



THE

NORTH OF ENGLAND

STAMP REVIEW

AND ADVERTISER.

No. I.]

JULY, 1864.

[GRATIS.

TO OUR READERS.

In presenting the first number of this paper to our readers, we trust that our efforts to profit both Collectors and advertisers will be successful, and our friends may rest assured that we will do all that lies in our power to forward their interests.

In addition to a good local circulation we have secured private and public agents in several of the principal Towns and Schools, for its distribution, and we will guarantee a circulation of nearly 1000 copies.

This magazine will therefore be found to be an excellent medium for advertising, and in order to give our advertising friends every advantage, we will insert advertisements at the following low rates:—12 words 6d, and 3d for every succeeding 10 words.

All advertisements and communications to reach us as early in the month as possible, but in all cases before the 20th.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTING.

(By a Collector.)

What is the use of Postage Stamp Collecting? Is a question which will no doubt often times be asked of Collectors, and which ought to be readily answered. It is no idle or useless labour collecting these labels as is sometimes represented. Mostly the Postage Stamps are gems, as regards engraving, and artistic beauty; the most skilful Artists and eminent Engravers are employed over them, and the utmost attention is paid to their final execution. So therefore simply as works of art and ingenuity they ought to be classed amongst the curiosities of our modern civilization. They aid us in the study of Geography and History, and give us a knowledge of Foreign currency; they also lead to a cultivation of taste in colour, and design and judgment to show them to advantage when arranging them in our albums, as it frequently happens that the tints of one colour will kill another.

In looking at a collection of stamps it will be seen that nearly every issue has something curious connected with it, which indicates political changes. To illustrate this, take the Stamps of France. The first issue was under the Republic, and was in circulation from 1849 to 1850; when Louis Napoleon was made president, another Stamp was adopted, bearing the head of the President. On Napoleon II. being made Emperor, the inscription was

altered from "Repub. Franc." to "Empire Franc."

Then again in looking at our Colonial Stamps, what is there that can so impress our minds, in showing us the extent and difference of our Colonies. Most of them have chosen the likeness of our Queen for the devices, but some of them indulge in not a few variations. Canada has a Beaver under Crown, Busts of our Sovereign, Prince Albert, and Cartier.

In conclusion I can say that the pursuit is so congenial to the taste, instructing and elevating to the mind, and so productive of good, that all Collectors become enthusiastic in the pursuit.

SWISS STAMPS, WITH HINTS FOR DETECTING FORGERIES.

Switzerland is a small country situated between France, Germany, and Italy. It is a very rugged and mountainous country, divided into Cantons, each of which has a government of its own, but subservient to the Diet which sits at Berne, and which is composed (like our own Parliament) of representatives of those Cantons. Its area is 15 260 square miles with a population of 2½ millions. The necessity of a cheap postage was first seen by some of the Cantons, in which was soon issued the first of their kind in Switzerland. This system was carried on for some time when the Diet issued them as the common postal currency of the country. We shall therefore endeavour, as far as possible to explain the different Cantonal stamps by dividing them into two great classes.

A. Cantonal Administration

B. Confederacy or Federal Administration, which first division may be subdivided into seven parts.

1. BASEL.—The first stamp in this Canton was issued in 1845 but withdrawn in 1847. Its value is 2½ rappen (or nearly ¼d in English money.) There are three varieties of it, each of which has a Dove bearing a letter in its beak, and embossed respectively on a red or blue shield. The inscription is "Stadt-Post-Basel" on a ground of five green dots. The value is in the lower corners. The stamps are rectangular, and printed in black, blue, and green. On account of this stamp so soon ceasing to be issued, it is very rarely met with, and many forgeries are practised. The forgery may be detected by observing the ground; in the genuine it is composed of alternate blue and white dots, whilst the forged is of a uniform pale green.

2. VAUD OR LAUSANNE.—The stamps used here first appeared about 1849. There are only two of them (the 4 Centimes and the 5 Centimes) and both are of the same design. Their shape is oblong, they are engraved on white paper, and printed in black. In the centre of the stamp is a white cross in a bugle horn, resting on a red ground. Above is "Poste locale" with value below. At each side of the bugle, are a few leaves. It may be observed in the genuine stamps, that the top ornament, on both sides of the superscription, overhangs the lower ornament considerably, whilst in the forgery it does not overhang the second ornament.

3. NEUCHÂTEL.—This stamp was called into notice about 1848 and disappeared 2 years later, so that it is very rare. The inscription is above "Poste—locale" and the value below. It is printed on white paper in black and red, and bears in the centre a red shield in which is a white cross.

4. WINTERTHUR, only boasted of one stamp. The value is above, and reversed below. In the centre is a post horn, on a ground of horizontal red lines; within the horn is a white cross on a red ground. The inscription is below, and is "Orts post, poste locale." The value is 2½ rap.—in red and black, both very rare. It was only used for the town of Winterthur.

The forgery of this stamp has no stop after "post", whilst the genuine has a full stop.

We must next notice the French and German Cantons, and then we arrive at Zurich and Geneva, the two principal of the Swiss postal cantons.

5.—In the FRENCH and GERMAN CANTONS the stamps are alike only excepting the inscription, which is respectively "Poste locale" and "Orts post", which is on a label above, with the value below (2½ rap). They have a white cross on a red shield under a horn.

6. ZURICH.—This is one of the principal of the Swiss Canton, and the one in which, perhaps, the cheap postage system was first introduced (1843).

The first was only used for the town letters as "Local tax" denotes. It was valued at 4 rappen, and bore the numeral of value in the centre of the stamp, on a ground of black lines crossing each other in a slanting direction. Above is the word "Zurich" and below "Local tax". It is printed on white paper with the date in the corners, and like all the others of this Canton it is black. It has faint yellow perpendicular lines over the whole; there is another specimen with faint yellow horizontal lines and no date, and another without the faint lines; all are of the same value (4 rappen). The forgeries of these stamps are much brighter coloured than the genuine. The only difference between the Local and Cantonal stamps is the value and inscription. They are 6 rappen, and have below "Cantonal tax". The whole of these stamps (Local and Cantonal) were withdrawn in 1849.

7. GENEVA.—These stamps were first issued

in 1844. In the centre are the *Arms* of Geneva (a crowned eagle and a key) above the arms is the city motto, "*Post Tenebras Lux*" surmounted by a glory with the initials *I. H. S.* Above this is "*Post de Geneva*" and under the shield "*Post local*". The value is placed on the right and left side, namely, 5C., (5 centimes). The colors are black and green, on white, yellow, and green paper. Two of the above united, having "*Post Cantonal*" instead of "*Post Local*" and the eagle uncrowned are used as the stamp for the Canton, with a value of 10 centimes. They are of a dark green. The forgeries of the above are so well executed that there is great difficulty in distinguishing them, and there are also so many imitations that we really cannot append any means of detecting them.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the partnership heretofore subsisting between C. E. MOORE & ALEXANDER PERRIS, under the style of EDWARD MOORE & Co., Dealers in Foreign Postage Stamps, Liverpool, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Outstanding accounts to be at once paid to ALEXANDER PERRIS, 237 Great Homer Street, Liverpool, who will in future carry on the business of the late firm.

Dated Liverpool, June 1st, 1864.

STAMPS

Supplied at the following rates: *unused* British Guiana 1 c's., 2d., New Holstein $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 3d., new Hamburg, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 3d., Chili, 1 c, 4d, 5 c, 9d., United States Locals 10d., per dozen., 8s. per gross, mixed; Bahamas 1d, 3d; Hanover envelopes 1d.; Berlin Express 2d.; Brazil 10 reis, 2d., Brunswick 1 S. gr. 2d. *Used* but in good condition., Old Swiss Rayon with cross 5, 10, 15 3d each, Liberia set of 3, 1s 9d., 8d. each, Russia 10 kop. 2d., Old Saxony 1st issue (Head to right) $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 3 N. gross. 2d each; Lubeck (old issue) set of 5., 1s., set of 8 Greece, 1s., new Holstein $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 2d., new Hamburg $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 4d, current issue $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 1 sch., 1d, each, 2 and 3 sch. 2d., 4 and 9 sch. 3d., full set of 9, 1s 4d., Black Swan River 2d., Old Denmark 2 R. B. S. 1s 3d., 4 R. B. S. 2d., Old Schleswig Holstein, 1 and 2 sch. 1s 6d, each., Baden (figure in centre) $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, each (Arms) $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, each., Mecklenburg envelopes 3d., each; Bergedorf $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 sch. 1d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 sch. 2d., 4 sch. 3d, each., Venezuela (new issue) $\frac{1}{2}$ rl, 6d., 1 rl, 8d., 2 rls, 8d, each., 1s 6d, the set of 3. Stamps must in all cases be enclosed for reply.

T. DALSTON & CO., BARNARD CASTLE.

PYBUS & CO. STOCKTON

Have always rare and Cheap Stamps on hand at very low prices. Foreign addresses for Sale 3d each.

PACKETS OF STAMPS.

The 6d packet of stamps, post free 7d; contains 20 varieties of used and unused foreign stamps, all in good condition and containing the new Schleswig Holstien stamp. T. DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

T. DALSTON & CO.

Wish to dispose of a large quantity of used stamps. All issues of Austria, Baden, Russia, Italy, Switzerland (including 1st issue Rayon with cross) Saxony, Germany, Wurtemberg, Hanover, &c., &c., at the low rate of 50, 1s., 100, 2s., T. DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

THE STAMP DEALERS' UNIVERSAL REGISTER. On the 1st Aug. or as soon after as possible, a MONTHLY TRADE CIRCULAR will be commenced, bearing the above title. The object the publisher has in view is to furnish information, which he expects will be the means of increasing Stamp business, and cementing a connection between purchasers and vendors of Stamps at home and abroad: this *desideratum* he hopes to accomplish by giving a List of Stamp Dealers, in all parts of the world.

To keep the List select, and to prevent as far as possible any unjust dealings, no address will be registered unless it is accompanied by the name of a respectable firm, to whom reference can be made, if deemed necessary.

To enable the proprietor to issue a publication of worth, the support of the trade is respectfully solicited.

Those persons who wish to have their names enrolled on the Register, must send address and reference, together with their subscription, to ensure attention,

The registry fee and cost of paper to the end December, 1864, will be 1s 8d., or per post, 2s 1d, price of paper, (*without name* on the Register), to end of December, 1864, 10d., or per post, 1s. 3d, in advance.

* * * Titles of Stamp Magazines and addresses of the publisher will be inserted in No. 1 free of charge.

☞ Advertisements will be inserted on the following terms: 20 words, 6d. and 2d., for every additional 8 words.

* * * All communications must contain stamped addressed envelope for reply.

Address, J. W. CHATER, "Northern Journal" Office, No. 89, Clayton Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

☞ Suggestions are Invited.

GIVEN AWAY with the packet of 50 varieties of foreign stamps a rare Swan River and rare Greece, 1s 4d Post free. T DALSTON & Co, Barnard Castle.

GOOD VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY.—On receipt of 7, 13, or 25 postage stamps, Mr. J. W. CHATEL will send one of his *cheap packets* of Foreign Stamps per return of post.—“Northern Journal” Office, 89, Clayton Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

ALEXANDER PERRIS

Stamp Collector's Review Office, 237 Great Horner Street, Liverpool. Will send his illustrated price list of Foreign stamps for Sale, on receipt of two postage Stamps. Ionian Islands 9d per Set, 7s 6d. dozen Sets. Send stamp for reply in all cases.

TO COIN COLLECTORS,

Send stamped directed Envelope to W. DIAMOND RIFLE HOUSE, Westbourne Grove; LONDON, for his priced Catalogue for July, of cheap and rare coins. Scarce postage Stamps, bought, sold and Exchanged. Collections purchased.

THE SHILLING PACKET

Of used stamps, contains 100 of the newest and cleanest Foreign Stamps yet offered, including many old issues. Post free 1s 1d.—MR. A. WHITEMORE, Stamp Dealer, SALFORD.

ARGENTINE! ARGENTINE!

Unused 5 C, of the above, a few only for sale Post free 7d each.—MR. A. WHITEMORE, Foreign Stamp Dealer, SALFORD.

WHOLESALE.

A number of unused and used Foreign Stamps. Well mixed, rare, many unused. Post free, one thousand for 11s. five hundred, 6s. one hundred, 1s 2d.—Apply early to Mr. A. WHITEMORE, Foreign Stamp Dealer, SALFORD.

List of Agents, from whom copies of this paper may be obtained (Gratis) and who are authorised to receive advertisements.

Barnard Castle.—The publishers, T. Dalston and Co.

Cork.—R. Morrow, 91 Patrick Street.

Gateshead.—R. Chambers, 115 High Street.

Gravesend.—A. Clunne, 1 Prospect Place.

London.—G. J. Rawl, 139 Leadenhall Street, E.C.

“ Chas. Balls, 14 Burton St., S.W.

“ W. Diamond, Rifle Houses, Westbourne Grove, W.C.

“ A. C. Mann, 23 Ledbury Road, Bayswater, W.

“ J. H. Church, St. Peters Chambers.

“ A. Beddall, 38 Lime Street, E.C.

Manchester.—Mr. Whitmore, Foreign Stamp Dealer, Salford.

“ J. Dickson, 11 Oldfield Road, Salford.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—J. W. Chater, 89 Clayton St.

Stockton-on-Tees.—T. W. Pybus and Co., Foreign Stamp Dealers.

And several private agents at schools, &c., in Great Britain.

* * * We shall be glad to add additional names to the above List. A most liberal commission allowed for receiving advertisements.

It is requested by several advertisers of this paper that parties writing to them for stamps &c., will state if the application is through this advertising medium.



NORTH OF ENGLAND STAMP REVIEW AND ADVERTISER.

No. 2.]

AUGUST, 1864.

[GRATIS.

TO OUR READERS.

We have much pleasure in announcing that we intend permanently enlarging our paper to eight pages, commencing with the following number. In order however to meet the increased outlay, necessarily entailed, we will in future charge a penny per month for each copy, and in order that we may issue a publication of worth, we hope our readers will favour us with their kind support, and help us to extend its circulation as much as possible; and we can assure them that we shall do all that lies in our power to make it the cheapest and best Stamp Collector's Magazine out. An unused stamp will be given with the first number, the value of which will be above the amount charged for the paper.

The first number of the new series will contain an article on Argentine stamps, which will be the commencement of a series of articles on

South American stamps, which generally give the collector far more trouble than all the other stamps put together, both as regards arrangement and distinguishing the different issues. This series, when completed, we hope will form the best of Catalogues. Under the heading of *Newly issued and rare stamps*, we will keep our readers *au courant* of all the newly issued, giving a full and comprehensive description of each stamp. We will also make every alteration and addition, which we think will be likely to forward the interests of our subscribers, and interesting matter will be beautifully illustrated with engravings of stamps.

In conclusion we must beg our advertising friends to notice the great reduction we have made in the charge for inserting advertisements, which will in future be inserted at the low rate of 20 words for 6d., and 2d. for every succeeding 10 words.

SWISS STAMPS (*Concluded.*)

PART II.

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The stamps issued by the Federal Government first made their appearance in April 1850. They may be divided into 4 classes:—

1. The 2½ rappen stamps issued in 1850
2. The Rayon or district stamp (1850)
3. Those bearing the figure of Liberty (1854)
4. The Helvetic (1862)

1. The 2½ rap. is oblong and printed in black and vermillion on white paper. In the centre of the stamp is a shield bearing the arms of Switzerland, *field gules*. This is a term used in heraldry, and meaning, on a red ground, or field. Under this there is a post horn, upon which a few letters are traceable. Only seven are decipherable, but between the first two is a space left seemingly for two more letters. They are I C. . N.V.O L.E. Under the horn are the words "Orts-post, Post-locale". The value is above, and reversed below, viz., *Letter* in left, and *Numeral* in right, at the top; and *Letter* in right, and numeral in left below. This stamp is very rare.

2. *Rayon* is a French word meaning Radius, and shows that the stamps only carried letters within a certain distance. They are easily detected by having Rayon I. II. or III. on the top. All the stamps (in common with all the other Government ones) are rectangular. They are 5, 10, 15 rappen and 15 centimes. The first circulating in Rayon I., the 2nd in Rayon II., and the third and fourth in Rayon III. All have a white cross, *field gules*, under a post horn. Above is the number of the Rayon, and the value is below.

The 5 and 10 rap. :—are printed.

A. in Black on a coloured ground.

B. in color on white paper.

The 15 rap. and 15 cts. are on white paper on a ground of perpendicular lines.

The Colors are :—

5 rap. indigo blue, light and dark blue.

10 rap. yellow, buff and orange (This

stamp printed in color on white paper is very rare).

15 rap. vermillion, rose and red

15 cts. do do do.

The whole are engraved on steel at the Mint, Berne.

3. This issue came forward in 1854, and at various times between then and 1862 when they were *nil*. They are engraved on metal, and are made with a silk thread woven through them. This silk is generally green; but yellow, blue, and black are often used. They bear the figure of Liberty seated to the left, holding in her right hand a spear, and her left resting on a shield, upon which is engraved the armorial bearing of the Swiss. Above is the word "Franco" and on the other three sides there are the French, Swiss and Italian values. There is a small star in each corner.

2 cts. grey (1861)

50. brown (1854) dark brown (1855)

This circulates in a radius of 2 leagues.

10c. bright blue (1855) yellow (1854) circulates in a radius of 10 leagues (The 15 cts. also circulates in the same radius).

15c. rose pink (1854) Pink (1855)

20c. orange (1854) buff-yellow (1855) orange-yellow (1858)

40c. emerald green (1854). This color is however much varied, light, dark, blue, green and yellow-green being all used.

1 franc, pearl grey (1855) lilac (1858),

4. The 4th issue of Federal stamps (or 1st issue proper) came in use in July 1862. They are printed in color on white paper. Switzerland is allegorically represented by Liberty, crowned with roses, seated like Liberty in the foregoing issue. Above is "Helvetia," Below "Franco". In each corner in a dark colored square is the numeral of value. The sides are ornamented.

The colors are: 2 rap. grey, 3 black 5 brown 10 blue, 20 orange yellow, 30 vermillion (for parcels only), 40 emerald green, 60 red bronze, 1 franc golden bronze.

Before we leave the subject of Swiss stamps it will be well to notice one used in the canton of Tessin. (This is one of

the Italian cantons). The government of this canton never issued regular stamps, but there are two, of the values of 25 and 50 cts. respectively used as a mode of payment and used in franking letters. They are printed on colored paper, and bear the arms of the canton.

For the use of the uninitiated we sub-join the *money table*.

50 rappen ...	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.
1 franc ...	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
50 centimes ...	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Under this heading we shall be glad to answer all questions proposed as far as lies in our power.

J. L. (Leeds). The Modena and Parma stamps are undoubtedly genuine, whilst the Tuscany stamps are badly executed forgeries, and we are surprised at you buying them as genuine. You forgot to enclose a stamped envelope in order for us to return your stamps. We are glad you like our paper.

P. Macdonald. Much obliged. We hope you will get us some subscribers to the following numbers, as you say that although it is a gratis paper, it is better worth a penny than a great number of the stamp magazines now circulated. You will see that we are about to make it into eight pages.

Collector. We will gladly insert any Letter you may send us if it will in anyway profit Collectors, but if it does not concern stamp collecting we must certainly refuse to do.

D. R. We allow 15 per cent Commission for receiving advertisements, and we will allow 25 per cent for selling copies commencing with next numbers.

Advertisements.

BEAUTIFULLY EXECUTED fac similes of rare stamps for sale viz. Romagna, set of 9, 6d., Sicily set of 7, 8d., Modena, set of 7, 8d., Argentine, set of 3, 6d., Austria (head of Mercury) set of 3, 8d., The above can hardly be told from genuine. T DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

FOR SALE, A Collection of 270 stamps, many very rare, 100 obsolete, and upwards of 70 unused. The whole arranged in one of Short's half-crown stamp and crest albums only 15s. Also a Collection of 200, many rare, obsolete and unused, arranged in a handsome album with titles beautifully printed in Colors and geographically arranged by Dr. Grey F. R. S. cheap, 10s. Apply at once, T DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

T. DALSTON & CO.

Wish to dispose of a large quantity of used stamps. All issues of Austria, Baden, Russia, Italy, Switzerland (including 1st issue Bayon with cross) Saxony, Germany, Wurtemberg, Hanover, &c., &c., at the low rate of 50, 1s., 100, 1s. 8d., T. DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

GIVEN AWAY!—An Italian 15c. (new issue) to every purchaser of D. Dean & Co's packets of 55 varieties, 1s. 110 varieties 2s. many very rare. Hope Square, Weymouth.

BONA FIDA Foreign addresses of Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Prussia, Holland, Hamburg, Lubeck, New York, Nova Scotia, Canada, &c, &c, 25 for 2s 6d. or separately at 4d. each. T DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

FOR SALE, A Collection of 340 stamps neatly arranged, many rare, obsolete and unused, including Parma, Modena, sets of Liberia, and Venezuela, &c, about 100 unused. To be sold to the highest bidder. Apply at once, enclosing stamp for reply to J. M. Post Office, Barnard Castle.

CONTINENTAL and American Stamps, many very rare and obsolete and same as as those sold in the shop windows at Weymouth, at 1d, 2d and 3d. each, well assorted, only 1s 6d. per 100; 12s 6d. per 1,000, of DEAN & Co., Hope Square,

CHEAP! CHEAPER!! CHEAPEST!!! A great many $\frac{1}{2}$ d each. Ionian Islands 9d per set. Stamps sent on approval. The 6d. packet contains 25, 5 unused. Send to A. C. MANN, 23 Ledbury Road, Bayswater, London.

FACSIMILES beautifully engraved of Sicily at 3d each, 1s. per set of 7, Romagna 2d each 1s. per set of 9, Monte-Video 3d each, 6d. per set of 3. Paraguayan Essays in six colors 4d each, 1s 6d. per set. Large quantities specially contracted for. Agents wanted. 20 per cent commission. Address EDWARD ROBINSON & Co., Spekeland Terrace, Smithdown Road. Liverpool.

WHOLESALE! ALL UNOBLITERATED!! Baden, 1 kr., 7d; Luxembourg 1c. 4d; 2c. 6d; 4c. 9d; Mecklenburg $\frac{1}{2}$ 6d; Greek 1 lept, 6d; 2 lept. 10d; British Guiana, 1c. black; Barbados, 1s 6d. per dozen; Penny Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados blue, British Guiana 2c. Lubeck, Holstein, and Schleswig 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, all 2s 3d per dozen; St. Thomas, 3 cents; Nevis 1d; St. Lucia 1d; Papal states 2bsj; Trinidad red (not wood block) all 2s 9d. per dozen. Not less than 1 dozen of each kind. D. DEAN & Co., Hope Square, Weymouth.

WHOLESALE!! Obliterated, Modena, mixed 2s 6d per dozen, Italian, mixed 9d. per dozen, of D. DEAN & Co.

CHOICE OBSOLETE STAMPS!! The 6d. packet contains 12 varieties worth treble the money. D. DEAN & Co.

CHEAP PACKETS OF STAMPS.

20 varieties, all in good condition ...	4d.
30	6d.
50	1s.
20 ... many unused and rare ...	6d.
50 ... with rare Swan River and Greece	1s 3d.
18 ... all obsolete, many rare ...	6d.
12 ... first rate, all unused ...	6d.
20	1s.
60 not all different, many rare and obsolete	11d.
100	1s 8d.

An extra stamp must in all cases be enclosed for postage. T DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

STAMPS

Supplied at the following rates: *unused* British Guiana 1 c. 2d., New Holstein 1½ sch. 3d., new Hamburg, 1½ sch. 3d., Chili, 1 c, 4d, 5 c, 9d., United States Locals 10d., per dozen., 8s. per gross, mixed; Bahamas 1d, 3d; Hanover 3pf. 1d., 1 gr env. 2d., Bestellgeld-frei (horn) 4d. France 1, 2, & 4 c, 1d each, Greece 1 c. 1d., 2 c. 2d. Hamburg ½ sch, 1d., Berlin Express 2d.; Brazil 10 reis, 2d., Brunswick 1 S. gr. 2d. *Used* but in good condition., Old Swiss Rayon with cross 5, 10, 15 3d each, Liberia set of 3, 1s 9d., 8d. each, Russia 10 kop. 2d., Old Saxony 1st issue (Head to right) 2d each; 2nd, issue 1d each., Lubeck (old issue) set of 5., 1s., set of 8 Greece, 1s., new Holstein 1½ sch. 2d., new Hamburg 1½ sch. 2d., 2½ sch. 4d., current issue ½, 1, and 7 sch., 1d, each, 2 and 3 sch. 2d., 4 and 9 sch. 3d., full set f 9. 1s 4d., Black Swan River 2d., Old Denmark 2o R. B. S. 1s 3d., 4 R. B. S. 2d., Old Schleswig Holstein, 1 and 2 sch. 1s 6d, each., Baden (figure in centre) 1½d, each (Arms) 1½d, each., Mecklenburg envelopes 3d., each; Bergedorf ½ and 1 sch. 1d., 1½ and 3 sch. 2d., 4 sch. 3d, each., Venezuela (new issue) ½ rl, 6d., 1 and 2 rls, 8d, each., 1s 6d, the set of 3. Stamps must in all cases be enclosed for reply.—T. DALSTON & Co., BARNARD CASTLE.

CHOICE OBSOLETE STAMPS!! 22 varieties, consisting of Modena, Tuscany, Republic, &c., price 1s. of D. DEAN & Co.

TO BEGINNERS!! 22 varieties, good stamps, 4d. 33 varieties 6d., 44 varieties 9d; 77 varieties 1s 6d; many worth 1d. and 2d. each. With the 1s 6d. packet is presented an Italian (new issue) 15c. D. DEAN & Co.

WELL Assorted Continental and American, many very rare and obsolete, only 1s 6d. per 100, of

D. DEAN & Co., Hope Square, Weymouth.

A BARGAIN OF RARE STAMPS!! On receipt of 5s 6d. D. DEAN & Co. Weymouth, will forward Ceylon Envelopes, penny blue, two-penny green, Chili 1c, Trinidad (wood block) Papal States, 2 baj. and a set of Nicaragua!!! All unobliterated and warranted genuine.

D. DEAN & Co., South Hope Street, Weymouth, beg to call the attention of collectors to the following stamps now on hand and for sale. Antigua, 1d. 2d., Austria (1863) 2, 3, 2d, each., newspapers, 1d; Baden 1 1d., Bahamas 1d. 3d., 4d. 8d., Barbados, green 2d., blue 3d., Bavaria, 1 1d., Bremen 3 3d., Brunswick ½, 1d., ½, 1½d, each., Costa Rica, 2 1s., Denmark 2 1d., 4 2d. France 4c. 1d. Germany (N) ½, 1d. ½ 1½d. Germany (S) 1 1d. 3 2d. Hamburg ½, 1d., 1 2d., Hanover envelope 1d. Hong Kong 2 3d., Italy, new issue, 1 1d., 5 2d., 10 3d., 15 3d., 30 4d., 40 6d., 60 5d., Jamaica 1d. 3d., Luxembourg 1 1d., 2 1d., 4 1½d., Malta ½d. 1d. Moldavia 5 9d. Natal 1d. 3d. New Brunswick 1 1½d. 2 3d. Newfoundland 1d. 3d., New Granada, 2½ 2s 6d., Nicaragua 2c. 5c. 1s 6d each., Oldenburgh ½ 1½d., 1 3d., Papal States, ½ 1½d., Portugal 5 1d., Prince Edward's Island 1d. 3d., St. Lucia, red, 3d. Saxony 3pf. 1d. ½ 1½d. 1 3d. Spain 2 2d. Official (1854) ½ 8d. 1 9d., Switzerland new 2, 3, 1d, each, 5, 10, 2d. each. Trinidad, red, wood block, 1s., new red 4d. United States 2c. 2d. The above prices are only to British Collectors.



THE NORTH OF ENGLAND Stamp REVIEW.



No. I. { Vol. I. New Series. } SEPTEMBER, 1864. [Price 1d.]

TO OUR READERS.

We have much pleasure in presenting the first number to our readers, and we hope that they will see in us a desire to do all we possibly can in furthering stamp collecting, and giving information which will meet the wants of stamp collectors. The geographical and historical account of the Argentine Republic, we think will prove both interesting and instructive, even to the non-collector, and as the political welfare of a country generally governs the different issues of stamps, we will in future, in conjunction with the articles on the South American postage stamps, continue this plan; and, besides, this Continent is less known than any of the other continents, so that we hope the condensed account of La Plata will prove acceptable. In conclusion we must beg our friends to help us to extend its circulation, so that, as the circulation increases, we may be enabled to enlarge our paper.

Advertisements inserted at the low rate of 6d. for 12 words; and 3d. for every succeeding 10 words.

SOUTH AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

I.—ARGENTINE OR LA PLATA.

This large country, known as La Plata, or the United provinces, comprises a territory of vast extent, reaching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Andes. Upon the North it is bounded by Bolivia, upon the East by Brazil and the waters of the Atlantic, on the South by Patagonia, and on the West by Chili. It was discovered in 1515, by the Spaniards under Juan Diaz de Solis, but was not however colonised until 1553, when Buenos Ayres was founded, then forming a part of the vice royalty of Peru. It subsequently in 1778 separated from the vice royalty of Peru, and formed that of the "Rio de la Plata." In 1816 it amongst other South American territories shook off the Spanish yoke, and established its independence as a Republic consisting of fourteen provinces. Buenos Ayres, its only port, was the most important of its provinces, and in 1831, De Rosas, a Spaniard who had previously distinguished himself by his bravery against the Indians, was elected governor of that Province. In 1835, he was made President of the Confederation. In consequence of an attack made by him upon Monte Video, a war was caused with Brazil, and after, with France and England. He was defeated in 1845, but still carried on an obstinate resistance with a few followers, until the Provinces under his tyrannical rule revolted, and nominated J. Urquiza as President in his stead, who in 1851 totally and decisively defeated Rosas, so that he was obliged to fly the country. In 1859 war broke out with Buenos Ayres, and continued until 1861, when that important province finally seceded, so that at the present time there are only 13 provinces in La Plata, viz.—Santa Fe, Entre Rios, Corrientes, Jujay, Salta, Tucuman, Catamarca, Santiago, Rioja, Cordova, San Juan, Mendoza, and San Luis. The area is estimated at 726,000 square miles, with a population of 894,000, or only four inhabitants to three square miles.

The greater portion of La Plata is an immense plain situated within the basin of the great River from whence it derives that name. This plain stretches between the eastern foot of the Andes and the shores of the Atlantic. The Southern half includes the vast levels of the Pampas, and in the centre of the Pampas is an

extensive tract known as the desert of Las Salinas, in which the soil is sandy and almost barren, whilst the rivers have no outlets, but lose themselves in salt water, lakes, or marshes. The rest of the Pampas however is covered with herbage, on which vast herds of wild cattle feed. The hides of which with tallow, wool, and hair, form the principal wealth of the country. The eastern and northern portions of the plain, which are watered by the Parana, Paraguay, and other tributaries of the Rio de la Plata, are exceedingly fertile, and produce maize, rice, wheat, tobacco, sugar, cotton, and numerous fruits. But, a very limited amount of attention is bestowed upon agriculture. Beyond the manufacture of morocco leather, and coarse woollen stuffs, at Cordova, there are hardly any or no other manufactories. In the western and north western portions of the territory the mineral wealth is very considerable, but the mines are like the rich alluvial soil, very little worked.

The only province that has issued stamps of its own, is Corrientes. This province contains a population of about 50,000 inhabitants, whilst the City which 10 years ago, contained between 5,000 to 6,000 inhabitants, now has a population of 16,000. Only two stamps have as yet been issued at Corrientes, viz.—1 c. real M. C. indigo issued in 1856; and a repetition of the same in 1861, with value obliterated by a pen stroke (3 reals). A short time after, the same block which was employed for printing them off was altered, and the part where the value used to appear was left empty. They are badly executed imitations of the French republic stamp, with inscription "Corrientes" at top, and "un real M. C." at bottom.

Argentine has given us five issues of stamps, viz :—1860, rectangular, coloured impression, arms (rising sun above a transverse oval, which contains two hands clasping a pole, pole surmounted by a Cap of Liberty), within a narrow Greek border; Inscription above the sun's rays "Conf^{on}. Argentine," with the value in numerals preceding the word "Centav." below the oval, numeral larger than letters in word Centav. 5 Centavos vermilion.

1861.—Arms (as previous issue) within a larger Greek border; Inscription (as last) but numeral of value is same size as the word "Centav." 5 Centavos red, 10 c. green, 15 c. blue.

1862.—Arms above wreath in oval, with inscription "Republica Argentina," 5 Centavos red, 10 c. green, 15 c. blue.

1863.—Same design as preceding issue but lithographed; 5 Centavos, rose, 10 c. green, 15 c. blue.

1864.—Coloured impression; rectangular. Bust of President in oval frame, with inscription "Argentine Republic," and figure of value in each angle, 5 Centavos rose, 10 c. green.

Same design as above but figure of value on each side, 16 Centavos, blue.

FORGED.—The simple designs of the obsolete issues have given rise to many forgeries, some in fact well executed, but there are trifling differences in the best executed *fac similes*, which the Con-

noisseur may detect. The forgery of the first issue may be told by the absence of the dot after the word centav. Of the second issue, there are several forgeries, all of which may be detected by observing the colours which are too bright, whilst one of the forgeries, may be told by the indistinctness of the pole and cap of liberty, which in the genuine are very plain and well defined.

LATELY ISSUED AND RARE STAMPS.

Now that Mexico has got a King, it comes forward with new stamps. They are five in number, monetary values same as those of the former issues, viz. $\frac{1}{2}$ real brown, 1 r. blue, 2 r. yellow, 4 r. green, and 8 r. pink. Rectangular shaped coloured impression on white paper. Within an oval frame, a crowned eagle to the right, holding snake's head in its mouth, right claw clutching the tail, and left claw bearing a branch. Ornaments in each of the four corners of the square frame bounding stamp. Inscription above "Correas Mexico," with value beneath.

There are a set of Mexican essays by a Milanese artist, which we think are exceedingly well lithographed (being from stone and not from steel dies like the greater part of the stamps now issued). They compose three distinct engravings in three values, viz. 10 c. 25 c. and 40 c. each value being reproduced in eight different colours. They are of Rectangular shape, coloured impression, on white paper. Bust of Maximilian I. in oval design. Inscription "Postea" above, and "Cent" below, with numeral of value in each of the lower corners.

The new 5 cent blue, and 10 cent red, stamps of Holland, which have been expected some time have at last appeared, the 10 c. in fact was presented to the public on the 12th of May last. Rectangular, coloured impression, Head of King William III. to right in plain oval, inscription below "Post zegal" with numeral of value in left hand upper corner, and C. in right.

The engraving on right side of front page represents a new stamp printed in red on white paper, and issued by the Government of Denmark; we think it will be the forerunner, as we may say, of a new series. Our readers will no doubt agree with us when we say that it is a very neatly designed stamp.

The late war in Denmark has caused no less than 8 new stamps to be issued, viz., Holstein, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. blue, $1\frac{1}{2}$ blue, $1\frac{1}{2}$ blue red, Schleswig, 4 r. c. s. red, $1\frac{1}{2}$ s. green, Hamburg, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. (see en-

graving on front page) 2½ s. green, Lubeck, 1½ s. brown. The explanation of all this is simply as follows. Before December 1863, none but the Danish 4 sch. stamps were admitted into Schleswig, Holstein, and the subsidiary post offices at Hamburg



and Lubeck. When the Danes were driven out of the Duchies of Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg, the customary Danish stamps were invalidated, and 1½ sch. blue, Holstein, see engraving, and 4 r. b. s. red, Schleswig, were issued

in their stead. As the Danes could now no longer carry the letters directed to Holstein from Lubeck and Hamburg, both these two places took upon themselves to carry them, and thus appeared Hamburg, 1½ s. violet, and Lubeck, ½ s. brown. The inhabitants of the duchies not being used to the Rigsbank skilling currency, called for the abolition of the Danish money, which was finally decreed, and at the same time new stamps were issued, viz. Holstein, 1½ s. blue, red, and Schleswig, 1½ s. green. Not long after the rate of postage was doubled between Denmark and Germany, and thus appeared the 2½ sch. green, Hamburg.



We give an engraving of the rare Danish essay with head of Mercury, which is printed in brown on a ground composed of diagonal blue strokes.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

Hardly any plan has yet been devised entirely free from difficulty in arranging a collection of postage stamps, either in an alphabetical, dynastic, or geographical order. A geographical system we think would be preferable, but without the aid of some good geographer, the difficulty of arranging them in that manner will be rarely overcome. One writer who is strongly in favour of a geographical arrangement, and who seems to consider he has properly arranged a set of Titles, places the United States of America between Brazil and Mexico, disposes of Liberia between the Sandwich Islands and the Danubian Principalities, and puts Portugal in proximity with Greece. Now we should think that the arrangement of a Collection in that manner, would, instead of teaching geography, rather tend to the opposite, and although a good geographical arrangement of a collection would greatly enhance its value, yet we think an alphabetical arrangement would be preferable to the above.

Oppen, in the arrangement of his album, divides it into eight

parts, viz., Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, Central America, South America, West Indies, and Australia, with all the countries in each part alphabetically arranged. Lallier's album is a very good one, but the album prepared by that well known stamp chronicler, Mons. Moens of Brussels, is we think decidedly the best yet offered to the stamp collecting public, both as regards neatness of finish and arrangement.

Now it is not our intention to attempt to explain any original arrangement, but to advise Collectors, who will not go to the expense of purchasing one of either Moens' or Oppens' albums, simply to arrange them in a plain album in the simple manner adopted by Oppen, and which we have explained. When the Collector has then fixed upon the manner in which he will arrange the different countries, the next but not least point is how to arrange the stamps of each country, and as we think no one as yet has attempted to help collectors out of this difficulty we will at least try our best.

Properly speaking, the different issues should be chronologically arranged, and the stamps follow a numerical order of value, but in that case it would frequently happen that when so arranged the tints would kill one another, so that some judgment must be exercised to preserve a harmony of colours, and show the stamps to the best advantage. Now it will not be every collector that is acquainted with the laws of contrast in colours, and before proceeding any further upon the subject, we will in our next give our readers a few elementary facts respecting colours.

(To be continued in our next.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Under this heading we shall be glad to answer all questions proposed as far as lies in our power.

R. S. Of course the Hamburg Locals are admissible into Collections—they are used for Local purposes, and have as much right in collections as Local Americans.—We know that some of those sold at present are fictitious, but Hamer's, and Scheerenbeck's are not.

"J. R. Nos Nastraque Deo." You will see that your questions are partially anticipated, in the article on the arrangement of Postage Stamps. Bellars and Davie in their Standard guide to Postage Stamp Collecting, place Great Britain and its Colonies first, and the rest of the world succeeding in alphabetical order. Stamps are not often used for the prepayment of Letters between Monte Video and Buenos Ayres to Great Britain. We think the stamp of which you gave us a sketch, is a French *Bon bon* or ornamental stamp taken from a box with Sweetmeats in manufactured in France. All letters should be prepaid but those that are addressed to any of the Government Offices.

J. W. and "Collector," as we are rather pressed for space we must postpone answering yours until our next.

Advertisements.

CHOICE OBSOLETE STAMPS!! The 6d. packet contains 12 varieties worth treble the money. D. DEAN & Co.

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A BARGAIN OF RARE STAMPS!! On receipt of 5s 6d. D. DEAN & Co. Weymouth, will forward Ceylon Envelopes, penny blue, twopenny green, Chili 1c, Trinidad (wood block) Papal States, 2 baj. and a set of Nicaragua!!! All unobliterated and warranted genuine.

D. DEAN & Co., South Hope Street, Weymouth, beg to call the attention of collectors to the following stamps now on hand and for sale. Antigua, 1d, 2d; Austria, (1863) 2, 3, 2d. each, newspapers, 1d; Baden, 1, 1d; Bahamas, 1d, 3d, 4d, 8d; Barbados, green 2d; blue 3d; Bavaria, 1 1d; Bremen, 2, 3d; Brunswick, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1d, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, each; Costa Rica, 2, 1s; Denmark, 2, 1d, 4, 2d; France, 4c. 1d; Germany, (N) $\frac{1}{4}$, 1d, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Germany, (S) 1, 1d, 3, 2d; Hamburg, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1d, 1, 2d; Hanover envelope, 1d; Hong Kong, 2, 3d; Italy, new issue, 1, 1d, 5, 2d, 10, 3d, 15, 3d; 30, 4d, 40, 6d, 60, 5d; Jamaica, 1d, 3d; Luxembourg, 1, 1d, 2, 1d, 4, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d; Moldavia, 5, 9d; Natal, 1d, 3d; New Brunswick, 1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 2, 3d; Newfoundland, 1d, 3d; New Granada, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2s 6d; Nicaragua, 2c, 5c, 1s 6d, each; Oldenburg, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1, 3d; Papal States, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Portugal, 5, 1d., Prince Edward's Island, 1d, 3d; St. Lucia, red, 4d; Seyouy, 3pt. 1d, $\frac{1}{4}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1, 3d; Spain, 2, 2d; Official (1854) $\frac{1}{2}$, 8d, 1, 9d; Switzerland new, 2, 3, 1d. each, 5, 10, 2d. each; Trinidad, red, wood block, 1s. new red, 4d; United States, 2c, 2d; Hamburg, Lubeck, and Holstein, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$, 2d. each; Schleswig, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$, 3d; Set of 8 Hamburg, 1s. only; new issue of Russia, 1, kop. 4d, 3, kop. 9d, 5, kop. 1s. or 1s 9d. the set of three.

WHOLESALE! All Unobliterated!! Baden, 1 kr, 7d; Luxembourg, 1c. 4d; 2c. 6d; 4c. 9d; Mecklenburg, $\frac{1}{4}$ 6d; Greek, 1 lept, 6d; 2 lept 10d; British Guiana, 1c. black; Barbados, 1s 6d. per dozen; Penny Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados blue, British Guiana 2c. Lubeck, Holstein, and Schleswig, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d, all 2s 3d. per dozen; St. Thomas, 3 cents; Nevis, 1d; St Lucia, 1d; Papal States, 2baj; Trinidad red (not wood block) all 2s 9d. per dozen. Not less than 1 dozen of each kind. D. DEAN & Co., Hope Square, Weymouth.

MOENS' POSTAGE-STAMP ALBUMS.—GRUMEL & MITCHEL have great pleasure in announcing that they have just published the above, which they confidently recommend to collectors as being perfect to date of publication. London: GRUMEL & MICHEL, 96, Newgate Street, E. C., and of all booksellers and stationers.

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STAMP Collectors' Miscellany, 16 pages, beautifully illustrated. Contains "How to Detect Forged Stamps", information stamps puzzles, advertizements, &c., separate numbers post free, 3 stamps each, or 7 stamps post free, for Nos. 1, 2, and 3. And prize Cheques with each number, the drawing to come off September 20th.

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20 varieties, all in good condition	...	4d.	Post Free	...	5d.
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STAMPS.

SUPPLIED at the following rates: *unused* new Russia 4d, British Guiana 1 c. 2d., New Holstein 1½ sch. 3d., Chili, 1 c. 4d, 5 c. 9d., United States Locals 10d. per dozen, 8s. per gross, mixed; Bahamas 1d, 3d; Hanover 3pf. 1d., 1 gr. env. 2d., Bestellgeld-frei (horn) 4d. France 1, 2 & 4c, 1d each, Greece 1 c. 1d., 2 c. 2d. Hamburg ½ sch, 1d., Berlin Express 2d.; Brazil 10 reis, 2d. Brunswick 1 S. gr. 2d. *Used* but in good condition. Old Swiss Rayon with cross 5, 10, 15, 3d. each; Luxembourg, (Head of Grand Duke) 100 black 2d., Liberia set of 3, 1s 9d., 8d. each; Russia, 10 kop. 2d., Old Saxony, 1st issue (Head to right) 2d each; 2nd, issue 1d each., Lubeck (old issue) set of 5, 1s., set of 8, Greece, 1s., new Holstein, 1½ sch, 2d., new Hamburg, 1½sch. 2d., 2½ sch. 4d., current issue ½, 1 and 7 sch., 1d. each, 2 and 3 sch. 2d., 4 and 9 sch, 3d., full set of 9, 1s 4d., Black Swan River, 2d., Old Denmark. 2c. R. B. S. 1s 3d., 4, R. B. S. 2d., Old Schleswig Holstein, 1 and 2 sch. 1s 6d. each., Paden, (figure in centre) 1½d, each, (Arms) 1½d. each., Mecklenburg, envelopes 3d. each., Bergedorf ½ and 1 sch. 1d., 1½ and 3 sch. 2d., 4 sch. 3d. each., Venezuela (new issue) ½ rl, 6d., 1 and 2 rls, 8d. each., 1s 6d. the set of 3. Stamps must in all cases be enclosed for reply.—**T. DALSTON & Co.**, Barnard Castle.

STAMPS! STAMPS!! STAMPS!!!

THE New Russia, 1 kop, 3d. each, 2s. per dozen; New Brunswick, 1c. 1s. per dozen, 2c. 1s 10d. per dozen, or 2d. each; Hamburg, 1½ sch. 3d. each, or 2s. per dozen, St. Helena, 1d. 4d each, 3s 6d. per dozen, all unused. The following are used, but in the best condition. Canada (beaver) 5c. or new Brunswick, 5c. 1d. each. 6d. per dozen., French Republic, 20, 25c. 1d. each. 9d. per dozen, Russia, 10 kop. 2d. each, 1s. per dozen, Old Denmark, (fire R. B. S.) 2d. each, 1s. per dozen., Hamburg, 2, 3, 4, sch. 2d. each, 1s 6d. per dozen, Old Hanover, 1 gro. 2d. each, 1s. per dozen, Old Lubeck, 1s. set. Others equally cheap.—**J. SHUTTLEWORTH**, 31 Portsmouth Place, Lower Kennington Lane, London. S. The cheapest and best selection of stamps, sent for inspection on receipt of 1 stamp.

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THE NORTH OF ENGLAND



Stamp REVIEW.



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 { New Series. }

OCTOBER, 1864.

[Price 1d.]

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SOUTH AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

II.—BUENOS AYRES.

This state is bounded on the North-east by the Rivers De la Plata, and Parana, and on the North-west by Sante Fe, whilst the boundaries on the South are not fixed owing no doubt to the frequent inroads of the Indians. The total number of inhabitants in the state amounts to about 400,000, about 122,000 of which reside in the City of Buenos Ayres.

The Spaniards after they had partly colonised Peru, in their early invasion of South America, entered this part of the Continent of South America by the river De la Plata, and although a succession of cruel disasters befell them in their early attempts to establish their dominion in it, they were encouraged to persist in the design, at first by the hopes of discovering mines in the interior country, and afterwards by the necessity of occupying it, in order to prevent any other nation from settling there and penetrating by this route into their rich possessions in Peru. But, except at Buenos Ayres, they have made no settlement of any consequence in all that vast space in La Plata. There are in fact, scattered over it, a few places on which they have bestowed the names of Towns, but they are no better than paltry villages. The commodious situation of the De la Plata for carrying on contraband trade, has been the chief source of the prosperity of Buenos Ayres. And

as the river De la Plata lay so much out of the course of Spanish navigation, interlopers could almost without fear of observation pour into all the Spanish Colonies European manufactures in great quantities. This illegal traffic, however detrimental to the parent state, contributed to the increase of the settlement which had the immediate benefit of it, and Buenos Ayres thus became gradually a populous and opulent city.

The city of Buenos Ayres was formerly the seat of the General Government for the Argentine Confederacy, but as will be seen in our last it became politically detached from that territory in 1856. It was however a prey to civil war with Argentine for many years, and did not finally gain its supremacy until 1861, when the Buenos Ayres Generals Mitre and Pavon defeated Urquiza, the president of the Republic of La Plata. Although Parana (a small place situated on the left bank of the river of that name, about 200 miles above Buenos Ayres), is nominally the capital of La Plata, yet, for general purposes, the state of Buenos Ayres is regarded as the head of the Confederacy, and maintains the relations of the country with foreign nations, it is also the principal depôt for the extensive Foreign trade in La Plata.

(To be continued in our next.)

THE ARRANGEMENT OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

II.

Collectors would do well to study the laws of contrast in colour, even in arranging their collections, for a mere glimpse at the theory of colours will be sufficient to show them the importance of the subject. Harmony and contrast should be the object of attainment in arranging coloured stamps; thus, to put a light blue stamp near a yellow one tinges it orange, and heightens its tone, whilst very dark blues weaken the yellow so that it appears to the eye not only to hide the orange tint, but gives it rather a green appearance. And again, by placing a dark colour near a lighter colour, it will be seen that it heightens the tone of the former, and lowers that of the latter, independently of the modifications resulting from the mixture of what are called the "complementaries," or the colours wanting in each case to produce white; therefore the above when placed side by side will produce that harmonious effect which is required.

Before however going any further into the subject we will as we promised in our last, give a few elementary facts respecting colours.

It will no doubt astonish some of our readers when we say that colour is not an inherent property of things, but that the colour of objects is derived from the light by which they are seen. Without light there would be no colours, and we could declare that in the dark everything would be all of one colour, that is, of no colour at all, or black, which is the same thing:—for black is no colour, but the absence of colour; the only, what we call colours, are those which we see in the rainbow, modified by nature and

art. Colour is therefore a part of light, and white is a compound of all colours. This may be explained in the following manner. Light falling on objects is partly absorbed and partly reflected; that is rays of some colours are absorbed, and a ray is reflected, which ray is what we call colour. Consequently, the colour is in the light, and not in the objects.

The eye is so susceptible of an harmonious mixture of colours, that it instantly detects any defect in the combination, for example, if an artist's painting be rapidly revolved before the eye, it would represent white light, but if any colour is predominant the effect is inharmonious.

It is not the coloured body that reflects, but it is the coloured rays. Each of these bodies reflects every sort of coloured ray; but the rays which cause us to judge it to be blue, or red, &c., being more numerous than the others, produce more effect than the former, but the latter have an influence in modifying the action of coloured rays upon the eye.

Colours placed near each other modify and change each other, and it is these modifications, caused by the complementary colours which, as we said before, produce that harmony and contrast which is required, and we will in our next give a few of the "complementaries" of the colours.

(To be concluded in next number.)

BRITISH RAILWAY POSTAGE STAMPS.

There is a limited liability parcels' delivery company, recently started in London, the object of which is to deliver small packages to any part of London, for the moderate charge of one penny, the parcel to be under seven pounds weight, and the charge to be prepaid in the same manner as postage stamps on letters, by affixing one of the Company's penny stamps. We understand that the head office is in the Strand, and that there are receiving offices in all parts of London.

In Scotland also, the Caledonian Railway Company now convey to any part of their line a single newspaper for the low charge of one farthing, to be prepaid as in the above by affixing a farthing stamp. That this will do a great deal of good, cannot be denied, as it places the dweller in rural districts, near a roadside station, as nearly as possible on a par with the denizen of the great town where the sources of public information rise. The other principal Scotch railway companies have also decided to follow the lead of the Caledonian Company, so that in Scotland at all events the farthing stamp will have a general currency. It is to be hoped that the English Companies will not linger behind in a movement of this kind, for daily newspapers, with their low price and enormous circulation, offer a very excellent field for the application of this low rate system. We think that the whole small parcel system might be remodelled, with advantage both to the companies and the public, for the charges now made by the Railway Companies

prove efficient as a prohibitory tariff, and which, when compared with the charges made for similar service by the Post office, are simply enormous. A large number of light parcels could be carried by every train, without causing any appreciable addition to its working expenses as a train, and there must be an immense number of light parcels which would be sent were the rate only reasonable.

Some Collectors will perhaps be in doubt as to admitting the above stamps into their collections, now we should say at once that they are admissible, for who yet has been against giving a space in their albums to the United States locals, and many of these stamps are used for small parcels exclusively.

LATELY ISSUED AND RARE STAMPS.



The appended engraving represents the stamp adopted by Mexico, and which we alluded to in our last. The engraving is a *fac simile* of the 4 reals green.

The three ports of La Guaira, Puerto Caballo and San Tomas, in Venezuela, appear to have started postage stamps of their own, apart from those of Venezuela. It will perhaps be as well before describing the stamps, to let our readers know of the whereabouts of those three places. Near the North coast of Venezuela, is situated Caraccas, the capital of the republic, and not far from the capital, washed by the Caribbean sea, is the harbour of La Guaira, which is the port of Caraccas, it is however a bad harbour and unhealthily situated. Puerto Caballo on the South west of La Guaira, has an excellent harbour, in fact, it is one of the safest roadsteads in the world, and through its port is exported the produce of the fertile valleys in the neighbourhood of Valencia, one of the principal Towns in Venezuela. San Tomas is a port situated about 200 miles up the river Orinoco, and to the South east of Caraccas.

The stamps are three in number, and their intrinsic value is respectively 1 centavos purple, $\frac{1}{2}$ real rose, and 2 reals green. The former is slightly different in design to the other two, which are both alike, excepting the value, but the first mentioned is decidedly the worst executed. The 1c. is rectangular, the upper part has a steamship to right, and the lower part a figure 1, and at the bottom is inscribed "Centavo," on the top and sides is "La Guaira, St. Thomas, Pto. Caballo," and "Packet." The inscription is decidedly English. The other two stamps are almost the same in design, but the inscription is different and a semi-circular band divides the inner space into two parts, and contains the word "Paquete." On the side is "San Tomas," on the right "La Guaira," and at the bottom "Pto. Caballo," the figures 1864, fill the four corners.

We give an engraving of the 1861 issue Argentine Confederation, which we could not get prepared in time for the article on Argentine stamps, in last number.

The 2 cent stamp for the Confederate States of America, and bearing the profile of General Andrew Jackson, has been changed in colour from red to rose.



The beautiful stamps lately emanating from Russia are 1 kop. yellow ground; (see engraving) 3 k. green ground; and 5 k. lilac ground. The engraving is most intricate and beautiful; the ground work appears at first sight apparently of uniform colour, but when closely observed it will be found to consist of a number of small octagons, containing minute figures, representing the current value of each denomination. The rest of the stamp is printed in black.



The new stamps for the island of Tasmania are three in number, and compose half-a-crown, pink; five shillings, brown; and ten shillings, yellow. We understand that they were designed for bills and receipts, but that they are also used for heavy letters. Square shaped, with St. George and the Dragon, in circle, each of the stamps having different sized circles. The inscription is "Tasmania."

THE MORMON STAMPS.—Brigham Young, the Mormon Patriarch, denies ever issuing a stamp and in his reply to a gentleman who wrote to ask him, he says "that he never issued nor so much as thought of issuing a postage stamp." We think the originator of this stamp, must have done it for the sake of gulling collectors, or at all events to extract money out of their pockets. It appears however that there have been very few struck off, as we have only known about two persons to possess specimens, and they gave a very high price for them; there is a Dealer in Canada, however, who advertises for sale *fac similes* of this *rare stamp* as he calls it. As they are fictitious, original or other specimens should not, strictly speaking, be admitted into collections.



A Correspondent wants to know the meaning of F.R.M. and 4.S.R.M. on the right side and bottom of the new Holstein stamp, also the meaning of K. G.L. and F.R.M. on the new



Danish stamp and the Danish Essay. Can any of our readers inform us?

CORRESPONDENCE.

FORGED NICARAGUA STAMPS.—*To the Editor of the "North of England Stamp Review."*

Sir,—Perhaps for the benefit of your readers, you will allow me to call their attention to a forgery of the Nicaragua 5 centavos stamp, which I lately bought and after comparing it with an undoubtedly genuine specimen belonging to a friend, find the following differences. *Genuine* (1) The letters of "centavos" are all the same size. (2) The rays of the sun are very neatly imitated. (3) All the letters of the inscription are well executed. (4) The figures 5 in each of the four corners are all alike. *Forged* (1) The letters of "centavos" are very irregular. (2) The rays of the sun are not well done. (3) The letters are very irregular, in fact, in some places, indistinct. (4) The figures 5 in the corners are also very irregular not being of one size and shape, like the genuine. Altogether the genuine stamp is a much better specimen of engraving than the forgery.

I am Sir, Yours truly,

A COLLECTOR.

Newcastle, September 10th, 1864.

(I have noticed the above forgery, and intended making it one of the first of which I would speak in the long article on "Current stamp forgeries" which will shortly appear. Our correspondent when describing it says the letters in the forgery are very bad and irregular, now they are not so irregular as he thinks, but are very long and thin, whilst in the genuine they are short and thick which gives the latter a much better appearance.—Ed.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. B, Nos Nestraque Deo." The figures on each side of the stamp as you mentioned, are, we think, to render the design of the stamp more intricate thereby making it more difficult for forgers.

J. W. 1. If there is no postal delivery the person should either call himself at the post office for the letter, or give a written order to the person who sent for it. 2. Yes. 3. It is frequently done and is not illegal.

Collector.—The stamps you name if genuine, are worth respectively 1s. 8d. 2s. and 1s 6d each, but if forgeries they are worthless. If you have any doubt as to their being genuine, you can send them to us, enclosing a stamp for reply, when we will inform you at once.

Advertisements are inserted at the low charge of 3d per line of ten words. All advertisements to reach us before the 22nd. Books for review, &c., before the 10th.

It is requested by advertisers in this Review that parties writing to them for stamps, will state if the application is through this medium.

Advertisements.

NEW issue Papal States, $\frac{1}{2}$ baj., 2d., 1s 6d doz; New Canada, 2c., 6d., ea.; New Russian, 1 kop., 10d. doz., or 9d. set; also rare stamps such as Old Spain, New Zealand (on blue paper) Finland, &c. **GEORGE J. RAWL**, 139, Leadenhall Street, London.

NOW ISSUED—A new descriptive Price Catalogue of foreign Stamps, giving form, value, colour, and dates of issue of over 1,500 varieties. "Octavo," 32 pages; Price 3d., post free 4 stamps.—Apply to **STENAN, JONES, & Co.**, Foreign Stamp Dealers, Manchester.

STENAN, JONES & Co's., wholesale Price Current is invaluable to all dealers of foreign Stamps. Price 2d., post free.—61 Faulknor Street, Manchester.

WHOLESALE! All Unobliterated!! Baden, 1 kr., 7d; Luxembourg, 1c. 4d; 2c. 6d; 4c. 9d; Mecklenburg, $\frac{1}{4}$ 6d; Greek, 1 lept, 6d; 2 lept, 10d; British Guiana, 1c. black; Barbados, 1s 6d. per dozen; Penny Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados blue, British Guiana 2c. Lubeck, Holstein, and Schleswig, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, all 2s 3d. per dozen; St. Thomas, 3 cents; Nevis, 1d; St Lucia, 1d; Papal States, 2 baj; Trinidad red (not wood block) all 2s 9d. per dozen. Not less than 1 dozen of each kind. **D. DEAN & Co.**, Hope Square, Weymouth.

MOENS' POSTAGE-STAMP ALBUMS.—**GRUMEL & MICHEL** have great pleasure in announcing that they have just published the above, which they confidently recommend to collectors as being perfect to date of publication. London: **GRUMEL & MICHEL**, 96, Newgate Street, E.O., and all booksellers and stationers. Prices, 7s 6d.; 10s.; 12s 6d.

CHEAP PACKETS OF STAMPS.

20 varieties, all in good condition	...	4d.	Post Free	...	5d.
30	...	6d.	...	...	7d.
50	...	1s.	...	...	1s 1d.
18	all obsolete, many rare	6d.	...	...	7d.
12	first rate, all unused	6d.	...	...	7d.
24	...	1s.	...	...	1s 1d.
50 not all different, many rare and obsolete	10d	...	...	...	11d.
100	...	1s 9d.	...	...	1s 5d.

T. DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.

WHOLESALE.—All at per dozen, unused French, 2c., 6d., 4c., 7d.; Colonies, 1c., 6d.; Papal States, $\frac{1}{2}$ baj., 10d.; Baden, 1 kr., 8d.; Barbados, green 1s 6d.; British Guiana, 1c., 1s 4d.; Canada, 1c., 1s.; Greece; 1 lept., 6d.; Canton Berne, 2 rap., $\frac{1}{2}$; Bremen, 1 grote, 1s. The following are used. Greece mixed 1s 6d.; Hamburg mixed 1s 6d.; Schleswig $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch., 2s.; Luxembourg, (head) 10c, 1s 9d.; Portugal, Dona Maria and Don Pedro, well mixed, 1s 6s.; Russia, 10 kop., 1s; Saxony (head of King to right) 1s 3d; 1854, mixed 6d., Swiss, (rayon with cross) 5, 10, 15, r, 2s.; Parma, (mixed) 2s; Modena, (mixed) 2s 3d.; Tuscany (mixed) 1s 3d.; Holland, (new issue) 5 and 10c. 1s 4d.; Papal States, mixed 1s 3d.; Trinidad, 3s.; Baden figure and arms mixed; Canada 5. c.—6d., 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 9d., 17c., 1s 6d; Argentine rep., 5c., 4s.; Austrian Italy, mixed all issues 2s.; N. Scotia, old 3d., 3s.; French rep., mixed 9d.; Colonies 10 and 40c., 2s.; Wurtemberg mixed 6d.; Austria, arms mixed, 6d. All the above are to be understood at per dozen, and all warranted genuine. Payment in all cases to accompany order, with stamp for postage, **T. DALSTON & Co.**, Barnard Castle. Agents wanted.

D. DEAN & Co., South Hope Street, Weymouth, beg to call the attention of collectors to the following stamps now on hand and for sale. Antigua, 1d., 2d; Austria, (1863) 2, 3, 2d, each, newspapers, 1d; Baden, 1, 1d; Bahamas, 1d., 3d., 4d., 8d; Barbados, green 2d; blue 3d; Bavaria, 11d; Bremen, 3, 3d; Brunswick, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1d., $\frac{3}{4}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., each; Costa Rica, 2, 1s; Denmark, 2, 1d., 4, 2d; France, 4c., 1d; Germany, (N) $\frac{1}{4}$, 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Germany, (S) 1, 1d., 3, 2d; Hamburg $\frac{1}{2}$, 1d., 1, 2d; Hanover envelope, 1d; Hong Kong, 2, 3d; Italy, new issue, 1, 1d; 5, 2d; 10, 3d; 30, 4d; 40, 6d; 60, 5d; Jamaica, 1d. 3d; Luxembourg, 1, 1d; 2, 1d; 4, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d; Moldavia, 5, 9d; Natal, 1d., 3; New Brunswick, 1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; 2, 3d; Newfoundland, 1d; New Granada, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2s 6d; Nicaragua, 2c., 5c., 1s 6d., each; Oldenburg, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; 1, 3d; Papal States, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; Portugal, 5, 1d.; Prince Edward's Island, 1d., 3d; St. Lucia, red., 4d; Saxony, 3pf., 1d., $\frac{1}{4}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1, 3d; Spain, 2, 2d; Official (1854) $\frac{1}{2}$, 8d., 1, 9d; Switzerland, New, 2, 3, 1d., each, 5, 10, 2d., each; Trinidad, red, wood block, 1s. new red, 4d; United States, 2c., 2d; Hamburg, Lubeck and Holstein, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2d., each; Schleswig, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3d; Set of 8 Hamburg, 1s., only; new issue of Russia, 1, kop., 4d.; 3, kop., 9d.; 5, kop., 1s., or 1s 9d.; the set of three.

STAMPS.

SUPPLIED at the following rates: *unused* new Russia 4d, British Guiana 1 c. 2d., New Holstein 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 3d., Chili, 1 c, 4d, 5 c, 9d., United States Locals 10d. per dozen, 8s. per gross, mixed; Bahamas 1d, 3d; Hanover 3pf. 1d., 1 gr. evn. 2d., Bestellgeld-frei (horn) 4d. France 1, 2 & 4c, 1d each, Greece 1 c. 1d., 2 c. 2d. Hamburg $\frac{1}{2}$ sch, 1d., Berlin Express 2; Brazil 10 reis, 2d. Brunswick 1 S. gr. 2d. *Used* but in good condition. Old Swiss Rayon with cross 5, 10, 15, 3d. each; Luxembourg, (Head of Grand Duke) 100 black 2d., Liberia set of 3, 1s 9d., 8d. each; Russia, 10 kop. 2d., Old Saxony, 1st issue (Head to right) 2d each; 2nd, issue 1d each., Lubeck (old issue) set of 5, 1s., set of 8, Greece, 1s., new Holstein, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch, 2d., new Hamburg, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. 4d., current issue $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 7 sch., 1d. each, 2 and 3 sch. 2d., 4 and 9 sch, 3d., full set of 9, 1s 4d., Black Swan River, 2d., Old Denmark, 2c. R. B. S. 1s 3d., 4, R. B. S. 2d., Old Schleswig Holstein, 1 and 2 sch. 1s 6d. each., Baden, (figure in centre) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, each, (Arms) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each., Mecklenburg, envelopes 3d. each., Bergedorf $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 sch. 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 sch. 2d., 4 sch. 3d. each., Venezuela (new issue) $\frac{3}{4}$ rl, 6d., 1 and 2 rls, 8d. each., 1s 6d. the set of 3. Stamps must in all cases be enclosed for reply.—T. DALSTON & Co., Barnard Castle.



THE NORTH OF ENGLAND



Stamp REVIEW.



No. 3 . { Vol. I. } NOVEMBER, 1864. [Price 1d. New Series.]

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PRIZES FOR THE BEST WRITTEN ARTICLES ON SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTING.

WE beg to inform our readers that we have determined to give two Collections of rare stamps, value respectively one guinea and half a guinea, for the two best written articles on a subject connected with postage stamp collecting. The following conditions must be observed by those about to compete, viz.—The style of the article (provided the subject of stamp collecting be adhered to) is entirely at the discretion of the writer, and may be either on stamp collecting on any particular stamp, or a stamp tale. Length no object. We shall resume the right of publishing any one or all the papers sent, which, with a slight revision, may be worth publishing, and we cannot return those rejected. All the M. S. should be received as soon as possible, but not later than the 15th December, and must be written on one side of the paper only. The name of the prize essayists will be published in no. 5.

ON STAMP COLLECTING.

THE Stamp Mania no longer exists. Those who fell victims to this dangerous and contagious disease have long since recovered from it, and there is now no fear of infection; those who still collect are not maniacs, but people in the full possession of their senses, who have survived the ridicule of their relations and friends, and have continued, consistent by and with perseverance, that which they have begun, and are, we hope by this time in a fair way of completing their interesting and valuable collections.

Those who prophesied that stamp collecting would soon die out, were right in one sense but wrong in another, right when they said that the stamp mania would soon die out, for the stamp mania

has died out, but wrong when they said that stamp *collecting* would soon die out, for I think that there are at the present time as many *real* stamp collectors as there ever were, and the few *maniacs* that have deserted our ranks seem to be advancing rather than falling back, new stamp magazines are being published, new collections are being begun, new dealers are taking it up; this very magazine in which I am writing is a new one, and other new ones are being published every day; in fact there is no other subject which has so many magazines and papers belonging exclusively to itself.

Many manias have arisen and disappeared, but not one of them has ever established itself in the way that stamp collecting has; not one of them has had so many followers, not one of them has had its magazine, not one of them has dragged out an existence for half the time that stamp collecting has flourished.

It is now four years since I began the collection which I am now making. I was at a large public school, and there was only one collector besides myself in it at that time; we used to exchange our surplus stamps one with another, and our collections amounted to about twenty or thirty specimens, in fact I remember making a little book for mine which I could carry in my pocket, a page of which I proposed to allow to each stamp: but as time rolled on our collections increased, and the number of collectors among our companions increased also, till at last the other of the two original collectors gave up, and his collection passed into my hands, which of course increased my collection a good deal. At that time we had very few opportunities of increasing our stock, for there was only one stamp dealer then known to the school; and his name and address were only known to very few, and they kept it secret, for what reason I do not exactly know; I believe that they had some idea that there were only a few specimens of some stamps in existence, and that they were in the possession of this particular dealer, and therefore if he was generally known all these would be taken by those who were lucky enough to have money to buy them with, and that none would be left for the original discoverers.

However this may be, at all events they did keep him to themselves as far as possible, and the consequence was that the rest of the School had no standard of prices to go by, but each one put his own price on his stamps, and, what is more, generally got it too, so that any stamps of which there happened to be only a few in the school could command almost any price, and consequently some stamps were sold at five or six times their value; but now things are entirely altered, there are many dealers who publish price lists every month, so that by comparing these you can find, without much difficulty, the proper and relative value of any stamp or stamps.

Now all this does not look as if stamp collecting was merely a mania, which would last a few years, and then gradually die out, but rather like a permanently established institution, which has hardly at present reached its full growth. About the arrangement of stamps in a collection, I think it is not necessary for me to

say much, as I know an article on that subject is now being published in this magazine ; but I think about the best plan is to place England and the British Colonies together, arranging them geographically as far as possible ; and then other countries, placed according to the quarter of the globe to which they belong.

About buying stamps I should like to say a few words ; some people refuse altogether to buy stamps for their collections, though I believe few of them would refuse to accept stamps that any one might be kind enough to buy for them. I consider that refusing to buy stamps, is as much as saying that they still think them worth collecting, but not worth spending money on ; but this I think is hardly just, for all those who collect coins, old china, and pictures, do not generally wait to have these things given or left to them, when they have opportunities of buying them ; so why should those who collect stamps refuse to follow their example. I think people who collect birds, eggs, or flowers, or anything of that kind are quite right to refuse to place in their collections any specimens which they have not taken or gathered, and prepared with their own hands, but in stamp-collecting it is different, for if any one refuse to admit specimens which he had not himself taken from the envelopes, I am afraid he would not make much of a collection ; but those who refuse to buy stamps do not go so far as this, they allow their friends to collect and do not generally make enquiries as to how each particular specimen was obtained ; which of these, I should like to know, is prepared to swear that not a stamp in his collection has ever passed through the hands of a dealer ? And what reason do they give for their refusal to buy stamps ? They say that stamps seem such worthless little bits of paper, and that they do not look as if they were worth buying ; but surely anything that is worth trouble is worth money, and if you take intrinsic value into consideration, there is not much intrinsic value in an old bit of silver or copper, or an old tea-cup, or bowl, or an old bit of canvass ; it is only that which is impressed or painted on it that gives it a value.

I do not intend to advocate the promiscuous buying of stamps of all sorts and kinds, which is practised by some people, but merely buying rare and obsolete specimens which one is not likely to obtain by exchanging ; for stamps which have been out of use sometime are not likely to be found on letters, and collectors who happen to possess them, are not generally willing to exchange them so that we sometimes can get in no way but by buying ; when this the case, I think it is perfectly allowable to buy stamps, but I do not think it a good plan to buy common stamps just to fill up and increase the number of specimens in one's collection.

The chief objection raised by non-collectors to stamp collecting is its uselessness, but I think that if we examine the facts of the case we shall find that there is no foundation for this charge, and that the same objection might be raised to collections of other kinds ; for, is there, strictly speaking, any collection of any kind that is naturally and necessarily useful ? Or rather are not all collections useful or useless according to the manner in which they are collected ? A collection of pictures is not necessarily useful,

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and the same may be said of a collection of china; a collection of coins, which is more akin to a collection of stamps, is I think more likely to be useful than one either of pictures or china, because nothing indicates the stage of civilization in which a nation is, better than the form and value of its money; but, for all that, a collection of coins is quite useless unless the collector takes pains to arrange it properly, and to find out all he or she can about the different specimens, and the countries and ages to which they severally belong.

In the same way, much may or may not be learnt by means of a collection of stamps; if we see a collection well and neatly arranged, we may be sure that the collector has at all events learnt neatness, which is no despicable attainment, if he or she has not learnt history or geography by it. History cannot be learnt by means of stamps so well as by means of coins, because even the oldest of the former have been in use for only a few years; but a collector might surely make some improvement in geographical knowledge, by making a point of knowing on the map the position of every place whose stamps he or she possessed.

Besides all this, a good collection of stamps is no mean ornament to a drawing-room table; and I think it is far more interesting to look over a collection of the stamps of countries, (many of which one probably, in these days of travelling has visited, and most of which one at all events has heard of,) than looking through a book of photographs of people whom one neither knows nor cares to know, or a collection of crests of people whose names one has never heard before, and would not remember probably if we heard them again.

All I would say then, in conclusion, is, that I hope stamp collecting may flourish, and may become more universal than it is; and may it be long before England requires a new issue of stamps, with a new head upon them,

CUETH.

SOUTH AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

III.—BUENOS AYRES.

THE Buenos Ayres stamps may be divided into two classes viz. —the earliest issues with steamship in centre, and those issued later bearing Head of Liberty,—

CLASS I. April, 1858, oblong shape. Steam vessel in central transverse oval; lettering in rounded end labels; value to the left side, inscription above "Correos," below "Buenos Aires;" on the right side "Franco;" coloured impression upon dull unglazed paper 2 pesos, blue, 4 ps. red; 5 ps. orange; 5 ps. light brown.

October 1858.—Same design and brown impression, 1 (in) peso.

1859.—Same design but blue impressions 1 (in) peso; 1 (t) ps; 2 ps; 4 ps; 5 ps,

CLASS II. 1860.—Head of Liberty to left, in central circle, on a solid ground, with ornaments around; lettering same as the above; coloured impression on glazed paper. 4 reals green; 1 peso, blue; 2 ps. scarlet. The 4 rls. is Lithographed on blue paper, whilst the other two are on white paper.

1851.—Same device as last issue but die printed, 4 reals, green; 1 peso, blue; 2 ps. scarlet.

1861.—Same as above, 1 peso, rose; 2 ps. blue.

Although we give a 1 peso, class 1, yet it has never existed as a distinct and separate stamp, but is printed from the plate of the 5 pesos by erasing the surplus letters *o*, *c o*, leaving *i n*. It appears that about October 1858, a reduction was made in the rate of postage, and that the stamps of 1 and 4 pesos were then printed. The plate of the 5 pesos being no longer required, it was used for printing the 1 pesos, as has been explained. Not long after a further reduction of the rate of postage was made, and the block of the 5 ps. being worn out, the 1 peso were then printed from the plate of the 4 pesos, after erasure of the superfluous letters *C. U. A—O*. leaving only *I* behind; thus in above list 1 p. (t) blue.

We take the following from a contemporary alluding to a stamp issued in Buenos Ayres, but whose history, date of currency, and locality are partially shrouded in obscurity.

The type we are alluding to is engraved from an original in the August number of Moens *Stamp Collector's Journal*, from which we take the liberty of transcribing the full description: premising that the editor of that work doubts its previous existence as a postage stamp, and thinks it merely one of a series of essays submitted to the government of Buenos Ayres, after the circulation of the well known but rare ships was withdrawn. In contravention of this, we beg to note that the specimen we had in our hands was postmarked, and most probably formed one of a set in use, anterior to the issue of what are universally considered the earliest stamps of Buenos Ayres. * We would add that the individual we saw was a blue one, and we regret to say, being lent to a party for inspection, was never again forthcoming, so that all trace of its present whereabouts is lost.

We remarked above that the native place of the stamp under survey was obscurely known; still, from the letters *B^s* and *A^s* in the lower corners, as well as its having been, to all appearance, designed by the concoctors of the Buenos Ayres ships, we imagine Mons. Moens is right in assigning it that locality. In fact, we are confirmed in this supposition by a correspondent, who has sent us a specimen, of which we will give an engraving in next number.

Forgeries. The one peso blue, and rose, Class II, are forged but they are badly done, and might be told at once from genuine. The three following points will be found to differ in them, viz.—In the forged, the neck of the figure representing Liberty is *indistinct*, whilst in the genuine it is very *clear* and *well defined*. The letters of the word *Peso* in the forged gradually *diminish in size*, the *P* being the larger, but in the genuine the letters are all of *equal size*. The top curl of the hair of Liberty in the forged is *not shaded*, whilst in the genuine *it is shaded*.

LATELY ISSUED AND RARE STAMPS.

WE engrave in the present number four stamps, two of which are essays, one recently issued, and the remaining one a neat looking, and unpretending stamp, the 20 cents Confederate States of America (see front page) which is printed in green on white paper. The appended engraving represents the beautiful and attractive essay proffered to the Grecian Government some time ago on the ascension of King Geo. I. They are nine in number and same design and value. The colours are, green pink, mauve, orange, blue, black, yellow, chocolate, and scarlet. We should think that its non acceptance will be principally owing to its being too large for postal uses, but, the current issues of Greece are we think very pretty stamps, and were perhaps considered better specimens than the above.



The other engraved essay which we give is the very rare and beautifully designed New Brunswick, Connell essay, being a faithful likeness of the notorious Mr Connell, a postmaster general, who, being out of the ordinary 5 cent stamp, had his portrait engraved thereon, and acquired a certain amount of notoriety at the expense of his situation.

We have this month to chronicle several new issues, one of which is the Victoria two-pence. This stamp we think is an improvement upon the former issues. It is a similar pattern to the current fourpenny, but it has a much better appearance about it. The color is the same as the preceding issue.

The new emission from Canada is a two cent stamp similar both in design, color and inscription to the one cent, but it has in addition numeral of value in each of the four corners. The color being the same as the one cent, we infer they will be about to discontinue issuing the latter.

In the category of lately issued we must also mention the 2 cents Sandwich Islands, which we think is the advance guard, q. v., of a new series. We append an engraving, so that description will be superfluous, but we cannot praise too highly the beautiful engraving and design of the stamp.



We see in a contemporary that some novel stamps have lately been issued from California. They compose a set of three large stamps of oblong shape and are 10 cents blue, 20 c. green, and 30 c. black. As they are undoubtedly *bona fide* postage stamps, a description will not be out of place. In the centre contained in a circle is an eagle, with wings extended, protecting the American shield and Colours. The Stars and Stripes are very prominent, above are inscribed the Latin words "E pluribus unum" and scattered promiscuously around are a quantity of more Stars. Over the

circle is the value in full, and surmounting it the inscription "Great Central Fair Postage Stamp." Between the inscription and value is one large star, and in the two lower angles is a scroll containing "U. S. Sanitary Commission," and each of these bands or scrolls encircle the value in figures. In the two top corners and between the inscription at bottom are placed small shields similar to that on which the eagle stands in the centre. Of the Great Central Fair, or the Sanitary Commission connected therewith, we know very little, but we are promised and hope to obtain further information.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. Jones.—The Nicaragua stamps are not executed in Nicaragua but by a company in New York, who are called the New York Banking Company. They also execute the Costa Rica, Nova Scotia, Confederate States, and New Ze, Sandwich Islands (see engraving in present number) and other countries all of which are faultless specimens of engraving.

W. R., Montreal.—Thanks for your information which you will see we have availed ourselves of. We hope you will send us an account of what you know about the central fair stamps, we will perhaps engrave the specimen you sent us.

D. Davidson.—You will show your appreciation of our Review, by trying your best to increase the circulation. The forged Parma stamps are printed in very bright, whilst the genuine are printed in dull colours.

J. S. Newcastle.—Your collection does not increase as fast as lots of "fellows" you know, and you do not know the reason. We sympathise with you.

W. Wilson and B. B.—See answers to D. Davidson. B. B. is wrong in saying that crests are collected as much as stamps, and we do not wonder with him, about there being no crest Magazines.

E. B. E. W. College.—See front page for conditions of the prize essays, we hope you will try.

The conclusion of the article on the arrangement of postage stamps is unavoidably postponed until next month.

Advertisements.

MOENS' POSTAGE-STAMP ALBUMS.—GRUMEL & MICHEL have great pleasure in announcing that they have just published the above, which they confidently recommend to collectors as being perfect to date of publication. London: GRUMEL & MICHEL, 96, Newgate Street, E.C., and all booksellers and stationers. Prices, 7s 6d.; 10s.; 12s 6d.

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