking very green, and therefore it is most disloyal, some specimens being even more so

than others. What I like are those sea-monsters underneath. One calls them gram-puses, another porpoises, and another dolphins, and yet another does not know what they are. What does that matter? Britain is the land of the free, and we may call them what we will. Every one can see that they are true to nature, and just like those red and blue and green denizens of the deep so graphically described by MacTavish as having been seen by him when going home late from a certain banquet not long ago. Long may they flourish, with their curly tails sticking high in the air.

The penny stamp has on it a real British lion, not the alien creature to be found in the Zoo, or Africa, or elsewhere, but the real genuine article in its characteristic attitude such as never was, is, will be, nor can be in any of the imitations of nature, but can only be seen in the home-made piece of stone statuary. This real stone lion, whose tail no foe can twist, whose naughty growls ne'er disturb the sweet slumbers of tender childhood, who never wickedly gobbles up bad boys and girls for his supper, whose moral record is blameless, may be dead, but that is merely a detail. The hostile critic may sneer about the comparative value of the living dog. Let him do so, but give me my dear old home-made stone lion, even if he be blind, deaf, dumb, and senseless. It is not true that the King is depicted with a deep red blush for the shortcoming of the stamp as a work of art. The mortuary wreath surrounding the bust emphasises the fact that the lion is really dead.

I might enlarge upon the symbolism conveyed, the green stamp denoting the green-eyed monster jealousy, the red stamp the fiery banner of socialism, but space forbids. Before condemning the stamps, why not wait until we see the rest of the zoological collection to be depicted upon the other values not yet issued?

Yours faithfully,
"HIG."

New Leaves to Cut.

"STAMP HINTS."*

We have received from Mr. Courtenay Smith a copy of his little book, entitled "Stamp Hints." This has evidently been written under the belief that there are many thousands of people, young and old, in all parts of the British Empire who, did they but know how, would gladly take up stamp collecting. We are afraid Mr. Smith is over sanguine if he thinks his little brochure is going to convert many non-collectors from the error of their ways. We are afraid that this remark will apply to any little guide on

* Published by Courtenay Smith, "Rest Haven," Roseville, Sydney, N.S.W. Price 1/.

collecting that ever has, or ever will be published, unless by some freak of coincidence it fell into somebody's hands at the psychological moment when the soul was open to receive the seed. A few packets of common duplicates will always be the best missionaries philately can ever have—better by far than the most lucid of printed guides.

Mr. Smith, however, deserves much praise for his efforts, he has compiled a very useful little work, written in conversational sketches between an imaginary (?) Mr. Derwent and his would-be philatelic tutor. Readers are treated to a great deal of very sound advice, not least of which is that collectors should pay very great attention to the condition of their specimens. They are also most sensibly advised to use their own judgment concerning stamps and not be bound down to catalogue descriptions, to go slow at first, to join a good Society, and a dozen other very excellent precepts.

Mr. Courtenay Smith has added an additional value to his little book by leaving out, on page 39, or thereabouts, a word at the end of a sentence. The first envelope to be opened at the end of the year, containing the missing word, will result in its sender receiving a prize of £5.

GREAT BRITAIN :

KING EDWARD VII. STAMPS.*

By F. J. MELVILLE.

It is some months now since we received one of Mr. Melville's little books, so we judge that the one now before us is the first of a new series. It deals, as the title denotes, with the adhesive stamps of our own country which bear the portrait of King Edward VII. Having said this, we have said nearly all that it is necessary for a reviewer to say, as Mr. Melville's information concerning these stamps, is, as is only natural with such well known issues, of the nature of a *résumé*. Had it not been that the South Essex Philatelic Society held their Walthamstow Exhibition and exhibited His Majesty King George's proofs of the 6d. stamps, the unissued 2d. "Tyrian-plum," etc., we should have doubtless found much more that was original. In Mr. Melville's book we find, however, a capital portrait of Herr Emil Fuchs, the artist responsible for the portrait on the Edward stamps, and some essays prepared by the Contractors, one or two of which were, in our opinion, superior to the chosen designs.

A concise account of the process of manufacturing surface-printed stamps, a full description of each value—together with information regarding Control letters, booklets, chalky paper, etc., etc., completes a useful addition to the Melville Stamp Books.



July, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911-12.

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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: William J. Woolley, South Norwood, S.E.; proposed by P. L. Pemberton, seconded by F. F. Lamb.

NOTICES.

Appended is the Annual Balance Sheet for 1910. In addition to the small balance carried forward there is still due about £6 back subscriptions to the end of 1910, and the Hon. Sec. would be glad of replies from

* Published by W. H. Peckitt, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. nett.

members to whom he has made special application for these overdue amounts, and will promptly acknowledge same; also any current subscriptions or donations to the Forgerly Collection.

EXCHANGE PACKET SECTION.

Mr. J. E. Joselin, of 81, Bennerley Road, New Wandsworth, S.W., who has so kindly taken over the duties of Hon. Exchange Superintendent, tells us that the first packet to be sent out under his superintendence will circulate early in September. All sheets sent in to his address before the end of August will be included.

Members residing abroad are earnestly invited to send sheets with the stamps priced as reasonably as possible.

New members in the British Isles are invited to join the Club; their sheets will be circulated immediately their applications have been passed by the Committee.

We sincerely trust all I.P.U. members will do their best to make Mr. Joselin's term of office an even greater success than that of his predecessor. To attain this it is necessary to send in sheets of medium and rare stamps at moderate prices.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

July 15th, 1911.

ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET,

JAN.—DEC., 1910.

1910.		RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1	To Balance in Hand	.. ..	0	15	7
Jan.-Dec.	.. Subscriptions & Entrance Fees	27 2 0			
	.. Half Subscription, per Mr. King, Phil. Literary Society	0 10 6			
			£28	8	1
1910.		EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Jan.-Dec.	Official Organ	.. ..	11	1	6
	Rent Essex Hall	.. ..	2	5	0
	Housekeeper	.. ..	0	5	0
	Printing and Stationery	.. ..	1	12	0
	Postages, Hon. Sec.	.. ..	2	5	0
	Clerical Assistance..	.. ..	5	5	0
	Subs. Philatelic Literature Society	1 1 0			
	Grant to Smoking Concert	.. 4 4 0			
			27	18	6
	Balance to 1911	.. ..	0	9	7
			£28	8	1

Examined, compared with vouchers and receipts, and found correct.

GEORGE E. STRONG, } Auditors.
GUY SEMPLE, }

June 9th, 1911.

Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

ALEXANDER J. SEFI, writing about the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine, says, *apropos* their cancellations:—

It is a noteworthy fact that all those towns which Germany most coveted were provided from the very start with dating stamps in the German language. The following are the most frequently met with:—Strassbourg, Metz, Weissenburg in Elsass, Markirck, Bahnhof, etc.

When the town of Bahnhof capitulated they probably sent off the supply of sandwiches to the neighbouring village of Chemin de fer.

Should any poor benighted non-collector of stamps ever pick up an English auction catalogue he would find many items in it which would give him to think. When it comes to U.S.A. auction catalogues, however, even the chosen have to exert themselves.

The following is the Ceylon list of items from a catalogue just received.

Lot No.	Description.	Priced.
228O	8 1857 8d mounted, otherwise EEE	90.00
229O	11,56 1sh, 1864 10d both E 1	6.00
230O	69 1872 32c E	1.25
231O	83 1882 16 on 24 E, st edge	1.50
232*	96 1885 5 on 64, no gum, E	2.50

By the time the would-be buyer had worked out the meaning of the various abbreviations (?) the auctioneer would be putting Zanzibars up for sale.

Some months ago the wee infant was honoured by being asked to act as a steward at the Coronation dinner of the West London Hospital. At the dinner itself, Mr. Walter Emanuel, of *Punch*, was in great form when he read out the following "telegrams":—

"Lord Kitchener (writing from the offices of the L.C. and D. Railway Company): 'Sorry, too busy trying to turn L.C.D. into L.S.D.'"

"The Postmaster-General: 'Regret, too busy trying to find out whose head they have printed on my new stamp.'"

"The Designer of the New Stamps: 'Regret too busy trying to find out why public dissatisfied. They are really wonderful value. For a penny you can now get a stamp which has a twopenny-halfpenny look.'"

"The Colonial Premiers: 'Thanks. Have been to so many dinners that we would rather go into your hospital than come to your banquet.'"

"The Kaiser: 'Sorry unable to accept West London hospitality, but take this opportunity of thanking you for kind attention given by you in the past to German measles.'"

The above were some of the best "spoofs."

Now that you have read the only really important matter in the *P.J.G.B.* turn your attention to the New Issue columns. What do you think of the new Colombians? Don't they make you regret that you can't take a week end trip to Medellin, and kill somebody?

I hear that the McTavish programme for the Fourth British Congress has already given displeasure in several quarters. Mr. Wetherell, wiring from India, says: "I shan't go unless I can have a glass of port instead of a cocktail at 11.45 on the first day."

Mr. Hagen, cabling from Sydney, says: "Shan't come unless the time for the Banquet is extended. Three hours 50 minutes isn't long enough for anybody to get a decent feed."

Mr. Peckitt writes to say: "Unless I can motor back from the 'Old Bear' on the first day I shan't go, I don't mind walking there."

Mr. Sidebotham sends a picture postcard from Spitzbergen: "I do not collect picture

postcards, so shall not attend the 6 p.m. session to receive one of Mr. Samuel."

Mr. Bernstein writes to say he "objects to fifteen minutes being spent over a bath, surely ten minutes would be long enough."

Messrs. Bishop, Burton, and Kay, all wire: "Programme excellent, but business will prevent attendance."

Mr. Lincoln writes: "Excellent programme — will go if I shall not be asked to make a speech."

Mr. Ward writes: "Unless I am allowed to be the only delegate to make speeches, I shan't go."

It only shows how hard it is to please everybody.

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 117.)

ATHENS PRINTS, 1862-68 (continued).

A.—1862. 10 lepta, orange on greenish.

This printing is like the first Athens, but the paper is without the yellowish surface. The printing is very fair, the lines of shading on the cheek are thin and separate, and occasionally somewhat broken. The spandrels are often rather pale, and the outline of the head at back sometimes shews signs of the *découpage*. In heavily printed specimens the shading on the cheek and the spandrels appear as though printed in red, giving a very curious effect.

B.—1863. 10 lepta, pale yellow-orange on bluish.

This is the palest of all the 10 lepta stamps, though it might be confounded with the printing of 1869, which, however, is more reddish in colour.

The impression is very clear, and the lines of shading on the cheek and neck are generally so deeply impressed as to make the cheek appear embossed. In spite of this, the lines are very clear and distinct. The whole appearance gives the impression of being an early print. I have seen several used on entires, all dated in the early months of 1863. It is decidedly scarce.

C.—1863. 10 lep. reddish orange on bluish.

This is the commonest printing of this value. The impression is good to medium. The finest copies resemble printing A, but the colour is slightly different in tint, and the lines of shading on the cheek are heavier.

D.—1864. —10 lep. deep orange on blue paper.

The impression is still good, but shews up badly on the deep-coloured paper. The shade varies greatly, and is sometimes almost a

yellowish-orange. The earliest dated copy I have seen is dated 15th Oct., 1864, but the printing does not appear to have been in general use until 1865.

E.—1865. 10 lepta, vermilion on blue.

This printing is precisely similar to the last except that the colour always has a pronounced tinge of red in it.

F.—1867. 10 lepta, vermilion on bluish.

Impression similar to the last; the colour is also the same, but appears brighter on the pale-tinted paper. The paper is hard and highly surfaced. The earliest date I have is one used at Constantinople on Sept. 23rd, 1867.

A.—1862. 20 lepta, pale blue on slightly bluish.

Printing similar to the 20 lep., steel blue of the first Athens set, but colour much lighter and the paper, which is fairly stout, is not tinted yellowish on the face. The outlines of the head or face often shew signs of the *découpage*. The gum, which is rather thick and yellowish, frequently discolours the paper a little.

B.—1862. 20 lepta, bright blue on bluish.

Very clear impression, better than in any other Athens print of this value. The lines of shading on the cheek are long, distinct, and separate. Every detail in the spandrels stands out clear and sharp, and if examined under a glass it will be found that the small dots do not run into the wavy lines between which they are placed. There are no small spots or smudges of colour in any part of the design, as is generally the case with later printings which, in other respects, might be mistaken for it. These excellent results were evidently due

to the use of a carefully prepared *découpage*, but as this was often slightly out of register, many specimens shew a faint duplicate outline of the front of the face or (more rarely, in this printing) of the back of the head.

The colour is a full bright blue, varying considerably in shade, the deepest approaching a violet-blue. The figures on the back are always in *dark blue* with thin outlines, never blurred or smudgy.

C.—1862. 20 lepta, pale bright blue on bluish.

The impression is similar to that of the last printing but is not so clear, though in some cases it is very little inferior. In the majority of specimens many of the dots in the wavy lines between the spandrels are not quite separate from the lines, and the shading on the cheek is not so clear. As in the last printing, there are no small blots or smudges on any of the uncoloured portions of the design, not even in the spandrels nor in the space between the outer and inner frame lines.

The colour is bright but, as a rule, much paler than in B, though the shade is, at times, almost as dark. The spandrels sometimes look as though they were turning black; this, I think, is caused by a slight thickening of the ink in the parts affected. It also occurs in most subsequent printings.

The figures at back are useful as a guide; they are always in pale blue and are clearly printed, with thin outlines.

The gum is colourless and never stains the paper at back.

These stamps are generally found with dates from 1862-66.

D.—1864. 20 lepta, dull blue on bluish.

The impression has still further deteriorated in detail, though the general effect is still good. In some lightly printed copies, however, it is very difficult to distinguish from C. The uncoloured portions of the design, or the spandrels, nearly always shew, in some part or another, one or two small coloured spots, while the small space between the inner and outer frames may shew in places very minute smudges. These indications, though exceedingly slight (often requiring a glass to detect) are important, as their occurrence in B and C is very exceptional. The absence of the spots or smudges proves nothing, but their presence, in however small a degree, proves that they are neither B nor C printings. (In later printings the spots become more pronounced).

The colour is much duller than in C, compared with which it has a slightly greenish tinge. There are, however, many shades, the palest of which approach very nearly to the pale shades of C.

The figures at the back also vary considerably in colour, but are never very dark. The gum is thick brownish-grey and frequently stains the paper a little.

This printing was in pretty general use from 1864 to 1868.

E.—1865. 20 lepta, cobalt-blue on bluish.

The impression is still coarser, and has a harder look. The small blots and smudges are more frequent.

The colour is distinctly different from anything that preceded it; it is darker than any in B, C, or D. The spandrels shew a still more decided tendency to appear blackish.

The figures on the back are generally dark in colour, though not always, while as a rule they are still fairly well printed.

A printing almost identical with this cropped up again in 1873, and except in dated copies I do not know how they are to be discriminated with certainty. The figures on the back, however, in the 1873 issue are generally more heavily printed and often smudgy. Printing E was in fairly general use in the years 1865-68, but is not so common as D.

F.—1865. 20 lepta, bright cobalt-blue on bluish.

With the exception of the colour, which is the same tone but brighter, this is exactly like printing E.

G.—1866. 20 lepta, blue on greenish.

Impression similar to the last, but easily distinguishable by the paper which is greenish instead of bluish. This shade varies considerably from pale to deep. The gum is rather thick and yellowish. Though Beckton dates this printing 1865, the earliest dated copy I have noted is July 6th, 1866. It was in use in many places until 1869.

H.—1867. 20 lepta, deep bright blue on bluish.

Impression very heavy, generally having an over-inked appearance. The colour is very deep and bright, quite as deep as the deep Prussian blue of the first Athens prints, but a truer blue and brighter. The spandrels are heavily printed and are frequently splashed with spots of colour, caused by the interstices between the wavy lines becoming clogged with ink. Some of the lighter prints are very like printing F, but the lines of shading on the cheek are generally rather shorter.

The figures at the back are sometimes very deep in colour, but not always so deep as the stamp itself.

I.—1867. 20 lepta, very pale blue on bluish.

Impression light, but coarse. As the last printing is the deepest blue so this is the palest. The lines of shading on the cheek are fairly clear and separate, but the general appearance is rather mottled. The figures on the back are in a much deeper colour than the stamp.

A.—1862. 40 lepta, violet on blue.

Impression very good as a rule, sometimes very nearly as clear as the first Athens. The spandrels are fairly light and sharply printed, while the lines of shading on the cheek are

long, unbroken, and separate. The paper is a very clear blue, and is well finished. The gum is nearly always thin and colourless, though specimens with a late date ('65 and '66) often have traces of a thicker and more yellowish gum.

The colour is the same delicate violet as in the first Athens, though there is perhaps a "thought" more red in it, and it varies considerably in depth. The figures at back are in the same colour as the stamp.

Specimens of this stamp are generally dated from 1863 to 1865, but may also frequently be seen with a date as late as 1868.

B.—1864. 40 leptas, deep violet on blue.

Impression heavier, often very heavy indeed. While in the majority of specimens the lines of shading on the cheek are fairly clear (though never so clear as in C) in some specimens, they form almost a solid mass of colour. The spandrels are also generally thick and indistinct.

The colour is deep to very deep, and the paper, which is more of a greenish blue than in the last printing, gives the whole stamp a duller appearance.

C.—1865. 40 leptas, pale dull purple on bluish.

Impression as in B, but appearing worse on account of the very poor colour, which is the best guide to this printing. It is a pale faded-looking brownish purple, which must not be confounded with the thin paper issue of 1872, the paper of this printing being stout and of good texture.

D.—1866. 40 leptas, reddish-lilac on lilac.

This is a very distinctive printing, the paper being so different in colour from that of any other printing. The colour of the impression is, in its pristine condition, a distinct reddish-lilac, but it is generally found more or less discoloured, appearing more like a lilac-brown. The impression is very coarse and mottled.

E.—1866 (?) 40 leptas, deep purple on greenish-blue.

Impression not so rough as the last but not good, the spandrels being dark and thick.

The colour is deep but much duller than B. It is almost a claret.

The paper is good, and greener in tint than any of the earlier printings.

F.—1866. 40 leptas, reddish-purple.

Impression fair to good, resembling A but flatter looking. The colour is distinctive, being distinctly redder than A and B, and deeper than C. The impression is good but does not appear to be so smooth as C. The figures at the back are in the same colour as the stamp, and are generally more heavily printed than in earlier printings.

(To be continued.)

The Beautiful Savage & Capt. John Smith, Jamestown (U.S.A.) Stamps of 1907.

A "Two Minutes" Paper read before the Liverpool Philatelic Society,

By W. H. LAWSON.

I WONDER how many of us, when we wander down La Belle Sauvage Yard off Ludgate Hill, or look at the design of a maiden crouching in the branches of a low growing vine, which appears on most of the publications of Messrs. Cassell's, Limited, realise that both the name of the street and the design are associated with the high sounding Indian appellation which figures on the 5 cent value of the Jamestown stamp issued by the United States in 1907.

It will be in the memory of most of us, that when that bold man of Kent—Captain John Smith—visited Virginia in the reign of Queen Elizabeth he brought over to England, as a captive for exhibition to Her Majesty, the Princess Pocahontas, a daughter of Powhatan, the tribal chief of Virginia. In these humanitarian days one rejoices to think that good Queen Bess had the Indian Princess liberated and sent back to her native land, and one can only wonder what is the origin of the quaint and seemingly incongruous costume in which the lady of high Indian birth—or as I suppose we should call her if we were guided by the name of the street in London—"The Beautiful Savage," appears.

The foregoing is the old and certainly in America the accepted version of the history of Pocahontas, but I confess with regret that in the latest versions of that lady's history much of the romance disappears. It is I believe generally conceded nowadays that the Princess was of somewhat less exalted rank than has been generally believed, and that she, prosaically enough, married a certain Mr. Rolfe, an adventurous Englishman, who brought her to England in 1616, or say 13 years after the Virgin Queen had gone to her rest. We must not, however, withhold from Pocahontas the tribute due to her for the chivalrous humanity which prompted her to save the life of the redoubtable Captain John Smith when he was brought as a prisoner before her father, the Indian Chief Powhatan, in 1607, for so much at least of the picturesque legend of the "Fair Savage" seems to be borne out by facts.

Fourth Philatelic Congress.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society, convened at the Queen's Highcliffe Hotel, Margate, on June 15th, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Society's Delegates to the Third

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held in Birmingham on June 7th-9th, it was unanimously decided to accept the invitation of the Congress Committee for the Isle of Thanet Society to hold the Fourth Congress under its auspices at Margate in the spring of 1912. In the work of organising this ambitious undertaking the Society will be assisted and supported by the Royal, Herts, and Junior Philatelic Societies of London, who will each be represented on the Executive Committee of the Fourth Congress.

The Executive is to consist of six members, three of them being Committee men of the local Society and the remainder appointed by the London Societies. The members of the Isle of Thanet Committee to be ex-officio members of the Congress Executive.

It is proposed to hold the meetings of the Executive alternately in London and Thanet, to meet the convenience of all members, and the work of organisation will commence immediately.

* * * * *

PERMANENT CONGRESS COMMITTEE.

The first meeting of the Permanent Congress Committee was held, by kind invitation of Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, at the Offices of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391, Strand, London, W.C., on Tuesday, July 4th, at 11.15 a.m.

Present: Major E. B. Evans, Messrs. M. P. Castle, J. J. Darlow, Chas. J. Phillips and Franz Reichenheim.

Proposed by Mr. Reichenheim and seconded by Mr. Darlow, Major Evans was duly elected Chairman; and proposed by Mr. Castle and seconded by Major Evans, Mr. Reichenheim was duly elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Proposed by Major Evans and seconded by

Mr. Reichenheim, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

“To add the Chairman (Mr. A. Leon Adutt) and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. D. B. Armstrong) of the Fourth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Margate, 1912, to this Committee for the current Session.”

Mr. Armstrong accepted this nomination for Mr. Adutt and himself and joined the meeting.

The Hon. Secretary was authorised to send out early in October reminders to the Philatelic Societies of Great Britain and Ireland to pay their subscriptions to this Committee for the first year.

In reply to a letter from the Chairman of the Third Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Birmingham, 1911 (Mr. C. Hollick), it was resolved, proposed by Mr. Castle and seconded by Mr. Armstrong, that this Committee is of opinion “that the expenses incident to each Congress should be defrayed by the inviting Society, inclusive of those incurred by Sub-Committees.”

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to communicate this resolution to Mr. Hollick.

At the request of the Hon. Secretary of the Fourth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Margate, 1912, the Hon. Secretary of the Permanent Congress Committee, Mr. Franz Reichenheim, was duly elected to join the Executive Committee of the forthcoming Congress as Representative of the Permanent Committee.

Mr. Phillips moved and Mr. Castle seconded, that this Committee is of opinion “that the Congress should consist of Delegates from Philatelic Societies of the United Kingdom only. Representatives of other Societies may attend as Visitors, and will be welcomed.”

This resolution was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 1 p.m.

Samoa.

THE SECOND ISSUE.

BY R. E. R. DALWICK.

IN the last Volume of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, I had the pleasure of giving a few notes on “The Samoan Express Issue.” In the December number of the above mentioned journal, Mr. Walter A. Hull draws my attention to the fact that perforations were not dealt with. All the originals were perforated 12 or 12½. In many cases, however, the perforation is not quite true and thus there are some slight variations to be met with. There does not seem to be anything to show that the 9d. stamp was perforated other than 12 alone.

The perforation of the reprints of Issue I.

was 11 or 11½. Again there were slight variations and irregularities, so consequently they do not invariably gauge exactly. In some cases this irregularity makes the perfs. of the originals and reprints *the same*, in which case the general appearance and shade of the adhesive is the only way of determining its status.

The Express Post (issue I.) was given up in 1882. It is curious to note that from 1882 to 1887 there was no direct postal service as the post office was closed. The conveyance of letters during this period was carried on by the consulates or by ship as

opportunity occurred, no fixed dates being arranged for mails. This state of affairs must have been somewhat trying to those persons having important transactions to exact in any specified period! The transmission of foreign correspondence was vested with Great Britain, Germany and U.S.A. who had consulates at Apia.

Late in 1886, a private individual, Mr. John Davis by name, approached King Malietoa, with the object of obtaining from the king the right to run a post office and postal system of his own, and also at his own risk. A similar state of affairs to this was in vogue in Egypt prior to the establishment of the viceregal post.

King Malietoa granted Mr. Davis his request, as the following notice will show:—

Government House,
Apia, Samoa.

December 20th, 1886.

"Malietoa King of Samoa, do hereby appoint Mr. John Davis, of Apia, to be Postmaster for the Kingdom of Samoa, and give him full power to enter into any arrangements with other countries he may consider necessary for the forwarding and delivery of letters and other mail matter to and from this country. Also hereby acknowledge the postage stamps hereto affixed as the Samoan postage stamps.

MALIETOA,
King of Samoa."

The stamps attached to the above document were the 1d. and 4d. "Palm-tree" design.

The *Philatelic Record*, of Feb. 1887, contains the following interesting notes on Issue II. (Palm-tree):—

"SAMOA.—The Navigator Islands are following in the wake of their neighbours, the Friendly or Tonga Islands, and providing a set of postage stamps. We do not know what is the present state of political affairs in these islands, but in the autumn of last year two kings were fighting for the supremacy. In default therefore, we suppose, of being able to exhibit the portrait of a reigning monarch, a device emblematic of the principal source of the wealth of the islands has been chosen, and a large cocoa-nut tree with two smaller ones in the background figures as the chief feature. The issue is to consist of values varying from ½d. up to two shillings, and is being manufactured under the direction of the Stamp Department at Wellington. The design will be the same for all values. The die is engraved by Mr. Cousins, of Wellington, and the electroplates have been made by Mr. Kirk, who superintends that branch at the Government printing office of New Zealand."

The engraver of this issue—Mr. A. E. Cousins—is well-known to philatelists, as he also engraved some of the stamps of New Zealand, besides the contemporary issues of Tonga and the Cook Islands.

The paper on which this issue was printed consisted of the current paper used for the stamps of New Zealand, that is to say "N.Z." over a star being the watermark.

The set at first consisted of the following denominations: ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 1/- and ½/6. At later dates, however, the following new values were added to the set: 2½d. (1892), 6d. (1893) and 5d. (1894).

As has already been stated, all the stamps that appeared in 1887 were of the Palm-tree design, whilst the 6d. which appeared in 1893 was also of the Palm-tree class.

The 2½d., on the other hand, which was issued in 1892, bore a portrait of King Malietoa in place of the palm.

The 5d. stamp is a very curious looking adhesive, its design being more simple than artistic. This stamp appeared in a much deeper shade in 1898.

The perforations of this issue form an interesting, if somewhat complicated, study.

All the stamps that appeared in 1887 were perforated 12½. In 1893 a new perforation appeared gauging 12 × 11½. The 2½d. of 1892 is consequently somewhat rare in the perf. 12 state. The 6d. stamp does, of course, not exist perf. 12½. In 1895 the stamps were perforated 11.

According to the catalogue these are the only perforations to be found, but this is not quite accurate as specimens are not uncommon with the perforations 12 and 11½ not compound. It seems probable that these latter perf. varieties emanated at the period of the 12 × 11½ compound.

A full list of the perforations, together with the shades known under each type of perf., is given at the synopsis at the end of the notes on this issue.

There are a few stamps which are uncommonly difficult to find with certain perfs. The 1/- and 2/6, perf. 12½, are rare used and unused, whilst the same two stamps, perf. 12 × 11½, are very hard to find in mint condition. None of the 11 perf. stamps are particularly hard to find, with the exception of the 1/- genuinely used.

It may be necessary to explain the term "genuinely used." There are, unfortunately, a very vast number of "postmarked to order" stamps of this issue; in fact it could be said that by far the greater portion of used specimens belong under this heading. In the *Pennsylvania Philatelist* of July, 1896, a certain Mr. H. H. Zobel wrote an article condemning a prominent firm in San Francisco for post-marking Samoan stamps "in full view of their patrons!" The above explains itself, but nevertheless there is surely some mild exaggeration? The fact remains that "post-marked to order" copies of this issue were on sale to a large extent in London, Sydney and San Francisco.

From various remarks that appeared in the philatelic press, it would appear that Post-

master Davis held a very enviable position in his postal monopoly. In *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* (1896) there was an article entitled "The Latest from Samoa," from which the following two paragraphs are of interest.

"Since September 20th, 1886, Mr. John Davis, of Apia, Samoa, has been by the grace of Malietoa Lanepapa, not only postmaster, but practically the entire post office department of that island country. His position is a parallel in a small way to the privilege enjoyed by the principal house of Thurn and Taxis for hundreds of years, until about 1868, throughout the greater part of Germany and Austria. In his independent position it is remarkable that he has created but one single issue of postage stamps, with a few surcharges actually made necessary by the exigencies of the time; and for this conservative and unselfish action we think all philatelists ought to be thankful.

"In the *Samoa Times* of Saturday, September 19th, we find a report made by apparently envious malevolent persons, who seek to oust Mr. Davis from his position. That our readers may be fully apprised of the plans of these persons, we publish the document in full, as it forms an interesting chapter of postal history. In all probability the scheme will not succeed, as the editorial comments in another portion of the paper from which we quote ably sustains Mr. Davis against the machinations of his enemies. . . ."

The two gentlemen making these allegations against Mr. Davis in the *Soamoun Times* were Messrs. E. A. Grevsmuhl and H. J. Moors. The contention of these gentlemen was that Mr. Davis' position as postmaster became vacant through the exile of Malietoa in 1887. This statement was effectually settled by the *Times*, which argued that Malietoa did not voluntarily relinquish his rights, and in the second place Malietoa had granted Mr. Davis' petition and no one but the King could take it away.

There was much discussion some years ago as to the status of issue II., it being openly avowed in many quarters that these stamps did not defray postage at all. There is no doubt that many letters going *via* San Francisco had to be additionally stamped with U.S.A. stamps, but nevertheless there is nothing to show that the "palm-tree" issue were not genuine postage stamps in every way.

During the month of April, 1895, a great fire broke out at Apia, destroying among other things, the post office and practically all the stamps with the exception of a few of the 1/- adhesives. The supply of the 1/- stamps not burned was very small, so it was decided not to surcharge them, but instead to *bisect* them, as the supply would then go further. It appears that this stamp was bisected diagonally, horizontally or vertically, whilst in addition it was also cut into *four* parts, each

quarter part doing its postal duty! The reason for this being that the bisected adhesive did postal duty for all values up to 1/-.

These bisects were used from April to end June, 1895. It is necessary to exercise caution in purchasing these splits, as there were a quantity created later for sale to collectors, the usual postmark (to order) being applied to the cut stamps.

The 2½d. stamp (rose) which appeared in 1892, bearing a portrait of Malietoa, made its appearance in 1896 printed in *black*, perf. 10×11. It is understood that this stamp was an error of colour, but nevertheless the supply was put on sale and used up, hence this "error" is quite common—the printing evidently having been a large one. The paper was the same as before, watermarked "N.Z." over a star.

SYNOPSIS OF ISSUE II.

1887		1893 ?	
Perf. 12½.	Perf. 12.	Perf. 11½.	
½d. dull purple	½d. purple	½d. dull purple	1d. blue-green
1d. emerald	½d. deep ditto	1d. blue-green	2d. orange (yellow)
2d. orange	4d. blue	2d. orange (yellow)	2½d. rose
2½d. rose [1892]	5d. red [1894]	2½d. rose	4d. blue
4d. blue	6d. brn-lake [1893]	4d. blue	5d. red
1/- rose		5d. red	6d. brown-lake
2/6 red-violet		6d. brown-lake	1/- rose
	1893	1895	
	Perf. 12×11½.	Perf. 11.	
	½d. dull purple	½d. dull purple	1d. blue-green
	1d. emerald	1d. blue-green	2d. orange
	2d. orange	2½d. rose	4d. blue (deep)
	2½d. rose	5d. red	5d. carmine [1898]
	4d. blue	6d. lake	6d. lake
	5d. red	1/- rose-carmine	1/- rose-carmine
	6d. brown	2/6 violet	2/6 violet
	6d. lake		
	1/- rose-carmine		
	2/6 violet		
	<i>Error.</i> 2½d. <i>black</i> .	Perf. 10×11.	
	<i>Bisect.</i> 1/- rose. (1895 April-June).		

I am indebted to *Morley's Philatelic Journal* for much of interest connected with the perforations.

THE 1893 PROVISIONALS.

Early in November, 1893, the first provisional made its appearance. There was a necessity for a 5d. denomination, and as this necessity was presumably immediate, it was found impracticable to wait until such a value could be manufactured and forwarded from New Zealand.

Accordingly the current 4d. stamp was surcharged FIVE PENCE in two lines in *black* ink: two horizontal bars obliterating the original value. The distance between the two bars and FIVE PENCE varies to a good extent. The words of value measure 6 mm. and 8½ mm. respectively. This surcharge was the first employed, and I will call it type I., as opposed to a later setting of a much smaller size type II. (4½ mm. and 6 mm).

In the large setting (type I.), the last stamp in the third horizontal row has no bars to

obliterate the original value: the surcharge FIVE PENCE being very low down on the stamp.

The following appeared in *The London Philatelist* of Sept., 1894: "Referring to the 4d. Samoa Fivepence, we have just received another sheet, in which the type is smaller and badly impressed. This is *not* a more recent issue, but is contemporary with the larger and clearer type. We fancy the surcharges were impressed by hand, one at a time, and perhaps two persons were engaged in the stamping, necessitating two stamps, which were set up in different type. This is only a surmise on our part, but it seems to us a reasonable explanation of these two types existing."

It is possible that both surcharges were contemporary during the later part of their usage, but it is certain that the large type surcharge was in use prior to type II. The type II. surcharge was much more irregular than type I., mishaped letters and minor varieties being legion. The obliterating bars consisted of one thick bar and one thin one: sometimes the thick bar is above, sometimes below.

On the first seven rows of stamps the thin bar is above the thick one, whilst in the case of the remaining three rows the thin bar is below the thick one.

The type II. provisionals are decidedly scarcer, both used and unused, than those of type I.

There does not seem to be much information as to which of the two surcharges appeared first. "D.C.G." in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, says: "It does not appear to be known which of these two printings was the earlier, but possibly the smaller type was used first, and being found unsatisfactory was abandoned for the larger." This certainly sounds logical, but I am inclined to think that the larger type (I.) was first used; the scarcity of type II. being because it was issued later and almost immediately followed by a new surcharge. The FIVE PENCE surcharge was used from November to December, 1893.

Sometime in December, 1893, it was found that the *black* surcharge did not show up well on the *blue* 4d. adhesive, so accordingly a new surcharge was resorted to in *red* ink. This new surcharge consisted of a large "5d" with bars as usual to obliterate the original value. Sometimes there are *two* obliterating bars, whilst specimens exist with only *one* bar.

As in the case of the "lettered" surcharge, there are again two types, the difference lying in the position of the "d" as regards the "5." The following two examples show both types:

Type I.	5d
Type II.	5d

Type II. is by far the rarer stamp.

There are numerous minor varieties, the

only real *errors* being double and inverted surcharges. These provisionals were used until January 26th, 1894, when the regular 5d. adhesive arrived.

The FIVE PENCE provisionals were perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

The 5d. were perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ *only* (as far as I know).

SYNOPSIS OF 1893 PROVISIONALS.

(a) Perf. 11. (b) Perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

"FIVE PENCE" on 4d. blue, type I. (large) } Perf.
 "FIVE PENCE" on 4d. blue, type II. (small) } a & b.

Error. Double surcharge, type II. a & b.

Varieties. Without obliterating bars, type I. a & b.

"5d." on 4d. blue, type I. } Perf. b.
 "5d." on 4d. blue, type II. }

Errors. Inverted surcharge, type II. b.
 Double surcharge, type II. b.

THE 1895 PROVISIONALS.

On January 28th, 1895, two more provisionals were brought into use, both of them being rather unnecessary one would imagine? The 2d. orange was the stamp that on this occasion was surcharged. In the first place it may be well to state that this particular stamp is found in *orange* and *yellow*.

The first surcharge was for a $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination, the stamps being surcharged with the word "Surcharged" and " $1\frac{1}{2}$ d." in two lines in pale blue. At a later date this surcharge was applied in bright ultramarine ink.

The stamps surcharged in pale blue were perforated 11 and $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, the hue of the stamp being orange. As far as I can find out the ultramarine surcharge is only found on the yellow stamps, the perf. being 11, very clean cut.

In 1900 the proprietor of the Samoan post received a large number of orders for this provisional (and the next one described), so in order not to disappoint, this good gentleman had both provisionals reprinted to order, with which he executed his many customers instructions. It has been argued that the yellow stamp with ultramarine surcharge is *not* a reprint, on the ground that used copies are known to exist. In most cases this would be a decisive point, but in the case of Samoa is it a proof against reprints? Surely this obliging official, who goes to the trouble of having reprints made—to fill "wants"—would not mind postmarking a few specimens for those who required used provisionals? If this stamp is not a reprint it seems rather odd that it is a different colour (stamp and surcharge) and that the perforation is also different (cleaner cut) to the provisionals as they were first issued in 1895.

The second provisional (issued on the same day as the " $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.") consisted of the 2d. orange surcharged "R" above "3d." in black. The "R" of this surcharge stands for "Registered," this provisional being used almost—if not quite—exclusively for the prepayment of registered

matter. As in the case of the "1½d." provisional, the 2d. stamp is known in orange and yellow with the "R 3d." surcharge, whilst the perforations found are 11 and $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$. This stamp exists with double surcharge.

(To be continued.)

A New Issue.

By "A.A.M."

UNDER the above heading there is, in the July 5th issue of *Punch*, a capital article. By special permission from the Proprietors of that paper, we reproduce it in an abbreviated form.

"Do you know anything about stamps?" asked my young friend Bobby.

"Do I—what?"

"Know anything about stamps?"

"My dear Bobby," I said, "I know everything about everything."

"I bet you don't. You don't know what Tomlinson's average is this term."

"Ah, now you've just hit upon the one thing—"

"Well, it's thirty-eight."

"Batting or bowling?"

Bobby looked coldly at me.

I was going to ask you about my stamp," he said; "but if you're going to be funny—"

"I'm not, I promise. This isn't my day for levity. Show me the stamp."

I collected stamps when I was Bobby's age. Sometimes I come across a letter stamped with the representation of a volcano or an iceberg or a couple of jaguars—whatever it may be—and I have sent it off eagerly to some youthful philatelist; to receive a week later such formal thanks as are generally reserved for the man who offers you a large Cabbage White for your butterfly collection.

"It's just got a lion or something on it, and a josser's head, and some other things," said Bobby, searching in his pocket. "Uncle Henry sent it to me."

The description seemed to apply to a good many stamps.

"Any words?"

"Wait a sec.," said Bobby, and he ran it to ground in his right-hand trouser pocket. "Here it is."

It could claim to be unused, and by so much the more valuable, but another week or two in Bobby's pocket might have invalidated its claim.

"Who is the josser?" said Bobby.

"It's nobody I know," I said, looking at it closely, "unless—no—it isn't your uncle William, is it?"

"I believe it's Australian," said Bobby.

"It's just the colour of some of the Australian stamps."

"Sometimes you can tell by the gum. The

gum from the Australian gum tree tastes quite different from any other sort."

Bobby tasted it carefully. "It's just like ordinary gum," he said, when he had finished it.

"Anyhow," he said, "it's awfully decent of Uncle Henry, isn't it? I believe it's most beastly rare."

"Well, look here, I'll tell you what I'll do. I'm lunching to-morrow with a man who's a great philatelist, and I'll ask him."

"Oh, I say, thanks awfully," said Bobby.

* * *

My philatelist had never heard of it. No doubt I described it badly; my memories were a little vague for one thing, and for another I was probably wrong to have assumed that it went into Bobby's pocket the same smudgy colour as it came out. He was interested, however, in the gum test, and proposed that it should be sent to him for examination. I wrote to Bobby to this effect and went into the post-office for a stamp.

"One?" said the lady.

"Only one," I admitted humbly.

She threw one at me. I picked it up and then gave a jump.

"Where did you get this from?" I cried.

"Did Uncle Henry send you one, too?"

"Do you want another one?"

"Why have you got any more?" I asked excitedly. "What could you let me have a dozen for?"

"A shilling."

"Done," I said gladly, thinking how Bobby would like them for exchange. "Oh, and I want a penny stamp, please."

She threw another one of the same kind at me.

"I asked for a simple penny English stamp," I began sarcastically, "and you give me another of these rare Tasman—" Then it occurred to me quite suddenly that perhaps I was an ass.

"Tell me," I said, getting hot and cold all over, "who is this gentleman?" and I indicated the top part of the stamp.

"That is the KING."

"Of England?"

"And Scotland and Ireland and Wales and—"

"Yes, yes. And who is this?"

"That's a lion."

"Just an ordinary lion? You're sure it's not meant for anybody particular?"

"Yes. Do you want another one?"

"No, thank you," I said sadly, and I took my stamp home with me. I put it on another envelope, and wrote another letter to Bobby.





JULY 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The June number of the *London Philatelist* is very largely devoted to the lengthy report read at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Society. This makes good general reading but is not of much use to us as reviewers.

We note that the season 1910-11 showed a gain of seventeen members, while the losses totalled fifteen, of which number two names were "removed under the rules." Whatever this last may mean, it seems, if our memory serves us, a fairly constant event.

The following short extract from Mr. Tilleard's report provides matter for reflection:—

Notwithstanding the fact that the papers and displays have been of the highest order of merit, and could not be excelled, even if they could be equalled, elsewhere, I regret to have to report that the average attendance of members at the meetings has only numbered eighteen, a falling off even from the small average of the previous year. It is not the first time that I have had to call attention to the apparent lack of interest of members in the meetings, and the discouraging effect that the small attendance cannot fail to have upon those who are kind enough to provide material for our entertainment. The subject is one that causes some anxiety, and the Council would gladly welcome suggestions from Fellows for infusing a greater interest in the meetings on the part of the general body of members.

We learn with pleasure that Mr. M. P. Castle, the editor of the *London Philatelist*, has been made a member of the Fourth Class of the Royal Victorian Order. This honour, we believe, was bestowed on all Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Royal Societies.

A lengthy report of the Birmingham Congress, Occasional Notes, New Issues, and a very capable letter from Mr. Hugo Griebert relating to Mr. Pack's criticisms on his Uruguay book, completes our review of the principal items in the *L.P.*

The June number of the *Monthly Journal* devotes eighteen of its pages to a report of the Birmingham Philatelic Congress. Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes an instalment of his article dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. He writes about the provisionals of 1902-3 and the regular issues of 1903-4. Monsieur Pierre Mahé continues to write about the stamps of Brazil—his current instalment deals with the bi-coloured 300 reis stamp of 1878 and the 100 reis olive-green of 1883-85. He illustrates his article with the aid of enlarged blocks showing the retouches. We cannot understand why M. Mahé has omitted all reference to the most interesting "Emperor" issues of 1866 to 1879 (excepting the 300 reis of 1878).

Some interesting "Australian" news, a short description of the recently issued Italian Commemoratives, a couple of pages of "Topical Notes," New Issue list, etc., completes a not-up-to-its-usual-standard number of our Strand contemporary.

In our May number we made an extract from the *M.J.* relating to Austrian Foreign Post Offices. It now appears that there were a good many mistakes of spelling in this article, which of course were copied into this paper. Mr. W. N. Wyeth sends the *M.J.* the following list of corrections:

OFFICES CLOSED.

Botuschain	should be	Botuschani
Cgnerawota	"	Czernawoda
Fokschau	"	Fokschan
Ronian	"	Roman
Takutscha	"	Tultscha
Belgrade	"	Belgrad
Cesure	"	Cesme
Liros	"	Leros

STILL OPEN.

Gneboli	should be	Ineboli
Messina	"	Mersina
Metchino	"	Metelino
Rodus	"	Rhodus
Salonick	"	Salonich
Trapezuint	"	Trapezunt

The only article in the June 10th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* of any note is the completion of Mr. R. S. Archer's paper, entitled "Some of the World's Postal Arrangements." The writer describes Pitcairn Island, Canadian, Chinese, Indian and other methods of dealing with the mails. The following information, if quite reliable, shows an extremely primitive method of dealing with letters which have to pass through several countries.

Well, as far as I can make out, a rate for each country has been fixed, and is liable to alteration, at the annual meeting of the Postal Union in Switzerland, so that by this rate can be determined how much shall be charged per letter by the various countries for allowing same to pass over the land. For instance, I, in Switzerland, post a letter for New York. Now, this letter, after leaving the Swiss Post Office, will travel over French and English railways, and American land before finally being delivered into the hands of the addressee. The Postal Union, therefore, decide that, for the work incurred to the various Postal Authorities in each country through which the mail passes, a certain charge per letter will be made. In this case, there are four countries concerned, so it might be decided in such a case to give a fourth of the postage on the letters to the Exchequer of each land.

To ascertain the amount to be handed over annually by the Government of, say, England, to that of France, there are two annual counts of letters, one in summer and one in winter.

At these counts, which are taken at no set date, the entire mail which is to pass through French territory is counted with feverish haste by postal clerks of the various post offices, working overtime, if necessary, so that the mail may not be delayed, and the number of letters on these two occasions is taken as the average of the summer and winter posts from England, through France, and the charges made accordingly to the rates set down by the Postal Union.

The June 24th edition of the same paper contains a careful description of the new ½d. and 1d. King George stamps, a brief *résumé* of the Birmingham Congress, some exciting particulars relating to Exhibitions to be held at Chicago, and Georgetown, British Guiana, and a letter from Hong Kong relating how the high value stamps of that Colony have been extensively cleaned. We are told:—

As regards the result of this prosecution for collectors, the high value stamps of Hong Kong, from a dollar upwards in used condition, will be scarce things in future. None over a dollar are certainly ever used for postal purposes, and documents ought to be stamped with the separate revenue stamps available for the purpose, though the Colonial Government has not been very strict in this matter in the past. The two dollar King Edward will be a stamp well worth looking for.

Mr. E. T. Phillips contributes a paper (read before the Northampton Philatelic Society), entitled "Of what should a Collection of Postage Stamps consist?"

This gentleman has condensed some very excellent philatelic precepts into his

article, and the following extract may possibly provide some of our readers with a little brain nourishment:—

Until any stamp is used for the purpose intended or allowed, it simply remains an "unused label," and is not entitled to be called a "postage stamp" any more than the unused receipt form is entitled to be called a receipt.

The postmarked copy cannot be ignored, as you depend upon it for catalogue rank, and in most cases you depend upon the postmark for date of issue.

Respecting the "cancelled to order" variety of label, this rubbish should never be included in any collection of stamps. In fact, these labels should never be bought under any consideration, as they have never been *postally* used, and cannot be used if required, whereas many an unused label can still be used, and is worth face value for this purpose.

In concluding my remarks on the unused postage label, I have an idea that if collectors would not purchase *new issues* unused, it would be a great help towards putting a stop to the quantity of labels that have the suspicion of being issued *simply* because there are collectors of these things.

An instance of this kind has just occurred in our own country. A stamp, issued to commemorate the South African Union, is being sold at the office of the High Commissioner in London. The stamp sold here has never been to South Africa, nor even been to a post office. Why are these labels being sold here? Simply because there are collectors of these things and *not* because they are required for postage, postage being only an excuse to dip still farther into the pockets of that patient sufferer, "the collector of unused labels."

The intrinsic value of an unused label is very small, and if sold at face value is the means of a country making a large profit from collectors.

If every purchaser of these new issues purchased only for the benefit derived from using them *postally*, the revenue from the sale of these labels would be greatly reduced, and the temptation to create unnecessary issues would be greatly diminished, and also help to do away with the practice of the selling of "remainders."

Collectors of anything other than postage labels are very chary of collecting things that have a suspicion of being created for them only. A collector should only collect things that come into being on their own account, as it were, and not on his.

The July 8th *Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. L. C. Sadezky a youthful collector of Hamburg, a capital budget of Mr. Irwin Faris's New Zealand "Notes," and a paper contributed by Mr. E. Philpot-Crowther, entitled "The Future of the Philatelic Congress."

The June number of the *Stamp Collector*, which is the official organ of the Birmingham Philatelic Society is, as is only right and natural, completely taken up with a full well written report of the recently held Birmingham Congress. In fact some matter relating to the Congress is held over until next month. We do not wish to belittle British Congresses, far from it, we firmly believe in their importance, but we regret to see so many of the London papers devoting so much of their space to verbatim reports. Birmingham

has an excellent philatelic paper in the *Stamp Collector*, and its editor can be safely trusted to give a full report, this being so there is no need for a leading London paper like the *Monthly Journal* to devote 18 pages to a detailed report. Subscribers to both the *M.J.* and the *S.C.* will therefore have a good dose of "Congress," to say nothing of the dozen other papers which evidently find "Congress" matter good copy.

The *West End Philatelist* for June contains a lengthy instalment of its editor's paper, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Grenada." We do not find any original information. Mr. Séfi also contributes the completion of his paper dealing with the postal communications of Paris during the Siege of 1870, and some very excellent notes, under the heading, "Things Worth Knowing," relating to the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine. Amongst other items we are told that a letter addressed from Bordeaux to Lille was at least seven days on the road and travelled via Poitiers, Nantes, Rennes, Cherbourg, Southampton, London, Dover, and Calais.

We are also told that :—

The various cancellation marks form, perhaps, the most interesting section of a collection of these stamps. A complete collection forms in itself a most valuable record of the Franco-Prussian War. The first cancellations we meet with are the French date stamps, such as those of Nancy, Strassbourg, Colmar, Metz, &c.; these were appropriated by the Germans and used until replaced by their own cancellations. In the open towns the French had instructed the employees of the Postal and Telegraph Service to retreat and destroy their implements if it was impossible to save them from the hands of the enemy. The Germans, however, on entering such towns immediately demanded that the post offices should be re-opened, and so the old dating stamps were often brought into use again; thus one finds the ordinary French cancellations of Melun, Soissons, Amiens, &c.

In many towns the old cancelling stamps had been effectively destroyed, in which case the Germans ordered the municipalities to replace them. These new dating stamps generally differ entirely from the older ones, as, for instance, those of Epinal and Rouen, which are in thick lettering, in circles, and bear as date only 1871.

It is a noteworthy fact that all those towns which Germany most coveted were provided from the very start with dating stamps in the German language.

Philately in the Colonies.

The *Australian Stamp Journal* for May contains a very interesting account of philately in New Zealand, as seen by

Mr. Wilfrid E. Johnson, of Sydney, when he paid a short visit to the Dominion.

Mr. Johnson describes some of the collections he inspected and gives a good list of the treasures therein. One collector, we are told, possesses a complete pane of ½d. Pictorial green (N.Z.) with compound perfs. (S.G. 260) which is somewhat of a curiosity by reason of the fact that one of the original stamps appears to have been damaged in some way, it was therefore cut out and a single stamp of a darker shade gummed in with strips of paper, which were then perforated.

We make the following extract from Mr. Johnson's article:—

While in Auckland I was informed that I could buy the current issues of Aitutaki, Niue, Penryhn and Cook Islands at face value at the General Post Office, and therefore added to my collection whilst I had the opportunity. By the courtesy of the officials I was allowed to look at the full sheets, and thereby "plated" some of the varieties which are catalogued. In the 1d. Niue the stamps on which the wider space between "u" and "e" occurs are the third and sixth in the third row, and the third and sixth in the eighth row, of the latter the third has no stop, and is the one catalogued as No. 21. The third stamp in the bottom row also has no stop, and possibly there are others that I did not notice. I was told that the 2½d. without stop had been corrected since the first printing. The ½d. spaced "u" and "e" occurs, if I remember rightly, in the same position as on the 1d., but in this case no stops are absent. In Penryhn Island the 1d. without stop (S.G. No. 10) is the last stamp on the pane, whilst of the 2½d. spaced between ¼ and Peni, there are ten in the sheet being the vertical middle strip. The difference in space from the normal stamp is approximately 1mm. The ½d. is known with the stop missing after Island.

The New Zealand Postage Due stamps can also be obtained at the post office, and without the necessity of correspondence with the P.M.G., as in Sydney. The latest type (S.G. No. 162), with red centre, has only been used so far, for the ½d., 1d. and 2d., the original type (S.G. No. 161) being used for the other values, which run up to 2s.

Of the present King's Head issue I gathered that the 5d. perf. 14 × 14½ is the scarcest, and that in the used varieties the 2d. and 8d. were comparatively difficult to get, the former especially so, whilst the imminence of a new issue is causing holders to sit tight. The official stamps are now unobtainable by collectors unused, and this fact should considerably enhance the value of those already held in that condition. The Government Life Insurance Department now uses the overprinted official stamps, and I understand that the re-drawn Insurance without V.R. are somewhat scarce, particularly the 2d. brown perf. 11. The 1½d. in khaki shade is another of the recent stamps that seems very scarce.

We also find, among other items of interest, a well written history of recent Gilbert and Ellice, and New Hebrides stamps. Regarding the former stamps we extract the following:—

From what we can gather, the supply of the first Gilbert and Ellice amounted to a gross value of £600 or £700.

Shortly after the post office was opened at Ocean

Island the postmaster was inundated with orders for stamps, one order being for £500 worth, and another for £200 worth, which, of themselves, would have absorbed his entire supply, not to speak of numerous smaller orders: so he decided (and very wisely too) to retain as far as possible all his stock for regular postal purposes, until such time as he received a supply of the permanent stamps. The result of which is that the "provisionals" have, so far as is generally known, only filtered through to stamp dealers and collectors in very small quantities.

Assuming, for the sake of argument, that £700 worth were sent out, and that the supply consisted of £100 worth of each value (there are seven denominations), this would make:—

48,000	½d.	9,600	2½d.
24,000	1d.	4,800	5d.
12,000	2d.	4,000	6d.
		2,000	1s.

Even supposing that all these stamps reached the philatelic "market," it will be seen readily that the supply would be amazingly inadequate to "go round."

It may also be taken for granted that the bulk of these stamps will eventually get into the hands of dealers and collectors, but even so, this issue is likely to be in demand at a very considerable premium.

After the institution of Earl Crewe's famous circular one cannot help wondering how it has happened that the spirit of that circular if not the letter has been broken so soon. It seems incredible that such a small supply should have been sent out, for it must have been known that stamp collectors would be anxious to have specimens of the "first issue."

A glance at the figures already given show that only 17 sheets (120 stamps) of the 1s., 34 sheets of the 6d., 40 sheets of the 5d., 80 sheets of the 2½d., 100 sheets of the 2d., 200 sheets of the 1d., and 400 sheets of the ½d. were presumably printed. Is it reasonable to imagine that any sane person would only order such a small quantity (especially of the higher values) to be prepared, yet the facts remain, and they certainly call for a rigid investigation. Are these stamps being distributed on a fair basis, or is it a case of "kissing goes by favour." If the latter, those who are parties to such behaviour should be brought to "book."

Then again the so-called permanent "Screw Pine" series has hardly reached Ocean Island until we hear on good authority that it is likely to be superseded in the very near future by another series bearing a portrait of His Majesty King George V. We scarcely know what to make of it all. There is apparently, to use a vulgarism, some "hankey pankey" business going on, and we should like to get at the bottom of it.

Some sets of the ½d., 1d., 2d. and 2½d. values have been sold locally at 10s. the four, and we have heard of one complete set changing hands at £2. These may be good investments or they may not, time will tell. The whole affair seems to be a straight-out gamble, and we cannot advise our readers as to whether they ought to buy at such tall prices or not, they must use their own discretion.

The *A.S.J.* is going very strong. All collectors of Australasians should write to 50, Castlereagh Street, Sydney, for a specimen copy.

The *Australian Philatelist* for May contains a very readable article, entitled "The Overprinted Service Stamps of New South Wales," wherein the author, Mr. W. J. McNeill, draws attention to the fact that these stamps have received but little attention at the hands of collectors. Several short notes of interest to

collectors of Australasians, "Reviews," "Extracts," etc., completes our brief review.

Philately on the Continent.

According to *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, the new Belgian stamps will not make their appearance until October. The design consists of the bust of the King, three-quarter face, in the uniform of a general, the chest adorned with the grand cordon of the *ordre national*, the head uncovered. This is enclosed in a rectangular frame composed of two thin lines. The name "Belgique" appears above and "Belgie" below, with the value. The artist is M. Edw. Pellens. We are not told whether the Sunday labels will be continued, at any rate we have lately been led to expect that these rather ridiculous pendants were to be abolished in future issues.

We also learn, from the same journal, that forged stamps of one piastre, 1909 issue, with signature of the new Sultan, having been put in circulation at Smyrna, the Ottoman Government has decided to issue a new set of stamps. A competition of designs is said to have already taken place. All this seems rather unnecessary, for we are further told that the forgeries are very easy to detect, as the word, "piastre," is *spelt wrongly*, having a final "s."

L'Echo de la Timbrologie. The following paragraph from the number dated May 15th, may be of interest to readers who send stamps abroad:—

"In announcing in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for April 15th, that alone, among all countries, Holland exacts a customs duty on all stamps which cross its frontier," we were, it seems in error. This affirmation is now contradicted by the letter of a Russian subscriber, who informs us that he had to pay 2fr.30 customs duty for the entry into that country of one *kilo* of common stamps, value 4 fr."

The number of *L'Echo* for May 31st gives an account of the sale by auction, on the 28th and 29th April, of the collection of M. Stubenvoll, which was particularly rich in Europeans. Many very fine specimens on pieces or on entire letters, realized three and even four times catalogue quotations. The following are some of the most interesting:—

	ALL USED.	Fr.
Germany, 1870,	2 kr. black & grey, Official	90.20
" "	7 kr. " " "	20.80
Alsace, 1870,	1c. olive, inverted net. ...	68.20
" "	2c. brown " " "	47.30
" "	5c. green " " "	66.00
" "	25c. brown " " "	30.80
Bremen, 1861,	2 gr. orange, on piece ...	247.50
" "	10 gr. black " " "	93.50
" "	1866, 2 gr. orange, on entire ...	100.10
" "	10 gr. black, on piece ...	111.10
Brunswick, 1852,	1 sgr. rose ...	42.90
" "	3 sgr. red ...	34.10

Sicily, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. orange, strip of four, the first stamp with long beard, the third with head lengthened at the back of the neck, on letter with superb pair of 10 gr. black-blue, on azure paper, very fine print	500.50
„ 1 gr. olive, pair on letter	44.—
„ 5 gr. vermilion, on piece	92.40
„ 5 gr. carmine „	38.50
„ 10 gr. black-blue „	24.20
„ 20 gr. lilac-grey, on entire	181.50
„ 50 gr. red-brown „	231.—
Hamburg, 1859, 9s. orange... ..	236.50
Oldenburg, 1860, $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. deep orange	254.10

At a sale held by the late M. Bernichon, a specialized collection of United States was dispersed. The following prices are interesting:

U.S., 1901, Buffalo, 1c., inverted centre... ..	333.—
„ „ „ 2c. „	914.10
„ „ „ 4c. „	1650.—

The above prices evidently include the auctioneer's commission of 10%, which, in France, is paid by the purchaser.

To the revised German method of spelling the name of Morocco (Marokko for Marocco), we are indebted for an article on this subject from the pen of Herr Kosack in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* of June 30th. He deals with the quantities of stamps with the older overprint on watermarked paper, and advises his readers to be chary of purchasing at the present high prices; there is sure to be a drop before long. In the same number, Mr. Paul Friedländer warmly recommends the stamps of Indian Native States to the serious attention of German collectors.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* mentions that a letter has just been found in the archives of the Chamber of Commerce in Marseilles which was addressed by King Louis the XIII. in 1630 to the Sultan Amurath; this letter was sent to Marseilles to be forwarded by the Chamber of Commerce, and was unaccountably "delayed in transmission," in point of fact it has only just turned up. Probably a record!

The same journal has a scientific article on the change of colour so frequently occurring in ultramarine stamps owing to atmospheric and other causes. This is due to the employment of artificial ultramarine for printing purposes, the genuine colour, produced from lapis lazuli being too expensive. The next number of the same periodical gives from official sources the numbers printed of the 1910 centenary issue of Chili as under:—

1c.	6,000,000.
2c.	8,000,000.
3c.	1,000,000.
5c.	30,000,000.
10 to 50c.,	each 1,000,000.
1 and 2 pesos,	each 50,000.
5 „	20,000.
10 „	10,000.

These figures do not agree with those published by the *Bulletin Philatélique*, which are also said to be derived from official sources.



The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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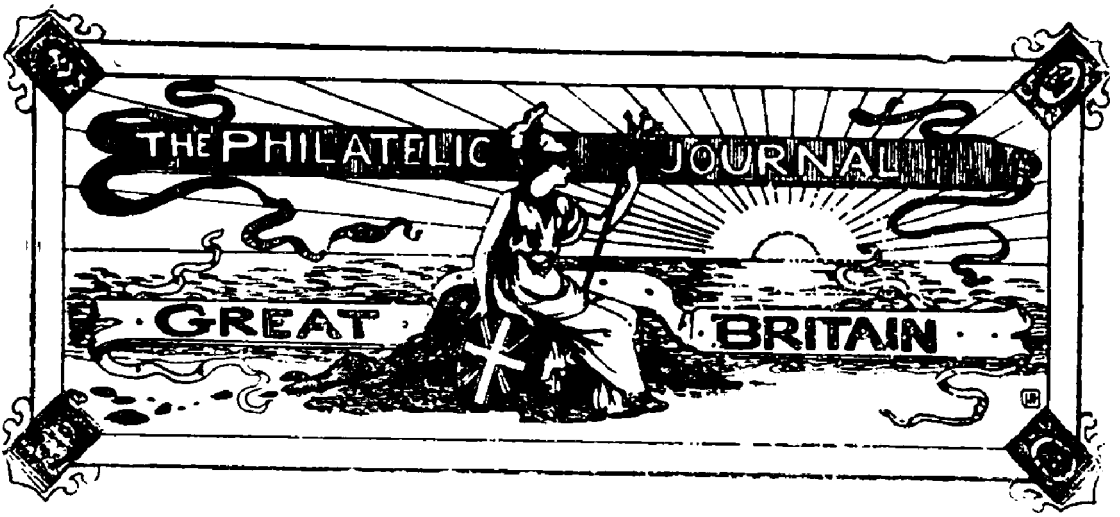
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UP to the date of our going to press (July 17th) we have not received the June number of the *Philatelic Record*. We trust our esteemed contemporary is well. Neither have we received the July number of the *Stamp Lover*. We believe, however, that August will witness the event of a grand double number.

* * *

Do you want an up-to-date, interesting, punctual, and good all round journal, for your Society's official organ? If so, write to the publishers of the *P.J.G.B.*



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

No. 248. VOL. XXI.

AUGUST 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

LAST month we published a short editorial dealing with one of the recently formed rules of a well-known Provincial Philatelic Society. This month we should like to draw attention to a matter of importance

Lost in Transit. to all members of Societies who patronize their various Exchange Sections.

The matter we refer to has been brought to our attention by a well-known London dealer who, at the request of the Secretary of the Herts Philatelic Society, sent in a sheet of scarce stamps to be circulated in the Society's packet. The dealer in question is a member of the Herts and as such agrees to the rules which govern this section of a very admirable Philatelic Society. The packet containing the sheet in question was circulated in France and apparently was tampered with while in the post with the regrettable result that one sheet at least was lost. The secretary is certainly not responsible for this, nor is the Society, but it also seems unfair that the member who has lost stamps to the value of £16 or so, should have to bear the total loss. In some instances the loss of one or two sheets of valuable stamps might be a serious matter for certain members of Philatelic Clubs, who buy

and sell at a price which leaves but a very narrow margin of profit; it would be well for such contributors to consider the fact that in one Society at least there is no redress for the possible loss of valuable property in such circumstances.

We do not wish to cast any reflections on the method in which the Exchange Section of the Herts Philatelic Society is managed, in fact we are quite sure it could not be possible for any club to have a better conducted branch, at the same time one member has had a valuable sheet of stamps extracted from the packet and it seems he has to grin and bear a loss, which, unless we err, is possible at any time to occur to the members of this, or of other less carefully conducted societies.

While we are on the subject of exchange packets we should like to lay special stress on the fact that club secretaries cannot be too careful whom they admit to membership. The strength of a chain is in its weakest link; should there be a member in the fold whose knowledge of numismatics and stamps becomes so extremely elementary that one fine morning he purposely forgot to forward a packet on its rounds it would be a serious matter for some at least of the members who had trusted him with valuable selections.

Samoa.

THE SECOND ISSUE.

By R. E. R. DALWIGK.

(Continued from page 135.)

In February, 1900, the *yellow* 2d. stamp was surcharged "R 3d." in *green*, and the status of this stamp seems to be somewhat obscure. It has been stated that this variety is a reprint, on the other hand this assertion has been flatly denied. Although feeling fairly confident that this stamp is a reprint, I cannot back up this idea very substantially; my chief reason being that I think the 1½d. provisional is beyond doubt a reprint, therefore it seems safe to assume that the 1900 *green* surcharged 2d. is also a reprint, as both came upon the market about the same time.

The postmaster, however, on being questioned as to the status of this printing, replied: "The 3d. stamp, surcharged in green, on 2d. yellow, was printed on 7th February, 1900"—he then went on to say that no reprints had been made of the later stamps.

If this information is reliable, it does away with the so-called reprints, but is this information to be relied upon? The date of this printing and the little that seems to be known about it, certainly does not give one the right impression of their postal necessity.

SYNOPSIS.

(a) Perf. 11. (b) 12 × 11½. (c) 11½.

1895. 1½d. in pale blue on 2d. orange (band c, rarely a).
 1900. 1½d. in ultramarine on 2d. yellow (a) *reprint*?
Error. 1½d. in pale blue on 2d. orange (a and c) *double surcharge.*
 1895. 3d. in black on 2d. orange (b and c).
 3d. in black on 2d. yellow-orange (a and c).
 1900. 3d. in green on 2d. yellow (a) *reprint*?
Error. 3d. in black on 2d. orange (b and c) *double surcharge.*

It must be understood that the perforations in this instance are difficult, and the list given above contains only those I have seen, consequently there are some omissions.

The yellow shade of the 2d. stamp appeared prior to the reprint (?) surcharges, but none of the earlier surcharged stamps are such a prominent yellow as those issued in 1900 with the surcharges.

THE 1898-99 PROVISIONALS.

Once having got the taste to issue provisionals, Samoa soon became a very hardened sinner at the occupation. In 1898 there was a shortage (?) of 2½d. stamps, a shortage which was responsible for a surcharging mania. No less than three different denominations were surcharged into 2½d. stamps, but not even this was sufficient for the energetic officials! Red and black inks must be brought into use to give additional interest to the provisionals! It is only fair, however, to state that there was a certain amount of sense in the use of the

two coloured inks, as it is obvious that a red surcharge would not show up well on a stamp printed in some reddish colour.

At the same time there is no reason why a black surcharge could not have been used alone.

The surcharge employed was "Surcharged 2½d." in two lines in red or black as the case may be. It seems rather quaint that the word "Surcharged" was considered necessary—was this a precaution in case philatelists should think they were *overprinted*!

The 1d. green, 1/- rose or carmine, and 2/6 mauve were the stamps that were used to supply the deficiency of 2½d. stamps. The red surcharge was used on the 1d. and 1/- stamps, the black being used on the 1/- and 2/6. It will be seen that the 1/- adhesive was therefore surcharged in red as well as black. The red surcharge on a carmine stamp was probably not very satisfactory, hence the black surcharge on the 1/-. This, however, cannot have been the cause for the change, as the *black* surcharge was used *prior* to the red one.

In the *Philatelic Record* for Dec. 1898 the following appeared, which seems to prove that these provisionals were not issued through any shortage of the 2½d. value:—

"SAMOA.—Messrs. Sellschopp write:—After the death of King Malietoa it was deemed advisable to withdraw the old 2½d. stamps with his picture, and the postmaster had a lot of 1/- provisionally surcharged 2½d. From entire sheets we find that the surcharging has been done by hand, every stamp being surcharged singly."

The statement that the surcharge was struck singly does not strike one as correct, it being more likely that the surcharge was struck on *at least three* stamps at a time.

The important errors are the 2½d. on 1d. inverted surcharge and the 2½d. on 1/- (*black* surcharge) double surcharge.

Among minor varieties there is a variation in which the dot after 2½d. is tall and square. There are also two types of the "½" of "2½." In type I., the "½" is longer than the "2"; in type II. the "½" is the same size as the "2."

These stamps are perforated 11 and are scarce used.

SYNOPSIS.

Perf. 11.			
(a) Red surcharge.	(b) Black surcharge.		
2½d. on 1d. green	(a).	Types I. and II.	
2½d. on 1/- rose	(b).	"	"
2½d. on 1/- carmine (a and b).		"	"
2½d. on 2/6 mauve	(b).	"	"

N.B.—Type I., “ $\frac{1}{2}$ ” longer than “2.” Type II., “ $\frac{1}{2}$ ” same size as “2.”

Variety. Tall square dot after 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on all values.

Errors. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 1d. green. (a) *inverted surcharge*. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 1/- carmine. (b) *double surcharge*.

THE THIRD ISSUE, 1899. CHANGE OF COLOURS.

In 1899 the colours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps were changed from brown-violet and green to green and red-brown respectively. This change was made necessary by the regulations of the Postal Union, Samoa joined the U.P.U. on May 8th, 1900, being in Class VI. Neither of the above stamps appear to be very plentiful in used condition. As it is so long ago since the permanent issue of 1887, it may be of interest to give the list again, with the shades as in use in 1899.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. green	5d. deep carmine
1d. red-brown	6d. marone
2d. yellow-ochre	1/- rose
4d. deep blue	2/6 mauve

The above are—as before—the “Palm-tree” issue.

THE “PROVISIONAL GOVT.” ISSUE.

In 899 the 2d. stamp appeared surcharged PROVISIONAL—GOVT in red in two lines. The complete set gradually appeared with the same surcharge, either in red or blue. This was the last issue that postmaster Davis was connected with. The whole issue was nothing more than a ruse to make money out of philatelists. Mr. Davis had held his monopoly for a good many years, and had without doubt grown fat upon his proceeds, so in an ambitious moment he crowns all his previous efforts by issuing the above worthless labels.

There are not (fortunately) many instances in postal history where a private individual has had such a complete monopoly. It is, of course, very easy to condemn postmaster Davis, but it must not be forgotten that the provisionals could have been much worse and more numerous had the postmaster so wished. Mr. Davis' job was his business, and it is only natural that he should have tried to make as much money as possible: the temptations of such a position being enormous.

A point which goes to prove that Mr. Davis was not as bad as he is pictured, is that the “Provisional Govt.” issue has no errors; doubtless he could have ordered a few to be specially made had he so wished?

As is well known Samoa up to the present time (1899) had been controlled by Great Britain, Germany and U.S.A. In 1899, however, Great Britain gave up her rights in exchange for other concessions—thus leaving the division of the islands to Germany and U.S.A.

It is hardly necessary to give a synopsis of the “Provisional Govt.” stamps, as they are precisely the same as those listed at the end of the last issue.

- (i.) Surcharged in red. $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 4d. and 2/6.
- (ii.) Surcharged in blue. 1d., 5d., 6d. and 1/-.

THE FIRST GERMAN ISSUE 1900.

In 1900 the postal system of Samoa was put on a sound footing by the representatives of Germany and U.S.A. The American Colony of Tutuila used ordinary unsurcharged current stamps of the U.S.A.: the only means of identifying them being by the postmark.

The Germans, on the other hand, produced a special set for Samoa, by overprinting current German stamps SAMOA diagonally from lower left to upper right hand corner in black ink. As is the usual rule with most overprinted German Colonial stamps there are no varieties or errors to be found in the overprint.

Shades of the lower values are to be found. The gum varies to a small degree, whilst the overprint is said to exist with variations in the thickness of the lettering. This latter difference is of no importance, as the inking used for the printing account for slight variations.

It is probable that this set will soon rise in value. Most of the German Colonial stamps are much rarer than catalogue quotations would suggest, and this Samoan issue is no exception to the rule.

The stamps themselves are surface printed, and the perforation gauges 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 14 $\frac{1}{2}$.

SYNOPSIS.

3 pf. brown	(shades)
5 pf. green	(shades)
10 pf. carmine	
20 pf. ultramarine	(shades)
25 pf. orange	
50 pf. red-brown	

THE “SHIP” ISSUE, 1900.

As will be seen from the above date, the last issue did not enjoy a long life, before they were followed by the well-known German Colonial “Ship” design series. This issue comprises the usual denominations. The *pfennig* stamps are of ordinary size, whilst the *mark* adhesives are long oblong (horizontal) stamps. The perforation is 14.

SYNOPSIS.

3 pf. brown	50 pf. violet & blk on buff
5 pf. green	80 pf. carm & blk on rose
10 pf. carmine	1m. carmine
20 pf. blue	2m. blue
25 pf. red & black on yellow	3m. violet-black
30 pf. orange & black on buff	5m. black & carmine
40 pf. carmine & black	

N.B.—Frame in first colours.

U.S.A. CANCELLATIONS.

It may be of interest to give an idea of the postmarks to be found on the unsurcharged American stamps used in Samoa. The postmark was of the duplex kind, consisting of a large circle having PAGO PAGO (chief town of Tutuila) at top of circle and SAMOA at the bottom, together with the date in four lines in the centre (e.g. Jan. 1, 1911, 12 A.M.) The oval is made up of seven parallel lines, with a thick curved line at top and bottom of oval. I owe my indebtedness for this to “D.C.G.” in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

The Vienna Exhibition.

THE forthcoming Exhibition to be held in Vienna, from September 7th to 17th, will, we think, be by far the most important exhibition of stamps that has yet been held. Collectors from all parts of Europe are getting their treasures ready for competition, while some of the most noted collections of North and South America are already on their way to Austria.

Collectors and dealers will muster in strong force and the ten days will doubtless be spent in a very enjoyable manner by all who make Vienna their mecca during the early days of next month.

For the benefit of the dozens of our readers who are thinking of going, we will outline a few of the methods of reaching the Austrian capital.

For anybody who is desirous of seeing a little more of the Continent than would be possible were the most direct route taken, we should suggest the following tour which can be taken at an inclusive fare of £15 9s. 9d. 1st class or £10 7s. 6d. 2nd class:—

London, Dover, Calais, or Folkestone, Boulogne, Lille, Brussels or Jeumont, Cologne, Dusseldorf, Hanover, or Elberfeld, Magdeburg, Berlin, Dresden, Bodenbach, Prague, Brunn, Vienna, Linz, Passau, Regensburg, Nuremberg, Wurzburg, Frankfort-on-Maine or Darmstadt, Mayence, Bingen, Coblenz, Bonn, Cologne, Jeumont, or Brussels, Boulogne, Folkestone or Calais, Dover, London.

This ticket is available for two months. If the return route did not please it would be possible, at a very slightly increased cost, to return via Trieste, Venice, the North of Italy, Switzerland and Paris to London. Those of our readers who are thinking of journeying direct to Vienna can get return tickets via Harwich and the Hook of Holland at £12 18s. 6d. and £8 2s. 10d. respectively, while via Flushing or Ostend the fare is practically the same. At an increased cost of twenty shillings it would be possible to make the itinerary more interesting by travelling via Calais to Brussels and Cologne and thence via the banks of the Rhine to Mayence.

At any of Messrs. Cook's Offices full information can be obtained.

We trust no collectors in England who can spare the time and money will hesitate to make the Vienna pilgrimage on the score that it entails too much travelling and too much trouble. If the time can be spared it would be very pleasant to break the journey at interesting towns, thus doing away with the fag of night travelling, while the day's journey can be made almost as short, or as long, as individual fancy dictates.

Correspondence.

"Westwood," Westwood Street,
Moss Side, Manchester.
July 26/11.

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

DEAR SIR,—

COLOUR CHANGEINGS.

In the March number of the *P.J. of G.B.*, on page 48, a correspondent (B. J. H. Somake) asks for opinions on the 2 annas in the colour of the 1 anna.

I enclose a copy of this stamp in which the top third is the colour of the 1 anna and the lower two-thirds is the normal colour, proving that it is simply a changeling, as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons stated.

Mr. Somake's expert is evidently wrong. I bought this copy for 1d. out of a London dealer's stock book, as I had not then heard of the variety, but thought it would probably crop up and be heralded as an error.

M. Mahé, in *S.G.'s Monthly Journal*, makes a similar error.

He describes the 100 reis, green, Brazil, in orange, as a "rarity of the first water."

I enclose a copy I obtained the other day, part of which is green, but the most part orange, showing the variety is also a changeling. I think both these varieties are accidental and not intentional changelings.

Yours truly,

E. W. FLOYD.

P.S.—The dropped "R" variety in the 1/- Leeward Islands stamp is the top left corner stamp of the right-hand pane. I have a corner block showing this variety. (Your correspondent, F.F.L., asks for this information, on page 66).

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

BUYING STAMPS IN THE SOUTH SEAS.

A well known Australian dealer writes us as follows:—

"Why is the Resident Commissioner for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, who apparently acts as postmaster, allowed to charge buyers 10% commission on current issues? I am informed that he has the authority of the Colonial office to do so. It is apparently a new departure; could you find if it is so? I know he charges 10% as I have paid it, and have it on the account in his own handwriting."

We are afraid we cannot answer this riddle—we will, however, draw the attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to this matter—perhaps he will be able to explain the 10% commission.

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 132.)

ATHENS PRINTS, 1862-68 (continued).

A.—1862. 80 *lepta*, deep bright rose on cream.

This printing resembles that of the first Athens, but the figures of value at the back are printed in the same colour as the stamp instead of in vermilion. The lines of shading on the cheek and the spandrels are clear and distinct: there are no specks or blotches of colour anywhere, except occasionally on the cheek under the eye which is caused by a defect on the plate. The colour varies considerably in depth but is frequently a most brilliant deep rose. The paper is very slightly creamy.

B.—1863. 80 *lepta*, rose on cream.

Impression not quite so fine as A but still good, and the colour neither so bright nor so deep. Paper as before.

C.—1864. 80 *lepta*, pale rose on cream.

Impression again slightly inferior to the last in the majority of specimens and sometimes very much inferior. The colour, which is paler than the last, is still a pure rose. It is difficult to discriminate between this printing and that of 1870, but the colour is not quite so pale as a rule, and the *spandrels* are not so light. The paper is slightly creamy as before but the surface is generally more tinged with rose than in A and B.

D.—1865. 80 *lepta*, rose to deep rose, on deep cream.

This printing has a pronounced characteristic which distinguishes it from C. I refer to the gum which is thick and yellow, and which can generally be found still adhering to the backs of used stamps in sufficient quantity to characterise it.

In D the colour of the impression is really the same as B but the yellow gum having stained the paper to a deep cream, gives it a duller appearance. The printing is still good and smooth, a fact which differentiates it from the next printing to be described.

E.—1866. 80 *lepta*, carmine-rose on cream.

In this printing the impression is bad to very bad. In some extreme examples the inscriptions are practically indecipherable. The colour is still rose but not always such a pure rose as before, generally having a more carmine tinge. The gum is yellowish as a rule but never so thick as in D. The paper varies in thickness, sometimes being rather transparent. As in the last two printings the

surface of the paper is slightly suffused with rose.

F.—1867. 80 *lepta*, rose-carmine on cream.

An effort was made to improve the impression in this printing, an effort which met with some success. The spandrels however are still somewhat mottled and the whole appearance is flat-looking and rather coarse. The paper is slightly thinner and whiter than the last; the gum is almost colourless.

This ends my list of the printings from the plates before they were thoroughly cleaned. I have separated them as well as I could into groups or printings. Many of these might be still further subdivided by the careful collector, but it would be impossible to supply descriptions for all the slight *nuances* of colour, impression and paper which have to be taken into account in such a subdivision.

The Printings from the Cleaned Plates 1867-1886.

Hitherto it has been generally accepted that the plates were thoroughly cleaned in 1870, but the fact that they were also cleaned at earlier, as well as at later dates appears to have been overlooked. An examination of the stamps will show that from 1867 onwards many efforts were made to improve the prints, by means of (a) cleaning the plates, (b) careful printing (wiping the ink and exact pressure), and (c) by means of new *découpages*. It is rarely that there is any marked evidence of the use of the last mentioned in the appearance of the stamps of this period, though there can be no doubt that it was used fairly consistently from 1867 onwards. Two well-known printings, however, immediately come to mind, viz.: the 1 *lepton* pale brown (short shading on the cheek) and 20 *lepta*, blue, (dotted cheek and "worn" spandrel), both of 1870. These both shew very marked signs of the *découpage*, which appears to have been cut too deeply under the shading on the cheek of the 1 *lepton* and in the spandrels of the 20 *lepta*. Specimens of the latter are frequently found which have been printed with the *découpage* much out of register; I have one specimen in which the light portions of the design which were intended to fall on the neck and in the spandrels are all too low down, so that the tablet at foot containing the value, the part immediately below the bust, and other portions of the design which should have appeared as solid colour, are only partially inked. In this it reproduces in a more marked degree, the peculiarity which I have already described as being so frequently present in

the first Athens printings, where it generally produces a mottled appearance at the back or front of the head. Naturally the 1 and 20 *lep.* of 1870 also frequently shew this misplacement in the same position, but generally the stamps were printed with the *découpage* exactly in register.

Mr. Beckton says that a German workman went over to Athens in 1870 with a new printing press, and that he cleaned and renovated the plates. It seems more than probable that these remarkable printings of the 1 *lep.* and 20 *lep.* were his work and that after he left, the *découpages* which he constructed gradually wore out and were never efficiently replaced. They were boldly cut and could only have been used by a very skilled printer, but it is fairly certain that in 1867 and 1868 the Greeks themselves had made use of some less pronounced form of *découpage*, though I think that with one exception attention was confined, in those early days, to its effect on the shading on the cheek, the result being that the lines were shorter. There is, however, one very rare stamp, (which I presume was printed in 1869, as I have a copy dated Athens, 1st Jan. 1870), which shows very short shading on the cheek and very pale spandrels, evidently due to an ambitious form of *découpage*. It is printed in a deep rich chocolate-brown, and its appearance is quite unlike that of any other 1 lepton. (I describe it in detail later as printing K). This looks as though it might have been a trial printing by the German workman (which would antedate his visit by some months). It was by no means a satisfactory looking printing and judging by its rarity only a very few sheets could have been printed.

From 1872 onwards the plates of all values appear to have been kept in good condition by constant cleaning, and many of the impressions of all values between that date and 1876 would have been very good but for the fact that the plates were becoming worn after so many years constant use.

I must here mention the two well-known flaws on the 1 lepton which, until lately, were believed to have been caused by a damage to the plate in the year 1870. Of late years several copies bearing postmarks of an earlier date than that have been found.

Mr. Fearnley has shown me one, of the printing of 1868, postmarked Oct. 1869, and I



have seen several other undated copies which evidently belong to the same printing. These flaws consist of (1) an uncoloured blotch immediately below the fore part of the base

of the neck, hiding four of the pearls in the circle and impinging on the spandrel (4th stamp in 5th row), and (2) an oblong uncoloured blotch (smaller than the last) in the lower part of the back of the neck, immediately behind the ear (5th stamp in 6th row).

These two flaws were evidently the result of an accident to the plate, and as they are so near together there can be no reasonable doubt that they were both due to the same accident: probably the dropping or slipping of a heavy tool. If they occurred during the cleaning of the plate, as has been generally supposed, I shall expect to find them dated 1867.

(To be continued.)

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

A WRITER in an American paper after telling his readers that he "recently ran across a peculiar error" says, "This is the only one I have ever run across."

Why this bustling haste?

The same little paper (*Stamp Journal*) says that the "authorities in Portugal have it is believed, decided upon two designs from the 73 sent in. The one for the home country shows the Portuguese ideal of Liberty (form of a woman, $\frac{3}{4}$ size), etc., etc."

My word! What a lot of licking the new stamps will require. One of these days we shall have full sized women I suppose.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong writing in an American paper, uses a good old English word which will surprise some of his readers, he says that the delegates to the recent Birmingham Congress "were lodged under a common roof-tree."

Is the roof tree cultivated by taking cuttings from the Screw Pine of the Gilbert and Sullivan Islands? Or is it the tree the oof birds nest in?

London Opinion informs its readers that No. 14 of the Melville Stamp Books, dealing with King Edward VII. stamps has just been issued at 6/- net. I guess the *London Opinion* man's opinion of philatelists went up a peg or two when he saw—or thought he saw—the price.

Our esteemed contemporary the *London Philatelist* makes a great to-do over the fact that H.M. the King has graciously presented to the Royal Society the plates used for the "Post-Paid" Mauritius.

I congratulate the Royal on their good fortune, but I guess King George must have been heartily glad to find a home for them. He would have been pestered by innumerable small boys asking him to "plate" their Post-Paid had it leaked out that the original plates were at Buckingham Palace.

A scribe, writing in the U.S.A. *Stamp Collector* says, *apropos* the new ½d. British stamps: "The ½d. strongly reminds one of the first issue of Holland."

Which one? And isn't my Yankee friend confusing the 1872 issue with that of 1852? If not I fail to see much resemblance. Personally the current ½d. stamps remind me of the first issue of Russian Levant.

My Yankee friend goes on to say:—

"The British style of cutting off the head at the neck don't look good to us. We would much rather see a little of the shoulder too. However, custom is a hard thing to overcome and as they used to get rid of their enemies by using an ax when they caught them, we suppose they will continue in the good old way."

Personally I prefer the old British fashion of sawing the head off with a blunt oyster shell, besides it is much easier to track an oyster to its lair than to hunt down a full grown ax.

I notice that a Canadian firm of dealers is advertising an "up-to-date fraud directory over 100 fakes and frauds exposed." In the same inch and a quarter contract they boom their "Faultless Stamp Hinges" at 10c. per 1000.

I pity the virtuous young hinge which got mislaid in the Turkish box. Don't you?

I see that friend Hadlow, of Grove Park, is advertising in the *Philatelic Journal of India* as follows:—

"Wanted Indian Natives. 'Collections bought.' (Exchange)."

Does Mr. Hadlow want a mixed collection of "Indian Natives" or must they be all the same sex and colour? If he wants them for show I should recommend a score or so of Bhils. As for his second want I don't like the sudden change of front.

What wags they are in Australia. I see that the programme for the October Congress concludes with the item.

"Visit to Government Institution. Thursday afternoon."

After the banquet, theatre party, picnic, etc., I guess the surviving members will almost welcome the visit; but even then I suppose some of them will be mean enough to want to get out on bail.

Congratulations to friend Alexander J. Séfi, who joined the happy band of martyrs early last month. His bride, Miss Edith Rikoff, a talented young authoress, collects stamps, at least she did on the happy day when they were used as confetti. May they have long life and happiness.

Another interesting event is to take place on Sept. 2nd, when Miss Hilda May, who for ten years or so has assisted in the well being of the dear old *P.J.G.B.*, is to be married to Mr. Arthur Stranks. May Hymen shower every blessing on them.

New Leaves to Cut.

SIERRA LEONE.*

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

THIS little booklet is No. 6 of the "W.E.P." series of philatelic handbooks. Like its predecessors, it will be found to contain a good deal of information of service to the general collector. The stamps of Sierra Leone form a very tempting little group for any collector wishing to turn his attention to specialising and Mr. Poole has made the path easy by carefully describing the various issues, right down to the "colour scheme" stamps of the present issue.

Amongst other things, we learn that the stamps overprinted "Revenue" in large black type, which are so frequently met with, were never actually in use, either as postage stamps, or as fiscals, as they were considered unsuitable on their arrival in the Colony, and were sold intact to an English dealer.

BERMUDA.

This is another of the same author's little guides, and, like the one just reviewed, is published by Mr. Field at the modest sum of 6d. Again Mr. Poole gives evidence of his careful method of compiling, and again he has written about the stamps of a small colony which should prove attractive to collectors. As both works have already appeared in the columns of our contemporary, the *West End Philatelist*, we refrain from making extracts; our readers, however, who are interested in the stamps of either or both Colonies, should read Mr. Poole's little booklets.

STANLEY GIBBONS' 1912 CATALOGUE,
PART II.

We have duly received Part II. of the 1912 catalogue. Our ever welcome friend still retains its green cover while it maintains the best traditions by gradually advancing the prices of the older standard varieties of stamps.

From a study of the introductory notes we learn that the list for Brazil has been completely revised. The recent issues of 1900-06 have been simplified by the aid of some illustrations showing the different dies.

The Bulgarian list has received a good deal of attention, both as regards arrangement and pricing.

The American republics of Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay, and Nicaragua, have all been through the mill; we are glad to note that the pruning knife has been applied to some of the rubbishy overprints of the 1906-8 issues of the last mentioned unhappy State.

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

Under the heading of Mexico we find very considerable alterations—the list has been considerably amplified—while the prices have bounded upwards. The stamps of Samoa, Turkey, and the U.S.A. Possessions have also received attention.

In a brief review it is quite impossible for us to but touch the fringe of the all important question of prices.

We note, however, that the value of most of the older stamps is still appreciating, especially where the stamps of the old German and Italian States are concerned. The prices for early Portuguese soar upwards; we are glad to see that the absurd quotation of 5/- for the 5 reis perf. 14, of 1870-80 has at last moved to 15/-.

Early Norwegian, Swedish and Danish all show a marked appreciation, so also do Russians. We are pleased to see that this rather neglected Northern group is moving.

In some instances we find reductions in various stamps—but the "advances" are by a long way in the majority. All our readers must buy a copy of the new catalogue which remains at 2/6 as before, with an extra dose of twenty-two pages to the good.

The Perf. 11½ by 12 Variety of Holland and Colonies.

BY VAN DER WEED.

ONE of the most interesting of Dutch perforations is the 11½×12 variety, which only occurs on the first stamp in every horizontal row of ten. This irregular spacing was not the result of an accident, as it appeared immediately the 12½×12 machine (of which it is a variety) was put into commission.

The most interesting way to collect this perforation variety is in a pair with the normal 12½×12. In this condition it is, with the exception of some of the values of both the Motherland and the Colonies, a very desirable acquisition, and extremely difficult to find. In the case of some of the Unpaid such pairs will probably for ever prove a stumbling block to completion.

The footnote in Messrs. Gibbons' catalogue regarding this variety is really so exhaustive that there is no need to enlarge on the information to be found there. They say

"Variety (g) perf. 11½×12 was produced by a defect in the perforating machine; which perforated the first stamp on the left 11½×12 in each row of ten, the other nine stamps being about 12½×12. Hence all values in the set (g) are ten times as rare as the corresponding values in set (f) perf. 12½×12. A new machine with regular gauge was in use before the 7½c., 22½c. and 1g. were issued."

An amusing feature, however, about these 11½×12 stamps is their extremely diverse

catalogue quotations in our leading catalogues. As an instance of this I have made out lists from four catalogues of the ten values of the 1875-82 issue of the Dutch Indies.

The differences in pricing are worth attention, while the colour nomenclature is also mildly amusing. It is also rather absurd that the leading French catalogue should list, and price, the 11½×12 perforations of the Dutch Indies, and totally ignore the same variety in Holland.

GIBBONS' CATALOGUE.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1c. slate-green ..	1 0	1 0
2c. cinnamon ..	5 0	3 0
2c. pale brown ..	10 0	3 0
2c. purple-brown ..	10 0	6 0
2½c. yellow ..	8 0	4 0
5c. green ..	7 6	1 0
10c. orange-brown ..	—	0 9*
15c. bistre ..	£8	15 0
20c. dull blue ..	50 0	7 6
25c. deep purple ..	20 0	1 0
50c. carmine ..	30 0	3 6
2g. 50c. green and purple ..	—	12 6

* Obviously a careless mistake.

BRIGHT'S CATALOGUE.

	Unused.	Used.
1c. olive-green ..	0 9	0 9
2c. pale brown ..	3 6	2 0
2c. red-brown ..	2 6	2 0
2c. lilac ..	5 0	5 0
2½c. orange ..	4 6	2 6
5c. green ..	4 0	1 6
10c. brown ..	—	15 0
15c. bistre ..	—	9 0
20c. blue ..	—	5 6
25c. violet ..	—	1 6
50c. carmine ..	—	2 6
2g. 50c. purple and green ..	—	—

KOHL'S CATALOGUE. (Marks).

	Unused.	Used.
1c. green ..	1.50	1.—
2c. lilac-brown ..	10.—	6.—
2c. reh-brown ..	6.—	3.—
2c. rot-brown ..	5.—	3.—
2½c. orange ..	—	—
5c. green ..	—	—
10c. orange ..	—	20.—
15c. olive ..	—	17.50
20c. ultramarine ..	40.—	7.50
25c. violet ..	25.—	4.—
50c. carmine ..	30.—	4.—
2g. 50c. green and violet ..	—	12.—

YVERT AND TELLIER'S CATALOGUE. (Francs).

	Unused.	Used.
1c. ..	1.—	1.—
2c. ..	5.—	2.50
2½c. ..	6.—	5.—
5c. ..	2.—	2.—
10c. ..	—	18.—
15c. ..	—	18.—
20c. ..	2.50	1.—
25c. ..	20.—	1.25
50c. ..	7.20	1.25
2g. 50c. ..	—	15.—



August, 1911, 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:—R. H. A. Deere, Ealing, W. Proposed by Dr. Marx, seconded by T. H. Hinton.

NEW MEMBER.

W. J. Woolley, South Norwood, S.E.

NOTICES.

The Committee will meet at Essex Hall, on

Thursday, Sept. 7th, at 7 p.m. to make arrangements for the ensuing season, and for other business. The Hon. Sec. will be glad to hear from any one willing to give displays or papers during the season, also to receive subscriptions as per notice given last month 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.

Aug. 10th, 1911.

EXCHANGE SECTION.

Members are reminded to send in sheets for September packet to Mr. J. E. Joselin, 81, Bennerly Road, New Wandsworth, S.E., by Sept. 10th.

Newspaper Waifs.

NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

Mr. H. Samuel, the Postmaster-General, announced in the House of Commons, in reply to a question by Mr. E. Cecil, that it had been decided that the line engraving process shall be adopted for the new postage stamps of the denominations of 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. and £1. The stamps would be issued as fast as the Mint was able to produce the dies and the plates, and several of the denominations will be issued in the next few weeks.

The right hon. gentleman added that a line process was not suitable for stamps of a lower denomination, and that the present penny stamp would not be withdrawn.

DEFECTIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

In the City of London Court, a defendant named Baddam, asked to have a case reinstated, judgment having been given in his absence. He said that he sent to the court a notice to defend, and he put on it one of the new penny stamps. It must have been defective, as it came off in the post. That was apparent from the envelope which he produced. The Court had refused the letter, as they would not pay the 2d. fine.

A new trial was ordered.

Mr. E. Abinger, counsel in another case, said that some wrappers which were the subject of dispute were like the new penny stamps—without sufficient gum.

AMUSING RED TAPE.

An amusing instance of German red tape is recorded in the *Frankfurter Zeitung*. A few days ago a little boy amused himself by tearing up four ten-pfennig (penny) stamps, and the father asked at the post-office whether he could have them exchanged. The official there said that only stamps to the value of at least one mark (100 pfennig) could be

exchanged, and suggested that the man should wait until more stamps were destroyed. Instead of doing this the father purchased six more stamps, and after tearing them handed the lot to the official, who gravely exchanged them for ten new ones.

AEROPLANE MAIL.

Regarding the suggested aerial service from London to Windsor we are told that those who send these aerial letters will, of course, only do so for the purpose of retaining a memento of the first aerial post service in this country. Ordinary penny and halfpenny postage stamps are to be used, but a special obliteration bearing the mark "aerial post" is to be utilized at the clearing-house.

The postcards and envelopes to be used for the aeroplane service certainly will be interesting souvenirs of the event. An eminently suitable design, showing an aviator in full flight across country, has been prepared, and this will occupy almost half of the space usually available for the address. These will not be obtainable from either the General Post Office or sub-offices, but will be procurable from the large London business houses which are undertaking to assist in the enterprise. The general idea is that customers having collecting friends will purchase a few postcards and envelopes.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

The result of the prize contest inaugurated by the Postmaster-General of the Australian Commonwealth for designs for the new stamps

is now announced. Mr. Hermann Altmann, of St. Kilda, Victoria, has been awarded the first prize (£100) for a design showing the head and bust of King George in an oval, with a kangaroo on the left and an emu on the right; above are grouped shields of the States of the Commonwealth, and the face value is expressed in white figures on shields of solid colour in the lower angles. The inscription is simply, "Australia Postage."

The second prize of £50 has been divided between two London competitors, one of whose designs presented a portrait of the King in the centre, the other a picture of a kangaroo, the frame devices in each case being emblematical of Australia. The winners of the second prize are Mr. Donald Mackay, of North Finchley and Mr. Edwin A. Arnold, of Anerley.

Mr. A. S. A. Whelen, the philatelist who was appointed to the committee to adjudicate upon the designs sent in for competition, gave a short account of the experiences of the judges at a recent meeting of the Prahran Philatelic Society, Melbourne, Victoria. There were 533 entries, comprising 1,051 designs, and the board sat on three days, sixteen hours in all, to complete their examination. A large proportion of the designs submitted were quite useless, partly owing to the inadequate instructions given in the advertisements calling for designs. Apparently the Government wanted a horizontal oblong design, but the shape was simply specified as "oblong," so the judges dealt with horizontal and vertical oblongs on their merits.

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. Various of our contemporaries have chronicled the following Edwardian stamps as having been printed by Messrs. Harrison & Sons.

Adhesives. All ordinary paper.

- 1d. purple and green.
- 2d. dull green and rose.
- 2½d. blue.
- 4d. orange.
- 9d. purple and blue.
- 1/- red and dark green.

Antigua. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the 6d. stamp, Arms type, has been printed on the surfaced, multiple wmkd. paper.

Bahamas. The same journal informs us that the 6d. value has also appeared on multiple wmkd. paper.

Ceylon. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the new 3c. Edwardian stamps. The value tablet is not shaded.

Adhesive.
3c. green.

Gilbert & Ellice Islands. Our publishers have shown us the four values of the permanent set.

Adhesives. Multiple wmk.
¾d. green.
1d. carmine.
2d. grey.
2½d. blue.

Gold Coast. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 2/6 stamps in the new colours have been despatched.

Adhesive. King's Head.
2/6 red and black on blue.

Jamaica. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 6d. stamps from the "Arms" type plate have now been printed.

Adhesive.
6d. purple and black.

Leeward Islands. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the following have now been printed.

Adhesives. King's Head, new colours.
2d. grey.
6d. violet.
1/- black on green.
2/6 red and black on blue.

Northern Nigeria. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the 3d. and 5/- stamps have just been printed in accordance with the Universal Colour Scheme.

Straits Settlements. Johore. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 10c. on multiple wmkd. paper.

Adhesive.
10c. purple and black.

Travancore. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the following new issues.

Adhesives.
1 ch. slate.
4 ch. dark green.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Nicaragua. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us some more of the values surcharged with a new value, also another batch of fiscals overprinted for use as postage stamps. Our space is too valuable to chronicle them.

Servia. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly write us as follows:—

"A new series of stamps have just been issued, which are obviously modelled on the current 15c. Italian stamp. We have not received supplies of unused, but some arrived on our correspondence, and we are able to send you a used specimen of the 10 paras; the remaining values are the same as the current issue. We do not, however, know the colours, but will send you specimens when they come to hand."

Surinam. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces that for some time past the authorities have been selling off the remainders under face value. As the sales have fallen off, they have had a number of the values overprinted in red with a Crown and new value. Surely no collectors will buy such rubbish.

Sweden. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 1 krona of the new series.

Adhesive.
1 krona black on yellow.

Some Catalogue Inconsistencies.

BY A. B. FREELANCE.

HOWEVER much the two parts of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' catalogue may be adversely criticised the fact remains that this publication is the best in the English language.

It must not, however, be forgotten that the work in question is but the priced catalogue of a tradesman's wares, and, as such, contains many glaring errors and inconsistencies. The fact that some of our most eminent philatelists have assisted Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in the compilation of their price list places the catalogue on a much higher plane than is usual with tradesmen's publications—it does not however elevate it to such a position that it becomes an infallible guide for collectors.

According to our catalogue we learn that it is permissible to collect the stamps of Chili which show the variety known as "Ivory head" at the back of the stamp, but in Great Britain where these varieties are sometimes most marked, a discreet silence is maintained.

In New Zealand, Switzerland, New South Wales and elsewhere we find that stamps from retouched plates are listed, and priced proportionately. Other equally important retouches, however, as in the early stamps of Holland and Victoria, are ignored. Why, I haven't the faintest idea, it is certainly not because they are unknown to Messrs. Gibbons, a glance at their priced books would dispel any such fallacy.

In a dozen different countries there are stamps on "blued" paper which are "taboo" to our Strand friends. They are, however, equally as noticeable as many examples catalogued, while some are considerably more pronounced than the "blue paper" varieties of Holland and New Zealand (1874 issue), the separation of the latter stamps, by-the-by, being one of the absurdities of the catalogue.

The weird and wonderful collection of printers' mistakes (?) under the heading of Zanzibar is a marvel of mistaken persistency. With a lovely disregard for consistency we find that the surcharged stamps of 1898, and the overprinted British East Africa stamps, which shew the same type varieties are not elaborated!

In the case of Papua, beautiful Papua, we find that two sets are listed, one with watermark horizontal, and one vertical, which merely means that some sheets were "fed" into the printing press one way, others another. In the case, however, of such standard varieties as, say the 1d. black of Great Britain, which is really a desirable stamp with inverted watermark, no mention is made.

In the case of Barbados 1875-78, Gambia 1880, and Sierra Leone 1872, the inconsistent

catalogue notes that certain stamps occur with watermark sideways, also upright. Similar varieties of Trinidad, Tonga, etc., are ignored.

Under the heading of Brazil we find, in the issue of 1891, some most purile varieties, of which Nos. 219, 220 and 226 are surely the limit to the absurdities which too frequently appear in Gibbons' catalogue.

The specialist, of course, pleases himself whether he pays attention to such a "variety." if however the catalogue is written for the specialist why are not the *hundreds* of other similar varieties listed?

The perforations of the later issues of Argentine are totally ignored, although they can be easily separated *without the aid of a perforation gauge*. The vagaries of Bosnia and other impossible countries which sometimes puzzle the collector even with the aid of a gauge are minutely listed!

In Jamaica and Prince Edward Island we find that "split" stamps are listed. "We search in vain, however, for similar varieties of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and elsewhere which are just as "official" as the varieties catalogued. Needless to say there are hundreds of "splits" which are not worthy of catalogue rank—but why single out but two instances for inclusion in the catalogue?

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons arbitrary separation of many stamps into "thick" and "thin" paper varieties must have caused a good deal of wonderment to very many collectors. Have the majority of these collectors the courage to use their own discretion regarding these varieties, and to include them in their collections even if their own sense of touch does not agree with the catalogue? In many instances they know there is a marked difference but they can't include the stamp in their collections because there isn't a space in their album! And the Gibbons' album is made to conform to the Gibbons' catalogue! It is equally absurd that many collectors should fill up their album spaces with "thick" and "thin" papers when they haven't the faintest idea which is which.

Regarding the matter of colours I have little to say. I quite understand the difficulties which beset any cataloguer, at the same time there are many mistakes which might be remedied. To find the stamps of several colonies, all sent out by the London printers at the same date,—and all printed with the same ink—under several colour names in the catalogue is a trifle confusing.

That New South Wales stamps should be listed as distinct varieties because they occur on chalk surfaced paper is apparently no reason why the hundreds of other "chalky" colonial stamps should be separately listed.

Lack of space prevents me from lengthening my list of grievances. I have just jotted down

the few which occur to me at the moment; Any collector who uses Gibbons' catalogue will think of other instances for himself. This being the case, isn't it absurd for so and so to say he doesn't want such and such a variety because it isn't in the catalogue, or for somebody else to move heaven and earth to get No. — simply because it is a "catalogue variety." You, and I, reader, are of course moved to mirth at such antics.

British Guiana Philatelic Exhibition.

THE hon. secretary of the British Guiana Philatelic Exhibition writes us that exhibitors from this country have still the opportunity of competing. Intending exhibitors should notify the secretary (Mr. A. D. Ferguson, Georgetown, British Guiana) giving particulars and value of the collections by the mail which leaves London on Aug. 29th. Exhibits must be despatched by the mail leaving Sept. 12th, as that is the latest which will arrive in time for inclusion. All exhibits will be returned if possible by the mail leaving Georgetown on Oct. 14, reaching London by the end of October, so that the collections will not be away from their owners for more than six or seven weeks.

Mr. T. A. Pope of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, a member of the Committee, will be in London until the 4th of September. Any intending exhibitors writing to him at 72, Thornton Avenue, Turnham Green, W., will, we feel sure, receive all particulars they desire.

To Our New Subscribers.

THE following articles of interest have already appeared in the *P.F.G.B.* this year. Back numbers can be supplied at 2d. each, postage extra.

"Greece." By P. L. Pemberton. This article was commenced in the January number and instalments have appeared regularly since.

"The Puttilla Error." By R. B. Yardley and B. Gordon Jones.

"Gibraltar and Agencies." By J. Howard Roskilly.

"Chilian Stamps." By J. Read Burton.

"Holland." By G. A. Higlett, A. J. Warren, and D. C. Gray.

"Leeward Islands." By F. F. L.

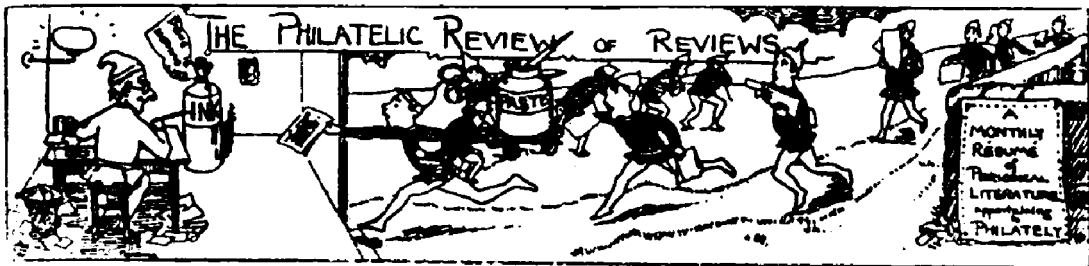
"Dutch Perforations." By J. A. Leon.

"India." By L. L. R. Hausburg.

"Edwardian Stamps of Gt. Britain." By L. W. Fulcher.

"Samoa." By R. E. R. Dalwigk.

And many other articles of general interest.



AUGUST 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

THE July number of the *Monthly Journal* has a lengthy editorial, mainly dealing with the new British stamps and their shortcomings. Mr. E. H. L. Gorges, writing from Pretoria, contributes an excellent article dealing with the Cape "Woodblocks" of 1861. An exhaustive article on these stamps was published some time ago by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, which contained, as we thought, the last word about these fascinating labels, Mr. Gorges however has apparently unearthed a good deal of fresh information which goes to prove that the first woodblocks were printed in sheets of 24 and not in sheets of 64 as has generally been the accepted view.

We are told that

Because the reprints of 1883 were made up in sixty-fours (with one stereo missing in one value and two stereos missing in the second value), it appears to have been generally assumed that the original issues were also printed in sheets of 64, and that the stereos which are now missing from the two plates from which the reprints were made, had either been discarded because they were found to be damaged, or were wanting, when the plates came to be examined in 1883. The records are perfectly clear that the first print of the Fourpence consisted of sheets of 24. It is also clear that subsequent printings were in sheets of 64 and 128, while the last prints in April consisted of sheets of 120 with one sheet (possibly half a sheet) of 60. If one may be permitted to theorize on the subject, it may readily be conceived that the object the printer had in view, when he essayed the task of producing the stamps locally, was to turn out sheets equal in size to those sent from England by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., which consisted of 240 stamps in fifteen rows of sixteen. The demand for stamps was, however, so great that in order to meet the emergency he made up his first sheets in twenty-fours, and having relieved the tension by striking off a small quantity (3600 Fourpence) found himself able to devote a day or two to producing more stereos and making up a larger sheet, which in the next print was most likely one of 64. This he followed up by one of 128. He then apparently abandoned the idea of sheets of 240 and reduced the size of the next sheets to 120, which would thus be half the size of the imported

issues. The view might, however, be fairly held that the sheets of 128 and 120 were each divided into two panes of 64 and 60 respectively. It will have been noted from one of the letters quoted above that, in the supply of the One Penny on April 10th, one sheet of 60 was included, and this may have been only half a sheet or one pane.

All this is very perplexing and will, it is feared, only have the effect of making the position in regard to the "errors" and the "retouched" Fourpence more obscure than ever; but light on the subject might be obtained if collections containing "Woodblocks" on original covers could be examined and notes made of the dates of the postmarks and the shades of the stamps used at different dates. Unfortunately the material at my disposal here (Pretoria) is of too limited a character to permit of any safe deductions, but it will probably be correct to say that the last printing of 24,660 One Penny was in the *vermillion* shade. Further than that I cannot venture an opinion at present, as the only specimens of these stamps, available locally, showing dated postmarks, are a *dark blue* Fourpence, posted in Cape Town on April 17th, 1861, and a strip of four One Penny, also posted in Cape Town, on June 23rd, 1861.

Mr. C. J. Phillips continues his article dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. He writes about the stamps of 1904 and the "Habilitado" overprints of 1907-8. M. Pierre Mahé contributes another instalment of his lengthy paper dealing with the stamps of Brazil, he writes about the rejected type of the Southern Cross issue, also the regular stamps, while he moots the possibility of there being lithographed copies of the 100 reis of the re-drawn type.

Mr. Melville is responsible for a goodly instalment of his article, entitled, "Postage Stamps in the Making." He treats of the process of lithography and kindred processes for producing stamps. Some "Reviews," "Topical Notes," "New Issues," "Australian Notes," etc., complete a good number of our contemporary. From their Sydney correspondent's article we clip the concluding paragraph, which reads as follows:—

Collectors in Europe and America will do well to keep a watchful eye on current Australian stamps, from now until the final issue of the first series of Commonwealth stamps, for many things are likely to happen in the interim. The working-off of old stocks

of paper may cause some strange varieties, and the introduction of new inks and different gauges may produce a bewildering group for the consideration of the specialist.

We guess collectors in Europe and America are already heartily sick of recent Australian paper and perforation varieties.

The combined July and August *Stamp Lover* is a very good summer number, containing several capital scientific articles and a good deal of general matter.

Mr. John Hall Barron concludes his series of chatty and instructive articles dealing with the early issues of Mexico. He deals with the stamps of 1868 down to the numeral issue of 1882, special attention being paid to the interesting emissions of 1868 and 1872. There are many points regarding the stamps of the former date upon which collectors of Mexicans still require enlightenment, we trust therefore that Mr. Barron will return to this period at some later date. Regarding the stamps of 1872, he says

For many the interest in early Mexicans extends to the next issue, that of 1872, but does not carry them further. This set shews Hidalgo once more, in profile, surrounded by a confused border; it is altogether a curious looking stamp. There are, as in the preceding issue, five values—6c. green (shades), 12c. blue (light and dark, with varieties that may be called greenish blue and milky blue), 25c. red (shades), 50c. yellow (ranging from an orange gold to lemon ochre), 100c. grey-lilac (changing from pale lilac in 1872 through a blackish tint to a blue-grey in 1873). There is one error of colour, the 50c. having been printed in the colour of the 12c., and I am informed that used copies have been found. The back of the sheet is printed in a *moiré* pattern of bluish lines. Whether or not it be due to this coloured surface, copies adhere closely to the hinges and an abnormally large proportion may be found thinned, a fault that should be guarded against. Examples without *moiré* are not believed to have been used.

The sheet seems to have been made up, as in the issue of 1868, of ten reproductions of a common type, varying in the letters in the four tablets or accidental flaws. Mr. Phillips has shewn (*G.S.W.* No. 253) that the stone of the 6c. suffered a mishap and was retouched in the centre stamps of the lowest row. He also offers evidence that there were at least four plates of this value. The 12c. bears signs of an even larger number, and in the second or third, which I have reconstructed, the types occur quite irregularly in the rows, as in the case of the second plate of the 6c. given by Mr. Phillips.

The stamps are imperforate or, less commonly, perforated in various gauges and by various means. As before, some copies are found without the full overprint of name, number and year. Several new centres having been allotted separate consignments, there are now 52 numbers of districts, Guanajuato being favoured with two.

The papers on which the issue was printed lend themselves to notice—and collection—as there exists a well-ordered diversity, which is not so indefinite nor so extensive as to be confusing. At first, along with the normal thinnest papers, two others were requisitioned. One is laid vertically with rather heavy wide lines. Copies on this paper are decidedly

scarce, but it is probable that a thorough search would amplify the short list of overprints attributed to this variety in the catalogue. The other paper is watermarked "Papel Sellado" vertically in the sheet. The number of the stamps per sheet with the watermark varies, but at the best it only extends to a small proportion and it is extremely aggravating to recognise the paper, or rather the impression on the paper which is fairly distinctive, and to find that the copy is "off watermark." Another watermark is that of the papermakers, Lacroix Frères, over which collectors were long puzzled despite the fact that stationery bearing their name in full was in common use in Mexico. By far the largest printing was on the ordinary wove paper which varies somewhat in texture, but is never really thick.

Mr. Harold Row contributes a lengthy instalment of his exhaustive article dealing with the stamps of Siam. He writes about the "Large Roman Surcharges of 1899," and instructs his readers how to distinguish the surcharges of this date from the very similar ones of 1894. Before diving into the *minutiæ* of explanations, he says:—

Certain general statements can be made, such as that the 1894 surcharge is, in a very large proportion of cases, very heavily printed, while the 1899 surcharge never is, so far as I am aware. But, as I have proved for myself, this is an extremely unreliable guide, and I advise those of my readers who purpose specializing in these stamps to obtain authenticated specimens of each issue and keep them side by side in their collections, for the purpose of comparison with doubtful specimens of these surcharges, until they have learnt by experience what I may call an "instinctive" method of distinguishing them. I also advise my readers not to be satisfied with one sample of each stamp as their guides for comparison, but to obtain a range of heavily and lightly printed copies of each.

Mr. Row is a capable student, and collectors of Siamese stamps should certainly peruse his article.

Mr. Douglas Ellis is responsible for a short paper dealing with the line-engraved stamps of Antigua and Montserrat.

An important article is Mr. L. W. Crouch's paper dealing with King Edward VII. postal stationery of Great Britain.

This subject has already been liberally treated in the *Philatelic Press* (see Mr. Fulcher's admirable article in the June *P.J.G.B.*). Mr. Crouch, however, has managed to find a little original matter, and has compiled an excellent paper. A good deal of J.F.S. propaganda matter, and a lengthy article, contributed by Mr. Melville, dealing with the new George V. stamps and their *raison d'être*, all help to make this double number of our contemporary a very welcome exchange.

The July number of the *London Philatelist* contains a long rambling editorial which makes a great-to-do about very little, with the exception that we learn that H.M. the

King has kindly presented the "Post-Paid Plates of Mauritius" to the Royal Society. In an article dealing with this subject we learn that the plates were found in a cellar at the Government Offices in Mauritius and were afterwards brought over by the late Governor of the Colony and presented to His Majesty. These plates

"Which since their acquisition by the Society have been scored with faint though distinct vertical lines, will form part of the possessions of the Royal Society, and will, we trust, form the nucleus of the philatelic museum of the future. A few impressions on card in black will be printed off for the Society's collections."

Captain G. F. Napier continues to write about the stamps of Brazil, he deals with the issues of 1866 to 1881, the values, colours, and dates of issue (when possible) are all duly tabulated, a strenuous labour of love, which is repeated *verbatim* when the two-page synopsis is tacked on to the end of the article. Some pages of "Occasional Notes," a brief review of the recently published "Stamps of New South Wales," a short article commenting on two recent articles in the philatelic press (Puttilla, *P.J.G.B.* and Griqualand, *P.R.*) completes our brief review.

The July number of the *Philatelic Record* contains short instalments of Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Belgium," Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Morocco Agencies," and the Sveriges Filatelist-Förening's "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905." The first mentioned article deals principally with the stamps of 1875-1880. The second concerns the overprinted King's Head stamps of Gibraltar and Great Britain; while the last mentioned mainly deals with the sheets of watermarked paper used for the King's Head and other recent stamps of Sweden.

The July number of the *Stamp Collector* is largely devoted to the conclusion of the report of the Third Philatelic Congress. We also find an illustrated interview with Mr. W. F. Wadams, of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, a continuation of Mr. J. E. Heginbottom's notes dealing with the stamps of Tasmania, together with some "Correspondence" and other matter.

The *British Philatelist* for June contains some capital editorial and other notes dealing with the current stamps of this country, together with a further instalment of Messrs. Bernstein and Nissen's "British Stamps Used Abroad."

We make the following short extract from the editorial notes:—

A value, which has long been out of use, but which curiously enough was one of the two omitted from the list of demonetised stamps gazetted some ten years ago, is to be resuscitated—we refer to the Eight Pence. Messrs. De La Rue & Co. would probably have given us a stamp with an octagonal frame; under the present scheme, we may have a plan of Trafalgar Square.

As all the new stamps will not be ready for some time yet, is it not within the bounds of possibility that some of the Edwardian series may make their appearance perforated by the new machines? It is almost too terrible to contemplate, but this is a possibility that may easily become a probability, and ultimately materialise into a fact—perforated $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$!

The *West End Philatelist* for July is, with the exception of a short editorial note dealing with the new George stamps, entirely devoted to a lengthy instalment of the editor's article, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Grenada."

Mr. Séfi illustrates his paper by the aid of capital blocks, shewing sheets (reduced size) of the 1890 and 1891 provisionals. Amongst them we find a complete sheet of the 1d. on 2/- orange (Dec., 1890) with *inverted surcharge*.

The July 22nd number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains a varied assortment of odd notes and paragraphs. Mr. Irwin Faris contributes the most interesting column, namely the conclusion of his "New Zealand Notes."

He says:—

KING'S HEAD ISSUES.

The 14×14 single-line issues are much scarcer than the comb $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ issues. So far the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. exist only in 14×15 and I understand that this comb will not be used for other values, as it does not suit sizes of sheets. The 2d. and 8d. have appeared $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ only. Other values exist both 14×14 and $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$; the former being a single-line machine and the latter a comb.

6D. IMPERF. BETWEEN.

These exist in pictorials both Waterlow (no watermark) and in Cowan watermark N Z and Star.

2D. POSTAGE DUE, RED CENTRE.

One without watermark can frequently be obtained from between words in marginal lettering.

KING'S HEAD PERFS.

I notice the following in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue:—

No. 325, perf. 14×15 —4d. pictorial, I think not issued.

King's Head, perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ (1909), the 1/- also exists.

No. 345, perf. 14, I think not issued.

Official 6d. King's Head, exists perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$.

No. 329.—This exists both "imperf. between" and "imperf. all around."

QUEEN'S HEAD.

I have recently obtained pairs of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1/- "imperf. between."

COMPOUND $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ FULL FACES.

Early last year I mentioned in my notes that I held

a "full-face," perforated compound of 12½ and 13. This fact was doubted by a philatelic journal, and in reply I gave as my opinion that the sheet from which the specimen was taken had been partly perforated on the Government machine and partly on Fergusson and Mitchell's machine at Dunedin. This opinion also was doubted. By reference to last issue of the *Australian Philatelist*, it will be seen that some other specimens have been "discovered" by Messrs. Fred Hagen & Co. amongst their stock, whether my article inspired the search therefore I cannot say. The specimens found were submitted to Mr. A. T. Bate, of Wellington, who expresses perfect confidence in their genuineness, and gives exactly the same opinion as I did regarding their cause.

We believe we are the journal which doubted the existence of compounds of the "full face" New Zealand. Until we have more satisfactory proof that they exist we shall, obstinately enough, still have our doubts. We must admit however that the circumstantial evidence is pretty strong in their favour. Will our New Zealand friends send over their full face compounds to be submitted to the inspection of Messrs. Hausburg and Castle?

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The June number of the *Australian Philatelist* does not contain much to interest English readers, while some of its articles have already appeared in the philatelic press. The leading article is headed "Penny Postage" and deals, as is fairly obvious, with the introduction of rd. postage throughout Australia.

We make the following extract:—

The history of penny postage in Australia is an interesting one. It began in 1809, when the soldiers were allowed to forward their letters anywhere for 1d., whilst the other part of the population was charged 8d. Although the rates for the latter were gradually reduced to 2d. in 1831, it was only for within the limits of the city of Sydney. In 1838 came the embossed letter covers, sold at 1/3 per dozen; also for the same limits; but it was not until the 4th January, 1841, that these covers could be bought for 1s. per dozen. Thus, for 70 years the letter rate has been the same in Sydney, and for 60 years this rate has been current within the limits of any town in New South Wales. It is difficult to understand how South Australia remained, comparatively, passive in suffering the paying of 2d. within the limits of her capital, when the one penny rate existed in all the other capitals. The new conditions, thus, naturally, affect her more than the others, as the citizens of the five other States will still have to pay 1d. per half-ounce. The greatest boon, commercially, is in the oversea rates, and it is the men engaged in commercial pursuits that will reap the greatest benefit from the new conditions. If the Fisher Government had gone further, and increased the weight of letters to 1d. per ounce within the Commonwealth, its inhabitants would have freely forgiven them for some of their erratic politics. Perhaps, when they see that the new rates are not likely to involve the postal revenue to any great extent they may concede this boon.

"Correspondence," "short paragraphs," "New Issues," etc., all help to make our contemporary a very readable publication. The shortage of original articles, which is so apparent in many of our home papers, must be doubly hard to combat in far away Sydney.

The June number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* is mainly devoted to a series of notes relating to Australasian stamps, especial regard being paid to those from Papua, New Zealand, and the Islands. Mr. Ridley gives the readers of our contemporary the following suggestion for recording the value and size of their collections. We think the idea practicable, especially if the first few thousands of common stamps were ignored.

I have no doubt that many philatelists would welcome an easy and expeditious way of keeping a record of individual stamps in a collection. The plan I have always adopted is simply numbering each stamp (in pencil) consecutively from one upward.

On reaching 1,000, I started again with 1a. and so on. This does away with the repetition of too many figures. The book I use is an ordinary one with two rows of money columns on each page. On the left hand side of the page I enter the number of the stamp. In the outside or "date" column I enter the year, the name of the stamp and the date when purchased, in the "remarks" column the source from which the stamp was obtained, in the first money column the cost price and in the second money column the catalogue value at the time of purchase. An asterisk on the right of the number in the first column on the left indicates that the stamp is unused.

It is obvious that the number of the stamps in the collection will be seen by referring to the last entry. The columns indicating cost and catalogue values could be added up and carried forward on each page. This would enable the gross cost and catalogue value of the collection to be seen at a glance.

The June number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains a number of well selected original and extracted articles. The editorial is entitled "Dotty Philately" and deals, from Mr. Wetherell's point of view, with the importance of minute flaws and dots in the study of stamps. Mr. Godinho has a few notes on recent Portuguese India stamps, also some reviews of contemporary stamp papers. A couple of pages of "Topical Notes," not up to "Tancred's" usual form, some pages of reprinted matter from the *P.J.G.B.*, the usual summary of auction prices and other odds and ends make up a readable number of our contemporary.

After a lapse of seven or eight months we have received another number of our erratic American contemporary, the *Philatelic Journal of America*.

It is dated August 1st and we are told that—

Since the first of the year our editor has been too much occupied with personal affairs to give his editorial duties in connection with the journal the necessary attention.

How long we wonder would the readers of an English publication stand such treatment? The long delayed number of the *P.J. of A.* is, however, a very excellent publication and contains a very great amount of really interesting reading.

Mr. C. L. Pack contributes many pages of notes dealing with the early stamps of Uruguay, illustrated by the lavish aid of many superb blocks and plates.

Mr. B. W. H. Poole, a very old friend of our readers, contributes a lengthy and very excellent article dealing with the stamps of Liberia.

Mr. C. L. Bostwick, well known as a Cayman Island enthusiast, contributes a short article dealing with Jamaica stamps used in the Cayman Islands, also some more lengthy notes relating to the 1d. on 4d. fiscal stamp, in which he maintains, as we always have, that the label in question is a fiscal pure and simple. Mr. Bostwick proves, in our opinion, the absolute impossibility of this stamp ever having paid postage.

The following is a brief summary of his pros and cons:—

I have six reasons for stating positively that this stamp is not to be classed as a postage stamp. The major reasons will be discussed in detail, but the minor arguments need no further comment than is given in the following summary.

I.—Commissioner Hirst, who authorized the issue of the stamp, says positively that he gave special instructions not to allow it to be used for postage.

II.—Miss Parsons, who was postmistress at the time of its issue, makes the same statement.

III.—Copies on cover are known that have not been recognized by the Post Office, which has treated the letter as requiring another stamp, and has collected 2d. postage due. Miss Parsons definitely states that this was the practice followed.

IV.—No postmarked copies are known with dates for the period of issue, May, 1908; while on the other hand, the absolute lack of the low value postage stamps at that time is proved by the use of provisional envelopes.

V.—The "Handbook for the Cayman Islands for 1909" (compiled under the direction of or perhaps actually written by Commissioner Hirst) contains a full list of all the postage stamps ever issued by the Dependency, but the 1d. on 4d. does not appear on that list, although all the other provisionals are named.

VI.—The evidence all shows that after the 2½d. on 4d. had been added to the first three provisionals, the criticisms showered upon all those stamps impelled the authorities to adopt any makeshift rather than to issue any more provisionals for postage.

On the other hand, there are but few arguments for the recognition of this provisional as a postage stamp. They are not of much weight when considered

in comparison with the array of contradictory facts, although for the past two or three years they have been sufficient to make collectors scramble madly after the few available copies of the stamp. These reasons may be stated as follows:

A. The failure to obliterate the word postage in the legend "Postage and Revenue" entitles the stamp to recognition as a postal issue.

B. Stamps are known which have been postmarked.

C. This provisional followed several postage provisionals, and must therefore have been of the same character.

D. Many philatelists accepted it upon its appearance without investigation. Why therefore shouldn't this recognition continue?

We should like to hear from Mr. Leon Adutt regarding his views on this stamp. Many pages of odd notes and three or four reprinted articles make up a really very excellent number of Mr. C. H. Mekeel's paper. We trust he won't keep us waiting many months for the next number.

The July number of the *Philatelic Gazette* contains an account of some of the American treasures which are to be exhibited at Vienna next month. Mr. H. J. Crocker is sending some of his rarest Hawaiian stamps, also 130 other rarities. Mr. E. R. Ackerman is exhibiting specialised collections of Norway and Canal Zone stamps.

Mr. C. L. Pack is sending twelve volumes of his stamps. Mr. E. F. Sawyer is sending a highly specialised collection of Gambia. Mr. C. A. Howes his Coreas, while Mr. Murray Bartels will exhibit his Philippines.

Major F. G. Palmer continues to write about the postal issues of the Philippines. He discusses the stamps of 1873-1885. Mr. E. H. Mason and other writers contribute matter relating to U.S.A. stamps and proofs.

Philately on the Continent.

Le Timbre-Poste continues to publish instalments of its excellent serial articles on "The Stamps of the French Colonies," "Roumania" and the "Postal Issues of the Mexican Republic." The instalment of the latter in the May number deals with the issues, lithographed and engraved, of 1866-67, the provisional issues, with Gothic overprints of 1867-68, and the Campeche locals. A list of the numbers found on the lithographed stamps of 1866 should prove of interest to our readers so we reproduce it below. The stamps of this issue may be found with name of town and date and number, or date and number only. At first the date was printed in full—1866—but later the first figure was omitted and it

appeared "866." For the series overprinted with the date in full, the consignment numbers, with their corresponding towns, were as follows:—

- Mexico: 1, 2, 10, 23, 28, 37, 38, 43, 66, 70, 80, 87, 93, 95, 99, 100, 101, 104, 107, 120, 127.
- Vera Cruz: 5, 9, 39, 53, 61, 72, 85.
- Puebla: 3, 46, 82, 91, 108.
- Chalco: 59, 69, 89.
- Guanajuato: 4, 24, 47, 83, 92.
- Orizava: 8, 40, 62, 106.
- Potosi: 12, 58, 71, 73, 74, 94.
- Queretaro: 6, 33, 49, 77, 103.
- Cuernavaca: 11, 36, 63, 83, 88, 97.
- Cordova: 45. Morelia: 16, 50, 79. Toluca: 13, 76. Zacatecas: 19, 68, 102. Guadalajara: 41, 75, 109. Tepeji: 15. Durango: 18. Apam: 20, 34, 78. Tulancingo: 21. Lagos: 22, 96. Oacaca: 35. Jalapa: 51. Aguascalientes: 56. Iguala: 30. Merida: 52, 110. Maravatio: 17. Oxilahuaca: 9. Soyaniquilpam: 14. Tula: 29. Tulancingo: 21. Zapotlan: 44.

In the series with abbreviated date the names and numbers are as follows:—

Mexico: 107, 130, 139 (the two latter for the 7 cents only).

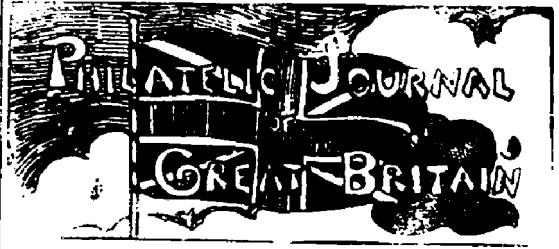
Puebla: 108 (109 is unknown).
Merida, 110.

On the engraved issue the date, we are told, is always abbreviated to '866 or '867. The lowest numbers known on this issue are 103 and 104 on the 13 centavos and 109 on the 25c. The highest number is 139. Of the intervening numbers seventeen are unknown. This leaves twenty consignments which were apportioned as follows:—

- Mexico: 104, 111, 114, 119, 120, 130, 136, 139.
- Puebla: 108, 123, 133.
- Queretaro: 103, 137. Vera Cruz: 115, 128.
- Guadalajara: 109. Guanajuato: 112.
- Morelia: 121. Orizava: 124.

The writer points out, very truly, that a knowledge of these consignment numbers is of great importance to collectors, as by their means it is often possible to detect forgeries at once.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for July 31st has an article describing the points of difference between the genuine 5 francs Belgium and a dangerous new forgery which has recently appeared. The article is embellished by greatly enlarged illustrations of the genuine and forgery side by side. The forgery has been produced by the aid of photography and as usual, when this process is employed the size of the stamp is not identical with the genuine, the latter being $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. longer and $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. wider than the original. Another point of difference is to be found in the white line of the surrounding frame, which is of irregular width and is frequently interrupted in the genuine but is quite regular in the forgery, except in its lower part on the left hand side, where it is more or less filled in with colour for a distance of about 1mm.



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Are You a Subscriber ?

THE following gentlemen, nearly all Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society, have already contributed to our columns for this year:—J. Read Burton, R. E. R. Dalwigk, L. W. Fulcher, D. C. Gray, L. L. R. Hausburg, G. A. Higlett, B. Gordon Jones, J. A. Leon, P. L. Pemberton, J. Howard Roskilly, A. J. Warren, and R. B. Yardley.

A study of the above names should convince any serious philatelist that he cannot do without the *P.f.G.B.*



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

No. 249. VOL. XXI.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

NOW that all the important catalogues of European stamps, with the exception of Messrs. Yvert & Tellier's, have been published, it is easy to compare the prices of old European stamps, and to note the universal rise which has taken place. Twelve years ago there was a similar marked desire, on the part of collectors, for Europeans, which lasted until it was considered by many that they had reached the high watermark of value. In due course, British Colonials, especially West Indians, took the place of Europeans, with the inevitable result that desirable old Colonials were absorbed by all classes of collectors at a greedy pace. The swing of the pendulum during the past year has been strongly in favour of the old loves, causing Colonials of nearly every description to take a secondary position. Contrary to expectations, the rush after Europeans which took place some years ago did not deplete the market to any very appreciable extent, neither did it leave collectors in the happy position of being able to say they availed themselves of the opportunity to complete their collections.

What would have been considered a fairly complete collection of old used Europeans twelve years ago, would now,

if compared with the list of varieties in a 1912 catalogue, show many blanks. Together with the present European boom, we find that another, which practically covers the whole of the South American field, has been engineered; consequently, collectors are busily filling up the blank spaces of two continents.

Of the two "rushes," that after Europeans easily takes premier place, with the result that we find English and German catalogues unanimous in their efforts to place prohibitive prices on stamps which, but a few years ago, and even when they were on top of a similar but smaller boom, were considered dear at half and sometimes a quarter of present day quotations. Nor is this the full tale of woe, as it is no uncommon thing for collectors willingly to pay considerably more than catalogue prices for their much sought after stamps of the German and other States.

For those collectors who took advantage of the lessened demand for Colonial stamps which took place when the last European "rush" was on, we have no advice to offer; but to the thousands of collectors who have been drawn to our hobby since then, and who have never realised that British Colonials might have to take a secondary place, we would suggest that they make sure of not

neglecting their old loves. Now is the time to buy; let their more wealthy brethren squabble over the privilege of paying four times catalogue for old

Europeans, while they content themselves with at present unpopular Australians and West Indians. They will not regret their foresight in a few years' time.

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. The 5d. is now being printed by Messrs. Harrison & Sons. Mr. A. B. Kay tells us that he has had a sheet of the 2½d. labels (Harrison print) with inverted watermark.

British P.O., Levant. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the Harrison printed 2½d. overprinted "1 Piastre."

Ceylon. We illustrate the new type for the 3 cent stamps chronicled last month.



Gilbert and Ellice Islands. We illustrate below one of the new stamps which have already been chronicled.



New South Wales. The *Australian Stamp Journal* chronicles the discovery of nine horizontal pairs of the 6d. stamp, of 1871-84, all imperforate vertically. The same paper also has discovered two copies of the 3d., O.S., perf. 10 compound with 11 and 11½, 12. This stamp has not, so we are told, been previously chronicled with the O.S. overprint.

Queensland. The *Australian Stamp Journal* chronicles the 9d. Commonwealth stamp on Crown and A paper perforated 11 all round.

Adhesive. Wmkd. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
9d. pale brown and ultramarine.

St. Vincent. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the 2d. Arms type.

Adhesive. Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.
2d. grey.

Tasmania. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the 4d. stamp, redrawn type.



Adhesive. Redrawn. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
4d. buff.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Austria. The *Monthly Journal* says that the following high values have been added to the Postage Due set.

Postage Dues. Unsurfaced paper. Perf. 12½.
5 kr. violet.
10 kr. ..

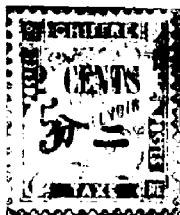
Chinese F.P.O., Tibet. Messrs. Bright and Son kindly write as follows:—

"We have found the following variety in the new Tibet surcharged on China, namely, the 3 annas with the 's' of 'annas' in a much larger type, and inverted."

Cuba. The *Monthly Journal* says that the 2c. and 5c. stamps have appeared in single colours.

Adhesives.
2c. carmine.
5c. blue.

French F.P.O., China. Lieut.-Colonel Norris Newman kindly send us specimens of two recently issued Postage Dues.



Postage Dues.
2 cents on 5c. blue.
4 cents on 10c. brown.

Portuguese Colonies. Guinea. The 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 100, 115, 200, 400 and 500 reis, have now been received overprinted "Republica."

St. Thome and Principe. Postage Dues—5 to 50 reis, overprinted.

Cape Verde. Postage Dues—Complete set 5 to 500 reis, likewise overprinted. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the above information.

Servia. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us copies of the following:—



Adhesives.
1 para, black.
5 " green.
10 " rose.
25 " blue.

Switzerland. Another value has been added to the current set of Postage Dues.

Postage Due.
30c. green and red.

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

The *Philadelphia Stamp News*, one of America's leading little stamp papers, tells its readers how to remove paper from "fugitive ink" stamps.

"Put the stamp, face down, on a clean blotter; moisten a soft rag very slightly, and with it rub the back of the stamp gently, beginning at some place where the paper has already been removed. If there is no such place, patiently rub until you reach the stamp. Shift the stamp from its place frequently. Should you notice that the blotter is getting moist, it is an indication that your rag contains too much water. Be careful to stop rubbing at once as soon as you get to the stamp."

Don't despair if nothing happens for half-an-hour or so, keep rubbing.

A writer in the same paper gives a check list of the double-lined U.S.P.S. watermarked stamps of the U.S.A. (1908-9). He deals with paper varieties only; here is his list of the two cent.

1. Ordinary wood-pulp paper.
2. Toned paper.
3. Vertically laid paper.
4. Blued experimental paper.
5. 20 per cent. China clay paper.
6. 2 " " " " thin.
7. Apparently chalk wash paper.
8. 2 per cent. China clay paper, thick.

Heaven help us if this is Philately. Perhaps, however, it is only the result of a dozen or so stamps falling into the "wash-up" tub, or the pigs bucket.

The 4 cents occurs, so we are told, on "apparently shalk wash paper."

When the whole set turns up on ice cream wafers I will invest a couple of nickels.

Another American publication, the *Philatelic Gazette*, tells its readers that the U.S. Government Collection contains a Canadian "6 pf. imperf. unused." Even in a democratic country the Government people get all the plums.

It will be good news for many of my readers to learn that Hell isn't at all a bad place; altho' friend W. E. Lincoln tells me that stamps show a tendency to curl up there. Fact; I had a picture postcard from him last month dated and postmarked Hell. I sincerely hope that return tickets are issued from this Norwegian beauty spot.

Curacao and Surinam both give some collectors a little bother when it comes to pronouncing them. It rests with an advertiser in the *Stamp Lover*, however, to think of advertising the latter Dutch Colony under the heading, Surinewe. I hope this method won't become popular, if it does we might have Curawaks, Sarahors, and Niuegolands.

Writing of pronunciation reminds me that a member of the "Royal" sometimes imagines that the word "hour" is pronounced with three h's. This is a mistake, only two should be used.

From the 1912 syllabus of the Manchester Philatelic Society I see that that Society does not object to London dealers being members of the Royal Philatelic Society; at least they have conferred the honour on the proprietor of this journal. As the late Mr. E. L. Pemberton was one of the founders of the London Society this is only as it should be. Maybe the genial Sec. of the Manchester will make our publisher a M.V.O. Gee-whiz!

English collectors sometimes have to put up with a lot from the foreign stamp papers. In *De Nederlandsche Philatelist* I see that half-a-dozen of them are called Eere-Voorzitters of the British Guiana Philatelic Exhibition.

One of the six, Mr. L. L. S. Hansbergou, wants to know if he is related to the well known Weybridge collector.

There was a remarkable revival in the fixed leaf collecting book trade early this month. Messrs. Knockout, the well-known manufacturers, tell me they had half-a-dozen enquiries

from London dealers asking for quotations for certain sizes. The real cause of all the bother was our old friend Elijah, who, fresh from the rice fields of Fiji, wandered round town getting quotations for a couple of dozen or so books to remount his collection in. I sincerely hope one of the dealers cut the other chaps by 1½d. or 2d. a dozen.

Twentieth Century Stamps of France.

By G. A. HIGLETT.

THE causes which have brought about changes in the designs of the postage stamps of the present French Republic are of more than ordinary interest.

The people of France have been very critical of these designs. The simple but artistic design of the first issue of 1849 was repeated for the issues of the present Republic after the great war. In course of time it became the subject of much adverse criticism. The effigy was ridiculed in the press, it was nicknamed "Marianne," the nickname stuck to it, and that settled the matter. Poor Marianne died of ridicule.

It was replaced by the design known as the Peace and Commerce type. This too had its day, and in turn became the subject of hostile criticism and public complaint. Mythological figures were said to be unfitting emblems of the up-to-date *fin-de-siècle* Republic. Minerva and Mercury were condemned and banished, to make room for the issues of 1900, of three different designs for different values, supposed to be more highly emblematic of the lofty ideals and virtues of the Republic.

The Blanc type, for the lower values, 1c. to 5c., displays the winged goddess or figure of Liberty, holding the balanced scales to represent Equality, accompanied by two small unclad figures embracing to represent Fraternity. In passing, one may note that the goddess has apparently six toes to her feet, but presumably the goddess of Liberty is at liberty to have as many toes as she may fancy. The emblem of Fraternity does not appeal strongly to British sentiment, because here brothers are not fond of kissing each other, but they manage these things better in France.

There are a few minor varieties of the Blanc type, the principal ones being, on the 1c., the figure of value having a long serif or hook touching the margin, and on the 5c., a triangular spot on the mirror. Copies are also found with the inscription "Republique Francaise" quite illegible.

The Merson type, for the higher values, 40c. to 5 fr., shows the same goddess with a

sheathed sword and numerous olive branches to represent Peace. There are varieties on some values with the tinted background missing (*sans teinte de fond*), or with this background much out of place.

The Mouchon type, for the intermediate values, 10c. to 30c., presents the figure of Liberty wearing the Phrygian cap, and crowned with olive to represent Peace, having a cuirass to represent Armed Defence, ornamented with a small lion's head to typify Courage, bearing in the right hand a sceptre crowned with a Hand of Justice, and supporting with the left hand a tablet inscribed "*droits de l'homme*."

This type gave rise to instant complaint. The Hand of Justice was an emblem of the old kings of France and therefore quite unsuited to a Republic. The poise of the tablet supported by the left hand was held to be an impossible position for such a thing to be held in, and the inscription, "Rights of Man," seemed to ignore the Rights of Woman, or is supposed to do so by those who do not consider that Man embraces Woman, which statement also is ambiguous. The very minute size of the lion's head as the emblem of Courage also suggested that the moral quality it typified might also have to be looked for with a microscope. The whole thing was condemned as unsatisfactory.

In the issue with two printings, varieties may be found with the figures of value quite away from the centre of the value table, and others in which the figures of value differ considerably in shade of colour from the rest of the stamp, etc., so that we find

1. Difference in colour.
2. Out of centre.
3. Double imprint.
4. Figures missing.

An examination of the backs of the stamps shows the following varieties:—

1. Double impression, one at the back (*impression au verso*). This is caused by a sheet not being fed into the machine, in consequence of which the bed-plate receives an impression, and the next sheet

being placed thereon gets an imprint on both sides, exactly coinciding with each other.

2. On thin transparent paper, with impression showing through on the back (*impression ressortant au verso*).
3. Impression at back on the gum (*impression au verso sur la gomme*). The stamps were printed in such a great hurry, that the gumming immediately followed the printing. Sheets on which neither the printing nor gum were thoroughly dried being laid upon one another, the lower gummed surface took off an impression from the upper printed surface of the sheet beneath.

Some other minor varieties to be found on particular values are as follows:—

- 10c. Hook of figure 1 broken off and missing.
- 15c. Hook of figure 1 long and touching frame.
Lines of background run together making it almost solid.
Top flag of figure 5 very thick.
Spots of colour in centre of figure 5.
- 25c. Curl of figure 5 making a complete circle.

Accent over E of *POSTES*.

SOWER TYPE 1.

The prevalent dissatisfaction led to a change of design in 1903. A part of the coinage already bore the design of the Sower, by Roty, and this was chosen for the new postage stamps. It is supposed to typify the Republic sowing its ideas or ideals (whichever you like) in the world. It may be consoling to the French to portray themselves as benefitting the whole world of other nations by spreading their own ideals, but it is not exactly complimentary to the other nations. Quite apart from this consideration, the design was open to more serious practical criticism.

It will be seen that a strong wind is blowing the lady's dress in a particular direction, and she is walking against this, sowing against the wind, which is believed to be not the usual method of practical husbandry, even if it holds good on the moral plane. But far more strange than this is the fact that a strong light is falling upon the lady from the front, casting dark shadow behind, while the sun is also behind her, and this is not in accordance with the working of natural law in this country, although, of course, as stated before, they may manage these things better in France.

The preparation of this type was hurried by the Government with all possible speed. Sheets were printed in the morning, gummed in the afternoon, and perforated the next day. This great haste was not compatible with good work.

In this first type of the Sower, the figure

appears on a lined background, with the sun rising above the line of the horizon.

The stamps were issued from April to June, 1903. The plate numbers are 3, 4, 5, and 6. The printings are in various shades of rose.

The haste with which these were prepared led to numerous minute varieties. Taking the 10c. only as an example, there are to be found numerous spots or faults arising from defective printing, such as:—

A blotch on the sun, producing the semblance of an eclipse (*Sèmeuse à l'éclipse*).

The appearance of a small flag in the hand (*Sèmeuse avec drapeau*).

A series of faults producing the appearance of a broken seed bag with the seed escaping (*Sèmeuse au sac percé*).

A ball or bullet (*Sèmeuse au boulet*).

There are also numerous apparent errors of of lettering, letters joined together, engraver's name omitted, etc.

There were very many spoiled or faulty sheets (*fautes*), known here as printers' waste, which should in the ordinary course be cancelled and sent to the Bank of France to be burnt, but a great many of these waste sheets have escaped destruction and found their way out into the philatelic market.

There are also to be found the three varieties mentioned in the case of the previous issue, *impression au verso*, *impression au verso sur la gomme*, and *impression ressortant au verso*. The copies seen are generally unused, and probably came from the defective sheets.

SOWER TYPE 2.

Steps were taken to remedy the defects appearing in the design, and a new type was produced from the same die with all the lines of the background eliminated. In order that the Sower might appear to be standing on terra firma, something like an inverted soup plate was engraved at the bottom, all the rest of the background being in solid colour. This type is known as the *Sèmeuse avec terrasse* or *avec sol*.

It was made a trifle smaller than the first type, to allow better perforation.

It was issued in April, 1906, and 30 million stamps were printed.

Immediately it was issued, steps were taken to improve it. The very next day after the issue, there was discussed the question of the suppression of the small part of the seed bag which projects in front of the left arm, and the elimination of the ground upon which the Sower stands, and this was carried into effect, and a further new type produced, also by an alteration of the original Die.

SOWER TYPE 3.

This type has the same solid background, with no ground under the feet, and the projecting point of the seed bag removed.

Printing commenced on 5th July, 1906, and

the stamps were issued on 28th July. The colour is in shades of red, or dull red. The Plate numbers are 6 and 7, and the total issue was 55 million stamps.

Sundry minor varieties are found, as before. This issue was also considered unsatisfactory, and orders were given for certain retouches to be made at once.

When the issue had lasted for less than two hours, it was withdrawn. Those who had promptly laid in a supply were happy, as it was said that the whole stock was to be burnt, but other ideas finally prevailed, and later on the whole stock was issued.

This type is described in French catalogues as *Sèmeuse sans terrasse* or *sans sol*.

SOWER TYPE 4.

The alteration of design, or re-touches, consist of a white line outlining the posterior contour of the figure, with something of the same sort done to the right arm and the seed bag, to make them stand out in bolder relief, and in the meantime a further printing and issue were made of Type 1 with the lined background.

Printing commenced in September, 1906, and the issue in the next month. The printing was continued until February, 1907, and the total production was 500 million stamps.

The lines of the re-touch made by the engraver were so fine that imperfect printing often made them disappear, and so it is possible to get pairs apparently consisting of Types 3 and 4 together.

On 24th October orders were given for a further re-touch, for the contours of the figure to be better shewn and for the inscriptions to be made more legible.

SOWER TYPE 5.

In this type the outlines are clearer and the inscriptions are in thicker letters.

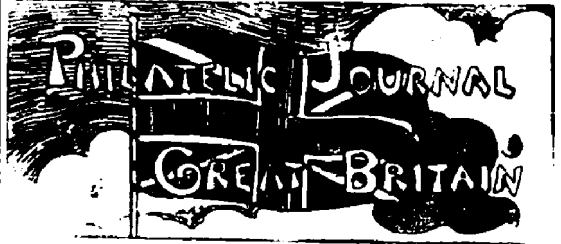
Printing commenced on 22nd January, 1907, and the issue was first made in the following September. The colour is in shades of red, scarlet, etc.

Besides the variety with impression shewing through on the back, and imperforate stamps, the varieties due to defective printing are as numerous as ever. Some of these are very pronounced, giving us the Sower with candle in right hand, Sower with beer jug in right hand, Sower playing at ball, etc.

This type was also successfully forged to defraud the Post Office, the principal distinguishing feature of the forgery being its perforation by a line machine instead of by the comb machine of the genuine stamps.

It is not usual for one of the commonest stamps of the issue of an important country, while only recently or still in use, to present such an extended field for study as is shown by the 10 centimes value of the Sower type. The penny issues of New Zealand during the past ten years present a great variety arising

from varied causes, the place of printing, alteration of design, numerous changes of paper, many different perforations, etc. The French stamps, however, have all been produced at one place, have all the same perforation, there are no official changes of paper, and the design although slightly varied has been produced from one original die, but it will be seen from the foregoing, which is based upon Mr. Maury's well-known handbook, that we have here an almost infinite variety, presenting a most extensive field for study, with the advantage that most of the varieties can be picked up for a trifling cost, and the very numerous varieties already listed indicate that there are more discoveries yet to be made.



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NEW MEMBER,

R. H. A. Deere, Ealing, W.

NOTICES.

The Committee met at Essex Hall on Thursday, 7th inst., when it was decided to give a smoking concert during the season, Messrs. Lincoln, Lamb, Pemberton, and the

Hon. Sec. being appointed a Sub-Committee to carry out the arrangements. The monthly meetings at Essex Hall will be held on the second Thursday in each month throughout the season from Oct. to May, commencing on Thursday, Oct. 12th and concluding with the Annual General Meeting in May, 1912. Displays and papers are being arranged for and it is hoped to publish the programme in next report. All members and any visitors cordially welcomed at all meetings.

Mr. J. E. Joselin will be glad to hear from all members interested in the Exchange Section and the Hon. Sec. will gladly receive and acknowledge subscriptions, proposals for membership, and any donations to the Forgery Collection.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Sept. 9th, 1911.

Correspondence.

Ipswich,

August 18th 1911,

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

DEAR SIR,—

POSTMASTERS AND COMMISSION.

With reference to the paragraph in the current issue of the *P.J.G.B.* concerning Gilbert and Ellice Islands postage stamps, it may interest you to know that we have already made a complaint to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of whose reply we enclose herewith. It appears evident from this reply that whatever authority the Postmaster had to charge a commission it did not come from the Colonial Office. Not only is 10% charged on the face value of the stamps but the commission is also charged on the commission itself, that is to say for each £1 remitted 18/- worth of stamps is sent, the commission being charged on the total amount of remittance instead of on the value of the stamps supplied.

Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

[COPY.]

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office, London, S.W.

Downing Street,
3rd August 1911.

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo enquiring whether the Postmaster in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands

Protectorate is authorised to charge a commission on orders for postage stamps received from stamp dealers and to inform you that the matter is being referred to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific for a report.

I am gentlemen, your obedient Servant,
(signed) C. P. LUCAS.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Coming Events.

ON October 3rd and 4th, Messrs. Glendining and Co., Ltd., of 7, Argyll Street, W., the well known philatelic auctioneers, will offer for sale a superb collection of British postage stamps. This collection, probably the best that has ever been brought to the hammer, is replete with gems of the first water and it will surely bring together a big attendance of keen bidders. To enumerate all the fine pieces in this collection would take up far too much of our space; the following, however, are just a few of next month's attractions:—

Brilliant mint block of twelve 1d. blacks; ditto block of six with marginal inscription; a number of mint 2d. blues "no lines"; blocks and strips of the 2d. blue of 1841; various Archer roulettes, etc.; a superb range of mint 1d. and 2d. in both the 14 and 16 perforations, large and small Crowns; a mint copy, big margins, of the Cardiff penny; the O.P. PC error, mint. In the octagonal stamps we find singles, pairs, and blocks galore, while in the surface-printed stamps there is a plethora of desirable lots, amongst which we particularly desire the 4d. carmine on small, medium and large garters, the mint 9d. with hair lines and a score of other choice items from 1855 to 1910. A few scarce Officials are included in the sale.

Southern Nigeria Stamps.

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have received information from the Government of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate of the loss of 60 sheets of 6d. Postage and Revenue stamps of the current issue.

The sheets are numbered in the margin from 3379 to 3438.

If any sheets so numbered, or any whole sheets, should be offered for sale, the Crown Agents would be much obliged if notice was given to them at once, and if the name and address of the seller could be obtained.

Whitehall Gardens, S.W.

23rd August, 1911.

Great Britain.

AN INTERESTING FIND.

OUR publishers have found in a small collection a genuinely used copy of the 2d. blue of 1841, plate 3, without letters in the lower corners. The stamp was unnoticed by the late owner of the collection and was placed among several ordinary copies of 1841 *two-pennies*.

It is used on a small piece of the original cover and is obliterated with the Maltese Cross postmark, thereby showing that it was passed through the post some time between 1841 and 1844.



The stamp is no doubt one of the proofs which were used for distribution among postmasters immediately before the stamps with white lines below POSTAGE and above TWO PENCE were issued. These proofs were without letters in the corner blocks.

Another used copy is on record but we have not seen it and we understand that the obliteration is so indistinct as to be most unconvincing. The specimen which we have illustrated above, however, is quite above suspicion and constitutes a most interesting discovery. It is obvious that there would have been no difficulty in using one of these proofs on a letter in the early forties, as the difference from the issued stamp is so small. No doubt some frugal postmaster used up his specimen, or might even have sold it for 2d. Our publishers, we understand, appraise it much more highly!

J. P. U. Smoker.

ARRANGEMENTS for this increasingly popular annual event are going forward. The date has not yet been fixed, but it will be some time in late autumn as usual.

Full particulars will be announced in our next number in plenty of time for members and others to arrange so that no other engagements should clash with the most sociable event of the philatelic season.



The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 148.)

THE PRINTINGS FROM THE CLEANED PLATES 1867-86. (Continued.)

THE printings of the stamps issued during these years fall naturally into four divisions, as follows :

- I. 1867-72. Generally good impressions from the cleaned plates ; all values.
- II. 1872-76. Impressions very fair, on thin to very thin paper with a very open mesh (coarse grained). All values.
- III. 1876-79. Varied impressions on cream or on buff papers ; all values except 80 *lepta*.
- IV. 1879-80. As last but without figures of value at back. All values except 80 *lepta*.

I will consider these subdivisions in order, and leave the description of the two values 30 and 60 *lepta*, which were introduced in 1876, till afterwards.

THE STAMPS OF 1867-72. FROM THE CLEANED PLATES.

I.—1867. 1 *lepton*, deep red-brown on cream.

The colour of this printing is distinctive ; it is a deep rich red-brown. Signs of the plate being cleaned are not very evident, but the lines of shading on the cheek being somewhat shorter than in the previous two or three printings points to the use of a new *découpage*. The impression is heavy and not very clear.

J.—1868. 1 *lepton*, red-brown on cream.

The colour of this printing is similar to the last, but not so deep. It is a true red-brown. The plate was evidently cleaned very thoroughly for this as in the majority of specimens the impression is very clear. The paper used appears to be smoother and better finished than in the other printings of this period. This corresponds to the printing which Beckton calls H, variety h, concerning which he says :—"A few sheets of the glazed paper, being on hand, was used up in this printing. In consequence of the better finished paper the impression is much clearer, and at first sight would appear to belong to an earlier printing (B) ; but the colour, and the lines of shading on the neck not being so clearly defined, at once locates the stamp."

The earliest date I have is Jan. 12, 1868. It is a scarce stamp.

K.—1869. chocolate-brown on cream.

This is the printing which I referred to in my introductory remarks on the stamps of this

period. The colour is as deep as printing I. and warmer in tone, but its distinctive feature is the very short shading on the cheek and the pale spandrels. These effects were evidently due to the use of an exaggerated form of *découpage*, which was by no means suitable. In appearance the impression is something like that of the well-known "cleaned-plate" printing of 1870, (Gibbons 49), but the colour is of course much deeper, and the shading on the cheek though short is heavier. Besides, this printing is not so smooth. It is extremely rare ; I have two specimens, both with dated postmarks, one having been used at Athens on 1st January, 1890 and the other at Chalkis in 1871, (name of month illegible). I should imagine that this printing was made in the early part of 1869, as the colour resembles I and J, whereas the next printing to be described is identical in colour with that of 1870.

L.—1869. 1 *lepton*, pale reddish-brown on cream.

The various efforts at producing better impressions from the plates resulted quite satisfactorily in this printing. The stamps have the look of much earlier impressions, indeed until I discovered several dated copies I always regarded it as one of the fairly early Athens prints. The spandrels are clear and the lines of shading on the cheek are distinct, separate and fairly long. The colour is exactly like the paler shades of the printing next to be described, but the stamps cannot be mistaken for these as the shading on the cheek is totally different. The earliest postmark I have seen is 5th April, 1869 (Athens).

M.—1870. 1 *lepton*, pale to full reddish-brown on cream.

Of all the 1 *lepton* printings this is the most distinctive—the one about which there need never be any doubt. All authorities agree (a very rare circumstance in matters Greek) in putting the date at 1870. Dated copies are scarce and I have not seen a great number, but of these the earliest is May, 1870. The



impression is characterised by the extremely short shading on the cheek, and the frequent absence, or partial absence, of the lines of shading jutting up from the centre of the base of the bust. Early writers on Greek stamps averred that these peculiarities were inconsistent with any other possibility than the use of a new plate, but this statement has long been disproved. The presence of the flaws which are the same in this printing as before and after, is quite sufficient to prove that the same plate was used. The difference is entirely accounted for by the use of a new *découpage* which was evidently designed with the hope of reproducing the dots and dashes in the shading which are characteristic of the Paris impressions; in this it failed. (In the case of the 20 lep. of the same date this result was actually achieved). In other respects the impression is almost identical with printing L.

The colour varies considerably from pale to fairly deep, the latter shades being the scarcer. This stamp is quite common unused without gum but is not easy to find mint, while a pair or a block in any condition is extremely rare.

N.—1871. 1 lepton, pale dull brown on cream.

Judging by the colour alone one would at first assign these stamps to the 1863-4 period. Some specimens are very like printing C, though as a rule they are paler. This false impression is corrected by an examination of the printing, which though carefully done reveals the lack of sharpness which characterises the earlier prints. The general appearance is flat and featureless. These stamps were in general use from 1871-74 after which date they disappear (according to the evidence of dated copies) until 1883 (!). It is possible that those of the latter date, of which, I have seen a good many copies from various sources, are from a new printing of that date, but I think this unlikely because both impression and colour are *most* unlike any other printings of that late period. My opinion is that they belong to the printing under notice, a part of which had been overlooked during the intervening period and then used up.

O.—1872 (?). 1 lepton, dull brown on deep cream paper.

This printing is very like the last, but may be distinguished by the paper, which is very strongly toned, appearing yellowish when compared with the stamps of the last printing. The shade of the stamp itself also has a redder appearance, and it is slightly darker than the last. This printing is not common: I have no used dated copies, but from its appearance I think it must have been issued in the early 70's.

G.—1869. 2 lepta, bistre-brown on cream.

Owing to the ineffective colour in which this value was printed, the small variations in printing, which are often so noticeable in the

other values, are very difficult to trace. Consequently, it is only possible to separate those printings which have the most marked peculiarities. To add to the difficulty which I have found with this value, there is the fact that copies with dated postmarks are very scarce, especially during the years 1866-71.

No serious effort appears to have been made to clean the plate of this value until 1871. The first printing of this period (G) is a fair impression rather like D in colour and appearance, but not quite so smooth-looking. This is accounted for, no doubt, by the paper being thicker and not so highly surfaced.

H.—1871. Pale yellow-bistre on deep cream paper.

This is a distinctive printing and corresponds with No. 54 of Gibbons' list. The shade is rather like that of printing A, but the impression is not so distinct. The paper is rather thick and strongly toned cream. Unused specimens (which are much commoner than used ones) show a very thick yellowish gum.

I.—1873 (?). Pale flesh on cream.

This evidently belongs to this period, but I have not seen a used copy. It is extremely rare. The colour is very difficult to name. It is hardly flesh, but this word is more or less descriptive and I think should help collectors to recognize it if they are fortunate enough to find it. It is really a very washy looking bistre with a suggestion of pink in it. The impression is fairly good but owing to the very unsuitable colour it is most ineffective. The paper is much thinner than in H, and is more highly surfaced.

J.—1873. 2 lepta, pale dull bistre on cream.

This stamp is on thin paper like the last, but the colour being deeper, the impression shews up much more clearly though it is still unsatisfactory. A close examination, however, shews that the printing is clear, and the lines of shading on the cheek separate and distinct. The stamps of this printing are fairly plentiful used, but are rather scarce unused.

K.—1874. 2 lepta, bistre-brown on cream.

The stamps of this printing are much like F in colour, but are never so deep. The ink used has a tendency to become oxydised, and the stamps are occasionally found in an unnaturally deep colour from this cause. All oxydised 2 leptas may safely be assigned, so far as my experience goes, to this printing. The impression is not very fine, though the lines of shading on the cheek are fairly clear and frequently broken, forming dashes. The paper is thin, as in the last two printings.

H.—1867. 5 lepta, pale bluish green on greenish.

The impression is very fair, but the colour is very pale, and consequently it does not

show up well. The spandrels and the shading are quite clear. The paper is almost a bluish green, and on the face it looks quite bluish, but this, I think, is an appearance which is partly due to the colour of the impression. This is a very scarce printing.

I.—1867. 5 lepta bluish green on greenish.

The stamps of this printing are much finer impressions than the last. The plate was evidently thoroughly cleaned for this; the fine lines in the spandrels and the shading are very clear. It is difficult to separate this printing from F, but as a rule the colour is deeper and the printing finer. The figures on the back, on the other hand, are often thicker, and sometimes smudgy.

J.—1870. 5 lepta, pale yellow-green on greenish.

Very light impression, as though as little ink as possible was used. A curious effect is often observable owing to this light inking, the background having a mottled appearance but leaving a solid outline to the front of the profile, which is darker than the background itself. Figures at back heavily printed. This printing is scarce.

K.—1870. 5 lepta, sage-green on greenish.

The stamps of this printing, which are fairly common, somewhat resemble E in colour but are paler. The impression is good, but not so fine as in E, from which it can best be distinguished by the spandrels, which are decidedly paler. The colour has a slightly sage tint in it, which, however, is not so marked as in the thin paper printing of 1872.

L.—1873 (?). 5 lepta, deep bright bluish green on greenish.

I am venturing to make this printing on the strength of a single specimen which I possess; it bears a dated postmark—25 Febr. '73. If this stamp were not so markedly different from any others, I should have hesitated before calling it a separate printing without having seen others to corroborate it. In the circumstances I have no hesitation in doing so. The colour is similar to some of the deep shades of the thin paper period, but in this case the paper is of the ordinary thickness and texture. The tint also has its counterpart in some of the bluish-green first Athens 5 lepta. The impression is heavy, and the lines of shading on the cheek slightly shorter than usual, a characteristic of this period which is often very noticeable in the other values, but rarely so in the 5 lepta.

(To be continued.)



New Leaves to Cut.

SENF'S 1912 CATALOGUE.

THE new edition is clothed in brown—thus following the publisher's system of altering the colour of the binding each year. This, by the way, is a very sensible idea and might be followed by other publishers with advantage. Before proceeding to any notice of the contents of the new catalogue, we should like to refer to the table given on page ii. of the introductory portion, which gives the numbers of each edition which have been sold. This is a most instructive announcement and might be taken as an index of the growth of Philately. The first edition appeared in 1892 and ran to 16,000; the issue for 1911 consisted of 33,000. These figures in themselves are not very startling, but when we remember that the price of the catalogue has doubled during that period and that during the past few years it has had to meet very strong opposition from Kohl's Catalogue, the great increase in the growth of philately is strikingly exemplified. The growth of the catalogue has not been steadily progressive during all those years, for after remaining at 25,000 for five successive years—1894 to 1898—the circulation gradually declined for four years until, in 1902-3, it touched 18,000. From that year, however, the figures have gone up steadily until the issue which has just been superseded, which reaches, as we have said, 33,000—a figure which we hope will be eclipsed by the edition now under notice.

Very trivial alterations have been made here and there in numbering, as for instance in Salvador, Brazil, Switzerland and one or two other countries. The problem presented by the political position of Bangkok has been solved in another way. In previous editions these issues were put after Great Britain, under the heading "British Post in Bangkok," now they are put immediately after Straits Settlements. This is a more natural arrangement, but it will not help us, personally, as we never attempt to find any out-of-the-way country in Senf without the aid of the excellent index which is provided. This latter being printed in English, French and German is of the greatest assistance to those with an

*We regret that our review of Kohl's
Grosser Katalog has unavoidably
to be held over until next month.*

imperfect knowledge of more than one language.

The prices of the oldest and the newest issues reflect the market by shewing a steady though not a phenomenal rise. This remark applies to medium and common stamps. In the case of some of the lesser known rarities the usual wild guesses are made, these being generally short of the mark.

THE WONDERLAND OF STAMPS.*

BY W. D. BURROUGHS.

We have received from the English publisher a copy of the above work. It is written by an American and printed in the United States. The author has successfully filled considerably over two hundred pages with simple stories connected with the designs on postage stamps—while he employs two hundred illustrations to point his morals.

Although written with the idea of interesting children in the hobby of stamp collecting. Mr. Burrough's book also contains a good deal of information which will doubtless interest students of more mature years. Commencing with a zoological review of the world's postage stamps we quickly reach more interesting subjects when we dip into Chapter IV., and find there various interesting "Bits of United States History." Chapter V. is entitled "Pickings from Foreign History." Other descriptive headings are "Small Records of Big Wars," "Don Quixote," "Thumb-Nail Maps," etc., etc. From a cursory peep into Mr. Burrough's book it would appear that his compilation of interesting historical and other facts has been very carefully made—we do not meet with the glaring errors which some authors, when they are writing for young readers sometimes perpetrate.

Any of our readers who have very youthful nephews or nieces will find "The Wonderland of Stamps" an excellent gift book. Unfortunately its philatelic value is nil, unless there are some philatelists who would like to label their 1/- N.S.W. stamps of 1888 "Queer Old Kangaroo," and their 2/6 stamps of Tonga, "Old Poll Parrot."

*Published by T. Fisher Unwin, 1, Adelphi Terrace, W.C., 6/- nett.

City of London Philatelic Society.

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PROGRAMME SEASON, 1911-12.

1911.

October 11th—

President's Opening Address.

Display by Members of Recent Acquisitions and Novelties.

November 8th—

Display with Notes, "Sydney Views,"

L. L. R. Hausburg.

December 13th—

Paper and Display, "Cayman Islands,"

A. Léon Adutt.

1912.

January 10th—

Display, "British Colonies in America,"

W. Phillips.

February 14th—

Display with Notes, "Great Britain Line-engraved." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.

Competitive Display, "Stamps printed by Perkins Bacon & Co., not exceeding 100 and not more than 10, from any one country."

March 13th—

Paper and Display, "High Value Europeans,"

W. B. Edwards.

April 10th—

Display with Notes, "Great Britain, Surface Printed, Officials and Levant."

J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
Competitive Display, "Twenty-five Different Stamps with Reasons for Exhibiting them."

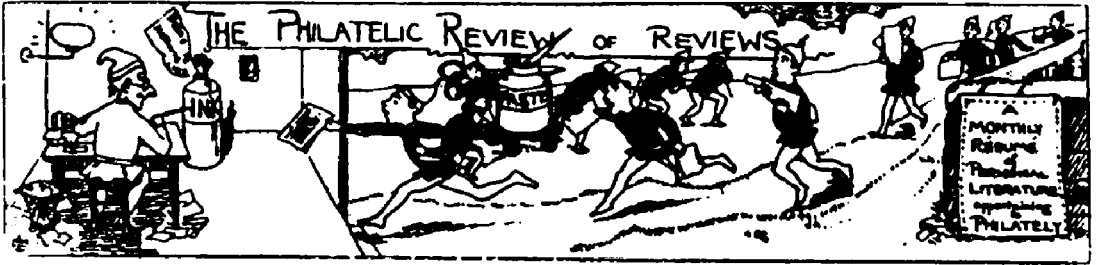
May 8th—

Annual General Meeting.

The above programme conveys but a slight idea of the very interesting displays and discussions which will, as usual, eventuate during the ensuing season, merely giving, as it does, the most important items provided for members' entertainment each evening.

Collectors desirous of enrolment as members for the coming season are recommended to communicate early with the Honorary Secretary, from whom a full report of the Society's transactions during the past year may be obtained.

Will members please note that on and after October 1st the Secretaryship will be transferred to Mr. A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, No. 1, Lloyds Avenue, E.C.



SEPTEMBER 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

THE August number of the *Monthly Journal* contains further instalments of Mr. C. J. Phillips' "The Stamps of Paraguay." Mr. F. J. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making," and "Desdichado's," "The World's Officials." The first mentioned deals with the multitudinous "Habilitado" overprints of 1907-08. The second with the method of producing stamps by lithography, and the third with the official stamps of British Guiana, British Somaliland and Ceylon.

M. L. Hanciau, commences an article which is to deal with the stamps of the "Spanish West Indies, 1855-1876." He contributes some introductory remarks, and also gets down to work on the issue of May, 1855.

We make the following short extract :—

MANUFACTURE.—With the exception of one issue for Spain itself, the stamps of the mother-country and for her colonies have, from the commencement, been engraved and printed in the workshops of the National Factory of Stamps at Madrid.

There were 170 stamps in the sheet, in ten horizontal rows of seventeen.

Under date of the 18th June, 1855, the National Factory of Stamps sent an account to the Governor-General of Cuba. It was, however, the Spanish Government that decided upon any changes that were to be made and selected the designs, usually from among those no longer in use in Spain. The details of the account referred to are as follows:—

Purchase of 32 reams of paper	3,200 reales.
Preparation of three moulds (clichés)	3,000 "
Day's pay for work	3,840 "
Purchase of inks	600 "
Making up the stamps in packets	100 "
Purchase of gum	500 "
Packing of the stamps for despatch, cases of wood and tin	203 "

Total - - - - - 11,443 reales, copper.

Mr. W. B. Edwards contributes a capital first instalment of an article dealing with the "Long" Stamps of

South Australia. We also find an article dealing with the Cape "Woodblocks" of 1861. This paper, owing to the recent article published in the *Monthly Journal*, is of exceptional interest. The following lengthy extract will probably induce some of our readers, who are not *Monthly Journal* subscribers, to procure that publication:—

Before considering the errors we should like to make a little suggestion as to this stamp with the so-called "retouched" corner. It has always appeared to us somewhat a misnomer, because if the stereotype had suffered any reparable damage, it would not have been difficult to engrave upon it something resembling the ornaments in the corners of the ordinary stamps, which are formed by hollows in the metal; we believe the parallel lines in the corner of this stereotype are the impression of the finger or thumb of some careless workman, who handled the mould before it was properly hardened, and no "retouching" was done to it at all. The fact that this cliché was thus a damaged and not repaired one would account, we think, for its having been removed from the plate of the Fourpence, presumably at the same time as the Penny error.

With regard to the errors themselves, our view is that they existed throughout the supplies of the 27th of February, and of the 1st, 7th, 9th, and 14th of March, at the rate of one in every 64 stamps then printed. This would give us 1194 One Penny, blue, and 1568 Fourpence, red, in all, numbers which appear to us by no means excessive, when we consider the numbers now in existence as compared with those of other rarities, such as the "Post Office" Mauritius, of which as many as 500 each are believed to have been printed; and the greater scarcity of the 4d. error, in comparison with that of the 1d., is easily accounted for in the same way as that of the ordinary 1d. in comparison with the ordinary 4d. The usual colours of the errors are, naturally, those of the least scarce of the regular stamps; the question is whether the 1d. in grey-blue and bright blue and the 4d. in rose-red or carmine are, in comparison, scarcer than the stamps correctly printed in those same tints, or whether there is sufficient difference of comparative rarity to suggest that the errors were removed from any particular lots of the stamps, after they were delivered. This is a question we must leave to those who have greater experience and knowledge of such matters than we can claim to possess; we think it is evident, however, that nothing of this kind had taken place down to the 16th of March, the date of the letter from the Colonial Secretary's Office to the Treasury (see p. 245) giving a list of the lots of stamps "manufactured," "deposited and issued" previous to that date. "Issued," we see, means issued to the Postmaster-General, and the latest numbers mentioned being divisible by 64 (or indeed by 128

seem to show us that no errors had been removed from the sheets at that date.

"Correspondence," "New Issues," etc., complete a capital number of our most interesting contemporary.

The *Philatelic Record* for August contains the completion of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's article dealing with the stamps of the Morocco Agencies. Writing about some of the local private posts, he says:—

Through the medium of local courier posts maintained by private enterprise, the British postal service in Morocco was extended to the interior cities of Mequinez and Marrakesh several years prior to the establishment of regular postal agencies of any of the foreign Powers in those capitals. The two services in question being organized with the approval of the Gibraltar postal authorities, and run in direct connection with the British courier service, their respective postage stamp issues are, in the opinion of the present writer, entitled to be included with the regular official issues of the Morocco Agencies, as they were actually on sale at British Post Offices in Morocco.

These "stamps" are described in full.

The *Sveriges Filatelist-Förening* contributes another instalment of "The Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905." This article now deals with perforations and we make the following lengthy extract:—

The first perforating machine for Swedish postage stamps was manufactured in England in 1855, but where and by whom is not known. The first machine made a perforation gauging 14. In this machine were perforated all the skilling banco stamps, the two local stamps, the black and the brown, and the coat of arms stamps until 1865, when a new machine was brought into use. The first-mentioned machine became considerably worn at the end of its employment, which can be seen in the stamps from that time. The holes are no longer circular but form irregular ovals. When comparing such a stamp and a stamp of the figure type, perforated 14, it looks as if the two perforations did not fit together, especially along the long sides of the stamps. This circumstance has given rise to a supposition which has appeared in some publications that the first Swedish postage stamps were perforated 14 along the short and 13½ along the long side.

The new perforating machine was manufactured in 1865 by M. A. Rundlöf, and, like the first, it perforated the stamps 14. In this machine were perforated the two stamps of the lion type, 17 and 20 öre, the coat of arms stamps, the 3 öre stamp of coat of arms type of 1865, and the figure type and postage due stamps until the end of March, 1877. This second machine gave in comparison with the first a sharp and even perforation, but became worn in time the same as the other. The needles then became so dull that the holes were no longer punched out of the paper, but formed openings, the edges of which were pressed from an upper sheet into the underlying, etc., which thus caused the sheets to adhere to each other. Besides this, the small spaces between the holes, on account of the enlargement of the holes, became so small and fragile that they were unable to keep the stamps together and the sheets were torn to pieces. In order to remedy this last mentioned difficulty the number of perforating needles was reduced on the new machine which was then ordered. The new machine was

manufactured, according to contract of 27 December, 1876, by the firm of Rundlöf & Co., was delivered the following year, and was mounted in its place and tested 6 April, 1877. This machine, the third in order, thus delivered stamps perforated 13, which also was the case with a fourth machine, which was bought from the same firm 1st October, 1877, and most likely intended for the postage due stamps, while the machine ordered the previous year was to be used for ordinary postage stamps.

The perforating machine intended for ordinary stamps became in time worn out, like its predecessors, and a new one was ordered from and delivered by F. F. Lundell, of Stockholm. This happened in 1884: since that time perforating machines have been delivered by Lundell mentioned, and by C. L. Holm, of Stockholm, whose last delivery was made in 1904.

For perforating the official stamps M. A. Rundlöf, according to the contract of 24th July, 1873, manufactured a machine which was delivered in the autumn of the same year. This machine gave stamps perforated 14, and was used up to 29th March, 1881, when a machine manufactured by the firm Oller & Co., was employed. The new machine should, according to the contract of 15th November, 1880, have been manufactured to correspond with the old machine, but owing to results of experience the number of the perforating needles was lessened, so that the machine when used gave stamps perforated 13. New perforating machines for the official postage stamps have since then been delivered by before-mentioned Lundell and Holm.

"Reviews," "New Issues," "Notes and News," "Correspondence," etc., help to fill up several pages of our contemporary.

The August editorial notes in the *London Philatelist* deal exclusively with the honour conferred on Mr. J. A. Tilleard; namely, that he has been invested with the Royal Victorian Order of the Fourth Class. Congratulations.

Mr. M. P. Castle contributes some notes dealing with the Cape of Good Hope Woodblocks. He deals principally with the important article published in the July number of the *Monthly Journal*, and its bearing on previously contributed "Woodblock" lore. His introductory note is so true that we venture to extract it, in the hope that it may prove of service to those writers who are under the impression that they have contributed the last word on any given topic.

It is the general experience of authors of books and writers of articles on matters philatelic to find their labours ultimately used as the stepping-stones to further and fuller information. The last word in Philately is a far cry, and the possessor of a well-balanced mind is alike content that he has achieved his best at the time of writing, and that further knowledge should be made available by other subsequent writers.

Captain G. F. Napier continues to write about the stamps of Brazil. He deals with the stamps of 1882 to 1892. A page of "Reviews," "New Issues," "Auction prices," "Occasional Notes," etc., complete our review. One of the

“Occasional Notes” we venture to reproduce below :—

DESTRUCTION OF MAURITIUS STAMPS.

We are indebted to Lieut. V. L. Henderson for the following information :—

The following stamps were withdrawn from circulation and destroyed at the end of last year :—

Date of Issue.	Denomination.	Number.
1878.	5s. surcharged Rs. 2.50	650
1899.	6c. on 18c.	305
1899.	15c. on 36c.	104
1902.	4c. overprint P. & R.	31
1902.	25c.	160
1902.	50c.	5923
1902.	Rs. 2.50	5259
1902.	12c. on 18c.	127
1903.	15c. Express Delivery, Inland	900
1904.	18c. Foreign	1090

There were 180,003 Black Arms stamps received in the Colony in 1903.

10,100 were surcharged locally “Express Delivery, Foreign,” and of these 1090 were destroyed as above.

64,500 were surcharged locally “Express Delivery, Inland,” and of these 900 were destroyed as above.

Of the remaining stock, 42,205 were surcharged locally for fiscal use, and the balance, 63,198, were destroyed at the end of last year.

The September number of the *Stamp Lover* contains, besides J.P.S. matter, a further continuation of Mr. Harold Row's excellent article dealing with the stamps of Siam. He writes about the “Permanent Issue of 1900, and the so-called Rejected Die,” also the surcharges of 1905, and the “permanent” issue of the same year. Regarding the “full face” stamps he remarks :—

Dealing first of all with the “rejected die,” the date given above (1900) for its issue is that generally accepted, and I think fairly accurately indicates the true period of emission, but the earliest reference to the different values known that I have met with is as follows :—

- 1 att } *Monthly Journal*, April, 1900.
- 2 atts }
- 3 atts } *Echo de la Timbrologie*, October, 1900.
- 4 atts }
- 10 atts } *Monthly Journal*, November, 1905.

The most noticeable thing about this list is the extremely long period which elapsed before the highest two values were discovered, if indeed these two were issued with the other three, and I must confess that I am somewhat sceptical myself about it. In a letter from a correspondent to the *Monthly Journal*, quoted below, and published in January, 1901, no mention is made of either the 4 atts or the 10 atts value, and, further, every used copy of these two values that I have seen was very suspiciously like a copy “postmarked to order.” (It may be as well to mention at this point that I have been assured that all this issue was postmarked to order in sheets at KORAT, and certainly all the KORAT postmarks I have seen are very suspicious.) But whether my suspicions are correct or not must remain in the balance, until the official correspondence relating to these (and other) issues is obtained and published.

I have seen both the 1 att and 2 atts on entires, and the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, in the issue referred to above, states that the 3 atts of this issue has been seen used on a letter to France. A piece of an entire

in my possession, bearing (among other stamps) a 1 att of the rejected die, is postmarked PUKET, with the date 30th October, 1902. The date is interesting, as indicating the possibility of these stamps having been in use for some time, and so is the locality, as the only PUKET I know of is almost at the bottom of the Siamese portion of the Malay Peninsula, while the letter previously referred to, and quoted below, states that they were in use in the eastern part of the country (in which part is KORAT).

The extract from the *Monthly Journal* of January, 1901, is as follows :—“We have at last obtained some information about the mysterious stamps with three-quarter face portrait to left from a correspondent at Bangkok. He tells us that he obtained copies of the 1, 2, and 3 atts of this type at a post office in one of the eastern provinces in Siam, and that they were current in that part of the country. According to a letter our correspondent received from an officer of the Postal Department, these were stamps which should not have been issued at all, as the design was not approved of, and we can only suppose that a supply of these was sent to some outlying district in error.”

It may interest Mr. Row to know that our publishers have in their stock two *postally used* blocks of six of the 1 att of the rejected type. One of these blocks is postmarked 12.11.99 and the other 19.11.99, both having been used at Puket. From these it will be seen that the date of issue should be 1899 and not 1900.

Mr. W. J. C. Pope writes about the “Early Stamps of Guatemala.” This title seems slightly ambiguous as we find his paper carries us to the stamps of 1895. Perhaps, however, Mr. Pope considers the stamps of this date “early.”

We also learn from the columns of our excellent contemporary that the membership of the Brighton Branch shews a decrease of six for the past season. Buck up, Brighton.

The September number of *Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers*, contains a capital article contributed by Mr. Griebert dealing with forgeries made to defraud Postal Authorities. Special attention has been paid to Spanish stamps, we find a number of enlarged illustrations.

In the list of forgeries given we find that France is only credited with one, namely the 10c. of 1906. What about the “Peace and Commerce” forgeries?

Another article which provides capital reading is Mr. A. B. Creeke's “Apologia” wherein he replies to Mr. C. L. Pack's comments in the *London Philatelist* on Mr. Griebert's recently published “Uruguay” book.

Mr. Creeke wholeheartedly takes up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Griebert, with, if the following extract be true, very good reason :—

The value of a criticism is best evidenced by the expert knowledge of the critic, who, in this instance has himself been found caught in a philatelic trap. Before Mr. Pack's collection was sent to Buenos Aires, it was shown to a well-known specialist. On the first page of Vol. I. was a 6oc. Diligencia surrounded with many "arrows" and a mass of descriptive notes as to undiscovered flaws—this *à propos* of Mr. Pack's cleverness in discovering flaws, &c., ignored by Mr. Griebert: it was a clumsy forgery, a friend of the good old times.

This *Apologia* has, I fear, run to inordinate length, but criticisms made in detail, on absolutely erroneous premises, can only be answered in similar detail, wearisome perhaps, but warranted by the justice of the *Defence* to an attack, couched certainly in friendly terms, but not the less unjustified.

Since writing the above, I have seen the conclusion of Mr. Pack's article in *The London Philatelist*, though I have not had time to carefully peruse it, side by side with Mr. Griebert's book; but a somewhat hasty glance reveals an apparent continuation of the previous tactics—criticism of theories never advanced, and correction of mistakes never made, except in the mind of the critic!

The August number of the *Stamp Collector* contains a capital editorial, a continuation of Mr. Heginbottom's notes on Tasmanian stamps, a lengthy review of Mr. Corfield's "Dák Dicta," several pages of "Notes," and last, but not least, an illustrated interview with Mr. F. T. Collier of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

The August number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a short instalment of its editor's article dealing with the stamps of Grenada. We also find Mr. Séfi writing entertainingly about the perforations of Twentieth Century Bosnians. There is also an interesting little note (illustrated) relating to the 3c. Federated Malay States stamp of 1906. We venture to extract this:—

It does not seem to be very generally known that two plates have been used for printing the 3c. stamp of the Federated Malay States. From enlarged illustrations it will be seen that the alterations made on the original plate tend considerably to improve the general appearance of the stamp. On careful examination it will be seen that plates I. and II. are, taking them line for line, identical, and that the sole difference is in the strengthening or weakening of certain parts of the design. In plate I. the figure of the tiger was somewhat lost against the dark background and the whole centre part of the stamp had a very flat and unconvincing appearance, produced by the absence of any light or shade. The lines of the background are practically all of uniform thickness. In plate II. the lines of the background are graduated and are hardly perceptible immediately above and to the right of the tiger. The effect of this is to show the animal clearly against the sky and to give an atmosphere to the picture. On plate I. the ears and whiskers were to a great extent merged into the background; we now find them clearly outlined against the sky. Another feature of this second plate is that the frame surrounding the centre portion of the design is very much strengthened at the top thus giving the picture a more self-contained look than it previously possessed.

Plate I. is usually found in a fairly deep brown

shade while plate II. varies from a very similar colour to quite a light yellow-brown.

Number 7 of Mr. A. H. Harris' little paper *The Philatelic Circular* is edited by Mr. W. B. Edwards, and we find some very excellent "Market Notes" and other jottings. We extract the following note referring to the recent edition of Gibbons' catalogue:—

Montenegro, Roumania and Servia are examples of what can be done in the wrong direction. The Servian commemoratives have dropped from 21/- to 8/7 the set, and what a rush there was for them on issue! The current issues of such countries are best left alone, to "waste their sweetness on the desert air."

The August 5th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains an illustrated interview with Mr. D. B. Armstrong. We also find the first instalment of an article entitled "Constantinople, Its Foreign and Local Posts," by Mr. Fred. W. Edwards. A fortnight later this article is completed. In the copy dated Sept. 2nd we find an illustrated interview with Miss Brandreth Gibbs, some comments on the recent "Skipwith v Cohen" case, a letter from Mr. A. J. Palethorpe concerning the gumming of the Harrison stamps, and the usual *S.C.F.* assortment of odds and ends.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

THE June number of our welcome British Guiana exchange contains a great deal of interesting matter, mostly in the nature of extracts from various sources. We also find one or two capable reviews, several pages devoted to the local Society's doings, and other matter. As we have said before we wish the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* was published more frequently than twice a year.

We make the following short extract:—

DESTRUCTION OF BRITISH GUIANA REMAINDERS.

On 3rd February, 1911, the Government destroyed the remainders of stock of \$3 green and \$5 green stamps of the 1888-9 issue, S. Gibbons' Nos. 146 and 148; also the \$2.40 green and violet stamp, overprinted "Postage and Revenue" in black, 1905-9 issue, S. Gibbons' No. 206.

New stamps of these denominations have been for some time on sale at the Post Offices, these are, however, available for revenue purposes only.

We publish below a letter from the Government giving the numbers destroyed:—

Government Secretary's Office,
Georgetown.

6th May, 1911.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 30th March last, I am directed to inform you that the following revenue stamps have recently been destroyed by Government:

Denomination.	Numbers.
\$5.00	108,840
\$3.00	830
\$2.40	720

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. HAMPDEN KING.

A. D. Ferguson, Esq.

Some interesting notes are contributed by "J.K.D.H.," a well known member of the Georgetown Society, in the course of which he condemns Stanley Gibbons' idea of issuing a sectional album and then shortly afterwards re-arranging the lists in their catalogue. We also find the following very excellent advice:—

It is to be hoped that no collector is paying the absurd prices asked for the Barbados Jubilee stamps on "blued." If they were issued on genuine blued paper, and not paper which has been chemically affected, why are not our Jubilee issues also so catalogued. I have got, as no doubt many others have, splendid specimens "on blued" of the "Roraima" and "Kaieteur" issue, and our late President has a fine specimen on half blue and half white! I anticipate, within a short time, that the "on blued" paper stamps of Barbados will cease to exist, and that "chemical changes" will be put forward as accounting for the "blued" appearance.

The *Philatelic Gazette* for August 15th contains a very interesting article from the pen of Mr. J. Murray Bartels, entitled "Spanish Mariannas, an Uncatalogued Nineteenth Century Issue."

The following short extract will interest our readers. Possibly some of them may possess some of these stamps.

The islands belonged to Spain and were part of the Philippine postal system, as far as the use of stamps was concerned. Meanwhile, the Philippines, in the summer of 1898, passed into the possession of the United States, leaving the Mariannas still under Spanish dominion. U.S. stamps had taken the place of the last issue of the Philippines with the boy head of the king. The stamps had been demonetized and become very common on the market. It may have taken the Marianna Islands a number of months to learn the outcome of the war and changes in political history, so it is not surprising that no change was made immediately in the postal issue of these islands, which were of so little commercial importance. The post office appears to have carried only a small supply of stamps, consisting of the six values most commonly in use.

For the above stated reasons it was very necessary to distinguish the stamps on hand from the demonetized stock outside. This was done by overprinting with a small hand stamp in violet-black ink, reading MARIANAS ESPANOLAS, applied in vertical direction generally reading downwards.

It is believed that this overprint was first used in May, 1899, and continued until the islands were ceded to Germany the latter part of the same year. During this time Blanco Pampanga was Governor of the islands, and he arrived at Manila on December 11th, 1899, with the steamer carrying the last mail under the Spanish flag. German stamps overprinted MARIANEN were placed on sale in November, 1899.

These varieties are listed, but not priced, in Kohl's catalogue.

Major F. L. Palmer continues to write about the "Postal Issues of the Philippines," he deals with the confusing overprints of 1877 and 1879. Mr. Louis G. Barrett, has a long instalment of his paper describing the retouched 2c. envelope dies of the 1903 series.

In the September 1st number of the same publication, Major Palmer is responsible for another chapter of his interesting paper. He details the reasons for the various surcharges of 1877-1879.

In the course of his remarks he incidentally shews why there is sometimes a demand for, or shortage of, certain values.

It is a peculiarity of the average Filipino telegraph operator, even now, that he is no mathematician: he can count but cannot compute, or at least prefers to take no chance of error in so doing. Hence, if a telegram costs 10c. a word, he prefers having and using 50 stamps of 10c. each for 50 words, to using one stamp of 5 pesos. Even under the American Bureau of Posts and Telegraphs, Filipino operators in the interior would order all their stamps of the 3c. value, as that was the rate per word.

Mr. J. M. Bartels contributes an article entitled, "The U.S. Government Collection." Mr. B. W. H. Poole the first instalment of his paper, "United States Guide Dots." Mr. E. H. Mason continues his article dealing with U.S. proofs. Dr. Carroll Chase writes about the 3c. of the 1851 issue (U.S.A.) and tells his readers how this stamp may be easily plated. Other articles, including one contributed by Mr. C. L. Pack, dealing with the 20c., 1886 issue, of Uruguay, all help to make the *Philatelic Gazette* far and away ahead of other U.S. publications.

The July number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* is full of notes and short articles of interest to collectors "down under." Amongst them we find a lengthy review of the Royal Society's "Postage Stamps, etc., of New South Wales"; also some interesting notes, contributed by the Rev. T. P. Davis, relating to recent South Australian Varieties. We make the following short extract:—

With regard to the stamps which have been catalogued as perf. compound 12 and 12½, Gibbons' Nos. 339 and 380 to 386, I believe that I am correct in saying that these varieties are not taken seriously by the Australian collectors. A writer in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* a few months ago hazarded the opinion that these varieties are simply irregularities of the perf. 12 machine, and I am inclined to agree with him.

I can here chronicle another variety, which, as far as I am aware, has not been listed in the journals. Some fifteen months ago, namely, in April, 1910, the block of 3d. stamps, which I enclose for your in-

spection, Mr. Editor, was shown at a meeting of the Philatelic Society in Adelaide. The stamps are type II., with the short words of value, and the two lower stamps of the block have an extra horizontal line of perforation along the top of the tablet of value. But, instead of the normal perf. 12½, the stamps are perf. 11. A curious history attaches to the block, showing that even careful philatelists are sometimes caught nodding. With a second block of the same kind, the stamps were put on a sheet in the exchange round of the South Australia Society, the owner, a prominent Adelaide collector, not noticing the abnormal perf., but pricing the blocks a little over face value, as a curiosity, by reason of the extra line of holes. The stamps went the round of the members, both in South Australia and Eastern States, going as far as Brisbane, where one block was taken by a member interested in double perfs. The other, not being sold, came back to the original owner, and only after he had removed it from the sheet did he make the discovery of the abnormal perforation. As far as I am aware, four such blocks in all are in the possession of members of the South Australia Society. Of course, those in the know for the past fifteen months have kept a careful look-out for other copies, but none have so far been found, although one sheet at least must have been issued with the perforation 11. Collectors may well examine with care all their copies of the 3d. type II.

The July number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains an account of the winning design for the new Commonwealth stamps, together with an enlarged illustration. We also find a review of the recently published New South Wales Handbook, a short article contributed by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, entitled "Stamp Collector versus Philatelist," and a short paper, entitled "Philately in a Country's Commerce," wherein the author points out that the business side of stamp collecting is commencing to make itself felt in a nation's finances.

From Mr. Basset Hull's article we make the following short extract:—

A little while ago I looked over two stamp collections, both made by gentlemen who would feel slighted if the term philatelist were not accorded them. A curious coincidence struck me at the first glance. The Labuan stamps were nicely mounted in both, and in both the 2c. carmine, engraved, was mounted in the space provided for the lithographed stamp; one had the lithographed stamp where the engraved ought to be, while the other had no example of the lithographed stamp. Doubtless the latter had had many opportunities of filling the blank, but having made a wrong identification in the first instance, he went on satisfied that he had the missing stamp! Had these gentlemen really studied their stamps the mistakes would not have arisen.

What a field there is still open for the really careful and earnest student. Too often the cry is, "Oh, there is nothing more to be said about such and such an issue," when, lo! a hitherto quiet and unobtrusive student comes along with a startling discovery of a provisional lithographed stamp of a type formerly accepted as existing only as a steel engraving. Another discovers unsuspected variations in type of an electroplate stamp, showing that the die has been re-engraved, while another finds a rare and curious error of watermark or perforation.

All these discoveries are due to studying the stamps,

and not taking it for granted that the present catalogues and handbooks are infallible.

Will not some of our keener collectors indulge a little in this fascinating "study"? It will repay them generously for their trouble, not only in added interest in their hobby, but also (how the commercial spirit forces itself in) in added capital!

The August number of the *South African Philatelist* contains one or two interesting papers. One, contributed by Mr. G. J. Houbert, deals with the great "Unnecessary." The following extract proves how at least one good philatelist regards the Mafeking "stamps."

We now come to the crowning shame of the lot—the "Mafeking" issue. Granting that Gen. Baden Powell was ambitious of having his features portrayed on a stamp, where was the necessity for the overprint "Mafeking Besieged"? Had he stopped at the former it would be a pleasure to all collectors to have the portrait of "a good old sport and soldier" among their stamps. But the overprint has led to innumerable forgeries, and is one of the "bugbears" of philately. Had the Boers captured Mafeking and overprinted the stamps "Z.A.R.", that would, in my opinion, have given an entirely different aspect to this issue, and we should be compelled to hold them in the same category as the V.R.I. Gen. White, in Ladysmith, might just as well have had his stamps overprinted "Ladysmith Besieged"! Imagine Mr. Rhodes doing such a thing in Kimberley! We have at least some consolation in the knowledge that Gen. Baden Powell was severely censured for this needless issue. The grossness of the imposition has compelled me to discard it altogether.

Captain T. H. Howell Jones contributes some "Notes on the Greek Stamps of the Nineteenth Century."

We also find an amusing instalment of "Nights at the Round Table," together with some readable S. African Societies' Reports, etc. We learn that Mr. M. P. Vallentine has discovered another copy of the 1d. Transvaal on Anchor watermarked paper; it is dated "Dec. 19. 07."

Philately on the Continent.

Kohl's Mitterlungen for September has a most interesting article on the stamps of the British Chinese Expeditionary Force. This includes the C.E.F. overprint on India and the B.R.A. overprints on China. It goes very thoroughly into the matter, not only of the stamps, but also of the postmarks, many of which are reproduced. We can warmly recommend this article to our readers.

From the same source we learn that the small principality of Liechtenstein, on the Austro-Swiss frontier is about to issue postage stamps of its own of the value of 5, 10 and 25 heller. Hitherto the postal administration has been in the hands of the Austrian authorities.



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

No. 250. VOL. XXI.

OCTOBER 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

OF all the world's hobbies stamp collecting must surely be the most contagious, it only needs the presence of one enthusiastic person in a town or village to imbue a dozen or more neighbours with the love for collecting.

Our hobby has such numerous attractions that many different instincts, and desires, are welded together in the one general wish to accumulate a number of

postal curiosities. Some collectors are attracted by bright colours, some by odd postmarks, others by out-of-the-way designs, many by the possibility of financial gain. These are but a few of the many and varied reasons why people commence to collect stamps. In stamp collecting, as in everything else, there must be a beginning which usually means that some already keen collector demonstrates, either verbally, or else by a sight of some of his treasures, that stamp collecting is a pastime which has many manifold attractions. Once started on his philatelic career the beginner is very apt to enthuse one or more of his immediate relatives or friends with the result that in a few months time there has been called into existence an active coterie of earnest collectors. This banding together of

philatelists (not necessarily with the idea of forming a local Society with an Hon. Secretary who's sole idea is to bombard the philatelic press with reports) is one of the healthiest signs of philately and one which eventually produce a great amount of pleasure, good fellowship and knowledge.

Philately is essentially a hobby whose devotees delight in frequent intercourse, otherwise what would be the good of getting a bigger block, or a finer copy, of a certain stamp than is already in possession of Brown who collects the same country?

The result of this rivalry is that some towns and villages have a number of collectors, while towns, with a much larger population, are either dead to the joys of collecting or else harbour a few isolated philatelists whose ardour but needs the spice of rivalry to spur it into a steady blaze of enthusiasm. This being the case it behoves all good collectors to be on the look-out for "signs", by the aid of which they can track down a possible life-long friend, or, if the worst come to the worst, another crank on whom they can unload their duplicates. Once found there is always the possibility that the other fellow may know one, or even more local collectors, with the result that the would-be

missionary becomes a convert to superior numbers.

An illustration of how a collector may live in the same town with another enthusiast and yet bewail the fact that he is the only pebble on the beach was recently afforded us by an old friend in New Zealand. For many years he has lived in a fair sized town and collected, his pleasure only being marred by the fact that he has had nobody who would appre-

ciate his stamps. Curiously enough a collector in the same township also suffered from his supposed isolation amongst Philistines. By a chance advertisement in a philatelic paper, the two men, already acquainted, became aware of their mutual hobby with the result that they have confidently started a crusade which may result in other stragglers being advantageously drawn together. We wish our New Zealand Missionaries good luck.

The Early Perforations of New Zealand.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

MANY articles and notes have been written lately on the above subject, and I have been asked by the Editor of the *P.J.G.B.* to add a few remarks. I do not like saying things about myself, but on several occasions, mistakes and mis-quotations have been made, which I think should be corrected. In the *Australian Philatelist* of August, 1911, Mr. Irwin Faris is said to have stated that the first Auckland perforating machine was re-fitted about the end of 1866, while I am said to have stated that "it was superseded by a single-line machine of approximately the same gauge." As a matter of fact in the Herts Philatelic Society's *Monthly Report* of Dec. 1907, I said that "it was either superseded by a single-line machine with approximately the same gauge, or more probably the old machine was fitted with a single line of pins" (the italics are my own). It is also stated that Mr. Faris had been fortunate enough to obtain official information on the subject of the early perforating machines. If he has been so fortunate, I am extremely glad to hear that the information I was given to the effect that all the official records, about the early days of the Post Office, had been accidentally destroyed by fire, is incorrect. At any rate I do not think that he has unearthed much about the "13" machine that had not already been published by me.

Mr. Percy B. Phipson in the *Australian Philatelist* of October, 1909, says that "the fact that stamps were perforated by Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell, of Dunedin, for nearly two years before the New Zealand Government possessed a machine of its own, has, thanks (I believe), the researches of Mr. A. T. Bate, been long known to collectors." I know my friend, Mr. Bate, will not mind my asking him to say whether this is so or not. When I had the pleasure of first meeting Mr. Bate early in 1905 (we had long known each other by correspondence), I do

not think he knew anything about the existence of the "13" machine, and I do not think anyone else in New Zealand did. In most of the collections I had the privilege of looking at I saw copies of the "perf. 13" mixed in with the others. At that time I know there were two collectors in England, besides myself, who had separated the "perf. 13" from the "perf. 12½," and we had been looking for them for a considerable time.

When travelling through New Zealand, knowing that the "perf. 13" were usually postmarked "Dunedin," I lost no time on reaching that town in searching for a likely place where the perforating might have been done. Of course there was only a very remote chance of finding out, as I didn't know whether the perforating had been done by the Government or by a private firm, but I thought that the idea of perforation might, as was the case in Tasmania, have been originated by a stamp vendor and afterwards adopted by the Government. By a lucky chance I noticed the name "Fergusson and Mitchell" almost at once, and was struck by the identity of the former name with that of one of the partners of the firm, Campbell and Fergusson, who, as is well known, printed some of the early stamps of Victoria. On stating what I wanted to find out, I was received with great kindness and given all the information that was available. I was also introduced to an old employé of the firm, Alexander Stewart, who had actually assisted with the perforating.

The machine was a "single-line" one, worked by hand, two men being required, one to work the handle and the other to move forward the sheets of stamps after a line of perforations has been made.

They were paid 1d. each sheet, and the old workman told me that one of the partners of the firm used to assist at the operation when

he wanted exercise, and could never understand how they managed to perforate so many sheets in the day; and he explained it by saying that they used to fasten several sheets together and perforate them at one operation. This is, no doubt, the reason why so many of the "perf. 13" are so badly centred. Unfortunately the "13" machine has disappeared. (*vide Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society, Dec. 1907, pp 38, 39*).

Mr. Ulph says that the information given by me as to the earliest dates for the "Pelure" and "N.Z." papers suggests that these papers were used during a shortage of the "Star" paper. I quite agree and I myself made the self-same suggestion after giving a list of the earliest dates known to myself on page 39 of the *Monthly Report*.

With regard to the compound perforations, that is to say, stamps perforated partly by the "13" and partly of the "12½" machine, Mr. Faris states that he has a copy of the 2d. perforated 12½ on three sides and 13 on the other. He doesn't state on which side the "13" occurs, and this is of great importance. The "12½" machine when first introduced seems to have been a "horizontal comb" machine, and perforated three sides at one operation, that is to say, the two vertical sides of the stamps and either the top or the bottom, according to whether the sheet was put into the machine with the design the right way up or upside down. It therefore follows that a compound must be perforated 12½ on both sides and 13 either top or bottom, but

not both. If more than one horizontal line of the sheet had been left imperforate by the "12½" machine, it will be seen that whereas the last row perforated by the latter machine, would, if the "13" machine were subsequently used on the sheet, be perforated 12½ on three sides and 13 on the other; the remaining rows would be imperforate vertically unless the "13" machine was used to complete the vertical rows of perms. as well as to perforate the horizontal rows.

An important point to bear in mind is that if an unfinished sheet or sheets were sent from Auckland and finished in Dunedin, in all probability the stamp with compound perforations would (if used) bear the Otago or Dunedin postmark. Another most important thing is to ascertain that the perforation gauge or millimetre scale used is absolutely accurate. I have seen more than one which has made an undoubted "12½" into a "13." On looking up my original notes I see that Alexander Stewart was certain in his own mind that the use of the "13" machine was discontinued because a bundle of sheets of stamps was missing and was subsequently found behind a drawer in Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell's office; and therefore there is a possibility that the "13" machine was given up before the introduction of the "12½" machine at Auckland; in which case the compound perforation could hardly exist. It would be interesting in this connection to find imperforate copies of stamps dated 1864, and bearing the Otago or Dunedin postmarks.

Stray Notes on New Zealand Stamps.

By I. D. WALKER, of Feilding N.Z.

It is not generally known among collectors that New Zealand has more catalogued varieties than any other stamp issuing colony in the British Empire. It is an ideal country for the specialist on account of its variety of mixed, compound and single perforations, and its numberless shades. Having made a study of these interesting stamps I trust the following brief *resumé* of the later issues may be of interest to collectors interested in the stamps of Aotea Roa.

In the ½d. rose 1873, a defective figure 2 may be seen, the bottom portion of the figure being incomplete.

Passing on to the 1874 issue the dies of which were engraved by De La Rue & Co., and the stamps printed in the Colony, there are a few things worthy of mention. The 1/- value of this set exists in two distinct colours, blue-green and green, the later colour being catalogued. The former colour is very dis-

tinct, and I find that other collectors also possess this shade. The 2/- stamp is also of two shades namely bright rose and dull rose, the former colour being recognised by Gibbons. The 5/- stamp of this issue is not grey as catalogued but black. The finely engraved hair lines which are hardly distinguishable from the unprinted portion of the stamp, gives the stamp a grey appearance. The same may be said of the 5d. 1882 issue. There are two well known flaws in the 1d. of the 1882 set, both arising from chips out of the die. One consists of a white space in the hair of the Queen and a similar flaw may be seen on the neck. In the 1d., 2d., 6d., 8d., of this issue many are to be found with the lines forming the background, terminating abruptly among the other lines running parallel with them, thus causing white spaces to appear in the background. This occurs only in the retouched and new plates and is not to be

found in the original plates. The stamps of this issue are often found with a green hexagonal postmark, often confounded as a fiscal cancellation. The 6d. green pictorial London print is often found with an engraver's line running vertically with the border line the whole length of the stamp. If we look up a 1909 Gibbons' catalogue we find No. 229b described as 4d. greenish-blue and bistre-brown. In the 1911 catalogue the same stamp is described as 4d. deep blue and bistre-brown.

Why this colour alteration I am unable to explain, as 229b is certainly greenish-blue and bistre-brown, I possess one copy and have disposed of several. The Universal penny issue printed by Waterlow and Sons containing a multitude of mixed and compound perforations. Several of the "Basted Mills," "Cowan," and "Waterlow" paper stamps are only partly perforated. For instance the 1d. Basted Mills imperf. at bottom, ½d. green ditto imperf. at sides. Many instances of the defective perforation are plainly to be seen in these stamps and it is not an uncommon thing to find three and even four perforations missing from the partially perforated side or bottom of the stamp. The perforating machine must have been in very bad repair, as some of the stamps were again perforated, hence the mixed perforations. The 1½d. commemorative stamp and the 6d. rose exist with double perforations. The 1d. stamp No. 303 may be seen imperforated three sides. The much discussed dot on the 3d. pictorial, small design may also be found on the 6d. and 1/- of the same set. The surface printed Dominion stamps have several flaws, one of the most notable being a white line through the "O" of "One."



[This variety is chronicled in the *Australian Philatelist* for August, evidently on the authority of our correspondent, they say they are informed that it occurred once in the sheet and that they believe it has since been rectified. In the September number of the same publication we find the following: "Mr. F. B. Barton informs us that the variety of lettering of the 1d. stamp described in our July (*sic*) issue has not yet been rectified; it is the 18th stamp in the bottom row."

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News for October 7th says that they have examined three sheets for this variety which occurs on the 19th stamp in the bottom row! Ed. P.J.G.B.]

Another variety has the left hand corner of the tablet containing the value broken.

Dots similar to those mentioned in Gibbons' note after No. 303b are very common on the ½d. and 1d. Dominion issue.

Broken letters and engraver's lines that have not been removed are also very common.

The new Dominion issue officials show several examples of broken lettering of the word "official," which is very noticeable in some of the ½d. officials every letter of the surcharge being more or less broken. The 1d. official has a black line running underneath the surcharge, but this is to be found only once in each sheet of 240 stamps. The official surcharge on the 20/- Queen stamp appears to be a slightly smaller type than the overprint on the 2/- and 5/- stamps. The 3d. and 6d. Life Insurance stamps are to be found with a perforation of 11½. I have both stamps perforated thus and I am surprised this perforation is not catalogued. Two kinds of gum were used on these stamps, one is I fancy an arabic gum and the other a dull gum which is hardly discernible. The dull gum was also used on several of the pictorial stamps notably the 8d. blue.

Perforations of Full-Face New Zealand Stamps.

A GOOD deal has already appeared in the philatelic press of England and Sydney, on the perforations of the full face 1d. and 2d. stamps of New Zealand, and although it has, all of it, been of great value to the advanced collector, there still remains some doubts in the mind of the collector as to the correct placing of the compound perforations and confusion on the Dunedin and official perforating machines.

Mr. Uiph of New Zealand, has for some time been trying to clear matters up, and by a minute and careful scrutiny of the many no watermark, Star and N.Z. specimens in his collection, he has been able to get a good grasp of the matter, and furnish us with some interesting points.

Mr. Irwin Faris, on "Dunedin perms." in the *S.C.F.* gives the history of the first perforations of the full faced stamps, as compiled by him from official sources:—"From 1856 to early in 1865, all stamps were printed in Auckland. From end of 1862, or beginning of 1863, until latter half of 1864, imperforated sheets (and probably partly perforated sheets) also) were, upon arrival in Dunedin, handed by the postmaster to a private firm of printers (Fergusson and Mitchell) and by them perforated on their private machine, which gauged 13 (full) and gave a small, clean cut perf. About June 1864, the first official machine was installed in Auckland. It gauged 12½ or 12¾ clean, large holes. It was about the end of 1866 re-fitted, and gave 12½-13 small holes, but very rough perf. It was later on (about 1869) again re-fitted, and gave 12½ large, irregular holes. The 12½ machine was, early

in 1865, transferred from Auckland to Wellington. The use of the Dunedin 13 machine ceased about the end of 1864.

Before commenting on the above, it is necessary to note what Mr. L. Hausburg says on the subject, in the Herts Philatelic Society's Monthly Report of December, 1907; "Dunedin gauge was about 13, always between 13 and 13½. If a stamp gauges about 12½ and 13, it belongs to the 12½, the Government machine. The first Government machine was a comb one, about 12½, and does not appear to have been very satisfactory. Pins soon became broken and bent, and it was superseded by a single line machine, of approximately the same gauge."

These two statements vary sufficiently to create the confusement in the minds of collectors, which we have already referred to. Mr. Faris wrote later than Mr. Hausburg, and in speaking of the 12½ machine does not say it was superseded by a single-line machine, but that the same machine was re-fitted twice. Which of the two is correct? Although the variations of perforations are small, it is important to know whether one or two machines were used. Summed up, and presuming that Mr. Faris, from being "on the spot," had a better opportunity of obtaining information than Mr. Hausburg, we get the following:—

December, 1862, or January, 1863, till end of 1864—"Dunedin" machine (private), gauging 13 (full), small, clean-cut perfs. About June, 1864, Auckland machine (Government), gauging 12½ to 12¾, clean, large holes.

About end of 1866, Auckland machine (Government), refitted, 12½ to 13, small holes, but rough perforations.

About 1869, Auckland machine (Govt.), again refitted, 12½, large, irregular holes.

The only way to account for Mr. Hausburg's mention of a new machine, is in the possibility that after the 12½ machine was transferred to Wellington, the authorities there may have found it too unsatisfactory for the increased work required from it, and had ordered a new machine. This point Mr. Faris may be able to clear up. Where the latter is rather hazy in his statement, is where he says that from June, 1862 to 1863, until latter half of 1864, imperforated sheets, and probably partly perforated sheets also, were perforated in Dunedin. As the official machine did not come upon the scene until about the latter half of 1864, there could not have been any perforated sheets prior to that date. Perhaps he refers to a few sheets that may have escaped notice when the 12½ machine came into use, but collectors, as a rule, may be confused by the wide dates.

When perforated stamps were a novelty, it is not likely that either the Government officials or the public troubled themselves about a few perforations missed on a sheet,

for in the stamps in Mr. Ulph's possession, he notes that some of the perforated stamps are cut apart with scissors or knife, and the 3d. deep mauve was in use, imperforate, May, 1867; and possibly other values, also, although not catalogued. He also found that the Dunedin machine must have become very decrepit, as the later dates show uneven perforations. Mixed perforations were at that time certainly rare (probably very rare), but afterwards those with one vertical perf. about 13, became common, and are still fairly so. Without wishing to impugn the correctness of Mr. Faris' information on the 12½ machines, we cannot altogether reconcile it with Mr. Ulph's opinion, although a tentative one. For instance, the latter collector has a pair of the 2d., dated March, 1865, showing a clean cut 12½ perforation all round. The machine which punched the holes could not have been more than six months in use. As the first machine was installed about June, the previous year, and the first re-fitting did not take place until about the end of 1866, it is difficult to account for the cleanness of the cut. The watermark is the first "star," and the condition of the plate shows it to have been well worn. Two single 2d. stamps, showing an identical condition of the plate, are perforated, one 12½ horizontally; 12¾ on the left, and 13 on the right side; the other also 12½ horizontally, 12¾ on the left, and 12½ on the right. We came to the conclusion that they were comb perforated, but could not see how the Dunedin 13 perf. could be introduced, as it ceased to be used at the end of 1864, and the 13 small holes, mentioned by Mr. Faris did not come into existence until about the end of 1866. In all the copies, Mr. Ulph has of the Star, and N.Z. w.m.s., perf. 13, the holes are all in line, clean cut, and of the same gauge, and in the compound perforations, the horizontal perfs. are undoubtedly 12½, and the doubtful perforations vertical. Thus, any perfs. between 12½ and 13, must belong to the Government machine, and if one takes the full length of the stamp, it will be noticed that its extreme end projects beyond the 13 gauge and looks more like fitting the 12½ gauge, although two or three adjoining perfs. may be 13½.

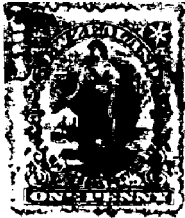
From his experience, Mr. Ulph has come to the conclusion that stamps gauging 13 all round, were perforated by the Dunedin machine, 12½ all round by the Government machine, and all compound perfs., by the latter machine, also, the irregular perfs. being due to pins in the machine getting bent or damaged. If a collector can show a full face, measuring 13 to 13½ horizontally top and bottom, and 12½, more or less, at the sides, we will acknowledge that Mr. Ulph's opinions are wrong.

We trust that this article may induce further research into this question. The stamps referred to in the above notes were submitted for our inspection by Mr. Ulph.

(From the August "Australian Philatelist.")

Variety of the New Zealand 1d. of 1901.

A CORRESPONDENT, Mr. David Briggs, has very kindly sent us a 1d. "Universal Postage" type which shews an interesting variety. As will be seen from the following illustration the four small circles at the centre of the left hand outside frame are, on the right hand side reduced to three.



We have found several copies of this variety in stock—all being stamps printed in a deep colour—and all being from an early state of the plate. We have also found a few pairs, one stamp shewing the four scrolls and the other with only three on the right hand side so it is evident that this is due to wear and not to an intentional desire to create a sub-variety. There are so many specialists, however, of these interesting stamps that we certainly think it constitutes a variety worth including in a specialised collection. At any rate it is quite as marked as are many of the so-called "dot" varieties.

Mr. Briggs in a later letter says:—"Thank you for yours *re* N.Z. I am not convinced that you are right when you say that you consider that it is simply a case of part of the design failing to print. The pair you send, for which many thanks, are most decidedly a worn plate production, yet even to the naked eye the traces of the ball are visible; whilst on my copy, which is equally evidently an impression from a new plate, not the slightest trace of the ball is to be seen even when examined with a microscope.

New Leaves to Cut.

KOHL'S GROSSER KATALOG, 1912.

THIS is the first catalogue to follow Gibbons' lead and appear in two volumes. This was a departure that was inevitable sooner or later and it is only on account of the very thin paper and small type that the evil day has been put off for so long. Kohl's Grosser Katalog contains more information than any other, an important and useful feature being that which gives references, at the foot of each country, to the important articles and works referring to the subject in hand. It is true that these references occasionally mention articles which are of

not much value and in other cases exclude monographs which are indispensable to a specialist, but on the whole the feature is most useful and one which will no doubt be perfected in future editions.

The first volume consists of the countries of Europe and their Colonies: it therefore includes the whole of the British Empire. The second volume, which is much the smaller, contains the stamps of all independent non-European countries.

The prices have, in the majority of cases, been slightly advanced, in that steady unsensational measure which indicates a quiet improvement all round, rather than that spasmodic localized attention which is sometimes shewn by isolated cases of huge advancement in price. Not that the latter style is quite unrepresented in the present edition, as for instance in some South American countries and parts of the German section.

The catalogue itself provides, so far as we can see, no innovations when compared with the last edition. The inclusion of a few extra notes and references and the necessary new issues marking the only changes in this respect.

The North London Philatelic Society.

1911-12.

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SYLLABUS, 1911-12.

- Oct. 5—President's Evening.
.. 19—"Germany and German States."
H. S. Wymer and Members.
Nov. 2—"India and Straits Settlements."
E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
.. 16—"British E. Africa, British Somaliland,
Zanzibar."
A. W. Merrington and Members.
Dec. 7—Ten Minute Papers by Members.
.. 21—Informal Meeting.
1912.
Jan. 4—"New South Wales."
E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
.. 18—"Argentine, Brazil, Chili."
T. C. Cartwright and Members.
Feb. 1—"Postage Stamp Printers and Their
Work," Messrs. De La Rue & Co.
Alex. J. Sefi.
.. 15—Forgery Collection.
Mar. 7—"New Zealand."
E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
.. 21—"100 Sheets From My Collection."
Duncan Pringle.
April 4—Informal Meeting.
.. 18—"Reminiscences of Stamp Collecting."
M. K. Clarke and Members.
May 2—"Foreign Countries," Part II.
J. C. Sidebotham.
.. 16—Annual General Meeting.

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. Our publishers have shown us the 3d. King Edward printed by Messrs. Harrison & Sons, perforated 14. Mr. Leon has shown us the 1d. Edward perforated 15×14. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 10d. and 2/6, perf. 14. We have also received the 1d. King Edwards, compound perforations.

Adhesives.

Printed by Messrs. Harrison & Sons.

Perforated 14.

3d. purple on yellow.

10d. purple and carmine.

2/6 purple.

Perforated 15×14.

1d. carmine.

3d. purple on yellow.

British New Hebrides. Mr. Charles Davis very kindly tells us that he has received the following values of the permanent issue. The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 2/- and 5/- labels. These stamps are inscribed in scroll at top "New Hebrides" instead of "Nouvelles Hebrides." The design is the same as the old, but the circles containing the Arms and initials, representing France and England respectively, on either side of the central device, are transposed,—in the new stamps the French comes first.

Adhesives. Printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

Wmkd. multiple Crown and CA.

½d. green.

1d. red.

2d. grey.

2½d. blue.

5d. sage-green.

6d. reddish-purple.

1/- black on green.

2/- purple on blue.

5/- green on yellow.

We also extract the following from the Sept. *Monthly Journal*:—"Mr. E. B. Power has shown us a block of forty-two (6×7) of the 1d. on Fiji, local overprint, the top row of six being without overprint; the other six rows are regularly overprinted. This is a very extraordinary block, and the vertical pairs, one with and one without overprint, should rank as some of the great rarities among modern colonial stamps."

India. Gwalior. Messrs. Bright & Son, kindly tell us that they have seen the following variety, that is the ½ anna "Postage and Revenue" Service stamp with reversed overprint, the short portion being at the top and the longer portion at the bottom of the stamp.

Patiala. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following:

Official Stamp.

Overprinted "Service" on current Indian 1 anna.

1a. carmine.

Levant. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the current ¼d. King George stamp with the "Levant" overprint.

Adhesive. Overprinted Levant.
¼d. green.

Malta. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. very kindly tell us that they have received the 2d. stamp in grey.

Adhesive.
King's Head. Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.
2d. grey.

New South Wales. We are indebted to the September number of the *Australian Philatelist* for the following information:

"Recently the 6d. orange appeared in a very deep shade. But this is not the only difference from the previous printing. On close examination, we came to the conclusion that it was on thinner paper, as the watermark shows through at the back very clear, and the gum looks thinner and darker. On the face of the stamp many parts of the design are indistinguishable, through the thickness of the inking, giving it a blotched appearance. We showed a block alongside a block of the previous printing, to the Government Printer, and asked for an explanation. The reply was that the paper was the same but through an oversight in not keeping the inking pot sufficiently stirred, the heavy chrome pigment sank through the varnishing vehicles, and the last inking of the roller was made much thicker and deeper in shade, and rather more oily. Only a few sheets were gone through when it was discovered."

6d. orange, deep chrome, perf. 12×11½.

The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the ¼d. value, Captain Cook type, in an imperforate condition. As the ½d., 2d., 2½d., 6d. and 1/- values are already chronicled, this latest discovery will have to pass muster.

Queensland. We extract the following information from the September number of the *Australian Philatelist*:

"Mr. H. L. White has pointed out to us a decided retouch on the current 1d. stamp. The plate must have been damaged in some way, as the continuous outside line of the white oval is broken at top and bottom, the coloured portion of the oval being continued right into the border at these points. The first N of Queensland measures 1½mm. instead of 1¾mm., is slightly thicker, and looks more squat than the normal type. The foot of the P of 'Penny' has been slightly rounded, and the bottom stroke of the E of the same word is thinner."

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Bavaria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have very kindly sent us specimens of the recently issued 60 pf. stamps.

Adhesive. Current type
60 pf. deep green.

Chili. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. very kindly send us a first consignment of the new permanent issue for Chili consisting of the following denominations: 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 50 centavos, 1, 2, 5 and 10 pesos. The 1c. shows the usual portrait of Christopher Columbus which has so often appeared on the Chilean stamps, the other denominations bear portraits of various Chilean notabilities, the name being inscribed beneath each portrait. The Centenary stamps issued in 1910 are now obsolete.



Adhesives.

Printed by the American Bank Note Co.

1 centavo,	green.
2 centavos,	red.
3 ..	brown.
5 ..	blue.
10 ..	slate and black.
12 ..	crimson and black.
15 ..	violet and black.
20 ..	orange and black.
25 ..	pale blue and black.
30 ..	brown and black.
50 ..	green and black.
1 peso,	green and black.
2 pesos,	red and black.
5 ..	sage-green and black.
10 ..	orange and black.

Mr. A. H. Davis, writing from Buenos Aires very kindly sends us specimens of the lower values, together with the following translation of a recently issued Government Decree.

"Considering that it is necessary to postpone the period in which must be commenced the incineration of postage stamps which in virtue of the dispositions of Art. 3 of Decree No. 728 of 14th January last, must be withdrawn from circulation from the 1st of September, 1911; and

"That, before proceeding to the destruction, it is advisable to put up to auction the stock of stamps which, although no longer of use for the franking of correspondence, retain their value for the formation of collections, I decree:

"1st. The incineration of the stamps issued to commemorate the Centenary of the Independence of Chile and of those others which, in virtue of the disposition of Art. 3 of Decree No. 736 of the 14th March last, will be excluded from circulation must be incinerated on the 1st of November of the current year.

"2nd. From the date of the withdrawal from circulation of these stamps until the 1st of November next, will be put up for fortnightly auctions the stamps referred to in the preceding article, in presence of the Commission nominated by said Decree of 14th March last, for which purpose the Director of the Treasury will issue the necessary instructions.

"To be noted, communicated and published Barros Luco—

ROBERTO SANCHEZ."

Dutch Indies. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the whole of the current set, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ gld., overprinted "Dienst" (Service) for official use. On the first eight values ($\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.) the surcharge reads diagonally downwards, on the remaining values upwards. Our contemporary says that the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. of the 1883 issue has also been overprinted. We also learn that the issue of 1891, 10c. to 2g. 50c., has been overprinted (with the exception of the 30c.) with a "D" in white on a circular black disc.

When will collectors learn to ignore this rubbish?

Ecuador. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received supplies of the new stamps.



Adhesives.

1c. red and black	(Roca).
2c. blue ..	(Noboa).
5c. red ..	(Urvinga).
10c. blue ..	(Garcia Moreno).

Germany. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following new value:—

Adhesive. Current type.
60 pf. magenta on white.

Liberia. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have recently received a complete sheet of the 1909 1c. "O S" with double surcharge.

Portugal. We extract the following from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s *Monthly List*:

"The remainders of the Vasco da Gama stamps are to be overprinted with the word

"Republica" and issued early in October, they will consist of the following values:— 2½, 25, 50, 75 and 100 reis, also 15 on 5 reis, 1,000 on 10 reis, and 80 on 150 reis; Postage Due (Vasco da Gama series), 5, 10, 20 and 200 reis, 300 on 50 reis and 500 on 100 reis. We understand that the number of these is likely to be limited."

Portuguese Guinea. Our Ipswich friends also tell us that they have received the 130 and 700 reis overprinted "Republica," completing the set. All the Postage Due stamps from 5 to 500 reis have also been overprinted.

Mozambique. The full set of Postage Dues has been overprinted "Republica."

Servia. Another value has to be added to those chronicled last month, namely the 2 paras.



Adhesive.
2 paras, purple.

Sweden. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received two more new values with the head of King Gustaf.

Adhesives. No watermark.
15 öre, red-brown.
35 .. violet.

The Post Office.

A YEAR'S OPERATIONS.

5,281,000,000 Packets.

Few public institutions have become more necessary to civilised existence than the Post Office, although probably most people who accept its services as a matter of course have but a hazy notion of the vastness and intricacy of the organisation which renders those services possible. Some indication of the scope and importance of the department's work is furnished in the Postmaster-General's report for the year to March 31st last, just issued as a Blue Book, and the figures therein set forth show that the business, which has attained colossal dimensions, continues to expand.

NATIONAL POSTBAG.

It is estimated that the number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during the twelve months reached the huge total of 5,281,100,000. The appended table gives the figures in detail, together with the

rates of increase over the previous year, and the proportions per head of the population:

	Number	Increase per cent.	Average No. per Person
Letters ..	3,047,500,000	3·4	67·7
Postcards ..	871,400,000	0·5	19·4
Halfpenny packets	1,044,100,000	7·2	23·2
Newspapers ..	196,300,000 (dec)	1·7	4·4
Parcels ..	121,800,000	3·0	2·7
Total ..	5,281,100,000	3·4	117·4

To improved trade conditions is attributed the fact that the increase in letters amounted to 3·4 per cent., as compared with 1·4 per cent. in 1909-10. The number of letters delivered per head of population continues to show a steady increase throughout the United Kingdom. Postcards were only slightly more numerous, but halfpenny packets showed an abnormal increase; again due, in part, to improved trade, but also, in some measure, to the General Election of December last.

As many as 21,406,000 letters and 1,140,000 parcels were registered. The total number of express services performed was 2,257,735, an increase of 5·5 per cent. Over 100 mail services, or sets of services, are now performed by motor mail vans.

Careless and absent-minded correspondents continue to cause the officials no little trouble. For one reason or another no fewer than 34,419,000 packets could not be delivered. The number of packets posted without any address and of articles found loose in the post is estimated at 467,000, as compared with 427,000 in the preceding year. Among the articles found loose was a letter of credit for £1,000, which had been deposited in a pillar box.

Penny postage with the United States continues to justify itself. Correspondence from this side in 1910 showed an increase over that of 1909 of 15 per cent., and in the reverse direction the growth amounted to 12½ per cent. There has been a big development, too, in the Canadian magazine post, the weight of newspapers, magazines, and trade journals sent to the Dominion during 1910 being estimated at 3,836,000lb., as compared with 2,910,000lb. sent in 1909.

The total weight of letters and postcards despatched to British possessions and foreign countries in 1910 is estimated at 4,908,000lb., and of other packets, excluding parcels, at 33,840,000lb. For the previous year the corresponding totals were 4,348,000lb. and 30,003,000lb. respectively. Parcels sent abroad numbered 3,419,902, and those received from countries overseas totalled 1,769,818. Altogether, the foreign parcel service increased by 11 per cent.

With the adhesion of Australia and Rhodesia, the Imperial penny post system is virtually complete, a few remote Pacific islands only remaining to be included.

—Daily Telegraph.

Correspondence.

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

DEAR SIR,—

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

In a recent issue you quoted at length from an article by Mr. D. B. Armstrong on the "Morocco Agencies," appearing in the "Philatelic Record." As the quotation contained inaccuracies respecting the position of the minor varieties—in fact, contradicting entirely what Mr. Pemberton and I have already stated in your journal—I think you will admit that a letter to you on the subject is far more important than one to the "Philatelic Record," to which journal, however, I have already written.

First, let me tabulate the inaccuracies:

- (a) The 20 centimos on chalk-surfaced paper does *not* exist, never having been issued.
- (b) The variety "g" without serif is *not* the second stamp of the sixth row of the left-hand pane. It occurs *not once but ten times* on a pane, every stamp on the sixth vertical row of that pane being minus a serif.
- (c) The "n c" variety is *not* the first stamp of the fourth row of the right-hand pane: it occurs on the fifth stamp of the third row of that pane—No. 77 of the sheet.

Secondly—respecting the Local Settings:

There were two local settings of the overprint—the first contained the error V for A. When this error was corrected all the well-known minor varieties also disappeared, but curiously many other flaws took their places. It was *after* the second setting that the error with respect to ink occurred—the 40c., 50c. and 1 peseta overprint appearing in blue instead of black. On the 40c. it occurs deep and very pale, the 50c. medium, and the 1 peseta very deep.

From this it will be seen that the error V for A *cannot* exist on any of these three stamps. Neither do any of the first setting varieties occur in blue, such as the "s" with long lower serif, but the broken "M" and joined "en" are present. I have recently examined blocks and panes of both settings; for instance, a block of 30 of the 50c. in blue (Right-hand pane) contained no "s"—a block of 18 (lower part of the left pane) had the variety "g" without serif—and a block of 54 of the 1 peseta (right-hand pane) contained no V for A and no "s" but the "en" joined.

I do not recognise "a third" and "a possible fourth" setting. I am not at all questioning the number of *printings*: but from a recent examination of blocks and panes of

both settings I may say it would be quite possible to propound in good faith the existence of more than two settings if students confined their researches to single specimens only. There are "varieties" in legion!

I have discovered the position of Mr. Armstrong's "g" with straight serif, namely, the 18th stamp of the left pane. To use an Irishism, it is merely an imperfect "g" without serif variety. I have not been able to locate the "n" *sloping slightly to the left*: but I have found the "n" sloping very pronouncedly to the right! This "variety" I found on the 25c. black overprint, and the 50c. blue overprint—the exact position being the third stamp of the sixth row (left pane). I do not attach much importance to these trivial varieties, and have only dwelt at length on the subject to show how easily one might be led into error by studying single specimens only.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. ROSKILLY.

Queen's Highcliffe Hotel,

Margate.

1st October, 1911.

CAYMAN ISLAND STAMPS.

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

DEAR SIR,

I read Mr. Bostwick's letter in a recent number of your interesting journal, and also your Notes on his contribution to the *Philatelic Journal of America*, dealing with the 1d. on 4d. Cayman Provisional stamp.

My view regarding the same is that there is no doubt it was quite the intention of the Postal Authorities that this issue was to be for Fiscal purposes only. I have three of these stamps, postally used, in my collection, two of which were sent to me direct on letters; I have seen four others, and heard of two more in America, and it is generally admitted that a number were used for postal purposes, therefore this stamp should certainly take catalogue rank with the others. It is a very scarce one and difficult to obtain; I was recently asked as much as £6 10s. for one, and £7 10s. for one on a piece of entire, used in the Cayman Islands. It is a well known fact that when the Cayman Authorities issued the ½d. stamps, they were for the purposes of internal postage only, but many thousands have been used on foreign correspondence, and I have had several on letters recently, and in some instances four ½d. stamps in place of the 1d. one have been used by the Postal Authorities themselves. I therefore maintain that if the 1d. on 4d. Provisional should not take catalogue rank, then the ½d. ought to be excluded also.

Mr. Bostwick, in one of his excellent con-

tributions, makes the remark that I do not make a study of the used Cayman stamps; I would like to disabuse his opinion in this respect, as I think the used stamps are difficult to get, and the early postmarked copies particularly so, thereby making them more interesting. As a matter of fact, I have over three hundred postally used copies of various issues, including fifteen of the different "provisionals," and no less than thirty-seven Entires, with several values on the same, and early dated postmarks.

In a letter I had this week from Georgetown, Grand Cayman, I understand they have not received any of the King George stamps, and do not expect them until Xmas. They recently had a fresh delivery of the King Edward VII. stamps, P. & R. of the $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d. and 1/- values, otherwise in September they were particularly short. Now they have plenty of these values on hand, with the exception of the $\frac{1}{4}$ d., which were nearly all sold out soon after their receipt.

I received a short time ago Part 2 edition of the Handbook on the "Caymans," which is particularly interesting reading, also a Catalogue and Programme relating to a Domestic and Agricultural Show to be held on the Islands next month.

Might I remind your readers of the Fourth Philatelic Congress to be held here on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. I should be extremely grateful if the Secretaries of the different Philatelic Societies would see that their Delegates for the same are elected at one of their *earliest* meetings this season. Mr. D. B. Armstrong, Secretary of the above Society, and myself, will always be pleased to consider any suggestions that may come from any of the Societies, as to what might prove interesting items for discussion. I am happy to say that our general arrangements otherwise are well in hand.

I am, yours faithfully,

A. LEON ADUTT.

Tientsin, North China,

August 20th, 1911.

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

DEAR SIR,
AN EARLY CHINESE POSTAGE DUE
PROVISIONAL.

Herewith I beg to enclose you a photograph of some unique stamps (actual size), which I have just received (on loan for inspection) from the Rev. E. Plewman, a missionary at Chengtu, the capital of Szechwan, in the Far East of China, where he has been many years, and who is an earnest collector, principally in Chinese issues, and a member of our Tientsin Stamp Exchange Club. He states that some years ago (I presume between the time of the issue of the first set of Postage Due stamps surcharged on the current issue of China and the issue of the new present set) he secured the stamps and one other, a 4a. (which he has given me, also surcharged with



part of the large surcharge on the three enclosed) from a friend, a missionary, who received the parcel from Chungking, the port of the same province on the Yangtze River. He tried to ascertain since from the Chinese Post Office officials how this particular surcharge came to be used—there being no foreigner in the office of the I.C.P.U. at Chentu at the time (so no faking is probable), but without any success. They are the first I have seen or ever heard of, but there must undoubtedly have been more done in a similar way, although, of course, its business then was not very voluminous. Do you or any of your readers, especially specialists in China issues know anything about it? Perhaps Mr. J. Harte Lovelace may have some information that may be of use to us? I am sending you also herewith copies of the new low values, a Percevoir stamp recently surcharged for use in all French P.O.'s in China; other values being too high, especially for local and district usage. So far there are no errors in the surcharge—which is a wonder for the French P.O.

Yours very faithfully,

C. L. NORRIS-NEWMAN, Lt.-Col.

McTAVISH ON THE CONTINENT.

DEAR EDITOR,

I was delighted to hear that you wished me to act as special war correspondent during the Franco-German war which didn't take place over the Agadir question. To be on the spot I took the afternoon boat to Ostende, not, however, without a great deal of trembling, as, when I viewed her decks after she had just arrived from Belgium, they were covered with little buckets. As I could see no spades I concluded the passengers hadn't been building sand castles; possibly they had

been helping the crew to unload cargo. At Ostende they knew, or pretended to know nothing about either Germany or France, so I couldn't send you any news. At Bruges, where they kept me awake all night with their wonderful bells, they were quite apathetic about the war. Bruges has a belfry, to the top of which you can climb, if so disposed, for half a franc. I say climb, I really mean pull oneself up a grimy rope by the aid of finger nails and bad language; when I got to the top, after carefully locating with my head a dark corner of the staircase, I felt like a spider who had fallen down a corkscrew. The look-out from the top, however, repays for the climb (117,962 steps), as this part of Belgium is quite flat you have a superb view. An attendant was telling a couple of the Americans that on clear days, Ostende, Knucke, Heyst, Tangier, Moscow and Brisbane could be seen. If I hadn't seen Heyst myself I should have thought he was exaggerating. Being a good Protestant I went to service in the grand old Cathedral of Saint Sauveur, and cheerfully gave 10 centimes to the old lady who toddled round collecting this sum from every worshipper.

As I was very tired I risked being kept awake a second night by the bells, they won however, with the result that I never wish to hear the sweet chimes of Bruges again, especially from 12 p.m. to 4 a.m. I also had a great battle with a mosquito; several times he nearly got me out of my little bed, but by hanging on tight I managed to beat him. Once I got a little of my own back as I got in a good body blow with my left fist. Beyond a few bruised knuckles however nothing happened. I shall always remember Bruges and its bells and mosquito. Writing of bells reminds me of the belfry, the top of which is covered with tourists' signatures scribbled in pencil and chalk on every available corner. The beast who would so disfigure such a monument deserves to be hoiled in strawberry jam. Neither in Bruges nor Ghent could I discover any stamps. In Spa I tracked down the local dealer, with the only result however that a few centimes changed hands. In the season, when the town is full of visitors, I should think that a show of medium stamps would result in good sales. Local collectors need only pay me 25% commission for this suggestion. At Namur and Dinant, also Liege I could not buy you any stamps, that is why I did not send you any from these towns.

In Bruxelles used sets of the Charleroi stamps are being sold at 75c. As the face value is 36c. and they are sold by the P.O. at double face, this isn't dear—neither are the stamps.

Although it is three or four months since I visited, on your behalf, the dealers of Bruxelles, I found they had little fresh to show me. Gelli and Tani have some lovely things, but they don't like parting with them. Of other

dealers there are a score, some have stamps for sale, some haven't. From the former I got a few odds and ends, but only one stamp catalogued at 40/- for 30 centimes. I usually like three or four. Bruxelles after my last notes in the "P. J. G. B." has become the rendezvous of the world's collectors and dealers, reading of my adventures they have gone there in their thousands and tens of thousands. This being the case I shan't say where I picked up that little block of *sixteen* in superb condition of the 2g. 50c. of Holland 1872 issue, neither shall I say where the big blocks of the numeral Brazils came from, or the odd corner strips of the fine impressions 1859 Venezuelas, or the Sydney Views, to say nothing of those thin paper Greeks you are so fond of charging too much for. That is my secret and you needn't look in the Boulevard Anspach, or the Rue Du Midi, or even the Rue des Flipflaps, in the hope of discovering my man. Between ourselves, his little shop is between the north corner of the Rue Richelieu in Paris and the twelfth office (bottom bell three times) in the Kongens Nytorv in Copenhagen.

Being of an enquiring turn of mind I hunted through the highways and byeways, also the Cafés, of Tournai, Louvain, Malines, Courtrai and a dozen other queer places on the look out for stamps. I also went to Ypres, principally because I wanted to learn exactly how the local Nuttall pronounced the name of his town; as I thought, it is "creeper" without the "cr", and a "u" instead of the last "e". Those of my readers who never dream of talking about Ypres and those who think it should be "tripes" with a big "Y" are quite wrong.

Ostende, at the end of September, absolutely howls, it continues to do this until May, from then until the end of September it merely moans. Liking to take my sorrows joyfully I prefer to cross to Dover in daylight, so I spent a night in Ostende. It was like one of —'s 20/- packets with the two stamps worth 8d. taken out. At the Imperial Hotel there were four visitors. I was one of the four. At the other six hundred-and-three hotels there was still a grand total of four. Crossing from Ostende to Dover has given rise to many great ideas, also other things have risen. During my peregrinations round Bruxelles I collected, being a great specialist, about four dozen fine copies of *pâtisserie* work. I wasn't quite sure about the number until I nearly reached Dover, then I reckoned the total at *fully* 180. One of the most interesting towns in Belgium is Dordrecht, at least it isn't exactly in Belgium, but if I told you where it was you might want to go there and buy stamps, and I shouldn't like that because I am greedy. That is all I know about Dordrecht. I saw the moon rise behind Dordrecht, but I daresay it has done it before, so there is no need to tell you about it.

Another town which isn't in Belgium exactly, is Berlin. To the best of my belief it never was. There are quite a lot of people there and some of them sell stamps, as I have never been to Berlin I cannot say how many do.

With love to the I.P.U.,

Yours affectionately,

ANGUS McTAVISH.

P.S.—I nearly forgot to tell you that Germany and France didn't go to war after all.

P.P.S.—If you will pay me to go to Tonga and come back* I will do so, also write you a letter from there.

City of London Philatelic Society.

REPORT OF MEETING, 11TH OCTOBER, 1911.

At this, the first meeting of the new season and the seventy-fourth in the annals of the Society, there was a nice muster of 27 members, being somewhat above the average for the last season, but our premises are commodious and there is still room for many more members who are in want of a jolly evening not to say a profitable one.

Unfortunately, as is the case at all first meetings, there were a few resignations and the committee accepted with regret those of Messrs. A. V. Edwards, H. G. Wickham, and F. C. Nixon. However, I have still to record an increase of one in the membership total as the applications of Messrs. W. Hadlow, A. Bush, E. Calvert, and J. S. Allen were accepted by the Committee.

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Balance Sheet for the past season showing that the Society is in a most satisfactory position regarding the financial outlook and the accounts were duly passed.

During the evening the Publishers of our Official Organ repeated their magnificent offer of last season to loan to members requiring the same any book from their fine library of philatelic literature, the only stipulation being that members must call for the books or, in making written application, must enclose the cost of carriage for the books loaned.

Among the novelties and recent acquisitions shown by members were the following:—

By Mr. G. A. Higlett—old New Zealand 1856 Colonial print, white paper, no wmk., a superb pair of S.G. 10 on entire with margins all round; also 1s. green on blue paper.

By Mr. F. Wadham—a block of 6 unused 1d. blacks.

By Mr. A. J. Séfi—the only copy known of Bulgaria 3 stot. with inverted background, and uncatalogued varieties of GRENADA 1d.

Postage and Revenue on 2s. invert. surch., SEYCHELLES 36c. on 45c. double surcharge. Mr. Séfi also showed a copy of Great Britain 1s. green circle round K.

The evening concluded with the time honoured OPENING ADDRESS by the President, Mr. H. W. Westcott, who made an eloquent appeal for the advancement of philately and also remarked that if we looked back upon the past season we should probably find "that we had done those things which we ought not to have done and left undone those things which we ought not to have left undone."

Mr. Westcott also dilated upon the fact that subscribing to a new issue service was not collecting in a philatelic sense and that the collector who made it his business to look around and hunt up any stamps wished for, obtained far greater pleasure than the one who simply sits tight and waits for his new issues to come in regularly from his agent.

With the Annual Reports which members received on the 1st inst. will be found a form of agreement to the new and revised rules for 1911-12, and members will much oblige by signing same and sending it to me without delay, as by doing so they will save me much time and worry in getting the whole of the forms returned.

I should like to bring before your notice that at the next meeting, on November 8th, the evening is reserved for Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg with a display and notes "SYDNEY VIEWS" and I can promise you a most excellent time. I hope to see a record meeting in order to accord Mr. Hausburg that welcome which it is our endeavour to give all visitors to our meetings.

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, *Hon Sec.*

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

The *South African Philatelist* says:—

Some dead-alive philatelic centres complain that philately has to compete with bioscopes and rinks! It sounds as credible as that palæontology was killed by ping pong.

What long words they use in South Africa. The S.A.P.'s subscriber will write up complaining that his blank album hasn't a space for paleontological stamps.

Another writer in the same paper referring to the provisional Oil Rivers surcharges of 1893, says:—

Excepting a few stamps printed sideways and upside down in the block and italic types in vermilion, no varieties or mistakes of any kind have ever been found.

When the specially trained corps of Siamese overprinters hears of such pessimism they will be charmed.

A writer in the *Stamp Collector* (Birmingham) reviewing the new part II. Gibbons says,

* If our correspondent would promise not to come back for 50 years we might consider his suggestion.

relating to Swiss stamps: "The 1f. carmine, 1905, plain paper, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, used, that was catalogued id., is now unpriced."

What a 'orrid slump.

A writer in the *S.C.F.* describing the stamp papered rooms of a Sussex Inn says, "the visitor can purchase a history of the 'Jubilee Stamp House' for the sum of one penny, together with a selection of picture postcards which serve as an interesting moment of the visit."

It is dreadful to contemplate what eons of time 2d. might purchase.

The same publication tells its readers that a well known British philatelic writer, now in America, has undertaken a juvenile section for *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* under the caption "with the Boy Philatelist."

Up boys and caption them!

The editor of the *American Philatelist* says, apropos of perforations, that

In view of the large amount of time involved and the intense concentration on the brain muscles required, we are of opinion that steps should be taken to minimise the trouble.

Even now, amid the sloth of Holborn, I can hear the *A.P.'s* editor's brain muscles contracting as he wrestles with Susse and Waterlow perforations.

Being, so they say, a bit of a blooming epicure it gave me great pleasure to study the following menu, extracted from the *Philadelphia Stamp News*.

DINNER.

Silver Jubilee Convention.
Twenty-Fifty Anniversary (*sic*).
American Philatelic Society.

MENU.

Grape Juice Cocktail.
Radishes. Olives.

—
Lettuce and Tomato Salad.

—
Mullagatawny Soup.

—
Fried Spring Chicken.
Corn Fritters. Snow-Flake Potatoes.
Butter Beets.

—
Orange Frappe.

—
Beck's Special Ice Cream and Cake.
Coffee. Tea. Milk. Iced Tea.
Cafe Beck.

I wonder whether friend Edgar Nelton let himself go on the radishes, or whether he saved up for the Orange Frappe. No wonder E. P. Power trotted over to Europe.

"The *Philatelic Gazette* won a bronze medal at both the Chicago and Vienna Stamp Exhibitions, as a leading philatelic paper. No other paper received an award."

So says our American contemporary. To get even I shouldn't be surprised if the *P.Y. of America* denies the existence of both Vienna and Chicago.

The following is extracted from Monsieur Pierre Mahé's article in the *M.J.*

The conclusion of this long (but most interesting!) article is, that thousands, *hundreds of thousands* of collectors, who have been quietly resting persuaded that they possess in their albums the stamp with frame in *Prussian blue* and centre in *carmine*, will experience, when they awake, the grief of reading what we have stated above, namely, that they do not yet possess that variety.

The italics are entirely my own. Possibly the remaining odd million or two of M. Mahe's readers won't recover from the sleeping draught they took before they reached the Prussian blue and carmine stage.

The rumour that Becucci, late of Cullum Street, is now taking a leading part in "Charley's Aunt" needs confirmation.

Another honour for the Royal:—H.M. the King passed the end of Southampton Row on his way to Euston.

The September number of the *London Philatelist* contains the following:—"Owing to the unavoidable detention of the Editor in Vienna, etc." Tut, tut, an old hand like Mr. Castle ought not to mind four banquets in one week.

The new issue chronicler of the *Monthly Journal* cheerfully tells his readers that a correspondent has shewn him a copy of the 2/- of South Australia—first type of wmk—with the following perforations $11\frac{1}{2}$ at top, 15 at bottom, $14\frac{1}{2}$ at left, and 12 at right. The $14\frac{1}{2}$ perforation runs to 15 in parts!

A respectable old paper like the *Monthly Journal* ought to know better.

In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* there is being published a dictionary of 2000 colour names. This is, so Mr. Ewen tells us, "with a view to assisting catalogue editors to a greater choice of colour names." One of the names given is 'NITROPHENEPENEDIAMINE RED, a fine full red dye.'

I suppose the "nitro" is needed to get to the "mine."

The Vienna Exhibition.

OWING to our date of publication we were unable to include in last month's *Journal* a list of the Vienna awards. As all the philatelic papers published since then have given their readers full reports of the gathering and the successful medal winners, we confine ourselves to the following very brief list of British Awards:

Awarded Large Gold Medal.

GT. BRITAIN.	Sydney Loder.
DUTCH COLONIES.	A. J. Warren.
FRANCE.	F. Reichenheim.
HOLLAND.	A. J. Warren.

Small Gold Medal.

MODENA.	Earl of Crawford.
GREAT BRITAIN.	Sydney Loder.
COLONIALS UNUSED.	Mrs. E. Field.
GREECE.	L. L. R. Hausburg.
BRAZIL.	Capt. G. S. F. Napier.
UNITED STATES.	Earl of Crawford.

Silver Medal.

BOSNIA.	H. J. Reckitt.
CAYMAN ISLANDS.	A. Leon Adutt.
MALTA.	J. E. Williams.
BELGIUM.	F. E. Wilson.
VICTORIA (re-constructed plate)	L. L. R. Hausburg.
GT. BRITAIN.	Miss K. Nelke.

Our Publishers were awarded a Silver Medal for the *Philatelic Journal of Gt. Britain*. Numerous bronze medals also came to this country as souvenirs of a very successful Exhibition.

Perhaps the two most outstanding features of the Vienna week were, firstly, that no great collection of Austrian and Austrian Italy stamps was exhibited, and secondly, that collectors in America made a very brave show with some superb exhibits, namely, Mr. C. L. Pack's Cape of Good Hope, Brazil and Uruguay; Mr. H. J. Crocker's Hawaii, and rarities; Mr. Murray Bartel's Philippine Islands; and Mr. Ackerman's Norway and Canal Zones.



September, 1911, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1911-12.

Hon. President: H. R. Oldfield.

Hon. Vice-Presidents:

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN.

MAJOR J. DE C. LAFFAN.

President: J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Vice-Presidents:

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

Committee:

A. B. KAY. W. E. LINCOLN. GUY SEMPLE.
F. F. LAMB. P. L. PEMBERTON. E. W. WETHERELL.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer: T. H. HINTON,
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

Hon. Exchange Superintendent: J. E. JOSELIN,
81, Bennerley Road, New Wandsworth, S.W.

Hon. Counterfeit Detector: W. HADLOW,
Grove Park, Lee, 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. 12th, when there were present J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, W. Schwarte, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, H. F. Johnson, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb and the Hon. Secretary. Displays were given by the President, Great Britain a fine collection of used copies including many rarities, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, a specialised collection of Greece; Mr. Lamb, a selection of fine copies of Line Engraved Stamps, and a collection of Spain Early Issues on Entires; Mr. H. F. Johnson also showed some old Italian States, and the Hon. Secretary, a part of a general collection including issues from 1840 to 1874, a pleasant evening being spent by all present.

The next meeting will take place at Essex Hall, on Thursday, Nov. 9th, at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. T. W. Hall will give a display of Danish West Indies with Notes. The programme for the remainder of the season is as follows:—

PROGRAMME SEASON, 1911-12.

1911.

Monday, November 13th, 7.30 p.m.—
Smoking Concert at the Horseshoe Restaurant,
Tottenham Court Road, W.C.

Thursday, December 14th, 7.30 p.m.—
Display, "Brazil." Capt. G. F. Napier.

1912.

Thursday, January 11th, 7.30 p.m.—
Display, "Switzerland, 2nd part of Collection."
Victor Beaujeux.

Thursday, February 8th, 7.30 p.m.—
Display, "War Stamps." W. E. Lincoln.
Members are invited to bring any specimens they
may have for comparison.

Thursday, March 14th, 7.30 p.m.—
Display with Notes, "Holland, Postage Stamps."
H. Wade.

"Ditto, Fiscal Stamps." W. Schwabacher.

Thursday, April 11th, 7.30 p.m.—
Display with Notes, "Bosnia." H. R. Oldfield.

Thursday, May 9th, 7.30 p.m.—
Annual General Meeting and Displays of Errors,
not exceeding 12 each, 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 Meetings will be held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

Vienna Exhibition—the following awards have been obtained by five members of the Union who exhibited at the Exhibition, one

large gold, one small gold, three silver, and three bronze medals including a silver medal awarded to our official organ (*P.J.G.B.*)

Copies of the annual programme and lists of members have been posted to all members of the Society, and the Hon. Secretary will be glad to receive replies from those members to whom application for subscriptions are enclosed, also to receive any further donations to the Forgery Collection.

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Oct. 14th, 1911.

In the World of Stamps.

BY ONLOOKER.

MR. FRANZ REICHENHEIM, Hon. Secretary of the Permanent Committee of Philatelic Congresses of Great Britain, tells us that he has heard from the North of England Philatelic Society to the effect that that Society has unanimously decided to invite the Philatelic Congress to be held in Newcastle in 1915. This leaves the year 1914 unprovided for.

* * *

Those of our readers who have followed the fortunes of the *P.J.G.B.* for a score or more years, and those who have become subscribers at a more recent date will be glad to learn that the good old *P.J.G.B.* was awarded a silver medal at the recently held Vienna Exhibition. This was the highest award obtainable.

* * *

Messrs. Emerson & Co., late of Eastcheap, tell us that they have removed into new offices in Hampden House, Kingsway, where they will be pleased to receive the visits of old, and new friends.

* * *

Another "trade" announcement comes from friend Hadlow, who tells us that he has fully initiated his son into the mysteries of stamp dealing. Henceforth the firm will be known as Hadlow & Son, of Grove Park, Lee, Kent. May they long be a power in the land.

* * *

Lovers of new issues are likely to be kept busy during the very near future. There are rumours that the new ½d. and 1d. King George stamps are to be redrawn. Messrs. Harrison and Son's printings of the higher values will probably be worth looking after. In the Mediterranean, Italy's occupation of Tripoli is almost certain to result in some new provisional stamps. In Portugal, if the Royalists have any success they are sure to add a "Crown" or else a photo of "Mannell shooting rabbits" to the already overprinted stamps.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay have published, on behalf of the Philatelic Society of India, a most comprehensive handbook on the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon." The study of these stamps is an interesting and important branch of philately, one we are afraid rather neglected by the majority of collectors. The copy for this book has been arranged for publication, and partly written, by Mr. Gordon Jones, from notes left by the late Mr. C. S. F. Crofton. Collectors of Fiscals will need no other recommendation to invest in a copy. It is lavishly illustrated.

* * *

Mr. A. S. Rogerson, of Flixton, has very kindly shewn us a copy of the ½d. King Edward stamp, Harrison printing, with the watermark so much out of alignment that half a crown appears at each side of the stamp. Those of our readers who possess similar varieties therefore have two half-crowns for a ½d., better value than a 2½d. Harrison with inverted watermark at 5/-! Eh! what?

* * *

All collectors of Italian States are, or should be, cognizant of the excellent forgeries of the 2, 10 and 20 *grani* Naples (1858) which are occasionally found postally used. These forgeries are nearly always printed in a shade of lake which has a strong mulberry tint that is rarely found in the genuine stamps.

We have been shewn by Mr. Louis Loeske a forgery of the 50 *grani* with a postmark



which has every appearance of being genuine; there can be little doubt that it belongs to the same category as the others above mentioned and was made to do postal duty.

This forgery differs from the others in the colour, which is identical with that of the medium shades of the issued stamps. At first sight the forgery might pass, but the oval containing the inscription is too narrow and, which is rather remarkable, the T is missing from the word NEAPOLETANA. We illustrate this forgery and the genuine.

Owing to pressure on our space we are reluctantly compelled to hold over this month's instalment of Mr. Pemberton's article on the "Stamps of Greece."

The late Mr. A. H. Giles, R.N.



It is with very great regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, which took place at sea, while on a voyage in search of health, early this month.

The late Mr. Giles was a familiar figure to many of our readers, he was a collector of the old school, whom we could ill afford to lose, unfortunately he suffered from ill-health for some years—a fact which prevented his taking the prominent position in philately which was his due.

Mr. Giles was one of our series of well known philatelists some six or so years ago. The following facts were gleaned from him then. Like practically all well known collectors, he commenced collecting while at school, in the early sixties. He was a thorough-going general collector of postal adhesives, taking everything, with the exception of some of the Indian Native States; postal stationery or fiscals, however, did not interest him, with the exception of those of the latter which were available for postage. He preferred unused specimens and did not see the force of collecting stamps in blocks, except when they represented different types; imperforate stamps however he liked, if possible in pairs.

Mr. Giles joined the Royal Navy as an Assistant Clerk in 1867, and "knocked about the world a bit," his travels enabling him to make many additions to his collection. His first ship was H.M.S. Lord Warden, and as this was sent to the Mediterranean Station, he had the opportunity of purchasing Turkish, Greek, Maltese, &c., stamps. On this vessel

he purchased a small collection from a middy, and in the lot was a Great Britain 1d. black "V.R.," which was presumed to be a forgery. He exchanged this with a Maltese dealer for a stamp worth a couple of shillings. His next move was to the Australian Station in 1875 in H.M.S. Nymph. He returned to England in 1879, and was in the following year appointed to the Wolverton—Commodore J. C. Wilson's flagship in Australia. When he first reached Sydney in 1875, he visited a dealer in a small way of business and could well remember buying 1d. and 2d. Sydney views from him at 2/6 each. He also obtained the 8d. orange, laureated, for about 3/-, and at a later date was shewn a small basketful of the 2d. blue, laureated head, which the owner was willing to dispose of at 2d. a stamp.

In 1882, he parted with the collection he had first commenced in school in 1862, for £28. It contained between 5,000 and 6,000 varieties and was sold to Mr. H. Hill of the Treasury Department, Melbourne.

In December of the same year he started another collection. When calling at Capetown in July, 1883, he purchased five or six dozen 1d. and 4d. Triangular Capes at 1/- per dozen, and among these was a fine unused 4d. woodblock. In 1880, Mr. Giles was appointed to H.M.S. Buzzard (now moored near Temple Pier and used as a training ship for Naval Volunteers) which was then proceeding to the West Indies. He was at Jamaica in 1890, when the official stamps first came into use, and also remembers the 2½d. on 4d. provisional being issued. He saw entire sheets of this containing many errors, which were, by the way, generally removed by the Post Office clerks before any of the stamps were sold to the general public.

In 1890, the "Buzzard" was sent to Cartagena, where, owing to a shortage of 5c. stamps, the Postmaster was bi-sectioning a number of the 10 centavos mauve, of Bolivar, and issuing the pieces to the public as 5c. stamps. Calling at Port au Prince, Hayti, a collector there gave him a 70 cent. yellow fiscal stamp, which undoubtedly has done postal duty. It is un-catalogued, but it is doubtful if the variety was ever officially sanctioned.

Mr. Giles joined the Royal Navy in 1867 and was retired in 1897, when he had attained the rank of Staff Paymaster, so he was thirty years in the service. He was afterwards advanced to the position of Fleet Paymaster.

Our late friend was an active member of the Herts, I.P.U., City of London, and other Societies; philately has lost a staunch devotee, and British collectors a true comrade in Mr. Giles; a gentleman of the old school, he was always willing to assist those of his friends who went to him for guidance.

It was fitting, that, as an old Naval officer, he should have passed away at sea. *R.I.P.*



OCTOBER 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The September number of the *Monthly Journal* contains further instalments of Messrs. C. J. Phillips, Pierre Mahé and F. J. Melville's articles dealing respectively with "The Stamps of Paraguay," "The Stamps of Brazil" and "Postage Stamps in the Making." The first-mentioned paper describes the 1909 Provisionals and the regular issue for 1910. We also find a lengthy chapter dealing with the early Official stamps of 1886. Mr. Phillips illustrates his paper with numerous enlargements of both the originals and their reprints. M. Mahé writes about the bi-coloured 10 reis of 1891 and splits many straws concerning the various colours in which this stamp is catalogued.

The following extract may set some of our readers examining their duplicates:—

We have now to note an Error of composition of some importance, which occurs in this stamp, and which has not previously been described. It is one of the most interesting of those varieties that are indiscriminately termed "errors," a name applied to all those varieties, whatever they may be, which exhibit some imperfection or superfluity. If a blow has damaged a cliché, we get an "error"; if a letter in an overprint has fallen out or been defaced, is too high or too low, it is an "error"; if something or other has fallen on the plate and intercepted the colour, thus producing a white blotch, it is an "error." In fact the word "error," in "Timbrophily" [we are relieved to find that M. Mahé does not say "in Philately"] appears to be the sauce applied to all the fishes that are difficult to swallow.

Here it is a question of a stamp with frame in Prussian blue and centre in deep red, in which the square for the ornament in the right upper corner is blank, the little cliché that should have been inserted there having been left out. This defect serves to show that the frame was composed of separate pieces, not engraved as a whole.

We have another variety, less interesting, perhaps, a stamp in ultramarine and red, the ultramarine portion of which, having been over-inked, has become oxidized, and has turned to indigo. The ink was so superabundant that all the blue parts are blotchy, so much so that the ornaments in the corners are simply little squares of solid deep colour, only one of them

showing that there was a design under the patch of ink. We do not think that much importance need be attached to a variety of this nature, but it is for the specialists to decide.

Mr. F. J. Melville still writes about lithography as a method of producing stamps.

A description of most of the winning exhibits at Vienna, and a capital list of "New Issues" complete the principal contents of our leading contemporary.

The principal item in the September number of the *London Philatelist* is Mr. Castle's description of the Vienna Exhibition, together with a list of awards. "New Issues," "Occasional Notes" and Reports complete the contents. Not a very happy "contents bill" for what should be our leading stamp paper.

In the September number of the *Philatelic Record* we find a further continuation of Mr. Joseph B. Leavy's article dealing with the "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century," also Mr. Peplow's "Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires." The former is of considerable interest.

The September 16th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains a short instalment of Mr. Irwin Faris' notes relating to New Zealand stamps; a short article entitled "The Locals of London," contributed by Mr. Fred. W. Edwards; an account of the Chicago Exhibition; a review of the recently published book dealing with the "Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon"; and the usual complement of odds and ends. One of the "odds" we extract as follows:

Signing himself "Innocent"—what's in a name?—a Brighton reader of the *Fortnightly* writes us:—
"I have recently joined a well-known Exchange Club and find that notwithstanding the fact that an annual subscription and percentage on the sales is paid to the Secretary (described in the rules by the bye as 'Hon. '), the gentleman who serves in that capacity has 'first pick' each time! Can you inform me if this is usual?"

In the copy dated September 30th we find an illustrated interview with Mr. B. Gordon Jones; a lengthy budget of New Issues; a short article contributed by Mr. Percy C. Bishop, entitled "The Two Classes of Stamp Forgeries," wherein he comments on Mr. Griebert's recently published article. Mr. A. B. Creeke, Junior, writes interestingly under the heading, "Stamps Rarer than the 'Post Office' Mauritius"; while we also find a list of awards given at the Vienna Exhibition; a review of the Philatelic Press; and a number of other items, original and otherwise.

From Mr. Creeke's paper we extract the following readable, but not altogether original, information:—

Every collector has, we think, cherished at some time or other a faint hope that he might one day be the proud owner of one of the romantic rarities, known as the "Post Office" Mauritius; but, when the collector became a philatelist, he generally abandoned that hope, unless he was more than "passing rich" and even then his hope was tempered by the knowledge of how rare, and how keenly sought after, are those two little bits of paper.

These two stamps are attractive: they are line-engraved—perhaps, not in the highest style—well-printed, and, being old British Colonials, bear the head (if not the likeness) of our late sovereign, Queen Victoria.

There are now, we believe, twenty-six copies of the "Post Office" known to collectors: of these, fourteen are of the One Penny value, and twelve are Two Pence.

It is remarkable that, out of so very few specimens, some copies should have survived to modern times in unused condition, but there are two of the Penny and no less than five of the Two Pence which have been found in that state, and one of each is absolutely mint—the two selling within the last year or so for, it is said, about £3,500.

One would think that these figures indicated the extreme height of rarity, if the price be any criterion, but there are other stamps that are still rarer, though not appreciated to the same extent as regards price.

There is another stamp of Mauritius, the "Post Paid" Twopence of 1848, which in the earliest state of the plate, and mint, must run the 1847 issue very close in point of rarity; and I have heard a well-known philatelist say that it was actually rarer.

This, however, is by the way, because the Post Pairs are, taken as a whole, very much commoner than the Post Offices, and it is only the extremely few exceptional copies which can boast of any superiority.

Most of our Colonies, which manufactured their own stamps in the late 'forties or early 'fifties, have given Philately great rarities; and other countries have, in a minor degree, followed suit.

There is no doubt that the rarest stamp in the world is the large oblong One Cent, printed in black on magenta surface-coloured paper and issued in British Guiana in February, 1856; this stamp, produced from ordinary printers' type and rule, with a "stock" ship as the central part of the design, was printed by Messrs. Baum & Dallas, at the office of the *Official Gazette*, Georgetown. Only one copy is known, used and in not particularly good condition, but it has been pronounced by the greatest authority on stamps to be perfectly genuine.

The September number of the *Stamp*

Collector contains an illustrated interview with Mr. Harry Barnwell of the Birmingham Society. We also find a capital little article contributed by Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson dealing with the ½d. and 4d. values (1872) of Barbados with the compound perforations.

The following brief extract tells how these compounds came into being:—

The perforating machine used by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. prior to June, 1872, was of a rough irregular type, gauging from 14 to 16 occasionally, and was always blind before the stamps were severed, none of the paper being removed by the pins. Early in 1872 a new machine was brought into use, with an irregular perforation varying from 14½ to 15½, but this varied from the previous perforation, inasmuch as the paper was always cut clean through by the pins, and usually gauged a regular 15.

Another perforating machine of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. was used in Antigua, Bahamas, St. Vincent, Turks Islands, and Barbados, for a limited period. The holes of this machine were circular, almost uniform in size, and were punched out clean, measuring from less than a millimetre to a full millimetre in diameter. The gauge varied considerably, from 11 to nearly 13, and could be plainly seen without the aid of the perforation gauge. The gauging usually was about 11½.

In July, 1872, a consignment of 33,000 Halfpenny values, and 22,000 Four Pence values, having the perforations of both these machines, was despatched to Barbados. The top and bottom are always found with the larger perforation, varying 11 to 13, and the sides with the smaller perforation, 14½ to 15½. This was the only case, in Barbados, of a compound perforation being used, and the supply sent proved sufficient to last until the next consignment of April 28th, 1873.

Mr. C. H. T. Hayman contributes the introductory notes of what is to be an article dealing with the 1853-1883 issues of Chili. We feel sure that Mr. Hayman's philatelic studies, will, when published, prove of value. An editorial, echoing the the recent editorials of the *London Philatelist* and the usual complement of regular features all help to fill the columns of our interesting contemporary.

The September *West-End Philatelist* contains a full list of the Vienna Exhibition Awards. We congratulate our wee contemporary on being amongst the very first, if not *the* first, of the philatelic papers to give its readers this news. Mr. Séfi contributes a short instalment of his article dealing with the stamps of Grenada; he writes about the King's Head stamps, also the more recently issued "Ship" type. We also find a short note relating to the 6c. lithographed "Guy" stamps of Newfoundland.

In the October number of the *Stamp Lover* we find, amongst other matter, the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article dealing with the stamps of

Honduras, contributed by Mr. L. W. Crouch. Honduras is a country about which practically nothing philatelic has been written, so much credit is due to Mr. Crouch for tackling a new subject.

He writes about the first issue, and points out that it is not definitely known where the stamps were manufactured, why they were on sale long before they were issued for postal purposes, their postal value and the reason why two different papers were used.

The following extract will interest our readers:—

In Article 3 of the above decree mention is made of the measures to be taken by postmasters in order to cancel effectually stamps affixed to covers and to destroy their franking power. It is there stated that a hand stamp was to be supplied by the Government for this purpose. In spite of this these stamps are generally found cancelled with a pen-and-ink cross, and are comparatively rare in postmarked condition. An obliteration sometimes used was a double-lined circle containing a cross-shaped device. Cancellations consisting of an ellipse containing the name of a town, or the name of a town in a straight line, thus COMAYAGUA, in Roman or script lettering, are to be found on these stamps. All these were struck in black. Towards the end of the period of use of these stamps, about 1877, a new obliteration was introduced, consisting of seven thick parallel lines of such lengths that the obliteration is circular: this was nearly always struck in blue. A single-lined circular date stamp is rarely found on these stamps in black or violet.

Large remainders of these stamps were left over at the end of the issue, and they are very common unused. According to the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, quoted above, about 3,000,000 were printed.

A curious point about the majority of genuinely used copies of these stamps is the presence of a little tick in black or violet ink just above the right hand star: this tick is also to be observed on the overprinted stamps of the next issue. No doubt it was applied as some kind of control mark, but as to its exact purpose, I am unable to give any information. As far as I can ascertain, this tick mark was only used at Tegucigalpa.

Mr. Harold Row contributes another long instalment of his article dealing with the stamps of Siam, he writes about the high value surcharges of 1907 and the various other surcharges of that and the following year.

Another article of value is Mr. Hugo Griebert's "The Early Issues of Uruguay" wherein he writes about the "Diligencias," the issues of 1858 to 1864, the surcharged issue of 1866 and the "figure" stamps of the same year. Mr. Griebert touches but lightly on the various issues but his paper is full of interest.

Regarding the surcharges of 1866, he says:—

As a change in the postal tariff had been announced, and the stamps of an entirely new design which had been ordered in England had not yet arrived, the four stamps of the last issue were surcharged and came

into use on the 1st January, 1866. It is of particular interest to note that this was the first time that a surcharge had been made use of in South America. This issue was of a very short duration, as soon afterwards the new stamps arrived from England, and the surcharges, which had only been in issue for two weeks, were withdrawn; although a few copies have been found that had been allowed to prepay postage during the two years that followed. Many errors of the surcharges exist, and they are all, if genuine, very scarce, but, unfortunately, many forgeries produced in the early seventies are known.

The October number of Mr. Harris' paper, *The Philatelic Circular*, contains a good deal of very readable matter, Mr. W. B. Edwards, of Pictorial New Zealand, Jamaica, and other fame, contributes some capital "Market Notes." We venture to extract the following:—

A good knowledge of the catalogue is a sound investment, and it pays one to take it up every now and then for study. The prices are easily memorised, but the minor varieties are apt to escape notice, and these should often be referred to. To give two instances of what I mean, the 50 cents and 1 gulden stamp of Holland in the bi-coloured series are common perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, but are quite scarce perf. 11 only, neither being priced used in Gibbons. I picked up two copies of the 1 gulden some time ago, but have yet to find the 50 cents. The 2d. vermilion New Zealand, first type, usually with Star wmk. was also issued without wmk. and later with N.Z. wmk. This last stamp seems very difficult to get, though only priced at 10s., and I do not remember having seen a single copy in any Exchange Club, though the other varieties, priced at 5s. have come along in fair numbers. There are many stamps like this, and I propose to point them out as opportunity occurs, which may not be a wise policy on my part, at any rate until I have myself acquired the stamps in question, but I must not ignore the primary object of these Notes. Of course I claim no infallibility, and can only give the results of my own experience, which may not agree with that of all my readers, but I shall always be glad to hear from those who differ from me, and to acknowledge any corrections or additions.

A most enjoyable article, contributed by "Green Star," deals with Newfoundland "backwoods" post offices and mails.

The October number of the *Monthly Report* contains a lengthy Annual Report of the Herts Philatelic Society for 1910-11. We learn that the membership roll numbers 263, a nett gain of twenty-four during the year.

We do not notice any mention made of the fact that during the past season one member of the Herts Society had a sheet of stamps—valued, if we remember correctly, at £30—abstracted from one of the Herts Exchange Packets, while in the post—a loss which the member in question had to grin and bear. The Society has a balance of £60 in hand.

"Philatelic Crumbs," "Vienna Exhibition," "Fourth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain," "Reviews," etc. help to make our contemporary of interest.

Philately on the Continent.

COLLECTORS of recent Roumanians will be interested in the chapter on the 1908 to 1910 issues, by Georges Brunel, which appears in *Le Timbre-Poste* for September. We are here told that there were three printings of each of the values 5 bani to 40 bani of the engraved set, and two each of the three higher values. These various printings are different in shade and M. Brunel gives particulars by which we may separate them. The issue is made still more complicated by the two perforations $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2}$ and their compound varieties. We notice that in the perforation table one variety is included which is not given in Gibbons', namely the 10b. perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$. (This variety is also given in the new Kohl). The typographed set is not so prolific in shades but the perforations are the same, and we have all five stamps in all combinations: $11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$ and compound, though the 15 bani printed in violet appears to be unknown with the perforation $13\frac{1}{2}$ all round.

The other serials in *Le Timbre-Poste* are continued, namely those on the stamps of Mexico and French Colonies. The former brings us to the end of the issue of 1868, concerning which we find a summary of all that was already known but nothing new.

An article on the Forgeries of Hungary, translated from *Der Philatelist* appears to have been hardly worth the trouble entailed in its reproduction, as the known forgeries, at any rate those made for collectors, are by no means dangerous.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for August 31st, contains an article on the Cape wood-blocks, inspired by Mr. E. H. L. Gorge's article in the *Monthly Journal*. The number for Sept. 15th describes two new and dangerous forgeries of the 2 fr. Belgium of the current and the last issue. Though enlarged illustrations of these counterfeits, side by side with genuine ones, are shewn, it is not easy to trace any marked discrepancies. It is satisfactory to learn, however, that the colours are not exactly reproduced. In the same number of the French fortnightly is a well-written article on Rajah Brooke, of Sarawak. The following number of the *Echo* contains a useful article on the 1 and 10 centimes green, Belgium, of the 1869 issue, giving a list of all the varieties and minor varieties which may be found in these two exceedingly common stamps. From this it would appear that a collector might specialize in these two values only and get huge entertainment at the minimum of expense. The varieties described number 46 in all!

As a supplement to the *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* Mr. Nils Strandell is bringing out the first portion of a reference list of articles which have appeared in the philatelic press during 1910, arranged in alphabetical order of the countries with which the articles deal. This list is invaluable to all specialists, as one

glance gives a reference to everything that has been written during the year under review.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The September 1st number of the *Philatelic Journal of America* contains a lengthy instalment of what promises to be a capital article dealing with the stamps of Tonga, Mr. B. W. H. Poole, is commencing to make himself felt in American philatelic journalism. He writes about the issues up to and including those for 1892. Our contemporary also contains a report of the recently held Chicago Exhibition and 25th Anniversary of the American Philatelic Society.

The following brief extract makes sad reading:—

The American Philatelic Society membership, according to the Secretary's report, has declined to 1,574, a loss of two hundred and thirty-two during the year, with comparatively few additions.

The September number of the *South African Philatelist* contains a very readable paper contributed by Mr. W. Reid, wherein he gives much information about the Oil Rivers provisionals and the regular Niger Coast issues of 1893 and 1894. Mr. Reid also gives a list shewing the numbers printed of each variety, S.G. Nos. 1 to 62.

We extract the figures relating to the first ten stamps:—

Numbers printed of the various stamps and supplied to the Postal Authorities, also number of the various provisionals created by surcharging. The side numerals used are S.G.'s catalogue numbers:—

1	½d. vermilion	50,000
2	1d. lilac	50,000
3	2d. green and carmine	42,000
4	2½d. purple on blue	72,000
5	5d. purple and blue	36,000
6	1s. green	11,000
7	½d. on half of 1d. in red	468
8	½d. on half of 1d. in violet	12

Block Type.

9	½d. in violet on 2d.	120
10	½d. in green on 2½d.	120

Some papers of general interest and a lengthy budget of South Africa Societies' Reports all help to make good reading.

The August number of the *Australian Philatelist* is a very swagger number, containing a good deal of valuable information. The editorial, a capital one, deals with the ever-green "Perforation Question." The following short extract

shows how one, at least, of Australia's collectors views perforations:—

Many a collector who started to include varieties of perforations in his hobby has been obliged to abandon it on account of the heavy demand on his purse, which keeps increasing every year, and as one advanced collector told us, the crop of New Zealand ones caused the philatelic cup to overflow with him, and his ire was roused at seeing the calm way the matter was viewed by Australian philatelists as a whole. In despair he has to give up the collecting of perforations, except in a reasonable way, and we think that he but echoes a similar state of affairs with many others.

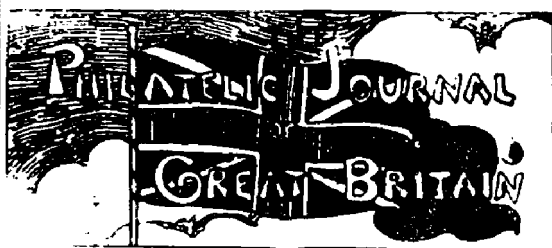
A valuable contribution—illustrated by aid of two plates showing 57 types—is Mr. Walter A. Hull's article dealing with the "Watermarks of Australian Stamps." Never before have we seen such clear illustrations of watermarks; they should prove of great value to all collectors of Australian stamps who find the Crown and N.S.W. and Q and Crown types confusing. Mr. Hull describes each type of watermark and also gives a long reference list of the stamps on which they are found. An account of the Birmingham Congress, a description of some of the rejected designs for the Commonwealth competition, Societies' reports, and some interesting paragraphs all make capital reading matter.

Last, but by no means least, we find a lengthy article dealing with the perforations of the "full-face" New Zealand stamps; as we are venturing to reprint this in full, elsewhere in our columns, we will leave our readers to form their own conclusions as to its merits.

The August number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* contains a few interesting odd paragraphs, an article (illustrated) describing some of the rejected designs for Australian Commonwealth stamps, an account of the Birmingham Congress and a goodly budget of local Societies' doings.

ONE result of the recent few years of unrivalled prosperity which Australia and New Zealand have been favoured with is that many people "down under" are taking an interest in stamp collecting. Our publishers tell us that they have numerous letters every mail even from West Australia, the least philatelically inclined of all the States.

This is only as it should be, as Australian stamps, except the rarities, are rather quiet at present in Europe. The unprecedented boom for old Europeans and South Americans has quite put them out of court.



The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

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Death of Mr. F. Breitfuss.

It is with much regret that we have to announce, on the authority of the *Monthly Journal*, the death of Mr. F. Breitfuss which took place on September 7th. Mr. Breitfuss was one of the earliest of stamp collectors, and his death will be a sad blow to all those philatelists who had the honour of his acquaintance.

Next month we shall publish a photo and full obituary notice, as we think our readers—many of whom will remember that Mr. Breitfuss was one of our series of "Well known Philatelists"—will appreciate this.



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

No. 251. VOL. XXI. NOVEMBER 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

IN the world of stamps it is, fortunately enough, quite impossible for any collector to say that he is complete in any group of countries, or, indeed, in any one single country. Completion, from the specialist's point of view, is an absolute impossibility, a fact only realised when the fortunate philatelist has long passed the high watermark of his

Completion. competitors. The single copy collector, who frequently boasts that he is complete in the stamps of a Continent—or even two—panders hopelessly to his desire to outrival his brother collectors, or else he cheerfully ignores patent facts and pins his faith to the circumscribed limits of some far-seeing cataloguer's printed list.

Fortunately for the well-being of the general collector, who is, so we are told, the backbone of the hobby, there are a great many collectors who are content blindly to follow the lead of somebody else. As an illustration of this we could point to the first issue of Mexico, which, according to last year's catalogue, consisted of five values, with but one variety of each. Basing their calculations on this list, thousands of collectors were proudly able to tell their friends that they had the first issue of Mexico complete! Delusive

fame, now they find that the English standard catalogue is so elaborated that the first issue of five varieties has been stretched so that it now contains more than a couple of dozen different stamps.

Hundreds of collectors have added, or are busily trying to add, these extra varieties to their albums, which when an accomplished fact will again enable them to say they have reached completion. False chimera of desire, the first issue of Mexico is just as incomplete when represented by a couple of dozen copies as when it only marshalled a quarter of that number under its banner.

As with Mexico, so it is with other countries, with the result that thousands of collectors are happy in striving to reach a goal they can never hope to attain. In the early days of stamp collecting it was comparatively easy, provided that time and money were not objects of consideration, to reach a comparative stage of finality, but those days have for ever past, with the result that we can only keep going steadily forward, cheerily hoping that the presiding Goddess of Luck will not forget us when some hidden store of hoarded correspondence is ruthlessly scattered to the utmost limits of the world.

The Stamps of the First Issue of Holland, 1852.

R. W. WILKINSON.

INTRODUCTION.

Early in 1908 it was my good fortune to find amongst a number of Dutch 5 and 10 cent stamps, 1852 issue, several with varieties in the design due to retouching, and also a strip of three 10 cents with a similar defect on each stamp, then christened the "Horn." Correspondence with Mr. W. T. Wilson and Mr. A. J. Warren showed that the varieties had not been previously noted, and the subsequent acquisition of a number of the stamps made it very evident that several plates must have been used for each of the 5 and 10 cent values. In March, 1909, this small collection was shown at the Newcastle Exhibition, and about the same time Mr. Warren dropped a bomb-shell amongst the Dutch specialists by showing the discoveries at Amsterdam.

By March, 1910, the collection had so far advanced as to show four plates of the 5 cents, seven of the 10 cents, and one of the 15 cents, as follows:—

Plates.	5 cents.	10 cents.	15 cents.
I.	1852	1852	1852
II.	1855	1854	
III.	1859	1856	
IV.	1861	1858	
V.		1860	
VI.		1861*	
VII.		1863	

* Counting "Horn" and "Horn Retouched" as one plate.

The Dutch Monthly Journal ("Der Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkund"), for May, 1909, gave the numbers of sheets of 100 printed as follows:—

	5 cents.	10 cents.	15 cents.	Total each year.
1851	1,000	1,250	750	3,000
1852	13,957	10,968	5,075	30,000
1853	15,000	12,000	3,000	30,000
1854	15,000	12,000	3,000	30,000
1855	18,285	11,715	—	30,000
1856	15,000	15,000	—	30,000
1857	9,000	8,000	3,000	20,000
1858	23,500	16,500	—	40,000
1859	17,000	20,000	1,000	38,000
1860	18,000	11,000	1,000	30,000
1861	20,000	19,000	1,000	40,000
1862	18,000	14,000	3,000	35,000
1863	25,000	27,000	3,000	55,000
Total Sheets	208,742	170,433	23,825	403,000

That twelve plates could have been required was considered by some collectors to be beyond the bounds of all probability, seeing that only 403,000 sheets were printed; at the same period, the steel plates for the British

stamps were giving a million impressions each, without perceptible wear (Plate 27 Stars in top corners, gave 1,011,900 sheets.)

In November 1910 ample confirmation as to the number of plates came from Holland, Captain J. G. Haas publishing in the Dutch Monthly Journal the results of an examination made by him of the Official Reports of the Mint. This paper was translated by Mr. Warren and appeared in the Herts Monthly Report for January 1911.

According to Captain Haas there were at least *fourteen* plates, five 5 cents, eight 10 cents, and one 15 cents, the dates of issue being as follows:—

Plates.	5 cents.	10 cents.	15 cents.
I.	7th Oct. 1851	7th Oct. 1851	7th Oct. 1851
II.	Sept. 1853	? 1854	—
III.	end 1854	12th Oct. 1855	—
IV.	Oct. 1858	? 1856	—
V.	Oct. 1860	May 1860	—
VI.	—	May 1861	—
VII.	—	Aug. 1861	—
VIII.	—	? 1862	—

Comparing his check list with the descriptive matter, some discrepancies are revealed; prior to 1858 he gives eight plates; in 1858 four new ones were ordered, and six more in 1860 making eighteen altogether instead of fourteen. It is very probable that another examination of the Records by Captain Haas—with the added philatelic experience of the past 15 years—would provide much useful information on many details previously overlooked. In the meantime there seems good reason for allotting two of the missing plates to the list of 10 cents, and they will be dealt with in due course.

Before proceeding to describe the plates, acknowledgment must be made of the kindness of two philatelists by whose help this paper has been rendered possible. The names of Mr. A. J. Warren and Mr. H. Wade are well known; the former's Holland collection deservedly takes high place wherever exhibited, and recently gained two Large Gold Medals at Vienna, whilst Mr. Wade has an unused collection of the first three issues containing many unique pieces. If he puts the same energy and thought into them as he did his Sicily, they should become well known at future exhibitions.

Mr. W. T. Wilson has also given whatever information he could to help unravel the puzzling sequence of the plates, and his stock has been examined with fruitful results.



5 CENTS. PLATE I.

The material in their collections has been freely loaned, and the acquaintance made first by correspondence, and more recently by a personal meeting of all four (W's) at Leeds, has materially added to the pleasure derived from my pursuit of philately.

Mr. F. J. Melville's brochure on Holland gives very full information as to the official decrees prior to the emission of stamps, and he has also well described in this and other recent works the methods adopted for preparing steel dies, and transfer rolls, and making printing plates therefrom. It is therefore not considered necessary to treat of these matters, but only of the results obtained.

The three values comprising the issue were all from one original die, designed and engraved by Jacques Wiener, of Brussels, a famous engraver, who had studied the methods of Perkins, Bacon & Co. at first hand, and had already produced in 1849 the beautiful first issues of Belgium. The chosen design showed a fine cameo-like portrait of King William III. (1849-1890), upon a horizontally lined ground in an oval frame of leaf stroll work, the whole being surrounded by a rectangular single-lined frame. At the top was the word POST ZEGEL and at the lower corners, two vertically lined tablets bearing the value in figures at the left and the letter C at the right. The figures, of course, did not appear on the original die engraved from this design, and the letter C was left unshaded so that three secondary dies might be made, one for each value.

These dies varied from each other in small details, probably caused by slight retouching done when inserting the figures and shading the letter C. The variations recur with every plate, and are briefly summarised:—

5 cents.	10 cents.	15 cents.
The points of the letter C do not finish between the same vertical lines.	The points finish between the same pair of lines.	The lower point finishes on a line.
The lower curve of C is outlined on the inside.	Not outlined.	Like 5 cents but shaded a little differently.

The two vertical lines above the stop after C, do not touch it. The right line touches. Like the 10 cents.

The two thin lines below "5" stop short of the scroll. Those below "C" touch the scroll, and the top one is often faint or missing towards the right end. The lines below 10 touch the scroll at the left. Those below C do not touch and are clear and continuous. The lines touch the scrolls on each side.

The lower frame line is always thick, even and continuous. Except when retouched is always split under 10, and very uneven in thickness. Is always double, due to a very slight re-entry on the 1st transfer roll, and very thick at the left end.

The inner side lines at left and right are fairly distinct. Both very faint except when retouched. Both very clear and continuous.

The plates were formed by 100 impressions from a secondary transfer roller, arranged in four panes of 25 (5x5), with a dividing space of 10 m.m. between each pane. The sunk plate mark extended (on the five cents proofs) to a width of 20 m.m. on all sides making the plate about 245x272 m.m. in size.

As to the material used for the plates, more information is needed. Westoby, a painstaking writer, says in his work on the Stamps of Europe that the five first stamps of Belgium and Holland were printed from copper plates. In the standard work of the Dutch Society the only plate then known to exist is spoken of as steel, and Captain Haas says "Finally it is perhaps superfluous to add that this issue was printed exclusively from steel plates."

This latter is very positive, and as the Dutch Society had a plate in their possession for a short time, it would seem that Westoby was in error. The opinion formed from a study of the stamps and the retouches is that steel plates were used; there is abundant evidence that the retouches were executed

before printing took place, and that, once hardened, the plates were not touched again. The engraver seems to have preferred making a new plate to touching up an old one by softening, strengthening the lines, and then re-hardening.

Slight retouches are found on 5 cents proofs in black, and upon Plate 1 of the 10 cents from its earliest use, and other points bearing on this will suggest themselves in dealing with later plates. Strictly speaking, retouching is not the word to use; it is generally applied to work done after a plate has become worn but the term is so well understood that it is thought best to use it.

The paper first employed was a hand-made wove, fairly white and varying from medium to thick. Copies crop up which appear to be on laid paper but the lines are very faint and not always visible through the stamp; they have more the appearance of ribbing, and were not intentional. Towards the end of the issue a medium, soft, pliable paper was used for the 5 cents and a thinner variety for the 10 cents. Westoby says this paper had less size in it, and was employed to minimise the wear of the plates, and Gordon Smith listed it in Gibbons Monthly Journal, Vol. VIII. 141, 1897. This paper was used during a restricted period for a definite purpose and is quite of catalogue rank.

The sheets were watermarked around the edge with a frame of four parallel lines, intercepted in the centre at each side by the word *Postzegels* in Roman letters. Within this frame were 100 watermarks of a Post horn slung, arranged so that one fell under every impression. The dividing margins were not watermarked. The post horns differ slightly from one another—the "bits" being hand made—and some writers state that the differences permit of the reconstruction of the sheet; no record of one can be found, and even with the aid of an entire sheet to work from, the task would be almost impossible. Great care must have been taken with the paper, because no stamp has yet been recorded with an inverted watermark.

The colours allotted to the values were Blue, Red and Orange respectively.

The blue stamps afford the greatest variation in shade, from deep dark to palest milky blue; the red shades are fairly numerous but so close as to be almost useless for identifying printings; and the orange colour shades down to yellow-orange.

The gum varies in colour from brownish-yellow to almost white; the deepest shade is found on the stamps of 1857-8, and was liberally applied. A whiter gum occurs on the soft paper printings, and was thin and smooth. My collection being principally of used copies I cannot say whether the gum helps to divide the period.

The stamps were imperforate, and the fact that no copies are known with an official perforation in 1864, is accounted for by the

alteration in size of the next issue. The Tapling Collection contains a specimen perforated 10½ small holes, a gauge never used by Messrs. Enschede.

5 CENTS. BLUE. PLATE I. 1852.

The actual printing began in October, 1851, when Wiener was still busy multiplying the original stamp, and on the 15th the first printings were sent to the President of the Mint. In addition to designing the stamp and engraving the master die, Wiener evidently made the secondary dies, transfer rolls, and the first plates of the 5 and 10 cents. There are very good reasons to suspect another hand in the making of the 10 cents plate, which will be dealt with in proper order.

The first printing sent out on the 15th Oct. would no doubt include the prints in black from the 5 cents plate, the only proofs yet known of this issue. A quarter sheet—or pane—of 25 in my collection shows beautiful workmanship; the horizontal and vertical rows are very straightly aligned, a condition which does not occur again in this issue. The impressions are even, and the presence of only a few fine scratches between the stamps indicates the careful removal of the burr raised by the heavy pressure of the transfer roll. Impressions from later plates show many colour blurs between the stamps, and these being constant prove very useful in plating the panes.

There are, however, points enabling me to say that the plate was retouched in a very slight degree, and it is important to note that with one exception the retouches are found only along the top outer frame line, and that all the later plates of the 5 cents have characteristic top frame lines.

In this plate the line thins away towards the ends, and close examination of my proof pane (which is No. 4 of the sheet) shows that stamps 82, 86, and 88 have little projecting points at the top right ends, and that 93, 95, end 98 have the ends redrawn not quite straight, but slightly bent down.

A re-entry or slight double impression occurs on each stamp of the top row, Nos. 76 to 80 having three or four lines under "5" and "C" instead of two.

No. 85 shows a distinct double inner line down the left side, hardly well enough defined to be a retouch; possibly these varieties are the remains of re-entries which would have been troublesome to remove. Defects not retouched occur on Nos. 84, 85, 89 and 97, the right lower corner not being joined up. The proofs are known upon thick wove paper and upon white card.

On December 2nd, 1851, 3,000 sheets of stamps were delivered to the Depot for Postage Stamps at the Hague, ready for the appointed day, January 1st, 1852, and in this consignment were 1,000 sheets of 5 cents.

The first printing was in a dark dull blue upon paper showing no surface tinting but



POSTMARKS.

1.



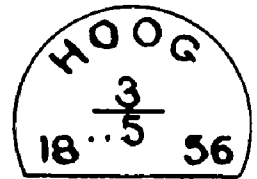
FRANCO

2.



FRANCO

3.



FRANCO

5.



4.



6.



rather of a creamy yellow tint, followed by blue on whiter paper. The colour lightened a little towards the middle of 1852, and on June 15th the officials were recommended to apply heavy cancellations, pending new printings in a lighter colour. These were very carefully printed in a steel blue shade on almost white paper. (Earliest date seen 12—2—53, Wade). The colour gradually became darker and more like the second shade.

A short description of the main types of postmark may be profitably inserted here. The general type in use from 1844 to 1852 consisted of the town name in ROMAN CAPITALS, month and day, but no year, within a semi-circular frame with the word FRANCO below the chord. (No. 1.) This was continued in many offices until gradually superseded by one containing the year date. (No. 2.) The size varied; names like Hoog and Geertruidenberg obviously required different accommodation.

From 1854 (earliest date known 23-3-54 Warren) all new stampers had the town name in SANS-SERIF capitals, with year date (No. 3.)

In 1860 (earliest date 18-1-60) an obliteration mark was brought into general use, consisting of the word FRANCO in Roman capitals within a single lined oblong frame (No. 4). A type of this mark with smaller lettering was used from 1856 at Maarsen, a place within a short distance of Utrecht, and Mr. Warren has endeavoured to find why it was so favoured, but without success. Was it the residence of some Official of the Mint? This type is however uncommon and the

shade of stamp will help in identifying it. The letters on my specimens are 3.5mm. high, as against 4.5mm. in the general type (clear impressions).

The general introduction of this obliteration adds very much to the difficulty of placing the later printings, as after 1861 dated postmarks on stamps are rare, but the three types given are useful for roughly dividing any batch of stamps. No. 5, first in Roman and later in sans-serif lettering was usually struck upon the envelope, and towns of importance also showed time of posting. No. 6 is a rare type found on stamps about 1856.

(To be continued).

New Leaves to Cut.

WHITFIELD KING'S STANDARD CATALOGUE FOR 1912.

WE have duly received the twelfth edition of the above extremely hardy annual. As in previous years, when we have had the pleasure of reviewing this book, we can only say that it is an excellent catalogue for all junior collectors, also those more advanced in philately, but who still prefer to stick to the simple paths of stamp collecting.

From a cursory peep into the pages of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.'s catalogue it would seem that many British Colonial and other stamps show a decided appreciation. This is only to be expected, as the general popularity of our hobby has created a large demand for all classes of stamps.

We notice one change which we regret, and that is that the "coinage equivalent" tables have been omitted. We know that owing to the frequent fluctuations in the rate of exchange these quotations were not always to be absolutely relied upon, never-the-less they were useful as a general guide.

The following particulars, which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. always so kindly supply for the benefit of weary editors, will interest our readers.

The total number of stamps issued to date as included in this catalogue is 24,302, of which 7,132 are apportioned to the British Empire and 17,170 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 5,053, Asia 4,698, Africa 5,594, America 5,324, the West Indies 1,915, and Oceania 1,718.

These figures only include what Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. consider to be "standard" varieties.

The following few quotations, taken at random, of recent popular stamps, will help to show how the wind blows from the Ipswich quarter.

<i>Unused unless otherwise stated.</i>	s. d.
Argentina, 1899, 16c. orange	6 0
" 1908, 12c. yellow-brown, used ..	1 6
Barbados, "Britannia" type, mult. wmk., 6d. mauve and carmine	2 0
Do. do. do. 8d. orange and blue ..	2 6
Do. Nelson Issue, multiple wmk., 2d. yellow and black	0 9
Chili, 1905-6, 12c. lake and black	1 6
" " 1 peso bronze and black	7 6
Dominica, Pictorial, multiple wmk., 6d. red-brown and black	5 0
Gt. Britain, £1 King, used	12 0
Holland, 1852, 5 cents blue, used	0 4
" " 10 " lake	0 1
" " 15 " orange	1 3
India, C.E.F., 1 anna carmine	3 6
Luxemburg, 1st issue, 10c. black	0 8
Mauritius, "Post Office," 1d. verm., used, £1000 2d. blue	£1200
Newfoundland, litho. "Guys," complete set	10 6
New Hebrides on Fiji, single C.A., ½d., 10/-; 2d., 1/-; 2½d., 9d.; 5d., 2/-; 6d., 3 6; 1/-	30 0
Sarawak, 1902, 2c. green, wmkd., used ..	3 6

The late Mr. J. Breitfuss.

As briefly announced last month, we have to announce, with much regret, the death of Mr. Frederick Breitfuss.

The following particulars, relating to his philatelic career, are gleaned from an old number of the *P.J.G.B.*, as Mr. Breitfuss was one of our series of well-known Philatelists.

Born in St. Petersburg in 1851, he commenced collecting while a boy at school. His father, who was court jeweller to the Czar, gave him a magnificent start by ordering for him, from Mr. Ernst Paul Wuttig, of Leipzig,

all stamps that existed at that time, and which were quoted at less than 10 silbergroschen (1/-) per stamp. This little order cost Breitfuss *père* some 300 thalers (about £45)—a by no means inconsiderable amount to spend on stamps at one time in those days—and, as Mr. Breitfuss said, "this was the foundation-stone of my later great collection." Among the stamps quoted under 1/- were the provisional 1 and 2 cents British Guiana, of 1862, together with the other twenty-three varieties of each value.

In 1871 Mr. Breitfuss went to Marseilles, where he continued to collect stamps, though at that time he had to be content with "ploughing a lonely furrow," for he could not find a single philatelist in the place. While there he bought several small but good collections, the property of French officers, who had mortgaged them before going to the front with their regiments in the war against Germany, and who had failed to return to their native country.

Two years later, in December, 1873, Mr. Breitfuss came to London, where he remained until April, 1875. During his stay he made the acquaintance of that G.O.M. of Philately, Dr. C. W. Viner, who introduced him as a member to the Philatelic Society of London. He continued his membership up to the time of his death. He since visited London on two occasions, and acted as a member of the jury at both the London and Manchester Philatelic Exhibitions.

Mr. Breitfuss' collection was considered to be one of the finest in the world. It was a general collection composed of specialised collections of all the countries of the world—a wide enough field for the most energetic. Unused and used stamps, many in blocks, were included, and special attention was paid to shades. There were also essays and proofs, and, to make it as complete as possible, reprints also. In addition, Mr. Breitfuss collected forgeries that have franked letters, and thus deceived the postal authorities. To further show the thoroughness with which the collection was made it is only necessary to add that used and unused envelopes, post-cards, and wrappers, &c., all found a place in it—in a word, it was a general collection in the fullest sense of the term.

To an ordinary mortal this would seem to give all the scope necessary for the absorption of superfluous energy, but Mr. Breitfuss thought otherwise, for besides all the above he collected telegraph stamps and entires of every country, and in this department alone few specialists could rival him.

The magnitude of the collection was such that it is not surprising to learn that a special room was devoted to it, and that it took two iron safes to hold the gems alone.

We are sure our readers will join with us in deeply regretting the sad loss which the world of Philately has sustained.

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 are indebted to the *Daily Telegraph* for the following information.

"Up till the present week the philatelic journals have unanimously agreed in allocating all recent printings of the Edwardian stamps (i.e., the stamps of the old design) to the workshops of Messrs. Harrison & Sons, printers-in-ordinary to the King. Now the 'Postage Stamp' states this week, on the authority of the Board of Inland Revenue, that quite half of the denominations of the Edwardian issues, recently printed, were not the work of the new contractors, nor yet of the old printers, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. (Ltd.) They have been printed at the Stamping Department at Somerset House.

"The Secretary to the Board is quoted as stating that 'the arrangement for the printing at Somerset House of the 6d. unified postage and revenue stamp and all values above 1s. came into force on the expiration of the recent contract with Messrs. De La Rue & Co. (Ltd.), on Dec. 31st last, and applies equally to both the Edwardian and Georgian series.' He gives also the following lists of the Edwardian series which have been printed respectively by Messrs. Harrison & Sons and the Board's Stamping Department:

Messrs. Harrison & Sons.		Stamp Department.	
½d.	3d.	1½d.	10d.
1d.	4d.	2d.	1s.
2½d.		5d.	2s. 6d.
		9d.	£1.

"The foregoing list will involve some revision in the collector's albums, as nearly all the stamps in the second column have hitherto been attributed to Messrs. Harrison & Sons, except the £1, which has not hitherto been noted in a new printing during the current year."

The following is from the Parliamentary report.

"NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.—AN ALTERATION.

"Mr. H. Samuel informed Mr. E. Cecil (U.) that certain changes in the engraving of the new penny stamp had been decided upon, and, as this would entail new master-plates, it would not be possible to issue the new stamps before January.

"Replying to Mr. King (R.), Mr. Samuel said that the 1½d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d. stamps would be issued about the beginning of the year.

"Mr. King: Will the right hon. gentleman see that the paper is British? (Laughter.)"

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, for Oct. 28th,

contains a letter from a correspondent, who says: "I learn on good authority that British stamps will appear shortly on paper water-marked with 'multiple Crown G.R.', i.e., similar to the Colonial paper, but with G.R. instead of C.A. I know that some of this paper is already in existence."

Our publishers have shown us the following:

Ordinary Paper.	
Adhesives.	King Edward.
½d. green.	Perf. 15 x 14.
4d. orange.	Perf. 15 x 14.
6d. plum.	Perf. 14.

P.O., Levant. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 1½d. Harrison printed stamps overprinted 30 paras.

Adhesive.

30 Paras on 1½d. lilac and green.

British Honduras. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles, on the authority of a Continental authority, specimen copies of the 25c. black on green.

Adhesive

King's Head. Multiple Crown and C.A.
25c. black on green.

Cayman Islands. Mr. Leon Adutt has very kindly sent for our inspection a photograph which he has received from the Nassau Stamp Co., Ltd., of New York; also a letter from that firm, in which they say:

"We quite agree with you, that the stamp in question (the 1d. on 4d.) should be recognized as a postage stamp, especially in view of the fact that the words 'Postage and Revenue' appear on the stamps, and on the face of it were available for postage."

The photograph shows two envelopes, one franked with two 1d. on 4d. stamps and two of the ½d. labels. The other franked with one 1d. on 4d. and four ½d. values; this cover also originally had another stamp on it, probably of the ½d. denomination. If this was the case the postage paid would represent 2½d.

Jamaica. Mr. Astley Clerk very kindly sends us a specimen of the stamp listed below, also a copy of the following notice.

Stamp Office, Kingston,
19th Sept., 1911.

It is hereby notified that the Colour of the Four Penny Postage Stamp which was Gazetted on the 29th September, 1910, has been changed. The stamps are now printed in red on yellow paper.

These stamps will be put into circulation on the 3rd October, 1911.

GEO. H. THOMSON,
Deputy Stamp Commissioner.

Adhesive. Multiple Crown and C.A.
4d. red on yellow.

Newfoundland. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles pairs of the 1c. and 2c. Guy stamps imperforate between.

Papua. The *Australian Philatelist* for October chronicles the following novelties, perforation and watermark as before.

Adhesives.
2½d. sky blue.
6d. golden chestnut.

Travancore. Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, has very kindly sent us the following novelties:—

Official Stamps. Overprinted "On S.S."
1 chuckram, blue.
2 " rose-red.
3 " violet.
4 " sap-green.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Austria. Messrs. Bright & Son have shown us the current 60 heller stamp in a much darker colour than anything previously chronicled.

Adhesive.
60h. dark claret.

Bolivia. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a provisional made by surcharging the old 2c. of 1901, and adding a new date.

Provisional. Surcharged 5 Centavos 1911.
5c. on 2c. green.

Chili. A correspondent to the *Monthly Journal* says that there is an error of colour in the centenary issue, namely the 5c. deep green instead of blue.

Germany. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the 3 marks on watermarked paper.

Adhesive.
3 marks, violet black.

Italy. We are indebted to the *Monthly Journal* for the following information:—

"From *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* we learn that the type of the 15c. has again been revised, and that the new stamp is once more printed from copper plates engraved by the "Officina Calcografica Italiana," at Rome. The size is the same as the former engraved stamp (Type 36), and can easily be distinguished, being perf. 13½ instead of 12, and amongst other slight differences in the engraving, the Star on the left of the collar is easily discernible, whereas on the stamp of 1906 there is only one Star."

Mexico. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of the *Bulletin Mensuel*, chronicles the whole of the Centenary set overprinted with the official overprint.

Paraguay. The *Monthly Journal* says owing to the exhaustion of the 20c. stamps of the current issue, the authorities have authorized the use of diagonally bisected 75c. stamps, each half to rank as 20c. without additional surcharge. The bisection is by perforation from left upper to right lower corner. The number issued is 300,000.

Russia. We are very much indebted to Mr. E. Michelson, of St. Petersburg, who kindly writes as follows:

The Russian papers contain to-day an official announcement that the present issue of postage stamps will be discontinued in February, 1913. The new stamps will be issued in commemoration of the 300th Anniversary of the House of the Romanoff's. Already Mr. Stolypin, the late Premier, had presented the new designs to the Emperor for approval. The values will remain the same, with the exception of the 10, 7, and 3½ roubles values, which will be discontinued. A new value of 2 roubles will be issued. For the first time portraits of various Emperors will be adopted for the designs, which are as follows:—

1 kopeck.	Peter I.
2 kopecks.	Alexander II.
3 ..	Alexander III.
4 ..	Peter I.
7 ..	Nicholas II.
10 ..	"
14 ..	Catherine II.
15 ..	Nicholas I.
20 ..	Alexander I.
25 ..	Alexander Michailovitch.
35 ..	Paul I.
50 ..	Elizabeth Petrovna.
70 ..	Michael Fodorovitch.
1 rouble.	The Kremlin.
2 roubles.	The Winter Palace.
3 ..	The Moscow Palace.
5 ..	Nicholas II.

City of London Philatelic Society.

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REPORT OF NOVEMBER MEETING, 1911.

As foreshadowed in my last report, a rare philatelic treat awaited those members who turned out for the November meeting, and we are very pleased to announce that a record attendance was in evidence to welcome Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, who was down as the guest of the evening, with a display and notes on the subject of "Sydney Views," and of these grand old stamps there were over 600 on exhibition!

Needless to say, Mr. Hausburg's audience was highly delighted with the fare provided, and I sincerely sympathise with those members who either would not or could not be present, for the collection is unique and has cost Mr. Hausburg eighteen years of patient accumulation to form.

In replying to the vote of thanks tendered by Mr. Westcott, Mr. Hausburg very kindly intimated that it would be his pleasure to again entertain our members on some future date.

Our next meeting on 13th December, will be another pleasant evening as Mr. A. Leon Adutt is down to give us a paper and display on the stamps of the Cayman Islands, and I hope to see as many members present as was the case this month.

With reference to the agreement form which members received with their Annual Report, I am sorry to observe that only about two dozen members responded to my appeal for its return, and as there are still many to come in, I hope that members will make some endeavour to lighten my work by sending me their forms at an early date.

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, *Hon. Sec.*

Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

WRITING from Vienna to the *Philatelic Gazette* an American visitor says:—

An opening banquet at the Hotel Metropole was a brilliant affair, with about 125 present. A military orchestra of thirty instruments in the banquet hall commanded absolute silence from the multitude whenever in action.

It is to be hoped that the gallant thirty waited until ——— had finished his soup, otherwise there would have been discord.

Writing about an American stamp dealer, *The Collectors' Journal* says he

is of a very retiring disposition and not given to blowing his own honor.

Even in England the best dealers don't do this.

The *Australian Philatelist*, reporting a local stamp dinner, says:—

"The menu was a liberal one, and the cuisine and serving of the best, and as there was no stint of the cups that cheer (no connection with the old quotation), the members present—17—received the utmost en-

couragement to admire the speeches of others, and of their own, and, a natural result, nearly every member made a speech, and the ending of the function was of the jolliest."

Extremely "andy," never-the-less it reads rather attractive. Possibly the reporter forgot to return one of the 'ands (help!) which he found necessary to borrow on his way home.

In their copy dated Oct. 21st, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicled, on the authority of Mr. W. B. Edwards, the 1½d. Harrison printed stamp of Gt. Britain, with the 15×14 perforation. A week later the same publication admitted that their correspondent had made a mistake, and counted one perf. too many.

In the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for Oct. 28th, I find that the 1½d. stamp, compound perforations, is chronicled on the authority of Messrs. Chas. Nissen & Co.

In the Oct. *Monthly Journal* (received by me on Nov. 3rd), I find that Mr. Norman Thornton has seen the 1½d. with compound perforations!

What I want to know is, what were Messrs. Edwards, Nissen, and Thornton doing out together when they tried to perforate the *first* 1½d. stamp?

I have to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hagen, so well known in Sydney philatelic circles, for a very pretty card bearing in colour a reproduction of a 1d. Sydney View. This is an invitation to dinner on October 19th, 1911. I also received, by the same mail, from Mr. J. H. Smyth, an invitation to meet the Governor-General of Australia, at the Sydney Philatelic Exhibition, opened Thursday, Oct. 12th.

Many thanks, kind friends, I muchly appreciate your thoughtfulness, but I am very much afraid I shall be unable to come.

Mr. Ewen, writing in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for Oct. 14th, says:—

"This is only a continuation of the process commenced by Canada 60 years ago, when it caused the issues of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Vancouver Island, to cease. There is a likelihood that the stamp collector of A.D. 2000 will be ignorant of the names of all of Britain's most important Colonies."

There is a certainty that at least one dealer of A.D. 1911 has already a very hazy idea of when the unification of Canada took place.

The same authority, in his paper dated Oct. 28th, says, *re* Chili stamps:—

"The list does not agree with those previously published, notably in the addition of a 25c. value, which takes the value previously assigned to the 25c. value."

Trust these new issue chaps for spotting even the most trivial differences.



The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 171.)

G.—1870. 10 *lepta*, pale orange on bluish.

This printing is nearly as pale in colour as B, but is not so yellow. The shade is very distinctive, being almost flesh. Some specimens are almost identical with certain faded shades of the *solferino* 40 *lepta*.

The impression is light and fairly clear; the lines of shading on the cheek are fine and the spandrels are generally rather pale and clear. The figures of value at the back are nearly always much deeper in colour than the stamp itself. The gum is greyish and rather thick.

This printing is very rare unused but is not uncommon used.

This is the only printing I have assigned to this period for this value, though it is a moot point whether printing F ought not to be included as many specimens look as though they were from cleaned plates.

J.—1868. 20 *lepta*.

The majority of specimens of this printing very much resemble C. The colour is sometimes identical, but is generally paler. The impression, though from the cleaned plate, is not so clear and smooth as in C; close examination reveals small blotches in the spandrels in the majority of specimens and occasionally in the shading on the cheek. The figures of value at the back are dark and not so sharply printed as in the earlier prints. The "o" of "20" is frequently inverted.

K.—1870. 20 *lepta*, blue to pale blue on bluish.

The main characteristics of this well-known and much discussed printing are the spandrels which are very pale, often showing hardly any of the pattern at all, and the shading on the cheek which is very delicate, the lines appearing broken up into dots and dashes in the majority of specimens, as in the original printing in Paris. These effects were due to the use of a very well-made *découpage* which, during the course of the printing, gradually became so worn that in the latest impressions its effect was almost imperceptible. It is therefore possible to get together a long series of these stamps, showing the gradual change from the first to the last state.

The shade varies very much from a delicate pale blue (which I think was the first) to a full moderately deep bright blue. I have several specimens in duller blue on paper which is grey rather than bluish, but I think this effect is due to the influence of the gum, which in this printing is always greyish and rather thick; specimens on which the gum was applied more thickly than usual might easily have been affected in this way.

This is the first printing in which the error "02" at back occurs; there are several other curious facts in connection with the figures at back on this printing which I shall explain in a later chapter on this subject.

This printing appears to have come into use about April, 1870.

L.—1872. 20 *lepta*, greyish blue on bluish.

The impression has now reverted to a worse state than that which immediately preceded printing K; it is flat and characterless, without being indistinct. The colour is the best guide, being slightly duller than any of the earlier printings: it is, however, identical with that of the first printing on thin paper which has yet to be described. The figures on the back are thick and generally in pale blue.

M.—1872. 20 *lepta*, bright cobalt-blue on bluish.

In colour, execution and impression these stamps are very similar to printing F, but the figures on the back are always deep blue, and are, moreover, heavily and coarsely printed; by this time the type used for printing the figures had evidently become worn. In printing F the figures at the back have more the character of the early prints, and are generally printed in a rather pale blue.

The colour of the impression is deep and very bright, some specimens might almost be described as violet-blue.

December, 1872, is the earliest date I have seen. This is the last printing before the thin paper period.

G.—1869. 40 *lepta*, pale reddish-purple on blue.

This is similar to F (the last printing of the 1862-68 period), but the colour is neither so deep nor so red, though it is still a distinctly reddish purple. The shades vary very considerably in depth, some being a full rich colour and others very pale and dull. The printing is generally much better than in F, the spandrels especially being paler. This appears to have been issued about the end of 1869.

H.—1870. 40 *lepta*, deep violet on blue.

This printing, which is decidedly scarce, is evidently one of the very careful printings of 1870 which are to be found in all values. The colour reverts to the rich violet shade of printing B, the pronounced reddish tint of the last two printings having disappeared. These stamps can be distinguished from B by the impression, the spandrels being rather pale, while the lines of shading on the cheek are finer than in any others of this value. The paper appears to be more highly surfaced than

in the previous printings, which would partly account for the excellent results.

I.—1871. 40 *lepta*, *solferino on greenish paper*.

A totally different colour makes this printing very easy to identify. Most authorities agree that, as originally printed, the colour was identical with that of the figures on the back, which, it will be found, are always in a deep claret shade. I have, indeed, seen one used specimen which was very nearly the same colour as the figures. The majority of specimens that are met with have faded to a dirty yellowish flesh; the best condition in which the collector can hope to find it is in a moderately deep rosy buff—much paler than the figures on the back, and without any tinge of magenta. In short, the stamp as it exists today is no longer *solferino*, except as to the figures on the back. Why the colour on the face of the stamp should have faded, while that on the back always remained fast, is probably due in some way to the gum having some preservative qualities. This sounds a plausible theory, but I cannot say whether it is right.

The impression is good, though not so fine as in the last printing. The paper is fairly stout, but is not so highly surfaced as in H.

Mr. Beckton gives April, 1872, as the date of this stamp, but I have seen several copies dated Dec., 1871, the earliest being the 19th of that month.

The printing must have been a very small one, and was apparently pretty well exhausted in 1872, though, as in the case of many other printings, copies bearing much later dates frequently turn up. I have seen one clearly postmarked 1892. The stamp is decidedly rare, unused. Collectors must beware of fakes made by dyeing the paper of the common buff, 40 *lepta*, of 1876, which are sometimes offered as pale shades of the *solferino*.

G.—1870. 80 *lepta*, *pale rose on cream*.

In this, the first printing of this value in the cleaned plate period, although the impression is clearer than in E, F and G, the change is not so marked as in any of the other values, except the 10 *lep*. The main characteristic is the colour, which in the majority of specimens is paler than any other printing, not excepting C, which most nearly resembles it in shade. Some specimens are extremely pale, almost pink. The shading on the cheek is rather shorter than in earlier prints, and the lines are always separate and fine; the spandrels are rather pale and not blotchy. The paper is good and not very strongly tinted cream.

H.—1873. 80 *lepta*, *rose to bright rose on cream*.

The characteristic of this printing is that the spandrels are pale and the shading on the cheek light and often indistinct. It is evident that a new *découpage* was used and considerable care taken in printing. In some specimens

too little ink was used in printing, giving the impressions a washed-out appearance. There was, doubtless, more than one printing at this period, judging from the variation in shade, but I think it would be hopeless to attempt to divide them. The paper is as in the last printing. The figures on the back are nearly always thick and heavily printed.

(To be continued.)



November, 1911, Report.

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

William Corfield, Sydenham. Proposed by W. Schwabacher, Seconded by T. H. Hinton;

Cecil S. Warbrick, Brixton, S.W. Proposed by A. B. Kay, Seconded by T. H. Hinton; James B. Seymour, West Ham, Proposed by P. L. Pemberton, Seconded by T. H. Hinton; Captain F. F. Freeman, New Oxford St., Proposed by P. L. Pemberton, Seconded by F. F. Lamb.

NEW MEMBERS.

L. J. Magnani, Ilford, Essex. Proposed by T. H. Hinton, Seconded by A. B. Kay.

Eugène Calvet, Smyrna, Proposed by T. H. Hinton, Seconded by W. Schwabacher.

The nominations of these members were in last month's report and were omitted in error.

NOTICES.

The second meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, November 9th. Present: J. S. Sidebotham (in the chair) W. Schwarte, Guy Semple, H. F. Johnson, W. E. Lincoln, A. B. Kay, J. E. Joselin, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, and Messrs. T. W. Hall, S. R. Turner, and Wilmot Corfield visitors, and the Hon. Sec. Mr. T. W. Hall gave a paper and display of his highly specialised collection of the Stamps of the Danish West Indies, which afforded much interest to all present, and for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of Mr. Joselin, seconded by Mr. Pemberton.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, Dec. 14th, at 7.30 p.m., when Captain J. F. Napier will give a display of his collection of Brazil. All members and any visitors cordially invited. Subscriptions, applications for membership or donations to the Forgery Collection will receive prompt attention from

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Nov. 11th, 1911.

Correspondence.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF
PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT
BRITAIN.

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

DEAR SIR,—

It affords me great pleasure to inform you that I have received the following letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society, London:—

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON,
Hon. Secretary's Office,
10, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

6th November, 1911.

Dear Sir,

I have brought your letter of the 1st October to the notice of my Council, and we are glad to hear of the proposal made for the holding of the Congress at Newcastle in 1915.

I have the further pleasure of informing you that it has been unanimously resolved, at our meeting held yesterday, to issue an invitation to hold the Congress in the year 1914 in London, under the auspices of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

I accordingly, on behalf of the Society, make the formal offer to undertake the organization and management in London of the Congress to be convened for the year 1914, should the suggestion meet with the approval of your Committee, and prove acceptable to those with whom the decision as to the place of meeting for the year in question may rest.

Believe me,

Yours truly,

(Signed) J. A. TILLEARD,

Hon. Secretary.

Franz Reichenheim, Esq.,

Hon. Secretary to the Permanent
Committee of Philatelic Congresses
of Great Britain.

I am sure the invitation of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, to hold the Philatelic Congress in 1914 will be received with the greatest satisfaction by all Philatelists of the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,

FRANZ REICHENHEIM,

Hon. Secretary.

POSTALLY USED 2D. GT. BRITAIN.
NO LETTERS IN LOWER CORNERS.

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

DEAR SIR,

I have just seen the note headed "An Interesting Find" in your September issue. The stamp is not from plate 3, but from a special plate of twelve which was used for experimental purposes, and also for printing the copies attached to the postmasters' circulars.

I found one in a sack of stamps I bought in 1895, which was noted in the philatelic journals at the time, and if you are referring to mine, you are doing it an injustice. It is not heavily obliterated like the one illustrated, but there is not the slightest doubt about it. I enclose it for you to see.

Lord Crawford has one also, but his bears an obliteration of the 1844 type.

Yours faithfully,

C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.

[The stamp referred to was not the one in Mr. Dendy Marshall's collection, but a very much more heavily postmarked copy.—ED. P.J.G.B.]

Waihi, N.Z.

NEW ZEALAND PERFORATIONS.

I note in journal just to hand your note re New Zealand full face compound (?) 12½ and 13. You doubt the existence of two machines

and so do I. I tackled Mr. Hagen *re* his two finds, saying that if I considered them Dunedin and Government machines compound, I should like to buy. He sent them, telling me if I did not reckon them so, to give my reason, to get up some information by discussion, for his paper. He put a note in July number, adding, from other sources, and considerably mixed up some of my memos. But he states clearly at the end what I do think that these "12½ and 13" are from Government machine only. All the 2d. I have seen in this perf. are Plate 1 in a worn state. If compound did exist they would be extremely rare, whereas these are comparatively common, speaking of Plate 1 of 2d., worn condition of plate.

As far as I have seen, the 13 perf. on these stamps is always the *vertical*, never the *horizontal*, which is always 12½. I told Mr. Hagen if his were vice versa (*viz.*, 13 horizontal × 12½ vertical) I should probably keep them, but they were like those I have, and that have been sent me on approval from other places.

I fully agree with what you say *re* getting expert opinion from Messrs. Hausburg and Castle, or someone whose opinion really carries weight, before the variety becomes worthy of catalogue rank.

W. D. ULPH.

[The above interesting communication forms part of a letter from Mr. Ulph to our publishers. We feel sure that he will not mind our giving publicity to his views.—*Ed., P.J.G.B.*]

U.S. on Bluish Paper.

By B. W. H. POOLE.

(From *Mekeel's Weekly*).

CURIOSLY enough, my mail this week brought me no less than five queries regarding the bluish paper varieties of the current U.S. stamps, these ranging from, "Is it very blue?" to a request for a short history and list of known varieties. Mr. Kidder has, I know, seen that *Weekly* readers have been well supplied with information concerning these varieties, but as their history has now been spread over a lengthy period, a brief resumé of the essential facts may be of general interest. Early in 1909, with the advent of the present series, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were evidently experimenting with various sorts of paper, for we find some values on a toned paper and others on a variety intensely white compared with the normal. At the same time a paper containing 35% of rag was experimented with and it is this paper which provides the bluish variety which has caused such a flutter of excitement among U.S. collectors during the last eighteen months.

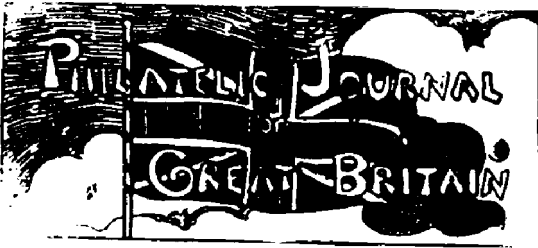
The blueness appears to vary in intensity and is much more apparent on some values than it is on others. For instance, the yellow colour of the 10c. makes the bluish tinge in the paper very obvious, but with some of the other denominations, comparison with the normal stamps is necessary before the blued varieties can be distinguished by the average collector.

This experimental or bluish-rag paper, as it is generally termed, was first mentioned in the philatelic journals about April, 1909, but for some months it attracted little attention and was probably considered only worthy of note by the extreme specialist. A few months later the persistence with which the 1c. and 2c. and 2c. Lincoln turned up on this paper called forth general comment and gradually the opinion was formed that it was a variety which would have to be catalogued. In December, 1909, the discovery of the 10c. on bluish paper was announced and collectors were all agog with excitement as to what other values might exist. An application to headquarters brought forth an official statement to the effect that the following quantities of values above 2c. had been printed on this paper:—

3c. purple,	4000
4c. deep orange-brown,	4400
5c. blue,	4000
6c. orange,	5200
8c. olive-green,	4000
10c. yellow,	4000
13c. sea-green,	4000
15c. pale blue,	4000

It appears that these special printings were mixed up with the ordinary stamps, so there was no knowing at what post-office supplies might be unearthed. Collectors and dealers were on the lookout everywhere and all values with the exception of the 4c. and 8c. had been located before the end of 1910. At one time it looked as though these two values would elude philatelists altogether, but within the last two months a few of each have been found so that all the values listed above have been accounted for. In some cases only very small proportions of the original supplies have been discovered and it seems more than probable that the majority have been sold and used up for ordinary postal purposes by non-collectors.

The 1c., 2c., and 2c. Lincoln are comparatively common on bluish paper, so that evidently a large quantity of each was prepared. I have, however, been unable to trace any record of the actual numbers printed. These bluish paper stamps were printed solely as an experiment and after the results of printing and perforating had been observed it was decided the paper was unsatisfactory. It is said the stamps were not intended to be issued, but they were inadvertently mixed with the ordinary stock and were thus despatched to various postmasters in regular course.



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"The J.P.U. Smoker."

THE festive event of the year, namely, the annual (seventh) smoking concert held by the International Philatelic Union, took place on Monday, November the 13th, at the Horse-shoe Restaurant. The audience, a most appreciative one, was composed of members of the Society, visitors from the Royal, Herts, Junior, City of London, and other Societies, together with a dozen or more freelancers who own allegiance to no Society. Needless to say, a highly enjoyable evening was spent by all present, due to the skill and energy of Mr. W. E. Lincoln, the musical director, who had arranged such a capital programme. Miss Beatrice Jeffreys completely captivated

the hearts of all the bachelors present when she sang "The Nightingale and the Rose," while the married men joined forces with the benedicks when she sang "My Hero."

Miss Dorrie Courtney, a highly accomplished banjoist, rendered "El Capitan" and "Home, Sweet Home," both being received with vociferous applause. Messrs. Norman Payne, Frank Powell, and Arthur Melrose, all well-known artistes, met with a great reception when they contributed their humorous songs, as also did Mr. Jack Ballard with his more serious items.

Mr. Henry Hull, magician, gave a wonderful display of sleight of hand, one or two of his tricks bordering on the supernatural.

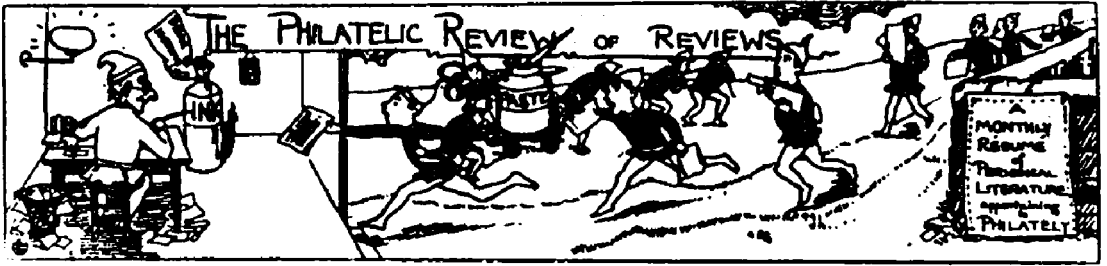
An old I.P.U. smoker friend, Mr. Thomas Noakes, presided at the piano and added very considerably to the harmony of the evening with his splendid mastery of the keyboard of that very necessary instrument.

Last, but not least, Mr. W. E. Lincoln, the INIMITABLE, rendered one of his famous recitations, "The Engine Driver's Story," which met with a reception which Paderewski, Souza, or Caruso would have envied. Brief speeches from Mr. Sidebotham, the President of the Society, and Mr. Hinton, the well-known Honorary Secretary, brought a capital evening to a close.

Siam : A New Discovery.

MR. W. Pears has shown us a curious variety of the 1 tical blue and bistre, of 1906, which to the best of our belief has not been noticed before. Mr. Pears informs us that it occurs on the 3rd and 8th stamp of each horizontal row. In the normal stamps there is practically no shading on the scroll containing the name SIAM and its Siamese equivalent, nor on the base and capital of the columns at the sides. In the variety the parts mentioned are clearly covered with shading formed of thin horizontal lines, which may also be seen on the circular ornaments on the upper parts of the columns. The effect of this shading is to make the blue part of the stamp appear rather deeper than in the normal. We have not had the opportunity of examining large blocks containing both varieties, but we should suggest that considering the position of the variety (3rd in each strip of five, or 3rd and 8th in rows of ten) that the plate was made from a roller bearing five impressions from the original die, and that the 3rd of these was more deeply impressed than the others, which would have the effect of bringing out very fine lines in the engraving, which would not appear otherwise.

Perhaps some of our readers may know something about the variety, in which case we should be pleased to hear from them.



NOVEMBER 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The October number of *The London Philatelist* contains instalments of two articles which will prove of considerable interest to collectors of American stamps. The first is entitled "Notes on the Stamps of Mexico," and is contributed by Mr. S. Chapman, who, aided by high authorities in the Mexican Government, has been able to unearth a number of old documents dealing with the postal service of Mexico. The first of these is dated 1604 and deals, amongst other things, with the payment postmen received.

The following extract is of considerable interest:—

The following figures show the expenses of the Post Office in 1791:—

	\$
Mexico, with fourteen employés	16,600
Puebla with four, and house rent	3,600
Guadalajara with four, and house rent	2,850
Queretaro with four, and house rent	2,400
Guanajuato with three, and house rent	2,000
San Luis Potosi with three, and house rent	1,700
Valladolid (Morelia) with three, and house rent	1,992
Zacatecas with three, and house rent	1,900
Durango with three, and house rent	1,700
Chihuahua with two, and house rent	1,500
	\$36,242

The other article is a continuation of Captain Napier's paper dealing with the "Stamps of Brazil." He writes about the 100 reis, of 1893 and the set of ten values which is listed in the catalogue under the dates 1894—1904. Captain Napier has studied these stamps very extensively and his researches are of considerable value. The following extract will appeal to our readers.

The credit belongs to Mr. T. W. Hall of discovering that the same key-plate was used for more than one value. Some time ago he showed me specimens of the 1,000 and 2,000 reis with a large white flaw across the "D" of "ESTADOS." After a careful search, I

discovered the 50 reis, blue, printed from two plates, with the same flaw.

The most interesting discovery, however, that I have been able to make is the fact that there are five distinct types of the 100 reis, black and rose. They may be distinguished as follows:—

Type 1. Grecian profile. Long and pointed laurel leaf above ear. This was the normal type from 1894 to the end of 1896. An interesting variety of this has the cyphers of 100 pointed instead of rounded. I have found retouches of this type with the mouth and nostril redrawn.

Type 2. With the head belonging to the 700 reis. Different nose, shorter laurel leaf above ear. This is very similar to Type 5, but may be distinguished easily by the fact that it has no white line down side of nose. This type occurred in the sheet of Type 1 during 1895 and 1896, as I have pairs of the two types *se tenant*. From its rarity, however, I think that it probably occurred only once in the pane of 50.

Type 3. With the head belonging to the 200 reis. Principal differences are in the shape of nose and laurel leaf above ear: the ear also is more pronounced. It was in use in 1895, and is rarer than Type 2.

For a description of the two remaining types our readers must refer to our contemporary.

Some well considered "Reviews," "Occasional Notes," etc., make up a very good number of the Royal Society's Journal. The following excerpt relating to the five senior members of the Royal Society makes good reading.

The early records of the (then) London Philatelic Society were unfortunately not strictly conserved, and there are many blanks which can only be filled up by reference to contemporaneous philatelic literature. Among the nebulous points remain the exact dates of election of some of the earlier members, but we believe that the following, taken from the last published list of the Society, correctly represent the dates of election and consequent seniority of the living Fellows:—

Major E. B. Evans, November 20th, 1875.

M. Burnett, March 17th, 1877.

A. H. Wilson, November 30th, 1878.

M. P. Castle, June 28th, 1879.

E. D. Bacon, May 8th, 1880.

Of these five, Mr. Maitland Burnett, the former Hon. Secretary, and Mr. A. H. Wilson, the surviving partner of Messrs. Pemberton, Wilson & Co., and the founder of the *Philatelic Record*, have long since ceased to have any practical connection with Philately. It is, however, pleasant to know that both gentlemen ever carry in their retirement the kindest interest in their former pursuit and their old friends. As regards the other three "seniors"—Major Evans, who now

becomes "the Father of the Royal Society", Mr. E. D. Bacon, and the writer—they may be fittingly described, in modern parlance, as incurable Philatelists!"

The October number of the *Monthly Journal* is full of good articles. The names of the contributors, Messrs. Pierre Mahé, L. Hanciau, C. J. Phillips, W. B. Edwards, and "Desdichado," are sufficient guarantee of this.

Mr. Phillips concludes his capital series of papers dealing with the stamps of Paraguay. He writes about the official stamps 1889 to date.

M. L. Hanciau continues his article entitled "The Stamps of the Spanish West Indies, 1855—1876." He quotes in full many official letters relating to the establishment of the Post Office in Cuba.

The following extract, relating to the surcharged stamps of 1885 will interest our readers.

Issue of November 19th, 1855.
(For Havana and its Suburbs).

The 2 reales stamps of the preceding issue surcharged, in black, "Y $\frac{1}{2}$ " (the fraction some distance from the letter) in the centre, leaving the original value uncanceled. Laid paper, watermark Loops, varying in tint.

Either because the printing press was small, or because there were not sufficient letters "Y" and figures available, or for convenience in counting, the stamps were overprinted in sheets of a hundred, instead of in the original sheets of a hundred and seventy. The surcharge was set up as many times as there were stamps on the sheet, so that there were a hundred varieties of type, which may be distinguished as follows:—

1. By the letter "Y," of which there are two distinct types.
2. By the figures "1" and "4," which also vary, and by their irregularities of position.
3. By the bar between the figures, which varies in length and in its position nearer to or further from the "Y."

The following are the distinguishing points of the two principal types:—

Letter "Y."	Wide.	Narrow.
Height of the letter ..	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	5 mm.
Width between the branches ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$..	1 ..
Height of figure "1" ..	2 ..	2 and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
" " "4" ..	2 ..	2 .. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Length of the bar between the figures ..	3 $\frac{1}{2}$..	3 .. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Distance between the letter and the figure "1" ..	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$.. 5 ..
Total height of the fraction ..	7 .. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$.. 7 ..	

The dimensions of the last three items may be found to vary more than is stated above.

Some of the figures "1" have the upper serif sloping, others have it horizontal; and the top of the figure may be either on a line with the top of the "Y," or above, or below it. The figures "4" have the sloping line more upright in the type with wide letter; and the figure in this case is not always directly under the "1," it is sometimes more to the right.

M. Pierre Mahé continues his article

dealing with the stamps of Brazil. He discourses about the 100 reis of 1891 with frame inverted; his article, owing to the numerous extracts from a previous article in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* and the many footnotes contributed by Major Evans is rather uninteresting and certainly very complicated, except possibly to the student who is extremely interested in this particular variety.

Mr. W. B. Edwards contributes the second and final instalment of his article dealing with the "long" stamps of South Australia. He has compiled a careful and interesting list of varieties.

The following extract relating to these stamps on the Crown A paper will appeal to many of our subscribers:—

In 1906 paper watermarked with the Adelaide Crown A was brought into use as required; several values have yet to appear on this paper, although they have all been listed in various quarters. The 10d. is said to have been issued (perf. 12) in April, 1908, the 8d. some time in the following year, but I have seen neither of them, so far. The highest three values are certainly still on the old paper.

The 3d. olive green, was issued in July, 1906 with value 19 mm. in length. Well-marked shades exist, in fact, shades are characteristic of this issue, and provide some scarce varieties. One printing is very pale, and another is distinctly *yellow-green*. In my copy the value is 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long, due to spacing between the "T" and "H." The deepest shade can be found with value in the pale shade.

The 4d., red, appeared in September, 1906, value 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. A *pale-red* shade is quoted by Ewen as having come out in November, 1908, and I have this perf. 12 x 12 + 13. *Orange-red* and *deep orange* shades also exist, stamps in the latter colour having been issued last year to the best of my knowledge. A very minor variety exists with the letter "E" slightly raised, and my *orange-red* stamp has the value in *orange*, so lightly printed as to appear of a different type.

The 6d., green, was issued in July, 1907, value 15 mm. as before. Only slight variation in shade occurs, but fine and course impressions may be found.

The 9d., dull lake, appeared in October, 1906, with value only a trifle over 16 mm. Evidently a new setting. A very pale shade exists as in the 3d. The colour was apparently thought unsatisfactory, as in 1908 the original *marone* was restored, a much brighter colour. In my copy the "N" and "C" of "FENCE" are spaced out, the value occupying 17 mm.

The 1s., pale brown, was really the first stamp to appear on the Crown A paper, being issued in June, 1906. The value is 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long. In November, 1907, a more normal shade was seen, but in my copy the value is printed in a pale colour.

The 2s. violet (not lilac), was issued in July, 1909, with value 19 mm. long in the second type.

In the following month a new machine gauging 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, making small holes, was introduced at Melbourne, and with the exception of the 10d. and 10s. values, all current stamps are now so perforated. I need not treat these in detail, as any list must necessarily be incomplete.

Some good "Topical Notes, Reviews," an account of the stamp exhibits at the Turin Exhibition, another chapter of "Desdichado's" "The World's Officials"

—in which he deals with Indian official stamps, New Issue list, complete an excellent number of our contemporary.

The October number of the *Philatelic Record* contains further instalments of Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century," and Mr. F. J. Peplow's "Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires." Both writers are largely indebted to official decrees for their copy.

The other features of our contemporary are but mildly exciting, namely, a list of the Vienna prize winners, a page each of Reviews, New Issues, Bibliography (a very useful feature), and Correspondence, together with three pages of Notes and News.

The October 14th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains, as its principal article, the first instalment of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Postage Stamps of the New Hebrides Condominium." We are treated to a very interesting geographical and historical history of the group.

Mr. Fred. W. Edwards writes about the "Locals of Liverpool." The following brief extract may perhaps serve to stimulate the desire for accumulation which possibly lies dormant in some of our readers:—

RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS.

When, on February 2nd, 1891, the General Post Office granted the railway companies the privilege of issuing labels to prepay the fee on single letters forwarded by passenger trains to expedite delivery, there were several companies serving Liverpool which adopted the idea, but the only 2d. Railway Letter Fee stamp which bore the name of Liverpool on its inscription was the green label issued by the Liverpool, Southport and Preston Railway.

Whether the 2d. green label issued by the Cheshire Lines Committee and that issued by the Mersey Railway should be included or not in our group of Liverpool Locals is a matter of opinion.

Last on our list of Liverpool Locals is the ordinary British Inland Revenue 1d. lilac stamp overprinted in red, "Liverpool United Gas Light Company".

In conclusion, the writer desires to express the hope that this article will stimulate interest in and encourage the study and collecting of these interesting British stamps; and providing no other contributor trespasses on his preserves and forestalls him, he purposes dealing with the Local stamps of Manchester in the next article of this series.

A fortnight later we find a further long instalment of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's article dealing with the stamps of the New Hebrides Condominium.

The following extract will doubtless interest:—

In 1894 the subsidised steamship service was discontinued, but a small steamer was purchased by the Australasian New Hebrides Company on their own

initiative, by which an inter-island service was maintained between some sixty-five points in the group, the round trip occupying three weeks. After a short time, a direct steamship service with Sydney was also opened up under the Company's auspices, connecting with the inter-island service at Port Vila.

For the use of this service there was issued on March 17th, 1897, two denominations of particular postage stamps which were available for franking correspondence conveyed by the firm's vessels only, within the New Hebrides themselves. On and after June 1st of that year, however, letters for Sydney and beyond were required to bear one of the Company's stamps in addition to an ordinary 2½d. stamp of New South Wales. The postal tariff both inter-island and to Australia by this private service was as follows:—

Letters per ½ oz. or fraction thereof	..	1d.
Packets and magazines, not exceeding 4 oz.	..	1d.
Ditto, for every additional 4 oz. or portion thereof	..	1d.
Parcels, per 8 oz. or fraction thereof	..	1d.
Newspapers, per 8 oz.	..	1d.
Registration fee	..	2d.

These stamps were issued at the suggestion of a well-known Australian philatelist, Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull, who is also reputed to have been responsible for the design, consisting of a panoramic view of Port Vila, enclosed in an ornamental frame, inscribed, "The Australasian New Hebrides Company, Limited." The words "Inter-Island Postage" appear across the top of the stamps, and the value in figures and words at the foot, whilst beneath the central vignette is the name, "Port Vila"; the remainder of the design being filled in with fanciful ornamentations.

They were lithographed in two colours by Messrs. John Sands and Co., of Sydney, in sheets of 120, composed of twelve rows of ten stamps, on heavy white wove paper without watermark, and were rouletted. On the margins of the sheets of 1d. stamps was the following inscription, "Australasian New Hebrides Company, Limited. Inter-Island Postage. Price 1d. per label, 1s. per row of 12, 10s. per sheet of 120," whilst the sheets of the 2d. value were similarly inscribed. The sheets were all numbered consecutively in black on the top left-hand corner, on the margin.

These local postage stamps were cancelled with special postmarks, of which there are two distinct types. The first consisted of a single-line circle lettered "Port Vila Post—New Hebrides—A.N.H. Co. Ltd., and the date, in five lines, and was employed exclusively at Port Vila. The second and commoner type bore the words "Travelling Post Office," and was employed in cancelling letters posted on board of the Company's steamers at places where there was no regular postal station.

An illustrated interview with Mr. G. B. Bainbridge, a well-known North of England collector; a short article compiled from Mr. Dorning Beckton's notes read before the Manchester Philatelic Society and dealing with West African stamps, and a capital new issue list, are all very readable.

The November number of *The Stamp Lover* contains a very interesting account of Mr. Melville's journey to Stockholm, where he went to attend the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Swedish Philatelic Society. This Society we learn has a membership of nearly 1,200, and in addition to the headquarters at Stockholm has branches in five big towns in Sweden.

A good deal of J. P. S. propaganda, and other matter; one of Mr. Ireland's simplified papers, and a long instalment of Mr. Harold Row's "Adhesive Postage Stamps of Siam" make up a very good number of our exchange. Mr. Row writes about the Jubilee issues of 1908, and other stamps issued down to April of last year. As the "Jubilee" stamps contain several of those minor varieties, so dear to the heart of the collector, we extract the following information concerning them.

As might be expected, several more or less important varieties occur in the setting, two of them being of real importance. These are:—

(a) Small "i" in Jubilee.

As far as I know this variety was never altered, every sheet I have seen of all the values possessing it. There are two examples of the variety in the sheet, B9 and D6. The small "i's" are similar in the two cases.

(b) Siamese date reads 87-137 instead of 87-127.

This variety was probably immediately altered. I have never seen it in a sheet; in fact, I have only once seen it at all, on one stamp of a pair of the 1 att. I do not know whether it occurs on the other values or not, but I suspect not, or it would have been noted. It is a true 3, and is not caused by the breaking (or failure to print) of a part of the 2.

Other varieties of less importance are:—

(c) Small "u" in Jubilee. F1, G2.

The difference in size is very slight.

(d) Jubilee spaced Jubilee.

There are several examples of this variety; they differ in the width of the gap between the "i" and the "l," but the spacing is always slight.

Considerable irregularities of alignment occur in the whole of the overprint, especially in the English date, but they are not of sufficient importance to catalogue individually. Almost any block of these stamps will shew a number of cases.

The only other variety of note in this issue is an error of perforation. Owing to a failure of the comb-machine used, one of the vertical rows in one or more sheets of the Jubilee 4 atts on 5 atts stamp occurs partially imperforate. The perforations missing are the horizontal lines between the stamps of this row, and the vertical line of perforation at the left of the row.

Mr. Row illustrates this variety in a strip of three, two of the stamps being imperforate between.

The October number of *The Stamp Collector* contains several interesting contributions. Mr. C. H. T. Hayman continues to write about the early stamps of Chili. Mr. W. Oakley contributes a short paper dealing with the 1881-4 issues of Brazil. He throws a good deal of light upon these complicated stamps, and those of our readers who find the illustrations in Gibbons' catalogue confusing—as undoubtedly they are—should read Mr. Oakley's article in full. An editorial dealing, with the

affairs of the Birmingham Society, an illustrated interview with Dr. Groom, and many pages of excellent Notes, Correspondence, Reviews, etc., make up an excellent magazine.

The following brief extract from a letter contributed to the columns of our contemporary by Mr. V. F. James will interest those of our readers who visit, or hope to visit, Paris:—

On the following Sunday we discovered the open-air exchange. We were walking along the Avenue Marigny in the Champs-Élysée, when up came a collector, noticing our exchange books, and wished to see any stamps we had to sell. We turned round, and—Voilà! there were about forty or fifty collectors—a broiling hot August Sunday, too!—standing in groups, or "in pairs, strips, and blocks of four," as Mr. Margoschis has it, a scene just like Stephenson Place, Birmingham, on a Thursday afternoon after 'Change. There were a few dealers there with their wares mounted on large sheets. Some had great hat-boxes full of common stamps, for which one could pick at three for five centimes (a half-penny), but I must admit that nothing very startling was found, and the owners were doing but little trade. But, instantly we were found to have stamps, and to be new-comers, we were surrounded immediately; in fact, almost mobbed. It is no exaggeration to say that they almost fought to see our stamps, and in half-an-hour we had sold out everything useful and saleable. I am afraid some of your readers will be inclined to receive this story *cum grano salis*, but I assure them it is so.

The October number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the final chapters of Mr. Séfi's article on the Stamps of Grenada. We also find the conclusion of his paper dealing with the Twentieth Century Stamps of Bosnia. Short editorial notes and a brief notice of the first Aerial Post of Great Britain make good reading.

The September number of the *British Philatelist* contains some readable little Editorial Notes, a further instalment of "The Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain," and an article headed "A Sensational Find." We make the following extract:—

With careful supervision, it should be possible to prevent any but properly printed stamps being supplied to the post offices, all abnormalities in the way of printing or perforating vagaries being retained and dealt with as printers' waste; but occasionally such things have got cut and been issued to the public in the ordinary course of business.

In the final issue of Queen Victoria's reign there were several instances—at least three values are known printed on the wrong side, over the gum; one or two double prints, one on each side of the paper; and two inverted official overprints; all these were, despite officials' denials, *bonâ fide* issued, and used copies of most are known.

The find we chronicle this month is very recent, and was made in the centre of the business-world, the City of London. Whether the lucky finders are philatelists, collectors or mere "philistines" does not appear, but they seem to be fully alive to the value of their

acquisition: whatever they are from the "stamp-point," their occupation keeps them on the official side of a post office counter—in short, they are (male) post office clerks.

These gentlemen (whether in the discharge of their official duties or in looking through the stock of varieties, history sayeth not) came across a sheet of the Georgian One Penny stamps

PRINTED BACK AND FRONT,

and promptly bought it at face value, viz., £1.

Certainly, the purchase was not "over the counter," but the sheet was for sale and the finders evidently acted in a dual capacity—they sold as officials and bought *quâ* public; and were quite entitled to do so.

In the October number of the same wee publication we find a budget of readable notes relating to the Harrison printed stamps, also a lengthy instalment of Messrs. Bernstein and Nissen's "British Stamps Used Abroad."

We are glad to welcome to our family circle a new *confrère*, the *World of Stamps*. This little paper is the official organ of the Society of Stamp Collectors, and promises, ere long, to be a power in the world of philately. Mr. P. C. Bishop contributes a readable little article entitled "A Mystery of the 'Emperor's Heads' of Brazil." Mr. L. S. Goldsmith writes entertainingly about the Seige Posts of Paris, while he also contributes a clever little parody which we venture to extract in full.

A PERSIAN FORGERY IN THE STYLE OF OMAR.

Awake! for autumn bringing longer night,
The novice soars in philatelic flight:
And lo! the stamps are waiting to be bought,
And catalogues of Gibbons, King, and Bright.
Dreaming 'neath summer skies on golden sands,
I heard a voice cry "There are other Strands:
Yea, one that westward arrows from the Fleet,
Its windows decked with stamps of many lands."
Indeed the stamps that I have loved so long
Have done my credit in men's eye much wrong!
Have kept the landlord waiting for the rent,
And spent his dues to buy more Pence Ceylon.
But the new season waking old desires,
The specialist new specimens requires;
And "Perkins Bacons" buys in strips and blocks,
With many "used superbs" and "on entires."
Here, with a pipe, which I allow,
The wine I bar, it might be spilt, and thou,
My album, glowing in thy spotlessness,
My cosy room is Paradise enow.

L.S.G.

An article entitled "The Colour Problem," an excellent list of new Issues, and other contributions complete the contents of our new contemporary.

The November number of *Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers* contains a capital article on the Fiji Times Express stamps. The author, Mr. A. B. Creeke, Jun., writes in his usual exhaustive manner. We also find a good article entitled: "The

Stamps of The Seven Islands." Under this euphonic heading the stamps and post marks of the Ionian Islands are discussed. We find the following, which is followed by a carefully tabulated list of postmarks.

Two kinds of obliterations are to be found, pen-stroke (easy to imitate) and a postmark, and it is of these latter we purpose telling all, and it is not much, that we have been able to find out.

We believe that there is no authority in England competent to pronounce a definite opinion as to the genuineness or otherwise of any particular postmark, partly because a complete list of the obliterations does not appear to be known and partly because excellent forgeries—of course, on genuine stamps and on "genuine" entires or pieces—have been circulated.

The *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society for November contains, besides "Philatelic Crumbs" and other interesting matter, the first instalment of an interesting article entitled "British Indian Field Post—Northern China" this was published in Paul Kohl's *Mitteilungen* and has been translated by Mr. Franz Reichenheim. Those of our readers who are interested in C.E.F. stamps, also in the B.R.A. overprints will find this article of great interest.

The October number of the *Colonial Office Journal* contains the following:—

"Since our last issue H.M. the King has signified his approval of the use for the stamps to be issued by the Crown Colonies and Protectorates of the portrait adopted by the Indian Government, but without the mantle, and with the crown raised above the head as in the stamps bearing the portrait of the late King.

The border of the stamps printed from the general keyplate will probably be entirely altered.

The engraving of the necessary key dies has been put in hand by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., but there is little hope that any of the new stamps will appear before March or April next, as the Government of India has recently extended its contract with Messrs. De La Rue & Co. for a further three years and is making heavy demands upon the resources of the firm in connection with new dies and plates for the Indian stamps."

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The October number of the *South African Philatelist* contains many capital "Jottings," a long paper entitled "The Cape Triangulars," "Correspondence," etc., all helping to make up a very excellent number of our welcome exchange.

As this journal was the first to chronicle (thanks to the kindness of Mr. Joselin, the discoverer) the existence of Transvaal stamps on Cape of Good Hope paper we take a fatherly interest in learning that yet another "Anchor Watermark" has turned up.

The following letter is extracted from the pages of our contemporary:—

Sir,—I have lately become the possessor of another very fine copy of the penny Transvaal, watermarked anchor, and disposed of it to Mr. H. G. Allingham. It is cancelled with the machine defacing-stamp, consisting of curved lines. Unfortunately it bears no date, but this machine was only in use in Johannesburg for a few months, during the latter part of 1907 and early in 1908, and this is consistent with the date of all the known copies of the stamp. I think it can be put down for certain that a few sheets of this watermarked paper must have become mixed up with the sheets of multiple Crown C.A. paper.

Although this makes the fifth copy that has passed through my hands within a few months, I consider the stamp is very rare, and likely to command a high price, whenever a copy is offered for sale. When I tell you that I have assistants employed solely looking out for this stamp out of my large stock, and that out of 250,000 I have only found two copies, you will see how rare the stamp is. Nevertheless, I should advise anybody who has any of this particular issue to examine them closely, as they may be able to find one or more of these treasures. I know that in one case a copy was found when only 700 or 800 stamps had been examined, and in another case after the searcher had looked through about 1,000 stamps.—Yours, etc.,

M. P. VALLENTINE,
Stamp Dealer.

P.S.—I have also seen an unsevered pair (used). I should not be surprised if this is the only known pair in existence. The owner intends sending this to one of the London auctions to get an idea of its value.

The September 15th number of the *Philatelic Journal of America* is almost entirely devoted to a lengthy instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's capital article dealing with "The Postage Stamps of Tonga," very little has been written about these stamps since Mr. Bassett Hull took them in hand, so we welcome Mr. Poole's paper. He illustrates with numerous blocks from Mr. E. Taylor's superb collection.

The September number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* contains a number of readable notes, a second notice concerning the recently published New South Wales Handbook, a long report of the Rev. H. W. Lane's address given before the Philatelic Society of Victoria and some odd matter relating to Commonwealth stamps and Australian Societies reports.

The *Australian Philatelist* for September contains a good many readable articles. The sudden expansion, however, of our contemporary, makes us wonder whether the extra pages and illustrations are not

added more with a desire to overawe all local competitors than to benefit the meek subscriber.

Be that as it may, we most certainly score, for we find a large plate illustrating sixteen of the designs sent in for the recently held Government competition. One of these secured first prize, two others divided the second award. Some of the remaining designs are most crude in their execution, while at least three or four of them must have been sent in for fun.

Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull, commenting on the excellent article of Mr. W. A. Hull's which appeared in the last number of our contemporary, contributes some further capital notes relating to Australian watermarks. A report of the Rev. H. W. Lane's address, Societies' Reports, etc., make up a good number of our old friend.

The September number of the *Philatelic Gazette* contains a further instalment of Major F. L. Palmer's "Postal Issues of the Philippines." He writes about the multitudinous overprints of 1881 and 1882. Mr. B. W. H. Poole concludes his paper entitled "United States Guide Dots," while Mr. Ed. H. Mason continues to write about U.S.A. Proofs. Our American contemporary is fortunate in having such capital contributors.

A fortnight later we find another long instalment of Major Palmer's article, dealing with the overprints of 1883-1885; the first instalment of Mr. S. Barcelo's "Notes on the Stamps of Venezuela," a long account of the recently held Vienna Exhibition, and some other articles dealing with U.S.A. stamps and proofs.

In the October number of the same publication we find a continuation of Major Palmer's article, together with a good deal of other readable matter.

Recent numbers of *The Hobbyist*—our one and only Canadian exchange—have shewn a considerable improvement. In the October number Mr. Edgar Nelton contributes a very readable article entitled "B.N.A. Cover Collecting," wherein he advises his readers to get old stamps on their original covers. We make a short extract and regret that lack of space prevents our reproducing the excellent list of "hard to find varieties" which Mr. Nelton gives.

Since the recent Chicago Exhibition, at which I was criticized severely for poor taste in mounting, yet secured

4 medals in 5 groups displayed on 84 sheets all of which the Committee considered worthy of framing, although a mistake in entering barred one group from competition, since then I have been beset by requests for information as to what I have and how it happened.

To these I can only reply that "it was the stamps on original covers that turned the trick", and some of these not in the superfine condition which we all desire.

My mounting must certainly have been bad; everybody was so beautifully unanimous on this point. But the fact is I got so used up in strength and pocket on landing some of the "hard-to-gets" that I had no capital left to expend in fancy mounting; space had to be economized; the ideal method of mounting covers is not yet discovered.

All scarce stamps are far more interesting when original letters, just as used to prepay postage, and also many fairly common ones, especially in old issues. I have claimed this for many years both while travelling at home and abroad, but never secured serious attention from a philatelic world until the dispersion of the Seybold collection. The dollar approval mark was then set, and the doubtful sat up to listen.

Now, if one has the money to spend, and is willing to be separated therefrom, but a comparatively short time is required to complete the B.N.A. group, with the aid of dealers in American and European centres, who nearly always carry a good stock in this group. But let him demand the stamps as used on original letters or covers and it becomes another and far more difficult problem! Even to complete any one of the six countries is extremely difficult.

Philately on the Continent.

IN the October number of the *Schweizerische Philatelistische Nachrichten*, Mr. Zünstein points out and illustrates a dangerous forgery of the 8c. Belgium of 1869. The main points of difference are that the genuine stamp is printed on rough unsurfaced paper, while the paper of the forgery is highly surfaced. The left outer frame line on the latter is continuous, while it is broken in the genuine stamp.

Another forgery is reported by the *International Briefmarken Journal*. This is the 1d. of the first issue British Solomon Islands, but from the description given it can hardly be characterised as a dangerous one. To begin with the perforation instead of being the 11 large holes is 11½ small holes, and the type of the inscription differs in many ways, particularly in the letter S of Solomon.

The German Philatelic Press is full of the Vienna Exhibition and the new catalogues. It therefore offers very little of interest to our readers.

The *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift von Postzegelkunde* has a long diatribe against the recently issued Suriname provisionals. The writer's strictures seem to us perfectly justified, and we can only caution our readers against purchasing this rubbish at a high premium.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie, dated 15th October, contains a note by M. P. Mahé on the 6d. bronze of Western Australia, 1857. This is directed towards showing that the catalogues

are wrong in describing the various shades in which the stamp is found. It is pointed out that the stamps were originally printed in black, and while the ink was still wet it was powdered with gold. Consequently the shiny stamps are the only ones that give us any idea of how they appeared when first issued. The other states in which they may be found are merely due to the amount of wear they have been through. According to M. Mahé the shades should be described as: Golden-bronze, pale bronze, and black (or black-grey). It is the expression "bronze-black" so frequently found in catalogues, to which M. Mahé takes very strong exception, and it is in derision of this term, which he says is entirely wrong, that he has written the article.

The difficulty of finding anything original to write about stamps has given vogue to a species of articles which, if not new, has at any rate only reached its full development in recent years. We refer to biographical and historical articles which instruct philatelists without teaching them anything new about the stamps themselves. The *Echo de la Timbrologie* for 31st October contains an excellent example of this class of work, entitled "L'Islande et Sigurdsson" and signed E.N. From this we learn much about the desolate northern dependency of Denmark, which few of us would be likely to learn from general reading. The French name for Iceland is a barbarism, as it suppresses the very essence of its signification. In this respect the English form is better, being a liberal translation and giving a vivid idea of the nature of the country. The article gives a short history of the struggles of the Icelandic people for political freedom, which was finally won, mainly through the ceaseless agitation of the great patriot, Jon Sigurdsson, in the year 1874, when a constitution was granted to the island by King Christian IX., who journeyed to Iceland in person for the promulgation. This was the first time that a Danish king had set foot in Iceland.

"After this constitution Iceland enjoyed almost a complete autonomy. The position of the island with regard to Denmark is almost the same as existed between Norway and Sweden before the separation. They are two independent countries united only in the person of their King, having separate administrations and budgets."

The stamps of the first issue, we are told, are unique of their kind as they are at once *commemorative* (since their use coincides with the millenary of the colonisation of the island) and *inaugurative* (since the issue was one of the consequences of the new régime).

In the same journal we find a list of some of the prices realized at the sale of the first portion of the Lehmann collection. The most notable of the prices appears to us to be that attained by a 1 lire, Tuscany, namely, 2585 fr.—just over £100!



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

No. 252. VOL. XXI. DECEMBER 20, 1911.

[PRICE 2D.]

♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

FOR many years the sale of postage stamps, by public auction, has been an important factor in the stamp collecting world. At first, when these auctions were a novelty, and not a fact inseparable from the first five evenings of every week during the winter months, it was thought that they would do considerable harm to London and provincial dealers. The reverse, however, has proved to be the case, for not only do dealers completely monopolise the sale rooms, but they are, in many cases, able to get rid of old stock which otherwise would have remained unsold at prices far in advance of its real value. Buying stamps at auction, especially collections and mixed lots, is, however, a business which, to be satisfactorily carried through, requires a great deal of experience and judgment; otherwise the buyer will find himself "landed" with a number of unsaleable "throw outs" and remnants, which are not worth half the amount they cost. The fortunes of the sale room are so varied that it is quite possible to buy, in open competition, a stamp, or mixed lot of stamps, which, a couple of months later, will realise in the same sale rooms but half the amount originally paid. Almost as numerous are the lots which, on being put up for

sale for the second time, realise considerably more than they did when first sold. In neither case does this necessarily mean that the slightest fluctuation, in either direction, in the real value of the stamps has taken place. Extraneous influences play such an important part in every stamp auction that it is sometimes quite impossible to say why certain lots are knocked down at certain prices. Perhaps an enthusiastic bidder, still glowing with satisfaction at having concluded a very satisfactory deal, enthralls everyone in the room with some of his impetuosity, with the result that prices harden to a surprising extent. Perhaps one or two dealers, bidding on commission, have clients for certain lots which have to be obtained at practically any cost. When this happens the seller may indeed consider himself fortunate.

Sometimes Mr. A., the well-known dealer, notices that Mr. B., the equally well-known dealer, is bidding for a certain lot. Mr. A. has not inspected the stamps in question, but if they are worth Mr. B.'s attention (notorious for not giving high prices), they should certainly be worth running up. Mr. B., who has resolved to go up to £3 (half the true value of the stamps), in the hope that lack of competition will enable him to secure a bargain,

notices that Mr. A. is bidding for the same lot. Each dealer, under the impression that his rival has seen some hidden treasure in the lot, bids merrily, until at last one of them drops out, and the lot is knocked down for nearly twice its true value.

On other occasions really rare stamps are sold at ridiculously low prices, simply through lack of competition, or, as so frequently happens, because the would-be bidders are otherwise too busily engaged

until the tap of the auctioneer's hammer reminds them that the lot they wished to contest has already passed into the possession of some more watchful collector or dealer. Dozens of other reasons, none of them really reflecting on the true value of the stamps, are important factors in the auction room; but it takes an expert in buying to recognize their existence, with the result that, sooner or later, amateur auction buyers are certain to burn their fingers.

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* says:—

"We have been informed that it is the intention of the Federal Government to discontinue the use of the Victorian paper with watermark double-lined A and Crown, and that no more stamps will be printed on this paper once the present stock is exhausted.

"Large stocks of the paper watermarked A and Crown, type 53 (now used on the South Australian and current low value Papuans), have been imported and are stocked ready for use, so that we may shortly expect the postage stamps of Victoria, Tasmania, West Australia, the 9d. New South Wales and Queensland, and the postage dues to appear with this watermark.

"It is even possible, nay, very probable, that it will also be issued to the New South Wales and Queensland printing offices, to print their own stamps on.

"The reason given for the alteration of watermarked paper is that the double-lined A and Crown paper is sent un gummed, and has to be gummed locally, while the new paper is ready gummed before importation."

India. We are indebted to the *London Philatelist* for the following:—

"We have seen the new 1, 2, and 3 annas stamps of the Georgian issue, which were delivered from the printers between October 25th and November 11th. All have a portrait of King George to the left, crowned and robed, in the centre, the ornamentation differing in each value.

"The 1 anna bears the inscription at the top: 'Indian Postage and Revenue,' and value in both figure and words at bottom.

"The 2 annas has 'Indian Postage' at top, value in words at bottom, and figures of value in the margins, both sides of the centre of the stamps.

The 3 annas has, on the contrary, 'India Postage' at the bottom with figures of value each side above it, and value in words at top.

Adhesives.

1 anna, carmine: wmk. Star: perf. 14.
2 annas, mauve " "
3 annas, orange " "

"The colours are given as seen by electric light."

Gwalior. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 5 rupees of India overprinted for use in this State.

Adhesive. Overprinted "Gwalior State."
5 rupees lilac and blue.

Malta. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the 4d. stamp in the new colours.

Adhesive. King Edward.
Multiple wmk. Chalky paper.
4d. red and black on yellow.

Northern Nigeria. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have received the following.

Adhesives. King Edward.
Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.
2d. grey.
Chalky paper.
6d. purple and mauve.

Somaliland Protectorate. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following.

Adhesive. Mult. wmk., chalky paper.
12 annas orange and grey-black.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Argentine Republic. Mr. A. H. Davis, who so kindly keeps us informed regarding

the new issues of S. America, writes on the 10th of November as follows:—

"The Postal Authorities issued to-day the 5c. and 12c. values of the new issue reported by me some months ago. These values have been printed by the American Bank Note Co., of New York, and you will observe that each stamp bears the name of the designer. The remaining values, all of the same design, will be printed locally, by the Casa de Moneda from plates supplied by the above Company. The new stamps have not a pleasing appearance and all the sheets of the 5c. which I have seen are very badly centred."



Adhesives.
5c. carmine.
12c. blue.

China. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us another addition to the postage due set.

Postage Due.
2c. brown.

French China. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. say: "We note you have chronicled the Postage Due 2c. on 5c. and 4c. on 10c., but in addition to these we have also received the 8c. on 20c. olive and 20c. on 50c. claret."

Greece. We are indebted to the *London Philatelist* for the following information:—

"Captain A. S. Bates has kindly sent us photos of two 50 lepta stamps of the current issue.

"A change in the die has been made, the most noticeable difference being the shading of the background.

"The diagonal lines in the background on one stamp stops at the sixth top horizontal line, whereas in the other the diagonal lines are carried right up to the top line of the centre frame.

"The figures of value vary slightly, and other differences may be found."

Italy. San Marino. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a copy of the 15c. stamp. It is printed on a pale yellow surface-tinted paper, and below each stamp is the manufacturer's imprint in small sans-serif capitals "Officina Calcografica Italiana-Roma." The design is similar to that issued in 1907.

Adhesive. Perf. 12.
15c. slate, on pale yellow-tinted paper.



Paraguay. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the new 1c. stamp. They also tell us that the following values have been issued.



Adhesives.
1c. black and olive. 20c. olive-brown and indigo.
2c. " indigo. 50c. lilac and indigo.
5c. carmine and indigo. 75c. olive and mauve.
10c. blue-brown.

Philippine Islands. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following values in new colours, as listed.

Adhesives.
16c. olive green.
26c. dark turquoise blue.

Portugal. Azores. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"Our correspondent at St. Michael's informs us that the stock of Don Manoel stamps overprinted 'Republica' is nearly exhausted, some values are in fact quite finished, and we have just received a supply of the Vasco da Gama stamps overprinted 'Republica' as follows:—2½, 5, 10, 15 on 5, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80 on 150, 100, 200, 300 on 50, 500 on 100, 1000 on 10 reis.



"Azores overprinted 'Assistencia.' The method of using these stamps is the same as those of Portugal, they are used only on public holidays when most of the postal staff are off

duty, and letters posted during that period are not despatched till after the holidays unless in addition to the ordinary postage one of these 'Assistencia' labels is affixed, all letters bearing these labels are despatched without any delay.

"*Lourenco Marques, Macao and Timor.* Full sets of all these have now been received over-printed 'Republica' in the same manner as the other Portuguese Colonies."

Roumania. The *Monthly Journal*, on the authority of a Continental exchange, reports that a new perforating machine has been brought into use for the surface-printed stamps. These were formerly perforated by two line machines gauging $13\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$ respectively. The new machine perforates a whole sheet at one operation, and gauges $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14. The current 1, 3, 5 and 10 bani have all appeared with this perforation.

Servia. Some more values of the new set are now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesives.
15 paras, violet.
20 .. yellow.
30 .. green.

Spanish Colonies. *Rio de Oro.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have just received some more provisionals from Rio de Oro; they are as follows:—

Issue of 1907, surcharged with new values.
2c. on 4 peretas, in red.
5c. .. 10 .. in violet.
10c. .. 2 .. in black.
15c. .. 5 .. in black.

The first two mentioned are surcharged with the figure of value and "CENTS" in large letters, the third is surcharged with figure of value and the word "Centimos" and the fourth is surcharged "Habilitado para, 15 cents" in an oval.

United States. The *Monthly Journal* says that a postal savings department has recently been established, and special Official stamps have been issued for the use of this department:—

Wmk. double-lined U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.
2c. black.
10c. red.
81 blue.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News adds a 1c. colour not given, and a 50c. green to this list.

Venezuela. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly sent us the following novelties:—



Adhesives. Perf. 11½.
5c. green.
10c. scarlet.
15c. slate.
25c. blue.
50c. violet.
1b. yellow.

Correspondence.

Dogbridge, S.E.,

5th November, 1911,

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

DEAR SIR,

DEALERS AND COLLECTORS.

You would be conferring a great boon upon the stamp trading community if you could induce the Editor of the *P.J.G.B.* to take up for once the cause of the dealer. The collector airs his grievances at every opportunity and on the slightest provocation. Why may not the poor dealer also have his turn? May I submit my own experience to you?

I go to much trouble to prepare books of stamps on approval. I discover addresses of collectors, and despatch my large books to them, sometimes priced up to hundreds of pounds, and quite often I get no acknowledgment. When at length I write to enquire I am coolly told that as I have sent books not asked for, the receiver will not post back the book to me, but I can have it on calling—in a distant part of London! Others write and tell me that my prices are absurd, but even if they are three or four times "Catalogue," I always allow large discounts.

Then I prepare more books, in which the postmarks are a strong feature. The stamps may be rather much obliterated, but the postmarks are visibly all there. Again I get the same kind of response, or lack of response, and sometimes sarcastic remarks that they "presume there is a stamp somewhere underneath the obliterating ink, but you ought to send along a magnifying glass with your book if you expect one to find it."

Then I take yet more pains, and get up books, including embossed envelope stamps and wrapper stamps on all sorts of fancy tinted papers, corners of postcards, printed franks of government departments, impressions on all kinds of papers from rubber stamps of corporations and individuals, and even entires addressed to myself. All this involves much labour and expense. I send these out in all directions, and my efforts to please are treated by the crabbed, cross-grained, cantankerous collectors with contumely and contempt.

Cannot you persuade the Editor to give the pampered collector and his grievances a short rest, and take up for a change the cause of the poor dealer?

Yours despondingly,

"NIL DESPERANDUM."

Angus McTavish, Esq.

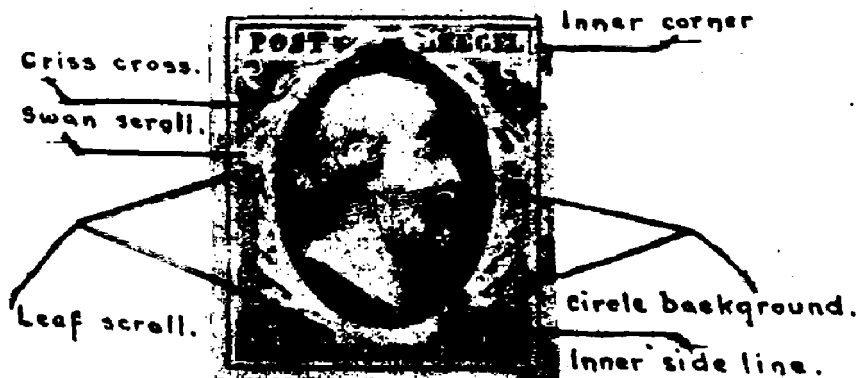
The Stamps of the First Issue of Holland, 1852.

R. W. WILKINSON.

(Continued from page 206.)

IN dealing with later plates, reference will be frequently made to various parts of the design, and in order to quickly identify them the following diagram will no doubt prove useful:

"hack" found on this plate shows the right side line (inner and outer), the criss cross, and the top scroll strongly retouched (C.2). Another defect occurs on several stamps, the



(A.)

PLATE II. 1853.

It is difficult to see why Plate I. should have been so soon discarded; it was very carefully made by one of the best engravers then known, and should have been capable of producing good work for an extended period. No excessively worn printings are found, although some parts of the design such as the top angles were rather faint in the steel blue and later prints. At the most only 30,000 sheets could have been printed from it, nevertheless, "in September 1853 J. P. Menger, Chief Stamp Engraver to the Mint, made a new plate for the 5 cents."

This new plate was, from the commencement, almost exactly like Plate I. in its last state, and were it not for the existence of many blurs down the sides between the stamps (B) and a frequent defect (requiring retouches) it would be almost impossible to say that a second plate was made so early. The defect referred to no doubt existed upon the transfer roll and consisted of a weak impression of the ends of the top frame line. The illustrations show two of the retouches (C.1); the right end is found recut:—straight, downwards, turned upwards, in two cuts not straight, and in other slight ways difficult to describe. The only real

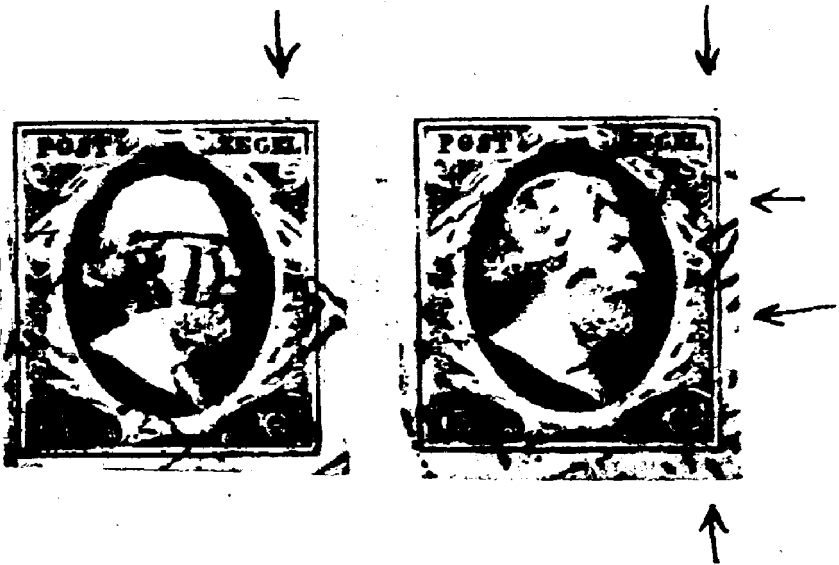
right lower corner being left unjoined and very open, more so than in Plate I.

The first shade was a fine bright blue upon whitish paper, but it soon became modified to a shade very like steel blue; the paper also soon showed a pronounced surface tinting, which may have been due to wear induced by occasional overheating of the plate, or by insufficient hardening to begin with. 15,000 sheets were printed in each of the years 1853-1854, and as the plate did not come into use until September, 1853, probably not more than 20,000 sheets were issued from it.

The Mint report for 1854, says: "The Chief Stamp Engraver was busy making two new plates, one for the red and one for the blue stamps, from the transfer rolls" (vermenigvuldigings-machine!) and that "his blue plate was condemned at the end of the year." Now my opinion is that this refers to Plate II.; no fresh plate is given until 1858, so what did they do in the meantime? The evidence of the stamps shows that Plate III. was a good plate, lasting until 1858-9. As to the Plate II. "for the red stamps" the date is also wrong, as copies are known used in September, 1853, which is the same date as given for Plate II. of the 5 cents.



(B.)

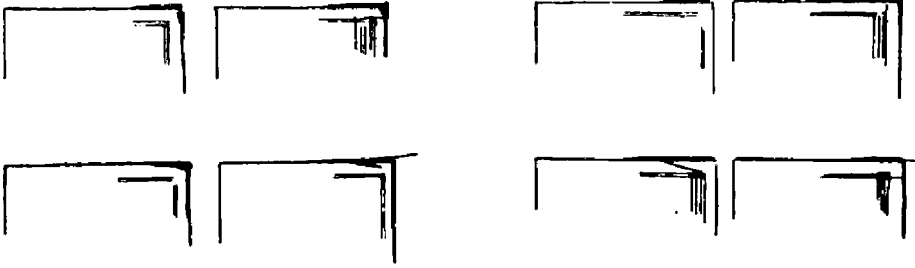


(C.)

PLATE III. 1854.

Fortunately Plate III. presents features quite distinct from I. and II. Nearly all the stamps show a thickened right end to the top outer frame line; the corner was no doubt weakly impressed upon the roller, because the inner angle is also found retouched. Hairlines appear between the inner and outer frames above the letters G E L and were slips made in thickening the frame line (D). Projections of the line about 1mm. beyond

the top right end are also due to the same cause and there are two prominent varieties (E). The retouches of the inner angle show the missing lines replaced in various ways by thin lines, not always straight, and thin slips or hairlines occur, projecting to the outer frame. There are many strong blurs and scratches between the stamps, the alignment of the rows is very irregular—falling from left to right—and these features alone separate the plate from the first one (F).



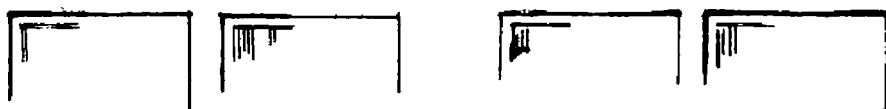
(D.)



(E.)



(F.)



(G.)

The earliest date known is 29-1-55, and the stamps first appeared in a deep dark indigo blue—the deepest of the issue—shading gradually down to a pale blue, *not milky blue*, with surface tinted paper, in 1858-9. The same hairlines and retouches occur through all the printings and no intermediate retouches are known.

PLATE IV. 1858.

In 1858, the plates being reported to be "too thin and bent" four more were authorised, and one was used for the 5 cents in October. Earliest date seen, 29-12-58.

Impressions from it show a distinctive top frame line, which is invariably thickened at the *left* and frequently at both ends. There are numerous retouches in the top *left* corner, consisting of vertical lines before and through the letters of Post, ranging in number from one to nine; the scroll beneath post is also outlined on some stamps (G). On one stamp the thickened line does not join up properly, leaving a break in the top line over O. On several stamps the upper part of the left

frame line is strengthened. The only exception I know of is a stamp with the *right* top corner scroll strongly redrawn, and having a thick vertical line above and below it. The constant retouch in the left corner as against the right corner in Plate III. furnishes a ready means of sorting these plates.

The alignment of the rows is very irregular, and there are very few blurs between the stamps.

The best known shade from this plate is the Milky blue, or as Mr. Warren calls it, Water blue; the two terms *do* seem to have something in common, and perhaps *watery-milk blue* might describe the shade better! It must not be confused with the last shade of Plate III.; the true milky blue should have white paper without any surface tinting, in which state it is very rare unused. The shade afterwards deepens but never becomes so deep as the first of Plate III.

The FRANCO obliteration came into general use with this plate, and dated copies are increasingly scarce from 1860 on.

(To be continued.)

New Leaves to Cut.

PHILATELY IN A NUTSHELL.*

By J. H. SMYTH.

THIS little book, most tastefully got up, is published by Mr. Smyth and we have to thank him for a really valuable contribution to the already overflowing literature of our hobby. Written with the hope of enabling non-collectors easily to realize the most salient features of stamp collecting, this book, the best of its class which we have read, will undoubtedly do much to interest its non-philatelic readers to take up the fascinating hobby of stamp collecting.

Mr. Smyth has collected together, from many varied sources, a goodly store of philatelic knowledge which he seminatees through his book in an easy conversational manner.

In reviewing a work of this sort it is, we think, the best plan to give a list of the chapter headings, so that our readers may know what subjects are under discussion.

*Published by J. H. Smyth, Ltd., 50, Castlereagh Street, Sydney, N.S.W. Price 1/-.

Preface.	The Cracking of the Shell.
Chapter I.	The "Kernel."
II.	A Short History of Philately.
III.	How Stamps were and are Produced.
IV.	Methods of Printing.
V.	Papers and Watermarks.
VI.	Colours and Shades.
VII.	Designs.
VIII.	Overprints and Surcharges.
IX.	Plating.
X.	Interesting Errors and Varieties.
XI.	Rare Stamps.
XII.	Specialism.
XIII.	Remainders, Re-issues, Reprints and
XIV.	Hints to Beginners. [Forgeries.]
XV.	Financial Features of Stamp
XVI.	Philatelic Literature. [Collecting.]
XVII.	Accessories.
XVIII.	A Few Words to "Seniors" about the "Junior" Collector.
XIX.	"Crumbs."
XX.	"Bits" of Information Concerning the Stamps of Various Countries.

Every one of these chapters contains something to interest, while even old hands at collecting will probably find they are unconsciously assimilating some previously unknown items of information. Chapter XX. by itself a small philatelic monograph, contains a very varied assortment of readable information. We find there short, pithy details regarding

many stamp-issuing countries. These revelations are just long enough to whet the appetite of the to-be-philatelist, and not long enough to frighten him, before he becomes ensnared in the meshes of the hobby of hobbies. Any of our readers who wish to act as benefactors to the future race of philatelists could not do better than secure a supply of Mr. Smyth's book, and see that they fall into the hands of likely men and boys. If this were done, we feel sure that Mr. Smyth would have a good percentage of disciples, some of whom would, in their turn, doubtless contribute to the advancement of stamp collecting.

At the end of Mr. Smyth's book we find the "Glossary of Philatelic Terms," which was compiled for submission to the Third Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, 1911.

PORTUGAL.*

THE CAMEO STAMPS.

By F. J. MELVILLE.

This little booklet, another link in the chain of Mr. Melville's admirable series of condensed philatelic handbooks, deals with the early stamps of Portugal. The first issues have been so exhaustively written about by Mr. Yardley that the little book at present under review can only recapitulate what is already known. The later issues, however, from 1862 to 1881 have not been so exhaustively studied with the result that collectors of these extremely interesting stamps will find plenty of information in Mr. Melville's book which will doubtless prove of interest. The "harrow" perforating machines, the various types of the different values, and the reprints which unfortunately exist, are all described.

This little book has added interest because illustrated with the aid of thirty enlarged photographic reproductions which were used in Mr. Yardley's handbook. Those of our readers who are interested in the stamps of Portugal should certainly invest in a copy of Mr. Melville's dainty booklet. It is a marvel of cheapness.

PORTUGAL.*

POSTAGE STAMPS, 1880-1911.

By F. J. MELVILLE.

A companion to the above mentioned little book is the same versatile author's work dealing with the later stamps, covering the period 1880 to date. Mr. Melville lightly touches on all the various issues, also the Postage Due, Newspaper, and private stamps, and, although we learn nothing new, we find his little brochure a handy book of reference.

Regarding the "Republica" overprints of 1910, we are told that varieties, due to want of care, have been chronicled, but only the following are authentic: Inverted on the 2½, 10,

25, and 50 reis; double on the 5 and 25 reis; and double (once inverted) on the 25 reis. Other values, as also the reported overprint in blue on the 25 reis, are forgeries.

CATALOGUE OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITION,

HELD AT SYDNEY, N.S.W., OCT. 1911.

We have received from Mr. J. H. Smyth, the well known dealer of Castlereagh Street, Sydney, a copy of the catalogue issued for the Exhibition held in Sydney.

This little book, besides containing the usual list of exhibits, contains a concise history of Australian philately. We learn when the different Philatelic Societies were formed, when collectors first took an interest in collecting, and when the first Australian stamp paper was published.

From a membership table of the different Societies we notice that the Sydney Philatelic Club with 130 members heads the list. The New Zealand Society comes next with 121.

From the "Preface," which also contains a good deal of interesting information, we notice that last year is the date erroneously assigned for the holding of both the Berne and the Amsterdam Exhibitions.

STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE.

PART I.

After the usual period of delayed expectation we duly received the new Part I. and find that it contains the usual complement of glaring mistakes and the usual list of carefully compiled prices. This statement reads very contradictorily, nevertheless it is true, as even a casual dip into the pages of our leading catalogue will prove.

The general tendency is for the older stamps to appreciate, and common varieties of the earlier types will soon become beyond the reach of the modest shilling. Even such common stamps as the already too highly priced 1st issue ¼ anna blue, India; Ceylon, one penny, C.C. 12½; Cape of Good Hope triangular fourpenny; etc., etc.; all show a marked desire to place themselves beyond the average schoolboy's pocket.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in their preface say:—

"As regards prices, a good many stamps in the fine old issues have been somewhat advanced, as the tendency in these is always in an upward direction.

"We find that the Colonial stamps of from about 1885 to 1890 are being rapidly absorbed, and here we have had to make many alterations. On the contrary, the stamps of King Edward were, we find, considerably over-priced in our last Catalogue, and we have been able to buy many parcels at rates which have authorized a large number of reductions in these stamps."

From a study of the new pages, we find it is indeed true that many prices have been reduced. We are very pleased that this

*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C.
Price 6d. nett.

should be the case, as, with Gibbons, we believe that recent King's Heads have been priced too high.

Such "stock" favourites as the 18 and 45 piastres, Cyprus, King's Head, single wmk., are now priced 15/- and 17/6, against last year's quotations of 20/- and 25/-. The 2 piastres is now quoted at 12/6 instead of 20/-. We expect that 5/- will be a nearer estimate in 1913!

Here and there we note a regular orgy of alterations. In the early stamps of Victoria we find that nearly all of the first type stamps have appreciated; on the other hand, we see marked reductions in the prices of the middle issues. The early stamps of British Guiana shew a desire to climb out of reach. The 6d. Dominica, black and chestnut, on multiple chalky paper, is priced at 1/6! Messrs. Gibbons will have a good many unfilled orders for this stamp.

Jamaica 4d. black on yellow, multiple wmk., is priced at a 1/-. On the day of issue of the new catalogue this stamp was, we believe, priced in Messrs. Gibbons stock books at more than four times this price!! A very absurd quotation is 7/6 for the pale blue 2d. full face, perforated, New Zealand. Possibly a good many collectors hoard this stamp under the impression that they have retouched specimens, if this is the case probably Messrs. Gibbons stock books are fairly empty where this variety is concerned; a shortage, however, on the part of one dealer does not make a 1/- stamp worth 7/6! The absurd, and possibly misleading price of £8 for the Nevis 1/- on laid paper has now been altered to £60.

A scarce stamp, namely the "Sungei Unjog" error, is now priced at £7 10s., in a used condition. At this figure it should find a buyer.

Another scarce variety, the Cyprus C.A. half piastre, emerald green, is now priced, namely at £10. Elsewhere throughout the pages of the new catalogue we find prices, or the lack of prices, at which we could take exception, but the few quotations we have already cited should be sufficient. The fact remains that Stanley Gibbons Catalogue is a wonderful production, absolutely indispensable to all keen collectors and, although we could, as we have already said, find many errors of pricing, it would be an extremely hard task to find another catalogue which compares with it as a guide to the collector of British Colonial stamps.



British Guiana Philatelic Exhibition.

AWARDS.

DIVISION I. Sec. A 1.—British Guianas (specialized): Gilt Medal, A. D. Ferguson; Silver Medal, W. A. Abraham.

Sec. A 2.—British Guianas (ordinary collections): Silver Medal, L. Vernon Vaughan; Bronze Medal, J. K. D. Hill; Diploma, W. H. Pollard.

Sec. B.—West Indian Islands: Silver Medal, Barbados, Capt. C. P. Rogers, Yelverton; Bronze Medal, St. Vincent, W. A. Abraham; Bronze Medal, Trinidad, A. D. Ferguson; Diploma, Cayman Is., L. V. Vaughan.

Sec. C.—Collection of one other British Colony: Silver Medal, Hong Kong, T. H. Hinton, London; Bronze Medal, Transvaal, W. A. Abraham; Diploma, Gambia, L. V. Vaughan.

Sec. D.—Collection of one Foreign Country: Silver Medal, Modena, W. Dorning Beckton, Manchester; Bronze Medal, Venezuela, W. A. Abraham; Diploma, Portugal and Colonies, F. P. L. Josa; Diploma, Brazil, D. O. Alves.

Sec. E.—25 Rare Stamps: Silver Medal, A. D. Ferguson; Bronze Medal, W. A. Abraham.

Sec. H.—One issue of any Country showing research: Gilt Medal, Victoria 1864 plated, L. L. R. Hausburg, Weybridge; Silver Medal, British Guiana's 1853, M. P. Castle, M.V.O., Brighton; Bronze Medal, Belgium 1850-63, S. R. Turner, London.

DIVISION II. — GENERAL COLLECTIONS IN ALBUMS. Sec. A (Seniors):—Silver Medal, L. Vernon Vaughan; Bronze Medal, L. A. H. Rohlehe; Diploma, Mrs. C. E. Barnes.

Sec. B (Juniors under 18 years of age): Bronze Medal, Michael McTurk, Junr.; Diploma, C. H. Schuler.

DIVISION III.—Sec. A. (Exhibits by Dealers: Silver Medal, W. H. Peckitt (25 Rare Stamps).

Sec. B1 (Philatelic Albums): Bronze Medal, Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich; Bronze Medal, W. S. Lincoln, London. **B2 (Philatelic Literature):** Diploma, New England Stamp Co., Boston, U.S.A., (C. A. Howes' Book on Canada); **B3 (Philatelic Journals):** Diploma, "Philatelic Record"; Diploma, "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." **B4 (Philatelic Catalogues):** Diploma, Paul Kohl's Grosser Catalog.

DIVISION IV.—EXHIBITS NOT FOR COMPETITION AND DIVISION V.—OBJECTS OF INTEREST IN PHILATELICALY in which no awards were made were well represented. Prominent among the Exhibits being one from the Earl of Crawford, K.T., comprising a grand display of Proofs, Essays, Colour Trials, etc., of South American Stamps which attracted much attention; P. J. Evans, a fine display of Reprints and Proofs; A. H. Baker, a unique display of a complete set of U.S.A. Prints on card in accepted colours; S. R. Turner, Early Postmarks, etc., etc.

A. D. FERGUSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

The Stamps of Greece.

By P. L. PEMBERTON.

(Continued from page 212.)

THE PRINTINGS OF 1871-76 ON THIN PAPER.

IN 1871 paper of a texture quite different from that which had been used for all values up to that time, began to be employed for some values, and was gradually extended to all values as the old stock became exhausted. The 80 lepta was the only value on which it was not extensively used, only a very few specimens of this value on unmistakably thin paper being known.

The characteristics of the new paper are two, viz.:—thinness and coarseness, but it varies so much in both particulars that frequently only one of these characteristics is noticeable. The coarseness may best be recognized by holding up one of the thin paper 5 lepta (pale green or emerald-green for choice) against a good light; and looking through the paper. It will then be seen that the paper appears to have a grain in it which is absent from the close-textured paper of the earlier issues. The wide mesh is very easy to see in certain printings, but in others it is apparently absent: in such cases the stamp can only be recognized by the thinness or transparency of the paper. The extreme transparency which is often noticeable in the stamps of this issue is undoubtedly due to the gum having soaked into the loosely woven paper. In such cases the grain of the mesh is filled in with gum and it cannot be seen at all clearly when looked through in a strong light. On the other hand if such a specimen be soaked long enough for the gum to be all dispelled the mesh of the paper shews up clearly.

Apart from this, however, there is no doubt that the texture of the paper does vary very much indeed, the wide mesh always being very conspicuous in some printings of the 5 lep. (more so than in any other values) and being indistinguishable in others. Printings H and I of the 10 lep. have the wide mesh almost as clearly as the 5 lep. but in this case the paper is very much thicker; in fact in most cases these stamps could not have been recognized as belonging to this period but for the coarseness of the paper which is frequently quite as thick as, and less transparent than, some specimens of printing F. The paper of the 1 lep. never shows the mesh in any marked degree, but in the 20 lep. and 40 lep. it can always be detected though rarely so distinctly as in the 5 and 10 lep.

The new paper was not employed at once for all values. From an examination of my own and several other collections of dated copies it would seem that it was first used for

the 5 lep. the earliest date I have being 12 Dec., 1871, on that value. The 10 lep. and 40 lep. were the next to follow, after which the 20, 1, and 2 lep. came in the order named. I have not seen a single dated copy of the 80 lep. I may here remark that great care must be taken in accepting the date "71" on a Greek postmark; a great many stamps which appear to bear that date really belong to 1874, the figure "4" being generally such a peculiar shape that if at all indistinct it looks exactly like a thick "1". Cases frequently occur in which the figure might just as easily pass for one as for the other and it is not safe to accept a 1 unless it is quite clearly formed. In spite of many alarms I am satisfied that the only clear '71 that I have seen on the thin paper series is that on the above-mentioned 5 lepta. This I have found since the September instalment of my article was printed; I have consequently altered the date of this series from 1872, as then stated, to 1871.

The printing of the stamps on the thin paper is generally very fair. It is evident that the Greek workmen understood their work better than they did in the middle '60's, and that they took some pains to keep the plates clean, but after ten years constant use it was not possible to reproduce the effect of the early Athens prints, especially as the paper was not very suitable.

From the evidence of dated copies it would seem that several printings of each value were in use at the same time, the dates being so intermingled that it is extremely difficult to assign any order to them. The dates I give are the earliest I have seen of the respective printings, but I have no doubt that much earlier dates of most of them will turn up in course of time.

The following is the list of printings:—

P.—23rd Oct., 1874. 1 lepton, grey-brown on buff.

Impression fair, but not so good as in N and O. The paper is generally extremely thin and transparent, much more so than in S, the only other printing to which it bears any resemblance. The colour varies from medium to very deep.

Q.—Jan., 1875. 1 lepton, coffee-brown on buff.

Impression and paper as last, but colour deeper than the average shades of P and with much more red in its composition. This printing is scarce, especially unused, yet there is a very great disparity in the earliest and latest dates I have seen, namely, from Jan., 1875 to Sept., '88!

R.—21st Sept., 1875. 1 lepton, reddish-brown on buff.

Impression and paper as last. The colour alone distinguishes this printing from the last. It is much paler and of quite a different tone. It must not be confounded with the thin paper printing of 1882, which is a true red-brown and always much deeper.

S.—11th Dec., 1876. 1 lepton, grey-brown on straw.

Impression as before; colour as in P but deeper. The paper is a sure guide to this printing as it is a true pale yellow, quite different from the buff papers of the last three printings. It is, moreover, rarely so thin, in fact in most cases it is of ordinary thickness and only slightly transparent. There is a very pale shade of it, which might perhaps be classed as another printing, but as the paper is identical, and the colour of the same tone, I think it advisable not to separate it.

L.—(? Date). 2 lepta, pale bistre on cream.

Impression fine and clear, but owing to the colour being so pale the effect is not very good. The paper is very thin, but not noticeably coarse-grained, and the impression often shews through clearly at the back.

M.—(? Date). 2 lepta, stone on cream

As this is a well-known stamp, I have adopted the colour-name by which it is always known. It is Gibbons No. 65, and Mr. Beckett's printing H. I see the latter gives the date as 1872, but I have not seen any copies used before 1882! As the paper is unmistakably the thin paper of this period, and shews the coarse grain very clearly, it was possibly printed in the seventies, though there can be no doubt that the larger part of the printing was not used up until much later.

M.—12th Dec., 1871. 5 lepta, sage-green on greenish.

Impression blotchy and indistinct. Colour deep to dull sage-green. Paper thin and semi-transparent but not noticeably coarse-grained.

N.—1873. 5 lepta, sage-green on greenish.

Impression as last. Colour still sage but with rather more blue in it. Paper very thin and decidedly coarse-grained.

O.—June, 1873. 5 lepta, green on greenish.

Impression better than the last two, occasionally very good. Colour medium to pale green, varying very much in shade, generally yellowish-green, but occasionally blue-green. Paper very thin, decidedly coarse-grained.

P.—March, 1874, 5 lepta deep green on greenish.

Impression as last. Colour much darker than last, but similar in tone and varying in the same way. Paper as last.

Q.—1875. 5 lepta, emerald green on greenish.

Impression finer than in any other printing

of this value and period. In some specimens the ink is very lightly applied and the impressions resemble those of printing J. The colour is generally a fairly bright emerald green, but not at all deep in tone. The colour is so marked that it ought certainly to be included in a general catalogue, yet Bright's is the only one of the well-known catalogues which gives it. The paper is thin and coarse-grained as before.

H.—27th February, 1872. 10 lepta, vermilion on bluish.

Impression fair to poor. Colour very like that of printing F but generally rather duller, though not invariably so. The paper is thin, but neither so thin nor so transparent as for the 5 lep., but it is distinctly coarse-grained, by which characteristic alone it can always be separated.

I.—25th February, 1873. 10 lepta, orange-vermilion on dull greenish paper.

Impression fair to very bad. The colour is not so red as the last; the paper is very distinctive, being a dull greenish tint, sometimes appearing almost colourless; in other respects it is exactly like the last. This and the last printing are included in Gibbons as 69a, yet they are very different printings, I being much rarer than H.

J.—July, 1875. 10 lepta, bright red-orange on lavender.

Impression poor. Colour deeper and much redder than any other printing. The paper is much thinner than in the last two printings and it can never be mistaken on account of its colour. I think it possible that the paper was intended for the 20 lepta as it is almost identical with some used for that value at the same period.

N.—1873. 20 lepta, pale blue on bluish.

Impression good. Colour pale and soft, resembling some shades of D. Paper thin, not always transparent, but always showing the wide mesh. This is a rather scarce printing.

O.—1873. 20 lepta, grey-blue on bluish.

Impression hardly so good as the last. Colour dull and rather dark. Paper as last, but more transparent.

P.—1874. 20 lepta, indigo-blue on bluish.

This printing might be subdivided into two varieties of impression. The majority are coarse prints but occasionally one finds very fair impressions which have evidently been produced with a new *découpage*. These have very pale spandrels and the lines of shading on the cheek clear and distinct. Nevertheless they appear to have been printed from a dirty plate. The colour varies from a medium to very deep indigo blue. The paper is very thin and transparent.

Q.—1874. 20 *lepta*, violet-blue on bluish.

As in the last printing there are two marked varieties of impression, for which the description I have given above will suffice. The colour is dark to very dark, but is always brighter than in O. Paper as in O. This is the commonest of the printings on thin paper.

R.—1874. 20 *lepta*, bright-blue on bluish.

Impression very fair. Colour much brighter than the last. In other respects exactly like Q.

S.—Dec., 1875. 20 *lepta*, dark blue on blue.

Impression fair to poor and blotchy. The paper, which is much darker in colour than any other, is a sure guide to this printing.

(To be continued).

Current Chatter.

By ANGUS McTAVISH.

One of the most drastic revolutions which has ever taken place in any catalogue is to be found in the new Gibbons Part I. In the 1911 edition, seekers after knowledge were told, when they looked up Indore to see Holkar. In the 1912 edition, on referring to Holkar they are told to "see Indore"!! Is Holkar to be Indore for the winter months only?

Many of last month's philatelic papers chronicled a forthcoming set of new stamps for Russia. These new labels, we were told are not to appear before 1913. Such optimism in the new issue world is bliss to contemplate. What however will happen to the to-be-issued stamps, if, by 1913 Russia should come to be described as an "uncivilized region in the north west of the Chinese Republic?"

The *Hobbyist*, in the exuberance of its November number, says that—

"A competition has been opened between Holland and Nicaragua for the largest number of surcharges, produced in the last few months of the current year. You will be no loser if you put your money on Holland."

Personally, I shall put a bob, each way, on Nicaragua. If Holland has any backers on *this* side of the Pond, I should like to hear from them.

I have received from Boston the first number of a new little American paper; it is called the *New England Stamp Monthly*. On page 1 the following appears:—

"This little 'house-organ,' therefore, is here to make our own noise—a noise like the New England Stamp Co., and none other."

From the title I quite expected that the *N.E.S.M.* would make a noise like Warren Colson returning to Boston.

One of the American stamp papers, an exceedingly modest little publication called the *Stamp Journal*, boosting its forthcoming Xmas number, says: "This 68-page magazine will

be an immense book; it will be kept and read for months." Towards the end of March I trust that the *Stamp Journal* subscribers will be able to sit up and clamour for a little more philatelic nourishment.

I should not be surprised if the December number of the *L.P.* contained an Editorial relating to H.M. the King's voyage to India!

Auction frequenters had a great shock one day this month. Mr., who only attends to secure the free tea and bread and butter, actually started bidding for a lot. It was knocked down to him for seven shillings. If the auctioneer had not been firm Mr. would have tried to insist that he was not bidding but only trying not to swallow a mouthful of very hot tea.

From a catalogue of the recently held Australian Exhibition, I see that a certain S. McTavish exhibited a fine collection of Papuan stamps. Love of these fine pictorial stamps seems to run in the McTavish family.

In the review columns of a recent number of *Mekeel's News and Trade Circular*, I read:—

"The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* comes regularly from London, as its name indicates."

After all there is something in a name.

The *N.Z. Collectors' Exchange* says:—

"By chemical means the colour is changed. Thus the *ror. blue* of Brazil is changed into the much rarer *ror. black*. By the same means pen cancellations are removed and the stamps are then sold as unused."

It is to be hoped, when *all* the blue Brazils have been changed to black ones, that the changers won't get wind of the 4d. vermilion Mauritius of 1858-59.

Many moons ago, in 1898 to be exact, I contributed an article to the *Stamp Collector*. At the time, it gave me great pleasure to know that it was copied into many philatelic papers. In the fullness of time it died, or I thought it did, a blameless death. Now, in November, 1911, Mr. Poole, in the exuberance of his youth, has dug up the long forgotten article and published it in *Mekeel's Weekly*. I suppose it will now go the round of the American papers for some years. Truly, the indiscretions of one's youth take a lot of getting rid of.

The *World of Stamps*, being but a new-comer, can be excused for the following paragraph:—

"ANTIGUA.—Messrs. Bright & Sons have sent us a copy of the 60 heller, Emperor on Horseback in a quite distinct new colour, deep claret."

I suppose the increase in the family of Messrs. Bright & Son is responsible for the above ebullition of spirits.





December, 1911, 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.

Wilmot Corfield Sydenham.
James B. Seymour West Ham.
Captain F. F. Freeman New Oxford St.

NOTICES.

The third meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, December 14th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), J. E. Joselin, F. F. Lamb, Guy Semple, W. Schwarte, L. W. Fulcher, P. L. Pemberton, A. B. Kay, Wilmot Corfield, W. S. King, H. F. Johnson, and Capt. George F. Napier and T. Wagenheim visitors, and the Hon. Sec. Captain Napier gave a display of his highly

specialised collection of the stamps of Brazil, which afforded much interest and information to all present, and for which a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks was accorded, on the motion of Mr. L. W. Fulcher, seconded by Mr. Schwarte.

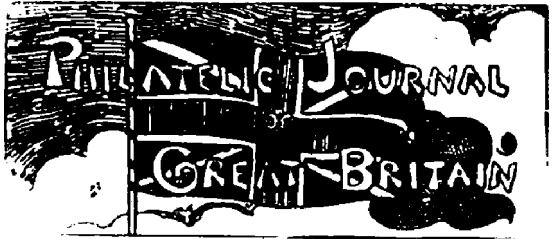
The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, January 11th, at 7.30 p.m., when a display of the second portion of his collection of the Stamps of Switzerland will be given by Mr. Victor Beaujeux. All members, and any visitors cordially invited.

Several nominations for membership will appear in next report and further proposals, subscriptions or donations to the forgery collection will receive prompt attention from

THOS. H. HINTON,

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

Dec. 15th, 1911.



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An Inverted Tragedy.

It was Christmas Eve. It usually is the day before December 25th. The Baron of Iceberg sat in his study before the coal-less grate. He did this because electric heaters had for many years taken the place of coal in the palatial establishment of the Icebergs. The present Baron was ruined. For countless centuries the Barons of Iceberg had been insolvent, so why should the present holder of the illustrious title differ from his predecessors? Our hero was an ardent stamp collector. It still remained Xmas Eve, and he had only just received his Part I. of the new Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. Brother collectors had received their catalogues two months ago, but the Baron of Iceberg, true to the old-fashioned traditions of his family, always ordered his Gibbons Catalogues from Hagen of Sydney, New South Wales. That is why he had not received his beloved volume until X'mas Eve. This curious and circumvolutionary method of purchasing new European catalogues had been practised by the Icebergs for hundreds and hundreds of years. By carefully soaking off, and retaining the stamps from the outside of the annual packages, the present great Iceberg collection had been annually increased.

Baron Iceberg was ruined. His last investment in 12d. black used Canadians at the 1911 quotation of £80, had resulted in their drop to £10 in the 1912 editions of the catalogue. Every day for months he had wandered into the Holborn, Strand, and Sauchiehall stamp shops and bought from a dozen to a hundred of these fascinating stamps. Never once did he deign to pay less than £80 each, except when they had the word "specimen" carefully removed. Then he insisted on paying £110, the full list price for unused specimens. And now, on X'mas Eve, he discovered that they were reduced in the catalogue to £10 each. It only remained for him to break the dreadful news to his devoted Baroness. At his fourth peremptory whistle she sauntered down the main oak staircase and appeared before him. Alas, the Baroness was also ruined. Only the previous evening (the night before X'mas Eve) she had robbed the twins' bed of its under mattress, which was stuffed with entire sheets of 1/- Nevis stamps on laid paper. Seven hundred of these sheets there were, and she had taken them to the Strand, and sold them for half catalogue, *i.e.*, £4 a stamp, £48 per sheet or £33,600 the lot. Had she but retained this amount it would have tided over the financial difficulties until Boxing Day.

Alas, however, she had dropped the thirty-three thousand pounds in the straw on the floor of her four-wheeler, on the way home. The odd £600 had been presented to the cab driver for his X'mas box. The united couple mingled their tears when they dis-

covered that in the 1912 catalogue the Nevis stamp had risen to £60, which, at half-catalogue for the seven hundred sheets, would have realized £252,000, a sum large enough to have tipped the men-servants, and paid the telephone excess calls for many weeks. Such was the sad case of the Baron and the Baroness on X'mas Eve.

For many minutes they held each other's clammy hands in silence. At last the Baron murmured "The twins must sell their collection." A Portland vase, the original of the mutilated copy in the British Museum, was immediately thrown out of the window. Crashing through the sky-lights of the housemaid's billiard room, it attracted the attention of the seventh assistant butler, who, although it *was* X'mas Eve, had no business to be with the housemaids. On presenting himself before the Baron he was told immediately to search for the twins, the Honourable Alsace and the Honourable Lorraine Iceberg. Neither of these descendants of the noble Iceberg's had been seen by their doting parents since the craze for Bridge, Roller Skating and Window breaking at Government Offices had taken hold of fashionable London. These two sweet girls, so quaintly named because they had been born during the worrying times of the Franco-Prussian War were, strangely enough, at home. Alas, however, after they had affectionately greeted the Baroness and been introduced to their father, whom neither of them recognized, they were unable to save the situation.

The Honourable Alsace had two pence, which, as she had won it by tossing with the cabman who had driven her from Tunbridge Wells that morning, she offered to her devoted parents.

The Honourable Lorraine who had, owing to her seventeen inch stays, sat bolt upright when the above discussion took place, now suggested that her old School collection, forgotten for twenty-five years, should be unearthed from the spare lumber-room on the sixth floor of the fourth wing. After several hours search the long-forgotten collection was discovered, and, joy of joys, was found to contain two penny black British stamps, two red imperforate Holland, and a blue Uruguay with a big "5" on it. It was no longer X'mas Eve, but the Icebergs were saved.

A. McT.

City of London Philatelic Society.

REPORT OF DECEMBER MEETING.

The approach of the Christmas holidays evidently had some bearing upon the poor attendance on the 13th inst. when only eighteen were present at the monthly meeting when Mr. L. Levy was elected as a member of the Society. Unfortunately I have also one re-

signation to record, viz., that of Mr. A. D. Manthos.

Messrs. J. A. Leon, E. R. Woodward, and J. L. Green were appointed to act as our delegates at the 1912 Congress at Margate, with Mr. T. G. Arnold as a reserve, in case any unforeseen circumstances should arise to prevent the attendance of any of the three already mentioned.

Amongst the novelties passed round at this meeting were eight different varieties of the A. 11 control on our current 1d. stamps shown by Mr. Higlett, who also sent round two of the most excellent copies I have ever seen of Gt. Britain 1d. black and 2d. blue, on entires.

The event of the evening was a display by Mr. A. Leon Adutt of his remarkable collection of Cayman Islands which has already been awarded three silver medals.

Before showing his stamps, Mr. Adutt made a few remarks upon the forthcoming Congress of 1912, to be held at Margate under the auspices of the Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society, of which Mr. Adutt is President. He pointed out that all the meetings would be open to philatelists in general, although of course only delegates would have the power of voting on any question, and an appeal was made to our members to turn up at the Congress in strong force.

Reverting to the "Caymans" Mr. Adutt now exhibited what proved to be a most marvellous instance of what could be accomplished in the way of specialising comparatively recent issues, for sheet after sheet of stamps was passed round among the good things of which were the following:—Proofs of the Queen's head type with the name and value hand-painted instead of printed, colour trials of the single C.A. issue, and the only two complete panes known of the ½d. on 5s., and the 1d. on 5s., the former showing one stamp which had escaped the surcharge but the adjoining stamp bore a double surcharge! There was also shown a strip of three ½d. on 5s., the first stamp being normal, the second unsurcharged, and the third again normal.

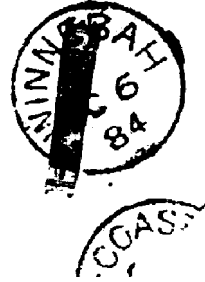
Replying to a vote of thanks, Mr. Adutt made a very spirited defence of the stamps of Cayman Islands, and pointed out there were only four provisionals, which was not so outrageous when compared with the records of some of the other British Colonies.

A. C. CONSTANTINIDES, *Hon. Sec.*

Owing to pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over reviews of the Yvert and Tellier 1912 catalogue; an interesting little catalogue of Greek stamps published by Monsieur Nicolaidis, of Paris, and other matter.

Gold Coast Split Provisionals

WE illustrate three of these curious provisionals, one of which has, we believe, never been chronicled before. This is one-sixth of the 6d. used as 1d.! As will be seen, it bears



the postmark of Winnebah, October 6th, 1884. The post office at this small and unimportant place was evidently kept very short of penny stamps, as a large proportion of the split provisionals were used there.

The quarter of the 4d. postmarked Nov. (date illegible) was illustrated in Mr. Pemberton's article on Gold Coast in this



Journal for Feb. 1907, and was accompanied by a list of the provisionals then known. Since then we have seen the similar variety dated Jan. (? 85) which we now illustrate, and



another used at the same place on Jan. 13, '86. We have also had through our hands one and a half of the 2d. green, used on piece (as 3d.) obliterated with the heavy oval postmark, in which all the inscriptions appear in relief. The name of the town is indistinct but appears to be Addah. Also half a 2d. green cut vertically for use as 1d., postmarked "SE" (probably Secondee) Sp 9th, '84.

In conclusion, we have seen quarter of the 4d. used at APPAM, in '84.

It is extremely probable that these cut stamps were only affixed by the postmasters, otherwise there could have been no check on the fraudulent use of portions of stamps which had already been through the post.

In the World of Stamps.

PAUL KOHL, of Chemnitz, the well-known publisher of the Kohl catalogue, has just issued a catalogue of Chinese stamps. His little price list, although in German, will be found of use to English collectors, as varieties not listed by Gibbons are given.

The Editor of the *Colonial Office Journal* has very kindly sent us the following letter, which was received by him:—

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS PROTECTORATES.
Resident Commissioner's Office,
Ocean Island.
13th September, 1911.

Sir,—I shall be greatly obliged if you will make it known that we have no stamps of the first issue (Fijian surcharged) for sale to collectors, only a few of the higher values remaining on hand, and they are required for postal purposes.

I have, &c.,

(sd) JNO. QUAYLE DICKSON.
Resident Commissioner.

The Editor, *Colonial Office Journal*.

We have received from Messrs. J. M. Bartels Co., 99, Nassau Street, New York, two little pamphlets entitled respectively "The Proofs and Essays for U.S. Envelopes" and "The Retouched 2 Cent Envelope Dies of the Series of 1903," both being reprinted from the *Philatelic Gazette*. The respective authors, Messrs. Edward H. Mason and Louis G. Barrett, are both authorities on postal stationery, so their little brochures should have a wide circulation.

Mr. Ernest Zumstein, the well known dealer of Berne, has sent us a copy of his new 1912 catalogue of European stamps. This is a useful little priced list of the standard stamps of Europe, and, although priced in French money, will be found of use to collectors in this country. The prices mostly seem reasonable, while the later issues of Switzerland are quoted for in blocks of four.

Mr. Victor Marsh, a dealer in philatelic literature, has issued a handy little price list of books and papers which he has for disposal. This list, a most comprehensive one, is printed on a deckle edge laid paper, with a plate of twenty collotype illustrations, and is interleaved with plain wove paper for the purpose of notes. The price of this little book is, we

believe, 2s. 6d., but a cheaper edition on blue wove paper is supplied by Mr. Marsh, gratis.

* * *

SOME PRICES REALIZED AT THE OCT. 28TH AUCTION SALE OF EUGENE KLEIN, INC.

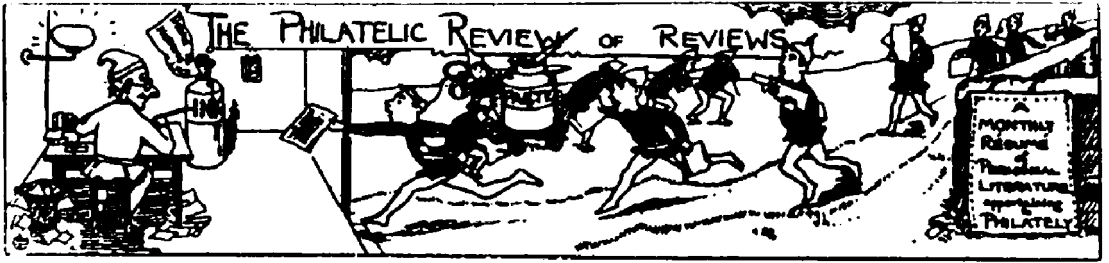
	Dollars.
U.S., Providence, complete mint sheet..	55.00
1851, 24c. " " " " " " " " " " " "	101.00
1867, 3c. grilled all over, imperforate block of four " " " " " " " " " " " "	101.00
1867, grilled 9 x 13mm., 9oc. blue, mint " " " " " " " " " " " "	41.00
1869, 3oc. without grill, mint " " " " " " " " " " " "	28.50
1873, 3oc. on double paper " " " " " " " " " " " "	132.00
1875, 5c. with grill covering half of the stamp, mint " " " " " " " " " " " "	56.00
1890, 1c. 9oc., set in imperforate pairs, mint..	191.00
1909, bluish experimental paper, 4c., mint " " " " " " " " " " " "	101.00
" "	8c. " " " " " " " " " " " "
" "	13c. " " " " " " " " " " " "
Revenue, Second Issue, \$500 " " " " " " " " " " " "	150.00

A new Stamp Club has been formed in Norwich under the title of "Norfolk and Norwich Philatelic Association." A good number of members in the district have already joined and an Exchange section has been started. Arthur W. Goose (Hon. Sec.), 19, Rampant Horse Street, Norwich, will forward rules on application.

Publishers' Note.

THIS number of the *P. J. G. B.* is our twenty-first Christmas number, and we hope our subscribers will find it up to the standard aimed at in previous years. We hope our readers will accept our best wishes for a Bright and Happy Christmas, with the usual good wishes for a prosperous New Year. Occasionally we receive complaints—it is an Englishman's privilege to grumble. We are always pleased to hear from our subscribers who have suggestions to make. Sometimes we are blamed for the late arrival of the *P. J. G. B.* This, however, is a matter which rests with those of our readers who order their copies through a dilatory newsagent. Thanks to our Editor, who has a great opinion of the virtue of punctuality, and to Messrs. Pardy & Son, our printers, who have an extensive and up-to-date printing plant, we have been able to post, for several years now, our subscribers' copies to reach them on the evening of the 19th or the morning of the 20th.





DECEMBER 20, 1911.

Philately at Home.

The November number of the *Monthly Journal* contains the usual number of very excellent contributions for which our leading contemporary is always famous. The most interesting article is perhaps one entitled, "Mexico: 'Porte de Mar' stamps 1875-79," being the translation from the German of Mr. C. Regelsperger. With this article we find some lengthy notes contributed by Mr. S. Chapman, who is, as doubtless our readers are aware, a well-known authority on Mexican stamps. The following short extract from Mr. Regelsperger's paper will be found of interest:—

The printing of the name of the district on the "Porte de Mar" stamps was not ordered, as they were not delivered to the public, but were used exclusively on the counters of the post offices, where they were affixed to the correspondence, and thus all injury to the Post Office by forgeries was avoided. The custom of overprinting the name of the district was, however, so ingrained in the minds of the officials, that these stamps are known overprinted with a whole list of district names, though such stamps are scarce. Schell and Anheisser quote the following:—

Apam (in blue).	Tula.
Chiapas (in blue).	Tula de T.
Guadalajara.	Veracruz.
Saltillo.	Zacatecas.
Tacubaya.	Zamora.
Tampico.	

I have to add to this list the overprint "Tehuacan."

No order also seems to have been given for the cancellation of these stamps with a postmark, for used copies with Mexican cancellations are rare. One more often finds them with an arrival obliteration, of London in red, or of Paris in black, or sometimes with both together.

Another article dealing with American stamps—this time from the Southern Continent—is Mr. S. G. Barnett's first instalment of his paper entitled "Stamps of Chili Used in Peru." This gentleman writes in an entertaining manner. Doubtless the majority of our readers will remember the article he contributed to the *P.J.G.B.* a year or so ago, dealing with the Stamps of Chili used in Bolivia.

The following extract, will we hope induce many of our readers to read Mr. Barnett's article *in extenso*.

The stamps we are considering may best be divided into three grades of importance:—First and most important of all, those used in Lima and other towns which remained Peruvian after the war. Secondly, those used in the Provinces of Arica and Tacna, the nationality of which, even now, is not definitely fixed; and thirdly, those used in the Province of Tarapaca, a territory ceded to Chili under the peace treaty. The towns under the first heading are Lima, Callao, Mollendo, Yca (or Ica), Paíta, Pisco, Eten, Salaverry, and Trujillo (or Truxillo). Under the second, Arica and Tacna; while the third boasts of Iquique and Pisagua.

It is clear that, for the towns in the first class, the date of the postmark is practically immaterial: any Chilean stamps used in these towns are equally of interest, since the towns were, and are still, Peruvian. On those used in the places mentioned in the second division the date is important, and should be before 1884, though stamps used in these towns after this date are sometimes not altogether without interest. Those used in the towns given in the third list must bear postmarks dated prior to October 23rd, 1883, the date of the Treaty of Ancon, though perhaps one might claim that the period should be extended to the date of the Congress which ratified this treaty, April, 1884. Legally I suppose the latter date is correct, but it is better to adopt the earlier one, to avoid all question.

Other leading features of our Strand contemporary are Mr. Stanley Phillips' "Harrison' and 'Somerset House' Prints up to date," and Mr. F. J. Melville's contribution of his monumental article entitled "Postage Stamps in the Making." We also find a short contribution dealing with the ½d. stamp of Papua (S.G. Type 7), and the usual goodly budget of Topical Notes, New Issues, Reviews, Correspondence, etc.

The Editorial of the *London Philatelist* for November deals with the question of the description of stamps at English auctions. Beyond expressing the hope that the pressure of public opinion will ensure a better result in the future and that the topic is one which should be brought up at future Congresses, Mr.

Castle does not help his readers to the solution of a problem which needs a good deal of attention. Captain Napier, continuing to write about the stamps of Brazil, describes an interesting variety of the 100 reis bi-coloured stamp of 1891, and gives a long synopsis of the issues of 1882 to 1892.

We also find a goodly instalment of Mr. S. Chapman's interesting article dealing with the early postal regulations of Mexico.

"Occasional Notes," "Reviews," "New Issues," etc. together with a list of auction prices and some Societies' Reports make up a good number of our contemporary. From the report of the last meeting of the Royal Society we glean the following details relating to some of the stamps in Baron Leijonhufvuds' collection of Swedish stamps.

The collection is particularly complete, containing copies both used and unused of all the values and shades and varieties in every issue, including the imperforate varieties, errors, proofs, essays, and reprints, only a very few errors being missing, such as the 3 skilling-banco in yellow of the first issue, and the 5 öre (King's Head) of 1891 printed in brown instead of green, only one copy of which is known to exist in private hands.

Being so complete, it is not necessary to describe the collection in detail, but it is extremely strong in the rarities in unused condition, and noticeably so in the first (skilling-banco) issue, amongst which may be mentioned, in addition to large numbers of the 3, 6, 8 and 24 sk. stamps, a block of the 4 sk. in the rare pale grey shade; two out of the three known copies of the 12 öre of 1858 printed on both sides, and similar varieties in other issues; half a page of the 17 öre of the 1866 issue in grey; no less than nine copies of the rare "TRETIO" error, of which four are unused; the only known copy, unused, of the 1874 Official provisional blue stamp; and inverted overprints of the Official provisional stamps, including the exceedingly rare one in yellow.

We look forward to the pleasure of perusing Baron Leijonhufvuds' paper which accompanied his display of stamps.

The November number of the *Philatelic Record* contains the first instalment of what promises to be a masterly article contributed by Mr. John N. Luff and entitled "Otto's Printings of the Transvaal Stamps."

Mr. Luff has closely studied, for very many years, these intricate stamps; collectors who are interested in this country will find his contribution of especial value.

Our contemporary also contains instalments of "The Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905" and Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Belgian Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century." The former article is merely a synopsis but, as it gives the dates

of issue of the stamps, when the various shades were issued, the quantities printed, also destroyed, it is of very great value for reference purposes. Furthermore each type of stamp is illustrated, making, except for the lack of prices, an admirable catalogue.

We also find the usual readable features, namely, "Notes and News," "Correspondence," "Bibliography," etc. Under the first heading we find a capital report of the 311th meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society, when Mr. R. B. Yardley read a paper and displayed his collection of Tasmanian stamps. The following extract will interest our readers:—

Mr. Yardley stated that the stamps of the first issue of Tasmania (or Van Diemen's Land) in 1853, were printed from hand engraved copper plates, but in 1855 three steel plates, each containing 240 impressions, were prepared by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., of London, and sent out to the Colony with a supply of stamps on paper watermarked with a large star.

From September, 1863, postage stamps were authorized to be used for fiscal purposes, which accounts for the large number of pen-cancelled stamps. Several of the early postal issues were pen-cancelled, but the number is comparatively small. The large number of pen-marked stamps with the consequent number of chemically cleaned specimens, has created a prejudice against these stamps, but is partly compensated for by furnishing a large number of fiscal obliterations which have been of great value in determining the shades of the several printings.

Of the 1st issue, in November, 1853, Mr. Yardley showed the 1d. and 4d., fine unused, strips of 1d. value, used, and almost reconstructed plates of the 4d., in Plates I. and II., with a variety of shades and impressions. The 4d. on laid paper was shown by a specimen cut to shape. (The variety catalogued as ribbed paper was, in Mr. Yardley's opinion, due to the paper receiving an impression from the texture of the blanket used on the hot cylinder during printing). The well-known Jeffries forgery of the 4d. stamp was also shown.

Of the second issue in 1855, printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., imperforate on large Star paper, a fine mint pair of the 1d. value, two of the 2d., one of which was mint, two copies of the London print 6d. watermarked with double-lined numeral 6 unused, and a pair. Local printings from Perkins, Bacon's plates, no watermark, and imperforate 2d. and 4d. unused, and 1d. on pelure paper, a mint strip of three. The 1857-70 issue, imperforate, and watermarked with a double-lined numeral, printed by H. and C. Best, of Hobart: 2d. emerald-green, mint (same shade as the unwatermarked stamp), extremely rare in this condition. Also the blue-green and dark yellow-green, three unused specimens. Early shades of the 4d. unused.

The Government printings of all values, 1861-1880, well represented in unused condition, imperforate, perforated by Walch & Sons, 10 and 11½, 12, and by Harris 12½, 13. Also unused, the 1d. and 4d. perforated, with compound of 10 and 11½, 12 (the latter being exceedingly rare). A hitherto unrecorded variety of the 4d. was shown, being printed on both sides. Very fine specimens of the 6d. in slate-blue and red-lilac imperforate, also the same stamps perforated 10½, 11½, 12 and 12½, 13. A special collection of the semi-official perforations which included regular, pin-perfed, cross-cut, oblique, rouletted, and guillotined, was arranged according to date of postmarks.

A hitherto unrecorded specimen of the 6d. serrated 19 was shown, and Mr. Yardley mentioned that the 1s. value existed, but was not represented in his collection.

We congratulate the Manchester Society on their good fortune in having Mr. Yardley's paper and display and our contemporary for publishing such a capital report.

The November No. of the *Stamp Collector* contains, besides an illustrated interview with Mr. Victor F. James, some capital editorial and other notes, an instalment of Mr. C. H. T. Hayman's article dealing with the 1853-1883 stamps of Chili. We also find Mr. A. P. Walker's paper entitled, "Stamps of the Italian States," some good criticisms of the new Part I. Gibbons' catalogue, and an account of some of the desirable items in Mr. Reichenheim's collection of French stamps. These treasures were recently displayed before the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. The following are but a few of the rarities in this superb collection.

Among the many gems in the collection the following may be mentioned:—Tête-bêche pairs, mostly unused, of 1849, 1fr. carmine; 1850, 25c. value (three specimens in different shades), and 10c. bistre; 1853, 1fr. carmine (in unused condition one of the rarest tête-bêche stamps in existence); 1853, 80c. carmine (two specimens); 1860, 80c. rose; 1862, 20c. blue (several specimens in different shades), and 80c. rose; 1863, 4c. grey (two copies), and all of the 1870-5 issues (most of them in various shades). Three unused specimens, and a used pair, of 1849, 1fr. orange-red; three unused specimens of 1fr. brown-orange, one of them showing Ceres with a beard; three single specimens, and a block of four, 1850, 15c. green, unused; 1855, 20c. blue on green and on greenish paper; two unused specimens of 20c. Bordeaux, Type I., and an unused pair of 1875, 10c. and 15c. (error), *se tenant*; also an unused pair of 1880, 1c. black on indigo. The very few used copies include a strip of 40c., 1849, shewing the two retouched 4's *se tenant* (being the sixth and seventh stamps of the last row); a copy of 1876, 25c. blue on greenish paper, on original letter (only one other specimen being known—in the La Renotière collection); a vertical strip of three, and a horizontal pair, of 25c. blue, showing both types *se tenant*. The collection also contains a copy of the so-called official forgery of the 20c. blue, 1862, of which only half a sheet were printed in the presence of Napoleon III., for the purpose of showing the possibility of making forgeries; a copy of the forgery of the 20c. Bordeaux, used in Marseilles; a copy of the Chalons forgery of the 15c. blue, etc. Of the "not issued" stamps, a pair of 1849, 1fr., in the "Vervelle" shade; 1850, 20c. blue, 1st print; and 1876, 20c., Type I., Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, deserve mention.

The November number of the *World of Stamps* contains many articles, and paragraphs, likely to prove of interest to beginners and general collectors.

Mr. H. G. Smith contributes some notes re Perforations. Mr. Ellis Gee, under the heading, "New Dies for Old" writes in-

structively on how to distinguish between Dies I. and II. of the line engraved penny English Stamps, also the plates of the 2d. value. As this article is admirably illustrated, junior readers will doubtless find it very useful. A long article, entitled "The Victoria Jubilee," contributed by Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun., which deals with the various stamps issued to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the late Queen Victoria's accession to the throne; a long list of New Issues, and some odds and ends, all help to make up a very good number of our new exchange.

The December number of the *Philatelic Circular* contains a lengthy, and interesting instalment of Mr. A. H. Harris' "Mails Abroad." He deals with the mails in China, Siam, and the methods employed by Indian Native postmen. A page of "Market Notes" mostly dealing with the prices in the new Gibbons catalogue, and other readable features make up a good number of the official organ of the Modern Collectors Club. Mr. W. B. Edwards in his "Market Notes" makes the following statement:—

Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I, will be a great disappointment to those of our readers who for good and sufficient reason take an interest in the monetary side of philately. The considerable rise expected in many modern stamps has not taken place, *if we accept this catalogue as a guide*, but it is to be feared that the firm has paid little attention to the real market value of recent issues, and there are many stamps which I do not believe for a single instant can be supplied at the quoted figures. It is true that in the Introduction Messrs. Gibbons say the prices are fixed when the countries are written up, "often some months before the catalogue is published," but surely this statement can only mean that the publication is not a price-list, though most of us have hitherto accepted it as such. Of course collectors have no right to dictate to dealers in the matter of prices, but they have some reason to complain when an undue proportion of their order is marked "out of stock," and I know for a fact that enquiry for certain things immediately after publication of the catalogue proved abortive.

The November number of the *West-End Philatelist* contains some editorial, and other notes, and a short article entitled "King Edward the VII. Land." Mr. Séfi gives a brief *resumé* of Sir Ernest Shackleton's expedition, illustrates two letters relating to stamps, and gives other information concerning them.

The November 11th and 25th editions of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* both contain a good deal of readable matter. Mr. Robert Borland in the earlier number is the "Philatelist of To-Day," followed, a fortnight later, by Rev. L. G. Dorpat,

a well-known American philatelic writer; Mr. A. B. Creek, Junr., contributes an article entitled "The Truth about 'Harrison' printings." We also find a paper entitled "The Printing of the King George Penny Stamp" which has been written by Captain C. P. Rogers. Both of these will be found of interest to collectors, especially those who specialize in the stamps of our own country. Both numbers contain illustrated instalments of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "The Postage Stamps of the New Hebrides Condominium," together with admirable lists of "New Issues and Varieties." The Nov. 25th copy also contains one of Mr. F. W. Edwards' articles dealing with locals—this time he writes about the locals of Manchester; a column of Mr. Irwin Faris' readable New Zealand Notes, and a capital review, contributed by a dealer, of the new Colonial edition of Gibbons' catalogue.

The following list of New Zealand varieties is culled from Mr. Faris' contribution.

I have recently obtained a pair of 4d. grey "English print" pictorial, with full transfer at back. I also hold same in 4d. green pictorial, 2/- English print pictorial and partial transfers in 1d. (two colours), 4d. (two colours), and 1d. "Universal."

"COMPOUNDS."

It has been generally believed that Nos. 30rd to 30zc (S.G. & Co.'s catalogue) were merely single specimens from "mixed" blocks. I have, however, secured large blocks of genuine compounds of 11 and 14 perfs. in the 2d. and 6d.

"IMPERF. BETWEEN."

I have obtained a block of 2d. pictorial Cowan, watermarked, imperf. horizontally.

"PERFORATIONS."

There has been no alteration. The perfs. remaining as before, viz.:-

4d. and 1d.—14×15 comb.

2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 5d., 8d., and 1/-.—14×14½ to 14½ comb.

3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-.—14 single lines.

2½d., 9d., 2/-, 5/-.—"14 rough"—rotary machine (now discarded).

2/6, 3/-, etc., fiscals—14×14½ comb.

Several very distinct shades occur in the 2d., 3d., 5d., and 6d.

"OFFICIALS."

The following King's Heads (various perfs. as above) have appeared:-

4d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-. I have not yet seen the 2d. nor 1/-, but have the information from fairly reliable source.

The 1d. afford variations in form of "Broken O" in "One penny," "Broken F.F." in overprint, and "Broken L" in overprint.

There have been no issues of 2½d., 5d., 8d., 9d., nor of any value beyond 1/- excepting the 2/-, 5/-, and 20/- pictorial rough 14.

LAI D PAPER.

The 1d. blue Insurance, perf. 11, exists on laid paper. I hold a pair of such.

The December number of the *Stamp Lover* is entirely devoted to J.P.S. notices and many reviews, lengthy and otherwise, of recently published philatelic handbooks. Lover's of literature will find the current number of our contemporary a mine of wealth.

Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The November number of the *South African Philatelist* contains a goodly assortment of readable articles. Any of our subscribers in South Africa, who have not already seen a copy of their own paper should write to Box, 4967, Johannesburg. Amongst other interesting contributions we find a budget of Notes from Rhodesia, a capital editorial, a paper entitled, "A South African Postal Museum," several columns of "Jottings," a lengthy article "Collectors and Collecting." From the page devoted to "Correspondence" we glean the following information relating to the so called "error" on the 4d. King's Head O.R.C. Stamp. Mr. Vallentine writes as follows:-

The error occurs in the bottom row, second stamp left-hand corner, on the top left-hand pane—once, that is, in 240 stamps—on multiple C.A. paper. It is undoubtedly a second printing as the colour is rather brighter than the first lot of stamps issued on multiple C.A.

Its discovery does not lie with any South African philatelist (more's the pity). Kohl's 1912 catalogue, published in Germany in August last, catalogues the error, and acknowledges that the *Nederlandsche Tydschrift* of 1910 mentions it. Had the error occurred in the original issue of the stamp in 1905-7, I feel sure that something would have been known long before now.

As to the stamp, I have seen some 40 or 50 copies, and as the error is not identical in all I am of opinion that it is not a true error, the substitution, that is, of I for P, but due to something that has inadvertently got on to the printing plate and covered up the part of the letter. I have several reasons for thinking this. In some stamps a slight bulge in the stem of the I is visible, just where the sound part of the P should meet the upright stem. On other copies through a good glass one can see specks of white showing through the round part of what should be the P. But my principal reason for believing that this is not a true error of lettering is the distance of I from O. If this were a true I it should be much closer to the O than it is.

Considering that all the stamps on sheet must come from the same original die, Mr. Vallentine's protestations are redundant.

The *Philadelphia Stamp News* a little weekly paper published by Mr. Percy M. G. Mann, of Philadelphia, is now the official organ of the American Philatelic Society. In the number dated November

11th, we find an article contributed by Mr. Mann which is entitled "Perforations and Paper Varieties of the Roumanian Postage Stamps, 1908-1911."

A goodly number of reviews "Notes," etc., fill the pages of our contemporary. Being near Christmas the following extract will probably be appreciated by our readers:—

SANTA CLAUS DOES EXIST.

Washington, Nov. 2.—Postmaster General Hitchcock has never supervised the hanging up of his children's stockings on the night before Christmas. He is a bachelor. Some persons went so far even as to say he did not believe in Santa Claus. President Taft could not credit that a member of his Cabinet should harbor such views. Secretary Knox declared that such ignorance in the head of one of the Federal executive departments was appalling. Attorney-General Wickersham threatened a suit to disabuse an idea so repugnant to the welfare of Juvenile America. Hence, Hitchcock pondered, with the result that he rescinded an order issued recently by which all of Santa Claus's mail was to be sent to the dead letter office.

Santa's mail was officially declared not fictitious. Postmasters were instructed to deliver all his letters to his agents at charitable institutions, or to reputable persons known to represent him.

The October number of the *Australian Stamp Journal* is almost entirely devoted to a very full account of the recently held Australasian Congress. We find reports of the meetings, together with well written accounts of the various outings. This number of our contemporary is illustrated by the aid of two plate photographs, one showing a group of delegates and well-known stamp men, and the other a view of the opening ceremony in the King's Hall.

We congratulate the publishers of the *Australian Stamp Journal* on their enterprise.

The October number of our bright little American exchange *Everybody's Philatelist*, contains among other articles, one contributed by General C. A. Coolidge, entitled "Stamp Margins." The writer points out the value of having mint stamps with part of the marginal paper attached. The following short extract is of interest:—

What an almost priceless treasure it would be to possess the complete set of stamps from 1870 to 1883 with the imprints of the National, Continental and American Bank Note Companies attached to each block with the plate numbers and letters. It is only from stamps in this condition that investigating philatelists can be assured of or learn the distinguishing features that indicate the difference between stamps of those issues.

Even the great Worthington collection contains only eight plate numbers of the general issues of those bank note companies; with only 17 plate numbers on the official stamps of those three firms.

The October number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains, besides the usual

goodly complement of readable features, two very excellent articles. The first of these, is entitled "A Collection of West Australians" and we find that it takes the form of a well written description of the stamps in Mr. H. L. White's collection. So many items of interest, and so many gems, evidently repose in Mr. White's albums that to read about them is the next best thing to viewing them.

The following extract will make many of our readers, as it does us, wish that we could but have a sight of Mr. White's stamps:—

The first issue (1st August, 1854) is preceded by magnificent proofs in black of the 1d. in a block of four, and similar blocks, of the 2d., 4d. and 6d. all taken from the 1d. die. First issue—the 1d. black, engraved by Perkins, Bacon, & Co.—is shown in a block of four, a pair and several single specimens unused, and the same used. The next issue, the locally lithographed set, includes a proof of the 4d. in black, some magnificent copies of the issue of this value in slate-blue, and three varieties showing mistakes in transfer of the same shade, all unused, and many used. Then comes a number of unused blocks of the other blue shades, from four to sixteen in each block, and others showing the irregular wearing of the plate and mistakes in transfer, and blocks of used. The "bonne bouche" of this issue, and also of the whole collection, is the extremely rare variety of the 4d., with centre inverted, the copy being a nice used one. Another rarity is a copy showing the word "Australia" in half the normal size, this being due to a crease in the transfer paper. The next pages show a plan of each of the four plates of the 4d. inserted for the purpose of showing the positions of the transfer varieties, one or more copies of each known variety being in the possession of Mr. White. The plates contain some fine blocks, notably one of 17, and another of 12 stamps.

The "One Shilling" oval is shown in many shades, including the very rare red-brown and two copies of the rarer dark-brown, not catalogued in Gibbons. The unused specimens of this value are in splendid condition, and the used ones are "mint." One cannot help lingering over the blocks and at the value they represent. A page has on it two originals, showing the above values on each in a fine condition. The date stamp shows 21/5/55 and 4/5/55 respectively written in ink in the centre. The roulettes of this issue, all of them more or less rare, include some magnificent specimens of each value unused and used, including a vertical strip of five on part of an original, and pairs showing part of the stamp rouletted, and part imperforated.

The other contribution referred to, is the first instalment of Mr. Walter A. Hull's "Principal Minor Varieties of Australian Postage Stamps." This is illustrated by the aid of a plate showing many blocks, from a study of which, aided by the letter-press, collectors will be able to add some new varieties to their collections of Queensland stamps.

The November number of the *Philatelic Journal of America* is principally devoted to the conclusion of Mr. W. H. B. Poole's capital article dealing with the stamps

of Tonga, and the Rev. L. G. Dorpat's translation of an article published in a German paper and entitled "Seebecks."

Mr. Poole writes about the current stamps of Tonga and the "Official" issues. Concerning varieties of pictorial stamps he says:—

This issue also provides three interesting errors one being the rarest Tongan stamp with the single exception of the 1d. ultramarine of 1893 with surcharge omitted. This error is the 7½d. with centre inverted a superb block of four of which we are able to illustrate. This error was discovered in 1900 when on March 29th, Mr. W. Lieber, a resident of Tonga, wrote to Mr. Hagen, the well known Australian stamp dealer, as follows:—

"A few days ago a find was made here, by the local postmaster, of a genuine error. This is no less than the 7½d. stamp, current issue, with head of the King reversed. Only one sheet, i.e., 60 stamps, has been found, and it is astonishing how that could have been missed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. (the printers), considering that these stamps have been checked by eleven different persons, whose signatures are on each package of stamps. This error, has, of course, occurred through one sheet of the 7½d. stamps, after the green border had been printed, having been put in upside down to print in the black centre piece. The top of the head sometimes touches the figures 7½d. on the tablet at the bottom of the stamp. As I could only obtain one specimen of this stamp, I am unable to send you a copy of same.

On each sheet of the 2½d. one stamp has the fraction bar of the ½d. omitted. This was evidently caused by the plate having sustained a slight damage. Although we have seen numerous blocks containing this error, we have been unable to ascertain its position on the sheet nor can we find any record in the philatelic journals as to when it was first noted.

The third error, and one not generally known, occurs on the 1s. In this the second hyphen of the inscription SILINI-E TAHA is missing. With regard to this, also, we have been unable to ascertain its position on the sheet.

The November number of the *Stamp Journal* contains some readable notes and paragraphs. Mr. D. B. Armstrong, well known to readers in this country, is responsible for several pages. From his "Story of the Month" we extract the following, which will interest those of our readers who are ever on the look out for scarce obliterations.

AUSTRIAN P.O. IN CHINA.

It is by no means generally known that Austria is among the great Powers who maintain postal agencies in China, but since 1910 an Austrian military postal station has been in existence in Peking dealing with the correspondence of the 200 marines forming the Legation Guard and of the Legation itself. The stamps employed by this office to date comprise the 5, 10 and 25 heller values of the Austrian Jubilee series of 1908, and the 5 and 10 fillers of the 1905 (water-marked) issue of Hungary; and they are cancelled with a special postmark in the form of a large double-lined circle with a heavy outer rim inscribed around the circumference "K U K MARINE DETACHMENT—IN PEKIN," with the date in figures in one line across the diameter. Austrian stamps showing this cancellation are of considerable interest and scarcity, and collectors will be well advised to keep a sharp look out for any that may turn up from time to time.

Philately on the Continent.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of the 25th ult. informs us of a very shabby trick on the part of the German Postal Authorities. It is well known that the high value German stamps are chiefly used on parcel despatch notes and on money order forms. These forms used in the internal service are retained by the Post Office, and the stamps attached to them are periodically sold by auction. The forms which go out of the country generally fall into the hands of the addressees, and the stamps are disposed of by them. In future, in order to enhance the value of the stamps sold by auction, a hole is to be punched through all the high value stamps proceeding abroad, so as to render them valueless to the collector.

Similarly the Turkish Post Office has decreed that 25 and 50 piastre stamps leaving the country are to have a corner torn off. And the Austrian Post Office is credited with similar benevolent intentions. We are also informed that in Siam and Russia this abominable practice has obtained for some time past.

The *Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung* in its November number reports two most interesting discoveries, viz., a pair of the 1 piaster, Egypt, of 1872, imperforate and printed on both sides of the paper; and the 5c. brown, Switzerland, of 1881, on granite paper, in which an attempt has been made to correct the well known double impression of the 5. The correction on plain paper is well known, but it had not hitherto been discovered on granite paper.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie for November 15th contains an entertaining account of the auction of the Belgian remainders which recently took place in Brussels. This auction dispersed all the stamps of obsolete issues which remained in the Belgian post office—at least we must presume there are no others left. (It will be remembered that the remainders of the 5 francs, brown, were sold two or three years ago). The following is the list of the stamps, with the quantity of each, and the price per stamp realized (in francs and centimes).

1869-78.	1c. green	850	0.02
	2c. blue	850	0.03
	5c. bistre	850	0.14
	10c. green	850	0.13
	20c. blue	850	0.50
	25c. yellow	850	0.27
	40c. rose	850	1.20
	50c. grey	850	0.72
	1 fr. lilac	850	0.80
1883.	10c., imperf.	2,650	0.55
	20c. "	2,650	0.55
	25c. "	2,650	0.55
	50c. "	2,650	0.55
1884-91.	10c. rose on azure	350	0.06

1884-91.	20c. olive	350	0.11
	25c. blue on rose	6,950	0.07
	50c. bistre	10,050	0.07
	1 fr. brn. on grn.	4,250 (unused)	0.28
	1 fr. "	10,083 (used)	0.10
	2 fr. violet	10,050 (unused)	0.30
	2 fr. "	73 (used)	0.50
1893-00.	1 fr. carm. on grn.	10,600 (used)	0.22
	1 fr. orange	19,350 (used)	0.16
	2 fr. lilac on rose	31,100 (used)	0.33
	2 fr. vio. on white	94,800 (used)	0.27
1894.	5c., Antwerp	345,250	0.03
	10c. "	611,250	0.03
	25c. "	1,281,550	0.04
1896.	5c., Brussels	1,039,450	0.01
	10c. "	26,950	0.02
	10c. "	1,448,450	0.01
1905.	1 fr. yellow	12,650 (used)	0.13
	2 fr. violet	60,100 (used)	0.27
<i>Postage Dues.</i>			
1870.	10c. green	5,850	0.13
	20c. blue	5,850	0.18
1895-09.	10c. rose	4,950	0.09
	50c. bistre (unused)	4,950	0.28
	50c. " (used)	300	0.46
	50c. grey	900	0.13
	1 fr. rose (unused)	4,950	0.56
	1 fr. " (used)	600	0.75
	1 fr. orange	700	0.16

The most interesting lots were the stamps of 1883 imperf. Of these the 25 centimes is in a much paler blue than the ordinary perforated stamps, but the 10, 20 and 50c. are correct and will no doubt be offered as proofs or imperf. varieties.

Among the 1 fr. brown on green, we learn, were 300 imperf. copies, unused. These have already been divided among four great Belgian specialists who hold 75 each.

The same number of the *Echo* contains the first portion of a most interesting article entitled *Les Timbres de la Grèce*. This is reprinted from a pamphlet recently written and published by S. N. Nicolaïdes. We are reviewing this on another page and so no remarks are necessary here.

The following number of the same Journal contains an interesting article on the large Russian Levant 6 kop. of 1863-66, by M. Pierre Mahé, who classifies the stamps into three printings with two shades of each. The same number contains the conclusion of the article entitled *L'Islande et Sigurdsson* which we referred to in our last.

Le Timbre Poste for November contains an article taken from the *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung*, which claims to rehabilitate the Sierra Leone 6d. imperf. (first issue) and the 5/- on 1/- green fiscal postal. We think that the author hardly makes out his case. He seeks to establish the claim of the first-mentioned on the strength of some official correspondence which has only just come to light. It is stated that a letter was received in Sierra Leone, on Nov. 19th, 1859, from the London General Post Office, dated Oct. 18th, requesting specimens of the newly issued postage stamps. These were sent on Nov. 21st.

Stamps put on letters from Sierra Leone were never obliterated prior to February, 1860, when, attention having been drawn to the fact by the British Government, by a letter dated Jan. 23rd 1860, an obliterating stamp was procured on Feb. 20th, 1860. Now this is all very interesting but it is extremely unlikely that the authorities in London would have written to Sierra Leone for specimens of the alleged new stamp seeing that they could easily have been procured from De La Rue & Co. The stamps that were in use in 1859 and the early part of 1860 were most probably English stamps, which at that period were supplied by the British Post Office to several of the Crown Colonies which had not yet made any definitive issues. We know that the obliteration "B 31" was allotted to Free Town by the British Post Office as one of the Colonies which used British stamps. This discovery of official correspondence only explains why we have never seen the English stamps with this obliteration. Letters from Sierra Leone bearing these stamps were obliterated in pen and ink on arrival at Liverpool. The fact that Free Town did not possess an obliterator accounts for this very clearly. The date given in the Royal Society's Africa, Part III., for the first issue of the 6d. is 1860, and we see no reason as yet why this date should not stand.

Mr. Henniker Heaton.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, so closely associated with Postage Reform is about to return to Australia. The following brief biography, from the columns of the *Daily Telegraph*, is of interest:

Mr. John Henniker Heaton was educated at Kent House School and King's College, London, and at the age of 16 went to make his fortune in the Antipodes. Like so many other successful men, he started his adult career on the journalistic ladder, and, after contributing to a prosperous Sydney newspaper, he married the editor's daughter. He also wrote a history of the Australian aborigines, and a Standard Australian Dictionary of Dates and Men of the Time. In 1853 he was chosen to represent the Government of New South Wales at the Amsterdam Exhibition, and in 1886 officiated as Commissioner of the same State at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. His first important achievement in postal matters was at the Berlin International Cable Conference in 1885, where, as representative of the Tasmanian Government, he secured large reductions in the cost of telegraphic messages to Australia. In the same year, having returned to England, he was elected, in the Conservative interest, member for Canterbury, in which position he has, to use a metaphor appropriate to a man of Kent, "carried out his bat."

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AND

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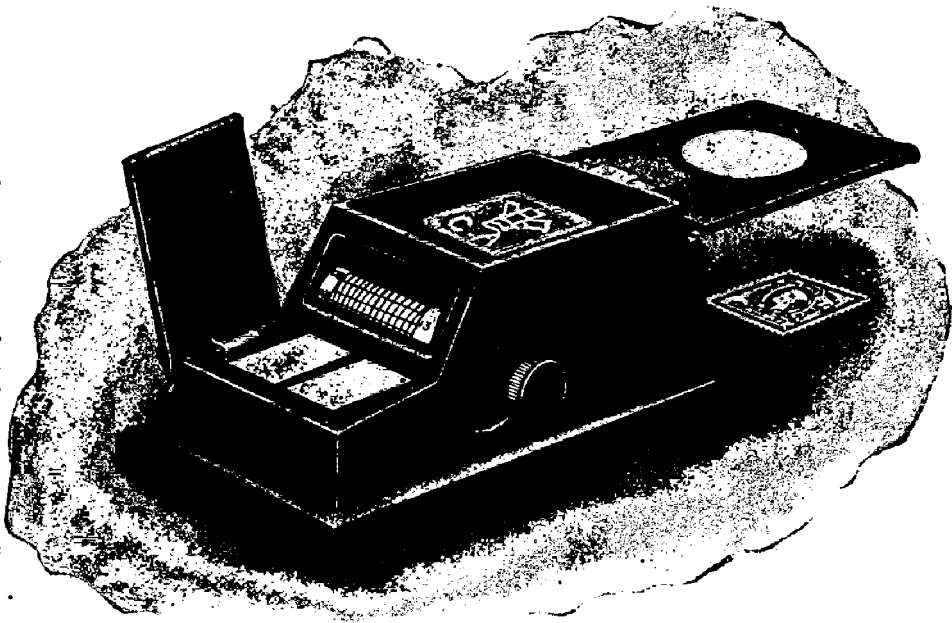
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Special Bargains. Post Free. Cash with Order.

South Nigeria, 1904, 1/-, postally used	...	1	0
" " " " 1909, 1/-	...	0	9
Mauritius, 1900, 4c. on 16c., mint	...	0	8
Br. S. Africa, 1891, £10, fiscally used	...	2	6
" " " " £2	...	3	6
" " " " 1896, 5/-	...	0	6
" " " " 1901, £5	...	3	6
" " " " £20	...	10	0
Trinidad, 1896, 5d., mint	...	2	6
Br. Guiana, 1882, 1 cent, brig. used	...	3	0
" " " " ship	...	3	0
Mauritius, Express, 15c. on 15c., rare type, Gibbons' No. 202, mint	...	3	0
Ditto, ditto, used	...	4	0
Leeward Is., 1897, Jubilee, 2½d., mint	...	1	6
" " " " 4d.	...	4	0
India, 1895, 5 rupees, used	...	2	6
" " " " 1854, ½a., fine used	...	0	6
" " " " 1a.	...	2	0
" " " " 2a.	...	2	6
" " " " 4a.	...	7	6

Every Stamp guaranteed genuine and in perfect condition.

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**SIERRA LEONE,
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BRITISH LEVANT,
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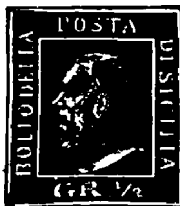
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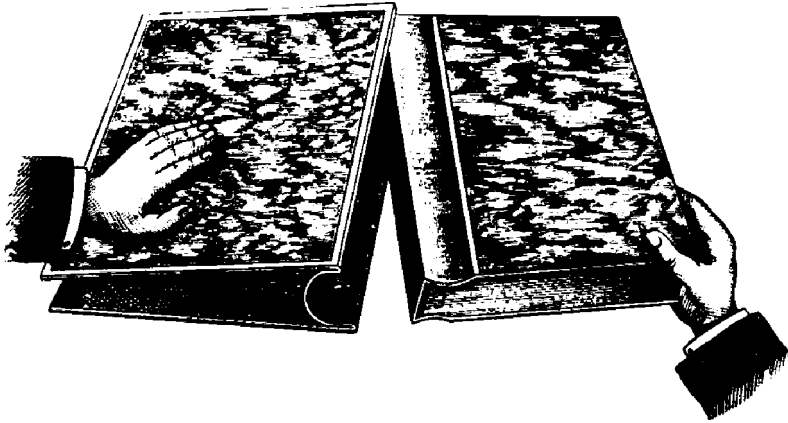
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- .. 1906, Levant, 1pi. on 2d., used on piece £10/10/-
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- .. 1892, 4d. on 4d. double surcharge in red and black used ... £9
- B.C.A., 1895, £10, used ... £7/10/-
- Cape, Woodblock, 1d. blue, error, a nice clean copy, but small margins £50
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- .. 4d. blue, retouched corner ... £15
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Next Sales—

Jan. 25th, 30th; Feb. 2nd, 13th, 16th.

Special Sales of Wholesale Lots received direct from the States will be held **Jan. 25th**, commencing **2.30 p.m.**

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	Un. Used.		Un. Used.
1869, 3c. ...	4/0 1/0	1895, 2c. ...	5d 6d.
1871, 3c. ...	3d. 5d.	.. 4c. ...	6d. 8d.
1875, 2c. ...	6d. 6d.	.. 6c. ...	8d. 1/0
.. 4c. ...	6d. 8d.	.. 8c. ...	10d. 1/0
.. 6c. ...	6d. 8d.	.. 2c. (perf. 12½)	1/6 2/6
.. 8c. ...	9d. 9d.	1897, 16c. ...	2/0 2/0
.. 12c. ...	1/0 1/3	.. 32c. ...	3/0 4/0
.. 12c. on laid	— 7/6	.. 50c. ...	3/0 6/0
1888-93, 1c. ...	2d. 2d.	.. \$1 ...	6/0 6/0
.. 2c. ...	3d. 3d.	1899, 2c. on 3c.	3d. 3d.
.. 3c. ...	3d. 3d.	.. 2c. on 12c.	6d. 6d.
.. 4c. ...	1/6 1/6	.. (on laid) 6/0	6/0 6/0
.. 5c. ...	6d. 5d.	.. 4c. on 6c. ...	1/9 2/0
.. 6c. ...	1/6 1/6	.. 4c. on 8c. ...	1/3 1/3
.. 8c. ...	8d. 8d.	1899-1908, 1c. ...	1d. 1d.
.. 10c. ...	9d. 9d.	.. 2c. ...	1d. 1d.
.. 12c. ...	9d. 1/0	.. 2c. (wmk.)	— 2/0
.. 25c. ...	1/3 2/0	.. 3c. ...	1d. 1d.
1899-92—		.. 4c. ...	1½d. 1d.
1c. on 3c. (large)	5/0 5/0	.. 8c. ...	3d. 3d.
.. (small)	3d. 3d.	.. 10c. ...	4d. 3d.
2c. on 8c. ...	4d.	.. 12c. ...	6d. 3d.
5c. on 12c. ...		.. 16c. ...	6d. 6d.
.. (small 'c')	5d.	.. 20c. ...	8d. 8d.
.. (large 'c')	15/0	.. 25c. ...	9d. 1/0
1892, 1c. on 3c. ...	1½d. 2d.	.. 50c. ...	1/6 2/6
.. 1c. on 3c. ...	3/6 3/6	.. \$1 ...	3/0

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O.R. Colony, 5/- King, FINE USED COPIES	5 0
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1895, British Central Africa, 3/- yellow	4/0	1907, Honduras, 50c and 1p.	2/0
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	1/- rose	1906-9, Jamaica, 2/- red-brown	2/3
*1884-6, Antigua, 6d. green	2/5	1908, Japan, 5 and 10 yen	12/0
*1910, Austria, Jubilee, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 20.		*1907, Straits on Labuan, 1c. violet and black ...	2/10
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	25, 30, 35, 50, 60h., 1k.	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3c. brown and black ...
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	5/3	*1874-80, Natal, 5/- red-violet	5/7
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	5/3	*1883, Nevis, 6d. red-brown... ..	6/3
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/10	1902, Northern Nigeria, 1/- green and black ...	1/8
*1907-8, Cayman Is., ½d. on 5/-	12/0	*1892, Patiala, Service, 1r. carmine and green ..	8/0
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	½d. on 1d.	*1908, King Edward VII, Land, 1d.	10/0
*1894-96, Cyprus, 9pi.	4/0	*1902, Transvaal, 2/- brown and black	5/3
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	18pi.	*1894, Trinidad, 5/- carmine	6/10
*1903, " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9, 12, 18, 45	1908, Uruguay, 1, 2, 5c., used or unused ...	1/0
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	6pi.	1909 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	2 and 5c.
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	9pi. used or unused	1910 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	2 and 5c., used or unused ...
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	18pi.	*1903, Yunnan Fou, 50c. brown and azure ...	8/0
*1889, Colombia, 5p. brown	12/0	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	1fr. olive
* " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/3	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	*Means Unused.
*1901, Great Britain, R.H. Official, ½ and 1d. ...	3/3		
	40/0		

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AND WEDNESDAYS.

1911.—Jan. 24 & 28; Feb. 7 & 8, 21 & 22; March 7 & 8, 21 & 22; April 4 & 8, 18 & 19; May 2 & 3, 16 & 17, 30 & 31;
June 13 & 14, 27 & 28.

Catalogues are posted to Foreign Clients FIVE weeks before each Sale; to Country Clients in Great Britain a fortnight before the Sale; and to distant applicants known to us, or to others who send satisfactory references, we will send lots for inspection.

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AND

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PUBLISHED BY P. L. PEMBERTON & CO., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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FEBRUARY 20, 1911.

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This book contains a very nice used lot of the first issues.
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A medium selection of these stamps.
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This book contains a nice lot of the Triangular Issues.
- No. 54.—GOLD COAST, SIERRA LEONE, and GAMBIA.**
A nice lot of these stamps, recent issues being well represented.
- No. 73.—CANADA.**
This is perhaps the most in demand of all our books. It contains a fair selection of the early stamps.
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It is exceptionally well arranged, and catalogues
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I would point out, however, that far from such being the fact, I have one of the finest, if not the finest, stocks extant of British and Colonial stamps; and not only can I confidently make this statement, but I will also say that, consistent with fine condition, of which I make a speciality, my prices will be found exceedingly reasonable.

I am now issuing a **MONTHLY SERIAL PRICE LIST OF BRITISH COLONIALS**. It has one interesting and very practical feature, namely, that no stamps are priced or mentioned that I have not got in stock, and am willing to sell at the figures named.

I will forward this regularly to anybody who is interested, also the back numbers if required.

Rare single stamps and Collections purchased.

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Telegrams and Cables: "Peckitt, London."

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Greece.

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New Zealand.

I still have a few selections of first type; also a large Stock Book of Pictorials.

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Should make a note to see

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Other Sales for 1911:—March 28 & 29; April 11 & 12, 25 & 26;
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EUROPEANS.

	£	s.	d.
Austria, Newspaper, 6k. dull yellow, used	5	5	0
Finland, error, 10 pen. purple-brown, two perfs. missing, unused	5	0	0
France, 1849-50, 1f. orange-vermillion, used	5	0	0
.. 1f. orange-brown	5	0	0
.. 1872-75, error, 15c. bistre on rose, unused	9	0	0
Russia, 1857, wmk., 3, 30k. green & carmine, unused	6	0	0
.. Levant, 1865 (20k.), blue and rose, used	5	10	0
.. Wenden, 1863 (2 kop.) black on rose, used	5	0	0
Spain, 1851, 2r. red, unused, minute tear	18	0	0
.. 1853 .. used	5	0	0
.. Madrid, 3c. bronze, unused	13	0	0
.. .. used	12	0	0
.. 1854, 1r. light blue, used	11	0	0
.. .. pair, used	24	0	0
.. 1835, error, 2r. blue, used	10	0	0
.. 1865, 12c. rose and blue, inverted frame	4	5	0
Tuscany, 1851, 2 soldi brick red, used	5	10	0
.. 60c. brick red, used, slight cut one side	8	10	0
.. 1863, 3 lire yellow, used, slightly cut one side	40	0	0

The following Approval Books have been re-made up:—Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Uruguay, Bolivia.

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Comprising many fine lots.

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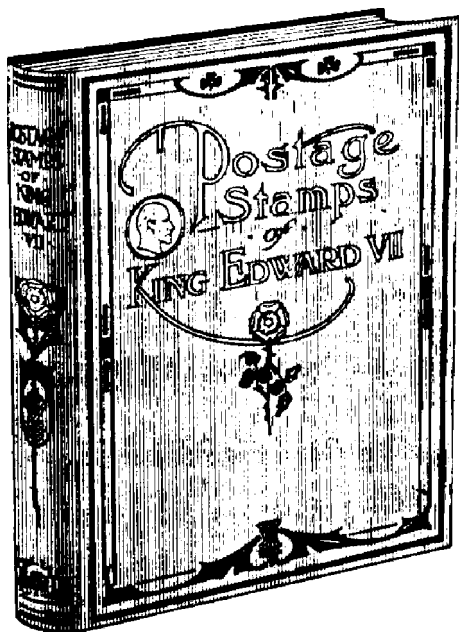
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PORTUGAL.—CAPTAIN PRATA DIAS, Junqueira 279, Lisboa, exchange, sell and purchase Postage Stamps. Basis: Senf. [244]

J. C. AUF-DER-HEIDE, Hildersum, Holland, sends gratis his Price List of Holland and Colonies. Wants to buy all kinds of stamps; also penmarked copies. [252]

SUDAN, 1897, complete, 9/-; 1898, quatrefoil, complete, 3/6; 5m. on 5p., 10d.; OSGS, 1m. to 5p., 2/-; 10p., 4/-.—**LINETTI**, Sharia, Galal, Cairo. [252]

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EXCHANGE WANTED. Stamps in perfect condition only. English Colonies preferred. Give Portugal and Colonies, also English African Colonies. Basis, Gibbons or Senf.—**C. G. EKUNJI**, c/o Blandy Bros. & Co., Madeira. [243]

FOR SALE.—The First Twelve Volumes of the *Philatelic Record*, bound, and in good condition. Price 30s.—**The Editor**, *P.J.G.B.*, 68, High Holborn, London, W.C.

GOOD Medium Stamps of all countries wanted in exchange for South Americans, catalogue basis. Early Uruguay and Argentine purchased if cheap.—**A. H. DAVIS**, Casilla Corres, 1588, Buenos Aires. [240]

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GREATEST Novelty in Variety Packets ever offered.—500 Varieties from 250 different Countries. Send for new Illustrated List, with full particulars to **W.M. BROWN**, St. Thomas' Square, England. [249]

EXCHANGE of Stamps desired on Approval Sheets with advanced Collectors. Unused British Colonials preferred. Basis: Gibbons, Senf, Letters register d.—**LUCY W. WHITE**, British Post Office, Constantinople. [241]

STAMPS.—Exchange required by Approval Sheets. Basis: Senf or Yvert. Off. Spain, Fernando Poo, Maroc.—**ORESTES DE MORA**, Barcelona, Spain. [253]

SPECIAL BARGAINS! Surinam Stamps unused and used in perfect condition. Write for Price List.—**HENRY J. RACK**, General Post Office, Paramaribo, Surinam, A.P.S. 3291. [245]

INDIA.—King's Service, 3 pies to 1 rupee, set of 7 unused 10/6. Special terms for Dealers. Cash with order.—**U. N. RAZDAN**, Faridkot State, India. [245]

CHEAP SETS.—All different. 30 Siam, 3/-; 30 Borneo, 3/-; 20 Indian States, 1/-; 70 Straits Settlements, 11/-.—**CROCKER**, 156, Glenroy Street, Cardiff. [242]

OFFER Exchange at Gibbons' 1911 Catalogue.—Austria, Bosnia, Oriental States, State wants.—**HEINR. HÖHRMANN, JR.**, Kasernengasse 8, Vienna, Austria. [242]

KING'S Heads mint.—Breaking Fine Collection. State wants. Selections against references. Prices much below catalogue.—**BUSBY**, Hatton House, King's Lynn. [242]

GIVING up Collecting.—1163 stamps in two Albums; "Gibbons Stamp Weekly," Vol. 1 (bound), Vol. 2 (unbound); "West End Philatelist," Vol. 1 (unbound) with binding case; about 5000 duplicates. What offers?—**H. T. HILL**, 42, Union Street, Walsall. [242]

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" " " " " " " "	...	0
" " " " " " " "	...	0
Mauritius, 1900, 4c. on 16c., mint	...	0 8
Br. S. Africa, 1891, £10, fiscally used	...	2 6
" " " " " " " "	...	3 6
" " " " " " " "	...	0 6
" " " " " " " "	...	3 6
" " " " " " " "	...	10 0
Trinidad, 1896, 5d., mint	...	2 6
Br. Guiana, 1882, 1 cent. brig. used	...	3 0
" " " " " " " "	...	3 0
Mauritius, Express, 15c. on 15c., rare type, Gibbons' No. 202, mint	...	3 0
" " " " " " " "	...	4 0
Leeward Is., 1897, Jubilee, 2½d., mint	...	1 6
" " " " " " " "	...	4 0
India, 1895, 5 rupees, used	...	2 6
" " " " " " " "	...	0 6
" " " " " " " "	...	2 0
" " " " " " " "	...	2 6
" " " " " " " "	...	7 6

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" " " 30h. red & black ...	5d.	" " " 1903-4, 3as. slate ...	5d.
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" " " 12c., used ...	1/0	" " " 1905, B.R.A., 5c. on 3c. brown ...	16/0
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" " " 1889, 4d. red-brown ...	3/7	" " " 1909, 5/- green & rose ...	2/5
" " " 1902-06, 5d. yellow-olive ...	4/0	Bechuanaland, 1892, 6d. ...	7½d.
South Australia, 1899-02, 1/- brown, wmk. SA ...	1/8	North Borneo, 1894, 25c. and 50c. ...	7d.
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AND

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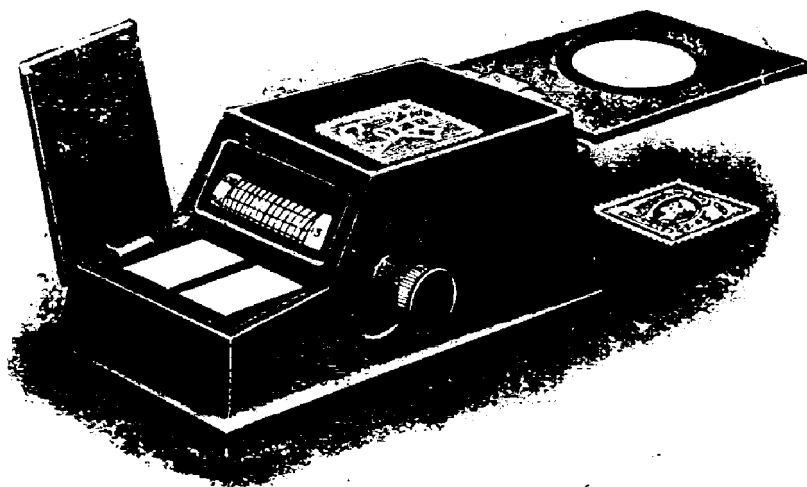
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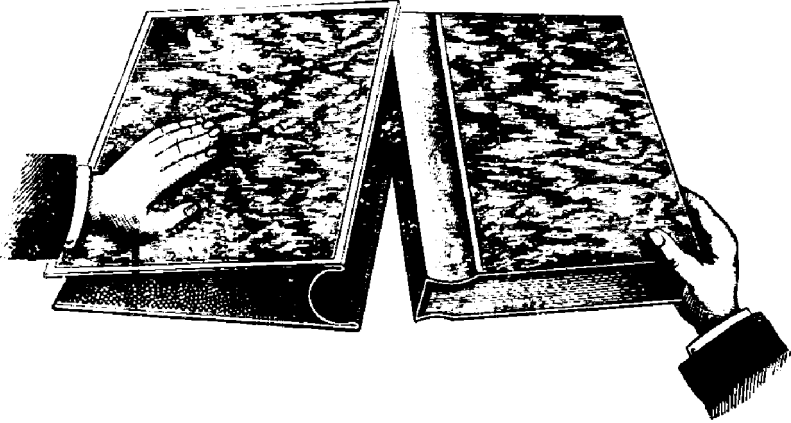
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.. .. 1f. orange-brown	5	0	0
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Russia, 1857, wmk., 3, 30k. green & carmine, unused	6	0	0
.. Levant, 1865 (20k.), blue and rose, used	5	10	0
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Spain, 1851, 2r. red, unused, minute tear	18	0	0
.. 1853 .. used	5	0	0
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.. .. used	12	0	0
.. 1854, 1r. light blue, used	11	0	0
.. .. pair, used	24	0	0
.. 1855, error, 2r. blue, used	10	0	0
.. 1865, 12c. rose and blue, inverted frame	4	5	0
Tuscany, 1851, 2 soldi brick red, used	5	10	0
.. .. 60c. brick red, used, slight cut one side	8	10	0
.. 1860, 3 lire yellow, used, slightly cut one side	40	0	0

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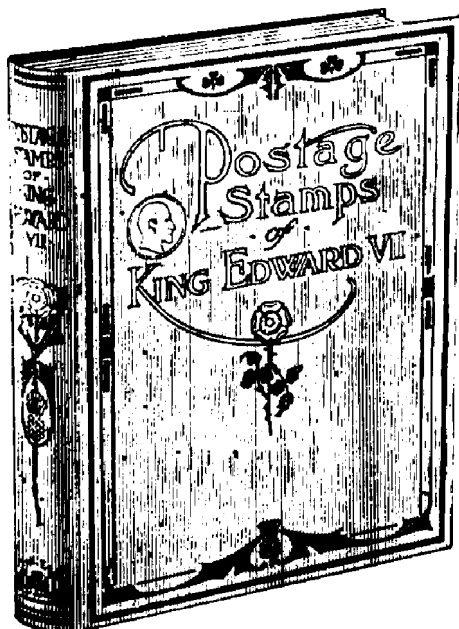
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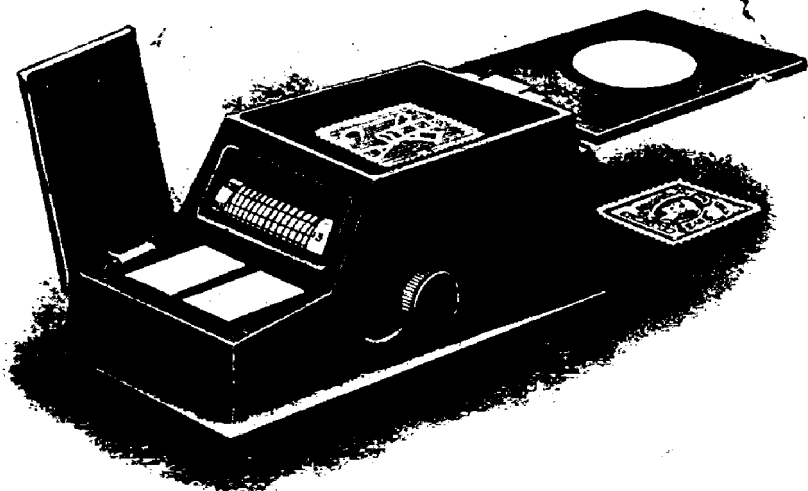
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5 " green, no gum	22/6
5 " " mint	30/0
10 " orange on bluish	25/0
10 " " " " block, without gum	90/0
10 " orange red, without figures	45/0
40 " purple on blue	5/9
80 " deep carmine, block	54/0
80 " carmine, block, no gum	32/6

FIRST ATHENS.

1 lepton, deep chocolate on cream, no gum	...	...	38/0
20 lepta, Prussian blue on bluish, no figures at back, very fine used	...	...	72/0
5 " yellow-green, block of four	...	...	95/0
89 " rose, figures in vermilion, brilliant copy	...	...	57/6

Though much has been sold from the Collection, it still contains many superb things, of which the above are samples.

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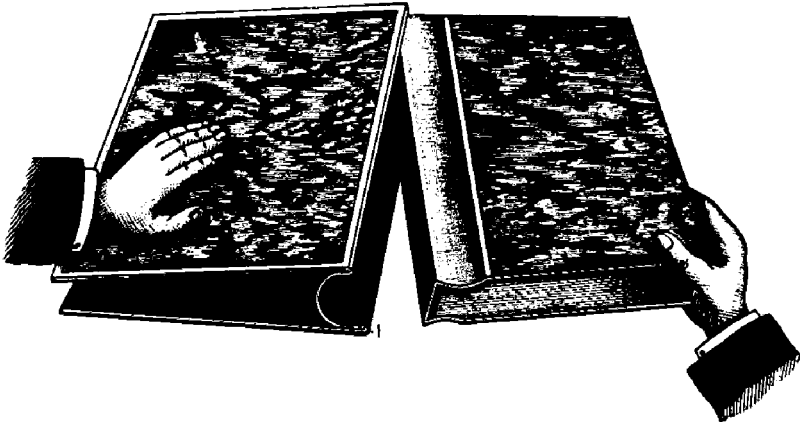
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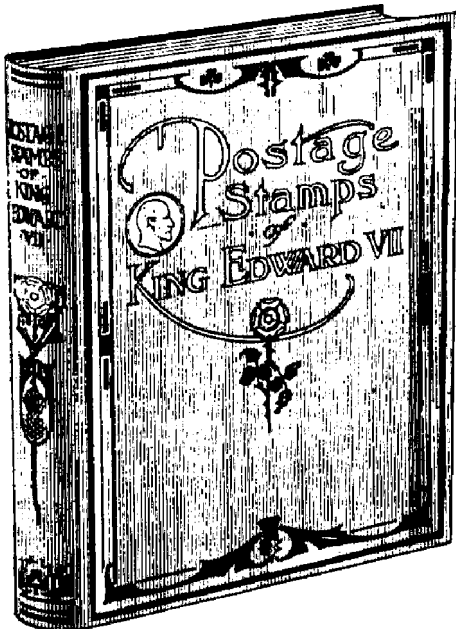
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PORTUGAL.—CAPTAIN PRATA DIAS, Junqueira 279, Lisboa, exchange, sell and purchase Postage Stamps. Basis: Senf. [244]

J. C. AUF-DE-HEIDE, Hildersum, Holland, sends gratis his Price List of Holland and Colonies. Wants to buy all kinds of stamps; also penmarked copies. [252]

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„ used	10 0 0	7 0 0
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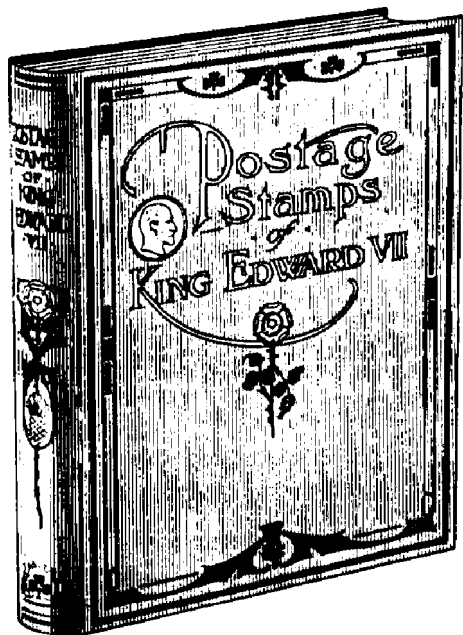
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" " \$5 " No. 72	6/0	1903, Br. Somaliland, ½a., 1, 2, 3, 4, 8as.	2/10
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AND

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" on very thick paper, 6d. dull purple, unused, no gum	40	0	0
1858, perf. 12. 6d. brn.-purple, well centred and mint	22	10	0
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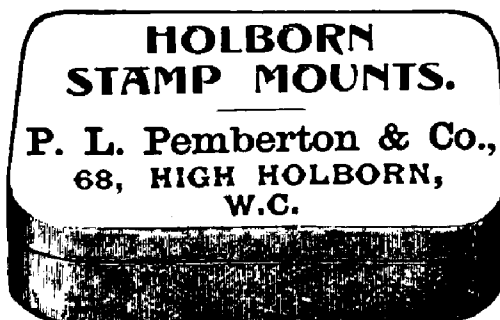
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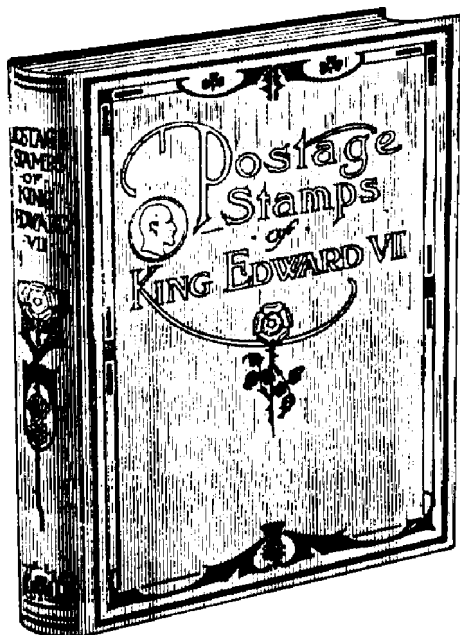
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" 10 pesos	2/0	*1908 " 5 on 25 violet	1/3
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" " 1 fc. rose on buff	3/3	1885-94, Tobago, 6d. orange-brown	7½d.
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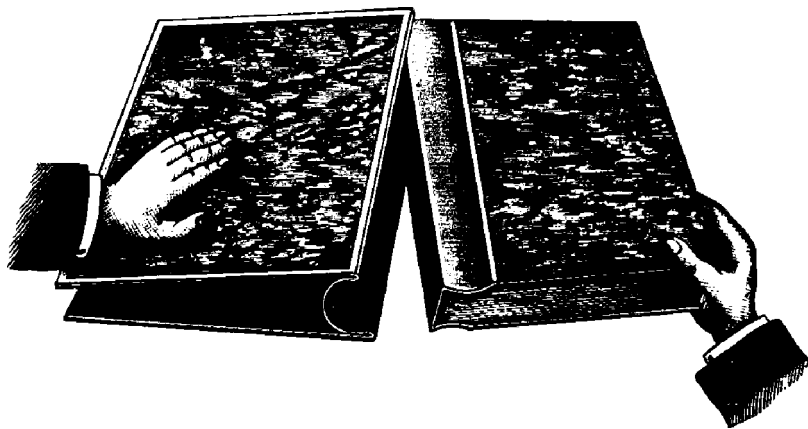
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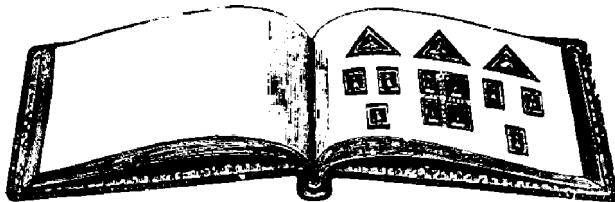
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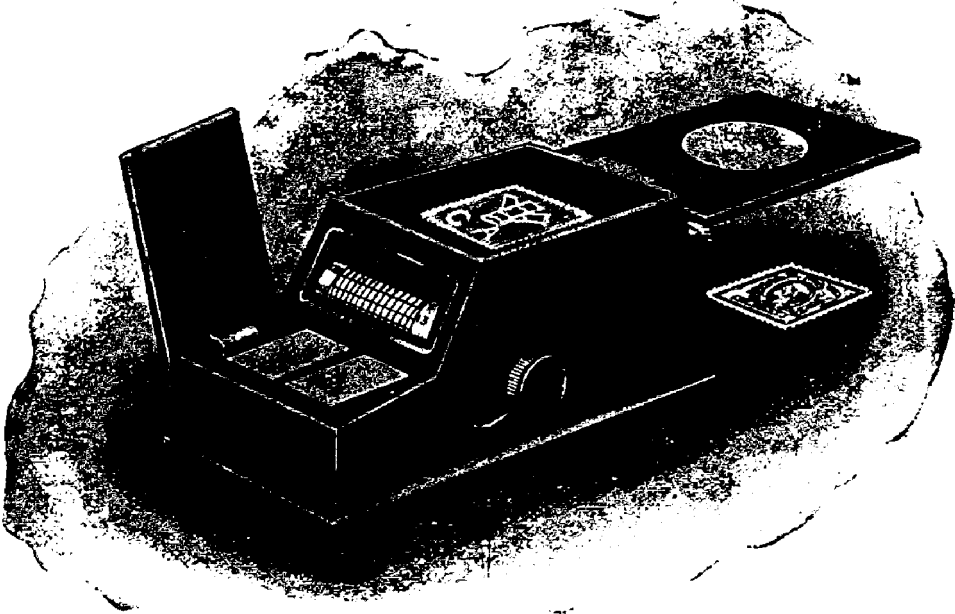
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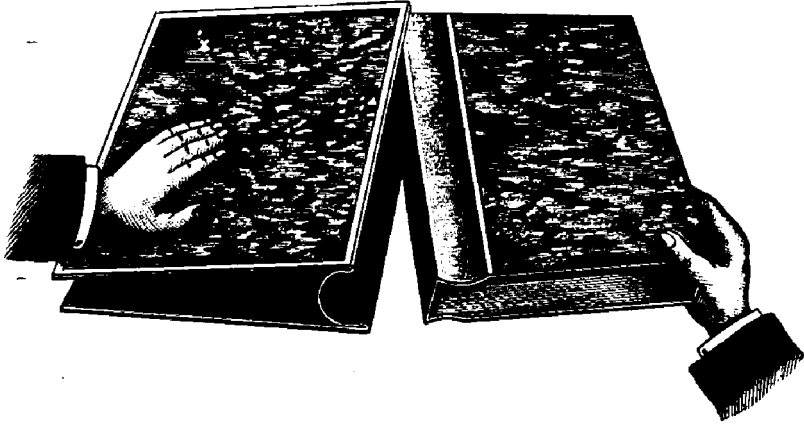
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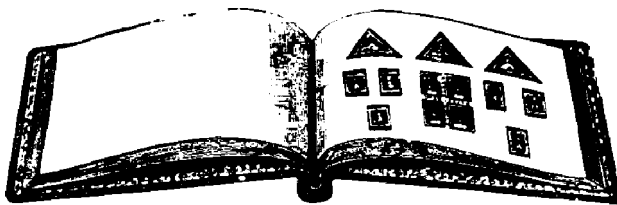
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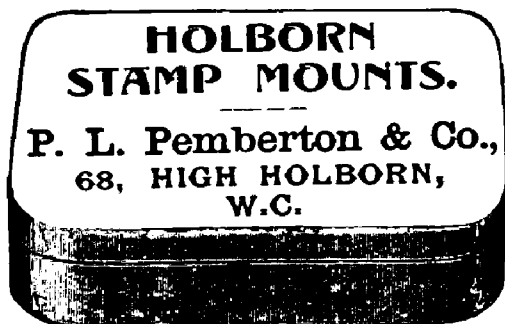
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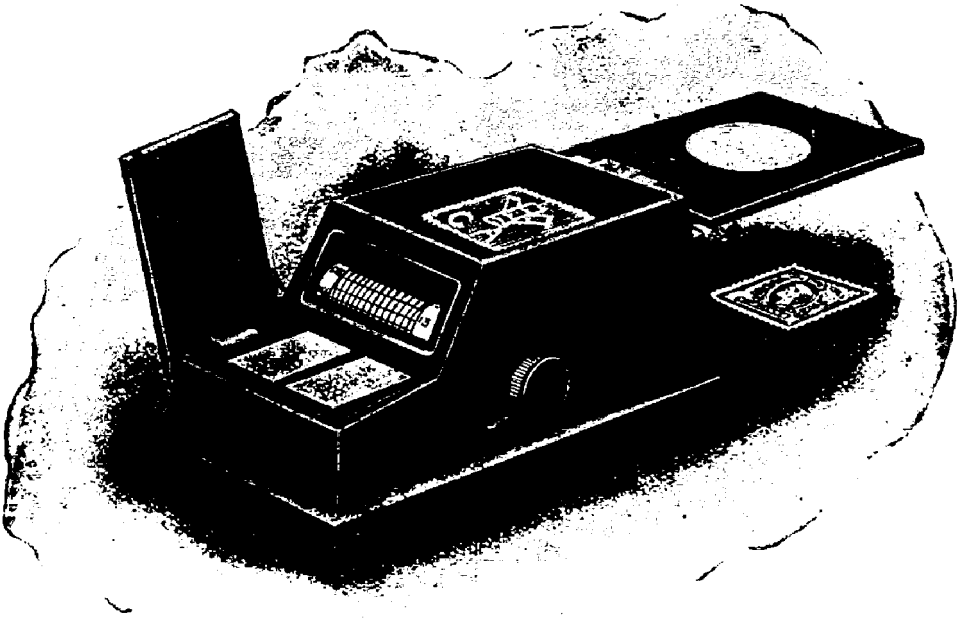
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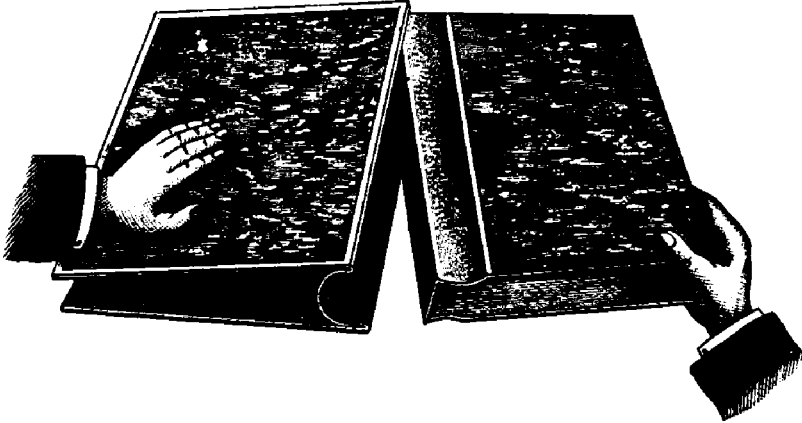
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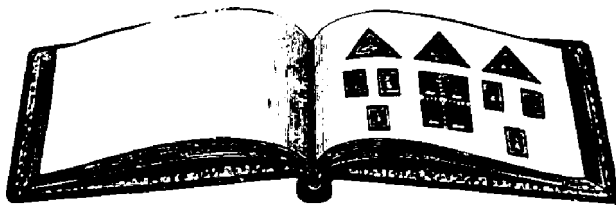
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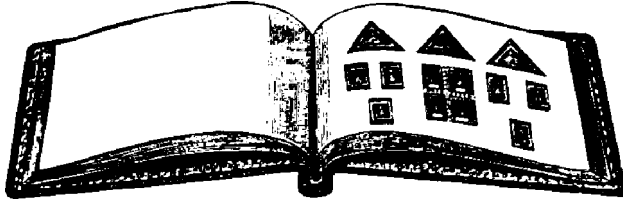
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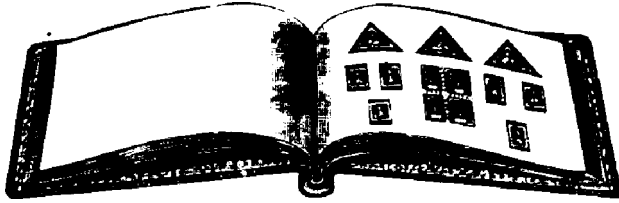
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IF YOU are in want of an Album, write to us for our Illustrated Price List.—P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, High Holborn, W.C. [252]

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C. KERN, Dr. of Law, Osterfarimagsgade, 16, B. Copenhagen, Exchange wanted. Especially Colonial Stamps. I give Denmark, Scandinavians, etc. Never send first. Register letters. [254]

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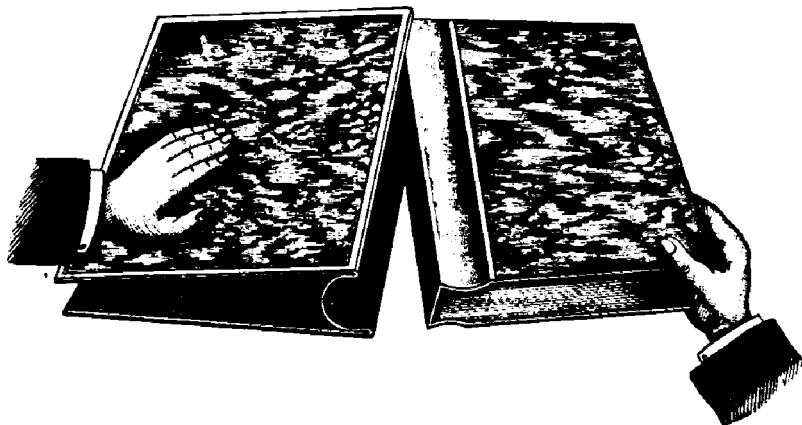
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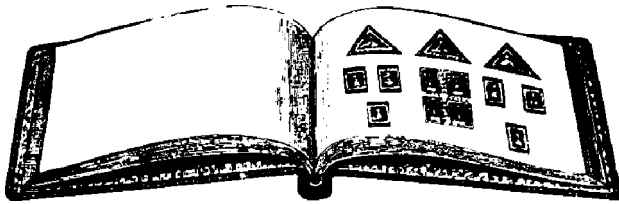
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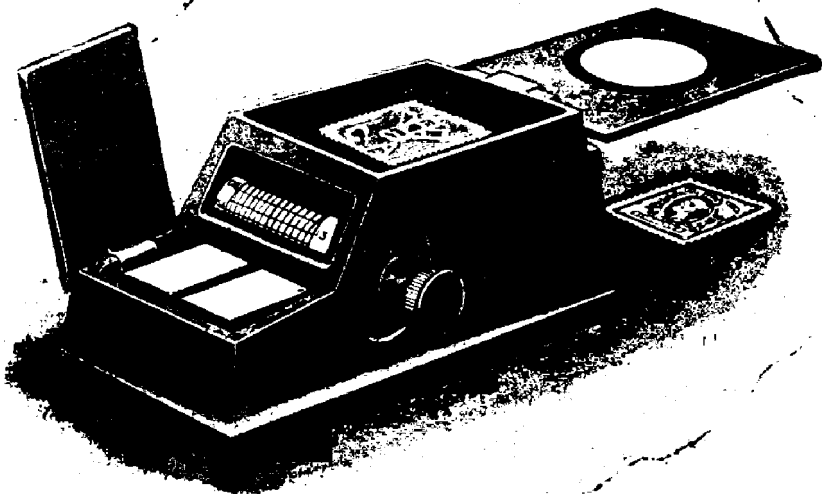
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